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THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



COMMUNITY

KEEPING HER LIGHT ALIVE: KWAJALEIN STUDENTS EXPAND “STEPHANIE’S REEF” IN LIVING MEMORIAL TO YOUNG SCIENTIST

HOURLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Staff Writer

Just off the “Ski Steps” near the dog park—thirty feet below the surface—lies one of Kwajalein’s most unique memorials. It is not a plaque. It is not a monument. It is alive.

It sways with the tides, brightens with the sun, and continues to grow year after year.

This underwater structure, known simply as “Stephanie’s Reef,” is a living, student-built artificial coral reef created in memory of Stephanie Joan Hibberts, a beloved former Kwajalein student who grew up in these waters, studied their secrets, and spent her life devoted to understanding and protecting coral reefs. She passed away in 2021 due to complications from COVID-19, leaving behind a legacy that her community has refused to let fade.

This Saturday, that legacy

grows again.

Under the guidance of high school principal and Marine Biology teacher Dr. Matt Gerber, Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School students will add a new cement extension to Stephanie’s Reef—designed, built, stamped, and placed by the students themselves. It’s the latest chapter in a project that has transformed grief into purpose, and classroom lessons into real-world environmental stewardship.

To those who knew her, Stephanie was endlessly curious and always in motion. Born on May 26, 1996, she was raised on Kwajalein and spent her childhood in the ocean—swimming, exploring reefs, and nurturing a deep fascination with marine ecosystems. She was a little scientist with a big heart from the start.

“As a little girl, Stephanie said she knew she would be a sci-

entist,” her family has shared. And she was right.

She loved the island fiercely. She swam competitively, representing the Marshall Islands in the Arafura Games in Australia, and coached young swimmers on Kwajalein for years. She was a leader—organizing service events, fundraisers, and outreach projects for the island community.

That spirit followed her to Clemson University, where she majored in geology, minored in biology, and stood out as a gifted researcher. She earned a Geopaths Fellowship, traveled on scientific expeditions to Dominica, and received an Undergraduate Research Grant from the Geological Society of America.

But Kwajalein never left her heart.

During college, she returned to the Marshall Islands as an intern promoting geoscience

education. In 2018, she used a 360-degree imaging system to document coral reef sites for immersive learning experiences, and she helped create reef-health activities for Marshallese youth as part of a climate change awareness initiative.

Her life was full. Her loss was profound.

And on Kwajalein, students and teachers felt it personally.

The first seeds of a reef that began before they knew they would name it Stephanie’s Reef were planted around the same time she passed away.

“We started the project in 2020 or 2021,” said Dr. Gerber, who teaches the Marine Biology class and helped build the original artificial reef with his students. “We’d had a couple really bad years of coral bleaching. The kids were studying reef decline in real time, and they wanted to



PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CARNELLI



📷 COURTESY PHOTO

do something—something meaningful.”

Students began by building coral nurseries, suspending small fragments in the water where they could grow safely.

But they needed somewhere permanent to plant them.

So, the students began designing cement reef blocks—structures with holes, grooves, and surfaces where corals could thrive. They built molds using simple materials: cardboard boxes, 3D-printed shapes, even paper-box lids as frames.

In each block, they pressed one essential detail:

“Steph.”

“Once Stephanie passed,” Dr. Gerber said, “it just made sense. The project already reflected her values—science, conservation, giving back to the ocean. Naming it after her felt right.”

The reef was formally dedicated to her memory in a school assembly attended by her family. And from there, it became something larger than anyone expected: a student-built, student-maintained living memorial.

Today, Stephanie’s Reef is flourishing. Coral fragments

attached by students have taken hold, and new reef fish and invertebrates have moved in. Each year’s Marine Biology class builds its own “Steph Blocks,” adding new designs and refining old ones.

“We try to improve the structures every year,” Dr. Gerber said. “The kids learn design, biology, engineering, environmental science... but they also learn that what they do matters.”

This year’s extension includes several newly created blocks, each hand-crafted by high school seniors.

On Saturday, students and faculty divers will place the blocks underwater, connecting them to the original structure.

What began as a classroom project has now become one of the island’s longest-running environmental initiatives—and one of its most personal.

Wondering what it means to the students who carry it forward? Three seniors helping lead this year’s effort—Mason Finley, Taylor Aboud, and Jacob Waits—say the project has shaped them deeply.

—Mason Finley, Grade 12

Mason sees the project as

a way to honor Stephanie’s continued presence on Kwaj.

“She was really involved in the marine science side of things,” he said. “She even came back during college to study the reefs here. So being able to keep her name active in the community—it’s a really good thing. What we’re doing helps her and her family know she’s still remembered.”

“It honors someone who grew up like we did.”

—Taylor Aboud, Grade 12

For Taylor, the project connects personal identity with place.

“It’s honoring the legacy of someone who grew up on Kwaj just like us,” he reflected. “Someone who dedicated her life to studying the environment that makes this place unique. And it’s a reminder that we need to preserve it for future generations.”

He sees stewardship as a responsibility for anyone lucky enough to call Kwaj home.

“It’s important for students to give back—to engage with the environment and island communities in meaningful ways.”

“It helps the corals—and it means more because of her story.”

—Jacob Waits, Grade 12

Jacob was struck by the science as much as the story.

“Even on Kwaj you can see coral bleaching,” he said. “So, it’s cool to be part of something that helps. And then meeting Stephanie’s dad the other day... hearing about her life... it adds so much meaning to all of this.”

Each student expressed hope that future classes will continue building and expanding the reef.

The project, after all, is designed to outlive them.

A Classroom That Reaches the Ocean Floor

Stephanie once sat in the same rooms where today’s Marine Biology students study coral ecology. She learned on these beaches, swam in these waters, and dreamed under the same sunsets.

For Dr. Gerber, that connection is powerful.

“For the kids to know that this project isn’t just for a grade—it’s for a person, a family, a community—that matters,” he said. “They’re learning science, but they’re also learning legacy.”

The reef is now a part of Kwajalein. A part of its environment and its heart. It is significant to a classroom that reaches the ocean floor, which has become a place where memory anchors itself to something living, growing, and hopeful.

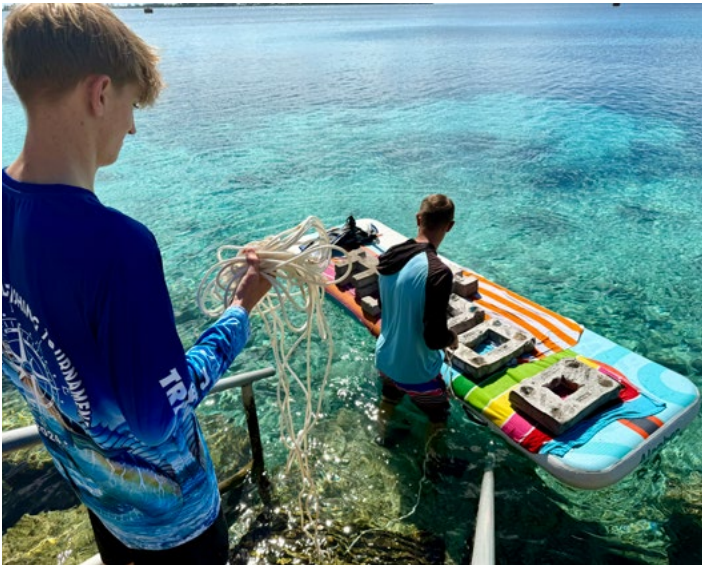
As the students prepare to place the new cement extension this weekend, the reef continues doing what reefs do: rebuilding, renewing, and offering life.

In many ways, it reflects Stephanie herself—curious, resilient, interconnected with everything around her.

Kwajalein will always remember her name.

And now, with every new coral fragment, every student diver, every block stamped “Steph,” the reef ensures she is remembered not with sadness, but with purpose.

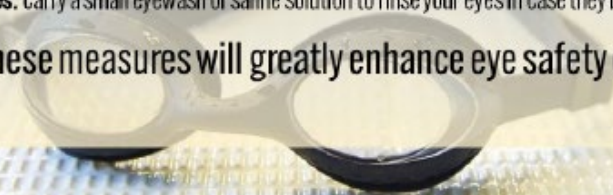
Her light keeps growing, and Kwajalein love keeps flourishing...just below the waves. ▲



It's crucial to safeguard your eyes during the dry season on Kwajalein Atoll due to the potential hazards posed by blowing sand:

- **Wear Protective Eyewear:** Use tightly fitting sunglasses or safety glasses designed to block wind and sand particles.
- **Choose the Right Lens:** Opt for lenses that provide UV protection to shield your eyes from harmful rays.
- **Wrap-Around Styles:** Select wrap-around sunglasses to minimize the entry of sand and debris from the sides.
- **Keep Eyes Moisturized:** Use lubricating eye drops to prevent dryness and irritation caused by sand and wind exposure.
- **Avoid Rubbing Eyes:** If sand gets in your eyes, resist the urge to rub them, which can cause damage. Instead, rinse with clean water.
- **Be Cautious with Wind:** When biking or being active outdoors, be aware of the wind direction to minimize exposure to blowing sand.
- **Seek Shelter:** If the sand is blowing strongly, temporarily seek shelter until conditions improve before continuing outdoor activities.
- **Educate Others:** Encourage friends and family to follow these safety measures, promoting a culture of eye safety.
- **Inspection of Eyewear:** Regularly check sunglasses or safety glasses for scratches or damage that could impair visibility.
- **Emergency Supplies:** Carry a small eyewash or saline solution to rinse your eyes in case they become irritated from sand exposure.

Implementing these measures will greatly enhance eye safety during the dry season on Kwajalein Atoll.



Attention Kwajalein & Roi BQ Residents

USAG-KA will be conducting a 100%
D.O.W. mandated BQ Inspections as follows.

KWAJALEIN

- Tuesday Nov 25th: Shell (62) & Coral (65) BQs
- Wednesday Nov 26th: Reef (88) & Palm (39) BQs
- Tuesday Dec 2nd: Surf (88) & Ocean (23) BQs
- Wednesday Dec 3rd: Tropics (100) BQ

ROI

- Wednesday Dec 10th:
Ratak (50), Ralik (50), Sprint (18), Ajax (18), Apache (18)

The two person Inspections will
begin at 9am each day.
Residents are not required to be onsite.



Front Cover: Courtesy Photo

Back Cover: Roi's Lagoon By Sherman Hogue

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army's 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.

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COMMUNITY

MARSHALLESE TRADE FAIR BRINGS HANDCRAFTS AND INCREASED CULTURAL TIES TO KWAJALEIN

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Anthony Carnelli**
Staff Writer

The 19th annual Marshallese Trade Fair marked a full return after years of disruptions, with tables stretching across the CRC Gym floor like an intimate farmers market. In one corner, miniature koror canoes sat beside replica stick charts — the navigational tools Marshallese voyagers once used to read wave patterns across open ocean. Nearby, jewelry sets and woven baskets shared space with handmade ornaments. Shoppers flowed table-to-table, pausing over finely crafted goods and specialty items rarely found elsewhere on island.

The two-day marketplace — which ran Sunday, Nov. 30, and Monday, Dec. 1, at the Corlett Recreation Center — created a point of direct

cultural and monetary exchange. The fair is one of the few occasions each year where Kwajalein residents can buy directly from Marshallese vendors, meet the people who made the goods, and learn about the traditions behind them.

Sellers traveled from Majuro and other atolls to sell directly to Kwajalein residents — no middlemen and no shipping delays, just a gym floor full of items that don't typically make it here. For shoppers, it meant fresh tuna, handwoven baskets, coconut-oil soaps and more. For vendors, it meant reaching customers they otherwise might never meet.

“To our residents, this is a rare opportunity—handicrafts, local fish, and Marshallese-made products are available right at our door—

step, conveniently in time for holiday shopping,” said USAG-KA Commander Colonel Matthew Cannon. He also thanked the vendors and planners who made the event possible, along with RMI government partners and Team Kwaj for their support.

This year's fair carried particular significance. After COVID-related disruptions scaled back previous editions and last year's event was canceled following the rogue wave on Roi-Namur, 2025 marked the first full-blown trade fair in several years.

Coordinating the event fell to Mike Sakaio, RMI Relations Specialist — who helped manage vendors from multiple islands. However, most vendors flew in from Majuro for the two-day market.

While the Trade Fair had

some empty floor-selling space, the compressed timeline didn't show on the gym floor. Tables overflowed with goods that reflected both everyday island life and the artistry of Marshallese makers.

“Many people come here for the handicrafts — they're very well known,” said Kimber Rilometo, Tourism Manager for the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The handwoven goods drew steady crowds. Hand baskets, ornaments, wall hangings, and wuut headbands lined several tables — each piece shaped by techniques passed down through generations. Nearby, replica navigational charts — the hand-made maps made with sticks that once guided Marshallese voyagers across the ocean — offered both a cultural lesson and piece of décor. These



charts, traditionally used for wayfinding between islands, represent a navigational knowledge system developed over centuries.

Beyond the woven goods, vendors offered fresh island produce – bananas, papaya, and panana filled several tables. For those looking for gift-ready items, the Tobolar COPRA Processing Plant sold specialty soaps, coconut cooking oil, lavender body oil, and assembled gift packages—all products made in the Marshall Islands and difficult to find elsewhere on Kwajalein.

At one table near the gym's entrance, Roselle Lelete — a vendor from Majuro, had arranged handbags, earrings,

and flip flops. Her gift bags sold out quickly, a clear indicator of the demand residents brought to the event. Lelete also offered Kava—a fan favorite amongst the Marshallese.

The fair wasn't limited to retail. RMI Tourism set up a table promoting getaways to destinations like Wotje Atoll and Arno Atoll, handing out tote bags and running a raffle. But the team also used the opportunity to gather information, asking Kwajalein residents what they look for when visiting other islands in the RMI — what activities appeal to them, what amenities matter. Rilometo noted that most visitors to Majuro are U.S. citizens, so understanding what Kwajalein residents want helps the tourism office

improve experiences across the country.

Nearby was a table for the Bank of the Marshall Islands, offering cash exchange services and spreading the word that Kwajalein residents—not just RMI citizens can do banking with them – “Americans here can open up an account. We just require a U.S. passport and security number,” explained Sumi Jorlanin, a banking representative.

By Monday afternoon, as

the last shoppers made their purchases and vendors began packing up, the CRC Gym started to look like a gym again. But for two days, that space had been something else — a marketplace where neighbors met neighbors, where holiday shopping meant supporting Marshallese artisans, and where the ordinary act of buying a basket or a bar of soap carried a layer of connection that a typical store run at a mall back in the States just simply doesn't offer. ▼



COMMUNITY

BALANCING CODE AND COMMUNITY: A FILIPINO IT PROFESSIONAL ON KWAJALEIN

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Isaiah Matthews; Staff Writer

For Romar Delos Reyes, a contractor and IT Associate Senior, life on Kwajalein is about more than keeping systems running. It's also about finding balance—between problem-solving at work and his love for basketball, tennis, jogging, and snorkeling.

Delos Reyes' journey into IT wasn't straightforward.

"Actually, I didn't like the IT field at first," he admitted. "My mother encouraged me, saying technology would evolve in the future. During my studies, I realized how important and innovative the field was. I also loved assembling and designing things. That's when I decided to continue."

Financial hurdles stretched his five-year course into a longer path.

"I had to stop and work for a while to save money before continuing my studies," he said.

But the effort paid off, setting him on a career that has taken him from the Philippines to the Middle East, and now, to a small Pacific atoll.

On Kwajalein, Delos Reyes' role as IT Associate Senior is both broad and vital.

"Day to day, I do technical analysis and verify specifications for equipment requests," he explained. "We make sure everything complies with requirements be-

fore it's catalogued and ordered. It's about making sure we're buying the right tools to support different departments."

Logistics proved to be his biggest challenge.

"On a small island, lead times can take three months or more," he said. "If a project isn't planned ahead, it causes inefficiency. I always remind teams: prevention is better than cure. Plan early, so we can confirm requirements and avoid delays."

His proudest moments come when he helps shape the foundation for systems still developing.

"When I arrived, certain standards weren't yet in place. I was able to suggest measures to ensure money was spent wisely and solutions were sustainable for the island."

When the workday ends, Romar trades keyboards for courts.

"I've been playing basketball since high school," he said. "Later, while working in Saudi Arabia, I learned tennis from colleagues."

Both sports remain part of his routine on Kwaj, offering camaraderie and relief from stress.

"Sports help me cope," he explained. "They build a family atmosphere. When you're working far from home, that sense of connection gives you strength to keep moving forward."

Jogging is another outlet.

"Back home in Metro Manila, it's crowded," said Delos Reyes. "Here, I can run by the beach with the scenery all around me—it's captivating."

Snorkeling, however, is his newest passion, discovered only after moving to Kwajalein.

"I worked in the desert before, so this was something new," he said. "Being under the water feels freeing. It clears my mind from negativity and stress. Health is wealth, and snorkeling inspires me to stay healthy."

Life overseas has taught Delos Reyes to adapt.

"I used to be hot-tempered," he said. "Living here has made me more patient and flexible. You learn to work with people from different backgrounds, and that makes you grow."

He hopes his colleagues remember him as firm but fair.

"I'm not lenient, but not

too strict either. Work is work—we need to focus and complete what's given to us. I treat coworkers as family, but with clear boundaries and professionalism."

His goals are simple yet ambitious.

"Like any man, I want to provide for my family," he said. "I want to see my children graduate, and eventually build a property with both residential and commercial space that can give us passive income."

To other Filipinos considering overseas work, he offers this advice: "Always remember why you came—to support your family. Stay disciplined, stay healthy, and take care of yourself as much as you take care of them."

On an island where IT is as critical as seawalls and supply ships, Delos Reyes' steady presence keeps systems—and spirits—running strong, booth its own small reflection of island creativity. ▴



FROM SOLDIER TO CIVILIAN: A HR GENERALIST'S NEW CHAPTER ON KWAJALEIN

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Isaiah Matthews;**
Staff Writer

For 21 years, Crystal King, a human resource generalist, wore the Army uniform with pride. She joined almost on a dare—she and her cousin often joked about enlisting, but while her cousin went Navy, she chose the Army. It became far more than a career; it became a family.

“I stayed because of the camaraderie,” King explained. “Coming from a small family, the Army gave me that extended family I never had—brothers, sisters, even kids in my soldiers.”

During her career, she rose through the ranks, serving as a platoon sergeant at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where she led 60 soldiers as a supply support activity platoon sergeant. It was, in her words, both “the biggest headache and the most rewarding experience” of her Army life.

“I always believed if you take care of your soldiers, they’ll take care of you,” she said.

Discipline was important, but so was respect. She rewarded her soldiers in front

of the formation, always making sure they knew their value. From those years, she carried lessons in leadership, discipline, and cultural understanding.

“The Army taught me that not everyone looks the same, thinks the same, or does things the same way,” said King. “It broadened my whole perspective on life.”

When she retired in December 2022, she stepped into a civilian world that felt alien.

“If I had to pick one word, it’s difficult,” King admitted. “The military was all I knew, from the time I was 18. Transitioning into civilian life—it’s like teaching an old dog new habits.”

The biggest challenge wasn’t just learning new systems or adjusting to different work rhythms. It was the loss of purpose.

“In the Army, you know you’re wanted. You know your mission,” stated King. “On the outside, there are days you don’t feel that.”

She now works on Kwajalein primarily as an on-island recruiter. She reviews resumes, matches applicants

to job descriptions, and helps ensure positions are filled fairly and accurately. It’s a different kind of mission, but she sees the parallels to her Army days in staffing and accountability.

“The systems are different, but the discipline, flexibility, and leadership I learned in the Army have helped me ease into the role,” said King.

Away from work, she turns to journaling. It began as a way to cope with PTSD and anxiety, and over time has become a key part of her life.

“When my thoughts are cloudy, I put them on paper,” King explained. “It’s a stress reliever, just like working out. I write when I’m angry, when I’m happy—whenever I need to process something.”

Her journals hold memories of her service, reflections on island life, and personal goals for the future. She hopes they will serve as a blueprint for her children.

“I grew up in low income neighborhoods, not having a lot. I want my kids to see how setting goals can change your life. They don’t have to follow my exact path, but they can learn from how I moved.”

Even as she adjusts to civilian contracting, she’s planning ahead. She hopes to grow into management or HR leadership, and she’s even considered pursuing a doctorate. But for now, her goal is clear: to continue learning, serving, and preparing her family for success. Her advice to other service members transitioning to civilian life is simple but powerful:

“Give yourself grace. Prepare financially, prepare mentally, and know what you want to do before you get out,” explained King. “The Army takes care of you, but once you step out of that uniform, you’ve got to take care of yourself.”

Though she misses the camaraderie, leadership, and even the 4 a.m. wake-ups for PT, she has found new purpose on Kwajalein—and in her journal, where the next chapter of her story is still being written.

“I miss the Army every day, but I measure my success now by how I keep moving forward—by helping others, setting goals, and showing my kids what’s possible.” ▲





THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

PETS - We continue to engage with higher headquarters to resolve the current pet travel policy issues. The paperwork is currently with USARPAC and should be going to Transportation Command this week.

Hospital Pager System - IMD is working a solution to replace the pager system previously managed by RGNNext.

Education Services - Kwajalein Schools (KSS) School Advisory Committee meeting Dec 11th, 6-7 closed session, 7-8 open session, 27-28 Calendar options will be presented for community feedback.

Surf BQ A/C System - Design development complete; developing execution plan. Projected project kick off with 15 December. System will be shifted to a temp unit during exchange of main unit.

Dental - If you have been putting off getting dental done due to the x-ray issues, the replacement of Panorex X-ray complete.

Next Vet Visit - Will be in January, until then the Vet-tech can still be reached at: 480-2017 for pet questions or concerns.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Windy Weather - Windy conditions are the name of the game especially on Saturday and rough on the lagoon and a Small Craft Advisory. Will be very close to a High Surf Advisory for Saturday as well but are currently just shy of the threshold for Roi-Namur.

Flu Season and Shots - Flu shots by appointment can be made for 2pm-4pm Tues through Sat. Call 480-2223/2224

Caring for Carlos - The KHS National honor Society achieved their goal to raise the funds for Solar Pannels for Carlos and they will be traveling over this coming Monday to flip the switch with the residents of Carlos.

Newcomers - The next Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for mid January time-frame. We are working to refine and further develop the Newcomers program to ensure much needed information is presented and passed on to those on their way and currently living on Kwajalein Atoll. More details to follow.

Phone and Internet outages- There will be rolling data and phone outages in the Northpoint Housing area from Dec 8-13th. This is part of the tie into the new housing sections.

AAFES is Hiring - at www.applymyexchange.com



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Private Boat Yard – While a lot has been achieved to clean up the Private Boat Yard, if you have a slot in the yard insure you are doing your part to keep it clean and maintained.

Private Boat Mooring Lines - Are you a private boat owner and have your boat on a mooring? Please ensure your mooring lines are doing their jobs and keeping your boat in place.

HAZMAT Items - Household hazardous waste:

Separate out household hazardous waste (flammables, corrosives, aerosols, etc.) and place in an individual containers next to the trash bins. To arrange a pickup call 480-8858.

Zamperini DFAC Remodel - The DFAC in the LSA area is planned to open towards the end of Dec. After a month of overlap, half of the Zamperini dining area will close for remodel.

Thanksgiving Day Record - The AMAZING team for the DFACS achieved greatness as they served a record breaking 977 meals to residents of Kwajalein Island and another 134 on Roi and a handful to Meck. A BIG Thank You to the DFAC TEAMS!

The Roller on Youtube – Did you know the Roller is on Youtube? Check it out: [U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll Live Stream](#)



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

RMI Driver's License — The RMI driver's license team will be coming over on 8 Dec to issue RMI drivers' license. Liaison Office, Down-Town, 8 Dec, 9am to 4pm. Renew or NEW please bring a Current picture- ID. \$20. Please pay in cash only.

Dome Inspections - USAG-KA will be inspecting
Domes 165 through 176, 5 Dec. 9am-4pm
Domes 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191 - 9 Dec 9am-4:30pm
Domes 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192 -11 Dec 9am-4:30pm

Airfield Stops - The airfield stop signs on the perimeter road are there for a reason! Come to a full stop look BOTH ways before proceeding.

Vehicle Safety - Make sure your TDY and personal visitors know and follow the safety rules when it come to carts and other vehicles.

DSC ATM - The DSC ATM issues are still being worked to get the machine back online.

ICE - To voice your concerns or to say GOOD JOB visit the Interactive Customer Evaluation page for Kwajalein at:
https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=984



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

ARMA – Need something fixed in your housing, BQ or Office?

Go to ARMA : [ARMAhttps://www.armymaintenance.com/arma](https://www.armymaintenance.com/arma)
or call 480-3550

Outrigger Kitchen – The Outrigger kitchen will soon be getting an overhaul, prepare your tastebuds!!

Surfway Repairs – Phase I: Alaska Freezer Unit repairs ongoing and near completion. Phase 2-4 complete. Phase 5 has begun.

Containers – Do you have a container on the Atoll? Matson, Company Storage, or even boat yard. DPW needs to know. Email: usarmy.bucholz.smdc.list.shipping-receiving@army.mil

Added Ferry Runs – The Marine Department will be doing a test of added Ferry Runs to Ebeye Starting Dec 1st till Dec 20th. The two added runs will be at 9am and 1 pm going to Ebeye. Once the test runs are complete, the Marine Dept will do an appraisal to see if they will be permanent.

Air filters in Housing- Be sure you are checking your air filters monthly and changing out when needed, usually around every three months. Air filters are available at Self Help Building 1791, 480-4990.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Access to USAG-KA - Do you have someone coming to Kwajalein? Check out the regulation that controls entry to USAG-KA: https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/7317/4363/4868/USAG-KA_Reg_190-10_Entry_and_Exit_Control_Signed_MAR2026.pdf

- **Day Pass Form:**
https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/4217/6064/8721/USA-KA_FORM_2_Day_Pass.pdf
- **Overnight Guests Form 480:**
https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/7617/6481/7510/Form_480_Overnight_Guests.pdf
- All forms need to be sent to the DSC Mailbox at:
usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-dsc@army.mil

Events - As always, Kwajalein events can be found on the Kwajalein Community Events FB Page. Some things coming up are:

- **Pallet Trees** - Pallet Tree Lot is Open, Voting for best decorated "trees" ends 19 Dec. Pallet Trees are on Lagoon Rd, in front of Brandon Field.
- **Elementary School Band Concert** - Dec 5th - MP Rm 5:15pm
- **Christmas Tree Lighting & Parade** - Dec 6 - Parade starts at 6pm
- **Elementary School Band Concert** - Dec 12th - MP Rm 5:15pm
- **Light Up the Night** - Dec 14th - MP Room
- **Ugly Sweater Holiday Party** - Dec 20th - Oceanview
- **Christmas** - Dec 25th - Earth
- **New Years Eve** - Emon/Oceanview Dec 31

Have an upcoming event? Email sherman.hogue.civ@army.mil to share it.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

USACE Projects

- Meck Electrical
- Building 803 Reno
- Phase 1 AFH
- Echo Pier
- Potable Water Tower
- Zamperini Kitchen
- Roi POL AST
- Fuel Tank
- Phase 2 AFH
- Phase 3 AFH
- ATCT
- Medical Clinic

Est Comp Date

- 05 Dec 2025
- 22 Jan 2026
- 25 Jan 2026
- 05 Nov 2026
- 04 Aug 2026
- 08 Dec 2026
- 13 Aug 2027
- 02 Sept 2027
- 03 July 2027
- 13 Aug 2027
- 08 Mar 2028
- 16 July 2028

Kwajalein Workorders



Notary services are Available!

Documents for notarization must generally be of U.S. origin or intended for use within the United States, with limited exceptions.

Only one appointment is required for multiple documents.

The fee for each notarial service (notarial seal) is \$50 USD.

Please email consmajuro@state.gov for an appointment.



ALWAYS CALL...

...if your
building's
Fire Alarm
is sounding



E-wareness: Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Stormwater discharges are a significant source of pollutants. Stormwater can become polluted as it flows over contaminated surfaces. This leads to contamination of lagoon waters and potential damage to corals and other marine species.

What can you do?

- Good housekeeping
- Preventive maintenance on vehicles and equipment
- Maintain spill prevention and quick response supplies
- Preserve sediment erosion control
- Manage storm water runoff
- Employee training

For more information on stormwater pollution prevention or training opportunities, contact V2X Environmental at 480-0722.



E-wareness: Kejbarok jen paijin in an toor dren

Ijoko elap an toor dren ie rej jikin ko elap menin paijin/kij ko remaron in bar walok ie. Ekka wot an jede paijin kein jen ijoko dren eo ej toorlok ie. Elane ej toor dren kein nan lojet innem enaj kakure lojet eo, wod ko ie im menin mour/eddrek ko ie.

Ta komaron komane?

- Karreo
- Kejbarok wot jerbal ko bwe in driklok an nej walok jorren im kein jerbal
- Kojerbal spill kit ko im mokaj nan jerbal ko
- Lale men ko rej elejo bwe renjab toor nan lojet
- Manage e drenin wot ko ial ko
- Etal nan Training ko nan ekatak

Nan melele ko relaplok ikijeen wewein kein ak training, call e V2X Environmen-



Do your part to eliminate mosquitoes:

- Check for standing water where mosquitoes breed
- Dump any accumulated water at least weekly
- Manage vegetation and eliminate accumulated leaves

Dump standing water



Do your part to eliminate flies:

- Do not add food waste directly into open trash cans such as the Emon Beach trash containers, large black trash cans, or residential green trash receptacles.
- Always seal food and animal waste inside trash/plastic bags before adding to trash cans.
- Periodically clean outdoor trash receptacles.



Fogging Schedule

- 5:30-7:30 P.M.
- Roi Namur: Nov. 21, 2025, Dec. 19, 2025
- Kwajalein: Nov. 18, 19, & 20, Dec. 16, 17 & 18, 2025
- Weather dependent
- Avoid fogged area for ~30 minutes

Fogging with Eco-friendly EcoVia EC Insecticide

- Liquid botanical oil insecticide
- Active ingredients include Thyme Oil & Rosemary Oil
- Safe to use in and around homes and near water
- Safe to use around children and pets



Kwajalein /Roi Driver Licensing

Kwajalein classes are every Wednesday.

- 9:00 a.m. Marshallese
- 12:45 p.m. EXPATS **by appointment only as class size is limited**
- Building 856, Room 101 at the Vehicle Maintenance Compound
- To register, send email to the following: George.parker3@gov2x.com and Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com or stop by Bldg 856, Room 101

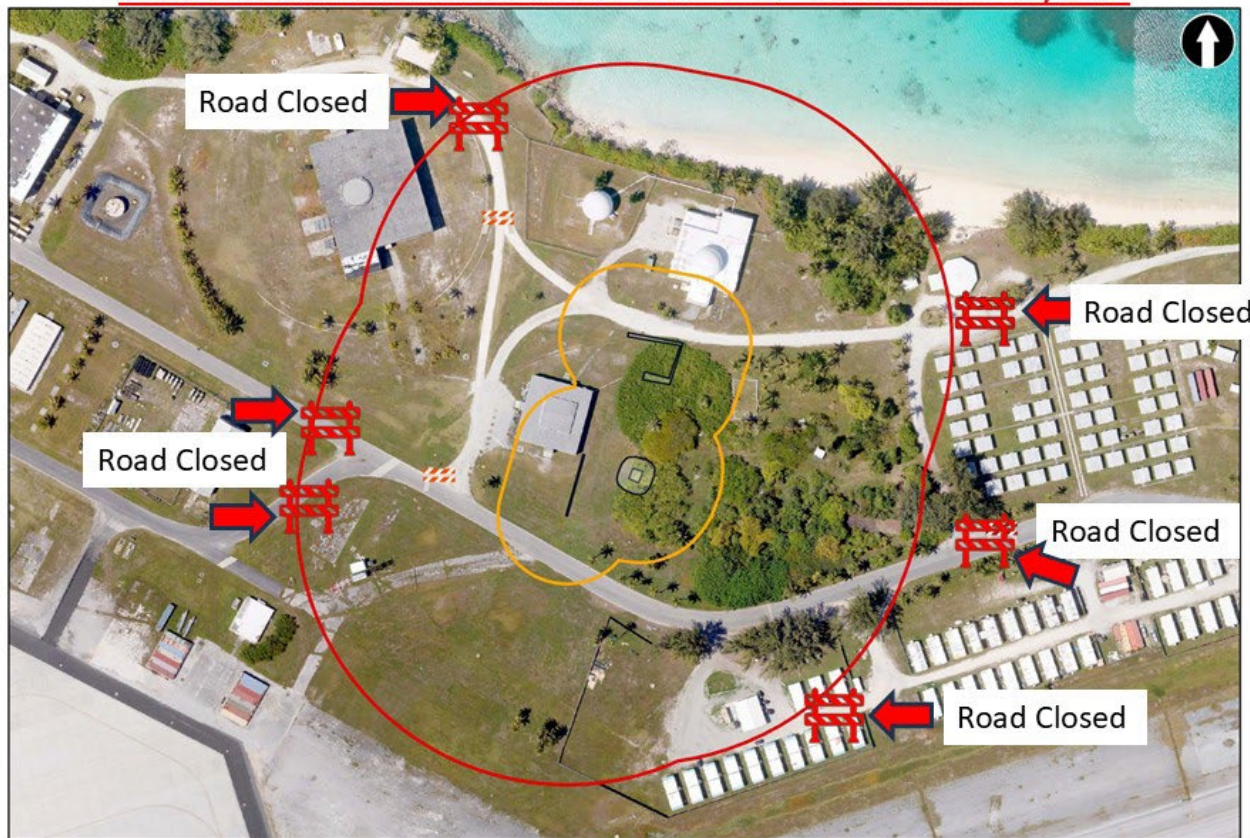
Roi-Namur Classes are every 2nd Friday (time base on flight schedule and location is Building C). No registration needed for Roi classes. Send any questions to the emails above.

Last class of 2025 will be December 17, 2025 on Kwajalein

- 9:00 a.m. Marshallese
- 12:45 p.m. EXPATS **by appointment only as class size is limited**
- Building 856, Room 101 at the Vehicle Maintenance Compound



PUBLIC NOTICE: UXO CLEARANCE OPERATIONS – DECEMBER 9–13, 2025

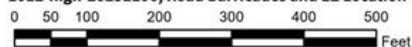


Date: Monday, December 1, 2025

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 58N

Service Layer Credits: Aerial, Imagery
DP2024-151-1 Road Barricades
Imagery © Google, Map data © 2025 Google

DP2024-151-1_PARSONS_Kwajalein, Coral Sands Area-Building 1012-high-20251106, Road Barricades and EZ Location



PUBLIC NOTICE: UXO CLEARANCE OPERATIONS – DECEMBER 9–13, 2025

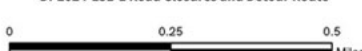


Date: Monday, November 24, 2025

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 58N

Service Layer Credits: Aerial, Imagery
DP2024-151-1 Road Closures and Detour Route
Imagery © Google, Map data © 2025 Google

DP2024-151-1 Road Closures and Detour Route



**PUBLIC NOTICE: UXO CLEARANCE OPERATIONS –
DECEMBER 9–13, 2025**

The UXO Clearance Team will conduct **day-time intrusive excavation operations** in support of the DP2024-151-1 Parsons LSA project. Activities will begin the **morning of Tuesday, December 9th**, and continue daily from **8:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, concluding by the **afternoon of Saturday, December 13th**.

During these hours, the **designated exclusion zone**—as outlined in the accompanying map—will be **strictly off-limits** to all personnel. **Road barricades will be in place** to mark restricted access points. For your safety, **do not enter or cross any barricaded areas** during the specified timeframes.

We appreciate your cooperation and commitment to maintaining a safe work environment.



Kwajalein Island Trash & Recycling

Residential Trash Collection	480-1760
Yard Vegetation Collection	480-1890
Hazardous Waste Pickup Line	480-8858



TRASH & RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

The Green Residential TRASH receptacles are collected every **Tuesday and Friday**.

The blue RECYCLE bins are also collected every **Tuesday and Friday**.

The large black General Solid Waste Community Containers are emptied on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Safety First! Please keep any curious children away from the Compactor Truck as it feeds contents into the truck.

Recyclable materials are also collected by both solid waste and horizontal maintenance personnel, in conjunction with general trash collection. Currently the island only recycles glass, aluminum, metal, and bulk organic materials. **Cardboard and plastics are not recycled materials on Kwajalein**. These items should be placed into the general trash stream for disposal/incineration.



Residential users will be given a **green trash** receptacle and a smaller **blue** receptacle for recyclable materials. It is requested that residences place their recyclable items into the blue containers, and stack larger materials next to the bins. Lawn clippings and leaves should be bagged and placed next to bins. Palm fronds and coconuts should also be stacked up next to the bins for removal by horizontal maintenance personnel.

- Starting **December 1st**, there will be a \$5 fee instituted to replace any lost, stolen, or damaged AIE badges.
- A police report, along with your receipt from paying the \$5 fee, will be required when requesting a new badge.
- The \$5 fee will be paid at the "cash cage" located at BLDG 702 (LOGCAP Business Support Services) on Lagoon Road.

E-Wareness: Oil/Water Separators (OWS)

What is an Oil/Water Separator (OWS)?

An OWS is a device used to separate oils and greases from a variety of industrial wastewater discharges. The effluent (mostly water) from the OWS is typically discharged to the waste water treatment plant (WWTP). It is important to properly utilize and maintain OWSs to prevent sources of environmental pollution and upsets at the WWTP.



Ta in Oil/Water Separator (OWS)?

OWS rej kein jerbal ko im rej kajenolok oil im grease jen dren ko retoon. Etoon kein jen OWS rej driwojla ak etal non waste water treatment plant (WWTP) eo. Elap an aurok bwe en jerbal OWS non bobrae an etoon im jorren ijoko ibelakid im ilo waste water treatment plant (WWTP) eo.

E-wareness: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

This Christmas, give a gift to the world:

- Reduce waste
- Reuse materials
- Recycle metals, glass, and yard waste

For more information contact
V2X Environmental at
480-0722.



Why We Secure Our Cats

- Island cats can breed only with each other > higher risk of inbreeding.
- Inbreeding = severe deformities and sickness in kittens > passed to future generations.
- Securing helps keep the cat population healthy.



How It Works

- Not a "mass euthanasia" - only cats with FIV or FeLV.
- All cats are tested first.
- FIV/FeLV is spread by bites, grooming, or sharing bowls > weakens immune systems.
- Healthy cats receive Rabies and FVRCP vaccines to protect them long-term.

Now Available by Appointment...

PASSPORT PHOTO SERVICES

Located on the 2nd floor of Bldg. 805 on Kwajalein. When taking your photo, remember the following guidance for a successful shoot:

- Directly face the camera without tilting your head.
- Have a neutral facial expression with both eyes open and mouth closed.
- Take off your eyeglasses, headphones or wireless hands-free device.
- Do not wear a uniform, clothing that looks like a uniform, or camouflage.
- Remove hats or head coverings or submit a signed statement or doctor's note that says you must wear it for religious or medical purposes.

To schedule an appointment,
contact IMD/AVD personnel at:

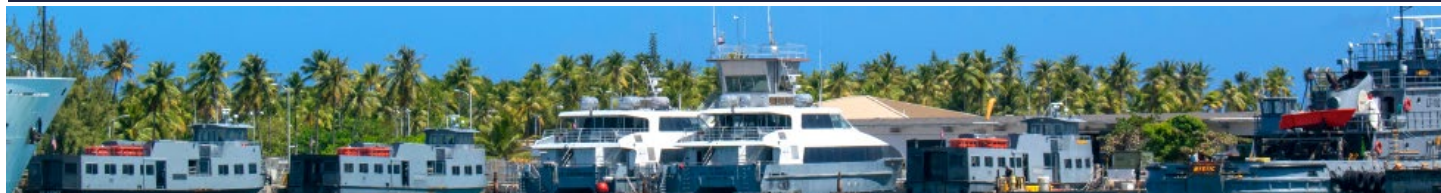
KwajaleinHourglass@gov2x.com



PASSPORT



*United States
of America*



Mail Early

Mail by the dates below to ensure delivery before December 25th

MILITARY MAIL ADDRESSED TO & FROM	PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE	FIRST- CLASS MAIL LETTERS & CARDS	PRIORITY MAIL SERVICE	GROUND ADVANTAGE SERVICE
CONUS	DEC 16	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP's 090-092	DEC 16	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP's 093	N/A	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP's 094-099	DEC 16	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIP's 340	DEC 16	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIP's 962-966	DEC 16	DEC 09	DEC 09	NOV 04

OPERATION: "Santa"



Effective 15 Sept 25, USPS will begin accepting letters at Post Offices as part of the 2025 USPS Operation Santa Program. USPS Operation Santa is a program where individuals can adopt letters written to Santa Claus and fulfill the wishes of the letter writers. Participants simply write a letter to "Santa", put in an envelope with their return address, affix First-Class Postage to the envelope, and mail it to Santa's official Postal Service Address:

**Santa Claus
123 Elf Road
North Pole, 88888**



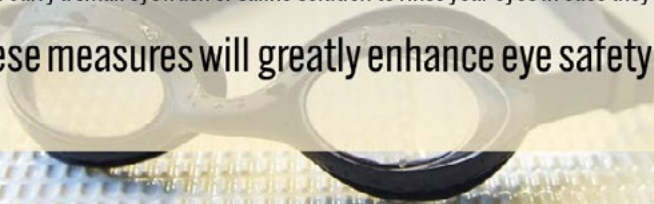
Stamped envelopes mailed to Santa's Postal Service address, or even stamped envelopes addressed simply to "Santa", are processed at a central location where the letters are opened, reviewed for content, redacted, and uploaded onto the USPSOperationSanta.com website.



It's crucial to safeguard your eyes during the dry season on Kwajalein Atoll due to the potential hazards posed by blowing sand:

- **Wear Protective Eyewear:** Use tightly fitting sunglasses or safety glasses designed to block wind and sand particles.
- **Choose the Right Lens:** Opt for lenses that provide UV protection to shield your eyes from harmful rays.
- **Wrap-Around Styles:** Select wrap-around sunglasses to minimize the entry of sand and debris from the sides.
- **Keep Eyes Moisturized:** Use lubricating eye drops to prevent dryness and irritation caused by sand and wind exposure.
- **Avoid Rubbing Eyes:** If sand gets in your eyes, resist the urge to rub them, which can cause damage. Instead, rinse with clean water.
- **Be Cautious with Wind:** When biking or being active outdoors, be aware of the wind direction to minimize exposure to blowing sand.
- **Seek Shelter:** If the sand is blowing strongly, temporarily seek shelter until conditions improve before continuing outdoor activities.
- **Educate Others:** Encourage friends and family to follow these safety measures, promoting a culture of eye safety.
- **Inspection of Eyewear:** Regularly check sunglasses or safety glasses for scratches or damage that could impair visibility.
- **Emergency Supplies:** Carry a small eyewash or saline solution to rinse your eyes in case they become irritated from sand exposure.

Implementing these measures will greatly enhance eye safety during the dry season on Kwajalein Atoll.





Remember the 3-R's of UXO Safety!



RECOGNIZE



RETREAT



REPORT

Unexploded ordnance are munitions that fail to detonate during live fire training. They are **extremely dangerous** and could explode if tampered with, even though the Kwajalein ordnance is 80-years-old.

NEVER touch UXO and report the location of **ANY** suspected UXO to the UXO Team **IMMEDIATELY** at:

Phone: 480-1550/1433

Email: Darren.r.Wheeldon.ctr@army.mil



FOLLOW US AT THESE LOCATIONS



Click QR Code to jump to social page

Kwajalein



MIA Project

NEVER FORGET.

<https://kwajaleinmiaproject.us/>

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

Submit Announcements to the Roller Channel and The Kwajalein Hourglass

OPEN CALL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS
The island community is invited to submit listings for events and for sale items; announcements; department trainings; safety updates; public service messages; and thank-you messages.

Preparing Your Message

For questions about your messaging, please reach out to the USAG-KA Public Affairs Office at 480-4848.

Ads should always include a point of contact, phone number and/or email address.

Private parties, fundraisers and events requesting and/or accepting donations are typically not allowed for publication per AR 360-1. Fundraisers and support activities for private and schools-based organizations, scouting groups, civic clubs and other listings may be subject to a legal counsel review to determine their eligibility for publication.

Formatting Your Listings

It is recommended that graphical advertisements and announcements intended for the Hourglass and the AFN Roller Channel be formatted as PowerPoint slides.

Graphic designers are asked to maintain a generous margin (.75-1-inch) around all sides and to size fonts no smaller than pt. 20.

If your Roller Channel advertisement requires a special expiration date, please note this for the Roller team in the body of your message.

Deadlines for Submissions

Send advertisements for the Kwajalein Hourglass and the AFN Roller Channel to kwajaleinhourglass@gov2x.com on Wednesdays by close of business/Thursday morning.

Roller Channel ads are accepted on a rolling basis by 4 p.m. for a mid-week and late-week update. Ads received after 4 p.m. will be loaded in the next update. Please ensure you submit ads in good time to ensure timely upload.

For more information, reach out to the USAG-KA Command team through the USAG-KA Facebook page.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFH Construction Is Ongoing. Nan, Inc. Construction is scheduled to commence the telecommunication scope of work for the Kwajalein Army Family Housing project in our community. Residents and commuters should be aware of possible changes in traffic patterns and to plan their routes accordingly. Nan, Inc. Construction is committed to minimizing any inconveniences, and we will strive to ensure a smooth and efficient construction process.

ArMA. Log in to ArMa, the Army Maintenance Application, to report issues for all buildings maintained by the Department of Public Works. Contact Public Works at 480-3550.

CAC Office. Before your visit to the Common Access Card Office, ensure all paperwork is completed by your human resources representative before making an appointment. Bring two forms of government-issued IDs with you. Walk-in appointments are welcome, but there may be a wait. CAC Office Hours, Bldg. 835, are Tuesday – Saturday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.; (Lunch: noon - 1 p.m.). Call 480-8496.

Demolition at the Capt. Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility. Phase three of the Zamperini DFAC demo has begun and is projected to be finished March 2026 for the dining and serving area. Be careful around the dining facility during the phases.

Do Not Take Cultural Artifacts. It is illegal to remove cultural resources from the atoll. This includes any protected species, unexploded ordnance, WWII-era artifacts and ancient Marshallese artifacts. These resources are protected under U.S. federal and RMI law. Contact the Kwajalein Archaeology Office at 480-8867.



Contact the USAG-KA Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention Victim Advocate

Sergeant First Class Darrius Hodge
SHARP Victim Advocate

Work: 480-1419

USAG-KA SHARP Pager:

808-580-3241

DOD SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247



Emergency Management. Visit the USAG-KA Emergency Management webpage, <https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/index.php/my-fort/EM>; 2) Click on "Mass Notification"; 3) Follow the registration instructions.

E-Wareness: It is each driver's responsibility to ensure vehicles are not leaking fluids other than air conditioning condensate. Call 911 to report spills and arrange with automotive for routine maintenance. Please call Environmental at 480-0722 with questions. Ej an ri-kator eo eddo non lolorjake bwe wa eo ejjab leak jabdewot oil ijelak in drennin air condition eo jen wa eo. Ne elon jabdewot leak/lutok in oil jen wa eo, Kiir 911 non report- e lutok eo. Ak kiir Environmental ilo 480-0722 non kajitok.

Fire Safety Tips. Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops. Make sure pets are included in your family's fire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household.

Flights. Please note that all flights are subject to change. For the latest update on your flights on United, ATI or Air Marshall Islands: ATI: 480-2169; AMI: 480-3469; United: 480-4852 or 1-800-UNITED1; Air Terminal Services: 480-2660; Flight Information Recording: 480-3589

UA Schedule Effective Now: Monday and Friday—UA 155 (HNL); Check-in 2 – 4:50 p.m.;

Wednesday—UA 133 (HNL); Check-in 2 – 4:15 p.m.; Tuesday and Saturday—UA 154 (GUM); Check-in 10:45 – 11:15 a.m.

FlyRoi Reservations. To schedule reservations and for correspondence related to flights, email LCVKwajaleinFlyRoi@versar.com.

How to dress in the RMI. Out of respect for the Marshallese culture, residents are asked to dress appropriately when visiting Ebeye, Third Island, or anywhere within Kwajalein Atoll. Women should wear clothing to cover shoulders and knees. None are permitted to wear shorts when visiting churches on Ebeye. Men should wear long slacks to church.

Kwaj Small Boat Marina hours are 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday through Monday, and on holidays, excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas. Morning boat reservation times are from 7:30 a.m. – noon. Afternoon boat reservations are from 1 – 5 p.m.

Not Feeling Well? Call 480-2223 to make an appointment for a COVID-19 test, Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. If you are not feeling well, please wear a mask when you are around others in the community.

Operational Security. See something, say something. All employees on USAG-KA are required to receive annual Threat Awareness and Reporting Program training provided by KRO; Reporting: Report suspicious activities to the Kwajalein Resident Office at 480-9859/1293/8006 at Bldg. 1163.

PCS & Vacation Tips. Notify the post office before leaving for 30 days or PCS'ing. Per DOD 4525.6-M, mail is only allowed to be held for 30 days with or without prior notice. Mail is considered unclaimed on day 31 and will be returned to the sender. Email the post office to authorize pick up for your mail and packages. When PCS'ing, provide a forwarding address. Contact Jose Burgos-Rivera with questions at 480-3461 and Jose. Burgos-Rivera@gov2x.com.

Salon Walk-Ins. Surfside Salon Walk-In Appointments are available on Fridays from 1:30 - 6 p.m.

Smoking. USAG-KA, smoking is permitted in designated smoking areas only. Smoking and cigarette butt receptacles must be at least 50 feet from the entrance of facilities.

Taxi Service. Call 480-TAXI (8294) or 3341 to

HELP WANTED

For employment with contractors
within the
U.S. Army Garrison - Kwajalein Atoll
please check
contractor company
websites
for employment opportunities.

book your ride at least 24 hours in advance of check-in time.

Millican Family Pool Hours. Closed for cleaning on Thursdays. Open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays and Mondays.

The NEC Testing Center Is Open to the Community - Giving you the head start you need to thrive! - Open Tuesday through Saturday by appointment
Authorized Pearson VUE Test Center. Schedule A test Today!
NEC testing Center, 480-4344, FN 1008-131
ACUITY International

Kwajalein / Roi Namur Licensing
Classes on Kwajalein are every Wednesday @0900 Marshallese @1245 Expats (by appointment only as class side is limited)
Classes are in Bldg. 856 Rm 101, Vehicle Maintenance Compound
Roi classes every 2nd Friday in Bldg. C, timed based on flight schedule
No registration needed for Roi classes.
To register, send email to either of the following:
George.Parker@gov2x.com
Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com
...or stop by Bldg. 856, Rm 101



**OPSEC
IS NOT
RETROACTIVE.**

**THINK BEFORE
YOU SHARE
INFORMATION.
ONLINE AND OFFLINE.**

Like and share @USArmyOPSEC



**American
Red Cross**

Service to the Armed Forces

Volunteer Opportunity at Kwajalein Atoll

Join the American Red Cross and help bring our Services and Programs to the Kwajalein Atoll community!

Online & Virtual Training Provided

No experience needed!

We provide all necessary training. Just bring your passion and commitment to helping others!

Contact **Alana Wilson** at alana.wilson@redcross.org

Let's work together to build a more prepared and resilient community.



KWAJALEIN & ROI NAMUR,

STOP FOR AIRCRAFT!!



Please remember to stop and look both ways for aircraft on:
Zeus Blvd., Ocean Rd., Perimeter Rd., Pandanus Rd., Eleanor
Wilson Rd.

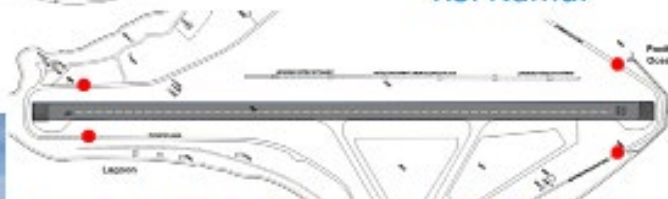
**If aircraft are on approach or taking off, you must hold your
position and wait!**



Kwajalein



Roi Namur



**Stop at designated signs and look for aircraft
landing or taking off. If you see an aircraft, hold
your position at the stop sign and wait until the
aircraft has landed or departed before moving.**

C
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Now Showing at the Yuk Theater

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3 "The Land Before Time" (1988) (G) 69 min.	SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 "How to Train Your Dragon" (2025) (PG) 125 min.	SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 "Night at the Museum" (2006) (PG) 108 min.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 "The 40 Year Old Virgin" (2005) (R) 116 min.	SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 "I Know What You Did Last Summer" (2025) (R) 111 min.	
SATURDAY, JANUARY 10 "The Lorax" (2012) (PG) 86 min.	SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 "Smurfs" (2025) (PG) 99 min.	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 "Bad Boys for Life" (2020) (R) 124 min.	SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 "National Lampoon's Animal House" (1978) (R) 109 min.	

All showtimes start at 7:30 p.m.



WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Discussion:

For November, we received 6.65 inches putting us 4.4 inches below normal. So far in 2025, we have only received about 72.2 inches of precipitation, which is 14 inches below normal for the year. Shower coverage will be at dry windy season levels for the next seven day with just fleeting stray showers possible. Wednesday will see a coverage increase with the arrival of modest troughing. No thunderstorm days occurred over the past seven days. A thunderstorm day is defined as an "in situ" lightning strike within five miles of the weather station or thunder heard. The thunderstorm risk will be rather minimal for the next seven day, elevating slightly on Wednesday next week. The Madden-Julian Oscillation's (MJO) is slowly waning to a modest negative phase which will generally have a repressing effect on widespread shower coverage over the central RMI. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) will remain very well established, to far south to increase our shower coverage, but well positioned to induce a tight pressure gradi-

ent between itself and strong high-pressure to the north of the RMI giving us the above normal winds. El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in la Nina conditions for our part of the Pacific. This means sea-surface temperatures (SST) between the RMI and the Date Line are cooler, having a negative impact on the RMI's rainfall coverage.

Tropical Cyclones:

None for the RMI.

Damaging West Winds / Westerly Swell:

Low risk.

Swell / Tide Inundation for Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island:

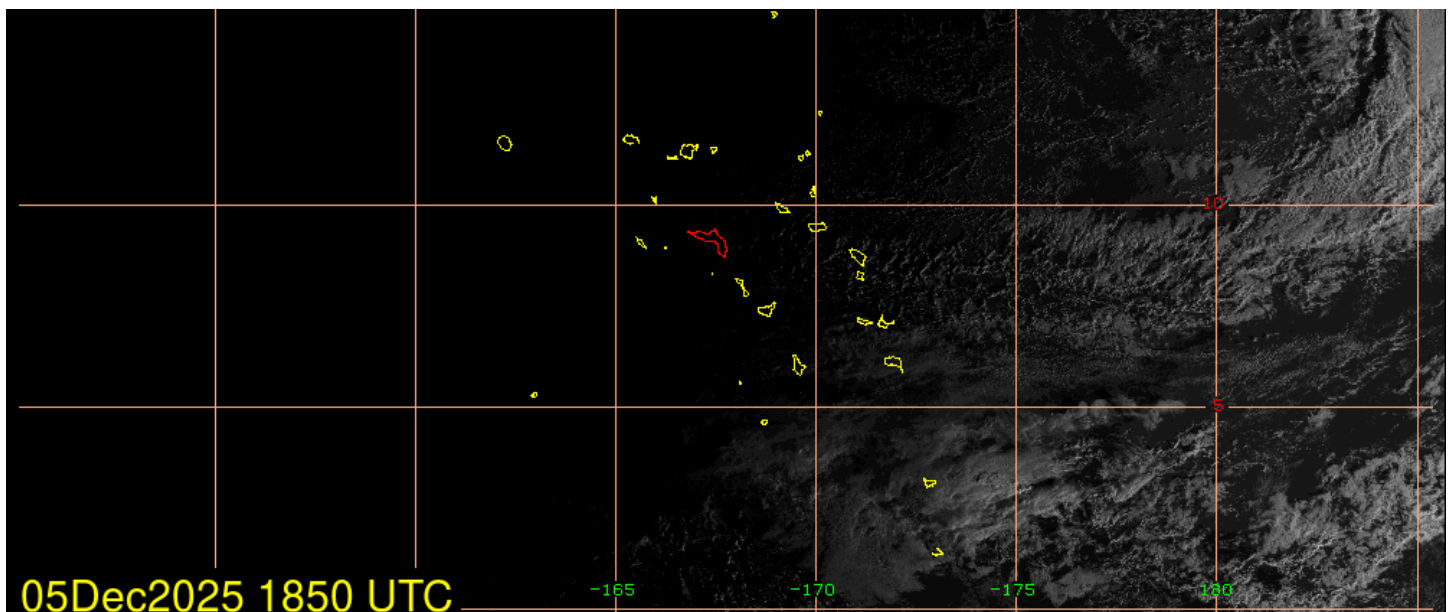
The full moon is today and associated higher tides made a bit higher due to it being a nearly perigean full moon at just under 5 feet tomorrow and the 6th. Winds: are coming in true Windy Season (Ellap Kutu) fashion. Look for winds solidly in the middle to upper teens tomorrow and increase to the low 20s Friday night through all of Saturday and into Sunday morning with a Small Craft Advisory (SCA) being issued for Saturday. Winds will start

coming down dramatically Sunday late afternoon to the low teens on Monday and upper single digits at times on Tuesday. We will be very close to High Surf Advisory (HSA) conditions for Saturday and Sunday morning around high tide. Expecting wave height of 9-11 feet at edge of the seaward side of the flat reef with a High surf Advisory being issued if waves exceed 11 feet. There will be some splash-over and minor ponding possible landward of the berm on Roi-Namur around high tide for next few days with the King Tides / Perigean full moon.

Purpose:

This weekly briefing is delivered Thursday mornings to island leadership. The intention of this briefing is to provide situational awareness of weather events that may interrupt operations and transportation around Kwajalein, to/from Hawaii and Guam, and in the Wake vicinity. The main threat assessed in this brief is existing and potential development of tropical cyclone activity. This brief also provides an outlook of abnormal winds, sea state, and precipitation guidance for

next 7 days around the Kwajalein Atoll. The distribution list will also receive updates on any developing tropical cyclone activity in the Kwajalein region that occur between the weekly outlook product next 7 days around the Kwajalein Atoll. The distribution list will also receive updates on any developing tropical cyclone activity in the Kwajalein region that occur between the weekly outlook product. ⚡



WEATHER

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Mostly dry weather will persist across Kwajalein Atoll as we head into the weekend. A dominant subtropical ridge extending from the north will maintain dry conditions and moderate to fresh northeast trade winds. With the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) fragmented and displaced southward, shower activity will remain limited while breezy conditions continue into Sunday, gradually easing into the upper single digits by Monday. A Small Craft Advisory may be issued on Saturday, as King Tide conditions combine with northeast winds in the upper teens to lower 20s, with gusts possibly reaching the mid to upper 20s. Sunday will be slightly less breezy, with winds easing into the mid-teens, then diminishing further into the upper single digits on Monday as the subtropical ridge weakens and the pressure gradient relaxes. Skies will be partly sunny to mostly clear through the weekend. Conditions will remain mostly dry, with only stray showers triggered by localized convergence from occasional trade-wind surges.

Overall shower coverage will stay minimal. By early next week, winds continue to ease as the subtropical high loses influence over the area. The ITCZ will begin to rebuild, bringing an increasing shower coverage by midweek.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny to mostly clear. Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 17-22 knots with higher gusts approaching 30 knots possible. Probable Small Craft Advisory.

SUNDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 14-19 knots with higher clear air gusts up to the mid 20s possible, particularly early in the day.

MONDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 8-13 knots with higher gusts near showers.

NEXT WEEK

Mostly dry conditions to begin the workweek with only stray showers and light winds expected on Tuesday. Shower coverage increases by Wednesday as the ITCZ shifts

 SUN-MOON-TIDES				
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	6:51 a.m. 6:29 p.m.	8:53 p.m. 8:56 a.m.	5:30 a.m. 3.2' 5:45 p.m. 4.7'	11:15 a.m. -0.4' -----
MONDAY	6:52 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	9:55 p.m. 9:56 a.m.	6:15 a.m. 3.0' 6:29 p.m. 4.3'	12:21 a.m. -0.6' 11:58 a.m. -0.2'
TUESDAY	6:52 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	10:52 p.m. 10:49 a.m.	7:01 a.m. 2.7' 7:15 p.m. 3.9'	1:07 a.m. -0.3' 12:42 p.m. 0.2'
WEDNESDAY	6:53 a.m. 6:31 p.m.	11:43 p.m. 11:36 a.m.	7:54 a.m. 2.5' 8:05 p.m. 3.4'	1:56 a.m. 0.1' 1:31 p.m. 0.6'
THURSDAY	6:53 a.m. 6:31 p.m.	----- 12:18 p.m.	8:57 a.m. 2.4' 9:04 p.m. 3.0'	2:51 a.m. 0.4' 2:31 p.m. 1.0'
FRIDAY	6:54 a.m. 6:31 p.m.	12:31 a.m. 12:56 p.m.	10:19 a.m. 2.4' 10:19 p.m. 2.7'	3:55 a.m. 0.7' 3:57 p.m. 1.2'
DECEMBER 13	6:54 a.m. 6:32 p.m.	1:17 a.m. 1:33 p.m.	11:46 a.m. 2.5' 11:44 p.m. 2.5'	5:07 a.m. 0.8' 5:46 p.m. 1.3'

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ISLAND LIFE AND ARMY REGULATIONS, PLEASE CALL THE COMMANDER'S HOTLINE AT 480-1098.

into the area, bringing wetter conditions and possible stray thunderstorms through midweek. Winds will slightly increase back into the low to mid teens. ☘



Until Next Week!

