

A large blue anchor sculpture is the central focus, mounted on a wooden platform. A person in a red shirt with a floral pattern is seen from behind, looking at the anchor. The background features palm trees, a city skyline, and a cloudy sky. The anchor is connected to a thick black chain that hangs down. The entire scene is set in an outdoor plaza area.

Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration and Observance

December 7, 2024 | 10:55 AM

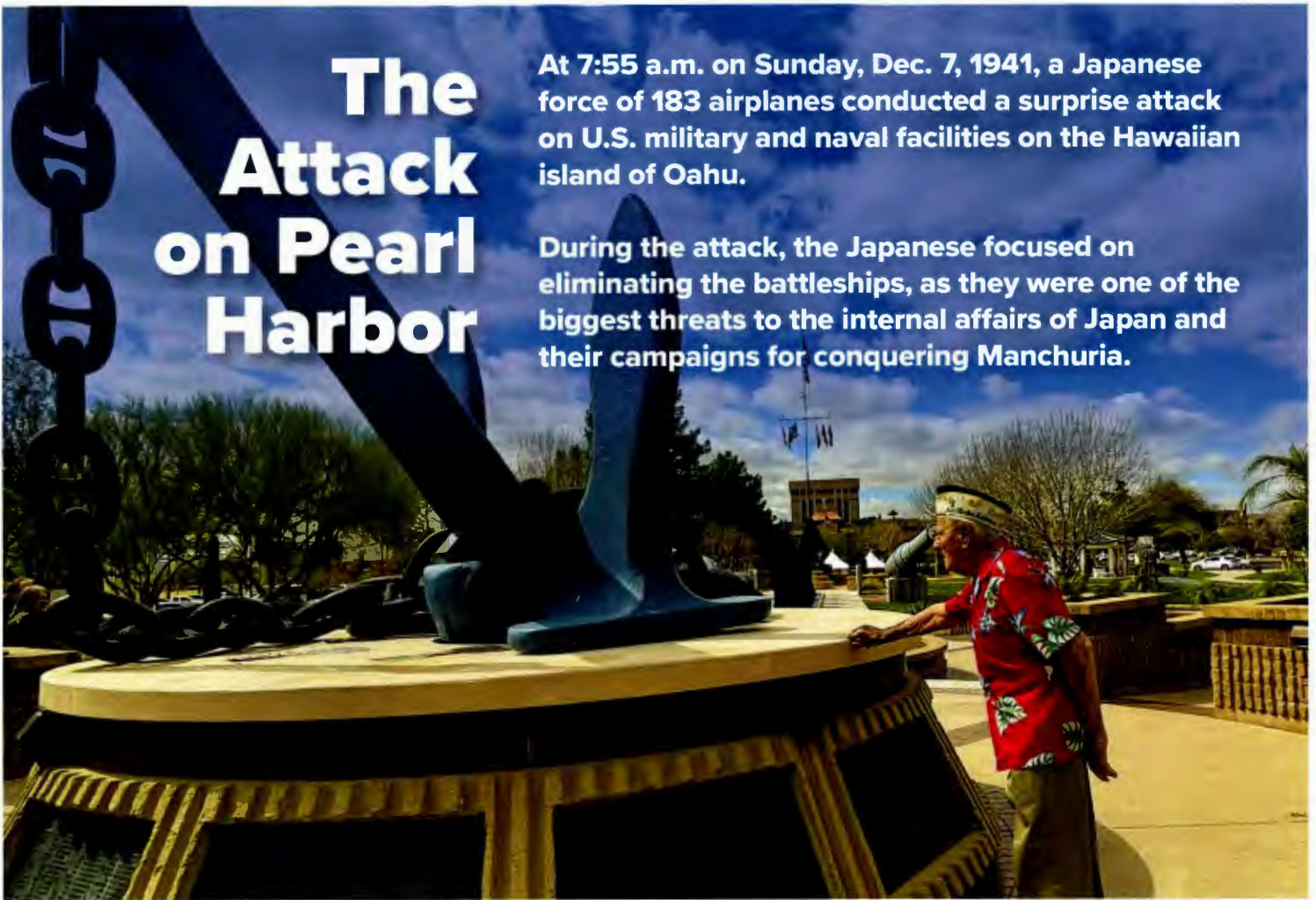
Wesley Bolin Plaza Amphitheater
1700 W. Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona

The Attack on Pearl Harbor

At 7:55 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, a Japanese force of 183 airplanes conducted a surprise attack on U.S. military and naval facilities on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.

During the attack, the Japanese focused on eliminating the battleships, as they were one of the biggest threats to the internal affairs of Japan and their campaigns for conquering Manchuria.



Stealthy Japanese planning permitted the attack on Pearl Harbor to remain undetected by U.S. intelligence. In the days before the attack, Japanese destroyers and battleships had led fighters, dive-bombers, high-level bombers, and torpedo planes into position to the north of the Hawaiian Islands.

Upon reaching Pearl Harbor on the morning of December 7, the torpedo bombers that had traveled in complete radio silence attacked the harbor in groups of twos and threes in a surprising, quick, and powerful attack, with the second fleet of Japanese aircraft blitzing the site an hour later.

The USS *Nevada* (BB-36) was the only battleship to get underway during the attack, but she was hit by one torpedo and at least six bombs while steaming away from Battleship Row, forcing her to be beached at Hospital Point.

Casualties to U.S. service personnel were **2,343 killed**, **960 missing**, and **1,272 wounded**.

All eight U.S. battleships at anchor in Pearl Harbor were either sunk or damaged, and 151 American planes were destroyed on the ground. The Japanese had dealt the U.S. a staggering blow because only 28 attacking airplanes were shot down.

Many other American ships were damaged at Pearl Harbor, and many lives were lost. The salvageable ships that were recommissioned all played a big part in the remaining years of World War II and many missions after that.

On December 8, 1941, the U.S. declared war on Japan. Germany and Italy, bound by a treaty with Japan, declared war on the U.S. on Dec. 11; the U.S. then declared war on these two Axis partners of Japan. The U.S. entered World War II.



HONORED GUESTS



Jim Sharpe, KTAR Radio

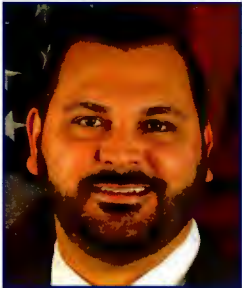
Jim Sharpe has worked in and around the media since he was an Arizona high school student. He's been a talk show host, a program director, a media liaison and consultant for political campaigns, and an award-winning journalist (including being awarded Reporter of the Year). He's worked in major markets like Los Angeles and tiny towns like Page, Arizona. And in far-flung places like Iraq, where, as an embedded reporter during Operation Iraqi Freedom, he survived a roadside bombing while on a U.S. Army patrol north of Baghdad. You can hear Arizona's Morning News on KTAR Radio 92.3FM weekdays from 5-8 a.m.



Paula Pedene, Executive Director, Honoring America's Veterans

Paula Pedene is a U.S. Navy Veteran who served as a broadcast journalist during the Cold War and Desert Storm. She has earned several distinctions, including the Public Relations Society of America's Public Relations Professional of the Year, the John McCain Leadership Award, and induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame and the Defense Information School Hall of Fame. She is a veterans advocate, author and public speaker on the importance of ethics in leadership.

She currently serves as the executive director of Honoring America's Veterans which presents the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade and other veterans recognition events.



John Scott, Department of Veterans' Services

Arizona Department of Veterans Services Director John Scott II is the third generation of his family to serve in the U.S. military. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1999 to 2003 as an M-198 Howitzer Section Chief, obtaining the rank of Sergeant. In addition to his duties, John was also the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Non-Commissioned Officer and Weapons Instructor for his Marine Corps unit.

John attended the University of California - Los Angeles College and received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. In 2007, he began working with veterans at the United States Veterans Initiative, coordinating housing and rehabilitation programs for homeless veterans in Southern California. In 2009, John created the Veterans Reentry Program, a residential program focused on the holistic treatment of post-war stressors for homeless Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. This program was the first in California for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans.

His current duties include executive management of the Arizona State Veteran Homes and the Veteran Services, Public and Intergovernmental Affairs and Administration divisions.



Secretary of State Adrian Fontes

Secretary of State Adrian Fontes was born in Nogales, Arizona, and lives in Phoenix, Arizona. Fontes served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1992 to 1996. He received a bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, in communication from Arizona State University in 1998 and a J.D. from the Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver in 2000. His career experience includes working as an attorney in the Denver district attorney's office, the Maricopa County attorney's office, and the Arizona attorney general's office, where he was an assistant attorney general. Fontes also worked as a certified election and registration administrator. He was elected Secretary in 2023.



Glenn Gray, TriWest Healthcare Alliance Vice President, Military & Veteran Engagement

Glenn serves as the Vice President of Military and Veteran Engagement for TriWest Healthcare Alliance, a Department of Veterans Affairs contractor supporting the VA Community Care Network and prior community network contracts. TriWest will also renew support of the Department of Defense TRICARE Program in January of 2025, after 17 years as a TRICARE contractor from 1997 to 2013.

Glenn has more than 29 years of experience and accomplishments in the public, private and non-profit sectors in varying leadership roles. In his current role, he is responsible for oversight of TriWest's customer care operations, which include educating Veterans, providers, Members of Congress and Military & Veteran Service Organizations (MSOs/VSOs) about the programs TriWest manages through its VA and DoD contracts, as well as addressing customer service concerns for eligible VA and TRICARE beneficiaries. Glenn also directs TriWest's community outreach efforts across the states that TriWest serves and represents TriWest at local, regional and national VSO meetings and conventions.



Keynote Speaker: Commander Brenda Way

Commander Way enlisted in the U.S. Navy in April 1989. She attended basic training at the Recruit Training Command, Orlando, Fla., and went on to complete Ocean Systems Technician Analyst School at Naval Base Norfolk, Va. Her first assignment was at Naval Ocean Processing Facility Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. She obtained her Associate of Science in Business Management from Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Way was selected for recruiting duty at Naval Air Station, Dallas, Texas, in 1994. She served as an enlisted recruiter until leaving active duty in September 1998. During this tour of duty, she obtained her Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Northwood University, Dallas, Texas. Way relocated to her home state of Arizona and affiliated with the Navy Reserve. In 2001, after completing her Master of Business Administration in Information Technology degree, Way was accepted into the Direct Commissioned Officer Public Affairs program. In this capacity, she has served at the Navy Office of Information West 119, Los Angeles; Navy Office of Community Outreach, Millington, Tennessee; Navy Office of Information Pacific Fleet, San Diego; Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, San Diego, where she served as Assistant Officer in Charge; Defense Media Activity, Fort Meade, Maryland where she served as Executive Officer; Navy Public Affairs Support Element Pacific, Pearl Harbor where she served as Officer in Charge; Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center, San Diego and is currently serving as Executive Officer for Navy Reserve Commander Pacific Fleet Public Affairs, Pearl Harbor.

USS Arizona "replica"

This mini replica has quite a unique history. Two Navy veterans, Wanda and Perry Sartain, happened upon the USS Arizona "replica" battleship the day before it was scheduled to be demolished in the mid-1990's. The ship was one of seven built for the 1969 movie "Tora! Tora! Tora!" Only two of these replica ships remain—the USS Tennessee and this USS Arizona.

Wanda Sartain arranged for the ship to be displayed at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii for the 70th and 75th anniversaries of the 1941 attack.

In 2022, Wanda deeded the USS Arizona to Lt. Col. Bill Simon and his wife Sandi, to be displayed at their museum in Goodyear, Az., the Lt. Frank Luke Jr. Memorial Museum. It will be on display here at this event and it's part of the passport challenge taking place during the celebration portion.



PROGRAM

Music

108th U.S. Army National Guard Band and Singers from the Musical Theater of Anthem Outreach Group

Welcome

Jim Shape, KTAR News 92.3 FM

Commemorative Flyover

World War II Biplanes, Stearman Group

Invocation

Presentation of the Colors

U.S. Naval Reserve Center Color Guard

National Anthem

Musical Theater of Anthem Outreach Group

Pledge of Allegiance

Commander Brenda Way

Recognition of Dignitaries

Recognition of Military Servicemembers, Veterans and others

Presentation of the State Wreath

Arizona Department of Veterans Services

Presentation of the Pearl Harbor Wreath

U.S. Navy Sea Cadets

Presentation of the Honoring America's Veterans Foundation Wreath

Reading of Wreath Placements

Executive Director Paula Pedene

Introduction of the Secretary of State

Arizona Department of Veterans Services
Director John Scott

Remarks from the Secretary of State

The Honorable Adrian Fontes,
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Introduction of the Guest Speaker

Glenn Gray, TriWest Healthcare

Keynote Speaker

Commander Brenda Way, U.S. Naval Reserve Center

Letter Reader

Ben Fletcher, Musical Theater of Anthem Outreach Group

Letter Reader

Savannah Foy, Musical Theater of Anthem Outreach Group

Armed Forces Service Medley

Please stand during the playing of the service song your a loved one served in

Benediction

Dr. Randy Gibb, Provost, Grand Canyon University

"Taps"

Commandant Santino Estrella, Marine Corps League Ira Hayes Detachment

Rifle Volley

POW/MIA/KIA Honor Guard, in memory of David Carrasco

Closing Song

Musical Theater of Anthem Outreach Group

Observance Event:

- Trivia Contest
- Best ALOHA Attire Contest
- Passport Competition: The first person who completes the passport and presents it to the emcees will win a \$50 Amazon Gift Card. The passport includes stops at the USS Arizona Anchor, the Keel with the names of fallen Arizona service members, the gun barrel from the USS Arizona, which signifies the start of World War II with the sinking of the battleship, and the gun barrel from the USS Missouri, signifying the end of World War II when the peace treaty was signed, the replica of the USS Arizona Battleship, positioned on a trailer, the punch bowl and goblets from the USS Arizona, the water Urn, the Copper platter, and USS Arizona flag.

MILITARY SERVICE SONGS

The Army Fight Song

First to fight for the right, And to build the Nation's might,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along. Proud of all we have
done, Fighting till the battle's won, And the Army Goes
Rolling Along. Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey! The Army's on it way
Count off the cadence loud and strong, For where 'er we go,
You will always know That The Army Goes Rolling Along.

The Navy Fight Song

Anchors Aweigh my boys, Anchors Away Farewell to college
joys, We sail at break of day ay, ay, ay! Through our last night
ashore, Drink to the foam, Until we meet once more. Here's
wishing you a happy voyage home.

The Marine Hymn

From the Halls of Montezuma To the shores of Tripoli; We
fight our country's battles On land and on the sea; First to
fight for right and freedom, And to keep our honor clean; We
are proud to claim the title, of United States Marine.

The Air Force Hymn

Off we go into the wild blue yonder Climbing high into the
sun; Here they come, Zooming to meet our thunder At 'em
boys, give 'er the gun. Down we dive, Spouting our flame
from under Off with one hell of a roar! We live in fame or go
down in flame, Hey! Nothing can stop the U.S. Air Force.

The Coast Guard Hymn

We're always ready for the call. We place our trust in thee.
Through howling gale and shot and shell, To win our victory.
"Semper Paratus" is our guide, Our pledge, and our motto
too. We're "Always Ready," do or die! HEY!
Coast Guard, we are for you!

The Space Force Song:

Semper Supra: We're the mighty watchful eye, Guardians
beyond the blue, The invisible front line, Warfighters brave
and true. Boldly reaching into space, There's no limit to our
sky. Standing guard both night and day, We're the Space
Force from on high.

We're on a mission to salute our veterans and their loved ones by thanking, honoring, and recognizing them for their service and patriotism to our country.

We remember the men and women who lost their lives during the attack on Pearl Harbor. And we honor our military and veterans for the price they pay for our freedom.

Learn more online at www.honoringamericasveterans.org.



WREATH LAYERS

- American Legion, Department of Arizona, Adjutant
- American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arizona
- American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 44
- American Legion Pat Tillman Post 117
- Archer-Ragsdale Arizona Chapter Tuskegee Airmen Inc
- Arizona Civil War Council
- Arizona State Colonial Dames 17th Century
- Arizona Territorial Chapter Association of the US Army (AUSA)
- Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society
- Army Women United, Saguaro Chapter 68
- Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association Unit 163
- Buckey O'Neill Camp No. 175, Sons of Spanish American War Veterans
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Arizona State Society
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Maricopa Chapter
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Governor George W P Hunt Chapter
- Department of Arizona Disabled American Veterans
- Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Glendale Unit 20
- (Arizona State Department) Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Past Commander
- First Page
- Fleet Reserve Association Branch 163
- Gen. RHG Minty Camp #2, Department of the Southwest, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- General U.S. Grant Camp #3, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Gold Star Wives Phoenix Chapter
- Honoring America's Veterans
- Imprints of Honor
- Jewish War Veterans, Post 210, Commander
- Jewish War Veterans, Copper State Post 619.
- Margaret Warner Woods Tent #1, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Marine Corps League - Old Breed Detachment 767
- Marine Corps League Ira Hayes Detachment 2
- Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 472, Department of Arizona
- Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Arizona
- Military Order of the World Wars, Phoenix Chapter
- National Auxiliary Sons of Union Veterans
- National Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865
- National Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Navajo Nation Veterans Administration
- Phoenix Chapter Military Order of the World Wars
- Phoenix VA Health Care System
- Picacho Peak Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Picacho Peak #1 Auxiliary Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Salt River Military Women
- Sons of The American Legion
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Department of the Southwest
- Sun City Rosie the Riveter's
- USSVI-Perch Base
- Veterans Medical Leadership Council
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- World War II Submarine Veterans



Solemnly Remembering Tremendous Acts of Courage and Sacrifice

Today we remember the more than 2,400 U.S. Service Members and civilians lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, including the 1,177 sailors and Marines who lost their lives on the USS Arizona that tragic day.

It is our special honor to serve those who have sacrificed and served in defense of the nation. We can think of no higher mission than to provide access to convenient, quality care that Veterans have earned and deserve.

*It's a mission we take seriously.
It's who we are. It's what we do.*



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