

# ISLAND MATTERS Mufi Hannemann

# 'Hawaii Remembers' Block Party

hey are only a handful now. Men in their late 80s and 90s who were in the U.S. armed forces when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and other military bases on Dec. 7 — men and women who would go on to serve our country in Asia, the Pacific, Europe and the homefront, as our forces pushed back against the Axis powers for the next four grueling and costly years.

This Dec. 7 marks the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, and there are many activities planned to commemorate this milestone in American history and honor the veterans who served us so courageously during World War II. The Pearl Harbor 75th Commemoration Committee, chaired by Adm. Tom Fargo, former commander, U. S. Pacific Command (PACOM), ably assisted by executive direc-



World War II veteran Bill Paty and the author at Paty's special tribute at Home of the Brave Museum

PHOTO COURTESY TOMLINSON FAMILY

tor Tony Vericella and staff, have done an impressive job of compiling and coordinating these special events for the people of Hawaii and visitors to enjoy.

Among the dozens of events associated with the observance, there is one that could be one of the best-kept secrets in town. On Sunday, Dec. 4, a section of Waima-

nu Street, Ewa of Ward Avenue, will be transformed into a "Hawaii Remembers" block party in front of Home of the Brave Museum and Brewseum, to say mahalo to our local and visiting Pearl Harbor survivors, World War II veterans, their families and our military.

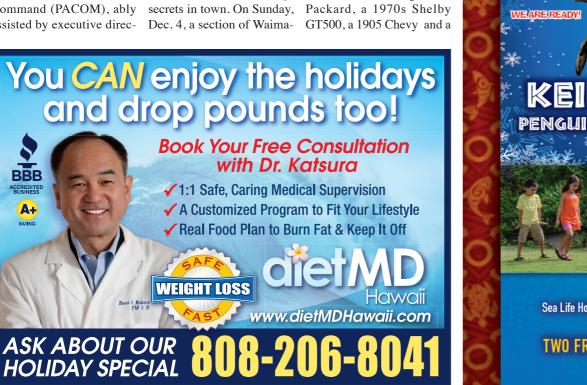
Local favorite Kapena will perform, food and drink will be available for purchase, and an open house of the Home of the Brave Museum, Brewseum, and Kakaako Foundry Museum will be held. Block party-goers also will be in for a real treat with the Foundry Museum, owned by Robert "Bob" Bosley, who formerly operated Diamond Head Sprinklers. Bosley will welcome the public to his "man cave" full of vintage automobiles, antiques and other rare collectibles, including a 1939

1930 Cord. You'll even take a step back in time with his vintage Hawaii Theatre seats, 1940's drinking fountain, and even an 1850 Mosely folding bathtub.

Home of the Brave Museum and Brewseum, founded by the Tomlinson family, are treasure troves of wartime memorabilia. The museum's entire collection was donated by veterans or their families, and includes everything from a Jeep to authentic Lugers, to a rare Japanese rifle with the emperor's chrysanthemum crest still stamped on the receiver. The patriarch of the family, Glen Tomlinson, has done an unbelievable job of amassing this unique collection from various sources throughout the world. He painstakingly has taken advantage of every inch of space in a compact, three-story museum. He also, appropriately, from time to time, has sponsored special tributes at the museum to World War II veterans of note, as he did for Bill Paty, whose exemplary military career is an incredible tale. Tomlinson was well aware that Paty, best described as a paragon of virtue, eschewed any reference to his deeds as being "heroic." Tomlinson, there-

fore, went to great lengths to stage a sensitive and moving tribute to the former Waialua Sugar executive and Gov. Waihee-appointed DLNR chairman at the Home of the Brave and Brewseum, attended by several of the military's top brass and leading citizens of the community.

I recently took my Pacific Century Fellows from Saipan to the museum, which is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary, and they were awed by the wide assortment of artifacts. Many of the Fellows felt a strong connection to the stories behind the collection, as Guam and Saipan





were battlegrounds of the war in the Pacific. State Sen. Glenn Wakai and Gov. Ralph Torres of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands were among the group and were impressed by the history captured at the muse-

Though the block party officially takes place from 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, be sure to arrive early to check out the museum, as it will be open for public tours starting at 4 p.m. Home of the Brave is a private museum



Pacific Century Fellows from the Marianas with CNMI Gov. Ralph Torres (middle, far left) join state Sen. Glenn Wakai (front, second from left) and the author at a recent visit to the Home of the Brave Museum

PHOTO COURTESY J. HIGASHI

um. Interestingly, Sen. Wakai that is open only Friday and opined that he had never heard of Home of the Brave, and given his initial positive experience, definitely will be spreading the good word about the Tomlinson treasure in Kakaako.

The Brewseum, next door to the museum, is a family-run brewpub decked out with a model train set running on a track around the rafters. World War II model fighter planes hang from the rafters, and an Admiral Nimitz Jeep is parked in the corner of the beer hall. The Brewseum often serves craft beers made in its microbrewery with great names, such as the 442 Go For Broke Ale or the Remember Pearl Harbor Mighty American Ale, which is a collaboration between Lanikai Brewing Co. and Home of the Brave Brewing Company. (For non-alcoholic types, there are plenty of soft drinks and water available.)

Saturday evenings, so this is a rare opportunity we all should enjoy.

The Brewseum is open 5-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, and 5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Another reason you'll want to come early is to welcome our veterans, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families, as they arrive to kick off the block party. Parking will be available at Neal Blaisdell Center for \$6, and the block party is just a five-minute walk away.

From what is being planned, Dec. 4 promises to be a memorable experience, so don't miss this block party co-sponsored the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, Home of the Brave Museum and Pearl Harbor 75th Commemoration Committee.

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MAYOR KIRK CALDWELL, CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU EMPLOYEES, AND THE FRIENDS OF Honolulu City Lights present

# 32<sup>nd</sup> Honolulu City Lights

# **OPENING NIGHT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016**

Celebration continues through New Year's Day

Support the festivities by purchasing commemorative ornaments available at all Oahu branches of First Hawaiian Bank and Macy's Stores.



Holoholo Pearl Harbor



Saluting Our Heroes



Official Honolulu City Lights t-shirt

available most evenings at Honolulu Hale

# Free Special Nights

Dec. 9, 7-9 pm **DTL Free Photo** With Santa

Dec. 16 & 23, 7-9 pm Kraft Heinz Free Photo With Santa

Dec. 17, 7 pm 7-Eleven Hawaii Free Family Movie Night

www.honolulucitylights.org

# Opening Night Schedule

Honolulu Hale Civic Center grounds

Food, souvenir booths and keiki rides open

## 6:00 pm

Tree Lighting Ceremony Electric Light Parade starts at Aala Park and proceeds down King Street to Honolulu Hale

### 6:30 pm

Christmas Trees & Wreath displays open inside Honolulu Hale

### 7:30 pm

Santa in Mission Memorial Auditorium

Concert at Sky Gate Stage Featuring Sean Na'auao, Blayne Asing, Mailani Makainai, Hula Halau Olana

# Broadcast Schedule

Watch the festivities live on Saturday, Dec. 3, 6-10 pm on Olelo 49

Electric Light Parade One-Hour Special Presented by Hawaiian Electric on KITV4 Dec. 23, 7-8 pm Re-Broadcast of Parade Special on

MeTV (Channel 126), 6-7 pm on Dec. 24

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