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# ***THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS***





PHOTOS BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH



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## COMMUNITY

# “WE DID IT, GUYS”: KWAJALEIN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026 CELEBRATES GRADUATION NIGHT

### HOURLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Hourglass Story Writer

There are graduations, and then there are Kwajalein graduations — the kind where an entire island community gathers not just to celebrate academic achievement, but to celebrate years of shared memories, lifelong friendships, and a family built in one of the most unique places in the world.

On the evening of May 15th, the Kwajalein High School Class of 2026 officially crossed the stage and into their next chapter during a heartfelt, laughter-filled, and emotional commencement ceremony at United States Army Garrison — Kwajalein Atoll.

From the opening processional to the final turning of tassels, the night radiated joy, pride, humor, and the unmistakable spirit of a class that grew up together through every awkward stage, unforget-

table milestone, challenge, and triumph imaginable.

Yet what made the evening especially powerful was how deeply the ceremony reflected the culture and spirit of island life itself.

In a tradition uniquely rooted in the Marshall Islands, the graduates walked barefoot throughout the entire ceremony — a simple but meaningful symbol of humility, connection, and home. Bare feet on Kwajalein are more than casual island living; they represent growing up grounded in community, relationships, and the natural beauty of the islands. For many in attendance, seeing the graduates cross the stage barefoot felt like a perfect reflection of the environment that helped shape them into who they are today.

The ceremony also featured a moving Marshallese BIIT Dance performance by members of the graduating class, blending cultural pride with celebration. Deeply woven into Marshallese

tradition, BIIT dances are storytelling performances that use synchronized movement, rhythm, chants, and expression to honor history, relationships, and important life moments. Watching the graduates perform together served as both a celebration and tribute and not only to their accomplishments, but

also to the island culture that has embraced and influenced so many of them throughout their lives on Kwajalein.

The performance brought energy and emotion to the evening as families, friends, and community members watched the students move together one final time as a class.





PHOTO BY SHERMAN HOGUE

The ceremony honored graduates Taylor Aboud, Tyler Denny, Rachel Harper, Yamila Johnson, Limalani Lelet, Che-Makaba Nche, Teagan Read, Jacob Waite, Joseph Aragon, Mason Finley, Cory Holt, Synia Kabua, Nathan Melody, Dominic Pace, and Jonielle Tagoilelagi.

The Class History presentation quickly became one of the evening's most entertaining and emotional highlights, taking the audience on a journey from kindergarten to senior year with stories only a small island school could produce.

The graduates reminisced about breeding bunnies in kindergarten, losing teeth and making necklaces with them, learning cursive with Mrs. Kirk, building Rube Goldberg machines in fourth grade, surviving decimals in fifth grade, and becoming the "top dogs" of sixth grade before entering the intimidating world of high school.

There were stories of science projects, school dances under the clouds, movie

nights, volleyball championships, Turkey Bowl victories, quarantine Chromebook struggles, and the unforgettable senior traditions that brought the class even closer together.

The audience erupted in laughter as classmates lovingly described one another through the years — from "quiet Cory" joining the "loud and chaotic class" to welcoming classmates with "puffy hair," "curly joyful energy," and "professional gamer" status.

And woven through every memory was the unmistakable thread of community.

The students reflected on teachers who opened their homes, classmates who became family, and the moments that transformed ordinary school years into something extraordinary. By the time the class history reached senior year — complete with senioritis, scholarship applications, prom, tree lighting, student exchanges, and one final dance together — there was hardly a dry eye

in the room.

"After a hard day of setting up and endless rehearsals, we made it," the class shared. "It felt like only yesterday we were getting snack time and naps. We did it, guys."

Principal Dr. Matthew Gerber delivered a deeply personal and moving Presentation of the Class address that perfectly captured what makes both the students and the Kwajalein community so special. "Sometimes I get asked, 'Why do you stay on Kwaj?'" Dr. Gerber said. "And I say, 'Just look at how these kids turn out. That's what staying is all about.'"

Dr. Gerber praised the Class of 2026 not only for their academic accomplishments, but for the kind of people they have become. "They may not always hit a deadline," he joked to roaring laughter from the crowd, "but when they turn something in, it's excellent." He described the graduates as a group filled with individuality, kindness, resilience, and maturity far beyond their years. "They're

ready for life," he said. "And when I ask them where they'll be in five years, they may not know exactly what job they'll have or where they'll live, but they do know the kind of people they want to be. That says everything."

Dr. Gerber also reflected on the bittersweet reality of island life, where friendships formed over years together can suddenly scatter across the globe after graduation. "There are going to be a lot of goodbye hugs in the coming weeks," he said. "But it's very clear they'll carry pieces of each other wherever they go."

Throughout the evening, gratitude remained at the center of every speech. The graduating class thanked parents for years of sacrifice and support, teachers for their patience and dedication, and the greater Kwajalein community for continually investing in their growth as students, athletes, leaders, and individuals. "To the entire Kwaj community," the graduates shared, "thank you for always supporting our projects,

our sports, and our successes. Thank you for being mentors, neighbors, coaches, friends, family, and community members.”

One of the most touching moments came as the graduates directly addressed their teachers. “You gave us so much more than knowledge,” the class said. “You shared your life lessons, experiences, and wisdom with us. Even when we were difficult, you still gave your best for us.”

As diplomas were awarded and tassels turned, the audience celebrated not only academic achievement, but the remarkable journey of growing up together on a tiny island in the middle of the Pacific.

The Kwajalein High School Class of 2026 leaves behind more than memories. They

leave behind a legacy of laughter, resilience, friendship, school spirit, cultural appreciation, and community connection that will continue long after the graduation chairs are folded away.

And while their next destinations may span continents and oceans, one thing became clear throughout the evening:

No matter where life takes them, the island that raised them — Kwajalein — will always be home. ❏



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**Front Cover: Graduation Day by Raneesh Thirumarath**

**Back Cover: Palm Shadows by Melissa Dethlefsen**

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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PHOTOS BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH

# COMMUNITY LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

## HOURLASS REPORT

By **Isaiah Matthews**,  
Hourglass Staff Writer

For Taylor About, becoming valedictorian was never about earning a title.

It was about learning.

While many students spend years chasing rankings, grade point averages and academic recognition, About approached high school differently. Success, for him, was never measured by comparison to others, but by growth, curiosity and the willingness to challenge himself every day.

That mindset ultimately led him to graduate as valedictorian of the Kwajalein School System Class of 2026.

“Being valedictorian was never a goal of mine,” About reflected. “Academic success was a goal of mine. Learning as much as I can—that was always the focus.”

Throughout high school, About viewed education as something much larger than assignments and tests. To

him, school represented an opportunity to grow intellectually, develop discipline and learn how to think critically about the world around him.

“I feel that the purpose of school is to learn,” About explained thoughtfully. “Some people see school as something they just have to get through, but I always tried to see it as a place to challenge yourself, grow and learn new things.”

That philosophy influenced the decisions he made academically, especially when it came to enrolling in more difficult courses.

“I didn’t take Advanced Placement classes because I wanted to raise my grade point average,” About emphasized. “I took them because they were supposed to be the challenging classes, the ones that would help me grow the most and learn the most.”

For About, challenge was never something to avoid.

It was necessary.

“Do the hard things,” he stressed when offering advice

to younger students. “Challenge yourself and be open to not knowing something and having to learn.”

He believes real growth happens when people are willing to struggle, adapt and improve rather than remaining comfortable.

“Everybody has a different way of learning,” About explained. “If you keep challenging yourself, eventually you’ll find the way you absorb information. Then learning becomes much easier.”

Despite his academic achievements, About speaks far more passionately about people than grades.

When reflecting on high school, the memories that stand out most to him are not tied to awards or transcripts, but to the relationships he built with those around him.

“The time I spent with my classmates, specifically the Class of 2026, really stands out to me,” About shared. “Building relationships with them and growing alongside them is what I’ll remember most.”

That sense of connection became one of the defining aspects of his experience living on Kwajalein.

Unlike many military-connected students who relocate every few years, About spent four years on the island, something he described as rare and meaningful.

“Most places I lived before, it was two years and then moving somewhere else,” he recalled. “But being here for four years gave me the chance to build really strong friendships and grow as a person.”

Living on Kwajalein also exposed him to opportunities for leadership and involvement that he believes are unique to smaller communities.

“I’d say living on Kwajalein made me very connected to my community,” About noted. “You’re able to interact with people beyond just your school and your classmates.”

He explained that the island environment encourages students to take initiative and become active participants in the community around them.



“There are a lot more chances to grow in leadership roles and help clubs accomplish meaningful things,” Aboud explained. “The community really supports students and helps us do great things.”

One of the experiences that continues to stay with him came during a ninth-grade biology trip to an uninhabited island near Meck Island.

Aboud described the trip as unlike anything he had experienced before.

“We were doing cleanup along the beaches because trash still washes up there, even though nobody lives there,” he recalled. “But we also got to explore the island itself and see a place that was naturally growing and untouched.”

For Aboud, the trip offered a chance to appreciate the environment surrounding Kwajalein from an entirely different perspective.

“Seeing an island that isn’t inhabited, just supporting natural life on its own, was really interesting,” he reflected.

As he progressed through

high school, Aboud said one of the most important lessons he learned involved perspective and collaboration.

Whether through projects, clubs or everyday interactions, he discovered that growth often comes from listening to people who think differently than you do.

“I think it can be challenging when you have a certain vision for a project, and other people don’t necessarily share that same vision,” Aboud acknowledged. “But overcoming that comes down to compromise and listening to other perspectives.”

Over time, he realized some of his greatest learning moments came when others challenged his own ideas.

“Sometimes somebody else points out flaws you didn’t see,” Aboud reflected. “And hearing those perspectives helps you grow and improve what you’re trying to accomplish.”

That openness to learning from others became one of the values he now carries most strongly.

“Always look at things from multiple perspectives,” he advised. “Even if someone’s opinion isn’t completely right, there’s usually something valuable you can learn from it.”

The influence of mentors and role models also played a major role in shaping who Aboud became throughout high school.

When asked who had impacted him most, he pointed to his mother, former chemistry teacher Zak Dray and LTC Dae Choi among several others throughout the Kwajalein community.

“My mom, LTC Dae Choi and Zak Dray would probably be my top three role models,” Aboud shared.

He described Dray as “a very strong but kind man” and credited educators, military leaders and community members alike for modeling integrity, service and professionalism.

Those influences helped shape his understanding of

leadership, particularly the importance of treating people with dignity and respect.

“If you treat people respectfully, it encourages them to do the same,” Aboud explained. “Be what you want to see in the world.”

Following graduation, Aboud plans to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he hopes to continue developing as both a student and leader.

“I hope to serve my nation and my people with honor and do it very well,” Aboud stated.

Years from now, when people look back on the Class of 2026, Aboud hopes they remember more than accomplishments or academic honors.

“I hope they see my classmates as good role models,” he said. “People who genuinely tried to make the community and the world better.”

For Taylor Aboud, that kind of impact matters far more than any title ever could. ▾





PHOTOS BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH

# COMMUNITY ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

## HOURLASS REPORT

By **Isaiah Matthews**,  
Hourglass Staff Writer

For salutatorian, Nathan Melody, graduating from the Kwajalein School System means far more than academic recognition.

It means graduating alongside the people who helped shape him.

After spending his first two years of high school being homeschooled, Melody entered the classroom full-time during his junior year carrying a mixture of excitement, uncertainty and hope. He already knew many of his classmates through sports and island life, but stepping into school as a student still felt unfamiliar.

"I was very nervous," Melody recalled. "I knew most of the kids because I had lived here for a while and played sports with them, but it still felt really new."

That first day remains one of the memories he carries most vividly from high

school.

"I had wanted to go to school for a couple years," Melody explained. "I wanted to be around people my age more, so finally getting to do that was exciting."

Now, as salutatorian of the Class of 2026, Melody reflects on a high school experience defined not only by achievement, but by relationships, resilience and community.

"When I started high school, one of the goals I wrote down for myself was to graduate from Kwajalein," Melody shared. "The island and the community are just a special place."

For Melody, staying on Kwajalein long enough to graduate carried deep personal meaning. As the son of a military family, he grew up moving frequently throughout his childhood.

"I think we've moved six times since I was born," Melody said.

That constant transition made the stability he found on Kwajalein especially significant.

"Most people here genuinely care about each other," Melody reflected. "I wanted to graduate with my class because I think my class is a really great group of people."

He paused briefly before adding with a smile, "The kids are pretty cool."

Throughout the interview, Melody consistently redirected attention away from himself and back toward the people around him: classmates, teachers, coaches and community members who helped shape his experience.

That humility, paired with quiet determination, helped define his path through high school.

"I really wanted to go to a good school," Melody explained. "And honestly, I'm pretty competitive, so I wanted to do my best."

But competition alone was never what motivated him.

"When somebody gives me something to do, I don't want to do it halfway," Melody noted. "I want people to look at the work and say, 'Wow, he did a good job.'"

At the same time, Melody credited his parents for allowing him the freedom to pursue excellence on his own terms rather than placing overwhelming pressure on him academically.

"There wasn't an expectation that I had to be perfect," Melody said. "I think they expected me not to fail high school, but striving for excellence was something they allowed me to choose for myself."

That freedom became motivation in itself.

Surprisingly to some of his classmates, Melody admitted he genuinely enjoys school.

"A lot of people really dislike school, and that makes it harder for them to put in the work," Melody explained. "That was never really a problem for me."

Still, success did not come without sacrifice.

There were nights spent awake finishing assignments after everyone else had gone to sleep and mornings where he woke up early to complete homework before class.



"I'm not really a night person," Melody said with a laugh. "So I would wake up early most mornings to do my homework."

Over time, however, he realized academics alone could not define his entire experience.

"Senior year especially made me realize that school is important, but it isn't everything," Melody reflected. "If I spent all my time focused only on school, I'd be wasting a pretty amazing year of my life."

That realization helped him place greater value on friendships, sports and the small moments that often become the most meaningful memories.

"The little moments are probably what I'll remember most," Melody shared. "Everybody laughing in class, the inside jokes, things like that."

Athletics also played a major role in shaping his experience and relationships.

Whether competing in soccer, softball, basketball, volleyball or water polo, Melody said some of the strongest bonds formed through shared struggles and disap-

pointments just as much as victories.

"After losses, everybody would be really sad," Melody recalled. "But what I remember most is how everybody tried to build each other back up."

At the same time, victories became moments the class celebrated together.

"Winning volleyball this year was really special," Melody reflected. "The school hadn't won in years, so experiencing that together meant a lot."

One of the most challenging experiences during his senior year came not in the classroom, but while serving as class president.

Melody and his classmates had planned a laser tag fundraiser, but after spending weeks tracking down equipment, locating keys and trying to repair failing batteries, he realized the event simply was not going to work.

"I spent way too long trying to make it happen," Melody admitted. "I didn't want to disappoint my class."

As a first-year class president, he felt responsible for delivering what everyone had

voted for.

"Having to tell everybody it wasn't going to work felt like I had failed in a way," Melody reflected.

Instead of frustration, however, he found support.

His classmates quickly rallied around a backup plan and helped organize a movie night fundraiser instead.

"The class was really supportive," Melody said. "Everybody helped make it work."

That experience reinforced one of the lessons he values most about the Kwajalein community: people genuinely want to see each other succeed.

"People here help each other without expecting anything in return," Melody observed. "Seeing how generous people are makes you want to become more generous yourself."

He believes that spirit of support and encouragement helped shape who he is becoming.

"There's a real joy people here find in helping others," Melody reflected. "I think that's something special."

Following graduation, Melody plans to attend Villanova University, where he intends to study business while experiencing life far beyond the shores of Kwajalein.

"Philadelphia is obviously very different from here,"

Melody said. "That's exciting to me."

He also looks forward to the independence that comes with beginning a new chapter on his own.

"This will definitely be my first time fully out on my own," Melody reflected. "Everything feels exciting because now it's your responsibility."

As he prepares to leave the island community that shaped so much of his life, Melody hopes younger students remember one lesson above all else.

"Be consistent," he advised. "Don't work yourself into the ground for two weeks and then burn out."

Instead, he believes meaningful goals are achieved slowly, through patience and steady effort.

"Sometimes classes won't be fun. Practices won't always be fun," Melody acknowledged. "But the good that comes from achieving your goal is worth the struggle it takes to get there."

For Nathan Melody, success was never simply about grades or recognition.

It was about growing alongside people who pushed one another to become better, supported each other through setbacks and created a community worth remembering long after graduation. X





PHOTOS BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH

## COMMUNITY

# MORE THAN A GRADUATION PARTY: A KWAJALEIN TRADITION

### HOURLASS REPORT

By **Christy Wagnon**,  
Hourglass Story Writer

Under the glow of string lights and swaying palm fronds at Emon Beach, the Kwajalein High School Class of 2026 gathered with family, friends, and the entire island community for one of Kwajalein's most beloved traditions, the Senior Graduation Party.

Unlike most graduation celebrations, which are often small backyard gatherings or family-only events, graduation on Kwajalein is something much bigger. Here, the entire island shows up.

Hosted entirely by senior class parents, the event transformed Emon Beach into a celebration space filled with handcrafted decorations,

elaborate displays honoring each graduate, directional signs pointing toward future colleges and careers, music, laughter, and an incredible spread of food prepared and organized by families who have spent years supporting not only their own children, but the entire class along the way. From tropical décor and personalized senior tables to island-inspired touches woven throughout the venue, every detail reflected the pride and love poured into the evening.

One of the most eye-catching features of the night was a large directional signpost displaying where graduates are headed next, stretching thousands of miles across the globe from Texas Tech University to Villanova, BYU, West Point, Notre Dame, and even LSU Madrid in Spain.

On Kwajalein, graduation represents not only the end of high school, but also the beginning of journeys that will carry students far beyond the island they grew up calling home.

Senior parent Yessenia Johnson says that is exactly what makes the Kwajalein graduation celebration so special.

"I've attended many graduation parties, and most of them feel like intimate private gatherings: backyard celebrations or a relative's home, with friends and family of the graduates in attendance," Johnson shared. "On Kwaj, this event is truly different. It's massive and truly inclusive: the invitees are the entire community, and the venue is Emon Beach."

For many families, the celebration becomes a reunion

of everyone who helped raise the graduates along the way. Some families travel in from outer islands in the Marshall Islands, while others are neighbors, teachers, co-workers, coaches, mentors, and lifelong friends who have watched the students grow up together on this tiny island in the Pacific.

"They've watched your child grow, supported them at every function, and interacted with them in countless ways over the years," Johnson said. "It's incredible, the biggest event on the island every year."

Planning for the celebration begins long before senior year arrives. According to Johnson, preparations often start nearly two years in advance as junior parents begin learning timelines, gathering ideas, and preparing to carry

on the tradition.

“Every senior parent contributes in some way, and the collective effort is what makes the night possible,” she explained.

That spirit of collective support is part of what makes growing up on Kwajalein so unique. With such a small graduating class, every accomplishment feels deeply personal to the community. Teachers, coaches, supervisors, neighbors, and family friends are not distant figures here, they are woven into daily life.

“My hope is that the graduates look back one day and cherish how unique and special this place was to them,” Johnson said. “The freedom, the independence, the community, the location, the people, the ocean, the sun, and even a single plumeria flower.”

She reflected on the closeness that defines island life,

where students grow up seeing teachers and leaders as real people with families, lives, and connections far beyond the classroom.

“On Kwaj, leadership isn’t distant or ceremonial, it’s personal and present in everyday moments,” she said.

The graduation party itself has become a Marshall Islands tradition all its own, one final community celebration before graduates head into their next chapter. The evening was filled with food, music, laughter, heartfelt congratulations, and countless moments shared between generations of island families.

“I’m forever grateful for a community that has shaped my daughter’s path to success in every aspect of life: academically, friendships, leadership, and service,” Johnson said. “What a unique, blessed opportunity this has been.”





PHOTOS BY ANJOWEST NAISHER

## COMMUNITY

# THIRD ISLAND PROM BRINGS MAGIC TO ROI-NAMUR

### HOURLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Hourglass Story Writer

The sounds of laughter, music and excitement filled Roi-Namur as the Second Annual Ennubirr (Third Island) Prom brought together students, families, volunteers and community members for an unforgettable evening dedicated to celebration, connection and creating life-long memories.

While the students undoubtedly stole the spotlight with their energy and excitement, organizers joked that the adults “tried to have as much fun as the kids — but it wasn’t even close.”

Behind the scenes, however, months of planning, teamwork and dedication went into making the special event a success.

According to Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Foreman Russell Hoskins, preparations for the prom actually began immediately after last year’s inaugural event ended. “What happens

is after you do an event, we do an after-action review saying what went good, what went bad, what can be changed and what can be fixed for other events,” Hoskins explained. “So some of the planning started as early as last year.”

Although Hoskins has only been on island for three weeks, he emphasized that the success of the event belonged to the entire Roi-Namur community. “All this happening today goes to the staff, the island — it’s one team,” he said. “It takes a village to raise a child, and here everybody pitches in knowing how important the mission is to help our island out.”

The event was truly a collaborative effort involving U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll personnel, Roi-Namur site manager, MWR staff and numerous volunteers who worked together to ensure Ennubirr students experienced a prom celebration comparable to those found stateside.

One of the most meaningful efforts leading up to the event involved making sure



every student felt special and included. Staff members worked to secure prom dresses for all 20 young women attending, while custom bow ties were ordered for the young men. “We were able to make sure that all 20 of the females attending each had a prom dress,” Hoskins said. “We’ve got bow ties that were ordered specifically for the event for the guys.”

Food preparation was another major undertaking. Volunteers and staff coordi-

nated a menu featuring pizzas, wings and homemade specialty dishes, including European-style meatballs and other unique treats many of the students do not regularly have access to.

The day of the prom began early for organizers as crews rushed to finalize decorations, transportation logistics, food preparation and venue setup. “With any other day as MWR on Roi, nothing goes as planned,” Hoskins joked. “There’s always some-



thing going wrong here, but the great thing is, it's paradise."

Even ferry crews supporting transportation operations were appreciated and included in the celebration, receiving pizzas and meals for making special trips to ensure students and families could attend safely and on time.

Throughout the day, Roi-Namur staff coordinated transportation schedules, prepared facilities and welcomed arriving families from Ennubirr. The event also highlighted the strong relationship between Roi-Namur and Ennubirr residents, who regularly rely on Roi-Namur for support services including fuel access, laundry facilities, shopping and transportation assistance. "We really try to support their island since they don't have the infrastructure like Ebeye or some of the other islands," Hoskins said. "So, they rely heavily on us, just like we rely on them for our manpower and labor. We try to make sure they're taken care of."

As students arrived dressed in elegant gowns, dress shirts and bow ties, excitement quickly spread across the venue. For many students, it was their first opportunity to experience a formal prom celebration of this scale. Or-

ganizers hoped the evening would create memories the students could treasure for years to come. "We try to give them an experience that rivals what they would see in the States," Hoskins said. "We don't have helicopter landings and all the other things, but I think we put on a pretty good prom for them."

Prom King Atnel Jr. Tabu and Prom Queen Charity Mango Taidrik shared their excitement about being part of the memorable evening and what the experience meant to them.

"We are super excited that we crossed the ocean to be here on Roi-Namur. We enjoyed every moment together — laughing, shouting and making memories," Tabu said. "I am honored to be the Prom King for 2026."

Taidrik reflected on returning for the second annual prom and the importance of creating lasting memories through education and community. "I'm happy to see everyone enjoying themselves and celebrating this special night together," she said. "Since this is our second prom, I want to encourage other students to stay focused in school, because school is where memories like this begin." The evening served as a reminder of what can happen

when an entire community comes together with a shared purpose: creating joy for the next generation.

Special thanks go out to all volunteers, MWR staff, transportation crews, community members, sponsors and

families who dedicated their time, energy and resources to making the Second Annual Ennubirr Prom possible.

And while this year's prom may now be over, planning and excitement for next year's event has already begun. ❖





PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CARNELLI

## ENTERTAINMENT

# YOLAH BAND KEEPS PROFESSIONAL-GRADE, LIVE MUSIC IN KWAJALEIN

### HOURLASS REPORT

By Anthony Carnelli,  
Hourglass Story Writer

The opening chords cut across the night air at Coral Sands on Saturday, May 19, and the intimate but energetic crowd gathered there knew right away this was not going to be just another ordinary band playing cover songs.

For nearly three hours, *Yolah Band*, or simply known as “*Yolah*,” moved through classic rock, modern pop and Filipino rock without a pause. By the end of the night, the crowd was singing along — and by the end of last weekend, the band had added another Kwajalein performance to a run that has already brought them back more than once this year.

*Yolah* arrived with working-musician credentials. Typically a four-piece group based out of Manila, Philip-

ines, the band is made up of full-time performers, including members with part-time ties to Majuro who pull in local talent when they play.

On Kwajalein, they traded the large club crowds they are used to for a smaller island audience — and found a fan base eager to keep bringing them back. Their set drew from familiar songs played by musicians who know how to make a crowd come to life.

The Kwajalein lineup featured Jojo Rulloda on vocals and guitar, Avies Centeno on vocals and Nino Juson on bass.

Centeno, a professional singer brings 28 years of experience to the microphone, serves as entertainment manager at a major bar and grill in Manila, and regularly performs in various locations six nights a week in front of crowds of 1,000-plus people.

For the Kwajalein show, she flew 16 hours to get here. In

other words, the same voice that fronts large Manila crowds on a consistent basis was leading comparatively smaller but cheerful crowds over this past weekend.

But even getting the band to the island came with a

last-minute change. Shortly before the flight to Kwajalein, *Yolah*’s full-time drummer had an emergency and could not make the trip. If ever there was a time for the old cliché, this was it: “*The show must go on.*”



PHOTO BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH

Rulloda packed a specialty electric drum kit capable of producing professional-sounding beats and a full percussion mix for every song on the set list. By the time the music started at Coral Sands, the sound of the adjustment was almost unnoticeable. Unless someone told them, most of the audience would not have known the band had arrived one musician short.

Rulloda shredded through guitar solos on *Guns N' Roses* and *Metallica* covers. Centeno carried the vocals with the ease of someone used to working a room, and Juson held down the low end, giving the trio enough weight to sound larger than the lineup on stage.

By the end of the night, the crowd response said as much as any review could: *Yolah* had not just filled in for a missing drummer — they had filled the pavilion with a full-scale live show.

They carried that momentum into the following night with an encore performance



at the Kwajalein Junior-Senior High School graduation party, giving the newest class of seniors a live sendoff instead of a playlist. Across both nights, the band's talent, professionalism and showmanship made enough of an impression to earn an-

other invitation — this time to play on Roi-Namur.

*Yolah* arrived with three musicians, one electric drum kit and no room for excuses. They left with two shows behind them and another island ahead of them. ▼



PHOTO BY RANEESH THIRUVARATH



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**Notice of Availability  
USAG-KA Draft Document of Environmental Protection  
for Air Emissions From Major and Synthetic Minor Stationary Sources**

The U.S. Army - Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) Environmental Standards (UES) require specific USAKA activities with the potential to affect public health and the environment must be defined in a Document of Environmental Protection (DEP). The UES further provides a review and comment period by the public and the regulatory agencies on the draft DEP.

The Draft DEP for the continued activity associated with Air Emissions from Major and Synthetic Minor Stationary Sources includes the operations and conditions to provide air quality protection at the U.S. Army Garrison - Kwajalein Atoll.

The public is invited to review and comment on the Draft DEP. The Draft DEP and the UES are available for review at the Grace Sherwood Library (Kwajalein Island), the Roi-Namur Library, and the RMI Environmental Protection Authority (RMIEPA) offices on Ebeye and Majuro.

Written comments regarding the Draft DEP can be directed to:

Gus Aljure  
U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll  
Attn: V2X Environmental Services  
PSC 701 - Building 357  
APO AP 96555-9998

Or sent electronically to:

Gustavo.A.Aljure.ctr@army.mil

A period of at least 30 days will be provided for public comment. Comments on the Draft DEP should be postmarked no later than June 8, 2026.

**Naan In Kokabilokok  
USAG-KA Draft Document of Environmental Protection non  
Air Emissions From Major and Synthetic Minor Stationary Sources**

The U.S. Army - Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) Environmental Standards (UES) ej aikuj bwe aolep makitik ko an USAG-KA make im remaron jelet ejmour eo an jukjukin ped eo ren alikar ilo Document of Environmental Protection (DEP). UES ej bareinwot remaanlok wot im lala melele keim jen public im kakien ko jen agencies ikijen draft in DEP.

Draft DEP in ej wonmanlok kin makitik ko bedbed wot ion Air Emissions jen Major im Synthetic Minor Stationary Sources ekoba makitik im wewein ko ikijen air quality nan kejbroke eo ilo U.S. Army Garrison - Kwajalein Atoll.

Aolep rej ruwainene nan lala im iik aer melele ikijen Draft DEP in. Draft DEP in kab UES ej bellok nan advoj lala ilo Grace Sherwood Library (Kwajalein Island), im ilo Roi-Namur Library, im bareinwot ilo opij ko an RMI Environmental Protection Authority ion Ebeye kab Majuro.

Ne ewor melele ak Kakobaba nan Draft DEP in remaron etal non:

Gus Aljure  
U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll  
Attn: V2X Environmental Services  
PSC 701 - Building 735  
APO AP 96555-9998

Ak jilintok nan email in lal:

Gustavo. A. Aljure.ctr@army.mil

Enaj bellok iumwin 30 raan non jabdrewot eo ekonaaan likit melele ko ak wawein im lemmak ko kin DEP Draft in. melele keim rej aikuj postmark mokta jen June 8, 2026.



**Department eo an Navy im Department eo an Army  
REJ KUR EOK NAN AM BOK KONAAM  
Ilo juon jerpal eo ej komman nan aolep armej  
nan pileeni Makutkut ko an Joint Flight  
Second Supplemental EA/OEA**

Ra ko ruo an US Navy im Army emoj aer kebooje juon Draft Supplement Environmental Assessment/Overseas Environmental Assessment (EA/OEA) nan etale jonan kajoor in an kommelmel in kokkelok mijel ko naj jelet belaaq ko ilo aer komman ilo Malo ko jimor ilo Atlantic im Pacific. Draft Supplemental EA/OEA in ej etale jonan kajoor in kommelmel in kokkelok keim jen jikin ko rekaal lok nan ijoko rar jino komman ie ilo Wake Island, eo ej mottan Majel, im San Nicolas Island ilo California, im bareinwot raft ko rej ebbebe ilo malo ko ilo Pacific im Atlantic.

**Ien Emman Nan An Armej Bok Konaer**

Navy eo im Army eo rej karuwaineneik am etale im komman am ennaan ikkujjeen Draft Supplemental EA/OEA in im Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (Pija eo emoj loe ke ejjelok oktak elap enaj walok jen jerpal in)/ Finding of No Harm (Loe bwe ejjelok jorreen enaj walok) (FONS/FONSH) ilowaan 30 raan ko emoj ko-belloki nan an armej kwalok aer ennaan.

Ennaan ko remaron ilok ilo online nan  
<https://www.nepa.navy.mil/JFCSecondSupplemental/EA>  
ak ilo mail nan:

Environmental Program Manager/SP2521  
Strategic Systems Programs  
1250 10th Street SE, Bldg. 200, Suite 3600  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5127



**Aolep konono ak ennaan ko raikuj ilok ilo online ak ilok ilo mail eo ar jitaam ilo June 10, 2026.**

Draft Supplemental EA/OEA im Draft FONS/FONSH ko rej bed online ilo  
<https://www.nepa.navy.mil/JFCSecondSupplemental/EA>  
ak ilo public laibrare keim: Oxnard Downtown Main Library, California; Hawaii State Library-Honolulu; Kwajalein Island's Grace Sherwood Library im Roi-Namur Library, ilo Republic of the Marshall Islands.



**The Department of the Navy and Department of the Army  
INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE  
in the Public Involvement Process for the  
Joint Flight Campaign Second Supplemental  
EA/OEA**

The U.S. Department of the Navy and Department of the Army have prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment / Overseas Environmental Assessment (EA/OEA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of conducting missile flight tests in both Atlantic and Pacific Ocean regions. The Draft Supplemental EA/OEA evaluates the potential impacts of flight tests involving launch from new potential land-based launch locations at Wake Island, Meck Islet in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and San Nicolas Island in California, as well as the use of floating target rafts in broad ocean areas of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

**Public Involvement Opportunity**

The Navy and Army welcome your review and comments on the Draft Supplemental EA/OEA and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact / Finding of No Significant Harm (FONS/FONSH) during a 30-day public comment period. Comments may be submitted online at

<https://www.nepa.navy.mil/JFCSecondSupplemental/EA>  
or by mail to:

Environmental Program Manager/SP2521  
Strategic Systems Programs  
1250 10th Street SE, Bldg. 200, Suite 3600  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5127



**All comments must be submitted online or postmarked by June 10, 2026.**

The Draft Supplemental EA/OEA and Draft FONS/FONSH are available online at <https://www.nepa.navy.mil/JFCSecondSupplemental/EA> or at the following public libraries: Oxnard Downtown Main Library, California; Hawaii State Library-Honolulu, Kwajalein Island's Grace Sherwood Library, and Roi-Namur Library, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

# ROI PUBLIC NOTICE: UXO CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

DATES: MAY - NOV 2026

The UXO Clearance Team will conduct daytime intrusive excavation operations in support of the DP2026-35 UXO Clearance Roi LSA South.

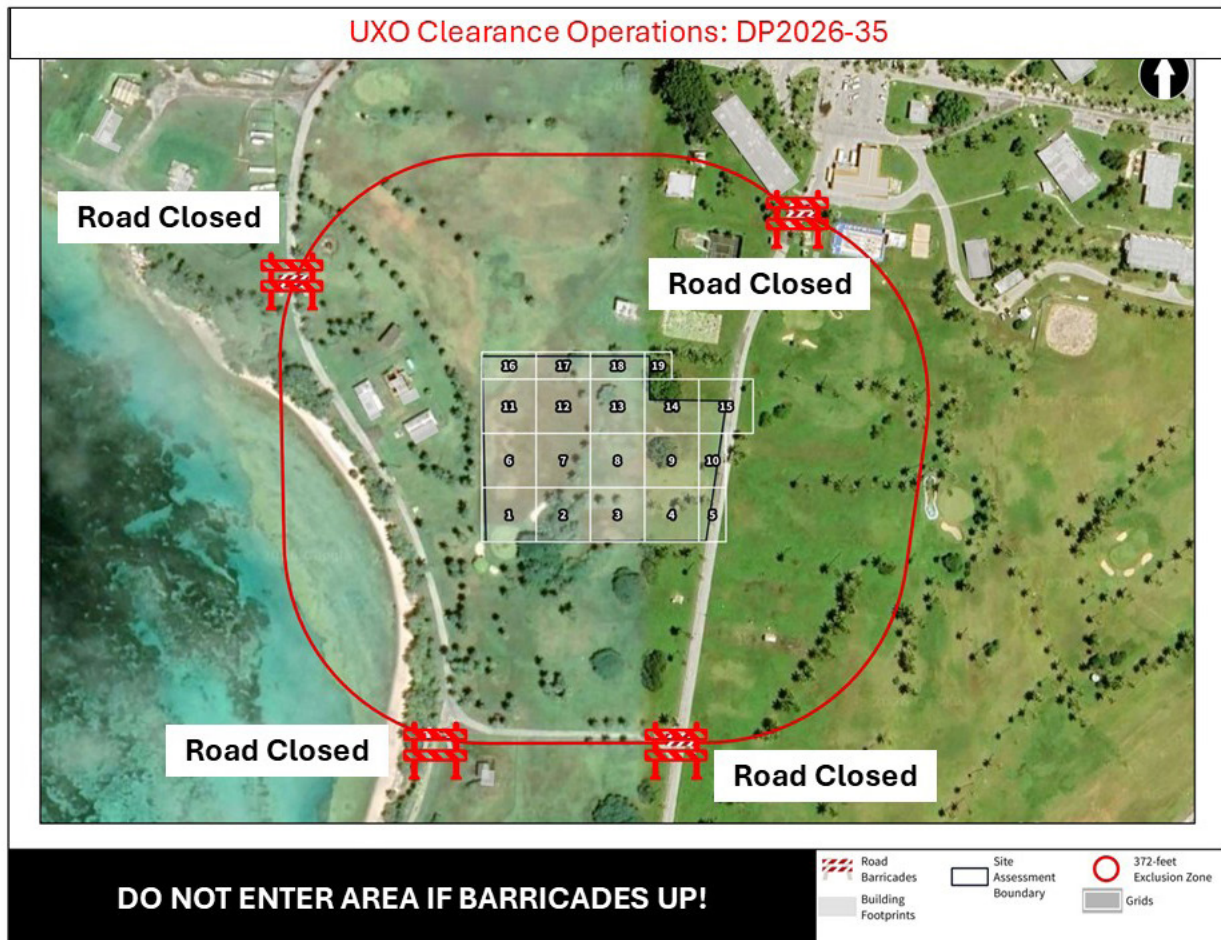
Daily operations: 6:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**Schedule:** Sunday – Thursday until project completion

### Safety Notice:

During these periods, the designated exclusion zone (see accompanying map) will be strictly off-limits to all personnel. Road barricades will mark restricted access points. For your safety: Do not enter or cross any barricaded areas during the specified time frames. Follow all posted signage and instructions from safety personnel. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe work environment.

**Emergency Services can come through exclusion zone, blast horn to notify UXO team.**

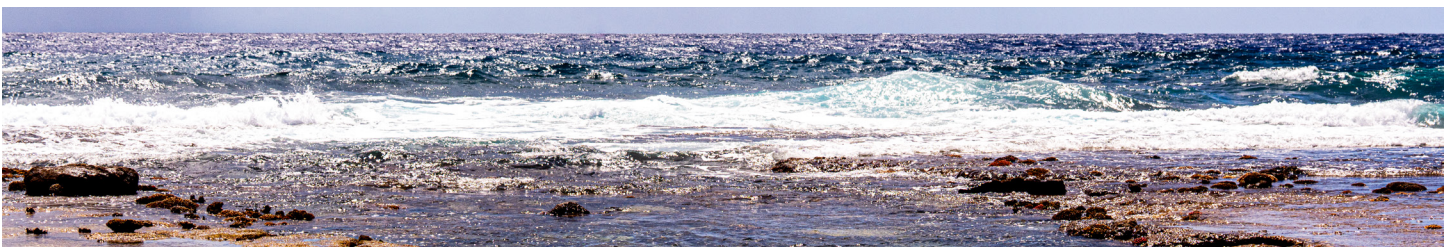




# Community Notice

## New Matting at Millican Family Pool

New matting is currently being put in place at the Millican Family Pool. While the project will take a few days, the pool will remain open during regularly scheduled hours. Please visit the pool to see how the new matting feels to bare feet!



# Community Notice

## Post Office Closure for Memorial Day

The U.S. Army Garrison – Kwajalein Atoll Post Office will be closed May 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.





# Community Notice

## Zamperini Dining Area Remodel

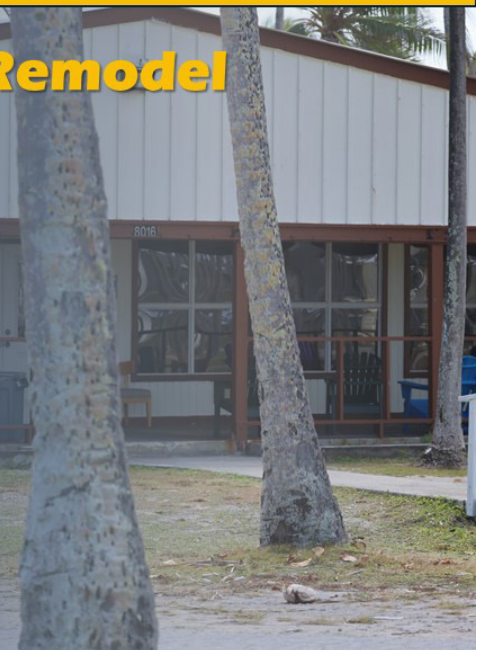
Construction will begin on the Zamperini dining room beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>. During this time, the dining area will be sectioned off one half at a time while the work is done. Zamperini South will come online soon to support the adjusted dining area footprint.



# Community Notice

## The Outrigger Kitchen Remodel

Work on the Outrigger Kitchen Remodel is due to begin May 9<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to be conducted for 45 days. During this time the kitchen will be fully closed. This does not affect the rest of the Outrigger areas.





# Community Notice

## WELCOME TO THE ZAMPERINI SOUTH!

### Hours of Operation:

#### Breakfast:

Tuesday – Saturday and  
Army Food Program Holidays 0600-0730

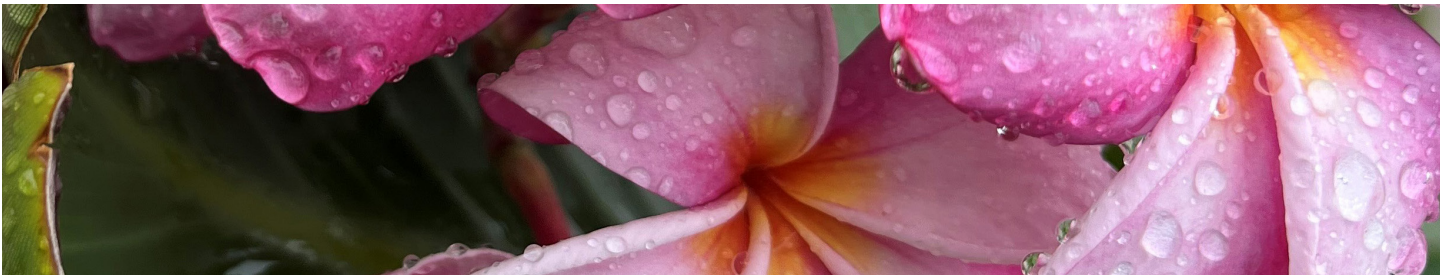
Sunday – Monday 0730-0900

#### Lunch:

Tuesday – Sunday 1130-1300

#### Dinner:

1600-1800



# Community Notice

## Power Outage Kwajalein

May 26, 27, 28  
10pm- 3am

### Affects all areas North of 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Repair broken underground electrical  
lines

\*Reminder to keeping your freezers and refrigerators closed during the  
outage hours





Kwajalein (KWA), Republic of the Marshall Islands

DAY OF WEEK	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY		FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FLIGHT NUMBER	<b>NO FLIGHT</b>	UA155	UA154	UA133	UA132	UA155	UA154	<b>NO FLIGHT</b>
ARRIVING FROM		Guam, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae	Honolulu, Majuro	Guam, Chuuk, Pohnpei	Honolulu, Majuro	Guam, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae	Honolulu, Majuro	
DEPARTING TO		Majuro, Honolulu	Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Guam	Majuro, Honolulu	Pohnpei, Chuuk, Guam	Majuro, Honolulu	Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Guam	
CHECK-IN TIME		2:30PM ✈	10:30AM ✈	2:15PM ✈	11:00AM ✈	2:30PM ✈	10:30AM ✈	
ARRIVAL TIME		4:00PM	11:10AM	4:15PM	11:40AM	4:50PM	11:10AM	
<b>CHECK-IN COUNTERS CLOSES NINETY (90) MINUTES PRIOR TO SCHEDULED DEPARTURE</b>								
BOARDING		As soon as Cabin Inspection is complete						
DEPARTURE TIME		6:20PM	12:40PM	5:45PM	1:10PM	6:20PM	12:40PM	
AIRCRAFT TYPE		B737-800						
<b>SECURITY SCREENING CHECKPOINT CLOSES SIXTY (60) MINUTES PRIOR TO SCHEDULED DEPARTURE</b>								
CARGO BOOKINGS		9:30AM-2:30PM 6:00PM-6:30PM	9:00AM-10:45AM 1:30PM-4:30PM	9:30AM-11:00AM 1:00PM-2:15PM 5:45PM-6:00PM	9:00AM-11:00AM 1:30PM-4:30PM	9:00AM-11:00AM 1:30PM-2:30PM 6:00PM-6:30PM	9:00AM-10:45AM 1:30PM-4:30PM	9:30AM-11:00AM 2:00PM-4:30PM
<p>Cargo bookings must be made 48 hours prior to the day of tender for United Airlines and APA flights</p> <p>Asia Pacific Airlines (APA) operates Wednesdays &amp; Saturdays ETA 1:00PM / ETD 2:00PM. For flight schedule updates, visit APA's website <a href="http://www.asiapacificairlines.com">www.asiapacificairlines.com</a></p>								



# Jorraan Eo Ilo Reclaimed Water System Eo Ion Kwajalein

Kar April 2026, 92.8% in kar reclaimed water sample ko rar ilon in 0.5 mg/L ilo chlorine concentration erik lok jen jonon in ej required 95% standard. Rekar bar ilik chorine non karreoiki lok non jonon in ej delon ilo Reclaimed Water System eo.

Ilo 14 im 20 April 2026, jonon chlorine residual aer delon ie elal in jonon ko ilo standard in 0.5 mg/L.

**Jokjok in eban jelet ejmour iloan alik kar ilo ekotak kein.**

Kajjitok? Kurlok V2X Environmental ilo 480-0722.

# Kwajalein Reclaimed Water Standard Violation

In April 2026, 92.8% of reclaimed water samples were above 0.5 mg/L chlorine concentration which is less than the required 95% standard. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant at the Point of Entry (POE) into the Reclaimed Water System.

On 14 and 20 April 2026, the minimum chlorine residual at the POE was less than the minimum standard of 0.5 mg/L.

**There are no negative health effects associated with the exceedances.**

Questions? Contact V2X Environmental at 480-0722.

# KWAJ WATER TREATMENT

Kwajalein Water Treatment Plant personnel will begin annual flushing of the non-potable water pipes on Kwajalein on Wednesday, 27 May 2026.

For two or three days after we flush a section of pipe, the water in the toilets and urinals in that part of the island may be cloudy from sediment that has accumulated in the pipes in the non-potable water distribution system.

Call Stan at 480-4400 with any questions

## 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. In April 2026, 92.8% of all reclaimed water distribution system samples were above 0.5 mg/L chlorine concentration which is less than the required 95% standard. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant at the Point of Entry (POE) into the Reclaimed Water System. On 14 and 20 April 2026, the minimum chlorine residual at the POE was less than the minimum standard of 0.5 mg/L. **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 this turbidity exceedance. Questions? Contact V2X Environmental at 480-0722.

## Jorraan Eo Ilo Reclaimed Water System Eo Ion Kwajalein

Ekkar non Reclaimed Water Document eo an Environmental Protection/ak naetan (DEP) aikuj bwe en karon jujuk in ped elane ewor jorraan ko rejolet dren eo ion Kwajalein. Kar April 2026, 92.8% in aolep dren ko rej driwojlok sample ko rar ilon in 0.5 mg/L chlorine concentration eo ekar driklok jen jonin ej required 95% standard. Rar bar ilik chlorine non karreoiki lok non jonon in ej delon ilo Reclaimed Water System eo. Ilo 14 im 20 April 2026, jonon chlorine ilo an delon tok edriklok jen jonon standard ej 0.5 mg/L. **Ejjab jelet ejmour non karon im rejan ikkijeon kojerbal dren in (non wutdrikdrik, kwali waa ko, im jermal ko eirlokwo) non aikuij ko jet.** Jokjok in eban jelet ejmour ak jujuk bed iloan alik kar ilo ekotak kein. Kajitok kir V2X Environmental ilo 480-0722.



# USAG – Kwajalein Atoll Newcomers Orientation May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

Starting at 9am  
at the  
Religious Education Building



## Kwajalein Atoll Newcomers Orientation



### Day One – 29 May 2026

09:00 – 09:15 : Command Team Intro/Team Kwaj Brief  
 09:15 – 09:20 : Newcomers' Video  
 09:20 – 09:35 : SHARP  
 09:35 – 09:45 : UXO  
 09:45 – 10:00 : Safety  
 10:00 – 10:10 : Emergency Services  
 10:10 – 10:20 : PMO  
 10:20 – 10:30 : Weather  
 10:30 – 10:40 : Break and Q&A  
 10:40 – 11:00 : Housing (DPW)  
 11:00 – 11:15 : Environmental & Archeology  
 11:15 – 11:30 : Medical and Veterinary  
 11:30 – 11:40 : Food Services/Dining  
 LUNCH(11:40 – 13:00)

13:00 – 13:15 : Host Nation  
 13:15 – 13:25 : MWR  
 13:25 – 13:35 : Schools and CYS  
 13:35 – 13:50 : Clubs  
 13:50 – 13:55 : OPSEC  
 13:55 – 14:05 : 500<sup>th</sup> MI  
 14:05 – 14:10 : Space Force  
 14:10 – 14:20 : Public Affairs Office  
 14:20 – 14:30 : Religious Services  
 14:30 – 14:40 : Break and Q&A  
 14:40 – 14:50 : Community Bank  
 14:50 – 15:00 : Postal Operations

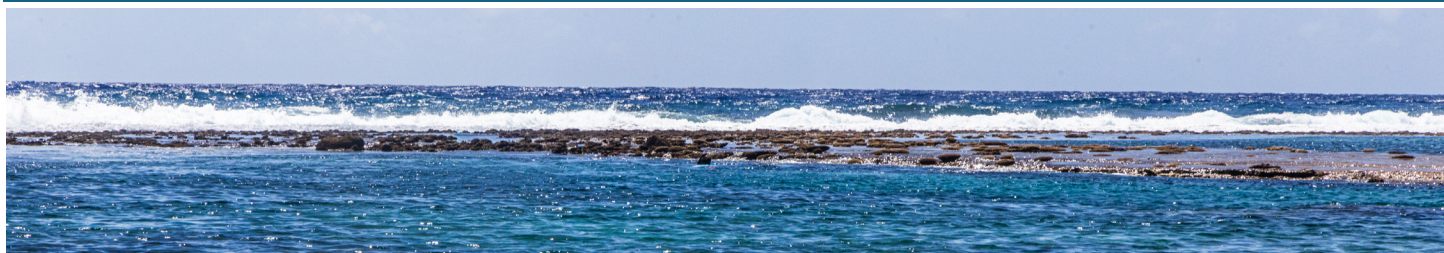
END

### Day Two – 30 May 2026

08:30 – 09:00 : Check-In at DSC and Ferry to Ebeye  
 09:30 – 11:30 : Walking Tour of Ebeye  
 12:10 – 12:35 : Board Ferry to Kwajalein  
 12:35 – 13:15 : Lunch

13:30 – 14:00 : Marshallese Cultural Center Tour  
 14:00 – 15:30 : Windshield Tour  
 15:30 – 16:00 : Close Out and Q&A

END





SCAN   
ME

PARTICIPATE IN THE KWAJALEIN TOURISM MARKET SURVEY TO SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS AND PREFERENCES ON TOURISM IN THE RMI.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY BY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> 2026 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
2 ROUND-TRIP TICKETS ON AIR MARSHALL ISLANDS TO YOUR CHOICE OF ATOLL:  
MAJURO, JALUIT, OR WOTJE.

 For More Information Call Us  
+692 625-4624

Visit Our Website  
[www.rmiocit.org](http://www.rmiocit.org) 

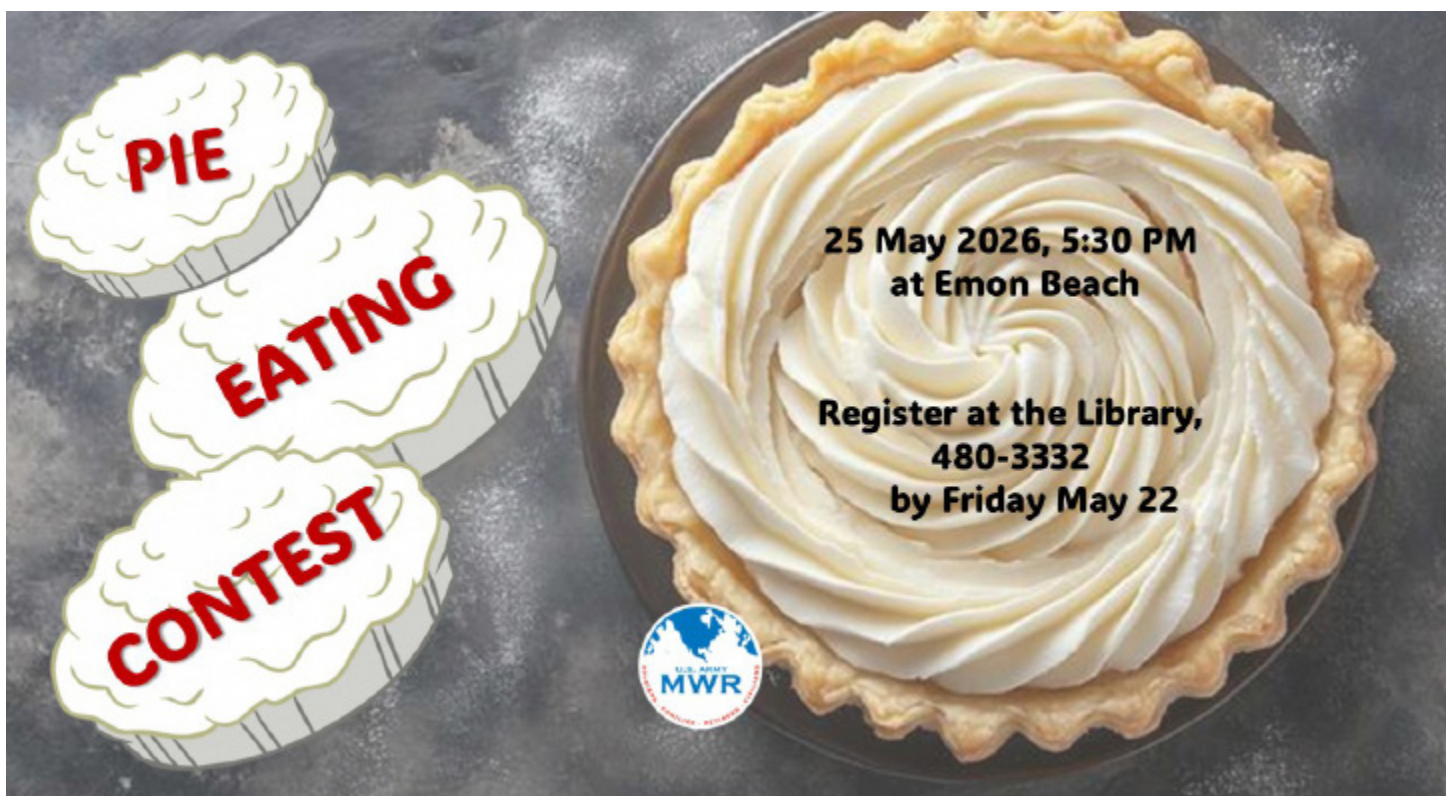
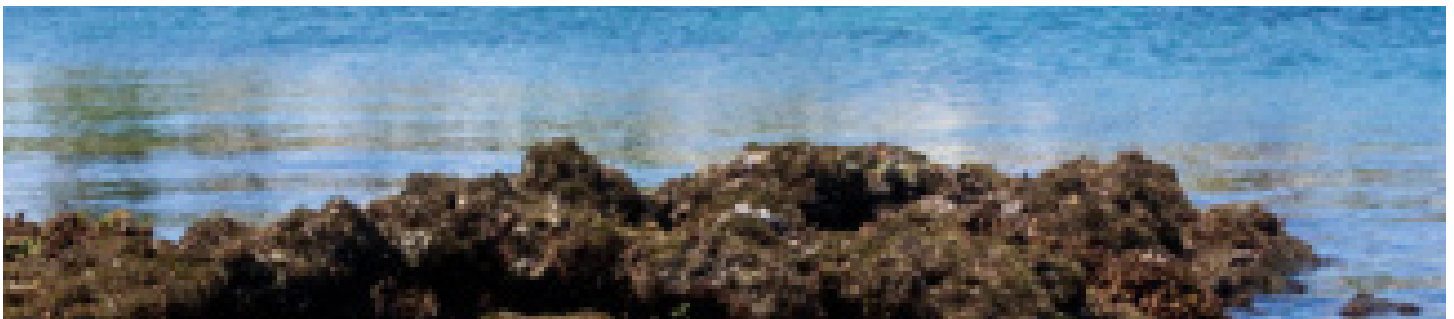
# Red, White, and Ocean Blue

## Memorial Day Event

at Emon Beach  
May 25, 4:30 pm



**PIE EATING CONTEST**  
Concessions  
And much more.....



# VOLUNTEER

The Mic Shop is always looking for Volunteers!

It is a great way to connect with the community and help our mission of **Education Grants and Scholarships**

Contact **Jacki Blumenauer** (jackiblume64@hotmail.com) or stop in the Mic Shop

**Only 2 hours of your time each month to make a big difference**

**Sundays and Mondays: 12:00pm - 2:00pm  
Wednesdays and Fridays: 4:30pm - 6:30pm**



## E-Wareness: Ocean Dumping



### “Jokbej Iljojet”

Ejab melim jolok kwobej ko ilojet. Kejbarok lojet in ad nan emanlok eo an kab lonlok in ekk!

### “Garbage In – Garbage Out”

Waste disposal into the ocean is **NOT** permitted. Keep the ocean clean and be rewarded with beautiful water and plentiful fish!





**26-27 KINDERGARTEN**

**ENROLLMENT  
SCAN  
ME**

**CALL  
480-3601  
for an online  
link**



# **Kwajalein Atoll**

**Do you have a Concern or Kudos?  
Go to the Interactive Customer Evaluation  
and give us your feedback.**

**GO  
TO ICE**  
INTERACTIVE CUSTOMER EVALUATION



# ALWAYS CALL...

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

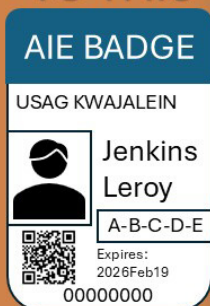


## Meal Card scanning from AIE Badge



FROM THIS

TO THIS  
AIE BADGE



We have begun transitioning the Meal Card system to accept the new AIE badge, replacing the need to carry a meal card. Thank you for your patience as we streamline your dining experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask for a manager at the dining facility and we can explain the process.

# Dome Home Trash & Recycling



**Gov2X** will be installing Green Residential Trash bins and Blue Recycle bins at each Dome Home. This will be a new experience for our Dome Home residents that we hope will enhance your stay on our island.

Please be sure your personal property and potted plants are set safely back from the road.

**Please keep curious children away from the Compactor Truck as it visits each Dome.**

*CARDBOARD and PLASTICS are not recycled on Kwajalein.*

*TRASH and RECYCLE bins are collected Tuesday and Friday.*

*You can deposit all glass, aluminum, bottles and metal into the same blue recycle bin.*

**For Questions, call 480-1760**



## **Kwajalein /Roi Driver Orientation**

**Sponsors need to bring newcomers to Bldg 856**

**Wednesdays:**

**At 0900 - Marshallese**

**At 1300 - EXPATS**

**To find out the requirements to obtain a base license**

**Roi Classes every 2nd Friday time base on flight schedule in Bldg C**

**POC's on this matter are:**

**George.parker3@gov2x.com and Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com**

**or Stop by Bldg 856, Room 101**

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](mailto:kwajchapel@gmail.com)  
OR CALL 480-2116



**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](mailto:alana.wilson@redcross.org)

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

# Kwajalein to Ebeye Ferry Schedule



- C-BADGE WORKERS** have priority, EXCEPT on the following runs:
  - 0650 run (arriving at Ebeye at 0715) High Schools students have priority ridership.
  - 0720 run (arriving at Ebeye at 0745) and the 1600 run (departing from Kwaj) Kwajalein School Guest students have priority rider-ship.
- On Stevedoring days, workers involved with cargo operations have priority on the 2000 ferry.
- SMOKING, TOBACCO, CHEW, BETEL NUT, EATING and DRINKING ARE PROHIBITED ON ALL FERRIES.
- Boats will not be overloaded: Maximum capacities are 150 passengers (CATs and ferries) and that number may be reduced during inclement weather or at the Captain's discretion due to safety concerns.
- Meck catamarans may operate on a dynamic schedule and will be available by calling Meck Management.
- SATURDAY ONLY – THERE WILL NOT BE A 2130 FERRY INSTEAD THE FERRY WILL DEPART AT 2200.**

## EBEYE – Tuesday to Saturday

## EBEYE – Sunday & Holiday

ETD	ETA	ETD	ETA	TYPE	ETD	ETA	ETD	ETA	TYPE
	EBEYE	EBEYE	KWAJ	VESSEL	KWAJ	EBEYE	EBEYE	KWAJ	VESSEL
0245	0310	0315	0340	FB N/1	0400	0425	0430	0455	FB N/1
0420	0445	0450	0515	FB 1	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
0450	0515	0520	0545	FB 2	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
0520	0545	0550	0615	FB 1	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
0550	0615	0620	0645	FB 2	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
0620	0645	0650	0715	FB 1	1530	1555	1600	1625	FB 1/N
0650	0715	0720	0745	FB 2	1700	1725	1730	1755	FB N
0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1	2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
0900	0925	0930	0955	FB	2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N
1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 2/A	Holidays only ADD extra run below				
1300	1325	1330	1355	FB	1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N
1440	1505	1510	1535	FB A	Monday				
1600	1625	1630	1655	FB A	0315	0340	0345	0410	FB N/1
1700	1725	1730	1755	FB A	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
1730	1755	1800	1825	FB N	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
1800	1825	1830	1855	FB A	0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1
1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
1900	1925	1930	1955	FB A	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N	1440	1505	1510	1535	FB 1/N
2130	2155	2200	2225	FB N	1645	1710	1715	1740	FB N
(TUESDAY-FRIDAY) 2130 is final run of day					1745	1810	1815	1840	FB N
2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N	1900	1925	1930	1955	FB N
SATURDAY - No 2130 ferry; 2200 is final run of day					2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
	FB =	Ferry	Boat		2130	2155	2200	2225	FB N



# Roi-Namur / Enniburr Ferry Schedule



## Tuesday to Saturday

Run Number	ETD Roi-Namur	ETA Enniburr	ETD Enniburr	ETA Roi-Namur	Vessel
1	0520	0535	0555	0610	FB
2	0730	0745	0805	0820	FB
3	1250	1305	1325	1340	FB
4	1715	1730	1750	1805	FB
5	1940	1955	2015	2030	FB

## Sunday-Monday-Holiday

Run Number	ETD Roi-Namur	ETA Enniburr	ETD Enniburr	ETA Roi-Namur	Vessel
1	0650	0705	0725	0740	FB
2	0940	0955	1015	1030	FB
3	1450	1505	1525	1540	FB
4	1940	1955	2015	2030	FB

### FIRST PRIORITY: BADGE WORKERS

Passengers are to board and disembark ONLY at the gangway area. As deemed by the Captain, any passengers, who are unruly and pose a safety hazard to the crew, other passengers, or vessel will not be allowed to ride the ferry. Maximum passenger load is 150 passengers.

**SMOKING, TOBACCO CHEWING, BEETLE-NUT, EATING and DRINKING ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED ON ALL FERRIES.**

The clock kept by the ferry Captain is the official time. Departure times from Roi-Namur are mandatory times. Return times to Roi-Namur may change slightly due to the offloading of water at Enniburr.

Any questions? Please call the Port Captain in Kwajalein, 480-2173.

# Kwajalein Island Trash & Recycling

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



## TRASH & RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

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

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

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

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

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



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



## BARGAIN BAZAAR: COMMUNITY & MISSION

- Volunteer-run resale shop on Kwajalein
- Donations fund scholarships & school grants
- Supports education across the Marshall Islands & Micronesia
- Open Every Wednesday 4:30 to 6:30 PM  
& 1st Saturday 4:00 to 6:00 PM
- Promotes reduce, reuse & recycle
- A hub for connection and community

### We Accept:

Clean clothing, baby gear, shoes, linens, kitchenware, décor, working electronics, books, toys, school supplies, jewelry & holiday décor

### We Do NOT Accept:

Food or medications

### How to Donate:

Stop by DSC for gate access

Bring items directly to BB door

Wrap breakables & attach cords

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE YYWC EDUCATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE.  
KOMMOLTATA FOR YOUR DONATION!

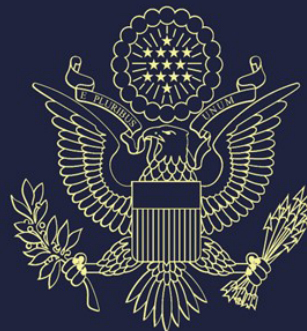
Now Available by Appointment...

# PASSPORT PHOTO SERVICES

# PASSPORT

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.



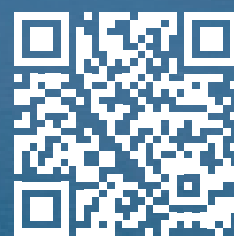
*United States  
of America*

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

[KwajaleinHourglass@gov2x.com](mailto:KwajaleinHourglass@gov2x.com)



## FOLLOW US AT THESE LOCATIONS



Click QR Code to jump to social page

Kwajalein



MIA Project

# NEVER FORGET.

<https://kwajaleinmiaproject.us/>

# COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

## Submit Announcements to the Roller Channel and The Kwajalein Hourglass

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

### Preparing Your Message

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

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

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

### Formatting Your Listings

*It is recommended that graphical 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](mailto: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

Captain Tameka Edmonson  
SHARP Victim Advocate

Work: 480-1419 or

Major Matthew DeMartino  
Work: 480-1402

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:George.Parker@gov2x.com)  
[Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com](mailto:Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com)  
...or stop by Bldg. 856, Rm 101



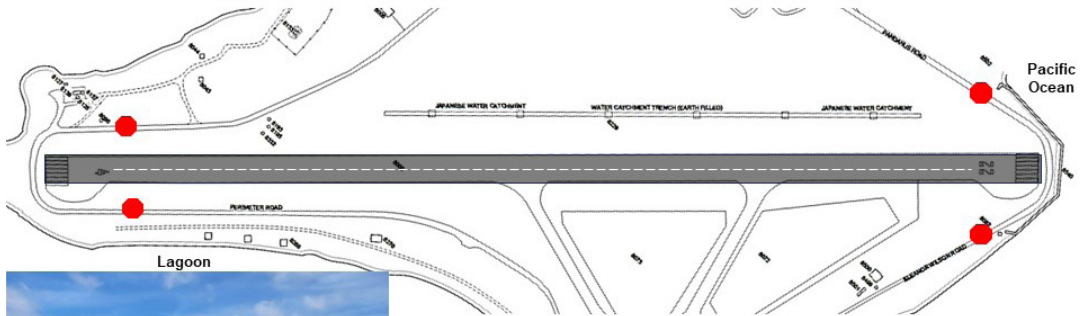
**OPSEC IS NOT RETROACTIVE.**

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

Like and share @USArmyOPSEC

# ROI-NAMUR FOR AIRCRAFT!!

Stop and look both ways for aircraft on Perimeter Rd., Pandanus Rd., Eleanor Wilson Rd.  
If aircraft are on approach or taking off, you must hold your position and wait!

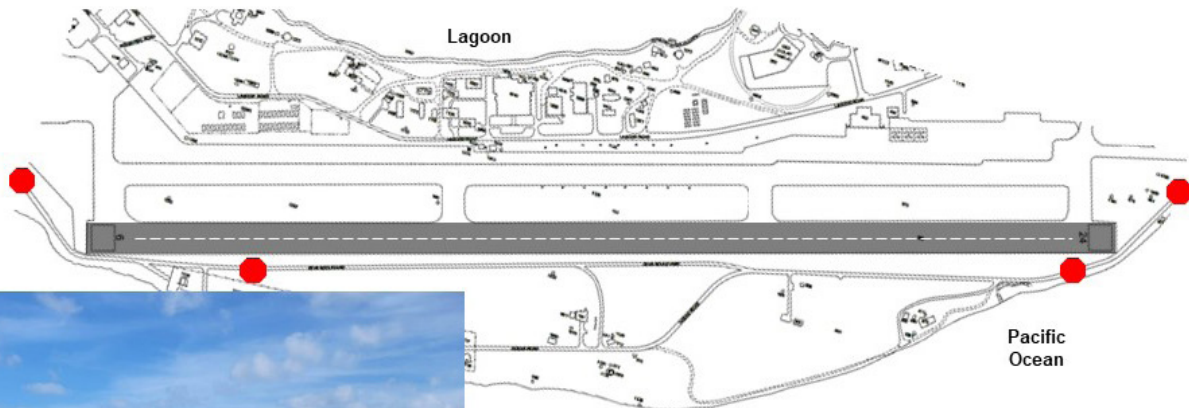


Stop at designated signs and look for aircraft landing or taking off.

If you see an aircraft, hold your position at the stop sign and wait until the aircraft has landed or departed before moving.

# KWAJALEIN FOR AIRCRAFT!!

Please remember to stop and look both ways for aircraft on Zeus Blvd. or Ocean Rd.  
If aircraft are on approach or taking off, you must hold your position and wait!



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.

# NOW SHOWING at the YUK THEATER

**SATURDAY, MAY 2**

“Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope”  
(1977)  
(PG) 121 min.

**SUNDAY, MAY 3**

“A Madea Family Funeral” (2019)  
(PG-13) 109 min.

**SATURDAY, MAY 9**

“Corpse Bride” (2005)  
(PG) 77 min.

**SUNDAY, MAY 10**

“The Departed” (2006)  
(R) 151 min.

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**

“Sarah’s Oil” (2025)  
(PG) 103 min.



**SUNDAY, MAY 17**

“Christy” (2025)  
(R) 135 min.

**SATURDAY, MAY 23**

“The Lego Batman Movie” (2017)  
(PG) 104 min.

**SUNDAY, MAY 24**

“Bugonia” (2025)  
(R) 118 min.

**SATURDAY, MAY 30**

“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant  
Mayhem” (1999)  
(PG) 99 min.

**SUNDAY, MAY 31**

“Any Given Sunday” (1999)  
(R) 162 min.



# WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

## Discussion:

Two thirds through May, we have received more than 11.43 inches of rain, which is about 4.2 inches above normal for the month, and the year now sits at more than 17 inches above normal at just over 38 inches. The wet trend will continue through the rest of May as we enter the official wet season next month. Tomorrow morning will see another bump in shower coverage coming down through the afternoon with Saturday experiencing more of a widely scattered shower situation. Sunday afternoon is looking to be the driest of the weekend timeframe along with Tuesday afternoon. We observed one lightning/thunderstorm day last night at about 0230. 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 greatest risk of lightning will be Saturday. The Madden-Julian Oscillation's (MJO) is start-

ing to reorganize to our west, and its positive phase will be a further boost to shower coverage toward in early June. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is robust just to our south and is the driving force for bringing in multiple atmospheric waves east to west across the central RMI. El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) has sea-surface temperatures (SST) between the RMI and the Date Line now trending above normal with ENSO-neutral conditions transitioning quickly into a strong El Nino this summer and into the fall, having a positive impact on precipitation and tropical cyclone development to the east of the RMI. This coming El Nino looks to be one of the strongest ever recorded since the Spanish Empire started keeping records in the 1600s.

## Tropical Cyclones:

None. We are anticipating more tropical cyclone activity than normal in the RMI through November.

## Damaging West Winds / Westerly Swell:

Not anticipated for the next seven days. We are also looking at a higher-than-normal west wind threat this year

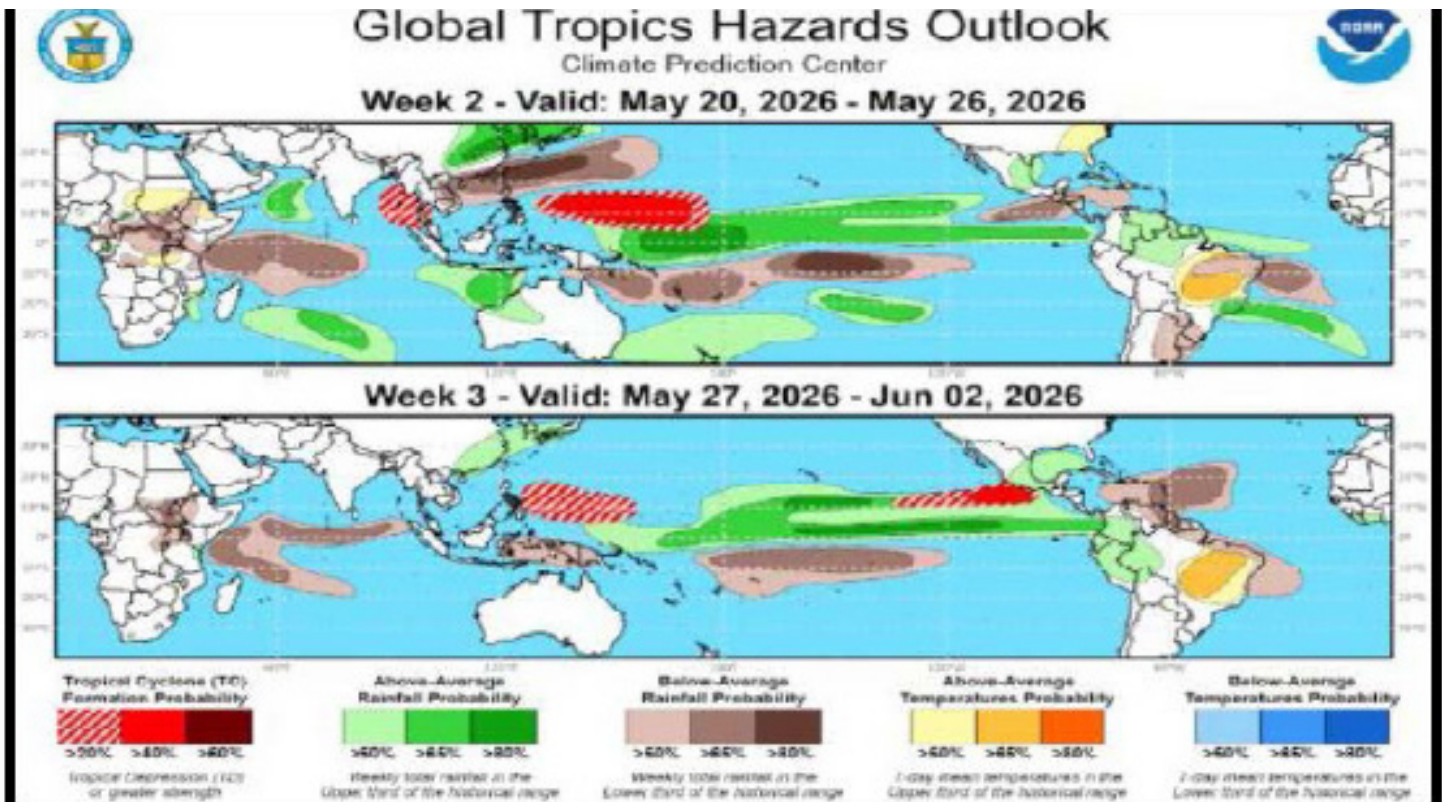
## Swell / Tid Inudation For Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island and Winds:

The waxing half-moon on the 23rd with neap high tides all below four feet. Winds: will stay mostly in the middle teens over the next seven days due to a rather strong surface pressure gradient between the ITCZ and high-pressure to the north of the RMI. Friday night into Saturday morning will see winds in the upper teens then come down by around sunset on Saturday to about 8 to 12 knots almost calm at times through the overnight. When the winds start to take on an east-southeast direction as troughing moves through over the next seven days, winds will diminish slightly. A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) is possible for short periods

of time during gusty outflow events near heavy showers. 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 situational awareness of weather events that may interrupt operations and transportation around Kwajalein, to/from Hawaii and Guam, and in the Wake vicinity. The main threat assessed in this brief is existing and potential development of tropical cyclone activity. This brief also provides an outlook of abnormal winds, sea state, and precipitation guidance for next 7 days around the Kwajalein Atoll. The distribution list will also receive updates on any developing tropical cyclone activity in the Kwajalein region that occur between the weekly outlook products. ▾



*Until Next Week!*

