

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 04

JANUARY 24, 2026

THE KWAJALEN HOURGLASS





PHOTOS BY ANNETTE MONK

COMMUNITY

CREATING WITH ANCHORED INTENTION: THE 2ND ANNUAL VISIONBOARD WORKSHOP

HOURLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Hourglass Staff Writer

On the peaceful lagoon side of Kwajalein, where gentle ocean breezes meet sweeping blue views and a towering, weather-worn anchor stands watch along the shore, ten participants gathered for an experience grounded in reflection, intention, and renewal. The 2nd Annual Vision Board Workshop, hosted by Annalise Castillo, was more than a creative gathering. It was a thoughtfully curated space to slow down, look inward, and consciously step toward 2026 with clarity and purpose.

The morning began with grounding yoga movements designed to relax the body

and quiet the mind. As the sun shimmered across the lagoon, participants were invited to settle into the moment, creating a calm foundation for the reflective work ahead. This gentle opening set the tone for a session that balanced movement, mindfulness, and creativity.

From there, the group transitioned into a gratitude and reflection circle, an intentional pause to honor the year that was. Each participant shared moments they were thankful for from 2025, creating what Annalise described as one of the most powerful moments of the workshop. "Giving everyone the space to be heard created such a connected energy at the table," she shared. "It always reminds

me how transformative it can be to not only reflect but also witness one another."

Participants were then guided through a cleansing exercise, naming what they wished to leave behind in 2025 to create a clean slate for the year ahead. Old narratives, habits, and self-doubt were acknowledged and gently released, making room for more intentional internal dialogue. This naturally led into a deeper exploration of the inner narratives that the participants wanted to cultivate throughout 2026—stories rooted in confidence, balance, self-trust, and growth.

With reflections completed, creativity took center stage. Tables filled with magazines, catalogs, person-

al photos, printed images, drawings, artwork, and inspirational quotes became the raw materials for each vision board. Poster boards slowly transformed into visual representations of hopes, goals, and feelings participants wished to embody. Laughter, quiet focus, and meaningful conversation flowed easily, enhanced by the serene lagoon backdrop.

For returning participant Lexie Brown, the impact of last year's vision board was undeniable. "What helped me stay the most committed was hanging my vision board on my fridge," she shared. "Seeing it every day made all the difference." One of her proudest accomplishments was fulfilling the adventure

goals she had visualized, including swimming from Alcatraz Island to the San Francisco shore and snorkeling with sharks in the Galapagos. “It pushed me outside of my comfort zone and gave me these incredible experiences,” she said.

Lexie credits Annalise’s workshops with helping participants reframe the narratives they tell themselves. “We are capable of so much,” she reflected. Returning this year, her approach was rooted in growth—building upon what she learned and focusing on areas she wanted to continue developing. “This workshop is such a highlight of the new year. I always look forward to it.”

Another returning participant, Sandee Colby, shared a powerful story of transformation. Her previous vision board focused on health and financial goals — goals she not only achieved but exceeded. “I lost 70 pounds,” she said, attributing part of her success to keeping her vision board visible at her desk. “It kept that goal front and cen-

ter all year long.” By moving more, joining fitness classes, and leaning on a supportive community, Sandee created lasting change. Financial goals she once set “just to move in the right direction” were surpassed, reinforcing her belief in the power of intention and repetition. This year, Sandee embraced flexibility, choosing to keep her adventure goals more open-ended. “I like the idea of the unknown,” she shared, excited to see where the year leads as she continues her fitness journey with weightlifting and professional training.

For first-time participant Diana Mosenge, the workshop aligned perfectly with her personal theme for 2026: Intentionality. “I wanted to take advantage of every opportunity to make 2026 even more meaningful than 2025,” she explained. Living on Kwajalein has shifted how she connects with loved ones, inspiring goals centered on deeper relationships with handwritten letters, voice notes, and video messages. Her board also reflected



balance and curiosity, with aspirations to return to hobbies, earn her boat captain's license, and complete her diver certification. "The environment imbued gratitude," Diana said. "Hearing others share their reflections and intentions, then turning a blank canvas into something meaningful, was incredibly gratifying."

At the heart of the workshop was Annalise's philosophy of goal-setting—one that prioritizes feeling over form. "I approach goal setting by starting with how I want to feel, rather than what I want to accomplish," she shared. This approach shaped every element of the experience, encouraging participants to

move through the year with aligned, intentional action rather than pressure. "The vision board isn't the magnet," she reminded the group. "You are. The board simply helps train your attention toward what matters most."

As the session ended, participants left not only with beautiful, tangible vision boards but with something deeper: clarity, connection, and a renewed sense of inner alignment. Against the tranquil backdrop of the Kwajalein lagoon, the 2nd Annual Vision Board Workshop served as a powerful reminder that when intention meets community, transformation feels both possible—and inevitable. ▾





Front Cover: CREATIVE ANCHORS BY ANNETTE MONK

Back Cover: ROI'S PEAKING SUN AND TREE BEND 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.

Contents of the Hourglass are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of War, Department of the Army or USAG-KA. It is published Saturdays in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1.
Phone: Defense Switching Network: 315-480-5169
Local phone: 480-5169

Garrison Commander.....Col. Matthew Cannon
Garrison CSM.....Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley Jackson
Public Affairs Officer.....Sherman Hogue
Editor.....Muhammad Rasheed
Communications Specialist, Sr.....Isaiah Matthews
Communications Specialist.....Stephen Elson
Communications Specialist.....Anthony Carnelli
Story Writer.....Annette Monk
Story Writer.....Christy Wagnon
Media Capture.....Raneesh Thiruvareth



IMAGE BY KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS STAFF

ABOVE: Artist's depiction of AJ flying over Kwajalein.

COMMUNITY

FROM IT TO THE SKIES | AJ BROOKS

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Anthony Carnelli**,
Hourglass Story Writer

For AJ Brooks, a systems support specialist on Kwajalein, the daily sight of aircraft touching down on the island's runway has long stirred something deeper than casual curiosity. Now, he's channeling that fascination into action, working toward his Private Pilot License while balancing a demanding IT career.

"I've always been fascinated with aviation — the precision, discipline, and freedom of flight," Brooks said. "Living on Kwajalein, watching aircraft operate daily in such a unique environment, reinforced that passion and motivated me to pursue aviation seriously."

Brooks currently serves as a systems support specialist on

Kwajalein: providing technical support, system upgrades, network improvements and IT infrastructure maintenance across multiple departments and schools on island. It's detail-oriented work that requires quick thinking and adherence to protocol — skills that translate directly to the cockpit.

"My IT role has strengthened skills that directly benefit aviation, such as attention to detail, situational awareness, troubleshooting under pressure, adherence to procedure, and strong communication," Brooks said. "Aviation relies on these same qualities, making the transition both natural and exciting."

The path to becoming a licensed pilot involves several steps. Aspiring aviators must complete formal ground school, pass a written Federal Aviation Administration knowledge exam, and log hands-on flight training

with a certified instructor. A medical evaluation is also required, and the process culminates in a check ride with an FAA examiner to demonstrate proficiency.

Brooks is pursuing his Private Pilot License (PPL), the foundational certification that allows pilots to fly single-engine aircraft for personal and recreational use. The FAA requires a minimum of 40 flight hours, though most students complete between 60 and 70 hours before they're ready for their check ride.

The full training program typically takes six to 12 months — depending on scheduling, aircraft availability and weather conditions. However, the timeline can vary based on how often a student can fly and study.

While Kwajalein doesn't currently offer full PPL training, Brooks is making the most of available resources.

"I can complete ground school and simulator practice here, and I'll finish the required flight hours through a certified training provider off-island," he said.

Looking ahead, Brooks sees aviation as more than a hobby.

"My goal is to eventually fly charter and inter-island routes, and potentially move into commercial aviation," he said. "Flying for personal enjoyment will always be part of it, but I ultimately want aviation to become a professional pathway for me."

For island residents who share similar dreams, Brooks's journey demonstrates that geographic isolation doesn't have to have just ground ambition. With determination, the right preparation and a willingness to complete training off-island, the runway to a pilot's license or other extracurricular pursuits remains within reach. ✕



📷 COURTESY PHOTOS

COMMUNITY

THE INVISIBLE ENGINE: HOW TRADE WINDS SHAPE THE CLIMATE ON KWAJALEIN

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Anthony Carnelli**,
Hourglass Story Writer

Stand on the oceanside of Kwajalein on almost any day, especially during the dry season, and you'll feel it — a steady, warm wind flowing in from the northeast, carrying the scent of salt and the sound of waves breaking over the reef. That wind has swept across the surrounding islands for thousands of years — long before the first Marshallese navigators read its patterns to travel between atolls — and long before European traders named it for the routes it helped create.

The trade winds are Kwajalein's constant companion — shaping everything from daily temperatures to the very contours of the land beneath our feet.

What Are Trade Winds?

Trade winds are steady, east-to-west winds that blow across the tropics of the Pacific, roughly between 27

degrees north and 27 degrees south latitude. In the Northern Hemisphere they blow from the northeast. In the Southern Hemisphere — from the southeast. Unlike local breezes that shift direction daily or storm systems that come and go, trade winds maintain their course for months at a time.

The mechanics are straightforward — near the equator, direct sunlight heats the air intensely. That warm air rises and spreads outward high in the atmosphere, eventually cooling and descending around 30 degrees latitude. As air rushes in to replace what's rising near the equator, Earth's rotation deflects it, creating the characteristic northeast-to-southwest flow we experience here.

"If the Earth didn't spin, we'd just have winds blowing straight north-south between high and low pressure," said Aaron Brundridge Chief Meteorologist on Kwajalein.

Brundridge further explained that the winds don't move north-south due to the Coriolis effect, which is when anything moving across the Earth's surface-like air or water gets nudged or curved off to the side due to the spinning of the earth.

"Because the planet is spinning, it pushes moving air a little to the right in the Northern Hemisphere. That small push is what bends those straight winds and turns them into the northeast trade winds we feel here."

"But because the planet does spin, the Coriolis effect deflects that air to the right in the Northern Hemisphere. That deflection is what turns those 'straight' winds into the northeast trade winds we feel here."

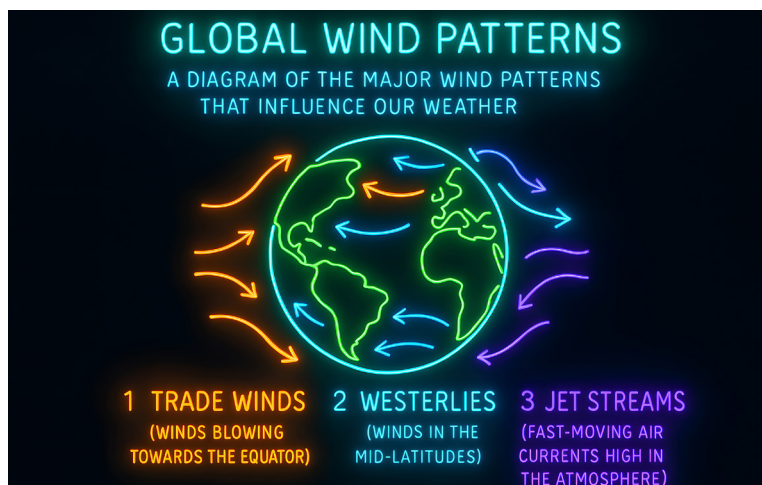
Kwajalein's Natural Thermostat

For residents accustomed to dramatic seasonal swings elsewhere, Kwajalein's climate can feel almost impos-

sibly stable. Temperatures hover in the low-to-mid 80s year-round, rarely climbing into the 90s or dipping below the upper 70s. The trade winds deserve much of the credit.

The constant breeze pushes warm surface water away from the atoll, allowing cooler water from below to mix upward. That ocean-atmosphere exchange prevents the surrounding seas from overheating, which in turn moderates air temperatures. The winds also accelerate evaporation from the ocean surface — a cooling process that carries heat energy away.

On a large mainland body like the U.S. or Australia, competing forces — mountain ranges, large forests, shifting pressure systems — create complex and variable weather patterns. Kwajalein has none of those. Sitting in the middle of the Pacific with virtually no landmass to generate alternative weather sys-



tems, the atoll relies almost entirely on the trade winds to regulate its climate.

Two Seasons, One Driver

Kwajalein's wet and dry seasons are governed by the movement of the ITCZ, or Intertropical Convergence Zone — a belt of rising air and heavy rain that circles the globe near the equator. Brundridge describes it as a "snake of rain and thunderstorms stretching across the Pacific."

From June to early December, the ITCZ stays near or over the Marshall Islands. Air flows inward from different directions and rises, which leads to lighter surface winds and frequent rain showers. From December to June, the ITCZ shifts farther south, leaving Kwajalein under drier, sinking air. This lets high-pressure systems over the North Pacific move closer and strengthen the trade winds. Because of this pattern, the Marshall Islands are classified as having a tropical trade-wind climate."

"When the ITCZ is near or over the Marshall Islands, we're under that area of rising air and deep clouds, so we get more rain and weaker surface winds," Brundridge said. "When it's to our south, we're under the descending, drier air and stronger trade winds."

Kwajalein receives roughly 94 inches of rain annually — more than double what Washington, D.C. or Seattle, Washington sees. Yet even the driest month, around February, averages about 3.3

inches, comparable to a fairly wet month in San Diego, California.

When the Pattern Breaks

El Niño and La Niña can reshape the trade winds across the Pacific — and when the trade winds change, rainfall patterns and storm behavior can shift with them. El Niño occurs when the eastern tropical Pacific becomes unusually warm; La Niña is the reverse, with cooler-than-normal conditions in that same broad region.

During El Niño, those warmer-than-normal waters and the pressure patterns tied to them can extend into the central and eastern tropical Pacific — roughly east of about 160°E longitude and stretching toward the west coast of South America. Because the Marshall Islands sit just far enough east to fall on the western edge of that influence, the most important local signal isn't always a simple "wet vs. dry" outcome. In many cases, rainfall in this part of the tropical Pacific can be near normal or even above normal, while the bigger concern is how El Niño alters trade-wind speeds at different latitudes in ways that can increase the regional typhoon risk for the RMI.

During La Niña, cooler-than-normal water can set up between the Marshall Islands and the International Date Line to our east. With less heat energy available at the ocean surface in that corridor, the atmosphere has less

fuel to build and maintain clouds and showers, which can have an adverse effect on rainfall — meaning totals can trend lower than normal.

Trade winds help regulate both rainfall and sea levels around the atoll. When these winds weaken or shift, Kwajalein can experience drier conditions and higher seas at the same time — stressing freshwater supplies while also increasing flood risk.

Shaping the Islands

The trade winds have helped shape Kwajalein Atoll over millennia. The waves they generate transport sand and coral rubble, depositing material in areas of lower wave energy and sculpting spits, islets and features across the atoll.

Strong trade wind surges, which are sustained winds in the low-to-mid 20-knot (23 miles-per-hour) range, can create substantial coastal impacts. When those winds coincide with a full moon and long-period ocean swells from distant North Pacific storms, conditions align for splash-over and occasional overtopping along exposed shorelines.

"While 22 to 25 knots isn't enough to knock down palm trees, the duration and the way those winds pile water against the islands matter," Brundridge said.

The Price of Paradise

Anyone who has lived on Kwajalein or surrounding islands knows the relentless battle against corrosion. The

trade winds play a direct role, constantly carrying salt spray inland from the reef and open ocean.

"Any time winds are above roughly 10 to 12 knots, which is most of the time, that spray is sandblasting buildings, vehicles and infrastructure with salt and minerals," Brundridge noted. Over years and decades, that constant exposure crusts windows and frames, rusts metal fixtures and forces constant maintenance.

In terms of climate change concerns — the Marshall Islands sit in a naturally stable part of the atmosphere, where the layer that drives weather is thicker than in cooler regions. That added depth helps soften the effects of climate shifts compared to higher latitudes. The trade wind patterns that have shaped life here for millennia show remarkable persistence. From a forecasting perspective, they remain relatively predictable, driven by large-scale pressure systems that weather models capture well.

However, there is concern that the atoll still can be directly impacted because of how climate change could influence sea level, storm paths and ocean swells.

"The worry is less 'will the atoll disappear geologically' and more 'will sea-level rise outpace coral growth and make human infrastructure unworkable,'" Brundridge said.

For now, the northeast trade winds keep blowing as they have for centuries: cooling the air, driving the rain, sculpting the sand and carrying that familiar smell of salt. They are the invisible engine that makes life here not just possible, but remarkably temperate. Step outside on any afternoon, face the breeze and feel the same wind that guided the first Pacific voyagers to these shores long ago. ▼



PHOTO BY ISAIAH MATTHEWS

COMMUNITY

STEPHANIE BROWN: MWR'S NEWEST SPARK OF ENERGY ON KWAJALEIN

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Isaiah Matthews,**
Hourglass Story Writer

After more than three years serving the Kwajalein community as an Education Specialist with Child and Youth Services, Stephanie Brown is taking on a new challenge — and a new stage. As the island's newest Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Technician, Brown is stepping into a role that blends organization, creativity, and connection, all aimed at keeping the community engaged and uplifted.

"I felt like I was ready for a change — ready for something different in my career," Brown said with a smile. "This felt like the perfect opportunity."

For Brown, the move to MWR isn't just a career shift — it's a homecoming. She grew up on Kwajalein and spent her childhood attending the same events she now helps plan and manage. Those memories are part of what drew her to the position.

"I went to all the MWR events as a kid," she said. "It's

exciting to be part of creating those experiences now. It feels full-circle."

In her first week on the job, Brown dove headfirst into the upcoming holiday season, assisting with the Christmas events, tree lighting, and the popular Ugly Sweater Party at Oceanview. She's been learning from veteran MWR lead, Tina Carmichael, and immersing herself in every part of the operation — from logistics and setup to sound checks and decorations.

"It's been a blast," Brown said. "I've pretty much attached myself to Tina and just tried to learn everything — how each department connects and what it takes to make an event happen."

Her athletic background — Brown plays basketball, soccer, and sometimes volleyball — gives her an extra edge as she prepares to help with sports programming in the months ahead.

"I like to stay active," she said. "So being able to work with sports programs and maybe pick up a few shifts at Oceanview makes the role even more fun."

Beyond the events, Brown has already noticed the sense of camaraderie within the MWR team, especially the morning routine that begins with a group prayer and a quick stretch.

"It's really nice to start the day that way," she said. "It helps set a positive tone and reminds us that we're all working together."

Brown's favorite part of MWR so far has been the energy — both behind the scenes and out in the community. Seeing residents enjoy something she helped plan is what motivates her most.

"Watching everyone come together, smiling, laughing, having a good time — that's the best part," she said. "It makes all the effort worth it."

As for her goals, Brown says she's focused on learning the ropes and finding where she fits best within MWR's wide range of programs. But one thing's for sure: she's bringing the same enthusiasm that made her a standout in CYS to her new role in community engagement.

"I'm just excited to help

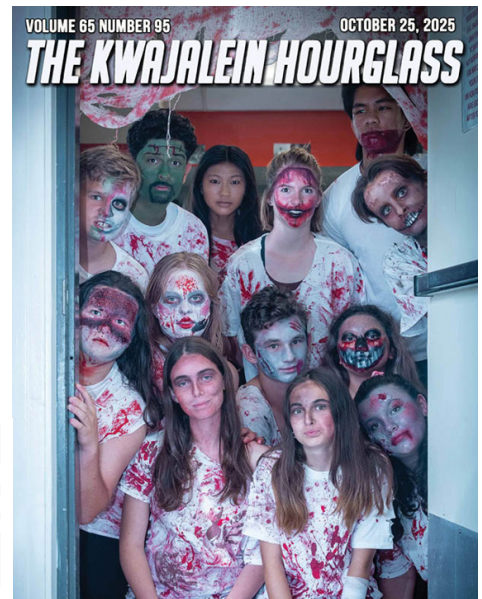
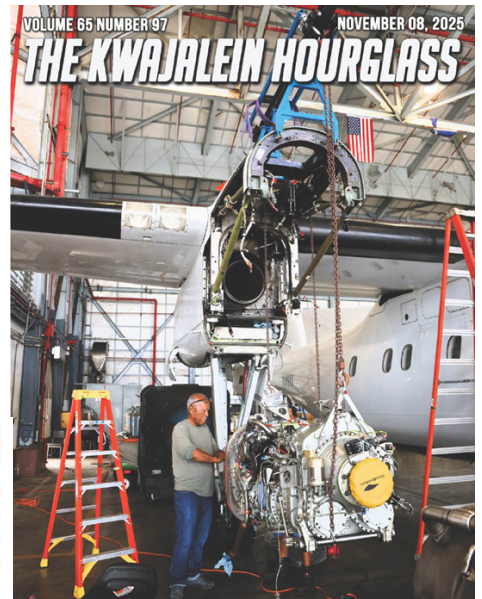
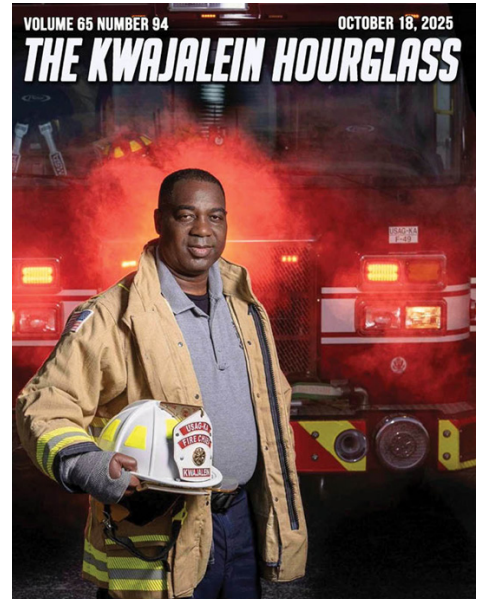
out wherever I can," she said. "Whether it's decorating, running events, or jumping in on last-minute details — I want to make sure the community has fun and feels connected."

When she's not working, Brown can often be found swimming, running, or doing yoga — or training for the next RustMan Triathlon, which she completed last year. Her love for the island and its people shines through in every word.

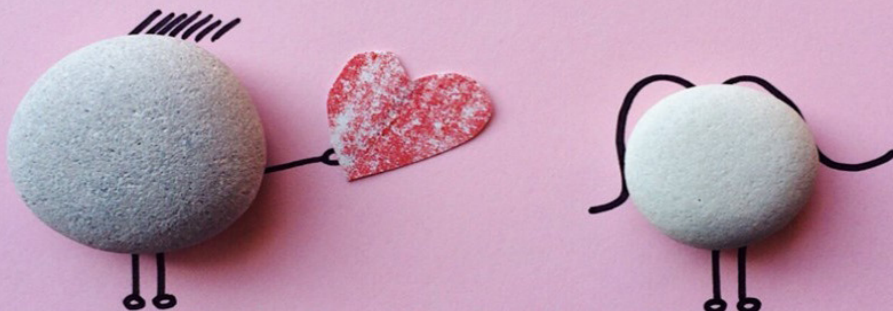
"Kwaj is such a special place," she said. "I had the best childhood here, and now I get to help create those same memories for other families. That's what makes this job so meaningful."

As Kwajalein's MWR gears up for another season of community events, one thing's clear — with Stephanie Brown joining the team, the future looks bright, energetic, and full of heart, brings joy to the community, especially children. ▲

Catch Up On Missing Back Issues Furloughed Kwajalein



Sweetheart Relay 2026



Join in on another fun Kwaj tradition for all ages!
Create a team for a unique twist on the 4x1 mile relay.

Monday, February 2, check in by 8:45 AM outside library

Pre-registration is necessary by Saturday, January 31

Contact Bob or Jane Sholar at 480-0704 or janesholar@gmail.com



Tried to STOP, But You
Can't

Has Alcohol become an
OBSESSION

There is a Solution to
the Problem with Alcohol

**REACH OUT FOR
HELP**

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

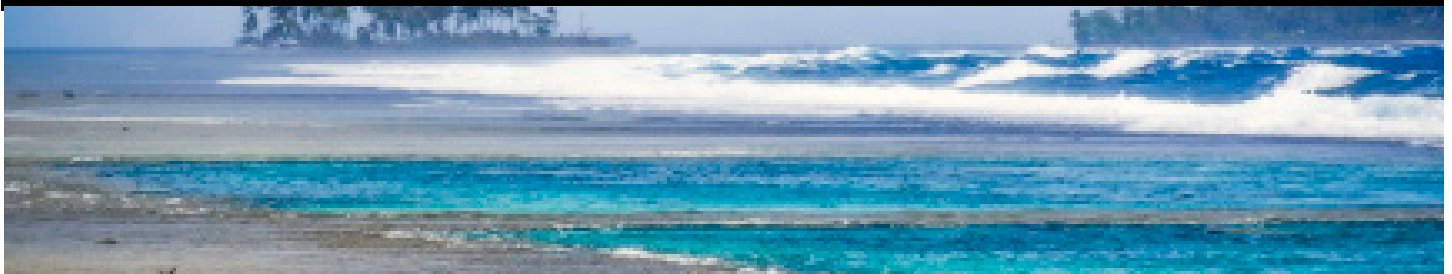
ROOM 214 KWAJ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
BUILDING (UPSTAIRS)

BUILDING #671

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY

7PM-8PM

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: kwajchapel@gmail.com
OR CALL 480-2116

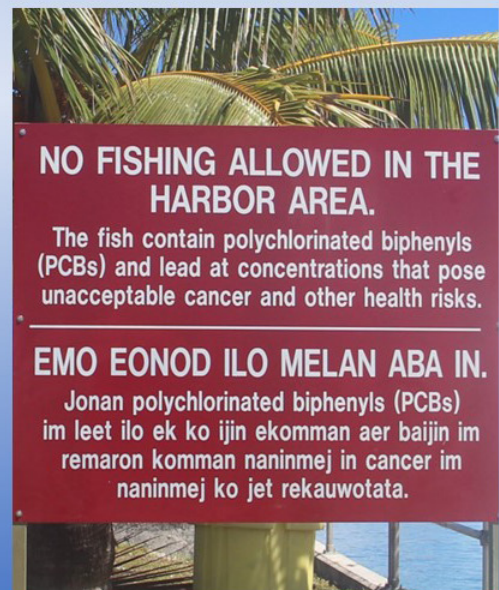


E-wareness: No Fishing Areas

Call 480-0722 for more info

No fishing areas exist at the Kwaj landfill and in the Kwaj, Meck, Roi, and Illeginni Harbors due to PCB and/or heavy metals contamination.

Ejjab melim enwod turin Kwaj landfill ak dump eo im bareinwot ob ko ion Kwaj, Meck, Roi, im Illeginni kin wot PCB im jonan lap in paijin ko ie rej walok jen metal ko.



ATTENTION...

Non-Potable Water Restriction

Non-potable water usage on Kwajalein has increased over the last month and is currently greater than we can sustain.

Please restrict irrigation of grass and plants to less than 30 minutes every other day during the dry season to conserve this limited resource. Please report any suspected water leaks to the Service Desk at 480-3550.

Call Stan at 480-4400 with any questions.



ALWAYS CALL...

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



**AMERICAN
LEGION**



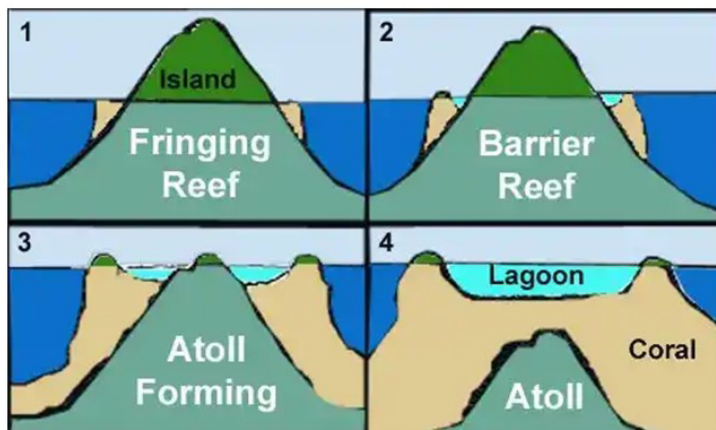
January 2026 American Legion Monthly meeting is POSTPONED

The next American Legion Monthly meeting will be Wednesday, February 11th.

Questions? Contact "American Legion Post 44-Kwajalein" on Facebook.



Atoll Formation



Atolls are formed from sunken volcanoes. Coral continues growing around, creating some of the most beautiful and biologically diverse habitats. Depending on their size and climate, atolls can take up to 30 million years to form.

Ene ko iloan aelon in rekar walok jen Volcano ko ibulen lojet. Wod ko ilojet ilo imetowan aelon in rej eddoklok ilo aer komman men ko reaiboujwoj ilo lojet eo. Bedbed wot kin jonon im oktak in mejatoto, aelon eo emaron bok 30 million yio non an eddoklok.

Kwaj Eyecare

 Dates: January 27th – February 17th

 Comprehensive Services Include:

- Eye Exams
- Treatment for Dry Eyes
- Management of Eye Diseases
- Glasses for All Ages

Contact Lenses (including multifocal options)

- Safety Frames and Lenses

 Call 480-2223 to schedule a visit.

 Visit us online: www.kwajeyes.com

 Email: drwtblack@aol.com

Or scan the QR code.



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

Kwajalein Island Trash & Recycling

Residential Trash Collection
Yard Vegetation Collection
Hazardous Waste Pickup Line

480-1760
480-1890
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.



Kwajalein /Roi-Namur 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.



Fogging Schedule

- 5:30-7:30 P.M.
- Roi Namur: January 30, 2026
- Kwajalein: - January 27, 2026, thru January 29, 2026
- 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

Do your part to eliminate mosquitoes:

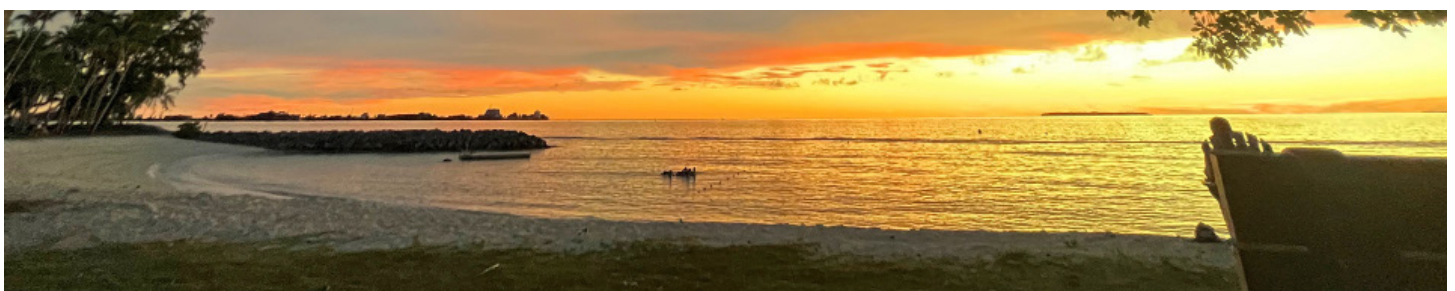
- Check for standing water where mosquitoes breed
- Dump any accumulated water at least weekly
- Manage vegetation and eliminate accumulated leaves

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.



Operation Flintlock 82 YEARS

January 31st, 2026

 **Heritage Ruck March**

6:30am from Emon

 **Themed Lunch in the DFAC**

11am to 1pm

 **Remembrance Ceremony**

6:30pm at the Memorial Chapel

8°43'N

Commemoration



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



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*



FOLLOW US AT THESE LOCATIONS



Click QR Code to jump to social page

Kwajalein



MIA Project

NEVER FORGET.

<https://kwajaleinmiaproject.us/>



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Upcoming Comms Outage- There will be an interruption of communications services on Feb 1st. from 10 pm to Feb 2nd 10 am. And again, from Feb 9th, 8pm to Feb 10th at 8am. This **WILL** affect Allied Telesis, GOV Networks and off island calls.

Flintlock 82- We will be commemorating the liberation of Kwajalein Atoll. Events occurring on Jan 31st will include:

Historical Ruck starting at 6:30am from Emon.

1940s Themed Lunch at both DFACs.

Remembrance Ceremony at the Memorial Island Chapel 6:30pm

Optometry Visit - The Optometrist will be here from 27 Jan to 17 Feb. Email www.kwajeyes.com to see the doctor.

Facility Manager - Would you like to be the Facility Manager for your BQ or Work building? Facility Managers aid the work orders and maintenance efforts around the Atoll. To get more info or sign-up email Naomi Halsey at: Naomi.Halsey@gov2x.com

BIG GAME Meal - The Zamperini DFAC will have an event focused meal along with the TVs tuned in for the upcoming BIG GAME. Lunch rate (\$7.25) from 11am-1pm and the dinner rate (\$6.25) from 1pm-3pm.

Rain - We are at 9" of rain so far this year, 5" above average.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Small Arms Range - Chenega will be conducting a range on 29 Jan from 8am to 12 noon. Please observe the RED FLAG hazard area.

Newcomers - Newcomers Orientation is scheduled for Jan 27, beginning at 9am in the REB.

Emon Beach Snack Shack? – There are discussion taking place to get a pulse on bringing back a snack shack to Emon Beach. If you have any thoughts, please send them to: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usaka-pao@army.mil

ATC - If you have not noticed, the old ATC Tower and structure have started shrinking. Just this past week the **cab** was removed: the tower “cab”, also known as the control room, is the heart of the air traffic control tower. It is where the tower controllers are stationed, overseeing and directing air traffic operations.

CIE - The next Community Information Exchange will be conducted February 12th, 6:30 in the Multi-Purpose room.

Life Support Areas (LSA) - We are replacing the legacy term “Man Camp” with LSA. New signs will be going in to name/identify each LSA to clarify the purpose of these spaces and to aid in emergency situations.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Drive with Care - For everyone's safety, we urge all commuters to exercise caution when driving. Please share the road with bike commuters and pedestrians.

Stop for Shuttles - When a shuttle or bus is dropping off or picking up passengers, do NOT Pass them in a vehicle!

Airfield STOPS!!!! - The airfield stop signs on the perimeter road are there for a reason! Come to a full stop look BOTH ways on the runway and in the sky to check for planes before proceeding. You will be ticketed if found in violation.

Private Boat Yard- While the efforts so far have been outstanding, please continue to clean up the private boat yard. Hazmat can be coordinated through the Small Boat Marina.

Yokwe Yuk Club - The skeleton of the old Yokwe Yuk club is due to begin demolition soon.

Zamperini DFAC Remodel - The DFAC in the LSA area will open Feb time frame. After a month of overlap, the first half of the Zamperini dining area will close for remodel.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Non-Potable Water Restriction –

Please limit non-potable water usage to less than 30 minutes a day during the dry season.

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

Keep Kwaj Clean – From your work to home we

need to all work diligently to keep our island home clean.

Misuse of vehicles – Work vehicles, even

contractor owned, are not permitted to be used for personal reasons: shopping, gym time etc etc.

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

HAZMAT Items – 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.



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

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 Roller on Youtube – Did you know the Roller is on Youtube? From the home page click on the Crest with the “LIVE” indicator on it. [U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll Live Stream](#)

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

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 – Then needs to be sent to the DSC Mailbox at: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-dsc@army.mil
- **Overnight Guests Form 480:**
https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/7617/6481/7510/Form_480_Overnight_Guests.pdf – Then emailed to E/E: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-e-e@army.mil



THE minute HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Events - Events can be found on Kwajalein Community Events FB

- **Operation Flintlock Display and Speaker** - Jan 30th at the MCC at 6:30pm
- **Operation Flintlock Events** - Jan 31
 - **Historical Ruck** - 6:15am step off from Emon Beach
 - **1940s Themed Lunch** at the DFACs
 - **Remembrance Ceremony** - 6:30pm Memorial Chapel
- **Sweetheart Run** - Feb 2nd
- **CIE** - Next Community Information Exchange Feb 12th, 6:30 MP room
- **Valentines Party** - Oceanview Feb. 14th
- **55th Kwajalein Open Golf Tournament** - Feb 15 through the 22nd, see the Kwajalein Community Events FB Page for details.

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



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!!

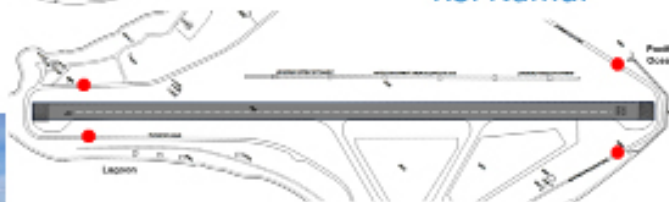


Please remember to stop and look both ways for aircraft on:
Zeus Blvd., Ocean Rd., Perimeter Rd., Pandanus Rd., Eleanor
Wilson Rd.

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



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 I N E M A

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:

So far in January, we have received well over normal at 7.50" of precipitation, which is 4.91" above normal for the month so far. Rainfall will be suppressed for most of the week, with the subtropical ridge to the north dominating the weather pattern. There could be slight increase in shower activity Friday and Saturday morning, though coverage will remain relatively low. No thunderstorms occurred over the past seven days. A thunderstorm day is defined by an "in situ" lightning strike, meaning lightning is observed or thunder is heard within five miles of the Kwajalein airfield. The current lighting risk is low due to the subtropical ridge to the north suppressing showers from significant vertical development. The Madden-Julian Oscillation's (MJO) is weak and ambiguous over the RMI having little impact on precipitation coverage. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) has become less active and remains to the south of the RMI, as is typical in the dry season keeping the bulk of precipitation with it. El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in la Nina condi-

tions 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. It is expected that conditions will become more neutral in February having more of a positive impact on precipitation. For the 90-day period beginning on one January, precipitation is anticipated to be above normal. Below are the current Joint Typhoon Weather Center tropical information graphic and the 2-week Tropical Hazard Outlook, both of which show no threat to USAG-KA.

Tropical Cyclones:
None for the RMI.

Damaging West Winds / Westerly Swell:

Not anticipated. We will be trade-wind dominant for the next seven days.

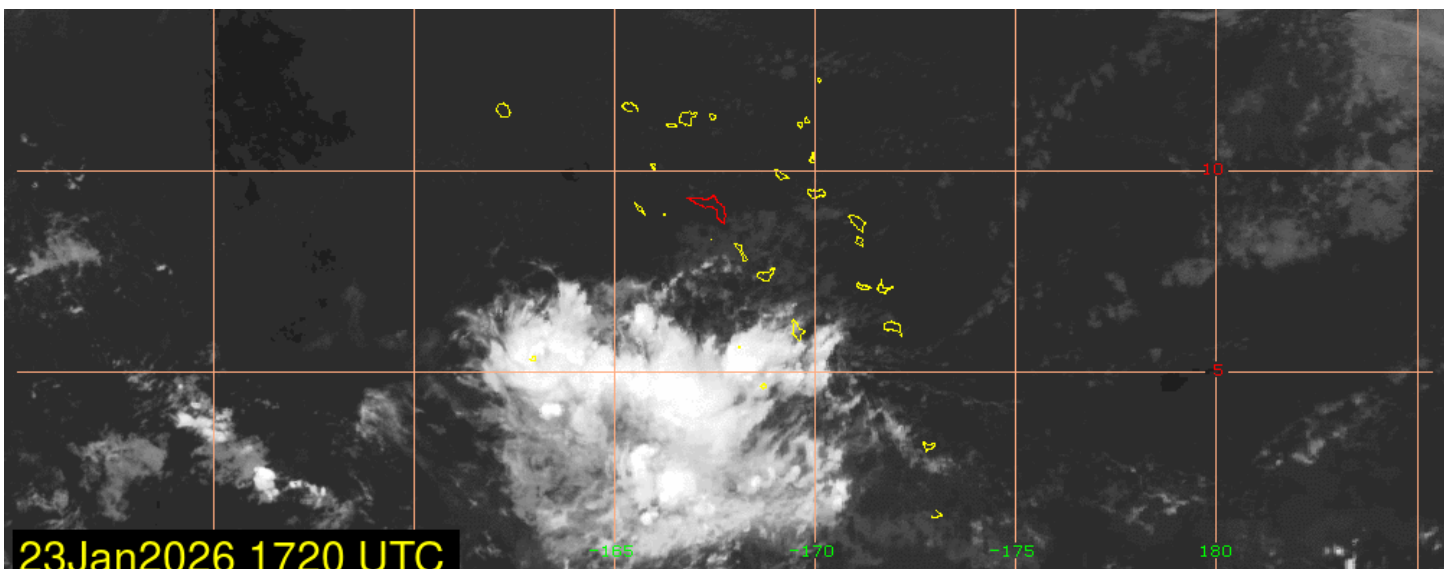
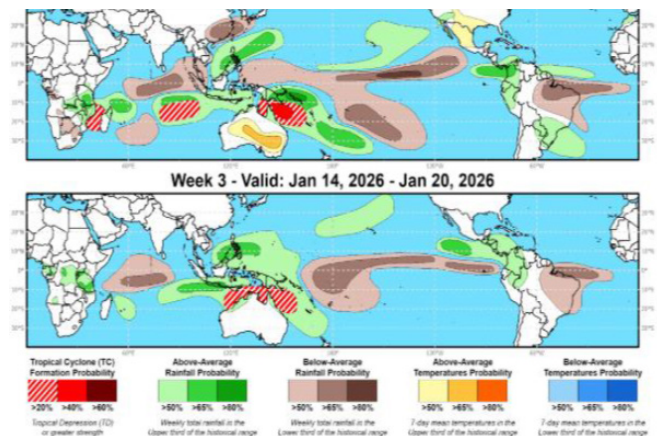
Swell / Tide Inundation for Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island and Winds:

The first quarter moon will occur on Monday the 26th of January resulting in milder tidal conditions with high tides peaking at 3.5 feet and low tides only dropping to 0.3

feet. Winds: Have returned to their typical Windy Season levels (Ellap Kutu) in the mid to upper-teens with clear air gust in the low 20's, especially around showers. We are anticipating a trade wind surge by Wednesday of next week with winds in the upper teens to low 20s. A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) will may be issued over next weekend 31st January 2026. A High Surf Advisory (HSA) is not expected.

Purpose: : This weekly briefing is delivered Thursday mornings to island leadership. The intention of this briefing is to provide situa-

tional 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 products.



WEATHER

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Dry conditions will persist through the week and into the weekend as a subtropical ridge north of the region continues to dominate the weather pattern, suppressing most shower activity. The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) remains weak across the RMI, though a stray shower may still pass over the atolls, especially during peak nocturnal instability in the early morning hours. Winds will remain in the mid-teens for much of the week as a moderate pressure gradient holds, typical for this time of year. Late in the weekend, the subtropical ridge may weaken due to a passing low-pressure system, allowing for a slight increase in shower coverage by Monday and early next week. As the ITCZ redevelops later in the workweek, increasing pressure gradients and wind speeds may enhance low-level convergence and shower activity.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray to isolated showers early then stray in the afternoon. Winds NE-E at 12-17 knots with higher gusts near showers.

SUNDAY


Partly to mostly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 11-16 knots with higher gusts near showers.

MONDAY

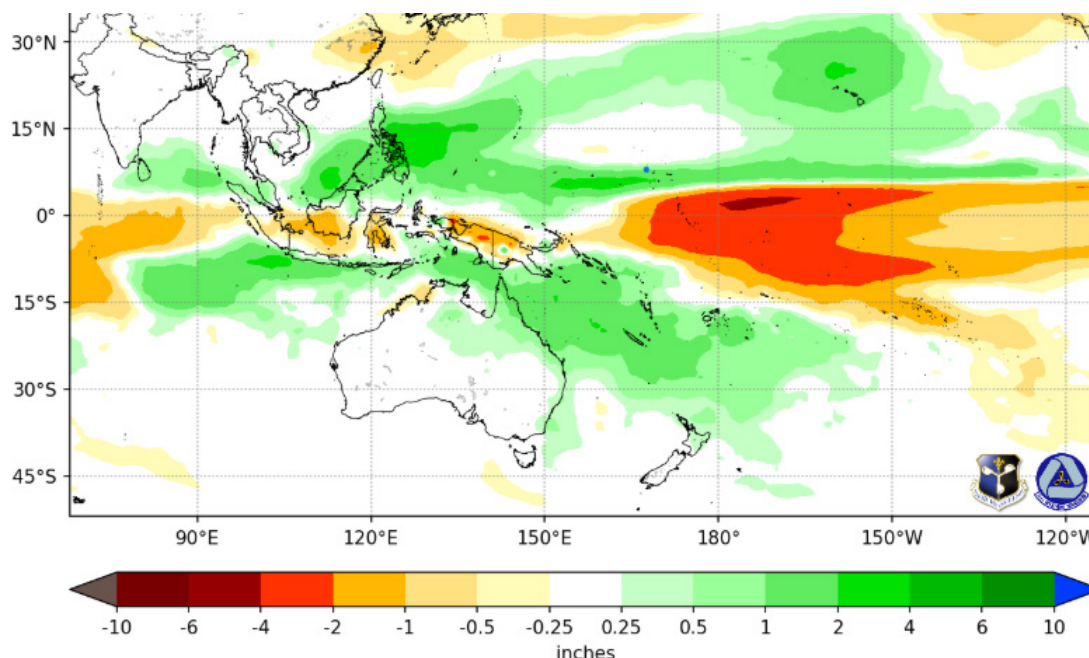
Partly sunny with stray showers early increasing to isolated later in the day. Winds NE-E at 11-16 knots with higher gusts near showers.

NEXT WEEK

The ITCZ will begin to build back south of the atoll by Tuesday, bringing fresh winds through the week. Some speed-convergent showers may develop with a brief surge in winds. Models also indicate embedded troughs moving through the ITCZ, which could further increase the chances for shower activity. ⚡

 SUN-MOON-TIDES				
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	11:32 a.m. -----	8:05 a.m. 3.4' 8:10 p.m. 3.3'	1:49 a.m. -0.0' 2:09 p.m. 0.6'
MONDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	12:17 p.m. 12:11 a.m.	8:58 a.m. 3.2' 9:04 p.m. 2.7'	2:28 a.m. 0.3' 3:14 p.m. 1.0'
TUESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	1:07 p.m. 1:06 a.m.	10:20 a.m. 3.0' 10:47 p.m. 2.1'	3:21 a.m. 0.7' 5:09 p.m. 1.2'
WEDNESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	2:03 p.m. 2:06 a.m.	12:19 p.m. 3.1' -----	4:52 a.m. 1.0' 7:34 p.m. 0.9'
THURSDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	3:04 p.m. 3:09 a.m.	1:21 a.m. 2.1' 1:52 p.m. 3.5'	6:57 a.m. 0.9' 8:47 p.m. 0.3'
FRIDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	4:09 p.m. 4:14 a.m.	2:42 a.m. 2.5' 2:52 p.m. 4.1'	8:18 a.m. 0.5' 9:33 p.m. -0.2'
JANUARY 31	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	5:14 p.m. 5:18 a.m.	3:31 a.m. 3.0' 3:39 p.m. 4.5'	9:12 a.m. 0.1' 10:12 p.m. -0.6'

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.





Until Next Week!