



COMMUNITY

BEHIND THE LIGHTS: KWAJALEIN CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 2025

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Christy Wagnon, Hourglass Staff Writer

On a blustery December night, downtown Kwajalein shimmered with light, laughter, and holiday cheer as the annual Christmas Tree Lighting kicked off the season. The golf cart parade launched from the high school, with the high school band playing along the route as it traveled through the housing area down lagoon and rolled into downtown for a joyful finale as Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived to roaring cheers. Candy rained from passing golf carts, sending children into a sugar-fueled sprint of laughter and delight.

High school band music filled the air. Dancers took the stage. Vendors sold holiday treats and gifts. A movie played under the stars. To the casual observer, it all looked effortless—just another magical Kwajalein Christmas tradition. But what most people

never see is that the Christmas Tree Lighting doesn't happen overnight.

Because Halloween dominates October on Kwajalein, planning for Christmas can't even begin until the last trick-or-treater heads home. That means the Tree Lighting officially enters motion in early November, a month before the lights ever turn on.

The physical setup alone takes about two full weeks and requires support from nearly every department on island. Before a single strand of lights can go up, downtown itself must be prepared: trees trimmed, outlets inspected, power tested, and infrastructure cleared.

Then there are the lights. Each year, 9 to 10 full containers of Christmas lights, plug-in, solar-powered, and battery-operated, are pulled from storage. Every single strand must be tested in advance. On a tiny island in a highly corrosive salt-air envi-

ronment, nothing is guaranteed to work from one year to the next. "It's not just hanging lights," Oana Neagu explained. "It's sorting what's new versus old, deciding what can go where based on power source, and making sure it all works safely."

This year, when the crew went to light the main Christmas tree, they discovered a major problem: four strands of rope lights were needed-but three out of the four stopped working during set up. Instead of panic, there was problem-solving. Thompson Tarwoj of MWR Grounds stepped in without hesitation. "I got you, boss," he said, and created what the team now affectionately calls "Plan T." By mixing alternative light styles together, he engineered a display that not only worked but looked better than expected.

For Neagu, this was her first Christmas Tree Lighting with MWR, and the respon-

sibility was overwhelming. "It felt like setting up the downtown area of a small city," she shared. "Until those containers were opened, we didn't even know what we had or if it would work."

To help bridge the gap between past and present, Neagu turned to the American Forces Network (AFN) archives to study footage from previous years and better understand long-standing traditions. But it was the experience of the whole MWR team, especially the MWR Events crew, Tarwoj and the 14–15 team members who have seen more Tree Lightings than anyone, that truly guided the season's success.

When the original tree topper couldn't be found, Finton Boro of MWR fabricated a brand-new star. When the beloved photo frame was discovered to be damaged beyond repair, the team built a completely new one from scratch using Neagu's vision.

"These aren't just strong workers," she said. "They're creative problem-solvers."

This year also brought added challenges. Construction near the post office for the new dining facility forced the team to rethink the entire movie setup. Instead of feeling like a setback, it became a breakthrough and community feedback was clear: the new layout had better flow and worked even better than before.

The MWR team also listens closely to past critiques. After hearing that performers previously struggled with low lighting, MWR coordinated with downtown businesses to keep their lights on and worked with the airport and DPW to bring in additional lighting.

Then came the wind. With strong gusts threatening equipment, the team waited until the very last minute to finish setup, hauled in extra sandbags, scrapped the inflatable movie screen, and made the call to eliminate bouncy houses and blow-ups entirely. Adaptability, once again, saved the night.

The Tree Lighting is just one piece of a massive December puzzle. Every holiday organization on Kwajalein depends on MWR for tents, tables, and chairs—often simultaneously. The RMI Trade Fair, which required significant setup, took place just the weekend before the lighting, pushing the grounds crew to their limits. et, through it all, the response from the community made the stress worthwhile.

Performers, principals, and vendors all leaned into flexibility. Volunteers from other departments stepped up to help and had so much fun doing it that MWR hopes to expand volunteer opportunities next year.

As always, MWR is already thinking forward. After December wraps, community surveys and feedback will shape the vision for 2026. Long-term dreams include investing in commercial-grade holiday décor, the kind you see in small cities, so displays are more durable in the island environment. The team also hopes to add more children's activities while still honoring classic Kwajalein traditions.

And one tradition that's staying? The snow. The beloved snow machine, powered by a generator and distilled water, adds instant magic, even if expanding it remains a logistical challenge.

From the women in the office to the boots-on-theground grounds crew, every person at MWR played a role in bringing the 2025 Kwajalein Christmas Tree Lighting to life. What the community sees as a single magical evening is, in truth, the result of weeks of planning, years of experience, countless backups, and a team that refuses to quit when the plan changes. The next time the lights come on, the music starts, and Santa rolls into town, remember: the real magic begins long before the switch is ever flipped.







COMMUNITY

CARING FOR CARLOS: STUDENTS BRING LIGHT, POWER, AND HOPE TO A NEIGHBORING ISLAND

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Hourglass Staff Writer

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, a group of students from Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School turned their focus beyond their own island — toward Carlos Island and its people.

Through the Caring for Carlos project, members of the National Honor Society organized a humanitarian effort that raised more than \$8,000, exceeding their original fundraising goal. The funds enabled the purchase of solar panels, a generator, fans, backpacks, and essential supplies to support families and children on Carlos Island.

Over several weeks, students also collected donated clothing, non perishable food items, and sports equipment, while packing and organizing 12 large donation boxes. In total, 36 backpacks — many customized by age and per-

sonalized with each child's name — were prepared for students on Carlos.

"This project mattered to me because we're blessed with readily available education on Kwajalein," said Nathan Andrew Melody, a 12th grade student and National Honor Society vice president. "When we went over there, it was clear they don't always have power, lighting, or materials. Getting to help improve their education and hopefully their lives overall made all the effort worth it."

For National Honor Society president Yamila Johnson, the most meaningful part of the project was seeing how small efforts can make a big difference. "I'm most excited to see their faces," said Johnson, a senior at Kwajalein Jr./ Sr. High School. "The backpacks might seem small, but they're all full and many are customized to the kids' ages. Seeing their reactions is going to be really special."

Community and command leadership played a key role in supporting the students while allowing them to lead the effort from start to finish. "With this project, our focus is for the students to step into true leadership roles," said Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley L. Jackson. "They did the planning, made the connections, coordinated with leadership, and even exceeded their fundraising goal. More than anything, I hope they take away a lasting heart for caring for others and making life better for people who are less fortunate."

Major Dan Rothenberger, director of Host Nation Activities, highlighted the broader impact of the project. "This effort gives our youth the chance to build connections beyond their own community," Rothenberger said. "It shows that we are sincere when we say we want to build partnerships and help others for our mutual benefit. That

kind of experience is invaluable."

School leadership emphasized that the project reflects the core values of education, empathy, and real world learning. "Experiences like this stretch our students and help develop their character and perspective," said Matt Gerber, principal of Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School. "Seeing life lived in a very different way, building relationships, and connecting with the kids on Carlos are lessons they will carry far beyond anything they might learn from a book."

On delivery day, students and volunteers boarded the catamaran early in the morning, transported supplies across the water, and walked donation boxes to the Carlos school before spending time with local children — playing games, talking, and sharing the holiday spirit.

For many students, the experience reinforced a deeper

understanding of service.

"This experience will change me by making me more responsible and more aware of how other people live," Johnson said. "Service doesn't always have to be something grand. It can be as simple as helping wherever you can — and that's something I want to keep doing."

Beyond generators and solar panels, the Caring for Carlos project delivered something harder to measure but deeply felt: dignity, kindness, and human connection.

"I hope the Carlos community takes away kindness," said Kate Cannon, a participant in the Caring for Carlos project. "I hope they know they're cared for, and that there is kindness in the world."

For the people of Carlos Island, this Christmas arrived with light, power — and a reminder that they are seen, valued, and remembered. \mathbb{Y}







COMMUNITY

BRINGING SANTA TO KWAJALEIN: ONE COMMUNITY MEMBER'S HOLIDAY MISSION

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Christy Wagnon, Hourglass Staff Writer

On Kwajalein, Christmas feels a little more magical when Santa comes to town. Behind the scenes, that magic is made possible with the help of dedicated community members like Randy Hisle, who has spent the past several years assisting Santa in bringing joy, laughter and wonder to island children and families.

During two tours on Kwajalein totaling seven years, Hisle first stepped into Santa's boots through AFN holiday videos. For the past three years, his wife, Anne, has joined him as Mrs. Claus, and together they have become a central part of the island's most beloved traditions: the Christmas Tree Lighting and Light Up the Night celebrations.

"I've always loved Santa and what he stands for," Hisle said. His inspiration began long before Kwajalein, when he "helped" Santa as a teenager and occasionally as an adult back home. When the opportunity arose here, he felt ready—resume and heart aligned.

What truly sets Santa on Kwajalein apart from anywhere else in the world is the intimacy of the community. "Because Kwaj is so small, everyone knows each other," Hisle said. "I can personalize visits with the kids' names. When Santa says, 'Have you been a good boy, Matao?' the look on their faces is priceless." That personal connection has shaped his experience. "No matter your age, when the community sees Santa and Mrs. Claus, faces light up. That makes it all worth it," he said.

Two events capture the full spirit of Christmas for Hisle. The Tree Lighting is one—where Santa makes a grand entrance, then sits front row to enjoy performances and

dances with Marshallese dancers. The second is Light Up the Night, where Santa meets with children one-onone in the MP room, listening as they share their Christmas wishes.

Those moments are often joyful—and sometimes deeply emotional. "One little girl once asked me to bring her daddy back," Hisle said. "He had passed away serving his country." Another child once asked why Santa doesn't have children of his own. "Those are the moments that stay with you," he said.

There is plenty of humor behind the beard. One unforgettable moment happened on Ebeye, when Santa's pants slipped while leaving the dock after a parade. "Mrs. Claus caught them before anyone saw Santa's jolly backside!"

Another time, Santa went live on the radio when the elf failed to show up. Hisle played both parts, using a metal

trash can to create a "North Pole echo." Mid-broadcast, he accidentally struck his head on the can. "I had to say on the air, 'Santa had an accident up here at the North Pole!" Hisle said. "The whole studio was laughing."

And then there is the tropical heat. "The suit is hot," he said. "The clothes underneath are soaking wet by the end of the event."

For Hisle, portraying Santa is more than a holiday role. "Helping Santa is a great privilege and honor," Hisle said. "Helping spread the message of peace on Earth and goodwill to all resets me for the new year. It gives me hope that humankind will find peace in the end."

He hopes children walk away believing not only in Santa, but in the deeper meaning of generosity and kindness. No one has ever recognized him without the suit, he said, comparing it to "the Superman and Clark Kent thing."

Hisle hopes the Santa tradition brings comfort, joy and a sense of home. "I hope it brings a bit of home for the ex-pat folks and joy and hope for our Marshallese community," he said.

If there's one message he hopes both children and adults will carry forward, it's this—borrowed from the simple, heartfelt wisdom of Sesame Street: "Keep Christmas with you all through the year... hold those precious moments very dear, and keep Christmas with you, all through the year."

On Kwajalein, Santa is more than a visitor. Through Hisle's joyful service, the message of peace, hope and giving continues to shine long after the holiday lights are taken down.







COMMUNITY

KWAJALEIN VET CLINIC: AN ISLAND LIFELINE FOR PETS

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Anthony Carnelli, Hourglass Staff Writer

On Kwajalein, the Vet Clinic functions as the hub for nearly all animal care on the island — from routine appointments and exams to treatments and medication dispensing. For the pets and owners who walk through its doors, the modest space serves as the community's lifeline for animal care.

That reach extends to every furry resident on the island — privately owned cats and dogs, as well as the government-managed feral cat population. The mission is straightforward: ensuring the well-being of animals on an island where the nearest major veterinary hospital sits thousands of miles away.

That distance shapes nearly every part of how the clinic operates. Veterinarian Technician Alea Lasley in on-hand in the office, and a licensed veterinarian provides remote

oversight for consultations and prescriptions — and only visits quarterly to perform services that require handson care. When something comes up that can't be fully addressed on-island, Lasley said the response depends on the situation — "I've heard of some people traveling to Hawaii if their pet needs surgery," Lasley said. "In my position, I'm unable to perform surgery." However, for urgent issues that can be supported locally, she said she can remain in contact with the veterinarian and provide basic stabilization.

On any given week, the clinic addresses the health challenges that come with remote island life. Routine vaccinations help keep preventable diseases at bay. Lab diagnostics, available both on-island and through off-island partners, can help identify parasitic and bacterial infections, while radiology services such as X-rays

and ultrasounds help pinpoint internal issues. When a dog swallows something, it shouldn't or shows signs of heat exhaustion, the clinic is ready to assess the situation and act within its on-island capabilities.

Some services are especially in demand — "Nail trims and allergy injections," said Lasley. She added that "a lot of pets' allergies seem to get worse here, or they develop allergies after arriving," — making allergy care a frequent need for island pet owners.

The clinic also maintains prescription medications for heartworm prevention and parasite control, along with shampoos and conditioners for pets dealing with skin conditions in the humid climate. For owners facing the hardest decisions, the clinic provides humane euthanasia services with compassion and care.

When the visiting veter-

inarian arrives each quarter, the clinic's capabilities expand — general health screenings give owners a more complete picture of their pet's condition. Health certificates and PCS (permanent change of station) acclimation letters, or essential paperwork for families preparing to move become available. Non-emergency procedures such as spaying, neutering, dental cleanings, microchipping, and mass removals fill the schedule.

Beyond clinical care, the vet clinic manages animal registration and adoption — helping connect pets with new families. It also supports feral cat management through a trap-and-release program — a humane method to capture, sterilize, vaccinate, and return feral cats to their outdoor homes to prevent overpopulation.

For residents considering bringing a pet to Kwajalein, or already caring for one, a few realities deserve attention — "Doctor availability is a big one," said Lasley, noting that pets must be screened before arriving. "From a health standpoint, if a pet has a preexisting condition that can't be managed here (or might not be manageable here), it's not a good idea to bring them."

"The PCS process itself can also be more complicated than many people expect," said Lasley. "People often don't realize how lengthy it can be — and that requirements change depending on where someone is going."

She specifically pointed to rabies titer testing as one common requirement, explaining that if antibody levels aren't high enough, a pet may not be cleared to travel. While the titer is typically

valid for about three years, Lasley said that for Japan it is only valid for two — a detail that can catch families off guard and potentially force them to restart steps if paperwork expires. Japan also has a six-month quarantine timeline that begins once the receiving side has the submitted documents, she said.

The clinic also emphasizes pet safety practices that are specific to island life. Cats, for example, must remain indoors — a point Lasley ties directly to disease risk among the feral cat population. Local feral cats can carry FIV (feline immunodeficiency she said, and it can spread through bites, shared water bowls, and even grooming. "There's no cure," noted Lasley, — "it can weaken a cat's immune system to the point

that something minor (like a cold) can become potentially

And cats aren't the only pets that need extra precautions here — dogs, too, benefit from a few island-specific safety habits. They should remain leashed outdoors - though the island's dog park provides space for offleash exercise. Large breeds and double-coated dogs may also struggle in tropical heat, making owner awareness and prevention especially important.

The clinic is open Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a lunch break from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Appointments are required. Being that Lasley is the only single technician managing every aspect of operations, scheduled visits

help ensure each pet receives unhurried, personalized attention in the clinic's limited space.

Whether it's a routine checkup, a disconcerting symptom, or questions about bringing a pet to the island — the Kwajalein Vet Clinic is ready to help.

To book an appointment or ask questions: Phone: 48o-2017 Email: kwajvetclinic@ gov2x.com

From vaccinations to emergencies, from feral cat management to helping families navigate PCS paperwork, the clinic's one-tech operation delivers comprehensive care tailored to island life. Milefor-mile, it may be the most remote vet clinic many pet owners will ever visit — and for the animals of Kwajalein, it makes all the difference.



Hours of Operation

TUESDAYS - SATURDAYS 07:30 AM - 4:30 PM

> **Lunch Break** 11:30 - 12:30

Call the Kwajalein Veterinary Clinic to schedule your appointment or e-mail

480-2017



KwajVetClinic@gov2x.com





Front Cover: Caring for Carlos By Sherman Hogue

Back Cover: Roi Ferry Departure By Annette Monk

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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Media Capture	



PETS - The ETP paperwork continues staffing and routing through USARPAC and Transportation Command.

MWR Sales System - The MWR team has recently added a Point-of-Sale System to make purchases faster while at public events. You may have seen this at the tree lighting ceremony when you could purchase food with a credit card. This will be available during the New Years events too.

Access Control Policy will be strictly enforced, particularly concerning timely returns to Ebeye from Kwajalein. Individuals will have a maximum 10-minute grace period before receiving a ticket, and repeated violations could result in being banned from entry. Thank you for sharing this important policy update. Full 190-10 here.

Zamperini DFAC Remodel - The DFAC in

the LSA area is planned to open towards the early Jan. After a month of overlap, the first half of the Zamperini dining area will close for remodel.

Next Vet Visit - The Veterinarian will be on island from Jan 9 - 20. To schedule appointments for your furry family call 480-2017 or email: @Kwajalein Veterinary Clinic



HAZMAT Items - Household hazardous waste:

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

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

DSC ATM - The DSC ATM work is tied to additional USACE and other conduit work. This work is currently scheduled to be completed in January.

Newcomers – The next Newcomers Orientation is scheduled January 27, 2026. Work continues to refine the Newcomers program to ensure the necessary information is presented and passed on to those on their way and currently living on Kwajalein Atoll. More details to follow.

Bakery – The bakery has adjusted and added some items to the menu. Give them a visit to see what they have rolled out for us.

DSC Grab and Go — Starting soon, the bakery will be testing out an annex to expand the reach of provided food services on Kwajalein Atoll by setting up a grab and go shop in the old American Eatery in the DSC.



Drive with Care - For the safety of everyone on our island roads, we urge all early morning commuters to exercise caution when driving in the dark. Please share the road with bike commuters and pedestrians. To ensure you are visible to others, use your low-beam headlights.

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. You will be ticketed if found in violation.

The Roller on Youtube — Did you know the

Roller is on Youtube? Check it out: <u>U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll</u> <u>Live Stream</u>

Bird Deterrents - Bird Deterrents at Kwajalein airfield will soon be turned on to aid in reducing the possibility of bird strikes.

House Inspections - USAG-KA will be inspecting

Dec. 20th: 442,444,446,448,450,452,454,456 Dec. 23rd: 429,431,433,435,437,439,451,453

Catch the Airwaves - For music and info

Kwajalein: 99.9^{FM}/102.1^{FM}/104.1^{FM}, Roi-Namur 97.9^{FM} – Roi Rat Radio



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

Go to ARMA: <u>ARMAhttps://www.armymaintenance.com/arma</u>
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.

AAFES is Hiring - at www.applymyexchange.com

Containers - Do you have a container on the Atoll?

Matson, Company Storage, or even boat yard. DPW needs to know.

Email: <u>usarmy.bucholz.smdc.list.shipping-receiving@army.mil</u>

AAFES Stores - The AAFES stores on Kwaj and Roi will be closed on Christmas day. Plan Accordingly.

Air filters in Housing- Are you checking your air filters monthly and changing out when needed? Every three months is best. Air filters are available at Self Help Building 1791, 480-4990.



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 - Events can be found on Kwajalein Community Events FB

- Pallet Trees Pallet Tree Lot is Open, Voting for best decorated "trees" has been extended to 28 Dec. Pallet Trees are on Lagoon Rd, in front of Brandon Field.
- Ugly Holiday T-Shirt Party Dec 20th 8pm Oceanview
- SCUBA Santa and Boat Parade Dec 21st 6:30pm Emon
- Christmas Dec 25th Earth
- New Years Eve Kwaj Dec 31st Emon 5-8:30pm followed by the Adult festivities at the Oceanview till 1am.
 - New Years Eve Roi Dec 31st Outrigger 5-8:30pm fireworks at 8pm.

Have an upcoming event? Email <u>usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usaka-pao@army.mil</u> to get the word out or to be added to the mailing list.

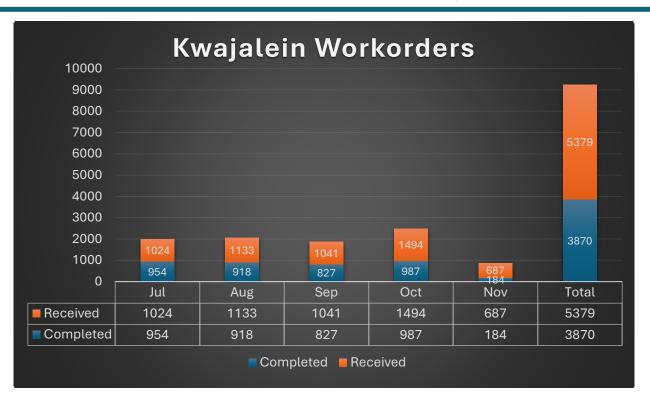


USACE Projects

- 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



e Environmental Stewards



Trash may be found strewn all over the island, especially on beaches. Make sure to dispose of all trash in the appropriate trash receptacle. If you see trash, pick it up. Let's keep this island clean. Let's be good Environmental Stewards. If not you, then who?

Nien kobej ko komaron loi ibelaak in jukukin bed in, elaptata ilo beach ko. Kajjeon julak aolep kobej ko ilo nien kobej ko. Ne kwoj elolo kobej, boke. Jen debij wot erreo an aelon in. Jen koman bwe kejooj en rikejbarok jukjuk in bed in. Ne eban kwe? Enaj won?



ALWAYS CALL...

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





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

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.

Dump standing water





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 occonuts should also be stacked up next to the bins for removal by horizontal maintenance personnel.



Driver's Training & Licensing Program V2X



Kwajalein Classes

Dates: Wednesdays Only

Times: 9 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 3 p.m.

Location: Automotive Area, Bldg. 856, Rm.

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* Please email wilson.kaisha@gov2x.com & <u>audrey.hughes@gov2x.com</u> to register. Class size is limited and by appointment only.

Roi Classes

Dates: 2nd Friday of the Month Times: 9-11 am & 1-3 pm Location: C-Building

Note: Bring a valid US, International, or Marshall Islands License with you to class

SCHEDULED TEST DRIVES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL NEW LICENSES, EXPIRED LICENSES, AND LICENSING RENEWALS



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



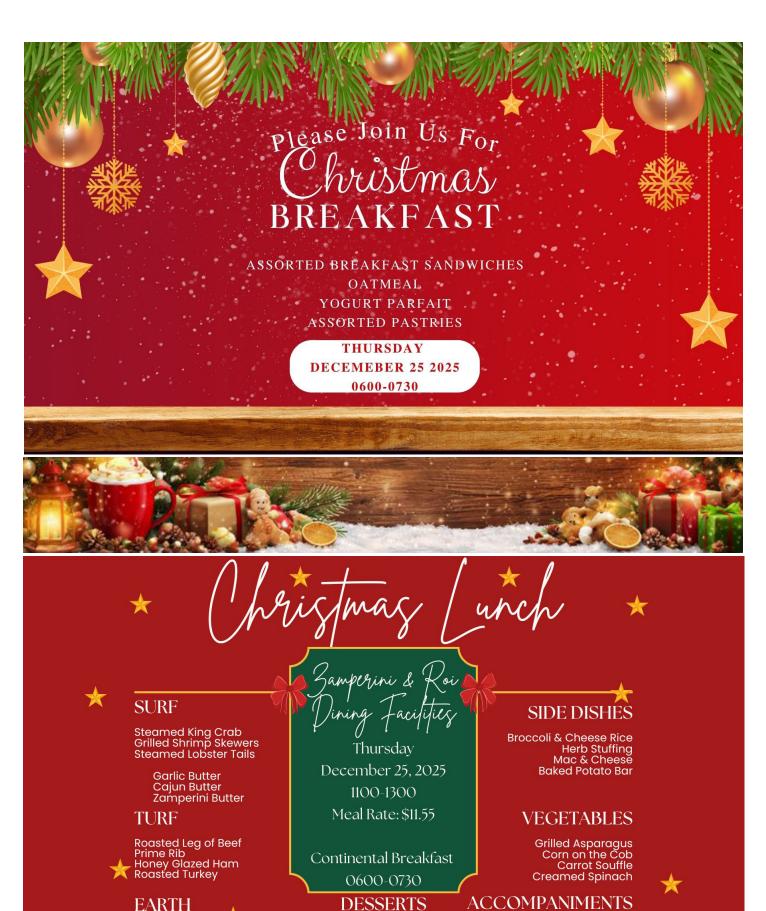
Kwajalein Reclaimed Water Standard Violation

The Reclaimed Water System Document of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires public notification when the standards for reclaimed water are not met. On 3 November 2025, the chlorine residual in the entry point to the distribution system measured below the 1 mg/L standard. On 13 and 16 November 2025, the pH in the distribution system exceeded the 9 pH standard. During 12-23 November 2025, the 7-day rolling turbidity average in the reclaimed water system entry point to the f distribution system and within the distribution system measured above the 2.0 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs) standard. Turbidity is the cloudiness or haziness of a liquid caused by particles that are generally invisible to the naked eye. These exceedances were attributed to maintenance activities on the reclaimed water storage tanks. Since reclaimed water is non-potable, no health-based restrictions on the normal use (irrigation, vehicle washing, etc) of reclaimed water are necessary. There is no threat to public health or the environment resulting from these exceedances. Questions? Contact V2X Environmental at 480-0722.

Jorraan Eo Ilo Reclaimed Water System Eo Ion Kwajalein

Ekkar non Reclaimed Water System Document eo an Environmental Protection/ak naetan (DEP) aikuj bwe en karon jukjuk in ped in elane jikin liklik dren ejjab tobar jonak ko. Ilo November 3, 2025, kar chlorine eo ekar drelon lok im ajjej iloan jikin liklik in jonak eo ej lalin 1mg/L standard eo. Ilo 13 im 16 November 2025, pH eo ilo ej kalikkar ke ekar tobar 9 pH standard. Iloan 12-23 November 2025, 7-ran an edroulol average in turbidity eo ilo jikin jikin liklik drren eo iloan driwojlok jen system in ilon lok 2.0 Nephelometiric Turbidity Unit (NTU) Standard. Turbidity in ekomman bwe en laplok an tap ak ettoon dren in ilo an koman kiij ko jeban loi. Jokjok in ewalok ekomon bwe jerbal in etale ko ilo jikin liklik dren eo ilo storage tank ko. Jikin liklik dren in ej non-portable, ejjab jelet ejmour non karon im rejan ikkijeen kojerbal dren in (non wutdrikdrik, kwali waa ko, im jerbal ko eirlokwot) non aikuij ko jet. Jokjok in eban jelet ejmour ak jukjukin bed in iloan alikkar ilo ekatak kein. Kajitok/kir V2X Environmental ilo 480-0722.





Assorted Cakes Assorted Pies Assorted Cookies Cobblers Banana Pudding

ACCOMPANIMENTS

Salad Bar Cranberry Sauce Gravies

Roasted Tofurkey w/ Gravy Plant Based Ham w/

Orange Cranberry Glaze Vegan Steaks









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







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 adver-

tisements 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. Walkin 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 jabdwot 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







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!

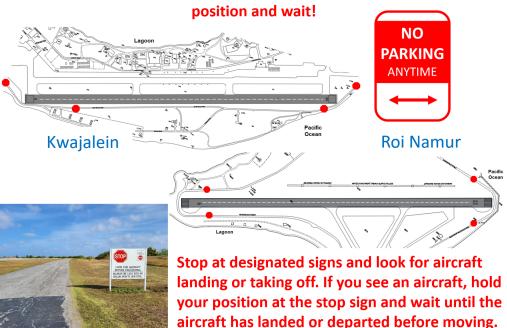
Contact Alana Wilson at alana.wilson@redcross.org

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



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



NOW SHOWING at the YUK THEATER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 "Elf" (2003) (PG) 97 min.

Showing downtown during Tree Lighting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

"Home Alone" (1990) (PG) 103 min.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

"Polar Express" (2004) (G) 100 min.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

"The Grinch" (2018) (PG) 85 min.

SATURDAY. DECEMBER 20

"It's a Wonderful Life" (1946) (PG) 130 min.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

"Scrooged" (1988) (PG-13) 101 min.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

"A Christmas Carol" (2009) (PG) 96 min.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

"The Christmas" (2007) (PG-13) 117 min.



All showtimes start at 7:30 p.m.



WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Discussion:

For December so far, we received only 0.38 inches, putting us 2.62 inches below normal. So far in 2025,

we have only received about 72.2 inches of precipitation, which is 16 inches below normal for the year. We are in a generally dry pattern with a bump in shower coverage this weekend due to perturbations in the speed of the trade winds. 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 minimal for the next seven days as conditions throughout the vertical atmospheric column will be neutral to negative for their

development. The Madden/Julian Oscillation's (MJO) is weakening and becoming negative for the RMI which will generally have arepressing effect on widespread shower coverage over our area. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) will remain well established, to far south to increase our shower coverage, but well positioned to induce a tight pressure gradient 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 and Winds:

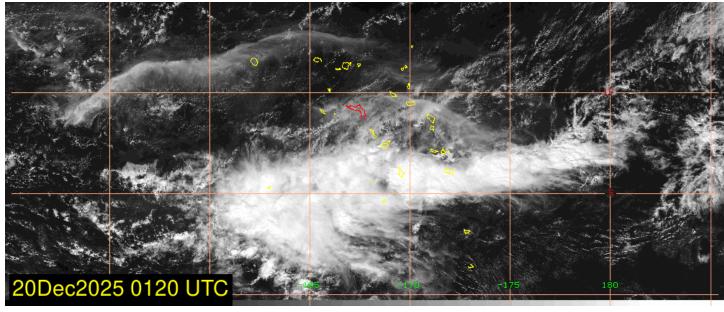
The new moon will be on Saturday with peak high tides of 4.2 feet around this time. Winds: will stay strong at about 20 knots for the rest of the day to about 24 knots on the open lagoon. Starting tomorrow, they will gradually start to decline back to the mid-teens on Saturday with a further decrease to the lower teens to upper single digits for the weekend. Tuesday will feel winds only in single digits actually becoming nearly calm for short periods.

A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) will be in effect for the open lagoon only for all of today with the conditions ceasing by about noon tomorrow. We will be watching the second half of the 23rd for some long period swells out of the north at Roi-Namur for a High Surf Advisory (HSA) potential.

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 Kwaialein region that occur between the weekly outlook product. \blacktriangledown





WEATHER

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Decreasing winds and increasing shower coverage are expected across Kwajalein Atoll heading into the weekend. A weakening subtropical ridge to the north will allow the pressure gradient to relax, resulting in steadily decreasing wind speeds beginning Saturday and continuing through the weekend. As the ridge weakens, the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) will shift northward over the atoll, leading to lighter winds and periods of increased shower coverage. On Saturday, northeast winds will ease from the mid-teens to the upper single digits. By Sunday, an atmospheric wave embedded within the ITCZ will bring gentle east-southeasterly winds. By Monday, winds may further diminish to near-calm conditions. Occasional isolated showers are expected throughout the period as atmospheric moisture increases with the ITCZ lifting over the atoll.

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy isolated showers. Winds NE-E at 11-16

knots with higher gusts near showers.

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 9-14 knots with higher gusts near showers.

SUNDAY

Partly sunny with stray to isolated showers. Winds ENE-ESE at 6-11 knots with higher gusts near showers.

MONDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers in the morning, becoming partly sunny with stray showers by afternoon. Winds will be light and variable with periods of calm, with higher gusts near showers.

NEXT WEEK

Conditions will dry out next week as subtropical high pressure to the north reestablishes over the region. As a result, the ITCZ will become disorganized and northeast trade winds will redevelop in the upper single digits to start the workweek. By midweek, the ITCZ is expected to rebuild over the southern RMI, tightening the pressure gradient over Kwajalein

Atoll and leading to breezier conditions in the midteens through the latter half of the week. **Y**





	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	6:59 a.m. 6:36 p.m.	7:43 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	4:53 a.m. 3.0' 5:00 p.m. 4.2'	10:37 a.m0.2 11:31 p.m0.4
MONDAY	6:59 a.m. 6:36 p.m.	8:34 a.m. 8:24 p.m.	5:25 a.m. 3.0' 5:32 p.m. 4.2'	11:10 a.m0.2
TUESDAY	7:00 a.m. 6:37 p.m.	9:21 a.m. 9:15 p.m.	5:58 a.m. 3.0' 6:06 p.m. 4.2'	12:03 a.m0.4 11:43 a.m0.1
WEDNESDAY	7:00 a.m. 6:37 p.m.	10:06 a.m. 10:06 p.m.	6:33 a.m. 2.9' 6:41 p.m. 4.0'	12:37 a.m0.2' 12:18 p.m. 0.1'
THURSDAY	7:01 a.m. 6:38 p.m.	10:48 a.m. 10:54 p.m.	7:11 a.m. 2.9' 7:19 p.m. 3.8'	1:13 a.m0.1' 12:57 p.m. 0.3'
FRIDAY	7:01 a.m. 6:38 p.m.	11:29 a.m. 11:43 p.m.	7:56 a.m. 2.8' 8:03 p.m. 3.6'	1:53 a.m. 0.1' 1:43 p.m. 0.6'
DECEMBER 27	7:01 a.m. 6:39 p.m.	12:09 p.m.	8:53 a.m. 2.8' 8:57 p.m. 3.2'	2:39 a.m. 0.3' 2:43 p.m. 0.8'

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ISLAND LIFE AND ARMY REGULATIONS, PLEASE CALL THE COMMANDER'S HOTLINE AT 480-1098. FOLLOW THE USAG-KA FACEBOOK PAGE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION AND UPDATES REGARDING SAFETY INFORMATION, EVENTS, AND OFFICIAL COMMAND ACTIVITIES.



