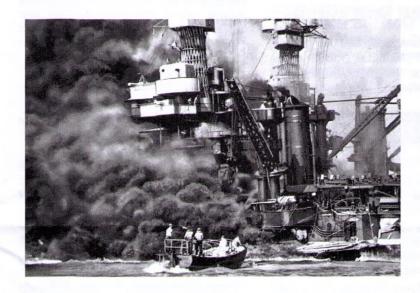


NOV 2019



RICHMOND COUNCIL. NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

December 7, 1941 - Day of Infamy



78 years ago, Japan launched its surprise attack on Pearl Harbor killing 2,433 and wounding 1,178; the U.S. lost 18 surface warships, sunk or seriously damaged; 188 aircraft destroyed and 159 damaged.

The next day, 8 December 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt addressed a joint session of Congress, describing the attack on Pearl Harbor as, "A day which will live in infamy..."

Total # of Res. @ \$ 12.00 per box lunch Enclosed: \$_____

The United States declared war on Japan. U.S. Battle related deaths: 290,000 (1941-1945)

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA COUNCIL
WILL CONDUCT ITS
ANNUAL SOLEMN OBSERVANCE
OF

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2019 11:00 AM AT THE VA WAR MEMORIAL 621 S. BELVIDERE STREET RICHMOND, VA 23220

The Richmond Navy League
extends an invitation to all citizens of the
Commonwealth of Virginia
as our Nation's colors are presented by the
Varina High School Navy JROTC Color Guard.
The observance will include a wreath laying
ceremony and the tolling of the bell
at the recitation of each name of those Virginians
who gave their lives at Pearl Harbor
7 December 1941

Remember Pearl Harbor

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Richmond, VA 23230

Tel #: 804-355-7557

	INE: TUESDAY DECEMBER 3, 2019 cashed AFTER the event. Cancellations a	(Payment must be received with reservation form) ccepted & checks returned <u>up to</u> the deadline date
YES, please make the following reservation(s) for lunch following the PEARL HARBOR COMMEMORATION		BOX LUNCH SELECTION CIRCLE YOUR NUMBER OF ORDERS
Name:	Tel:	1 or 2 - ROASTED TURKEY SANDWICH
Email:	Yall Edge and May	1 or 2 - HAM & SWISS SANDWICH
Name:	Tel:	(lunches catered by: Homemades by Suzanne)
Email:		Make check payable (and mail to):

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Harvey V. Lankford, M.D.



NOW HEAR THIS

Have YOU bought your Richmond Council Challenge coins yet? Christmas is coming.

Council has had an eventful fall with two trips to Oceana NAS; one for the Airshow, the other for a private hangar tour with Navy Strike Fighter Squadron Blacklions. It does not get any better than this.

Our annual Sea Services Luncheon was on 23 October. We had an outstanding presentation by CAPT Brian Finman, Commodore of Amphibious Squadron Four. Our adopted ship USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50) is part of his PHIBRON 4. We wished Happy Birthday to the Navy by cutting the special four-crest cake with a Navy sword. Participating in the event were uniformed personnel representing the

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Harvey V. Lankford, M.D.

The Lucky Bag is published monthly, except Jan. & Feb. issues, which are combined.

Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.

We appreciate James River High School NJROTC for providing a string ensemble, a Color Guard and a Missing Man Table presentation.

Veteran's Day is 11 November with a ceremony at the Virginia War Memorial. On 15 November join us for the Dahlgren Naval Surface Warfare Center trip. Use the sign-up form on page 1 of the October issue of *The Lucky Bag.* Next month's issue will remind us to attend our Annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on Saturday, 7 December.

ASTRONAUTICAL NAVAL AVIATORS

Did you know that five of the six Apollo Lunar Module Commanders who landed on the moon were Naval Aviators? Go Navy!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Lewis W. Brandt

When Cain killed his brother Abel, the Bible says that Abel's blood cried out to God from the ground, Gen 4:10. However, the Scripture does not tell us what the blood said. Did it say, "My brother did this to me", or "Where is justice for I have been murdered"? There are still many voices that cry out from the depths of the sea like those of the sailors of the USS INDIANAP-OLIS. They speak from the sands of the Pacific islands where the Marines expended themselves for our country. The soldiers shout to us from the fox holes and forests of the Arden. Still riding the wind are the cries of the airmen falling in the burning B-17's. Maybe a greater number yet, even more than all the voices of our fallen heroes, are the voices of 60,250,000 babies, who have been sent back to God with the tag..."Unwanted". What are they saying? Does anyone care enough to listen? Z

COUNCIL BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR

Council Board Member Robin Beres has been appointed by the Governor to be on the Board of Trustees of the Veterans Services Foundation.

Robin is the deputy editor and a columnist with the Opinions Pages of the Richmond Times-Dispatch. She served on active duty in the U.S. Navy for 23 years, retiring in 2004 as a Chief Petty Officer and was the recipient of many prestigious awards including Sailor of the Year. Two of her five children are following her with careers in the Navy. Congratulations Robin!

ON A MISSION

MISSION BBQ opened its doors on September 11, 2011 - the tenth anniversary of a very important date in U.S. history. There are now about 80 restaurants around the country including two in the Richmond area.

MISSION BBQ serves dinners in a patriotic room filled with tributes to those who have made Our Country great. Every day at noon, everything stops. All eyes are on the Stars and Stripes as the National Anthem is proudly played.

MISSION BBQ Proudly Serves Those Who Serve. Through the generous support of their loyal customers and communities, more than 10 million dollars has been donated for national and local charitable organizations such as USO, Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Navy Seal Foundation, Wreaths Across America and many more.

VETERAN'S DAY 11-11

Veterans eat free on Veterans Day!! Free sandwich & cake for American Heroes – our Veterans

MISSION BBQ

WELCOME ABOARD!

The Richmond Council Navy League is proud to welcome you as a member. In the weeks ahead, when you attend one of our Navy League events, please let the person at the registration desk know that you are a new member attending your first function.

New Members

J. Michael Kelley Donald W. Pate

Sponsors

Harvey V. Lankford, M.D. Harvey V. Lankford, M.D.

SEA CADET TO NAVAL AVIATOR

Richmond Council has always been anxious to receive reports of a young man or woman who has advanced through one of our supported youth groups in their pursuit of a military career.

Such is the case of Ryan Pellegrino of Mechanicsville, VA. At the young age of 11, he set his sights on becoming a Naval Aviator. He joined the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, AMERICA Division in Richmond.

He progressed from boot camp with promotions leading up to Cadet Chief Petty Officer. He was nominated for and was awarded the United States Naval Sea Cadet of the Year for the Nation.

After graduating Atlee High School, he attended Old Dominion University, majoring in International Studies and Chinese and became a Midshipman as part of the Hampton Roads NROTC Unit.

He was commissioned a naval officer with the rank of Ensign on May 5, 2017 and was accepted into the U.S. Navy Flight Program stationed in NAS Pensacola, Florida.

Naval Flight training is one of the most difficult programs to complete with high attrition.

His training took him to Corpus Christi, Texas for Primary Flight in the T6 Texan IIB soloing on June 12, 2018.



He then selected Rotary for his advanced training and moved back to Milton, Florida to Helicopter Training Squadron (HT) 8 Eightballers to complete training in the HT57C helicopter.

His journey took determination, persistence and hard work, with the

payoff being "Wings of Gold" with his designation as a U.S. Naval Aviator June 28, 2019.

Now LTJG (Lieutenant, Junior Grade), Ryan will now move to NAS North Island, San Diego, California to fly the Sikorsky SH-60 Seahawk at HSC-3 (Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron).

(The Mechanicsville Local July 31, 2019)

USS GRAVELY (DDG-107) CHANGE OF COMMAND

Sometime in August, somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean, USS GRAVELY (DDG-107) changed its plans and held a Change of Command (COC) at sea rather than in Norfolk. Council Liaison Alan Palmer had hoped to lead our group for the ceremony, but with the change in plans, it would have been a long swim.

CDR Michael T. O'Reilly relieved CDR Justin R. Hodges to become the seventh Commanding Officer (CO). Hodges reported to **GRAVELY** as Executive Officer (XO) in 2016, and became CO in 2018. Under his leadership he recently took **GRAVELY** flaw-lessly through the embarkation of Standing NATO Maritime Group One. They served eight months of successful operations while deployed in the Sixth Fleet area of operations as the flagship. The new CO, CDR O'Reilly, served as XO on **GRAVELY** from

2017 to 2019. He is a Systems Engineering graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

The Arleigh Burke-Class destroyer GRAVELY is one of Richmond Council's adopted ships. To participate in future COC or other events, please call us so we can put you on the list.

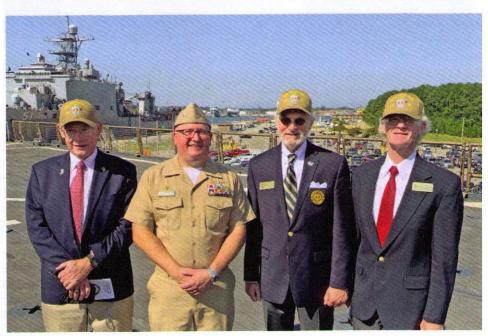
USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50) CHANGE OF COMMAND

The Harpers Ferry-class dock landing ship USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50) held a Change of Command Ceremony on the ship's flight deck while in port at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story, September 26, 2019.

During the ceremony, Commander Matthew R. Shellock relieved Commander Bruce W. Golden as CARTER HALL'S Commanding Officer. Brian J. Finman, Commodore, Amphibious Squadron Four, presided over the ceremony and served as the guest speaker.

"I am incredibly proud, but also humbled to be your commanding officer," said Shellock. "The crew we have is the best with whom I have ever served."

The ship recently returned from participating in exercise UNITAS LX (60) in Rio de Janeiro and was operating in the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations.



CARTER HALL's new CO, CDR Matthew Shellock, is joined by (L to R) Pat Robson, Liaison, John Harler and Harvey Lankford, President

ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

(note: these reports may be edited to fit space available)



USS NORMANDY (CG-60) CO: CAPT Christopher Stone CDR Theresa L. Kaylor CMC: CMDCM Douglas Newman

Adam J. Fiedler, M.D., Liaison AHOY Richmond Navy League!

NORMANDY had one eventful Sep-As you are aware NORtember! MANDY departed on deployment, but this one was a bit different. NOR-MANDY departed with three Arleigh Burke Class Destrovers as the commander of Task Force 26, deploying as a surface action group (SAG). The concept of the SAG has not been utilized on the east coast since 2006, and never executed with the commander being the cruiser Commanding Officer.

We set sail from Norfolk and headed north, so far north that we operated in the Arctic Circle! While in the Arctic we conducted multiple exercises stressing each of our warfare areas. In NORMANDY fashion, we performed sensationally, proving that as a Navy we can operate in the high north for sustained periods.

We also took the opportunity to conduct a "Blue Nose" ceremony which brings all Sailors together to celebrate that they are now part of a small group that have operated in these austere conditions. This ceremony is conducted by units that have operated north of the Arctic Circle.

Thank you for your continued support and outreach.

Warm regards, CAPT Chris D. Stone Commanding Officer



USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50) CO: CDR Matthew R. Shellock CDR LaDonna M. Simpson CMC: CMDCM Donavon Gray

Pat Robson, Liaison

Greetings from the FIGHTIN 5-0!

With the cooler air and the changing leaves, it is evident that change is in the air. CARTER HALL recently experienced a major change as we conducted a Change of Command Ceremony on the flight deck. During the ceremony, the crew watched as CDR Bruce Golden and CDR Matthew Shellock both read their orders publically symbolizing the transfer of command. We welcome CDR Shellock as our new commanding officer. Fair winds and a following sea to CDR Golden as he heads to his next assignment. Thank you for your leadership and your time on the CARTER HALL.

CARTER HALL has returned from supporting Exercise UNITAS LX (60), a multinational exercise where we conducted amphibious operations with our South and Central American military partners to deliver humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to those in need. For working so hard, the crew was rewarded with port visits in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Bridgetown, Barbados. An important milestone was completed as the ship crossed the equator and the Crossing the Line Ceremony was conducted to initiate the new shellbacks into the fold.

Our Sailors and Marines will continue to train and work hard as we continue to train for future operations and deployments! We are: Working for Peace, Ready for War! &

Very Respectfully, LCDR, CHC, Chaplain Williams, USN



USS GRAVELY (DDG-107) CO: CDR Michael O'Reilly XO: CDR Corey Odom CMC: MCPO (SW/AW) Larae Baker

Alan Palmer, Liaison

Greetings from USS GRAVELY!

September was a great month for **GRAVELY** as we reunited with friends and family after a long and eventful deployment. Although the crew made the most of well-deserved time off, events onboard were far from quiet. As Hurricane Dorian threatened damage to Hampton Roads in early Sep-

tember. GRAVELY sortied from Norfolk with two dozen other ships of the Atlantic Fleet. The Commanding Officer allowed almost half of the crew to remain on leave with family during the sortie, demonstrating that even at slight above half-strength in manpower; GRAVELY is prepared for sustained underway operations. The fleet maneuvered east in vicinity of Bermuda, circled behind the hurricane and returned home a week later, grateful that our homes had been spared the damage that Hurricane Dorian inflicted elsewhere. After returning home, GRAVELY hosted a luncheon with Commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic, Rear Admiral Kitchener. Shortly after, GRAVELY was handselected to host a tour for the Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Dr. Esper. Although the preparations involved with hosting tours for distinguished visitors creates a little additional work, the crew is proud of holding a reputation that drives our Commanders to continue to select GRAVELY for the most challenging assignments and task. We are very proud of our motto "First to Conquer".

Very Respectfully, XO CDR Corey D. Odom



USCGC NORTHLAND (WMEC-904) CO: CDR Charles L. Banks XO: LCDR Joshua DiPietro COB: ETC Joseph W. Leu Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison

Almost two months into patrol, the crew of NORTHLAND transited the Panama Canal, qualified new crew members, and had another successful drug bust! The Panama Canal transit took an entire day and involved all hands. With two bridge teams and many others working hard below deck, the NORTHLAND crew earned the "Order of the Ditch" for their successful transit.

After the first port call in Panama, NORTHLAND was directed towards a potential target of interest in the Eastern Pacific. The crew of NORTHLAND worked in conjunction with an aircrew

USCGC NORTHLAND cont. on page 5

OCEANA AIRSHOW: NAVAL AVIATION AND THE US AIR FORCE

On 20 September Navy Leaguers returned to Virginia Beach for our annual pilgrimage to Oceana Naval Air Station. The Airshow Practice Day requires an invitation from the base commander and a special-needs permit for our bus. Our bus arrived by itself, but by afternoon there were over 90 buses from local STEM students. This was still less of a crowd than the Saturday and Sunday show. Aircraft, displays and crews on the ground provide interests throughout the day. Flying started at 10 AM until the end of the afternoon, sideways, upside down, fast and loud. The Navy was well represented with numerous F-18 Super Hornets flying various maneuvers, simulated bombing runs, and air power demos. For the first time since the 1980s the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds were the flight demonstration team, rather than the Navy's Blue Angels. The smaller F-16s did a similar pro-



gram to that of the Blues who return to Oceana next year. Our supported unit, the Strike Fighter Squadron VFA 213

Blacklions were not part of the show, but they invited us to return later in October for a private hangar tour.

PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL JROTC ON RR CLEAN UP DUTY

NASCAR weekend in Richmond Patrick Henry JROTC style, is a bit unusual. Twice a year, several of our supported high school JROTC's, including James River and Lee Davis earn funding for their yearly expenses for cleaning the stands after the racegoers leave.

Early morning, Sunday September 22, two busloads of Patrick Henry-High School JROTC cadets and their chaperones headed out to pick up trash in their assigned section of the stands at Richmond Raceway (RR).



With brooms, mops, etc, Patrick Henry JROTC Cadets prepare to go to work

USCGC NORTHLAND cont. from pg 4

in a Maritime Patrol Aircraft, who provided updated location reports to assist with intercepting the target of interest. NORTHLAND's crew sprang into action, launching both small boats and the helicopter to intercept the go fast and collect any contraband they may jettison while on the run. This quickly became an all hands evolution with the entire crew on the flight deck searching for floating contraband. The helicopter was able to disable the gofast's engines, allowing the Boarding Team to approach on NORTHLAND's

Cutterboat-Over-the-Horizon and take positive control of the suspected smuggling vessel. Simultaneously, the Cutterboat-Large began to collect as many bales of suspected narcotics as possible to transport to NORTHLAND. The contraband ended up being a total of approximately 1,200 kilograms of cocaine worth approximately \$35 million. These numbers added to the already impressive amount of contraband interdicted this patrol. This case was the polar opposite of the first one, a target of interest a fraction of the size of the first vessel the Zumague Tracer, and it took only 12 hours. Both

cases further highlighted the versatility of **NORTHLAND** and her crew and emphasized the importance of teamwork and operational readiness.

The crew of **NORTHLAND** continues to have a successful patrol and hopes to have even more druginterdiction cases in the next month. We greatly appreciate your support and look forward to sharing more exciting events from patrol with you!

Very Respectfully, XO LCDR Joshua DiPietro

Thank You Sponsors!

Your Financial contribution to the Richmond Navy League provides Funds for programs supporting those serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Council's Youth Programs; The Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Local Navy and Marine JROTC Units.





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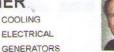
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MARINE TRAFFIC APP FOLLOWS SHIPS

The cell phone app "MarineTraffic-Ship Tracking" allows users to follow the exploits of some of our ships. Navy ships do not transmit public data, but Military Sealift (MSC) ships (like our supported USNS COMFORT) and Homeland Security ships (like our adopted USCGC NORTHLAND) do transmit their locations unless they are on restricted operations. Many more details are available on the app, things like speed, direction, and intended destination. We recently followed the exploits of the beleaguered NORTHLAND going up and down the Bay for yet-again more repairs in Baltimore before heading out to sea for ops in the Caribbean.

Go the app store on your cell phone and look for the blue bow symbol of the MarineTraffic-Ship Tracking app. For

only a one-time fee of \$4.99 you can install the app and track ships. Have fun!



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