The Knox County Joint Veterans Council Honor Guard is looking for volunteers!!!

The Knox County Joint Veterans Council is located at the Knox County Veterans Service Office located at 105 E Chestnut St. Mount Vernon, Ohio. The post conducts regular meetings on the third Thursday of each month. The meeting time is 7:00 P.M. Contact Eddie Stage @

740-504-1597 if you are interested in volunteering.



They stand guard silently, vigilantly through whatever Mother Nature dares throw at them. They do so with great pride to honor one of their own. For them, honoring a fallen brother-in-arms is compensation enough.

For the families of the deceased veteran, they are the ever-watchful sentinels, and their selfless act is a much-appreciated tribute.

NASCAR will hold street race at Naval Base Coronado in 2026

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR will hold a street race on Naval Base Coronado in Southern California next June as a replacement for its downtown Chicago event that ran the last three years. The move to the San Diego area does not eliminate a return to Chicago, where NASCAR will still maintain an office and effort an eventual return, perhaps as early as 2027. But the shift next year will allow NASCAR to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Navy by hosting all three of its national series over a three-day weekend on June 19-21.

“As part of our nation’s 250th anniversary, we are honored for NASCAR to join the celebration as we host our first street race at a military base, Naval Base Coronado,” Ben Kennedy, executive vice president and chief venue and racing innovations officer, said Wednesday. “NASCAR San Diego Weekend will honor the Navy’s history and the men and women who serve as we take the best motorsports in the world to the streets of Naval Base Coronado.” It will be NASCAR’s second street race in the sport’s history, following the three-year run in Chicago, and first on an active military base. The course layout is not complete but is expected to be around 3 miles.

NASCAR has seen Auto Club Speedway close after the 2023 race. It built a temporary short track inside Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum from 2002 through 2024 but moved that event to North Carolina.

Kennedy, who has been bullish on new endeavors for his family business, was the brains of the races at the Coliseum, Chicago, this year’s visit to Mexico City and now next year in San Diego, a venture the Navy is excited about. “NASCAR embodies the very best of the American spirit through speed, precision and an unyielding pursuit of excellence,” Navy Secretary John C. Phelan said. “Hosting a race aboard Naval Air Station North Island, the birthplace of naval aviation, it’s not just a historic first, it’s a powerful tribute to the values we share: grit, teamwork and love of country. “From the flight deck to the finish line, this collaboration reflects the operational intensity and unity of purpose that define both the United States Navy and NASCAR.”

The base is known as the “West Coast Quarterdeck” and is a consortium of nine Navy installations that stretch from San Clemente Island 50 miles off the coast of Long Beach to the Mountain Warfare Training Facility 50 miles east of San Diego.

NASCAR named Amy Lupo, who has been with the series since 2021 and helped launch the Coliseum, as president of the race. She spent more than 20 years at ESPN expanding the X Games when she lived in San Diego early in her career. She still lives in Southern California.

25th Annual Veterans Picnic



Saturday August 9th, 2025

Ariel Foundation Park
Event Center
(at the smoke stack)
11am—12:30

All Knox County veterans and their families are invited for an afternoon of fun!! There will be food, drink, live music, and a door prizes for Veterans.

Letters on display from the mastermind of Pearl Harbor attack

For the first time, two letters written by Japanese Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto — the architect behind the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor — have been made public. Donated by the naval officer's descendants, the two letters are now on display at the Fukushima Museum in Japan to mark the 80th anniversary of V-J Day this year.

While once decried as a villain, postwar investigations of Yamamoto have considerably changed the picture of the Japanese admiral. "It was a peculiar tragedy of Japan's ultranationalist psychodrama," writes Ian Toll in his trilogy on the Pacific War, "that the men best qualified to deal with the West were shunted to the margins of power."

Toshikazu Kase, a chief secretary to the foreign minister throughout the war years, put it more bluntly when he wrote, "Events sometimes overwhelm you, surge around you, and carry you along. You can't always move them. One man's will is not enough to do anything. War has a life of its own."

Yamamoto was among those officers left adrift among the growing tides of war. While not shunted to the margins of power, the admiral was torn between a sense of patriotic duty and the reality on the ground. On Oct. 14, 1940, Yamamoto wrote to Kumao Harada, secretary to Prince Saionji: "To fight the United States is like fighting the whole world. But it has been decided. So I will fight the best I can. Doubtless I shall die on board Nagato. Meanwhile Tokyo will be burnt to the ground three times."

According to NHK World Japan, the letters on display were sent to the naval officer's wife's parents in Aizu-wakamatsu City, Fukushima Prefecture. Museum officials note that the content of the letters relay that Yamamoto was calmly assessing the early stages of the war.

One of the letters, dated Jan. 13, 1942, was written while aboard his flagship Nagato (one month later the Yamato would become the admiral's flagship). He wrote that he engaged in a mission of heavy responsibility and that while it managed to achieve a minor victory, this was due to the United States' inattention and negligence. A full-scale battle, he continued, would start later.

The other letter on display, dated April 1942, was written while he was aboard the Yamato in which he discussed his desire to visit the graves of his ancestors after the war. Yamamoto would be killed one year later, on April 19, 1943, over the skies above Bougainville in the Solomon Islands. The hatred among the Americans for the mastermind of Pearl Harbor was palpable.

One of the American flyboys, Maj. John W. Mitchell, commanding officer of the U.S. Army Air Forces' 339th Fighter Squadron, reportedly asked upon receiving the mission to kill the admiral, "Who's Yamamoto?" Capt. Thomas Lanphier Jr. simply said, "Pearl Harbor."

"We're going to get this bird," the Navy planners told Rear Adm. Marc A. Mitscher and Lanphier. "We mean for you to nail him if you have to ram him in the air."

Pictures of the Month



The crew of the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Polar Star enjoys ice liberty during Operation Deep Freeze in McMurdo Sound, Antarctica,



The crew of the Coast Guard cutter Oliver Henry patrols the Northern Mariana Islands, April 23, 2024.