

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 40, Number 97

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

Hospital set to reduce billing pains

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

Life is about to become a little bit easier for residents who have to send paperwork to their insurance companies to get reimbursed for hospital services. The hospital plans to begin direct billing the first of February, according to Elaine McMahon, hospital administrator.

"This is a really good benefit for the community because [the hospital is] going to handle all the processing of their claims to the insurance company," McMahon said. "We've wanted to do this for a very long time."

McMahon and Cindy Barrs,
(See *DIRECT*, page 5)



(Photo by Peter Rejcek)

From left, Farrah Miller, C.C. Brady, Megan Ross and Madeleine Hall anxiously await the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus Saturday at Bucholz Army Airfield. The arrival of the jolly couple kicked off the holiday season on the island.

Santa stars at Kwajalein parade

By Jim Bennett
Editor

The visit of St. Nick and his wife and the subsequent 33rd annual tree-lighting ceremony Saturday marked the traditional beginning of the holiday season on Kwajalein.

"In a way we have a transient community, but some traditions endure, and the tree-lighting ceremony is one of them," said Simone Smead, Community Activities manager.

Hundreds gathered outside Bucholz Army Airfield, waiting for a USAKA 1900D airplane to deliver the two guests of honor. A cheer erupted as the two got off the plane and shook hands with Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander.

The holiday couple shook hands with their young fans and climbed aboard the Santa Mobile, a large flatbed trailer decorated with seasonal items. Accompanied by elves and followed by children on bicycles, the mobile paraded along Ocean Road before turning and winding its way to the Yokwe Yuk Club and the block

party outside.

The Kwajalein Pipes and Drums opened the event. The Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School choirs sang, as did the Job Corps students. Karen Brady's dance students performed to a lively holiday number, and Wrenn served as the keynote speaker.

"It's a time of the year for children," Wrenn said. "I hope everyone will reflect back to their childhood and enjoy the season. We do a lot of serious work out here, but this is a time of the year where we don't have to take ourselves so seriously and to reflect back as to why we have a holiday season."

The block party continued after the ceremony with food booths, music and games.

Sunday, the mini-mall held a holiday event of its own (see related story, page 8), and Monday, Santa received young visitors at Gilligan's for photo opportunities and a chance to collect Christmas wishes. A buffet dinner was served.

Roi residents talk of travel

By Jim Bennett
Editor

Come to Kwajalein. We'll take care of you.

That's not an advertising mantra, but rather the message to Roi residents at Friday's town hall meeting held in the Tradewinds Theater.

"We're going to take care of our own," said Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander.

Wrenn's comments followed discussion over Roi residents' access to seats on aircraft traveling from Kwaj to Roi and to room reservations at the Kwaj Lodge.

Transportation highlighted an evening marked by frank talk between residents, the colonel and the various department heads from both USAKA/KMR and RSE.

"We definitely appreciate the
(See *ROI*, page 4)

Two-year anniversary inspires reflection

By Ed Harris

Guest Columnist

I just realized last week was my second anniversary living on Kwajalein! Seems like a time to reflect ...

I'm definitely a little rounder. Scuba diving and beach bumming doesn't burn the calories like I thought.

I'm more laid back ... don't get so wound up when things don't go my way.

My tan has never been better.

The world seems smaller.

I have a greater understanding of what is really important. People kill themselves over things that aren't.

I'm more generous to those less fortunate.

E-mail is my best friend.

Friends and family may love you, but not enough to jump on a plane and fly to the other side of Earth.

I'll never think twice about driving a couple of hours to visit those same



friends and family when I return home.

The ability to hug someone you care about is priceless.

I love my dog and won't leave him behind again.

Coca-Cola is better in a two-liter bottle. Do they still have those over there?

Sometimes being alone is healthy.

Smiles are multi-lingual.

Paying taxes is a pain in the butt I can live without ... and rent, phone, power, cable, garbage, car, gas, insurance, food ... well, I don't mind

paying for food!

Having choices is what makes America great.

There's no really good Chinese food in the South Pacific.

Home Depot, Domino's, Taco Bell, Wal-Mart, Publics, El Toro, Chick-fil-A ... mmmmmnnnn ... Chick-fil-A, Perimeter Mall, The Pottery Barn, Shogun, Gibson's Bar-B-Q. These places will have no idea what hit 'em when I get back to town.

Finding a soulmate wasn't as hard as I thought ... just needed to open my eyes.

Not knowing how the Grinch stole Christmas, whether Ross was still dating Rachel, what is on Ed TV and how many times Bush beats Gore won't kill me.

And the most important thing I've learned living on a coral reef no bigger than a parking lot is ...

There's no place like home!

Want to voice an opinion?

If you have a communitywide issue to raise, perhaps you should write a letter to the editor. Keep your verbage to less than 300 words, and keep your comments to the issues. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit letters. Please limit yourself to one letter every 30 days. Send your letter to:

The Hourglass, P.O. Box 23, Local; or
jbennett@kls.usaka.smdc.army.mil.

Corrections

In Friday's story about the NMD Open House on Meck Island, Barry King was misidentified. He is the GBI site lead. Jerry Cornell is the Boeing/LSI site manager.

In Friday's story about the Kwaj Town Hall meeting, the hours for fine dining at the old Yokwe Yuk restaurant (Gilligan's) should have been Thursday to Saturday, from 5:30 to 10 p.m.

The Kwajalein Hourglass

Commanding Officer...Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr.
Public Affairs Officer.....Preston Lockridge
Editor.....Jim Bennett
Associate Editor.....Peter Rejcek
Feature Writers.....Barbara Johnson
KWHillis
Graphics DesignerDan Adler
Circulation Manager.....Bobby Lamug Sr.

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Buckminster and Friends

By Sabrina Mumma



Post office needs help through holiday season

By Barbara Johnson
Feature Writer

Packages are flying in to Kwaj by the palletful, and the post office is extra busy. That's why Sgt. 1st Class Maurice Robinson, postmaster, is asking for volunteer help during December and January.

Although the post office is authorized to have 14 full-time positions, currently, because of staff PCSing, it only has nine people working full-time, Robinson said.

Volunteers needed

"Even though we have a shortage of personnel, there's no backlog of mail," he said, "and [the post office staff] are working harder, coming in extra hours, volunteering extra time. But we still need volunteers."

Three to four hours at a time is ideal for volunteering, Robinson said, but any number of hours is appreciated.

"Some may be able to give more, some less," he said. "We just want to get the job done."

Potential Santa's helpers should come to the post office and fill out a volunteer form, after which they will receive an orientation. Volunteers

must be at least 16 years old and U.S. citizens.

Their job will include assisting in off-loading arriving mail, sorting it and putting it in the mailboxes.

"We can use a lot of help doing bulk mail," Robinson said. The number of magazines and catalogs is almost double the normal amount this time of year.

The busiest days at the post office are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, when mail shipments come in, according to Robinson. Usually mail arrives at the post office about 11 to 11:30 a.m., and the staff sorts and delivers as much as possible on plane day.

There's no limit to the number of volunteers the post office can use, but they will be broken up into groups to be spread out over the week.

Volunteers will be needed through the end of January, Robinson said. The mail load doesn't lighten up until then.

Mailing tips

The post office staff requests that customers have their customs forms filled out for packages before they

reach the window. Some residents even take forms home to fill out, but tables are provided in the post office as well for that purpose.

And, as a reminder, there's a limit of four packages at a time. If you have more than four packages, you should set up an appointment to come in before business hours. Give the post office a call to schedule a special time.

First Marshallese employee

In other postal news, this week, Windy Luis, a junior at Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School, will begin working at the post office under the federal Student Temporary Employment Program.

She's the first person of Marshallese descent to work at the Kwajalein Post Office, Robinson said.

Persons 16 years of age or older who are at least half-time students are entitled to work under the STEP program. It gives students the opportunity to earn money, and offers the student and employer flexibility because the work doesn't have to be related to the student's academic or career goals.

Chemical weapons destruction complete on Johnston Atoll

By Public Affairs

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense

Today, the U.S. Army took a major step in safely eliminating the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile by demilitarizing the last of the chemical munitions stockpiled on Johnston Atoll in the Pacific.

The operators of the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (JACADS) completed destruction on Nov. 29 of more than 13,000 land mines that were filled with nerve agent VX. These land mines were the last of the chemical munitions stored on Johnston Atoll to be destroyed.

The facility, located 825 miles southwest of Hawaii, is the nation's first fully integrated facility designed specifically for the disposal of chemical weapons.

"The soldiers and contractors who have safely destroyed the chemical weapons on Johnson Island should be extremely proud of their accomplishment," said Army Lt. Gen. Paul Kern, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "This is an historical event which will improve the security of the United States and provide hope for the rest of the world that the 21st century will be safer for our children and grandchildren."

During the JACADS disposal campaigns, the Army

tracked the process to continuously improve and enhance safety for workers, the community and the environment. This knowledge and experience is being applied to the Army's other disposal facilities to ensure that safe destruction of chemical weapons continues. The Army also will share information with other countries that are researching technologies to destroy their chemical weapons stockpiles.

Washington Demilitarization Co., formerly the Raytheon Demilitarization Co., has been involved in JACADS since its inception, and has provided the design support, equipment procurement and installation, acceptance testing, and operations and maintenance of the facility.

VX land mines were manufactured in the late 1950s and early 1960s and were designed to disperse lethal agents upon detonation. They are filled with VX nerve agent, a clear, odorless and tasteless liquid that affects the nervous system. More than 100,000 VX landmines were manufactured in the U.S.

Since 1971, the commander U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC) has been charged with the mission of safely storing these munitions. For almost 30 years, USARPAC provided soldiers who spent yearlong tours on this small island, away from their families, to ensure that the weapons were safely stored until they were destroyed.

Roi hosts town hall meeting ...

(From page 1)

colonel's honesty and forthrightness," said Roi resident Craig Sears.

Getting here, staying here

Roi residents now have greater access to air travel than in the recent past, despite smaller planes.

According to Lott Lawson, airfield manager, residents need only call for reservations at 56FLY, or 56359. "Hardseated" priority will be given to residents traveling for emergencies, official range business and medical and dental appointments.

"We have a smaller airplane, but we're going to do our best. We will do our utmost to take care of you guys. The main thing is we have to talk to each other," Lawson said, repeating the phone number.

And at least one resident, Carol Sword, has a greater reason to visit. She applauded the move by Sodexo Marriott to return to fine dining at Yokwe Yuk Club, saying she would travel to Kwaj to eat at the restaurant.

To allow Roi residents to stay the night on Kwaj, Wrenn said work is underway to improve the reservation system.

"Kwaj Lodge is the only place in the military where you can't go online and make a reservation," Wrenn said.

USAKA is buying software modeled after the reservation system used at Hickam Air Force Base.

"I'd like to think it's simple to order the software and get someone trained, but I'm learning that at Kwaj it takes a little longer," Wrenn said.

In the meantime, Wrenn suggested

Bathroom Humor

Surrounded by a whirlpool of excitement, Col. Curtis L. Wrenn, USAKA/KMR commander, Wayne Cornell, Facilities Support Division manager, and Floyd Corder, Roi Operations manager, dedicated the newly installed restrooms at Café Roi Friday, prior to the quarterly town hall meeting.

"I've never dedicated a bathroom before," Wrenn said as he cut the red ribbon stretched across both the men's and ladies' room doors.



Roi residents Terri Berkey and Craig Sears talk with Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander, over dinner Friday before the quarterly town hall meeting.

(Photo by Jim Bennett)

residents use e-mail to make reservations. Asking about computer access on the island, Wrenn seemed surprised to learn that besides business and personal computers, Roi residents shared only two public access computers in the library.

"Hey Dave [Lt. Col. Stoddard, deputy commander]," the colonel said. "Tell Don Hornbrook [assistant chief of staff, Information Management] we're going to get some computers up here. We're excessing computers now. We could put two up here in strategic locations. Shouldn't be too much of a problem."

Projected projects

On movies, Lloyd Jordan, Residential Services manager, reported that efforts are underway to improve the sound system at all three theaters on Roi and Kwaj. Jordan estimated the cost at around \$10,000.

Residents said they weren't interested in G-rated movies such as "Babes in Toyland," which showed this weekend.

Community Activities Manager Simone Smead said movie tastes vary, and her office will work with residents on ordering and scheduling movies. She suggested those with input should call Entertainment Services Superintendent Steve Snider.

Moviegoers might share the theater with residents who plan to use it as a chapel on Sundays. Funds to build a new chapel are not available.

Food on the go

In other business, residents commented on fresh milk and produce, asking why some shipments arrived spoiled. Transportation officials said

the food does not sit any length of time on the tarmac, but Wrenn ordered a process management review, where officials will log transportation times for the next 30 days.

"We can say we have process management, but there's those times when somebody's sick or gone or something else happens," Wrenn said. "So, let's take a look at it."

Downsizing

The Roi population will continue to shrink.

"As we bring [Kwajalein Modernization and Remoting] to fruition, we're trying to decrease the Roi population," Wrenn said.

KMAR work is set for completion in the first quarter of 2003, but residents should see major movement by September 2002. Some will move sooner. As construction at the Kwajalein Mission Control Center is completed, 20-30 people will be relocated to Kwajalein.

The Roi population will drop more when the new Roi Power Plant comes on line in May. Construction workers will then remove the old plant, but should leave the island by October.

Dropping fees

Golf is free on Roi, and prices for other recreational activities may be falling, too.

Wrenn said the command is committed to increasing the recreation fund.

"In a perfect world, we would eliminate all recreational fees," Wrenn said. "As we move to greater solvency, we're going to see more of that, and we're going to be reducing the fees up here on Roi first."

Direct billing scheduled for February ...

(From page 1)

Kwajalein Hospital business operation supervisor, said they received the direct billing software two weeks ago. Some of the delay was due to the phone system.

"The telephone lines were a problem because [the claims] go out over the telephone lines," McMahan said. "If we don't have a good line, we don't have a good transmission."

Although patients won't have to file their own insurance, they will need to bring their insurance cards when they come for treatment.

"Of paramount importance is that we have up-to-date information on every single patient we have in the hospital," Barrs said.

"Who their insurance carrier is, how many dependents they have and who has the insurance — whether it's the husband or the wife ... We don't have access to that information," Barrs added, explaining that all the required information is on each person's insurance card. "People are going to have to put [their insurance card] with their K-badge."

Up until the direct billing system is launched, patients will have to continue filing their insurance claims. Currently, the patient is expected to pay for services at the time of treatment. Anything over \$50 can be billed through Finance, though the patient is responsible for filing with the insurance company for reimbursement.

With the current system, if the insurance company has a question, it's up to the patient to do the legwork

"The bottom line is customer service."

Cindy Barrs, Kwajalein Hospital business operation supervisor

to resolve it, McMahan said. The patient has to gather the information from Finance and the hospital and then send the information to the insurance company.

All that will change with the new system when responsibility shifts to the hospital.

"We will keep [responsibility of the claim] in the hospital until it is done," McMahan said.

If the insurance company has a question about the claim, the hospital will handle it, but patients are always ultimately responsible financially for their medical services.

McMahan said the portion of the cost that the patient has to pay will be according to each patient's insurance plan.

Direct billing does not include dental services, McMahan said, adding that additional details about the system will be released before direct billing starts.

"The bottom line is customer service," Barrs said. "It's pretty much industry standard that doctors' offices do this for their patients."

Allowing patients to use a credit card to pay their part of the bill is also being considered, McMahan said. "[The new system] brings us into the 21st century."

Landgraff named to scholarship competition

From Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School

Susan Langraff, a senior at Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School, has been nominated to compete in the National Principal's Leadership Award scholarship program.

"Susan exemplifies the type of person we want representing Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School," said principal Stephen Howell.

Sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School

Principals and funded by Herff Jones Inc., 150 national winners will be chosen this spring to receive \$1,000 college scholarships.

Nominees are based on leadership skills, participation in service, achievement in academics and employment experience.

Nominees are required to write an essay. This year's essay topic was how to best use technology to educate our youth.

Kwajalein's Sarah Corbin won the scholarship in the 1998-99 school year.

Book Blurbs

from

Grace Sherwood Library



Kwajalein in fiction and nonfiction at Grace Sherwood Library:

The Last Night on Bikini by Patricia MacInnes - Depicted as a "boozy island base," Kwajalein is the setting for this fictitious narrative about the victims and survivors in America's race for supremacy. Written by a former Kwaj resident, the plot unfolds as an Army "brat," known as Lucky, witnesses coverups after the Bravo tests and has to deal with her own family's self-destruction as well. (fiction)

Fish Heads by Leonard Schonberg - Manlike fish creatures swim with the dolphins. Could they be a genetic aberration caused by the Bravo test? This recently published book has detailed descriptions of Kwajalein and centers around the budding romance of a female physician ministering to the needs of outer island residents and a government official visiting the Marshall Islands on a research project. They are joined by visitors bent on a devious cover-up with life-threatening consequences. (fiction)

The Island of the Color-Blind by Oliver Sachs - Neurologist Oliver Sachs, author of "Awakenings," is on his way to research causes of inherited color blindness on the island of Pingelap. A nurse from Kwajalein Hospital sitting next to him describes the light and noise of missiles and antimissiles streaking across Kwajalein's night sky and crashing into the lagoon as "like the night sky in Baghdad." Sachs' description of "slavering" police dogs and searches at the airport are less than flattering. (non-fiction)

Sub Zero by John Campbell - Intrigue on Kwaj and Roi centers around mission-related activities, intercept decoys and an invasion by an armed assault team from a North Korean submarine. (fiction)

Classified Ads and Community Notices

HELP WANTED

The following on-island positions are open with Raytheon. For more information or to submit a resumé or application, call HR employment, Andrea, 53705.

KAPS AIDE, Education Dept. Casual position available immediately. Classroom assistant needed for preschool and school-age service programs. Responsibilities include assistance with snack preparation, food sanitation procedures, supervision of children and participation in a wide variety of recreational activities. Must possess a cheerful, energetic spirit and be able to work well with children. Selected individual will be required to undergo a criminal history background check.

STOREKEEPER, Tape Escape. Part time. Responsibilities include database management, data entry and various clerical tasks. Must have computer skills. Must be available to work days and be able to travel to Roi one day a week. Creativity is a plus.

CASHIER, Kwaj Tape Escape. Casual positions available. Hours are evening and weekends. Must be able to work independently and have good communication skills. Computer skills helpful.

DENTAL HYGIENIST, Casual position. Must be registered licensed dental hygienist. Good communication and people skills required.

Raytheon off-island positions are updated weekly in the Career Opportunities Book at the HR counter, Bldg. 700.

TEACHERS, College of the Marshall Islands. Business, education, math, English and computer classes beginning in January. For more information, call 51034 or 52188.

WANTED

PIANO TEACHER for 11-year-old with eight months of lessons. Call Cathy, 52327.

HOUSE or trailer to sit for family visiting Dec. 21-29. Willing to take care of plants and animals. Call Marti, 53466.

LOST

TAN "Gig Harbor" baseball hat. Reward offered. Call Jody, 53235.

BMX RED LINE bike, white with red detailing. Call Trevor, 53466.

Holiday Concerts

Dec. 5, Community Band and Chorus Carol Concert

Dec. 7, High School Band and Choir Concert

Dec. 8, Junior High Band and Choir Concert

Dec. 13, Elementary Band and Choir Concert

All concerts are in the MP room at 7 p.m.

TIGER-EYE framed prescription glasses, oval-shaped. Call 54536.

THREE KEYS on brown leather Kwajalein key chain. Call 52337.

FOUND

SMALL WHITE shoes near Photo Lab Nov. 26. Call 52276.

NAVY BLUE and white L.A. Gear children's sneakers with velcro, size 11½, and a small blue and white metric tape measure at the playground on Western Street in new housing several weeks ago. Call 52674.

UNUSUAL PENDANT with a unique nautical design at Camp Hamilton Nov. 11. Call 54760.

SERVICES OFFERED

BABY-SITTING weekdays until 10 p.m. and weekends until midnight. Call 52725.

FOR SALE

POWERCURVE crosstrainer lightweight bike, excellent condition, new tires, \$250. Call 53782.

SUE GRAFTON paperbacks, \$1 each; two racquetball racquets, \$15 for both; two tiny Christmas mugs, one with "Cindy" and one with "Mike," perfect for tabletop tree, \$2.50 each. Call 52512 after 5 p.m.

GE DISHWASHER, portable, new, \$450.

Call 50163.

PLAYSTATION and Nintendo 64, both with several accessories and games, \$250 each. Call 54173.

CHRISTMAS TREE stand, heavy-duty steel, \$10. Call 52427 after 5 p.m.

U.S. DIVER Micrat regulator with matrix computer, \$300; U.S. Diver Sea2 regulator, \$150; two pairs of fins, \$20 each; dive bag, \$30; Dacor Formula BCD, \$150. Call 54396.

GIRLS BIKE, Kwaj-condition, \$3; Seikosha SP-2000 printer, \$5; playpen, \$10; tennis racket, \$10. Call 53578.

100 FEET of wood fencing, \$250; right-handed womens eight-piece golf club set with bag and cart, \$75; Little Tykes rocking horse, \$15. Call 57003 days or 53244 nights.

900-SQUARE-FOOT Berber carpet and six-pound pad; 80 feet of fence, \$200; GE dishwasher, \$350; blinds for 400 series housing, \$15 each; full-length mirror, \$10; barbecue grill with approved gas tank, \$100; GE microwave, \$40; glider/rocker, \$100; La-Z-Boy love seat/recliner, brown, \$200. Call 52496.

27" QUASAR TV, \$250; JVC VCR, \$100; large entertainment center, \$250; small

Holiday Tour of Homes



**Yokwe Yuk Women's Club's
annual Holiday Tour of Homes
is Monday, Dec. 18, 5-7 p.m.**

**Tickets will be sold Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-noon, on
Macy's Porch. Questions? Call Dotty, 52420.**

Classified Ads and Community Notices

Kenmore microwave, \$25. Call 52948 after 5 p.m.

ROLAND TD-7 electronic drum kit with Roland TD-7 Turbo Sound module and rack, HH, crash, ride, snare, four tom pads, KD-7 kick trigger with TAMA Powerglide pedal, FD-7 HH pedal, cables and manual, great condition, \$1,400 or best offer. Call 56384H or 56080W.

CORNER TV stand, black, with glass doors and two shelves, \$30; revolving CD tower, holds 200+ CDs, \$10; blue mini-blinds for 400 series house, \$2 each. Call 52475.

SET OF golf clubs, 3-PW, new shafts and grips, cavity backs, \$100 or best offer. Call 52540.

MINI-DISK player/recorder component with remote, optical cable, and two mini-disks, \$75; Crazy Creek chair, \$10. Call 50898 or 52222.

22' BOSTON WHALER, customized, powered by twin Honda 50hp, four-stroke motors, with hydraulic steering, dual gas tanks with filtration system, dual bilge pumps, aluminum-framed canvas sun cover, fresh paint, full electronic package, trailer with new tires, and boathouse, will sell all for

\$25,000, some items negotiable. Call Greg, 56752 and leave a message.

1999 16' ZODIAC Pro II 470 hard-bottom boat including 1999 Johnson 40hp engine, two paddles, gas tanks, foot pump, excellent condition, \$8,000. Call Tracy, 51460 days, or 54126 nights.

EPIPHONE electric guitar, 5g special, black, with gig bag, \$175. Call 54784.

WOODEN TOY BOX with hinged lid, blond wood with die-cut lambs and flower design, 33" long, 18" high, 13" wide, \$30; Samsonite blue soft-side 26" suitcase with wheels, excellent condition, \$40; computer chair on wheels, \$7. Call 53759 after 5 p.m.

BIKE, almost new, \$60; Sharp Carousel microwave, black, \$60; 12' x 15' off-white rug, \$50; green 6' x 9' rug, \$20; three-drawer file cabinet, \$25; Farmer John 2mm wetsuit, medium, \$50; diving mask, pink, \$12; Impulse 2 snorkel, \$15; pink snorkel, \$8; large dive bag, \$15; blinds, \$2-\$3. Call 53488.

75-GALLON glass tank with wood cabinet stand including Fluval filter, protein skimmer, Hot Magnum, two power heads, undergravel filter, two shop lights with four

aquarium bulbs, extra parts and accessories and frozen brine shrimp, \$750; five-shelf unit, gray, \$25. Call 51117.

PLAYSKOOL jump start activity gym, \$20; 20" mini-blinds, \$2 each. Call 53713.

PORTABLE HUMIDIFIER/evaporative air cooler, AC 120U, \$50; Epson Stylus II color jet printer, \$40. Call 54555 after 6 p.m. or leave a message anytime.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

A REMINDER: All K-Badges expire two years after the issue date. All K-Badge holders on Kwaj and Roi-Namur must ensure their badges are renewed prior to the expiration date. Badges may be renewed or reissued seven days prior to expiration. Report to the Entry/Exit office, Building 901, to obtain a new badge. Do not wait.

MARK YOUR calendars for Kwajalein Running Club's New Year's Eve Walk/Run. Signup table will be at Macy's porch Monday, Dec. 11. You may also pick up a registration form on the mini-mall bulletin board and drop it off at Qtrs. 430-A after 6 p.m.

BARGAIN BAZAAR has Christmas tree stands, lights, garlands, stockings and more. Get your decorations here.

UNIVERSITY of Maryland is offering some 40 scholarships to Asian Division students for academic year 2000-2001 for terms III-V. Deadline for application is Dec. 22. For more information, call 52800.

SANTA'S MAILBOX will be at the post office through Friday, Dec. 15. Santa is waiting to hear from you. Don't forget to include a return address so Santa can write back.

MINI-MALL porches can be reserved only by private organizations. No private enterprises or commercial activities are allowed to use these spaces. To reserve space, stop by the Retail Office, Building 708, or call 53307 or 53308.

KWAJALEIN RUNNING Club's Pauper's Marathon Relay is Monday, Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m., at Namo Weto Youth Center. Entry forms are available on the mini-mall porch bulletin board or at Qtrs. 457-A. Form teams of five runners and submit to Bob and Jane Sholar by 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. You won't be running with Honolulu marathoners, but we'll be running at the same time. Questions? Call Bob or Jane, 51815.

CONSERVATION TIP: Clean the coils on your refrigerators and freezers.

MOPS will meet Thursday, 8:45 a.m., in the Religious Education Building. Come join us for a Christmas party. Bring three dozen of your favorite cookies for a cookie exchange. We will also create a holiday craft for you to take home. Hope to see you there. Questions? Call Lora, 54186.

KWAJALEIN AMATEUR Radio Club meets Thursday, 7 p.m., at the Ham Shack on Ocean Road next to the adult pool.

ANIMAL PLANET means FUN



Animal Planet returns to Kwaj courtesy of Community Activities and Armed Forces Entertainment at Gilligan's, Saturday, Dec. 16, 8-11 p.m. Emon Beach Party, Sunday, Dec. 17, 5-7 p.m. (Food, drinks and DJ start at 2 p.m.)

See you at the movies!

Saturday

The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992, G)
Kermit the Frog is Bob Cratchit in this remake of the holiday classic featuring live actors and those lovable Henson puppets. Jim Henson's untimely death forced his son, Brian, to finish the production. (Michael Caine) (120 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Scary Movie (New Release, R)
This raunchy satire by Keenen Ivory Wayans takes aim at slasher films of the 1980s and 90s. A group of teens — oversexed and not terribly bright — are on the run from a maniacal killer following an auto accident in which they accidentally kill an innocent man. (Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans, Cheri Oteri) (88 minutes)
Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

Bring It On (New Release, PG-13)
Not everything is "rah-rah-rah" for Torrance Shipman. Captain of a six-time championship high school cheerleading squad, she discovers life is more complicated than she had imagined. In addition to pressure from her parents to study more, her boyfriend for more "me" time and stiff competition from another school, Torrance finds herself falling for a guy with no school spirit. (Kirsten Dunst, Eliza Dushku) (98 minutes)
Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday

The War of the Worlds (Classic, 1953)
H.G. Wells' classic sci fi story is transported from England to Southern California. Martians attempt to conquer Earth, but are defeated by "the humblest things that God in his wisdom has put on the earth" — a germ. (Gene Barry) (85 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Bring It On (New Release, PG-13)
Richardson Theater, 9:30 p.m.

Scary Movie (New Release, R)
Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.

The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992, G)
Tradewinds Theater, 9:30 p.m.

Monday

Bring It On (New Release, PG-13)
Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.

Scary Movie (New Release, R)
Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.



(Photo by Jim Bennett)

Tyler Wallner, 6, kisses the hand of Mrs. Claus at the mini-mall Sunday night. Mrs. Claus, Santa and Frosty the Snowman sat on the bench as hundreds of shoppers gathered in the mall for a special evening of music, food and shopping.

Mini-mall sparkles with Sunday shopping

By Jim Bennett
Editor

Retail outlets closed off the mini-mall to bike traffic and opened for business Sunday night.

"It was really fun," said Kathy Valencia, Retail Merchandising manager. "We just wanted a nice evening where people could enjoy the music and feeling of the season."

Residents also enjoyed the shopping, buying up as much in two hours as they might in a normal six-hour day.

Macy's and Macy's West appeared

packed like Santa's sleigh, with items on sale and shoppers grabbing them up.

Outside, the mall glowed with lights hung by volunteers. Various organizations, such as the Shriners, Scuba Club and Sport Fishing Club, set up tables, offering their wares. Carolers sang, including the Cub Scouts. Members of the Jine Tip Tip Club danced and both the Kwajalein Pipes and Drums Corps and Pure Aloha performed.

The mall retailers are planning another special shopping night Dec. 20.

WEATHER
Courtesy of Aeromet



Sun • Moon • Tides



Tonight: Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 to 15 knots, with gusts to 20 knots near showers.
Tomorrow: Partly to mostly sunny with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 12 to 17 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Temperature: Tonight's low 79°
Tomorrow's high 86°
December rain total: 3.82"
Annual rain total: 90.79"
Annual deviation: -4.25"
Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.
Forecasts available online: www.kmr-wx.com

| | Sunrise/set | Moonrise/set | High Tide | Low Tide |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday December 5 | 0649/1828 | 1341/0108 1st Qtr Moon | 1156, 3.5' 2348, 3.8' | 0516, 2.0' 1741, 2.5' |
| Wednesday December 6 | 0650/1828 | 1422/0154 | 1300, 3.9' | 0629, 1.8' 1902, 2.1' |
| Thursday December 7 | 0650/1829 | 1504/0242 | 0059, 4.0' 1344, 4.4' | 0719, 1.4' 1954, 1.6' |
| Friday December 8 | 0650/1829 | 1548/0332 | 0151, 4.3' 1422, 4.9' | 0800, 1.1' 2037, 1.1' |