

VOLUME 57 NUMBER 2

JANUARY 9, 2016

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

THIS WEEK

R.M.I. PRESIDENT

VOTED IN BY NITIJELA, P. 2.

SCOUT ON WAY

TO EAGLE RANK, P. 3.

KWAJ SPORTS

SEASONS NEED TO
KNOW INFO, P. 3.

Kwajalein Paramount Chief and former R.M.I. President Imata Kabua thanks Kwaj resident Humberto Jones, Jr. for his work toward awarding gifts to nearly 1,000 Ebeye schoolchildren this holiday season.

📷 Mike Sakaio



Casten Nemra, the R.M.I.'s newest president, addresses his nation at the Nitijela in Majuro Jan. 4. At 44 years of age, he's the country's youngest president to take the top post in the government's history.

NITIJELA VOTES IN YOUNGEST R.M.I. PRESIDENT

HOURLASS REPORT

The 37th session of the R.M.I. Nitijela voted in a new president Jan. 4 in Majuro. Barely squeaking past Kwajalein senator-elect Alvin Jacklick for the top post was Casten Nemra: a senator-elect from the Jaluit District, a newcomer to the nation's parliament and a civil servant with a storied eight-year career as the government's chief secretary. At 44 years of age, he's the Marshall Islands' youngest senator-elect in the government's history to take the helm as president.

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Commander Col. Michael Larsen represented the garrison during the 2016 opening session of the Nitijela, where he joined U.S. Ambassador to the R.M.I. Thomas Armbruster, other foreign government officials and R.M.I. citizens. Together, they witnessed the swearing in of the government's new Speaker Kenneth Kedi, of the Rongelap District, Vice Speaker Jejwarick Anton, of the Arno District, and the rest of the nation's crop of 33 senators, from which Nemra

will name ministers for his cabinet posts.

As with previous governments since 2008, Nemra will need to form a coalition of other senators-elect and incumbents from several parties in order to fill his cabinet. After Nemra names his ministers, he and his cabinet will be sworn in by the R.M.I. Supreme Court at the Nitijela.



Col. Larsen congratulates Nemra on his presidential win Jan. 4.

© Mike Sakaio

THE KWAJALEIN HOURLASS

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division, which liberated the island from the forces of Imperial Japan on Feb. 4, 1944.

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EBEYE CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM SCOUT'S GOOD WILL

HOURLASS REPORT

Nearly 1,000 Ebeye schoolchildren were treated to special gifts from the States this holiday season thanks to Kwajalein Boy Scout Humberto Jones, Jr. and hundreds of donors in the United States.

Joining schoolchildren at a recent gift give-away event organized by Jones were Paramount Chief and former R.M.I. President Imata Kabua and scores of school officials, parents and local leaders. They all expressed heartfelt thanks both to Jones

for organizing the project and also to the hundreds of U.S. donors—especially the congregation of Westside Baptist Church in Killeen, Texas—who sent loads of quality gifts to Jones to hand out to the children.

The project not only helped Jones progress along the path toward the rank of Eagle Scout, but also satisfied his need to see to it that his peers on Ebeye had an extra special holiday season last year. Jones, who spent the better part of two months receiving, categorizing, wrapping and transporting the mountain of gifts, expressed thanks to everyone who contributed to the project.



LEFT: More than 800 Ebeye schoolchildren take a break from class and receive gifts from Kwaj resident Humberto Jones, Jr. **RIGHT:** Jones hands out gifts.

WATER POLO, BASKETBALL, BOWLING SEASONS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

SEVERAL SPORTS SEASONS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. Here are some cold, hard facts to get you ready to annihilate the competition on the court, in the lanes and in the water.

2016 INNER TUBE WATER POLO

Registration is open Jan. 5-16. Call Cliff Pryor at 52848 to register. The cost is \$100 per team. You'll want about 10 players per team.

The season runs from Jan. 26-March 12. Games are scheduled in the evening hours on weekdays.

Those people new to the garrison will likely have no idea what to expect regarding this very Kwaj sport. Here's the gist: It's water polo on inner tubes. The only personal items you'll need are a swimsuit (no birthday suits allowed) and a rash guard. CA provides the rest of the gear.

2016 BASKETBALL SEASON

Registration closes today! Call Derek Finch at 51275 to register. The cost is \$100 per team. You'll need at least five players per team.

The season runs from Jan. 20-March 5. Games are scheduled in the evening hours on weekdays.

For you players that are new to U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll, you may want to go ahead and start shopping around for a pair of sweet closed-toe athletic shoes with non-marking soles and maybe a reversible sports jersey.

2016 WINTER BOWLING

Registration is open Jan. 5-16 at the Community Activities office in the Grace Sherwood Library. Cost is \$70 with a shoe rental and \$60 without. Each team should have four players.

The season runs from Jan. 22-March 18. League play is every Friday night, beginning at 6 p.m. Adults only, please.

For those first-timers looking to channel their inner Dude and hit the lanes this season, you don't need much more than a pair of socks, especially if you plan to rent shoes. Also, an openness to disco music is encouraged.



ABOUT GIANT CLAMS

BY MARY BROWNING

Mary Browning was a frequent Hourglass contributor in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Her pieces covered an array of issues pertaining to Marshallese culture and history, archeology in Micronesia and marine biology. In this article, which appeared March 3, 1980, she discusses the allure of the “killer clam.”

It may sound like a joke, but clam rustling is becoming a serious problem along Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The giant clams, *Tridacna gigas* and *Tridacna derasa*, are being pirated by Taiwanese vessels. And, although the clams are protected by Australian law, neither the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority nor the Australian Navy can adequately patrol the many hundreds of miles of reef where they flourish—or did flourish.

The attraction of the giant clams is not their shells, of course, but their meat. More specifically, it is the muscle which connects the two shells. The method of collecting the clam is to immobilize it by inserting a section of pipe, flatted and sharpened at one end, and by cutting the muscle so that the shell will open. The muscle itself can be removed then, preserved by freezing and eventually be sold, most likely in Singapore where it brings a profit worthy of the risks of bringing it in.

Those risks lie in being caught by Australian authorities, not by the clam, which, contrary to popular fiction, is not usually strong enough to actually hold an arm or leg in viselike grip. The term “killer clam” is definitely a misnomer.

The giant clam does have a powerful grip on the imagination, though, even among people who ought to know better than to believe the stories. Eugenie Clark, a marine scientist who visited Micronesia about 30 years ago, tells a story (in “Lady With a Spear”) about that.

“She was very frightened in the waters off Palau when one of her local diving companions could be seen far deeper than she could go, with an arm enveloped up to the elbow by the mantle of a giant clam. Clark tried desperately to get the other diver to go to help, but

he seemed indifferent. Finally, she prepared to dive again herself, even though she didn't think she could reach the one which she believed to be in desperate trouble. Just then, however, he popped up to the surface, grinning, and holding the section of clam muscle which he'd been cutting out while his arm was encased between the shells.”

The adductor muscle, which Clark described as being as big as a man's thigh, was promptly cut up and eaten raw. She said it was delicious, with a taste like crisp cucumber. The clam from which it had come she judged to be nearly four feet across, weighing an estimated 500 pounds. During the weeks spent in Micronesia, she ate other parts of giant clam meat, saying most were better when cooked. (*Important editorial note: all species of clams are protected by USAG-KA regulations and R.M.I. law.*)

The record size for *T. gigas* is said to be held by one now at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. It weighs 597.5 pounds and was collected early in this century in the Philippines.

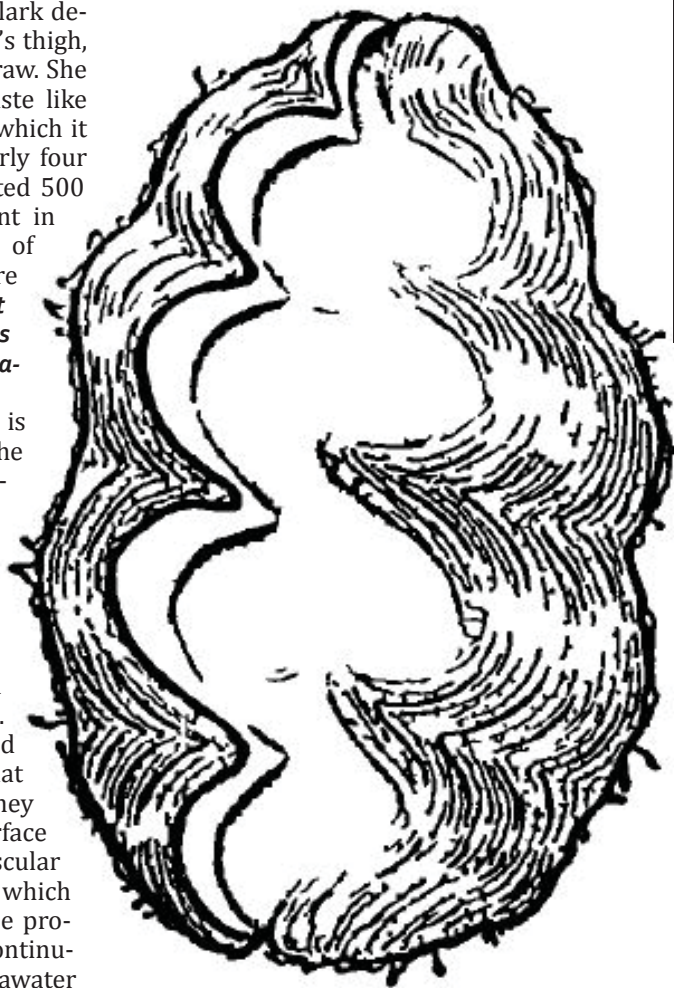
The best guess is that a clam of that size is probably about 200 years old. How long they live is only one of many things which remain to be learned about them. It is known that they need filtered sunlight on their mantles and that they feed on Plankton, which they capture in a mucous on the surface of their gills, swept by their muscular hair-like projections on the gills, which are within the shell cavity. These projections, or cilia, also sweep a continuous flow of oxygen-bearing seawater over the gills, move the mucous-coated

plankton toward the mouth and sort out larger particles of sediment.

However, it has recently been discovered that the clams do not digest most of the plankton. Instead, they seem to depend for nourishment in a complex way not fully understood on a symbiotic relationship with a form of algae called zooxanthellae.

This one-celled plant has long been known to be associated with the clam, but the extent of the clam's dependence upon it is not only a recent, but a rather startling discovery. For instance, experiments now show that *Tridacna maxima*, one variety of giant clam, can live perfectly well on filtered seawater for which all plankton has been removed. Remove the algae, however, and the clam dies. *T. maxima* appears to be dependent upon the photosynthesis performed by the primitive plants, receiving its nourishment totally from them in some way.

It is also dependent upon that muscle—so delicious—because without it the clam is helpless to close its vulnerable interior against predators.





HOURLASS REPORT

This sea hare, a type of sea slug (genus *Aplysia*; species unidentified), was photographed by Kwaj resident Tommy Ryon in local waters.

There are more than 30 species of sea hare in the world's oceans, some of which live here in the tropical Pacific. They get their name from the two long ear-like rhinophores (similar to those of nudibranchs) that jut upward from their heads, giving them the resemblance of rabbits—or hares.

Sea hares can be large for marine gastropod mollusks, reaching, in the case of *Aplysia vaccaria*, more than 2.5 feet in length and up to 30 pounds. Herbivores, they feed almost always on seaweed, the color of which often determines the color of the slugs' exterior—a useful evolutionary adaption that helps them hide among sea weed from predators.



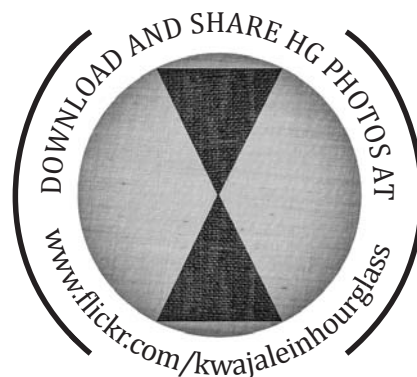
© Ang & Tom Ryon

Sea hare by Tommy Ryon

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Members of the Kwajalein and Roi communities have many opportunities to ask questions, provide feedback and address issues with garrison leadership. Col. Larsen and the garrison team are available

to address any issues that may impact the community via the official U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Facebook page, quarterly town hall meetings, the Commanders Hotline (51098), and the Commander's Open Door Policy. KRS employees may also address issues with KRS leadership at quarterly sensing sessions. Sensing session meeting minutes are updated quarterly and are available on the USAG-KA-Web intranet site in the "Community" drop-down box at the bottom of the list of options.



HERO OF THE WEEK

HOURLASS REPORT

USAG-KA'S Hero of the Week for this week is Kwaj resident Aaron Joseph Lewis. From Ocala, Florida, Aaron has lived on Kwajalein for the better part of a year. He's the garrison's point man for handling all of the tower repairs and maintenance projects that are performed on the installation's main islands of Kwajalein and Roi-Namur and also other islands like Gagan, Illeginni and Legan.

A part of the job he never gets tired of is seeing the beauty of the atoll's islands from helicopter during commutes to the outer islands. Working with a rock solid team also helps.

During his free time, Aaron scuba dives, works on his growing fleet of bicycles and socializes with the community, the members of which are some of the nicest and diverse he's ever met, he says.



Jordan Vinson

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

KRS and Chugach listings for on-Island jobs are posted at: Kwajalein, Roi-Namur and Ebeye Dock Security Checkpoint locations; outside the United Travel Office; in the Roi Terminal/Post Office; at Human Resources in Building 700 and on the USAG-KA webpage under Contractor Information>KRS>Human Resources>Job Opportunities. Job listings for off-island contract positions are available at www.krsjv.com.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

2016 Kwajalein Inner Tube Water Polo Season registration is open Jan. 5-16. Call Cliff Pryor at 52848 to register. Cost is \$100, and the season runs Jan. 26-March 12.

2016 Winter Bowling Season registration is open until Jan. 16. Call Mandie Morris at 51275 to register your team of four. League play runs Jan. 22-March 18. Adults only, please.

KRC Monthly Fun Run. 5:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 11, beginning at the Bowling Alley. Show up before 5:30 p.m. to sign in, please. All visitors welcome.

The Community Bank will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 12 due to construction work in the Macy's building.

Kwajalein B-boat Class. 6:30 p.m., Jan. 12, 13 and 14 at CRC Room 1. Sign up for the class

at the Small Boat Marina. Class cost is \$40.

Free ballroom dance classes with Gus Garcia. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesdays, in CRC Room 6. Classes run Jan 13-March 30. Learn to chacha, swing, rumba and foxtrot!

Kwajalein Scuba Club monthly meeting. 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 13, at the Pacific Club.

TRX Body Blast. 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 20, in CRC Room 7. This is a FREE class focusing on a suspension training workout that really works the core. To register, call Mandie Morris at 51275.

Inner Tube Water Polo Open Play Clinic. 6-7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, at the Family Pool. Hop in the water and learn the rules of this Kwaj sport. Call Cliff Pryor at 52848 with questions.

2016 Live Well wellness calendars are available. Contact the Recreation Office at 51275 to pick one up. Enjoy information, tips and a smart choices guide for a happier, healthier new year.

Dog owners, please pick up after your dogs while at the dogpark. The park is a privilege that can be taken away.

Weight loss and bariatric surgery class, taught by Dr. Paulette Galbraith and EAP Specialist Mari-

on Ruffing. 4:45-5:30 p.m., on the first and third Tuesday of every month, in the Kwajalein Hospital conference room. Begins Jan. 5. Questions? Call EAP at 55362.

KSC reminder: All scuba tanks are to be returned to the tank house after every use—unless you've made arrangements with the tank house managers.

E-Talk: Wreck diving can offer a great sense of adventure and are among some of the most popular spots on Kwajalein! This week's E-talk discusses how to be a responsible, respectful diver when exploring submerged cultural heritage sites.

Safely Speaking: Gloves can be dangerous if worn around rotating parts. With this type of equipment your hands can

be pulled into the piece of machinery and severe injury or amputation can occur. When using rotating equipment keep in mind the type of work you are doing and recognize when a potential glove hazard exists.



The QUESTION is:
DO YOU LIFT PROPERLY?
WITH KNEES BENT?
WITH BACK FAIRLY ERCT?



CLASH OF THE ART SHOWS!

TUESDAY, January 12
Kindergarten-3rd grades

THURSDAY, January 14
4th-6th Grades

Both shows are 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the
Elementary Art Room

The Art theme this year is...

MYTHOLOGY

Mythological costumes are welcome!

We hope to see you there! ☺

Captain Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility

*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 8

LUNCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 16
Oven fried chicken	Malibu chicken sandwich	Rope viejas beef	Pork pot roast	Braised short ribs	Cajun beef saute	Spaghetti
Cheeseburger casserole	Sweet spicy meatballs	Chicken enchilada cass.	Chick. vegetable stir-fry	Grilled chicken breast	Fish du jour	Chicken alfredo
Eggs benedict	Oven roasted potatoes	Fish tacos	Roasted potatoes	Mac and cheese	Broccoli and rice cass.	Garlic bread

DINNER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 16
Bangers and mash	Pot roast	Fried chicken	Grilled top sirloin	Roast chicken	Hamburger Bonanza	Beef pad Thai
Steak and ale pie	Boiled potatoes	Meatloaf	Chicken cordon bleu	Vegetarian saute	Chicken marsala	General Tso's chicken
Braised red cabbage	Vegetarian pasta	Mashed potatoes	Baked potatoes	Mashed potatoes	Beans in broth	Chinese fried rice

CYSS YOUTH SPORTS SEASONS INFO. CALL CENTRAL REGISTRATION AT 52158 TO REGISTER.

Start Smart Tee Ball. Registration open until Jan. 14.
Season runs Jan. 27-March 2. Open to CYSS children
3-5 years of age. Cost \$20 per player.

CYSS Youth Bowling. Registration open until Jan. 15.
Season runs Jan. 29-March 5. Open to CYSS children,
age 8-grade 6. Cost \$30 per player.

CYSS Youth Baseball. Registration open until Jan. 15.
Season runs Jan. 26-March 10. Open to CYSS children,
kindergarten age-grade 6. Cost \$40 per player.



Sexual Harassment/ Assault
Response and Prevention (SHARP)
Contact Information

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sharnta' Adams
SHARP Victim Advocate

Work: 805 355 2139

Home: 805 355 3565

USAG-KA SHARP Pager: 805 355 3243/3242/3241/0100

USAG-KA SHARP VA Local Help Line: 805 355 2758

DOD SAFE Helpline: 877 995 5247

COMMANDER'S HOTLINE

HAVE SOMETHING THE USAG-KA
COMMANDER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

CALL THE COMMANDER'S
HOTLINE AT 51098 TODAY!

WEATHER

Courtesy of RTS Weather

Day	Sky	Rain	Winds
Sunday	Partly Sunny	<10%	NE-E at 13-18 knots
Monday	Partly Sunny	<10%	NE-E at 14-19 knots
Tuesday	Partly Sunny	10%	NE-E at 12-20 knots
Wednesday	Partly Sunny	20%	NE-E at 12-19 knots
Thursday	Partly Sunny	20%	NE-E at 12-19 knots
Friday	Partly Sunny	20%	NE-E at 13-23 knots

Yearly rainfall total: 1.47 inches

Yearly rainfall deviation: +0.69 inches

Call 54700 for updated forecasts or visit www.rts-wx.com.

SUN—MOON—TIDES

	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
SUNDAY	7:04 a.m. 6:42 p.m.	1:03 a.m. 1:17 p.m.	10:18 a.m. -0.5' 11:02 p.m. -0.8'	4:25 a.m. 3.7' 4:38 p.m. 4.9'
MONDAY	7:05 a.m. 6:43 p.m.	1:49 a.m. 1:58 p.m.	10:54 a.m. -0.6' 11:37 p.m. -0.9'	5:01 a.m. 3.8' 5:13 p.m. 5.0'
TUESDAY	7:05 a.m. 6:43 p.m.	2:35 a.m. 2:41 p.m.	11:31 a.m. -0.6' -----	5:37 a.m. 3.9' 5:50 p.m. 5.0'
WEDNESDAY	7:05 a.m. 6:44 p.m.	3:23 a.m. 3:26 p.m.	12:13 a.m. -0.8' 12:09 p.m. -0.5'	6:15 a.m. 3.9' 6:27 p.m. 4.8'
THURSDAY	7:06 a.m. 6:44 p.m.	4:12 a.m. 4:14 p.m.	12:51 a.m. -0.6' 12:50 p.m. -0.2'	6:55 a.m. 3.8' 7:07 p.m. 4.5'
FRIDAY	7:06 a.m. 6:45 p.m.	5:04 a.m. 5:05 p.m.	1:32 a.m. -0.4' 1:36 p.m. 0.2'	7:39 a.m. 3.6' 7:51 p.m. 4.0'
JAN. 16	7:06 a.m. 6:45 p.m.	5:57 a.m. 5:59 p.m.	2:17 a.m. 0.0' 2:32 p.m. 0.6'	8:32 a.m. 3.4' 8:43 p.m. 3.5'



Check out daily news and community updates on the official
U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/usarmykwajaleinatoll

For command information questions, please contact Public Affairs at 54848.

Café Roi

*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 8

LUNCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 16
Roasted cornish hen	Beef fajitas	French dip sandwich	Beef stew	Char siu pork	Tuna casserole	Lasagna
Fish florentine	Chick. w/ orange	Grilled chicken breast	Fried chicken strips	Beef stir-fry	Yankee pot roast	Spaghetti
Eggs benedict	Breakfast burrito	Black-eyed peas	Hot spiced apples	Veggie fried rice	Mashed potatoes	Garlic bread

DINNER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 16
Jambalaya	BBQ pork ribs	Chicken fried steak	Roast beef	Fried chicken	Mongolian Grill	Kibi ribs
Cajun roast pork	Smoke sausage	Chicken curry	Herb baked fish	Beef pot pie	Noodles	Chicken hekka
Mashed potatoes	Baked beans	Mashed potatoes	Baked potatoes	Mashed potatoes	Egg rolls	Sweet potato wedges



HOURLASS REPORT

LADDER SAFETY

Ladders can be very useful tools. By their nature they are not very dangerous, but when used improperly they can cause serious injury or death. A few common hazards to keep an eye out for when working with ladders are instability, electrical shock and, of course, the risk of falling.

LADDER SAFETY

All ladders must be Class I-A or I-AA industrial ladders. Type II and Type III ladders are prohibited from use.

Most ladders are meant to support only one person.

Maintain three points of contact at all times when climbing. This means two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand.

Use a tool belt or tag line to hoist your tools once in position.

Never stand on the top two rungs of the ladder.

Never use a broken ladder.

The base of the ladder should be spaced one foot for every four reaches up.

When using extension ladders, make sure that all locks are secured.

When dealing with electrical equipment, never use a metal ladder.

Never use a wet ladder, as you may slip when climbing.

LADDER MAINTENANCE

Inspect your ladder before each use.

Have ladder inspected and color tagged quarterly.

Check to ensure rungs are secure.

Look for loose hinges, bolts and rivets.

Check the feet to see if they are even and that the ladder does not wobble.

YYWC presents
Sounds of Kwajalein
A Kaleidoscope of Music

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2016 MP Room 7 p.m.

Join us for a evening with Kwaj's best musical talent.

Tickets \$20 on sale at the Mic Shop and on Jan 10, 11, 17, 18 and 19 at the Exchange porch at 11 a.m.-1 p.m., or directly from Jane Premo, Cynthia Rivera or Sarah Stepchew

Proceeds go to the Kwajalein High School Senior Scholarships

THUMBS UP



Thumbs Up to the vigilant community member who called the police on me while I was working on my bike outside Reef BQ last Monday. "Suspicious activity" was the report, the officers and security staff said, laughing. Yep, when I chop and shop people's bikes in broad daylight, I always

hide behind a short hedge of bushes so that nobody can see me. You got me! — **Jordan Vinson**

Want to thank an awesome community member here? Send an email to the Hourglass editor at jordan.m.vinson3.ctr@mail.mil

VEHICLE MISUSE ON USAG-KA

The number of cases of inappropriate vehicle use has steadily increased across the garrison, and USAG-KA wants all personnel to be aware of the proper and legitimate use of vehicles to prevent waste of resources and abuse of privileges. Other than the QOL rental vehicles, all vehicles on USAG-KA are restricted to official use only. Use of work vehicles to travel between your home and place of employment, to transport non-personnel, to run personal errands, to pick up personal mail at the post office, to travel to retail establishments, dining facilities, the gym, the bank, or the food court is prohibited. Transportation of personnel or dependents to or from the airport is also prohibited, unless the traveler is on official business or is PCS'ing. Transporting alcohol in a work vehicle is also prohibited. Personnel who misuse vehicles may be subject to adverse personnel action by their employer or adverse administrative action by the Command.