

December 7, 2024: VFW Post 5744, other veterans, and visitors gathered at the Counting House Park for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, to honor and remember the more than 3,500 dead or wounded during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.



Post Commander Jeffrey Chase (pictured left with Chaplain Brown) noted that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) encourages all Americans to pause and reflect on the attack 83 years ago that changed the course of history and brought together the nation to defend our sovereignty,

confront tyranny and win back freedom around the world. While it was a day of immense tragedy, it would also become a day which showcased America's unbreakable spirit. The attack has come to stand as a testament to future generations that while our homeland may be attacked, our enemies will never defeat our republic or our way of life.



The ceremony included presentation of the colors by member Paul Lapierre (pictured right); the offering of prayer by Chaplain "Pastor" Bruce Brown; the



tossing of a ceremonial wreath into the flowing water of the Salmon Falls River by Judge Advocate Malcolm Kenney (pictured left); execution of a three-volley gun salute by the combined American Legion / VFW Honor Guard; and the playing of "Taps" by VFW bugler Frank Puopolo.



Bugler Frank Puopolo (background) sounds “Taps” while members of the Honor Guard (Mike Post, Gretchen Farwell, Mike Murray, Dan Dix, and Dennis Ouellette; John Elwell being just out of the frame) stand at “Present Arms”.



Some of those who braved the cold to honor those who perished!