

Norco naval base to hold Pearl Harbor event Sunday

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THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

The 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor will be remembered this weekend for the second consecutive year at Norco's Navy base with music, aircraft flyovers and local veterans in attendance.

A ceremony last year honoring those who fought and died at Pearl Harbor was the first such event in recent memory at the Naval Surface Warfare Center.

This year's remembrance, scheduled for Sunday morning, is expected to be "bigger and better," said Kevin Bash, one of the

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

COMMEMORATION: 10 a.m. Sunday; Lake Norconian Club Pavilion at Naval Surface Warfare Center, 2300 Fifth St., Norco; reservations required; call 951-737-8025; bring a photo ID

volunteers organizing the event.

The Lake Norconian Club Foundation, of which Bash is a member, is sponsoring the observance.

More than 300 people attended the 2007 event and this year

PEARL HARBOR DAY

PEARL HARBOR

REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM:

1 p.m. Sunday; March Field Air Museum, 22550 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside; free with admission to museum; call 951-697-6602 for information

Bash again invited area Pearl Harbor survivors, military veterans and active service members, and people connected with the naval hospital that once occupied the old Norconian Hotel, adjacent to the Navy base.

The event will include flybys of vintage World War II-era aircraft and more modern F-16s, music by the official Navy band for the Southwestern United States, and remarks by Rear Adm. Leendert R. "Len" Hering, who commands all Navy bases in the Southwest region.

"This is something that we hope to do every year," said Gregg Smith, a spokesman for the Norco naval base.

The Pearl Harbor attack "sort of coincided with the opening of the naval hospital and with the opening of this installation as a military facility, so it's impor-

tant that we remember that and especially important that we remember the sacrifices of our military service members," he said.

The ceremony in Norco is one of several Inland events set for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on Sunday, commemorating Japan's surprise attack on U.S. military forces in Hawaii on Dec. 7, 1941.

Opened in 1929, the resort was never a financial success and was turned into a naval hospital in 1941.

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