

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 1, 2014

**PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS AND  
VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS ADMIRAL MICHELLE HOWARD  
TO MARK PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY  
AT NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) and the National Park Service (NPS) will remember and honor all those who died in the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor during a special event at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 1:53 p.m.

As part of the commemoration, nearly twenty Pearl Harbor Survivors and other World War II veterans will lay wreaths at the Freedom Wall in remembrance of the more than 400,000 Americans who lost their lives during World War II, including the more than 2,400 who lost their lives on December 7, 1941.

The ceremony will feature a keynote address by the 38th Vice Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Michelle Howard, the first woman four-star admiral in the history of the Navy. Admiral Howard is a 1982 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a veteran of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. She graduated from the Army's Command and General Staff College in 1998, with a Masters in Military Arts and Sciences. In 1999, she became the first African American woman to command a ship in the U.S. Navy.

Austin, Texas Mayor Shelly "Lee" Leffingwell will also give remarks. Mayor Leffingwell will be traveling to Washington, DC with a dozen Pearl Harbor Survivors as part of a commemorative honor flight sponsored by Honor Flight Austin.

Friends Chairman retired Army Lieutenant General Mick Kicklighter will speak on behalf of Friends and Robert Vogel, Superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks, will speak on behalf of NPS.

The ceremony will begin with the tolling of a U.S. Navy bell marking the first moments of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the playing of Taps, and the posting of colors by the Military District of Washington's Armed Forces Color Guard and will conclude with wreath layings at the Freedom Wall. The United States Navy Ceremonial Band will play throughout the ceremony.

**About The Friends of the National World War II Memorial ([www.wwiimemorialfriends.org](http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)):**

Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to ensuring that the legacy, lessons, and sacrifices of World War II are not forgotten. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; provides teachers with curriculum materials; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Capturing the Voices of World War II, a service-learning program in which high school students interview World War II veterans at "their" Memorial, transforms the Memorial into an outdoor classroom and provides a unique platform to digitally document the stories brought to life through first-person veteran accounts. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning and staging five or more major national commemorative events annually and each summer sponsors a dozen free public performances of military bands at the Memorial. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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