

THE KWAJALEIN MIRRORGLASS

George Seitz Elementary School second grader Limalani Lelet's "Taco Mermaid" masterpiece is a hit during the school's art show last week.

📷 Jane Christy

THIS WEEK

COACH TOM

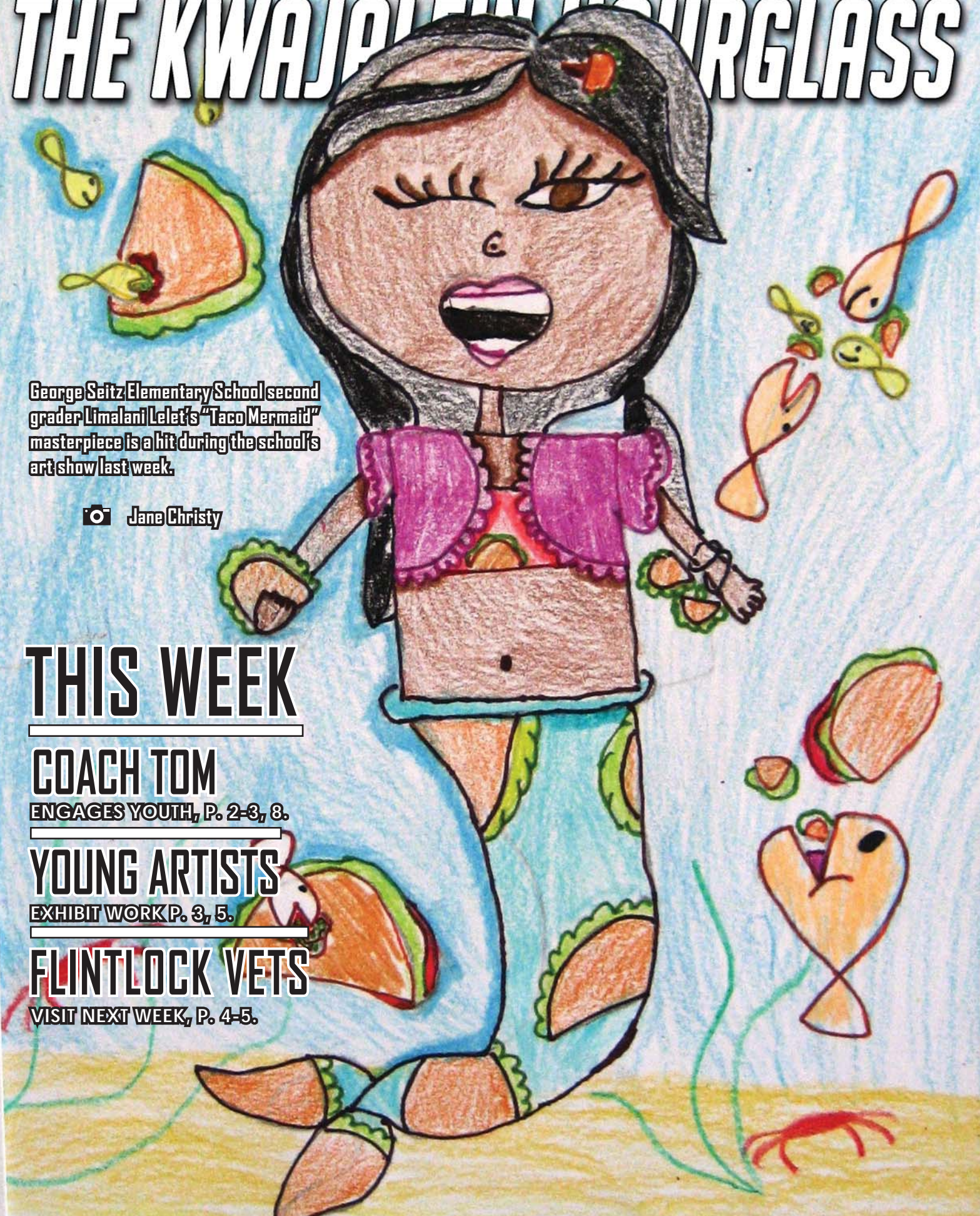
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HOURGLASS INTERVIEWS



FORMER NBA COACH TOM NEWELL, a sports ambassador with the State Department's Sports Diplomacy Program, was on Kwajalein Atoll this week. In an interview with the Kwajalein Hourglass, Newell discusses his mission to teach both the game of basketball and the importance of making healthy choices on and off the court. *Interview by Jordan Vinson*



Coach Tom Newell meets with RMI students at Kwajalein Atoll High School this week.

JV: Tell us a bit about your background and where you're from.

TN: Seattle, Washington. I live in a town outside Seattle called North Bend, Washington. About 30 miles east of the city. I started out as a regional scout on the east coast out of Charlottesville, Virginia, scouting anything east of the Mississippi for the Golden State Warriors. Did that for about four years and then had an opportunity to interview for a job with the Indiana Pacers as their director of scouting. I got the job and within six months was promoted to director of player personnel and assistant general manager. Later I had an offer to go to the bench in Seattle.

I chose to go to the bench, because I teach and develop players. That's my strength. ... Later I went to Dallas with the Mavericks and then back to Seattle. That's when I got involved with FIBA. That is the International Basketball Federation, the governing body of basketball in the world—bigger than the NBA. I became an expert instructor for them, which meant that I could certify level 1 and level 2 coaches under FIBA guidelines. The Americas and Asia were my principal territories. So, my first assignment was South Korea. I went there for two weeks and had over 160 coaches that I certified from South Korea, from Hong Kong, from Thai-

land [and] from Taiwan. From there I started going down to the Americas and the Caribbean, working with the coaches down there. I had a couple of opportunities to get back into the NBA. But I just really enjoyed the global opportunity to share the game and share the love, so to speak.

JV: You've been with FIBA ever since?

TN: Yes, but this gig here is through the State Department. It's their Sports Diplomacy Program. I'm still considered by FIBA an expert instructor in certifying coaches.

JV: Since joining with FIBA, you've been running clinics and training basketball coaches. How many years now?

TN: 20 years. It's also about working with the local governments, ministers of education and sports, trying to help them understand the importance of a proper model to follow, that

the future is with the children. ... We give them proper guides and activities that encourage them and not discourage them. Students need teachers, not critics. Any child up through high school is a student. And, so, if you have coaches who have played the game but have never taught the game, it's a whole different set of circumstances and disciplines. Because if you don't have the patience to teach, you're darn sure not going to have the patience to coach. ... If you're coming down hard on a kid and he loses his confidence, he won't want to play anymore. It's not fun. And if it's not fun, as I always tell the kids, then don't do it. Don't play. It's not worth it. If you have a coach that yells a lot, take up swimming. If the coach yells at you there, just put your head underwater, and you don't have to worry about it. We have more and more kids who are participating in new sports but are quitting at an early



Newell is greeted by dozens of Ebeye children.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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.

The Kwajalein Hourglass is an authorized publication for military personnel, federal employees, contractor workers and their families assigned to U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll. Contents of the Hourglass are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the

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age, because they're failing and can't push a button and reset and restart and go over it again like they can with video games. ... When we grew up, when we made a mistake, we hopefully learned from it or had somebody to teach us the proper fundamentals. We need to get back to that.

JV: Why not go back to the NBA?

TN: Been there, done that. There's more satisfaction in being able to serve at this point in my life to the free world and the third world than I could ever imagine. From the barrios in the Philippines, to the barrios in the northern highlands of Guatemala. I mean, I've been blessed. 51 countries and counting after this trip. When I left Seattle, it was 37 degrees, and there were three inches of snow on the ground. So I'm not missing anything.

JV: Besides drilling basketball fundamentals into youth's heads, what messages are you trying to get through to the youth you visit around the world?

TN: There was no drilling in basketball, per se, in this trip, as much as there was in previous trips. It was more about sports nutrition and education. And just sharing with the kids the opportunity that education provides and to know that when they look up to the heavens and the clouds aren't covering the stars, that those stars are millions of years old and that there were other people, thousands of years ago, that looked up into universe and saw the same thing. And then as we progressed as human beings, there were those who had dreams of flying and those who had dreams of automobiles, transportation, bicycles, electricity. So what I try to impart on all the kids is that, when you look up into the heavens, dream; make wishes and know that education can afford you the opportunity to do something.

JV: How many months out of the year are out travelling the globe and empowering young athletes and coaches?

TN: About three. But my kids are all grown, and my wife can handle me being gone for a bit.

JV: When you're doing clinic overseas, with whom do you normally partner up to help with the organizational side of things? Is it always the State Department?

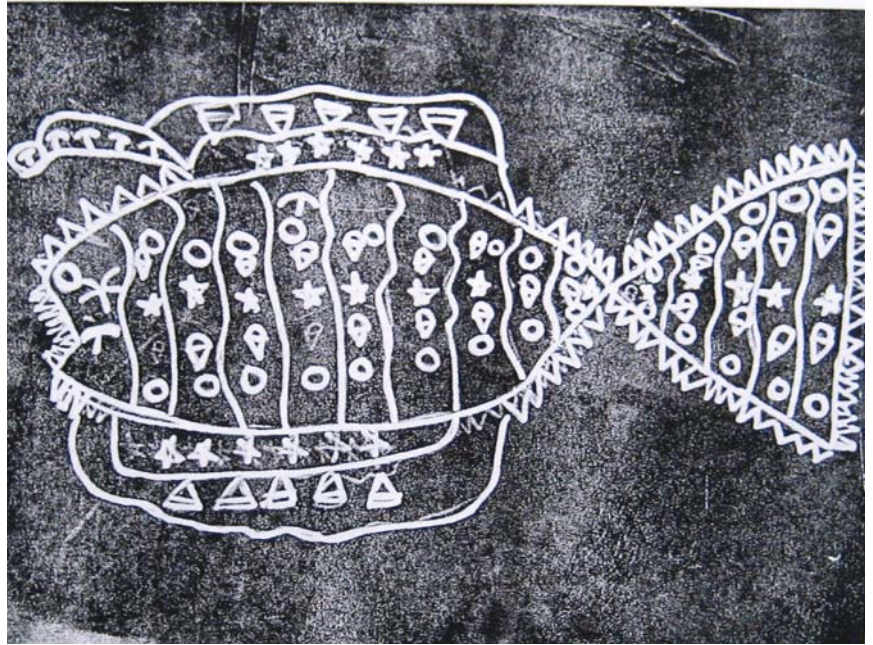
FIBA, the State Department and Caretakers of the Game. That's a nonprofit. I'm also invited by other organizations. I was in Belgium in November, staying with a Belgian Olympic sports psychologist and his family, working with the kids in youth basketball for boys and girls. And they also have a pro team in Leuven, Belgium, which is 25 miles outside of Brussels. I was invited to go over there.

SEE "COACH," PAGE 8

YOUNG ARTISTS EXHIBIT TALENT

HOURLASS REPORT

Kwajalein's George Seitz Elementary School students channeled their creativity into a suite of small exhibits for the community during the school's art show last week. Organized by Art Teacher Jane Christy and attended by tons of parents, students and other island residents, the show featured water color paintings, fish prints, alien masks, ceramic pieces and more. Featured below, and on page 5, is a selection of hits from the show.



"Fishprint" by sixth grader D.J. Chong-Gum



"Atlantis" by fifth grader Erentry Jacob

SEE "ART," PAGE 5

FLINTLOCK VETS VISIT NEXT WEEK

HOURLASS REPORT

Two Veterans of Operation Flintlock will fly into Bucholz Army Airfield Thursday to join the U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll community in celebrating the anniversary of the 1944 WWII operation at Kwajalein Atoll. Take a few moments to read a little about Veterans Clyde Hansen and Bill Mancke and the series of events the community has planned next week.



NAME: Clyde Hansen

BRANCH OF SERVICE: United States Naval Reserve

RANK DURING OP. FLINTLOCK: Seaman Second Class

LOCATION DURING OP. FLINTLOCK: Roi

CLYDE HANSEN was born Aug. 17, 1925, on a farm near Herman, Nebraska. He was the youngest of four brothers, all of whom would serve in the military during World War II. After working on farms and at the Nebraska Ordnance Plant at Mead, Nebraska, he enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve on Aug. 7, 1943. After eight weeks of training at the Naval Training Station at Farragut, Idaho, he was sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for additional training in amphibious landings.

Hansen participated in the Jan. 31, 1944, invasion of Roi Island. As the driver of a landing craft at Beach Red 2 during the invasion, he delivered two loads of Marines to the beach. While delivering a subsequent load of supplies, his landing craft was hit by artillery fire, and he was thrown overboard into the lagoon; he luckily avoided injury. Hansen participated in clean-up operations on Roi, including assisting with the burial of the Japanese defenders. In the early morning hours of Feb. 12, a group of Japanese "Emily" seaplane bombers carried out a counter-attack against the island. The bombs set off an ammunition stockpile on Roi, and Hansen suffered second degree burns on his back in the attack. He was evacuated from the island and placed aboard the S.S. Typhoon, which transported him back to Pearl Harbor for a period of recuperation.

On May 18, 1944, the Chief of Naval Personnel forwarded the Purple Heart medal to Seaman Clyde Hansen. Following his recovery, Clyde returned to action and participated in the Philippine Liberation Campaign and the invasion of Okinawa. He later served aboard the U.S.S. Norton Sound as an aviation boatswain's mate tending seaplanes and was honorably discharged on March 9, 1946.

After completing his Navy service and returning to Nebraska in 1946, Clyde married his sweetheart, Dolores Martin. They went on to raise two sons in Fremont, Nebraska. In 2010, Clyde and Dolores moved to Crescent City, Florida, where they remain at this time.



NAME: Bill Mancke

BRANCH OF SERVICE: United States Marines

RANK DURING OP. FLINTLOCK: Private

LOCATION DURING OP. FLINTLOCK: Namur

BILL MANCKE enlisted at the age of 18 in 1943. He arrived at Boot Camp in San Diego, California on Nov. 17, 1943. After completing only four weeks of Boot Camp, he was sent to the 4th Division, Company G, 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines. In Jan. 1944, the 4th Marine Division sailed from San Diego for Namur. Wounded during his first day on the Island, he was evacuated but would later fight on in the Marianas

In June 1944, he landed on Saipan, and was also wounded but remained until the Island was secured. He moved to Tinian in July and remained until the island was captured. His next landing was Iwo Jima in Feb. 1945. There, he fought until being wounded again 14 days into the assault and evacuated.

After leaving the Marine Corp, Mancke worked at a few odd jobs and later decided to go back to school. He planned to continue his goal to become an architectural engineer but, short on money and ill of health (from injuries sustained during the war) one year into the program, he went a different direction. His brother-in-law, who had purchased a semi-tractor, needed a driver, and Mancke spent the next year hauling cars. He later bartended at a dance hall and met many people working there. One of the people he met had an offer from a contractor to build a new service station. "I was offered the job of taking on this new position of running the station," Mancke wrote via email. "This was a great opportunity. Business was very good. But my legs started to give me problems being on the concrete during the day. (It was his leg, which had been injured during an ammo block house explosion on Namur.) So I sold out."

He later went back to trucking and excavating and in 1954 decided to build and operate a 12-lane bowling alley. He ran the bowling alley for eight years and in 1962 had an offer and sold it. Soon after, Mobil Oil was building a new facility in his area. He met the manager of the facility and got a job in production starting up the new plant. 20 years later, he retired from Mobil and has ever since tended to his farm, livestock and garden.

"I always have had a nice garden for home-grown vegetables," he wrote. "This keeps me busy and keeps me young!"

OP FLINTLOCK VETS VISIT SCHEDULE

MARSHALLESE CULTURAL CENTER GRAND RE-OPENING

Thursday, Jan. 28 Veterans Bill Mancke and Clyde Hansen arrive at Bucholz Army Airfield at 12:19 p.m. The community is encouraged to come out and join USAG-KA Command, the Kwajalein High School Band, the Boy Scouts, Navy Seabees CCAD-Marshall Islands and other groups in welcoming the vets at the terminal building.

Friday, Jan. 29 1940s themed dance party at the Vets Hall at 6:30 p.m. The community is invited to come out and boogie with the men who fought in Operation Flintlock way back when.

Saturday, Jan. 30 Vets meet with senior class at 8:45 a.m. School-wide assembly at 10:40 a.m. at the High School Multi-Purpose Room. This is an opportunity for Kwajalein Schools students, teachers, parents and visitors to listen to the Veterans' stories.

Sunday, Jan. 31 Meet and greet at the Outrigger at 6:30 p.m. on Roi. This is the Roi Rats' opportunity to sit down and have a beer with the Veterans and learn more about their experiences on Roi and Namur during the battle for Kwajalein Atoll.

Monday, Feb. 1 Clyde, Bill and their families depart Kwajalein. Come say goodbye before they check in at 4:30 p.m. for their flight.

WHEN: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 28, during the Operation Flintlock Veterans' arrival.

WHERE: The MCC is located across from the Atoll Terminal.

THE EXHIBIT WILL FEATURE: traditional Marshallese cultural artifacts, Japanese and U.S. artifacts remaining from Operation Flintlock, Flintlock video footage, scores of reprinted photos shot on the Kwajalein and Roi-Namur battlefields, Marshallese music and more. Also joining the fun will be Iroj Mike Kabua's Marshallese weavers! Come watch the masters practice their craft.

Under new management, the MCC is getting a new lease on life and will soon be open on a regular basis throughout the week and weekend. Stay tuned for more information as the MCC staff continue to work out these details.

"ART," FROM PAGE 3



"Sea Monster" by fifth grader Rachelle Kilgore



"Self Portrait" by fourth grader Mason Aljure

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.

PATIO SALES

4-7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 23, at Qtrs. 423-B (near the Vet Clinic). Men's and women's clothing, household items, TV, microwave, etc.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

or at 52848 with questions.

Passport renewal sessions and other U.S. citizen services. Jan. 26, 1-5 p.m. and Jan. 27 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.. Both sessions at USAG-KA HQ Building, room 135. Questions? Call the Host Nation office at 52103 or 55325.

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.

Birthday bash at the Ocean View Club. 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30. Join us in celebrating August birthdays. Enjoy drink specials and Top 40 hits. Must be 21 years or older.

The family pool will be open Monday, Feb. 1, at 2:30 p.m. following the Kwajalein Swim Team meet.

Weight and bariatric class. 4:45-5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the hospital conference room.

Wellness Wednesday Heart Skate Night. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the Corlett Recreation Center Gym. Questions? Call 51275.

For access to the tennis court

KALEIDOSCOPE OF MUSIC

7 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 24, at the High School Multi-purpose Room
TICKETS \$20 AT THE DOOR

Don't miss out on this once-a-year gathering of Kwajalein's best music talent on the big stage.

Captain Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility

*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 21

LUNCH						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 30
Pork chop w/ apple	Beef pot pie	Kahlua pork	Honey roast chicken	Vegetable noodle soup	Tortilla soup	Ministroni soup
Breakfast jack sandwich	Baked ham	Wings of Fire	Stuffed cabbage	BBQ spare ribs	Taco bar	Lasagna
Mashed potatoes	Vegetarian quiche	Roasted potatoes	Tuna melt	Turkey wrap	Quesadillas	Garlic toast
DINNER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Jan. 30
Meatloaf	Spaghetti	Grilled chicken	Grilled top sirloin	Mongolian BBQ	Mashed potatoes	Sweet and sour pork
Fried chicken	Chicken alfredo	Beef broccoli stir-fry	Picante chicken	Garlic marinated chick.	Chicken fried steak	Chicken chopsuey
Roasted potatoes	Garlic bread	Three cheese macaroni	Vegetarian pasta	Egg foo young	Seafood gumbo	Gingered fish

cipher lock, please email Derek Finch or contact the Recreation Office at 51275.

Small Boat Marina users: Please take care of our new Quality of Life coolers. Clean them after use, and DO NOT drag them on the ground.

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 Activities by calling 52848 or by emailing Cliff Pryor.

E-Talk: OSHA requires that fall protection equipment be inspected by the user before each use. You should inspect the stitching, webbing, connectors, and the shock absorbers. Remember safety pays falls cost.

Safely Speaking: The Environmental Management System (EMS) Manual and SPIs describe and implement the KRS EMS program and can be found in Document Center on the USAG-KA-Web.



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!

ASVAB TEST

The MEPS team will be on Kwajalein and Ebeye to administer the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test next week. The ASVAB will be offered at Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School on Wed., Jan 27, beginning promptly at 8:30 a.m. Please encourage your students to study and prepare for this important exam.

TEST SCHEDULE ON KWAJ AND EBEEYE

Jan. 25, Ebeye, all high schools
Jan. 26, Ebeye, all high schools
Jan. 27, Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School, Room 104
Jan. 28, Ebeye, all high schools

QUESTIONS? Call the Host Nation office at 52103.

SUN—MOON—TIDES

	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
SUNDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:52 p.m.	6:59 p.m. 6:53 a.m.	10:24 a.m. -0.4' 11:05 p.m. -0.7'	4:32 a.m. 3.7' 4:42 p.m. 4.8'
MONDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	7:50 p.m. 7:41 a.m.	10:57 a.m. -0.5' 11:35 p.m. -0.7'	5:04 a.m. 3.8' 5:14 p.m. 4.7'
TUESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	8:39 p.m. 8:28 a.m.	11:28 a.m. -0.5' -----	5:34 a.m. 3.8' 5:44 p.m. 4.6'
WEDNESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	9:26 p.m. 9:11 a.m.	12:03 a.m. -0.6' 11:59 a.m. -0.3'	6:04 a.m. 3.8' 6:12 p.m. 4.4'
THURSDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	10:12 p.m. 9:53 a.m.	12:31 a.m. -0.4' 12:29 p.m. -0.1'	6:33 a.m. 3.7' 6:40 p.m. 4.1'
FRIDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	10:57 p.m. 10:33 a.m.	12:58 a.m. -0.2' 12:59 p.m. 0.2'	7:03 a.m. 3.5' 7:08 p.m. 3.8'
JAN. 30	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	11:42 p.m. 11:13 a.m.	1:26 a.m. 0.1' 1:32 p.m. 0.5'	7:34 a.m. 3.3' 7:38 p.m. 3.4'

<i>Café Roi</i>						*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 21
LUNCH						
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Jan. 30</i>
BBQ pork spare rib	Lemon-baked chicken	Grilled ham and swiss sand.	Chicken turnover	Vegetable quesadilla	Grilled cheese	Chicken fajita wrap
Turkey ala king	Baked fish	Roast turkey	Chicken fried steak	Glazed ham	Country meatloaf	Hamburger steak
Biscuits	Stewed okra	Stuffing	Mashed potatoes	Parsley potatoes	Tofu stir-fry	Broccoli and cheese cass.
DINNER						
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Jan. 30</i>
Italian meatballs	Korean beef steak	Beef machaca	Carved roast beef	Fried chicken	Deli Night	Beef stir-fry
Fish casino	Adobo chicken	Chicken enchilada cass.	Chicken pot pie	Stuffed cabbage	Tuna melt	Chinese spiced chicken
Marinara pasta	Brown rice	Refried beans	Potato bar	Mashed potatoes	Slider hamburgers	Vegetable fried rice

JV: Which nations are you going to this year?

TN: When I leave here, I go to Pohnpei, Truk, Yap for the first time, back to Palau. And I've been requested through the State Department in Majuro to go down to Fiji and Kiribati. Yeah, I've never been to that part before. That's it. Then I go home March 11. At the end of March I'm going to Hong Kong with Dale Ellis, a former NBA all-star, and we're doing a clinic for Christian coaches over there. I did the first Christian coaches clinic in Hong Kong last year. Had 60 coaches, male and female; it was quite an epic event. So this time we're going to go back and do a clinic and camp for the kids, elementary through high school.

JV: This makes how many trips to the Marshalls?

TN: Four.

JV: Out of all of the clinics you hold each year, both in the States and overseas, what makes your time on Majuro, Ebeye and Kwajalein special or different?

TN: Well, this year, the fact that I'm still alive. I nearly died from a stroke last year. This is a pattern, considering that eight NBA players have died in their sleep. The most recent one, John Johnson, played on the championship team for the Sonics. But Moses Malone, in the middle of his sleep. Darryl Dawkins, Anthony Mason, Jack Haley, Christian Welp, who lived in Seattle. Jerome Kersey.

JV: These former players died in the past few years?

TN: No, just last year. One year. If you were to go to the computer and search 'NBA deaths in the past year,' you'll find the culprit is coronary heart disease.

JV: That near-death experience that you had months ago certainly ties into the message that you put out to the coaches and youth you meet with each year. Heart disease is, of course, one of the world's leading killers. So, your message is less about basketball fundamentals and more about what basketball can do for people.

TN: It's a medium for making healthy choices. Absolutely.

JV: You've got a special championship ring that you like to bring around with you to

give a bit of inspiration to the youth you speak with and earn some cool points. Probably thousands of different people around the world have put that ring on and maybe snapped a photo with it on. Is there something special going on here? The fact that one small ring has circled the globe so many times and been on the fingers of so many diverse people, from completely different cultures, socio-economic backgrounds worldviews and so on?

TN: Yeah, man. You just gave me goosebumps. That's the whole point. Bringing everybody together for the love of the game, education and making healthy choices. Everyone can do it.

JV: Last question: Do you ever wash that ring?!

TN: Haha, yes, indeed. I definitely wash it all the time.



Newell engages with youth at Kwajalein Atoll High School this week.

HERO OF THE WEEK

HOURLASS REPORT

U SAG-KA'S Hero of the Week for this week is Roi resident Bob Barker. A captain with the Fire Department, he's on his third tour with a total of nine years on the garrison.

A highlight of his job is the opportunities he gets to serve his community.

"I was a firefighter in the military," he says. "At my first interview for a firefighter job in the civilian world, I was asked why I wanted to work at that fire department. My response was: 'I spent that last decade serving my country. Now I want to serve my community.'"

Originally from Chicago, Bob has a home in Tennessee. He's got a wife, Candi, and daughter, Rachel.

Outside of work, Bob loves playing music, especially with his band Smells Like Fish, relaxing on the beach and floating around in the lagoon.



U.S. Army photo by Jordan Vinson