

VOLUME 57 NUMBER 3

JANUARY 16, 2016

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



THIS WEEK

JIM BENNETT

IN MEMORIAM, P. 6-9, 11.

NEW LOCAL GOV.

TAKES OFFICE P. 3.

DIVERS CLEAN

POOL INTAKES, P. 10.

Roi-Namur and Kwajalein friends of late Roi rat Jim Bennett pay their respects and sign a dive flag for Jim's family during a memorial service at the Trade Winds Theater Wednesday.

📷 Jordan Vinson

COMMANDER'S CORNER

BY USAG-KA COMMANDER COL. MICHAEL LARSEN



We lost a member of the Kwajalein Atoll Community earlier this week. Mr. Jim Bennett, a six year KRS employee, passed away on Roi-Namur. He was a widower and had two sons. He also was a Navy Veteran.

A group of his friends, American Legion representatives and others gathered as his body was escorted to the aircraft that flew him home to his family. Volunteers served as pall bearers and respectfully placed his remains, draped in an American flag, in a van for transportation to the airfield. The group of about 20 followed behind on their bikes. Once at the airfield, the group walked out to the aircraft and observed as pall bearers placed the casket on the plane. Friends then said their final farewells on the flight line.

It was a somber event, yet one that any person would be grateful to have done in their honor. In my opinion, it was a great way to show reverence toward a community member and Veteran. And the memorial held on Roi Wednesday night gave those close to him another opportunity to say goodbye. The outpouring of support experienced on Roi was inspiring and makes me proud to be part of this community.

This issue of the Hourglass contains several memories and stories about Jim Bennett, shared by his friends and co-workers, past and present. He is also our Hero of the Week, something that was already planned before his passing. That, in itself, is a tribute to his contributions and work ethic.

Every person on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur are members of the same team. We all work together toward the same goal. Without KRS, all other contractors and our Marshallese brothers and sisters, we would fail our mission here on Kwajalein Atoll.

KRS lost a valuable member of their internal team this week. Moreover, the Roi-Namur community is suffering from the loss of a personal friend. I ask you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this time of grief.

Take care, be safe and thank you for all you do.

—COL Larsen

ARMY LEADERS ON MLK JR LEGACY

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. challenged the Nation to recognize that our individual liberties rely upon our common equality. The passage of time has only served to deepen our understanding of the importance of Dr. King's words and of his life's work.

Today, we honor Dr. King, remembering the strength of his leadership, the power of his words and the inspiration of his call for justice. We celebrate his legacy of freedom and equality for all.

We ask our entire Army Family to use this opportunity to recommit ourselves to achieving Dr. King's dream: an America where every person is treated with dignity and respect. By living our Army Values, we embody all those ideals advanced by Dr. King's ideals and continue to be Army Strong!

Mark A. Milley
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Daniel A. Dailey
Sergeant Major of the Army

Patrick J. Murphy
Acting Secretary of the Army



U.S. National Archives

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ask & Answer



Kwajalein Range Services wants your feedback on how the garrison's Community Services programs are going. Take part in ongoing surveys to voice your opinion on everything from the Kwajalein Hourglass and Mongolian Night at Café Roi, to the golf courses and the Self Help shops. Click on the "We Want Your Feedback" icon on the USAG-KA-Web Intranet home page and type away.

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

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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KALGOV MAYOR, COUNCIL TAKE POSITIONS IN OFFICE

BY NIKKI MAXWELL

Col. Michael Larsen, U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll commander, attended the inauguration of the Kwajalein Atoll Local Government's new mayor and council members at the Ebeye United Church of Christ, Jan. 12.

The newly-elected leaders entered the church through a flanking of police officers as the honor guard posted the national and regional flags. Mayor Hirata Kabua, along with his nine councilmen were sworn into office by Judge Ablo Paul during the ceremony. Hundreds of Ebeye residents were in attendance.

In his remarks, Mayor Kabua expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve his community and country, and outlined his goals for the first 100 days of his administration. His list of tasks included an audit of KALGOV's financial standing, improvements to sanitation infrastructure, better sporting programs for the community and youth, a focus on health, working with the Kwajalein Atoll Development Authority, and coordinating efforts with USAG-KA on issues of importance to the entire community through the Community Relations Council.

There are nine KALGOV council members. Eight of the members are landowners and one is an at-large member. They are: Conny Livai, Jack Akeang, Garthy Ned, Anthony Paul, Telmon Kabua, Calvin Juda - At Large, Card Subillie, Fredly Mawilong and George Luther. Livai and Ned are employees of Kwajalein Range Services.

"I look forward to working with Mayor Kabua and the councilmen as we strive to improve conditions for our combined communities here in the Atoll," Larsen said. "Our Marshallese neighbors are valuable members of our team and we can't do our mission without them."

Other dignitaries who attended the inauguration were Iroiylaplap (Paramount Chief) and former president Imata Kabua and his wife, RMI Minister of Justice Atbi Riklon, Kwajalein Senator David Paul and his wife, Kwajalein Senator Alvin Jacklick, Majuro Mayor Ladie Jack and his spouse.

FROM TOP DOWN, LEFT TO RIGHT: Mayor Hirata Kabua is sworn into office at the United Church of Christ on Ebeye Jan. 12. Col. Larsen congratulates Kabua. The mayor and his nine KALGOV council members during the inauguration ceremony. Larsen shares a few moments with Iroiylaplap and former RMI president Imata Kabua.



DEPT'S JOIN FORCES FOR DRILL ON THE ANDERSON

BY JORDAN VINSON

The Kwajalein Fire Department partnered with the Marine Department and the KRS Safety Department Jan. 8 for a special rescue and recovery drill on the Anderson catamaran at Echo Pier on Kwajalein.

The project covered two main bases, Safety Department Industrial Hygienist Sam Engelhard said. One, it was time for KFD to swap out the Anderson engine rooms' carbon dioxide fire suppression system tanks. With lifespans of 10 years, they needed to be replaced. Two, because KFD needed to purge those expired tanks—thus filling the engine rooms with CO2—before replacing them with new units, department managers saw an opportunity to knock out a special rescue and recovery drill on the ship. They created a scenario in which a fire broke out in the Anderson's engine room, incapacitating a crewmember, and forcing a discharge of the ship's CO2 fire suppression tanks.

"We needed to replace the tanks anyway," KFD Fire Systems Tech Tim Roberge said aboard the Anderson. "But this is also an exercise for KFD Emergency Services. We've never had a full, actual drill like this."

With a green light from Engelhard and the rest of the team, KFD Assistant Chief Carmel Shearer turned the tall, red CO2 tanks' valves, flooding the ships' engine rooms with the gas used to choke out any air in the engine rooms—and killing off the fuel a fire would need to burn. 20 minutes later, following another CO2 level test in the hold by the Safety team, KFD Emergency Services stormed the engine room to recover the casualty: the fire department's man-sized Pepto-Bismol-pink dummy. Maneuvering through the tight passage jutting between the ship's large engines, the rescuers were able to strap the dummy to a lightweight and flexible recovery gurney and hoist it up into the ship's passenger quarters out of harm's way.

For a first-time operation of its kind for many in the KFD, the Marine Department and the Kwajalein Range Services Safety Department, the drill and tank swap went well, Shearer said. Another drill may be held on the garrison's other catamaran when the teams are ready to replace its tanks.

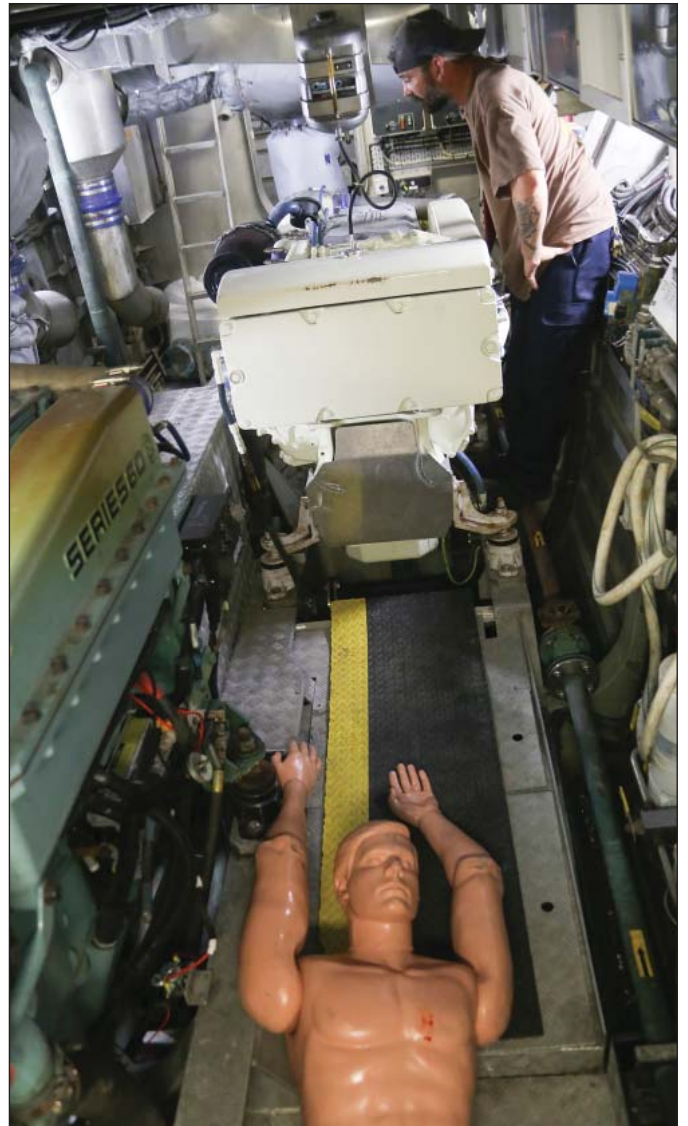


KFD emergency responders crawl through the Anderson's tight starboard engine hold during a rescue and recovery fire drill Jan. 8 at Echo Pier.



ABOVE: Responders hoist the fire victim out of the ship's engine hold. RIGHT: Responders peer into the engine compartment, ready to head down to rescue the dummy victim.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: KFD personnel get the dummy victim outside. Marine Department Engine Mechanic Nate Jones stands by with the dummy before the responders enter the hold. The dummy lies back and relaxes. Safety Department Industrial Hygienist Sam Engelhard checks the CO₂ levels in the engine hold before giving a green light for the rescue and recovery operation. KFD Assistant Chief Carmel Shearer prepares to dump the Anderson's port side CO₂ fire suppression tanks. KFD Fire Tech Mike Symanski checks on the ship's starboard tanks.

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES LAWRENCE BENNETT

EDITORIAL BY JORDAN VINSON

He was a dear friend, with a bushy gray mustache, a low, warm, cavernous voice and a stupendous sense of humor. He was a father, grandfather, husband and brother, a sweetheart of a man and one of the kindest, most generous and funniest Roi Rats to grace the small community with his presence. He was a Navy Veteran and a radar engineer, whose work was integral to the Reagan Test Site's Kiernan Re-entry Measurement Site. He was an avid scuba diver and licensed fireworks explosives tech with a flair for photography, both underwater and on land.

He was that and much more. He was Jim Bennett, and he will be dearly missed.

Roi residents woke Monday morning to the news that Bennett had passed away in his sleep. He was 67.

He is survived by his sons Kevin and Jason, his grandchildren Addison and Matthew and siblings David, Regina, Robert and Judy.

Shaken, members of the Kwajalein and Roi communities paid their respects at several events on both islands early this week. Roi rats gathered at the Outrigger Monday evening to grieve and console one another and celebrate Bennett's life with stories about the man. Installation residents, led by American Legion Post 44, saluted Bennett Wednesday morning, draped an American flag over his remains and travelled together to Bucholz Army Airfield to transfer him to the plane that took him back to family and friends in the States. Wednesday night, Chaplain Steve Munson and Roi resident Laura Pasquarella-Swain hosted a memorial service for Bennett at the Trade Winds Theater. There, U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Command staff joined Bennett's TRADEX colleagues and dozens of Roi and Kwaj friends to share and hear personal stories of Bennett,

stories of how he lit up each and every one of their lives.

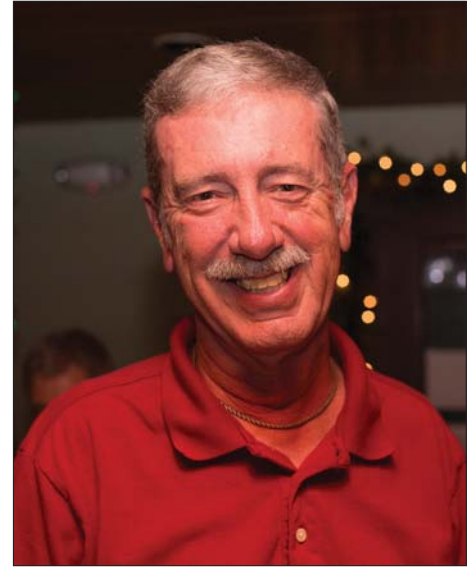
"When I think of Jim, I think of three words: drinking, stealing and lying," Reagan Test Site Range Director. Lt. Col. Humberto Jones told the crowd at the theater. "Jim drank from the fountain of love for his fellow man. He stole. He stole the moment every day to do something for each and every one of us. And he lied. As he lied down every night, he thanked God almighty that he was a member of one of the greatest teams that anybody put together. You know, the Roi team, the TRADEX team, the Kwajalein Atoll team, we're pretty impressive. And you can see the love right here by your presence to say farewell to Jim. ... Jim, we know you're up there. Thank you so much for touching each and every one of us. We love you. We will see each other again."

A six-year resident of Roi, Bennett worked as a receiver antenna engineer at TRADEX, contributing decades of knowledge to the radar's team, placing his team's safety above everything else and improving the sensor site's workflows. Kwaj resident Johnathon McClellan, a fellow receiver antenna engineer at TRADEX, worked alongside Bennett. He emphasized the impact of Bennett's sudden absence on the TRADEX team.

"I feel fortunate to be able to say that I've had the unique pleasure of working with Jim on a daily basis for the last couple of years," McClellan wrote via email. "He was one of the most kind-hearted, quirky, hardworking and genuine individuals that I've ever met. Jim's expertise spanned many fields, and I feel blessed to have been given the opportunity to learn so much from him, personally and professionally. His passing came as a shock, but it's exactly as he would've wanted it—to have been loved and surrounded by his friends right up until the end. Even though it's painful now, I'm glad that my life was one of the many that Jim touched."

Reading from an email from Rick Saggers, one of Bennett's old co-workers at Motorola in the U.S., Roi resident and friend Jerry Baxter highlighted Bennett's unrelenting work ethic.

"I remember one of his anniversary celebrations at Motorola, he didn't show



U.S. Army Photo by Jordan Vinson

up at the cafeteria at the appropriate hour," Baxter read. "We went back to the lab and found him discussing an installation problem with someone in the field. After a couple of attempts to get him to hang up, we finally disconnected the telephone from the wall jack and started pushing him in his office chair down the hallway toward the cafeteria. He was one dedicated, hardworking individual. We will all miss him."

Bennett was far more than a radar engineer, though. He was a social engineer who knew how to find common ground with a diverse range of individuals and make connections that went far deeper than simple niceties and small talk. Want a pick-me-up during a bad day? Go see Jim Bennett, his friends said this week.

"I guess it finally sank in this morning, in the pouring rain, at the spot on the road where I would pass Jim Bennett every morning," friend Brandi Mueller wrote on Facebook Thursday. "He would have smiled and waved, even though he was soaked, and it would force me to smile too, at 6:30 in the morning, as rain was pounding us both. It made me think about how much he gave to all of us, non-stop smiles and jokes, always brightening whatever day we were having. We should all strive to share that sort of positivity with the world around us."

A born raconteur, Bennett had a gift for gab and making others laugh and feel

The opinions expressed in this column are the author's and are not necessarily those of USAG-KA, the Army or the U.S. government. Questions? Email the Hourglass at usarmy.bucholz.311-sig-cmd.mbx.hourglass@mail.mil

TOP: Kwaj and Roi residents salute Bennett before his remains are loaded onto the ATI Wednesday morning bound for the States. BOTTOM: Bennett's friends join USAG-KA Command staff in a viewing of a photo slideshow illustrating Bennett's hobbies and interests on Roi.

special. Whether he told you a story about his days as a pyrotechnic, a lewd joke, some photography tips he'd picked up recently or the number of computer programming languages his sons knew, you'd often walk away having learned something interesting about him, about life and maybe even about yourself. Roi resident Bo Dearmon, who often ate lunch with Bennett can attest to the fact.

"We were sitting over at the old fart's table one day," Dearmon said Wednesday. "We were sitting there, and I went up and got me some cake, and I got some chocolate ice cream and mixed it all up in there. And I came back and I sat down. And Jim says, 'Bo, it looks like your cake took a crap.' I didn't bat an eye, and I said, 'Yeah, Jim, but that's alright. I'm a trained professional. I'm a certified waste water operator.' And he about fell off of his chair laughing. He was one of those people who liked it when you came back at him with all those kind of things."

Kwaj resident Jon Sok and Roi resident Todd Gowen also picked up on Bennett's conversational prowess and ability to build personal bridges with anyone immediately after meeting him. It was something you couldn't escape—or want to—they said.

"I met Jim when he was a patient of mine at the dental clinic," Sok said. "When I first met him ... he had an NRA hat on. We started chatting about guns, God, family. The nurses left the room, cancelled the next patient, and we became fast friends. So anytime we had Jim on the schedule, they had to do a sweep after him for about an hour, because they knew that he and I would just gab. He was always a highlight. And I'll remember him for that always."

Gowen echoed Sok's sentiment.

"One of the first things you would do when you first come to a new island to start a job as your vocation, is you go and you meet the people you talk to," Gowen said. "You meet your customers. It's a good thing to put a face with somebody. Except with Jim. I went off and met him. He greeted me. He was super friendly. He showed me everything he was working on. He showed me the history of it, how it was going. Two hours later, I was still there, and all I wanted to do was say, 'Hi.' But I was entertained. He made connections with me. He found the little bits of common ground. He found those little connections and found them in not only myself but anybody he talked to."

Loving was, like many things, something Bennett excelled at, his friends said Wednesday. His wife Barbara had passed away 11 years prior, but Bennett brought her along with him wherever he went, with some of her ashes tucked away into a little vial he kept in his pocket at all times—even while scuba diving.

"I remember a story about Jim losing the vial on a dive one day near the Gardens at Eighth Island," Roi resident Sandra Garrison wrote via email. "The next day some other divers went to the same area and found the little vial in the coral! Con-



sidering how tiny the vial was and how big the Gardens area is, it really amazing." It was a story Bennett loved to tell.

Bennett not only loved his wife and family deeply, but also encouraged others to go out and love as much as they could. Bennett drew a parallel between his affection for his wife and others' love for each other. Friend Rachael Shidler looks fondly on those words of encouragement, she said.

"Anytime I saw him he'd always give me a big hug and a kiss on the cheek and make sure that life was good," friend Rachael Shidler added. "He was always the first one to ask me to dance at the bar when we were having a good time. He was always telling everyone, especially me, to always love and dance as much as you can. I'm going to miss him."

Kwajalein residents Melissa Oliver and Paul Haislip were constantly goaded by Bennett to not delay and go ahead and tie the knot, Oliver said. It's something they can now say they're moving quickly toward, and it's news that Bennett was thrilled to receive shortly before his passing.

"When Paul came along and our love grew, Jim would always ask when we were going to get married," Oliver wrote via email. "He would playfully hit Paul in the arm and tell him he'd better hurry up and marry me. He told us about his love for his wife and how they had so many wonderful years together. He grieved over her and wished for more time with her. He was very happy when he heard we were engaged and hugged me when he saw me. I was able to tell him last month that we had narrowed the time of our wedding to October, and he was very

SEE "JIM," P. 8

"JIM," FROM P. 7

excited. He told me he hoped we will be as happy as he and his wife were."

In addition to playing cupid, Bennett was known on Roi as someone the community could depend on. He'd often lend out his tools and other belongings. You might have to listen to a 30 minute instructional session by Bennett and get an itemized tour of everything he'd made with the tool before checking it out, but he'd gladly lend it out. He'd take countless photos for everyone at the island's parties and community events, giving them out as keepsakes and mementos and passing them off to the Kwajalein Hourglass. He'd fix people's jewelry out of the kindness of his heart and do a better job than a paid professional.

In the end, if one had to define Bennett's legacy on Roi, it would be one of constant giving. Whether it was a classic "dad" joke to chuckle at during lunch or a sewing machine to borrow to make Christmas stockings; an idea to improve operations at TRADEX or a warm face to smile back at during a rainy bike ride to work—or a reason to reach out and love like there's no tomorrow—Bennett's existence centered on the act of giving, and that act of giving touched the lives of everyone around him.

His sudden absence has now left behind a void on Roi-Namur, a void that community members will overcome and fill with the fond memories they have of Bennett. Chaplain Steve Munson said Wednesday. During a conversation with family back in the States, Munson had to explain a bit about the type of person who moves to the Marshalls to advance USAG-KA's and the Space and Missile Defense Command's missions. His explanation was revealing.

"Someone asked me back home, 'What are these people like on Kwaj and on Roi?' And I said to them: 'Have you ever watched the old Western movies where the pioneers go west?' I said, 'These are the rugged people that go west, and when something happens, they just dig deep, suck it up and move on.' I said, 'They're kind of like Soldiers that I've met that have gone through difficulty, who know how to deal with life and just choose to march on and make the best of things.' People that come here ... to this part of the world are a little different than everyone else."

Indeed. Jim Bennett was a little different than everyone else. As we continue onward, he will be truly missed and never forgotten.

FRIENDS, FAMILY AND THEIR JIM STORIES

WHAT FOLLOWS is a gathering of additional stories and observations of Jim Bennett from USAG-KA residents and friends and family back in the States. These writings come either from comments made during the Jan. 13 memorial service on Roi or from email and Facebook communications from friends and family. Take a few moments and learn more about Jim Bennett.

Sandra Garrison "Jim usually rode his bike (slowly) around after dinner to watch the sunset. He often rode his bike around the jungle after work. I saw him two Saturdays ago on my run in the jungle after work. He asked if I had seen any butterflies, telling me his plan was to take pictures of butterflies and spider webs (not together) over the weekend. Jim was always willing to help and participate in Island activities. I can hear him telling me, 'Yes Dear, I'll be there,' in his deep voice. He was so good natured. Always ready to laugh and usually had a dumb joke ready. Just after midnight on New Year's, I gave Jim a big hug and asked if he danced to the band during the night. He said, 'Honey, I haven't had a dance partner in 11 years.' I like to think Jim is dancing with her (his wife) now."

Kevin Bennett—one of Jim's sons "My brother and I were Boy Scouts for years. I'm an Eagle Scout. My dad was an adult leader as an Assistance Scout Master and joined us on many campouts, summer camp, hikes, canoeing trips, etc. He went through EMT (emergency medical technician) training. He often used that training with the Scouts by be-

ing a volunteer first aid/medical staff at Scout activities. He was a licensed pyro technician in the State of Texas. It started as a seasonal hobby and family activity. For about five years straight, our family "summer vacation" was planned around July Fourth because we would travel to somewhere to set up and perform the fireworks show for a city or organization's Independence Day celebration. Later on he did that job full time, year round."

Chad Kells "Jim, on several occasions, told me that his philosophy on life was to try to make someone smile or laugh every day. If he was able to do so, he had accomplished something in life."

DJ Castle "I met Jim on my very first night on Roi. I was still jetlagged, and I got invited over to the bar, because that's what happens when new people arrive on the island. And I tied one on pretty good, and I accidentally went to the wrong building when I went home. And we have the same room number on the same floor (but in different buildings). And when I walked into the room, I was like, 'Wow, someone did up my room for



Kwaj and Roi residents drape a flag over Bennett's remains and help transport him to Bucholz Army Airfield Wednesday morning.

Photo courtesy of American Legion Post 44

me. This is amazing.' Then the door closes behind me, and I hear this voice in the dark: 'Can I help you?' And I bolted out of the room. That was how I first met Jim. He's a great guy, and I'm going to miss him."

Bill Cantrell "Jim's wife Barbara passed away 11 years go, and he missed her very dearly. Now they are united again in Heaven. Jim worked for Motorola for 25 years or more. He had such a deep, booming voice that he was known as Mr. Microphone. Jim's voice was used to test the microphone circuitry on new designs to make sure that it sounded OK. He was very warmly regarded everywhere he worked, and he will be very sorely missed."

Laura Pasquarella-Swain "Jim was kind of a night crawler, too. Mark and I have a

habit of going out late at night, 10 o'clock-ish, right about before we're getting ready to go to bed and have that last smoke for the night. And I'd always see Jim Bennett hanging on the side of A Building. And then he'd see Mark and I, and then he'd saunter over and say, 'How are you guys doing tonight? Beautiful night, isn't it? Look at those stars. And How are things going?' And that was Jim. ... I'm going to miss him out there looking at the moon rising and looking up at the stars, because that is what we used to do together."

Jenny Cunningham "Jim Bennett stories could fill a lengthy book. He was a wonderful, effortlessly out-sized presence that never let anything diminish his enthusiasm (however dry his humor) for life and living. It didn't matter how small

or underappreciated a task or repair was, he did the absolute best job of everything that he was capable of doing. He was a perfectionist in his technical work, an artist with a soldering iron. He put the same care and attention into everything he did, large or small. However, the thing I will remember longest about Jim, the trait I hope I can adopt from him, is that no matter how busy he was, or what else was going on, he NEVER passed up a single opportunity to help someone if he could. It didn't matter if it was a complete stranger, a janitor, a friend, he always did whatever he could think of to make life easier for those around him. He actively sought out ways to help others and his help was without any agenda other than making someone's day a little better. I'm sincerely grateful to have known him and deeply sorry that I never stopped to tell him that directly, even though he would have laughed and given me a goofy salute. My tribute to his memory will be to appreciate those around me, every day. I hope it would make Jim happy to know that."

David Heinzelmann "Jim worked for me off and on during our Motorola days. His wife also worked for me at one time. It is a great shock to hear of his passing. Whenever he came back to the states he always called and we would set up time to meet with Jim over lunch. The last time I had heard from him was about a month or two ago when he asked to use me as a reference for his security clearance renewal."

Kent Demel "The thing I will always remember about Jim is this: One time while he was working for me, he called me to tell me he had to go home because his kitchen was on fire and asked if it was OK that he left. Good guy and will be missed."

Stacey Helt "We were laundry buddies on the weekends. And I will miss that. A lot. We kind of had the same times that we would go. He would stop by and say, 'The washer's empty,' or 'The drier's empty.' Another thing that we shared, which was goofy—which was him—was this: One time when we were in the hall, I was coming around the corner, and he was coming around the corner, and he scared the bejeebers out of me, which he got a real charge out of. So, he said, 'Well, next time, I'll just be more stealthy.' So every time after that when we would see each other in the hall, we would both put out backs up against the opposite walls and slowly scoot by each other. That was him. He was goofy, and I loved him. And I will miss him."



TOP: Roi resident and Bennett's friend Bo Dearmon address the crowd at Bennett's memorial service Wednesday night at the Trade Winds Theater. **BOTTOM:** RTS Range Director Lt. Col. Jones talks about Bennett's contributions to the success of the Kiernan Re-Entry Measurement Site, RTS and the Space and Missile Defense Command over the years.

U.S. Army Photos by Jordan Vinson

SEE "STORIES," P. 11

DIVERS GET TO WORK IN POOL INTAKES

HOURLASS REPORT

The Kwajalein Marine Department commercial dive team performed crucial maintenance on the system that feeds ocean water into the island's swimming pools Jan. 6-7. Armed with sedan-sized water pumps, top-fed air-fed hard hats and lengths of air-fed cables, Tracey Hampson, Rudy Langidrik, Mike Hodges and Rick Broomell sucked up hundreds of pounds of sand, rock, trash, dead crabs and more from the intake system's main distribution point north of the Ocean View Club. In all, the work took about two full days. Broomell, who was topside Jan. 6, tending to Hodges, who did the job in the water, said he didn't mind the work at all.

"This is one of the best offices in the world, out here next to the ocean," he said, feeding Hodges cable slack. The commercial dive team performs the intake system cleaning project each year to keep the water in the pools clean and free from sand and other small debris. It is at the system's main distribution point, pictured below, that the water is filtered and then directed north and south to the Adult Pool and the Family Pool, respectively.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: Marine Department Commercial Diver Mike Hodges peers up at the camera during a break from vacuuming out hundreds of pounds of sand and other debris from the Kwajalein pools intake distribution point Jan. 6. Tracey Hampson mans the team's water pump during the project. The team ejects the debris from the pipes back into the ocean. Rudy Langidrik helps Hodges with some rope. Diver Rick Broomell, left and Langidrik tend to Hodges down below.



U.S. Army Photos by Jordan Vinson

"STORIES," FROM P. 9

JoDanna Castle "Jim never had a bad day—even when bad things were happening to him, he looked on the bright side. He loved diving, and we were dive buddies. He was the treasurer of the RND scuba club for years and was overall very active in the scuba club. He volunteered his time without a second thought when it came to assisting with club activities. Jim would often be standing outside of his quarters and just appreciating the sunset in the evening. I will miss seeing him stand there. He was very giving and kind. He also enjoyed photography. He took our wedding ceremony photos and some photos at our reception. He wanted to make sure everything went perfectly. He was very concerned and ordered a new lens and practiced so much. He was trained to be a locksmith in the Navy. We just spoke last week and he was learning about cipher locks and how to hack them. He was learning this trade so that he could assist with the scuba club tank house lock. It often broke, and Jim would take it apart and problem solve and get it working again. He will be greatly missed. A friend to many on Roi."

Rachael Shidler "At DJ's and JoDanna (Castle)'s wedding, I broke my necklace; it is very important to me. And I didn't know this, but he was an amazing jeweler, and he fixed it for me. He took it ... and for some reason had a Ziploc baggy in his pocket and put it in there and had it back to me the next weekend. You can never tell it was ever broken. Out of six years, I never knew that he was a jeweler."

Greg Spock "Jim was the candy man at TRADEX. I ate all the candy. ... I think everyone who works at TRADEX is here tonight, if that says anything. We're joking around, and we're all here. And that says a lot about Jim. Goofy is a very good, easy word for him. Just a fun guy to work with. And from a professional standpoint, he's a missed asset. And we will be hurting without him. What a great guy."

Carol Golby-Saunders "Jim was one of my good buddies. I will miss him. At the mess hall table, we will miss him. He could give a joke, say some pretty off color stuff, and take it too, when you gave it back to him. We had some awesome dives. He took some great pictures. He was always there for people if you needed help. And our community will dearly miss his presence."

Ed TOMASOFSKY "I would like to think, if Jim could talk to us tonight, he would

say this: Clear for me a place in Heaven. Out beyond our sheltering sky, where none would dare to wander, searching and destroying this peace."

Lynda Reynolds "It is a big loss for our little community. He made everybody smile. He never sat at any one particular table at the cafeteria. He sat anywhere all over the lunchroom, because he had something to talk about, something in common. I was assigned to make Christmas stockings one year for the hospital. And I decided to wait until I went to Roi, because I knew Jim Bennett had a sewing machine. I don't know if you guys knew he sewed, but he had a great sewing machine. So I decided to go borrow it. And it took me longer to get the sewing machine than it did to make the 50 stockings. He had to show me exactly how to use it, how to clean it, how long he'd had, what he'd made with it. I will miss him."

Ricky Everette "I met Jim since he's been here, I guess. I guess I've been here since the Japanese fell. ... If there's anything worth putting on my bucket list, it's this. If I'm on my dying bed, and someone says, 'What's the greatest thing you did in your life?' I'll say, 'I met Jim Bennett.'"

Bo Dearmon "You know, Roi is kind of like the 'Hotel California' song. The Eagles song. You can check out, but you can never leave. ... I was gone for a few years, but I never really left. And I think that Jim's the same way. He might have checked out, but he ain't never left."

Chris Bennis "It never mattered how long you knew him. As long as you're a kindhearted person, he's going to consider you a friend. And that's what he did with me."

Dan Gunter "Tonight we celebrated the passing of a Titan of a man. A man who

never failed to bring light to those around him. A man who never hesitated at the chance for adventure. A man who loved one woman with a passion few will ever comprehend for his entire life long after hers ended. I am proud to have lived, worked and dove with him on countless occasions. Jim Bennett will forever have a statue in my Pantheon. One day, we will dine in the halls of Valhalla and dive Atlantis my brother."

Alana Brooks "We lost a great guy. But we've also lost the best treasurer that the scuba club has ever seen. It will be hard to replace him, and I'll always miss him."

Rodger Wilson "His son Kevin was the fifth Eagle Scout in Troop 335. He received his Eagle in 1992. Jim provided pyrotechnics for many Order of the Arrow ceremonies, and I consulted him for special effects on fires we used in Twin Arrows. Jim was also the 'resident doctor' on many 50 milers. He would pull up in his little tan truck and take care of all the blisters and 'hotspots' that hundreds of our youth would get."

Eric England "As someone that worked closely with Jim for years at TRADEX, I can say he will be truly missed, both personally and professionally. Jim was always looking for ways to help everyone around him, always willing to go the extra mile to help out whenever and however he could. Always quick with a joke, Jim treated everyone he met as a friend. He always had a positive outlook and never failed to lift the spirits of those around him. I personally learned a lot from working with Jim over the years. His skills, knowledge and quality of work have made a lasting impact on the radar, and his compassion, kindness and humor have made a lasting impact on all of us fortunate enough to have known him."



Bennett is prepared for his final flight out of Kwajalein Atoll Wednesday.

📷 Photo courtesy of American Legion Post 44



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.

THIS GARRISON'S HERO

BY JORDAN VINSON

USAG-KA'S Hero of the Week for this week was going to be Jim Bennett. True story. I had the photo, now on page 6, already placed in this spot, next to an empty space that I'd fill with something nice to say about him. The next time I'd see him on Roi, he'd invariably say that I grossly overstated his value to the Reagan Test Site and his Roi family. And I'd argue with him, and we'd laugh.

"Hero" is, indeed, a funny word. For me, and for others that knew him on Roi and Kwajalein, Jim wasn't a hero in the traditional, super hero sense of the word, of course. He never, to my knowledge, rescued orphans from burning buildings or blocked incoming asteroids from striking Earth. Not that he wouldn't try, had he had the chance, of course.

Jim's a hero, because he excelled at being a good human being. A tremendously thoughtful, generous, inquisitive, positive, smart man, he took being human to a new level—an important quality to have in a world often muddled with avarice, egoism and disregard for one's fellow human.

When an individual might let a few trivial letdowns ruin his or her day, Jim would remain steadfastly upbeat, always promoting the brighter side of things and spreading his cheer with a genuine smile. When one might grumble at the bureaucratic duties involved in keeping the Roi-Namur Scuba Club afloat, Jim would step in and pour as much time and energy he could into helping the organization thrive. When community members needed quality photos to help cel-



brate important milestones, he'd jump at the opportunity to put his passion to work, doing so free of charge.

Jim is a hero and a great human being, because he strove to get the most out of his short turn on this planet. While others take their limited days on Earth for granted, staying cooped up inside their climate-controlled living quarters and watching too much television, Jim always took advantage of the rare opportunities that life on this garrison have to offer.

When he wasn't hard at work in the receiver building at TRADEX, he was riding his bike through the jungle of Namur, taking in the islands' WWII history and enjoying the Marshall Islands cotton candy sunsets. When he wasn't photographing friends around the island at the Surf Shack and the Gabby Shack, he was taking photos of butterflies, spiders, stone fish, Moorish idols and eagle rays. When he wasn't spending time connecting with loved ones back home and decorating the Outrigger with friends for holiday festivities, he was enjoying Smells Like Fish performances, volunteering at the scuba club and telling off color jokes to fellow diners at Café Roi.

Jim is a hero, because he never once stopped living, never once stopped learning and never stopped spreading his warmth to anyone he could. And like all classic Hellenic tragedies, in which the story's hero protagonist perishes at the end of the tale, our hero has fallen, and he's fallen way too soon.

Jim, you will be sorely missed, friend. See you on the other side.



LEFT: Commercial Diver Rick Broomell waves to the camera during the divers' cleanup project at the Kwaj pools intake point Jan. 6. **RIGHT:** Marine Department Engine Mechanic Nate Jones looks over one of the engines of the Anderson catamaran Jan. 8. "My baby (the engine) needs a bath," he said.



Chief Warrant Officer 4 Shawn Carpenter, the USAG-KA marine operations officer, left, talks with Kwajalein Fire Department Fire Alarm Tech Mike Symanski during an operation on the Marine Department's Anderson catamaran Jan. 8.



LEFT: A rather large sea urchin is revealed during the Kwajalein pools intake pipe cleanup Jan. 6. "That looks like lunch," Diver Rick Broomell said. **RIGHT:** Kwaj residents grab a photo with a marlin, weighing more than 200 pounds, that they hauled in a couple of weekends ago. Left to right: Marc Rivera, Sean Chalmers, Kevin Chalmers, Tommy Ryon, Robbie Chalmers and JR Chalmers.



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

AAFES HOURS. Jan 18th Pxtra, Express and food ct will have holiday hrs. 10:00-16:00; Jan 19th nothing will move from stockrooms or Warehouse; Jan 20th Pxtra and Express will close at 16:00 for Inventory; Jan 21st ROI Shoppette will close at 16:00 for inventory.

KRC Annual Ride-and-Park run/bike event. 5 p.m., Monday, Jan. 18, at the Kwajalein Atoll Air Terminal. Show up by 4:45 to sign in; no registration needed. Bike helmets mandatory. Each team of two persons shares a bike. Questions? Call 51815 or 51990.

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.

The Great Kwaj Swap Meet. 4:30-6:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, at the corner of 6th Street and Lagoon Road. One complimentary table

per household. Call Community Activities at 53331 to register your table.

CYSS Boys' Night Out Open Rec event. 6-7:30 p.m., Jan. 23, in the SAC Room. Join us for video games and some outside time. Call 52158 to register. Questions? Email Alex McGlinn at alexandra.c.mcglinn.ctr@mail.mil.

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.

Monthly Island Orientation. 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m., Jan. 27, in Community Activity Center Room 6. The orientation session is required by all new island arrivals, including dependents over the age of 10. Questions? Call the Environmental, Safety and Hazards Office at 51134.

Wellness Wednesday event—Tabata with Karen Brady. 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 27, in Corlett Recreation Center Room 6. This is a cardio-pumping workout with all the right moves in all the right places. Call Mandie Morris at 51275 to register. Cost: FREE.

Kwajalein Atoll International Sportfishing Club monthly meeting. 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 27, at the Pacific Club. All anglers welcome!

Quizzo for Jan. 29 is cancelled due to the schedule of the Operation Flintlock veterans' visit to

the garrison. Next session will take place Feb. 12.

February American Red Cross Learn to Swim Class registration is open Jan. 20-30. Session dates: each Tuesday and Saturday from Feb. 2-27. Participants must be at least four years old. Cost is \$50 per person. Call Cliff Pryor at 52848 to sign up.

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.

Teach our kids to be green. Turn off your lights, computer, and TV when not in use. Don't let the water run continuously when brushing your teeth. Use cotton or recycled material bags instead of plastic. Recycle or reuse your plastic bags and used paper.

Adult Pool reminder: In order to host a party or a class at the pool, you must make a reservation through Community Activi-

ties by calling 52848 or by emailing Cliff Pryor.

Weight loss and bariatric surgery class, taught by Dr. Paulette Galbraith and EAP Specialist Marion 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: Coral reefs need clean waters to thrive. They provide habitat for numerous species and are valuable for fishing, tourism, and diving. Help protect our coral reefs.

Safely Speaking: We do a lot of things that can cause injury every day, but don't. We become complacent and don't even think about the how we put ourselves in the line of fire. Protect yourself by: looking for the hazard, eliminating, or controlling it, and use best practices to minimize it.



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

Captain Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility

*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 15

LUNCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 23
Boneless chick. w/ salsa	Memphis spare ribs	Fried chicken	Baked meatloaf	Picadillo Cubano	Salisbury steak	Pizza
Nacho beef	Blackened chicken	Braised steak w/ peppers	BBQ chicken	Jerk chicken	Fish du jour	Pasta carbonara
Nachos	Quiche lorraine	Corn bread	Mashed potatoes	Red beans and rice	Chili dogs	Vegetarian medley

DINNER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 23
BBQ chicken	Sliced roast beef	Lasagna	Flank steak	Pork adobo	Sloppy joes	Chicken nuggets
Mac and cheese	Lumpia	Chicken cacciatore	Garlic roast chicken	Chicken stir-fry	Citrus roast chicken	Corn bread
Beef stew	Mashed potatoes	Garlic bread	Scalloped potatoes	Parslied potatoes	Fettucine aglio e olio	Egg noodles



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-ENE at 16-21 knots
Monday	Partly Sunny	10%	NE-ENE at 16-22 knots
Tuesday	Mostly Cloudy	20%	NE-E at 16-22 knots
Wednesday	Mostly Cloudy	20%	NE-E at 15-22 knots
Thursday	Mostly Cloudy	20%	NE-E at 15-21 knots
Friday	Mostly Cloudy	20%	NE-E at 14-19 knots

Yearly rainfall total: 1.58 inches

Yearly rainfall deviation: -0.10 inches

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

SUN—MOON—TIDES

	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:49 p.m.	12:46 p.m. 12:27 a.m.	9:40 a.m. 3.2' 9:55 p.m. 2.9'	3:12 a.m. 0.3' 3:49 p.m. 1.0'
MONDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:50 p.m.	1:36 p.m. 1:22 a.m.	11:12 a.m. 3.1' 11:39 p.m. 2.6'	4:25 a.m. 0.6' 5:41 p.m. 1.1'
TUESDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:50 p.m.	2:28 p.m. 2:18 a.m.	12:47 p.m. 3.3' -----	5:57 a.m. 0.7' 7:25 p.m. 0.8'
WEDNESDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:51 p.m.	3:22 p.m. 3:15 a.m.	1:19 a.m. 2.7' 1:57 p.m. 3.7'	7:19 a.m. 0.6' 8:32 p.m. 0.4'
THURSDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:51 p.m.	4:16 p.m. 4:11 a.m.	2:28 a.m. 2.9' 2:49 p.m. 4.1'	8:20 a.m. 0.3' 9:20 p.m. -0.1'
FRIDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:51 p.m.	5:11 p.m. 5:07 a.m.	3:17 a.m. 3.2' 3:31 p.m. 4.4'	9:08 a.m. 0.0' 9:59 p.m. -0.4'
JAN. 23	7:10 a.m. 6:52 p.m.	6:06 p.m. 6:01 a.m.	3:57 a.m. 3.5' 4:08 p.m. 4.6'	9:48 a.m. -0.3' 10:33 p.m. -0.6'



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. 15

LUNCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 23
Hamburger steak	Roasted pork loin	Jamaican patties	Monte cristo sandwich	Roast beef sandwich	Salmon casserole	Chicken quesadillas
Vegetable frittata	Grilled chicken strips	Dry-rub roast beef	Pork chops	Turkey stew	Cuban sandwich	Beef tacos
Au gratin potatoes	Southern benedict	Corn on the cob	Stir-fry vegetables	Stuffing	Potatoes O'Brien	Pinto beans

DINNER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 23
Beef enchilada cass.	Chicken sandwich	Kalua pork	Steak	Fried chicken	Chicken cacciatore	Hamburgers, hot dogs
Chicken chimichangas	Beef stroganoff	Baked fish	Huli huli chicken	London broil	Italian baked fish	Chicken chili
Borrocho beans	Stir-fry tofu	Vegetable fried rice	Corn on the cob	Cornbread	Creamy polenta	Three cheese pasta



HOURLASS REPORT

POWER TOOL SAFETY

Make sure your tools are safe to use. Follow these steps.

- Don't operate a tool until you've received proper training, understanding how to use it and have been approved to use it.
- Inspect every tool before using it to discover: missing parts, such as safety guards; loose or dull blades; cuts in plug and cord insulation; defects or cracks in the tool housing; problems with guards and safety shut-off switches
- Make sure you have the right tool for the job. Be familiar with its speed, power, depth of cut, adjustments and any problems other workers may have with it.
- What kind of personal protective equipment will you need? Usually a manufacturer's operating instructions will advise what to wear. Eye, hand and hearing protection are common. Respiratory protection may also be needed if the tool generates dust, shavings or flying particles.
- Avoid wearing loose-fitting clothing or jewelry when using power tools.
- Always keep the work area clean and organized. Avoid working around oil-soaked rags or other flammable materials. Sparks could fly and start a fire.

ASVAB TEST OPPORTUNITY

The Military Entrance Processing Station will be on Kwajalein and Ebeye to administer the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test to high school students and the enlistment test to adults on the dates listed below. For more information, please contact the Host Nation Office at 52103 or the Public Affairs Office at 54848.

Jan. 25, on Ebeye (All High Schools)
 Jan. 26, on Ebeye (All High Schools)
 Jan. 27, at Kwajalein Jr./Sr. HS
 Jan. 28, on Ebeye (All High Schools)

THUMBS UP



Thumbs Up to George Everheart for achieving status as a certified professional property specialist through the National Property Management Association.

— **Peggy Basset**

Thumbs Up to the nice gentleman standing behind my son who spotted him \$1 that he was short of Friday, Jan. 8 at about 5 p.m. Much appreciated! Your kindness will be paid forward. Thank you very much. — **Jeanna Larsen**

Thumbs Up to all of the Post Office personnel who worked so hard to make sure mail got unpacked and sorted in time for Christmas. Thanks also to Automotive for again offering transport of packages to residences. Thanks for your effort. You guys rock. — **Jane Christy**

Thumbs Up to the drivers of vehicles on the island who drive within the speed limits and pay attention to walk-

ers, bikers and runners.
 — **Jeanna Larsen**

Thumbs Up to all the students, parents and colleagues for coming out to support the George Seitz Elementary School art shows. Kids, you did a tremendous job! Also, thanks to the Dethlefsens for donating fans so that our art room would be more comfortable for the exhibits. — **Jane Christy**

Thumbs Up to the Kwajalein Hospital team. Thank you for your professionalism, can-do spirit and dedication to serving our community members. You guys are awesome every day, but this past weekend you were over the top! — **Cynthia Rivera**

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

