



## Holiday events for Lincoln Sailors to enjoy



Photo by MC3 (SW/AW) Patrick Bonafede

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Sailors are able to celebrate this holiday season in and around the Puget Sound region with a wide variety of seasonal activities.

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COMPILED BY MC3 KAT CORONA

*Penny Press Staff*

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USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Sailors are encouraged to find safe alternatives for celebrating this season's holidays that does not include the consumption of alcohol.

Abe's Religious Ministries Department has found some great deals for Abe Sailors as well as a few opportunities to engage in some community services.

The Allen Creek Community Church in Marysville, Wash., is inviting Abe Sailors to join members of their church for a dinner Dec. 27 and 28. Host families are willing to host up to three Sailors or a small family for dinner. They are also willing to come to the base to pick up those Sailors participating. Any interested Sailors need to stop by the ship's library to sign up.

A church in the Mount Vernon area is also looking for a Lincoln family to sponsor.

"This is more than just the typical holiday dinner invite," said Abe's Command Chaplain Cmdr. John Swanson. "The

congregation would like to help with babysitting, yard care, visitation. This would be especially helpful when the ship is underway. No expectations on the part of the church."

For more information, contact Swanson at the Religious Ministries office.

For Abe Sailors looking to give back to the community, "A Ray of Hope Mission" is looking for help. This non-profit organization feeds members in the community, including the homeless, single-parent families and those who are just struggling, by providing hot meals.

To donate food, gift certificates, money, or to volunteer time cooking or serving meals call 425-501-4051.

Hands of Hope is also looking for volunteers and donations this season. Volunteers help with setting up, cleaning, stocking shelves, collecting donations, doing office work and much more. For more information about Hands of Help, visit their Web site as [www.everettfmc.com](http://www.everettfmc.com) or call 425-355-5985.

For Abe Sailors on duty or living on board, Religious Ministries will hold an all-hands Christmas Eve Service and Caroling in the First Class Mess at 3:30 p.m. Roman Catholic

# Local News

## HOLIDAYS

*Cont. from page 1*

Christmas Eve Mass will be held in the ship's Chapel at 10 p.m. and Christmas Day Mass will be in the ship's Chapel on Christmas day at 10:30 a.m.

For families looking to enjoy holiday cheer by looking at festively decorated homes, there are numerous neighborhoods within the region that can even satisfy Clark Griswald.

The Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium features thousands of glittering lights, animal figurines, live entertainment in their Zoolights festival. Zoolights is open daily except for Christmas Eve and Christmas day from 5 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$4.50 for all and free for children under 3. Visit [www.pdza.org](http://www.pdza.org) for more information.

Bellevue offers a free light show at Garden d'Lights at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. Spectators can enjoy a winter garden decorated with thousands of glittering lights created by volunteers. Music and lights trace the diversity of Christmas traditions throughout the garden. More information can be found at [www.bellevuebotanical.org](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org).

Nearly one million lights are showcased with live music, children's activities, crafts and meals at Stanwood's Warm Beach Christian Camps and Conference Center, Dec. 26-30. For more information visit [www.warmbeach.com](http://www.warmbeach.com) or call 800-288-6724.

Abe Sailors looking to enjoy a full day's worth of holiday events are invited to Seattle Center's Winterfest.

Winterfest is a month long celebration of the season and the holidays in downtown Seattle.

Dozens of activities and concerts from the holiday train set to aerial acrobatics, bonfires and singing help fill all visitors with holiday cheer.

Each night, the entire Seattle Center campus will be illuminated with thousands of twinkling lights leading to carious Winterfest events.

Every day of Winterfest brings something different for guests from celebrating winter, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and even the Winter Solstice.

No matter what an Abe Sailor wants to do this holiday season, there are a variety of different ways to celebrate within the Puget Sound region.

## Abe celebrates Christmas with party

By MC3 KIRK PUTNAM  
*Penny Press Staff*

The Tulalip Casino and Hotel in Marysville, Wash., was packed and brimming with Sailors Dec. 19 where the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) celebrated its Christmas party. Held in the Orca Ballroom of the Tulalip Hotel, the Christmas party provided fine dining and live entertainment to the Sailors willing to brave the cold and snow for the event.

A great deal of effort and planning went into the event but it was not all left to the Navy staff to do so.

"Tulalip did everything. We told them the vision and they took care of the rest," said Cryptologic Technician Maintenance 2nd Class Lauren Minutola, a native of Middleton, Dela., President of the MWR committee for Lincoln.

Two rooms across from the main ballroom gave Sailors extra tables for dining. Each room provided varying forms of entertainment as well. One came with a live cover band called 'the Machine' as well as a dance floor. The second room

was set up for karaoke and also had a dance floor.

However, that didn't serve as the only entertainment for the night. A variety of awards, given throughout the night, honored Sailors for their hard work. One such Sailor was Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Stephen Vonkaenel who was presented with Sailor of the Year. Aviation Ordnance-man 1st Class (AW/SW) Kenneth Davis received Senior Sailor of the Year, Fire Controlman 2nd Class (SW/AW) Sol Benavides received Sailor of the Year, Aviation Support Equipment Technician 3rd Class (AW/SW) Charles Dobb received Junior Sailor of the Year, and Air Traffic Controller 3rd Class (AW/SW) Stephen McKinney received Blue Jacket of the Year.

While these individuals were recognized through awards, a select few Sailors were awarded through the Command Advancement Program. Aviation Boatswain's Mate Handler Airman Jason Carvell was advanced to Aviation Boatswain's Mate Handler 3rd Class, Machinist's Mate 3rd Class (AW/SW) Brandon

Driesson was advanced to Machinist's Mate 2nd Class, Personnel Specialist 3rd Class (SW/AW) Jennifer Bruggink was advanced to Personnel Specialist 2nd Class, Aviation Machinist's Mate 3rd Class (AW/SW) Brandon Hair was advanced to Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class, and Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SW/AW) Marco Menaobando was advanced to Machinist's Mate 1st Class.

To top things off for the Christmas Party, on-the-hour raffle tickets were drawn by the Commanding Officer Capt. Patrick D. Hall and Minutola and gifts were awarded to Sailors. Some of those gifts were an iPhone, an Epson printer, a Flat screen TV, and an Xbox 360. Other prizes were awarded as door prizes inside of the event programs.

Abe's First Class Association offered safe rides home from the party for all in attendance. A local car rental office loaned the FCA three cars to use to ferry Abe Sailors who may have had too much to drink to their homes to ensure those Sailors wouldn't drive while intoxicated.

## Safety Note

# A funny holiday reminder to stay safe

BY NAVAL SAFETY CENTER  
Special to the Penny Press

Welcome to the latest edition of the Safety Funnies, in which we continue our preparations for the season with a little more timely guidance.

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, except one of our shipmates. He had already hung the stockings on the chimney with care, and had turned his attention to decorating his garage. This required a ladder, and, alas, the "with care" part stopped at his fifth trupe up, because the ladder slipped. At this point, out on the lawn or driveway there arose such a clatter that the gamily sprang from their beds o see what was the matter. The matter was our Sailor, who had broken his arm.

As the message put it, he had a "fractured right humorous," which, come to think about it, it a pretty funny way to spell that word.

And in preparation for New Years Eve, here's one courtesy of a CTM3 from Norfolk. He was getting ready for a New Year's Eve party by hanging a dart board in his garage. He logged a few blows on the nail that was going to hold the board, then scored a triple-20 on the nail on the end of his thumb. And what was his response to this intense pain? Why, to produce even more pain via a roundhouse left to the wall, which broke his hand. And thus, whilst everyone else was crooning "ault lang syne," swilling champagne and kissing their spouses, significant others, and/or the nearest member of the opposite sex, our Sailor was en route to the hospital.



Photo by MC3 Kat Corona  
**Pablo the Sailor, of USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) Media Department, gets in on the Christmas spirit, but resolves to stay safe for this holiday season.**

One lost day and five weeks of light duty during which to attend anger management class. And a big thumb's up to everyone who takes this opportunity to learn this lesson the easy way.

Take a deep breath, counth to ten, walk around outside a little. If I had punched a wall every time I hit a finger when I started working as a carpenter, I would have run out of hands by 10 a.m.

Seems a DC3 on leave from a carrier was rooting around in his pocket for some change when he sliced open his finger on an open knife in his pocket. Well, he definitely got some change. First he was looking for dimes or nickels, and then he changed to looking for a first-aid kit or a corpsman. Eight days of light duty.

Here's one about an E-5 in New Hampshire, by the numbers, except we don't have some of the numbers.

Hours after midnight: 1.

Number of alcoholic beverage down the hatch prior to this stunt: unknown, but definitely some. He and fellow crewmembers had visited "various establimhments."

Number of buddies who were with him aat the time: zero, since he had "run away" from them and disappeared.

Number of stories on a fire escape that this Sailor asv-ended in order to try to climb

in the window of an apartment that he mistakenly thought was his: 3.

Number of stories that he fell before the building manager found him lying on the ground: 3.

Number of broken bones in his face: enough to warrant a day in a hospital.

Number of valid reasons why it is OK to let one of your buddies drink himself senseless or close to it: zero.

That's all for this week, friends and neighbors. See you next time.

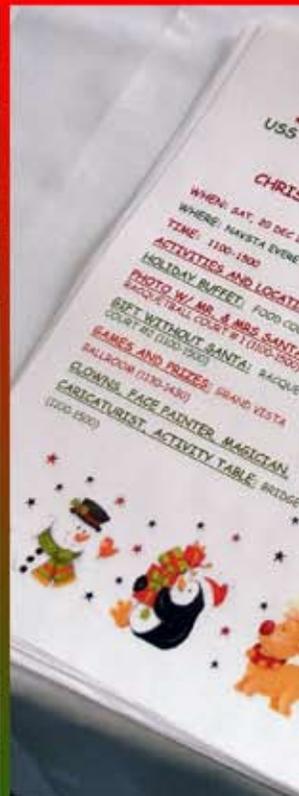


**Christmas Party Dec. 18**





# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS





# CHRISTMAS PARTY DEC. 20



# Final Thoughts



## Shipmates

The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew.



Photo by MCSN Robert A. Robbins

Seaman Dylan C. Ringer of Sarasota, Fla. reports surface contacts aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). Lincoln returned to its homeport of Naval Station Everett following a scheduled workup off the coast of southern California.

### NEED A RIDE? Take the MWR Van!



The MWR Van is a free shuttle service taking Sailors around the Everett area and Smokey Point. For the van schedule, call MWR at 7028.

## Editor's Top 10

### Top 10 Penny Press New Year's Resolutions

10. We resolve to cover actual, exciting, timely news stories.
9. Our editors resolve to ensure all names are spelled correctly.
8. Our reporters resolve to accurately quote every person.
7. We resolve to fill each paper with stuff you actually want to read.
6. This editor resolves to come up with funnier top 10 lists.
5. Our sports writers resolve to start more arguments with our editors over the opinions expressed in their columns.
4. The layout guru resolves to change up the look of the paper every once and a while.
3. We all resolve to put more photos in the paper with our stories to make it less boring to read.
2. The photographers resolve to take pretty photos to make everyone happy.
1. We resolve to see you next year!

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