

NAVY REGION HAWAII NEWS STAND

First of new Navy PPV homes unveiled

Release Date: 7/8/2005

By Karen S. Spangler

The first of the Navy's new homes on Oahu constructed under public-private venture (PPV) were unveiled at a lei untying and blessing ceremony Wednesday at McGrew Point family housing.

The ceremony marked the first increment of homes completed as part of phase one of PPV in Hawaii, and represented a significant step in enhancing quality of life for Navy Sailors and their families.

"Today marks the opening of the first of 23 new homes here in McGrew Point that will be completed by the end of August. We also look forward to opening 72 new homes in Radford Terrace by end of September, 106 homes in Halsey Terrace by March 2006," remarked Rear Adm. Michael Vitale, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Vitale talked about the importance of providing quality housing as a factor in retaining service members. "High quality and affordable housing is one of the most important factors in the retention of our military personnel. And since the readiness of our naval force depends on retaining the high-quality, experienced personnel we now have in the military, meeting our Sailor's housing wants and needs has become a high priority," explained Vitale.

Groundbreaking for construction of the new homes at McGrew Point was held just over one year ago. New homes in the three neighborhoods under construction have been built with increased square footage in comparison to homes in the Navy's current inventory and range from a minimum of 1,700 square feet, three bedrooms up to 2,585 square feet and five bedrooms.

The spacious floor plans include large kitchens with center islands, state-of-the-art appliances and Corian countertops. The homes also feature separate laundry rooms, large master suites with walk-in closets, two-car garages and outdoor storage, and enhanced outdoor living areas with porches and lanais. Central air conditioning ups the comfort factor for today's Navy families and alarm systems add increased security. Thomas Henneberry, president of Hawaii Military Communities, LLC, told those who were gathered to celebrate the event, "This is a very small part - to give back and say thanks to those who are in harm's way. It's all about families," he added.

Members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation were instrumental in moving legislation forward and supporting public-private venture for the military community. "This is being done to raise the quality of life for our military families. They deserve the best and they will have the best," remarked Honorable U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka. According to Honorable U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie, "This is a long-term, cross-generational project. Not only will we provide quality housing to our military families, but there will be an infusion of \$17 billion into the Hawaii economy."

Honorable U.S. Representative Ed Case talked about the importance of taking care of the needs of the military serving in Hawaii and their families and improving their quality of life. "We have made considerable strides in meeting their housing needs," he noted, referring to the new PPV homes and emphasized that the effort would continue.

"I want to thank the U.S. Navy for what they do for our community, enhancing our quality of life and ensuring that our residents and safe and protected. This is a day to say mahalo and support this public-private venture," Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann told the audience.

"Our Congressional delegates have worked hard day and night to be sure that we have a strong military presence. We will work to ensure that our military always feels welcome here in Hawaii," he said.

"Today's ceremony represents more than just the ribbon cutting for a new house. It represents our commitment to providing quality homes for our Sailors and their families," emphasized Vitale.

He thanked Hawaii Military Communities, the Navy's PPV partner. "We are able to deliver these high quality homes with the help of our PPV partner, Hawaii Military Communities, who will manage our Navy homes here on Oahu over the next 50 years," noted Vitale. "C.F. Jordan Construction are world-class master planners, architects and construction managers and Forest City Residential has done an incredible job of the property management and taking care of our Navy families in its first year of operation," he added.

"Your work will have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of American Sailors and their families for decades to come," he said.

The \$400 million phase one of PPV represents the Navy's commitment to providing quality of life for Navy Sailors and their families. It allows the Navy to replace its inadequate housing inventory at a much faster pace and for much less money than would be required under MILCON, the old way of doing business.

Navy officials see PPV as a "win-win" situation for everyone – greatly enhancing the quality of life for Sailors and their families, replacing the Navy's deteriorating homes at a much faster rate, and pumping millions of dollars into the local economy. Phase one of PPV includes 1,952 homes in five neighborhoods: Halsey Terrace, Hokulani, Moanalua Terrace, Radford Terrace and McGrew Point. That process involves new construction as well as maintaining and management of the properties. The total scope of the project will include about 7,000 Navy and Marine homes and will evolve over several years.

Thad Bond, senior vice president of HMC, and Lt. Cmdr. David Stroud, Navy chaplain at the Pearl Harbor Main Chapel, presented new street signs for the Radford Terrace community which is also part of phase one of PPV. The streets were named for Navy chaplains who were killed during the Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941 on Pearl Harbor.

Schmitt Parkway was named in honor of Navy Chaplain Lt. j.g. Aloysius H. Schmitt, who was the acting chaplain aboard the USS Oklahoma. Schmitt was entrapped in a compartment with only a small porthole to allow space to escape from the sinking ship. He gave up his own chance to escape so that other men could be rescued. Kirkpatrick Loop was named in honor of Navy Chaplain Capt. Thomas L. Kirkpatrick who lost his life on the USS Arizona.

Kahu Kaleo Patterson, Hawaiian priest, offered a Hawaiian blessing prior to the lei untying by the first family who will occupy one of the new homes. Lt. Cmdr. Nestor Nazario, a Navy chaplain at Marine Corps Base Hawaii – Kaneohe, and his family were presented with the keys to their new home.

"I especially want to thank the Nazario family. They represent the thousands of Navy families that make personal sacrifices for the good of our nation," said Vitale. "It is the love and support of families that enables our Sailors to serve with the degree of dedication and professionalism that they do."



Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (July 6th, 2005)... Lieutenant Commander David Stroud - U.S. Navy Chaplain - and Thad Bond - Vice-President Hawaii Military Communities, LLC - dedicate two new street names at an unveiling ceremony of new housing units at McGrew Point Navy Housing. Official U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Ian W. Anderson(RELEASED FLTIMAGCENPAC, Hawaii)