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FEBRUARY 8, 2014

# THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



**“Porcelain”—the codename used by American forces for Kwajalein Island—is seen in the distance on Jan. 30, 1944, the day before the start of Operation Flintlock. The military campaign’s 70th anniversary was celebrated last weekend on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur.**

*Photo courtesy of the SMDC/ARSTRAT  
Historical Office*

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# Secretary of the Navy tours Roi-Namur, visits WWII veterans

Article and photos by Jordan Vinson  
Associate Editor

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus flew into Bucholz Army Airfield on the eve of Operation Flintlock's 70th anniversary. It was an opportunity to chat with retired Navy veterans Ted Sonner and Burl Sousa, who

served in the WWII assault against the Japanese in the Marshalls.

During the secretary's visit, a brief stopover on his way to New Zealand, he and U.S. Army Garrison Command personnel toured Reagan Test Site assets and historical landmarks on Roi-Namur.

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll

Commander Col. Nestor Sadler hosted Sec. Mabus for dinner at his residence off Ocean Road. Also in attendance were Sonner and Sousa, the U.S. Ambassador to the RMI, Thomas Armbruster, and senior leaders of USAG-KA.

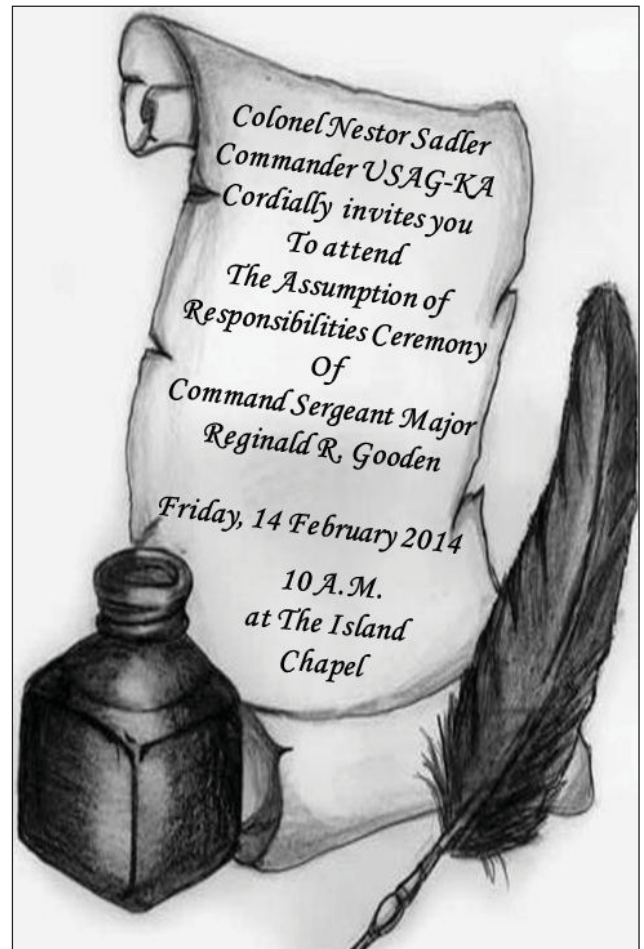
Secretary Mabus departed Kwajalein Jan. 31.



USAG-KA Commander Col. Nestor Sadler greets Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus Jan. 30 at Bucholz Army Airfield.



Sec. Mabus takes a moment outside the Kwajalein Airport Terminal to record a brief message for the media.



## THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division, which liberated the island from the forces of Imperial Japan on Feb. 4, 1944.

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# USAG-KA provost marshal promoted to lieutenant colonel

Article and photos by Jordan Vinson  
Associate Editor

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Provost Marshal Shawn Hebert was promoted from the rank of major to lieutenant colonel Feb. 1, making him part of the newest cadre of lieutenant colonels to serve in the U.S. Army.

His colleagues, family and friends gathered at a special ceremony arranged at the Veterans Hall American Legion Post #44, where both Hebert and USAG-KA Commander Col. Nestor Sadler addressed the audience.

"The Army is promoting Shawn today because of his potential to serve in this next, higher rank—the rank of lieutenant colonel," Sadler said. "And without a doubt, Shawn will serve that well."

Hebert acknowledged those around him who supported him along the way and whose help had an immeasurable impact on his success in the Army.

"This is a product of all the supervisors, peers, subordinates and family that invested in me to get to this point," he said. "I say thank you to all of you. ... I promise to serve with honor."

Hebert's beaming wife, BJ, enjoyed the honor of pinning a new insignia patch onto the front of her husband's jacket as Sadler and the rest of the crowd looked on. Tearing away the golden oak leaf badge used to denote the rank of major, she pinned in its place a new seven-pointed black oak leaf, a symbol of having reached the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Making the occasion even more special for Hebert was a visit from his parents. Retired Army Col. Joseph Hebert and his wife Susan flew in from the United States to attend Hebert's promotion ceremony. They took the opportunity to spend a few days on Kwajalein to soak in the sun and spend time with their grandchildren, Elise and Max, who were also in attendance at the Veterans Hall.



"The Army is promoting Shawn today because of his potential to serve in this next, higher rank—the rank of lieutenant colonel," Col. Nestor Sadler tells the crowd of friends, family and colleagues gathered at the Veterans Hall Feb. 1.



Lt. Col. Shawn Hebert receives his new rank insignia patch, a black oak leaf, courtesy of his wife, BJ.

The three years that Hebert has served as provost marshal and director of emergency services on USAG-KA is only the latest chapter of the lieutenant colonel's Army career. His previous assignments include military police duties in Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Kaiserslautern, Germany;

and Baghdad. And he has also worked in Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kuwait, Jordan, Belgium and Kosovo.

This summer Hebert will take his family back to Fort Hood, Texas, where he'll take up duties as the base's deputy director of emergency services.



# Veterans aid Kingfisher Project, celebrate on Kwaj, Roi-Namur

Article and photos by Jordan Vinson  
Associate Editor

Veterans of the 1944 U.S. military campaign against Japanese combatants in the Marshall Islands came to Kwajalein Atoll last week to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Operation Flintlock. It was the first time the two men had returned to the waters of the atoll in which they and their comrades went to war in 1944.

Ted Sonner and Burl Sousa were young men then—barely into their adulthood. But they served dutifully on the Navy minesweeper vessel that carried them across the Pacific and into the Marshalls in one of the most successful amphibious assaults by the U.S. military during WWII. Their first-hand experiences clearing mines and scouting for Japanese submarines in late Jan. and early Feb., 1944 allowed for rare insight into what happened on the lagoon back then.

It is partly for this reason that Dan Farnham—a local scuba diving buff and the leader of the Kingfisher Project—invited the veterans and their sons to USAG-KA for the operation's anniversary.

It was during the afternoon of Jan. 31, 1944 when the crew of the veterans' ship, the YMS-383,



Ted Sonner, left, and Burl Sousa served on the YMS-383 minesweeper during Operation Flintlock, one of the most successful U.S. amphibious assaults of WWII.

received the call. A friendly aircraft had gone down in the lagoon not too far from the 383's location, and the crew was to find it and rescue any survivors. What Sousa and Sonner came upon that day in the middle of a yellowish oil slick was distressed Navy radioman Harrison Miller clutching the hull of one of

his capsized Kingfisher reconnaissance aircraft's pontoons seen bobbing on the surface. The pilot, Lt. Forney O. Fuqua, was dead.

Although the crew of the 383 saved Miller's life, the plane and Fuqua's remains were unrecoverable, having sunk while being towed by the minesweeper under



The veterans receive a warm welcome after arriving at Bucholz Army Airfield. Dan Farnham, center, did much of the legwork to get Sonner and Sousa to Kwajalein Atoll.



Sonner and Sousa enjoy their company during the Jan. 31 "Meet and Greet" at the Vets Hall.

Photo from Brandi Mueller



threat of enemy fire.

The location of the Kingfisher is a mystery that still stumps those involved with the Kingfisher Project, especially Farnham and his diving buddy, Josh Vance. Numerous search attempts off the Loi and Big Loi islands on the eastern rim of the atoll have turned up nothing. But they still had hope.

They thought that an opportunity to let Sousa and Sonner come back to visit the atoll and retrace their steps during the 1944 invasion might elicit the clues the Kingfisher Project needed to point them in the right direction. So, they began a two-year effort to bring the men out to the atoll.

Working in the United States, Vance managed to reunite Sousa, Sonner and Miller after decades of not having seen one another. Meanwhile, Farnham organized much of the logistics and funding needed to get Sousa and Sonner from their homes in Oregon and Ohio.

Although the veterans were more than a little suspicious of Vance's phone calls, in which he offered a trip back to the Marshall Islands that seemed to be anything but on the level, his persistence won their trust in the end, along with their willingness to fly out to Kwajalein Atoll to help the Kingfisher team track down the missing aircraft.

On Sunday they participated in a catamaran excursion on the



On a tour of WWII historical sites on Roi-Namur, Sousa admires the destructive power wrought by Navy shelling on the islet during Operation Flintlock.



Photo by Shannon Paulsen

The veterans look out toward Little Bustard during the Kingfisher Project's catamaran excursion Sunday. They believe the aircraft and Lt. Forney Fuqua's remains lie somewhere nearby.



Photo by Mike Woundy

About a mile west of Little Bustard, Sousa tosses a wreath into the water as a remembrance for Lt. Fuqua.



Vance, Farnham, John Mohr, Mike Woundy, the veterans and their sons stand at the bow of the *Sorensen*, enjoying the view while the catamaran returns to port.

See VETS, page 11



# Ceremony honors the 194 Marines killed in northern islands during Operation Flintlock

Article and photos by Jordan Vinson  
Associate Editor

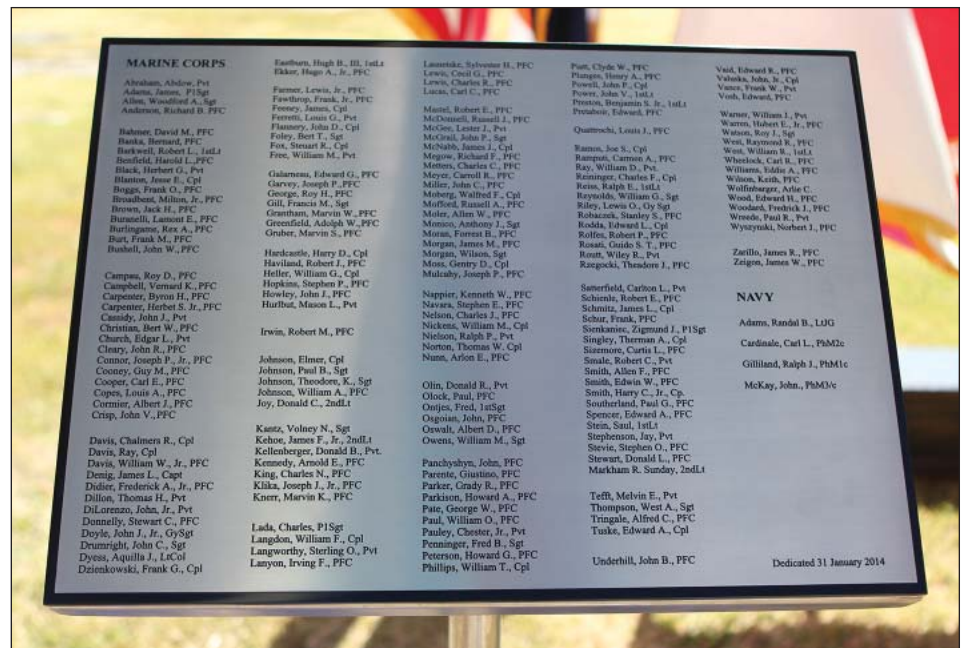
A open-air memorial ceremony Feb. 1 on the islet of Roi-Namur showcased a new plaque installed to remember the 194 Marines and Navy servicemen who lost their lives during their push against Japanese forces in the area of Roi-Namur 70 years ago.

Part of the greater Operation Flintlock—the U.S. assault against the Japanese in the Marshalls in early 1944—the men were killed trying to take the islands of Roi, Namur, Ennumanet, Ennugarret, Ennibir, Ennuebing and Mellu between Jan. 31 and Feb. 2, 1944.

The memorial brought a large crowd of residents and officials together in front of the ruins of the Japanese power plant and fuel storage structure along TRADEX Road to attend the ceremony. U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Commander Col. Nestor Sadler and the garrison guests of honor, WWII Navy veterans Burl Sousa and Ted Sonner, joined U.S. Ambassador to the Marshall Islands Thomas Armbruster and Kwajalein Senator Michael Kabua to unveil the plaque.

Sonner and Sousa were recognized by the event's speakers for having served in WWII and, more importantly, for having participated in the same campaign that vanquished the Japanese imperial forces on Roi-Namur and the rest of the Marshall Islands.

Sadler took the opportunity to thank everyone for coming out for the memorial. He introduced Armbruster, who made the trek from Majuro to both commemorate the remembrance of the fallen Marines and to meet Sonner and Sousa. It was a great honor, he said, to shake the hands of the men who served on a Navy minesweeper assigned to clear lagoons of Japanese mines and scout for enemy submarines. Kabua, the Republic of the Marshall Islands senator from Ebeye, also marked the significance of the memorial ceremony and extended special thanks to the two veterans. Coming as a surprise to Sonner and Sousa, he called them



The new memorial plaque, larger than the original, is made of polished stainless steel in which the names of the 194 Marines and Navy servicemen killed while taking Roi, Namur and surrounding islands are inscribed.



From left to right: U.S. Ambassador to the Marshall Islands Thomas Armbruster; RMI Senator from Kwajalein Atoll Michael Kabua; WWII veterans Ted Sonner and Burl Sousa; and USAG-KA Commander Col. Nestor Sadler.

to the podium and placed around their necks customary Marshallese necklaces made from dozens of closely-woven polished seashells. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sharnta' Adams briefed the crowd on the details surrounding the plaque and its overall significance and gave the go-ahead to Armbruster, Kabua,

Sonner, Sousa and Sadler to perform the unveiling. Exposing the 194 names inscribed in black to the brilliant morning sun, the men remained silent, wearing contemplative expressions as the observers' under the shade applauded.

After the memorial, Kwajalein Range Services archeologist Les-





Armbruster, one of several distinguished visitors who addressed the crowd the morning of Feb. 1, talked at length about the significance of the memorial and thanked Sousa and Sonner for their service during Operation Flintlock.



Remembering the lives lost during the invasion of the northern stretches of Kwajalein Atoll, Sousa shares a hug with his son, Phil, who made the trip from Oregon with his father.



Sonner, left, and Sousa beam with pride after the plaque's unveiling. They worked aboard the YMS-383, a Navy minesweeper tasked with clearing Japanese mines from the lagoons of Kwajalein Atoll and Enewetak Atoll. Having ensured safe passage for the Navy gunships in their wake, they also searched for enemy submarines during the operation.

lie Mead took Sonner, Sousa, their sons and a few others on a tour of the rich variety of concrete Japanese bunkers, anti-aircraft gun sites and fuel depots left on Roi-Namur from the war. They walked the ruins of Japanese storage facilities ripped apart by Navy gunships Jan. 3 – Feb. 2, 1944 and got a first-hand look at the devastation wrought by the fierce fighting that took place on the islet 70 years ago.

They paid homage to the young men who died by shot and shell on these remote islands thousands of miles away from home for their nation and their countrymen. And they expressed immeasurable gratitude for having survived the conflict and getting the opportunity to come back all these years later.

**-Leslie Mead contributed to this**



Dozens of observers line up to shake hands with—and in this case hug—Sonner and Sousa after the ceremony.

**article. She and other Roi-Namur residents were responsible for funding the purchase and installation of the new memorial.**



# The battle for Roi-Namur, Kwajalein

Article by Sharon Watkins Lang  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historian  
Photos courtesy of Lang

D-Day for Operation Flintlock was 70 years ago. In the early hours of the invasion, the 7th Infantry began its assault on Kwajalein while the 4th Marine Division came ashore on Roi-Namur, divided into two operational areas. Within five days the battle on these islands had concluded, while periodic conflicts on other islands in the atoll continued for three weeks. Operational Flintlock concluded on Feb. 22 when Parry Island (Eniwetok) was declared secure.

Following World War I, the Japanese had assumed control of former German protectorates in the Pacific. These included what is now the Republic of the Marshall Islands. During this period, Kwajalein and Roi-Namur became important communications and logistical links connecting remote outposts to the homeland. Commanded by Rear Adm. Michiyuki Yamada, Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands was the headquarters of the Japanese 6th Base Force. Described as "the hub of Japanese military activity in the Marshall Islands," Kwajalein Atoll included an airbase, which commanded all Japanese air forces in the Marshalls and Gilberts, equipped to support 110 aircraft, a submarine base and four gun batteries and guard forces. As the closest base to Truk and the



Marines pop off round after round against Japanese targets fighting to repel the U.S. onslaught.

supply line to the homeland, reinforcements and supplies regularly transited Kwajalein. Branches of the 4th Fleet were stationed there to supervise supply, transportation and technical construction. Kwajalein also served as a communications center. Distributed at posts across the atoll there were approximately 8,000 Japanese soldiers.

As the first planned attack on Japanese territory, the Marshall Islands had symbolic meaning. The islands also had a strategic value. For the United States and its allies, communications and logistics also made Kwajalein and the Marshall Islands an important stepping stone in the advance across the Pacific. Access to the Marshall Islands would improve communication and supply lines to Australia. In addition, an air base in the central Pacific

would enable land-based aircraft to continue to provide support to an allied advance and to impede Japanese shipping.

In Dec., 1943, Adm. Chester Nimitz revised the invasion plan and focused all available forces on Kwajalein Atoll. Lessons learned from the fight to take the Gilbert Islands - present day Kiribati - were implemented with Operation Flintlock. For the first time in combat, an underwater demolition team composed of Army and Navy personnel, reconnoitered the beaches of Kwajalein Atoll. The attack would benefit from the maximum use of close air support and the early introduction of armor and artillery.

After an extended aerial campaign which saw hundreds of sorties and tons of bombs dropped on the islands, Operation Flintlock began on Jan. 31, 1944. With support from naval gunfire, the Marines attacked from the lagoon side of the islands. Encountering only light resistance, Roi was secured by 5 p.m. The island of Namur, covered in heavy vegetation and home of the submarine base headquarters and over 3,000 troops, was a different



An American bombing run rips apart Japanese piers during the campaign.



situation. The initial advance halted abruptly as a torpedo warhead storage area exploded showering the entire island with smoke and debris. The delay caused by the explosion allowed the Japanese to organize a resistance which slowed the progression. As night fell, small groups launched attacks as the Americans dug in for the night. Supported with tanks, and later half-tracks, the advance renewed the next morning. At 2:18 p.m., the island was declared secured.

The battle for Kwajalein began on the outer islands to create artillery fire support bases. On Feb. 1, six battle ships and cruisers, supported by airstrikes from six aircraft carriers, began shelling the island as they moved to the lagoon side to prevent inter-island traffic. On Kwajalein, soldiers encountered fortified defensive positions, large underground shelters interconnected via trenches and underground tunnels. By the end of the first day, however, initial objectives had been met.

Throughout the night the Japanese conducted counterattacks. With the airfield as their next objective, the American advance renewed in the morning. Unexpectedly heavy resistance and delays in artillery and air support, however, stalled the advance. Despite heavy losses, the Japanese again conducted a series of counterattacks throughout the night. On the morning of Feb. 3, the Americans launched "a vigorous attack." As they approached the "Admiralty Area" interspersed among the wrecked buildings, they encountered a series of heavily fortified underground shelters, blockhouses, pillboxes and trenches which had survived intensive shelling. Each would have to be inspected and neutralized before the unit could advance. This area was the scene of intense resistance as units were separated amidst the wreckage and dense jungle. With the momentum lost, the units, dispersed in small groups and dug in for the night. During the night the Japanese launched grenade and banzai attacks and a concentrated attack by infantry unit in the early morning.

With only 1000 yards remaining to capture the island, the American final assault began at sunrise. The disorganized American units were



**Namur Island on Feb. 1, 1944—two days into the U.S. assault on Kwajalein Atoll—smoulders in the wake of rounds of American bombardment.**

initially met by strong resistance. As the day progressed Korean laborers and Japanese soldiers, having survived without food and water for four days, surrendered in increasing numbers. The last vestiges of resistance however did not end until 7:20 p.m. on Feb. 4, 1944.

As one aerial observer described the extent of destruction across Kwajalein. "The entire island looked as if it had been picked up to 20,000 feet and then dropped."

After the battle, the islands were bulldozed to eliminate craters, tunnels and debris and to prepare for construction of the new American naval base. It is said that one lone palm survived the battle and its aftermath on Kwajalein Island.

This year – 2014 - marks the 50th anniversary of transfer of Kwajalein. The Reagan Test Site has been a part of this command since July 1964. To celebrate the occasion, the Historical Office will develop a series of articles devoted to the history of the RTS, with each month devoted to a different aspect of the develop-

ment and evolution of Kwajalein and its missions over the past half century.

While this article falls outside the 50-year framework, it is an important facet in the history of Kwajalein Atoll.



**Marines salute an American flag raised after vanquishing Kwajalein's formidable Japanese defenders.**



# Prospect Hill thank USAG-KA and residents of Roi-Namur, Kwajalein

## Letter from Prospect Hill

"To the people of of Roi Namur, and Kwajalein,

"On January 14th we departed from Boston, MA to time travel 16 hours into the future, and 7,000 miles half way across the world to the Marshall Islands. We traveled there to perform our music for the U.S civilians and Military Men and Woman who live and work on these islands. Being in the middle of the pacific, they very rarely have outside bands come to perform, so apparently we were a treat. We weren't sure with us being a hard rock act how this would resonate and how the people would react. We weren't really sure of anything at all. The scenery? The food? The people? It was very exciting to say the least. Just before we would experience all of that we had short stop in Honolulu, HI to perform at the Hard Rock Cafe. After great set and meeting some great people we had to quickly get back on a plane and make our away further west. Flying high over the ocean, for what felt like forever, we finally saw the island of Majuro below us. Upon landing, we knew that this tour would be something we would remember forever.

"We all quickly got out to stretch our legs and to see what Majuro had to offer. In Majuro's airport you can purchase some Marshallese crafts, alcoholic nips, and there are very few places to sit, we didn't care, we loved it. We then re-boarded the plane to head to Kwaj. On Kwaj we were welcomed by my Uncle and apparently the "Mayor" of the island Tim Roberge (haha had to do it). We quickly threw all of our equipment and luggage into the two golf carts we were given for the time there and Tim gave us a quick tour. Then just like that, we were in a small plane (small enough where we could see the pilot) and headed for the island of Roi.

"Roi is a very beautiful place and lacks the more Americanized feel of Kwaj. It feels as if it was preserved in the 1950's and still holds that foreign tropical island feel. We were fortunate enough to go on a WWII history tour around the island with Tim as our guide. Tim being such a great host and a great tour guide, he even made sure we drank and ate fresh coconuts. We also were able to spend a day on the beach only to later at sun down feed nurse sharks at the Gabby Shack. We were met by the lovely Laura Pasquarella-Swain and company and had one hell of a time. (Laura if you are reading this the sun block you lent me is in locker 34 at the golf house in a golf bag, Godspeed and thank you for everything!)

"Prior to our show at the Out Rigger we had to setup and sound-check. This wouldn't have been possible without the generosity and professionalism of Allan Foreman and Bob Barker. You guys were a pleasure to work and made our entire show sound awesome. So thank you for that! The show was amazing with half of the island showing up (about 45 people) and it was a blast! We jammed out for a little bit, drank and talked



with everyone and then jammed out a bit more and the place was bananas. Although our time in Roi was short-lived, it was an amazing experience for all of us. Also just because I know most of you are all wondering on the island, YES we had a MISSILE BURGER, and YES and it was delicious!

"The next day, we got on the little plane again and went back to Kwaj, where we spent most of our time. In spending so much time there, we were given the chance to get to know people. We had so many memorable experiences, like participating in drum circles on Emon beach, snorkeling at Bigej where we saw black tip sharks and sea turtles, and snorkeling then around the LCM. Our time at Kwaj was the coolest experience of our lives. We were able to build relationships and make memories that will last a lifetime.

"The show at the Vets hall was nothing short of awesome! 200 + people showed up and made us feel very welcome and showed us Kwaj knows how to throw down! Without the patience and generosity of Danny Barthle and Greg Spock lending us equipment and running sound to perfection the shows on Kwaj would never have been possible never mind the Vets hall show. The show was killer and we had an overwhelming positive response. I do have to mention that before the show we received one of the coolest and probably the most honorable gifts we have ever received. Mike Woundy one by one handed us a Vets Hall commemorative military coin and made us feel like family. It was truly a highlight of not only the trip but also our lives. Thank you for that moment Mike. Also thank you Jan Abrams as well; you and Mike were great hosts. Also thank you Melissa Hartley for making sure we had just beverages in us!

"The highlight of the whole tour was the shows at the high school and the writing workshop at the teen center. We want to thank all the kids who came out to escape their parents for the night (no parents allowed Col Nestor Sadler), you guys really made it special. We could feel the energy and excitement from the crowd while we were on stage. This experience truly made an impact on us and we were happy that you guys gave us such a positive response. For those of you leaving the island to go off to college, we wish you luck and be sure to look out for us in the states this year on tour. For those of you who will be their next year, we hope to come back soon and rock out with everyone all over again.

"The level of generosity and kindness on the island is something you have to experience first hand to



really understand. Coming from Boston and traveling all over the United States, we have our share of good and bad experiences. Kwaj and Roi are home to some of the nicest people in the world. We have to give a huge thank you to the Quality Of Life Committee for making the whole trip possible, we will always be grateful. We would like to thank all of the Marshallese and the residents of Roi and Kwaj for being so kind and welcoming. There are some people that made the shows on Kwaj possible by lending equipment, running sound, promoting, handling contracts and for just being awesome. Jon Mitchell, Dan Eggers, Bill Williamson, Mike Symanski, Andy Carden, Midori Hobbs, Tommy Wynn, Al Robinson, Anne Dowell, Nick Langley, Kyle Miller, Liz Mefford, Brandon Williams, Jarrod Norman, Fire Chief Tony Flowers, the whole Fire Dept. and last but not least Col. Nestor Sadler and his beautiful wife Monica Sadler. We were fortunate enough to sit in Col. Nestor Sadler's office with him and share stories and get to know each other a bit. It was an absolute

honor to have that time with you sir and we thank you for that and giving a rock band clearance on Kwaj! We really want to thank Tim Roberge for making this trip happen and being the greatest host ever. Out of everything we have been through as a band, this was by far the most amazing experience to date. We greatly appreciate the opportunity and we will all work on getting our dive certification in hopes of returning next year. I still want to see an octopus, Alex wants to surf, John wants to snorkel the Prinz Eugen, Edgar wants to go wake boarding, Adam wants to kiss a shark (and he is afraid of sharks) and Dan wants a personal tour of the waste water treatment. So, we definitely have to come back to Kwaj and Roi. We love you all, and again THANK YOU for everything!

"If we missed anyone we apologize, but know we appreciate you and are thankful nonetheless."

Sincerely,

Mark Roberge, Adam Fithian, John Roberge, Edgar Troncoso, Alex Huston, Dan Roberge

## VETS, from page 5



Photo from John and Cherie O'Brien

Sonner, left, and Sousa dance the night away at the 1940s-themed Operation Flintlock anniversary party at the Country Club Sunday.

Sorensen that took them out of the lagoon and back in through Gea Pass, the entry point the 383 took to enter the lagoon in 1944. They poured over charts and thought back to the route they had taken approaching Kwajalein under barages of Japanese shelling whizzing overhead at American gunships farther away. It wasn't until the *Sorensen* was within one mile of Kwajalein and the Bustards that Sousa said that they had reached the spot where the 383 plucked Miller from the wrecked plane. He tossed a wreath onto the water to mark the spot and let Fuqua know that his comrades are thinking of him.

Sonner, meanwhile, was sure his pal was right about the location.

And Farnham and Vance?

They're sure they have another lead, one which they hope will finally take them to the rusted hull of the

Kingfisher and the remains of Fuqua lying on the lagoon floor below.

While the catamaran trip opened up a new chapter in the search for the Kingfisher, the veterans' visit touched on a lot more than recon for a 70-year-old search-and-rescue mission. Sonner and Sousa were also here to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Operation Flintlock. And what better way to celebrate than host a couple heros who actually participated in the campaign?

Accompanied by Vance and their sons, Sonner and Sousa took the opportunity to experience everything the communities of Kwajalein and Roi-Namur had to offer.

A student assembly at the MP Room gave children and teens the occasion to pick the vets' brains about a range of topics, from what they did after their tenures in the Navy to what it was like aboard the 383. Sonner

and Sousa held a separate forum at the Veterans Hall that night, and between events they toured everything on Kwajalein from WWII historical sites to high-tech Reagan Test Site mission operations facilities. On Feb. 1 they were whisked away to Roi-Namur with USAG-KA Command for a special memorial ceremony where they recognized the Marines and Navy servicemen who were killed in action during the American assault on Roi, Namur and other islands in the area during Operation Flintlock. And after the catamaran excursion Feb. 2, they attended a 1940s-themed party thrown by Community Activities staff in the veterans' honor. They even caught a bit of the Super Bowl at the Vets Hall before flying back out to Honolulu.

Both agreed that their adventure on the atoll 70 years later was a hell of a lot better than their previous experience during WWII.

"We've had a fabulous time, and people have really treated us just royally," said Sousa, who celebrated both his 21st and 91st birthday on the atoll. "It's just been a real experience of a lifetime really. I had my birthday on the same trip. And of course we went in here on my 21st birthday during the invasion."

Sonner, who said he was expecting to be busy searching for the Kingfisher during much of his time on Kwajalein, was pleasantly surprised by the congeniality of the communities.

"I think I've met everybody. And I think I've hugged everybody on that island," he said. "And it's the most friendly island I ever saw in my life."



# DISPATCH FROM ROI

# 1944



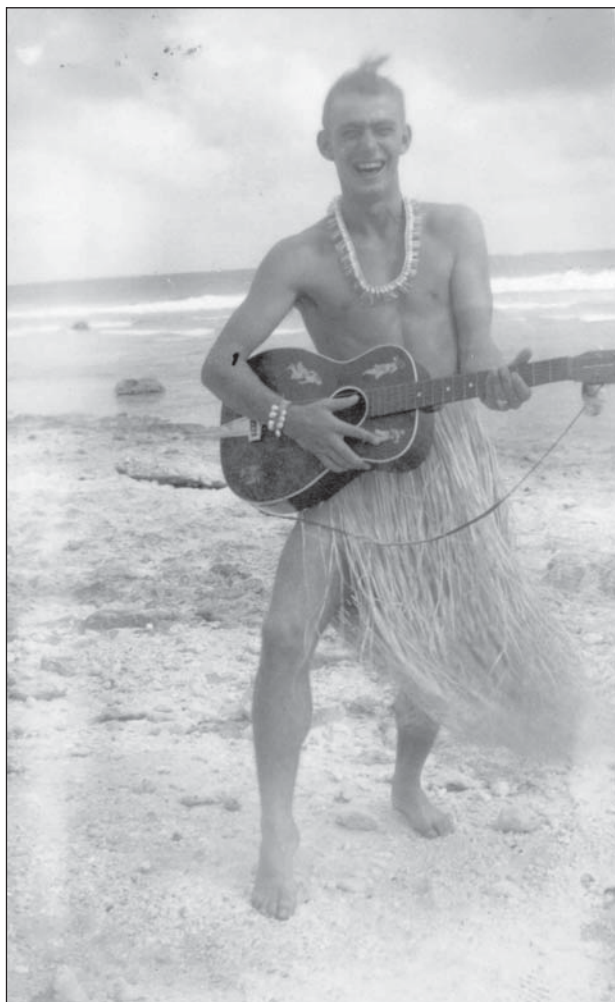
The bucolic paradise that is contemporary Roi-Namur looks much differently than it did after the 4th Marines' and 7th Infantry's cataclysmic assault Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 1944 on Japanese forces hunkered down on the islet.



After the battle for the northern rim of Kwajalein Atoll, servicemen relax on the beaches of Roi and enjoy the fishing.



Soldiers walk through the ruins of the Japanese defenders' camps and beaches.



A soldier gets into the island spirit, setting a precedence that many Roi Rats would surely follow for decades to come.



# View from Kwaj

## 1944



Soldiers rest among a mess of downed coconut trees on Kwajalein following the battle for the island.



Japanese defenders put up a fierce resistance on Kwajalein.



Sailors and Marines aboard U.S. ships off Kwajalein Island.



An American tank column advances against the Japanese.



**HELP WANTED**

KRS AND CMSI job listings for on-island positions will be available at the Kwajalein, Roi-Namur and Ebeye Dock Security Check Point bulletin boards, the bulletin board by the Continental Travel Office, the Roi-Namur Terminal/Post Office bulletin board and at Human Resources in Building 700. Job listings for contract positions will be available at [www.krsjv.com](http://www.krsjv.com), on the bulletin board by the Continental Travel Office and on the Roi-Namur Terminal/Post Office bulletin board. Full job descriptions and requirements for contract openings are located online at [www.krsjv.com](http://www.krsjv.com).

**LOST**

SMALL, BLUE PUDDLEJUMPER life jacket with lion design on the front, lost last Sunday, reward offered. Call Amber or David at 51480 or return to quarters 452-A.

LADY'S WATCH, silver, on Ocean Road between the chapel and Kwaj Lodge. Call 52370.

SUUNTO VIPER dive computer at Emon Beach dive shack, on or about Jan. 20. Call 51689.

**WANTED**

GLIDER or rocking chair, may also be interested in other nursery/baby items. Call Leanne at 51159.

**PATIO SALE**

TODAY, 2-6 p.m., quarters 430-A. Final PCS sale. Couches, window treatments and shades,

toys, kitchen gadgets, scuba gear and more!

**GIVEAWAY**

CHANGING TABLE, wooden, in excellent condition. Call 51236.

**FOR SALE**

SET OF WOMAN'S dive gear, size small BC, \$275. Call 54643.

FUJI 18-SPEED racing bike, rustman ready, model S12-S, \$150. Call Bob or Jane at 53704.

COUCH SET, \$200; scuba gear, \$50-75; ironing board, \$5; crockpots, \$15; large bin of legos, best offer; rollerblades and skates, kids' and men's, \$20-40; waffle maker, \$10; lawn tools, best offer; TV stand, best offer; window shades, curtains, and rods for 400-series house, all prices negotiable! Call 54158 today!

DACOR XXXL FlightPac rear-inflation BC, good condition, \$75; Dacor ViperTec regulator kit, no gauges or computer, needs service before use, \$25; three folding beach chairs, \$20 each; two tan Adirondack chairs, new, \$20 each. Call Ken at 51293.

ROSEWOOD curio/entertainment center with roll-out drawer for DVDs, 56- W x 54- H x 22-inch deep, will fit a 32-inch television, must see to appreciate, \$650. Call 53887.

KING-SIZED BED, \$225.00; curtains and rods, perfect for 400-series house, \$125 per set; flat-bed trailer, \$40. Call Randy at 55124.

OLYMPUS Micro 4/3 E-PL1 camera, PT-EP01 underwater housing, 14-42 mm lens, camera tray and single-strobe arms, excellent condition, original boxes and paperwork, \$375. Call 53018 and leave a message.

Suunto Solution wrist dive computer, \$10; Dacor wrist dive compass \$5; Roundtree & Yorke pleated denim shorts, new with tags, size 34, \$5; new orange Sun bike, \$350; complete first season of "Hell on Wheels" DVD, \$10; boxed set of entire "24" TV series DVD, \$100; Garmin eTrex 10 Geocaching GPS, \$75; Able Planet noise canceling headphones with case, \$75; GE freezer, 5 cubic feet, like new, \$250; oak microwave or printer stand with rollers, \$20; Canon FS100 Camcorder with SDHC card, two batteries, charger, pc cord, tripod, \$200; large

reading light with clamp, \$3; T-Core Ab workout, \$10; snorkel kit including Sherwood Spinta fins, Deep Sea hard booties, US Divers gloves, Riffe mask, Stable flex snorkel, carry bag, used once, \$125; red Sun bike with side baskets, lock (available late March), \$150. Items available on Roi. Call 56828 or 56420.

GIRL'S princess bike, 16-inch, \$20; three new Ikea lamps in boxes, \$35 each; two Wii remote rechargeable batteries, \$10. Call 52370.

WATERPROOF armband/adjustable waistband/headphones for all generations of iPod nano and other medium size mp3 players, H2O Audio Amphibix brand, for running, swimming, kayaking, surfing and kite surfing, paid over \$100, will sacrifice for \$50. Call Kathy at 52517.

FUJI 18-speed racing bike, model S12-S, \$150; Scubapro Knighthawk XXL BCD, Atomic B2 regulator, Air2, bag, more, \$400; Logitech MOMO racing wheel and NASCAR game, \$25; two hose reels with hose, \$15 each. Call Bob or Jane at 53704.

1987 BENETEAU 432 *Kailuana*, 43x14-foot, draft 5-foot 10-inch, new Yanmar 53HP diesel, three bedrooms, two heads, galley with 4-burner stove, large fridge, major refit from Nov. 2009-April 2011, new electrical, three solar panels, wind generator, autopilot, new cabinetry, flooring, plumbing, upholstery and much more, \$75,000. Contact [mnast@hotmail.com](mailto:mnast@hotmail.com) or call 54203.

DIVE GEAR: Seaquest GD PRO BCD, size large, Aqualung regulator, Apex Buddy with compass, Aqualung Slingshot fins, size 10 boots, large gloves, mask, snorkel, two large rashguards, \$1200. Call Harry Alanzo at 52520 or 52222.

PORTABLE DISHWASHER, \$100; men's left-handed TaylorMade Burner irons, 580 driver, putter, new umbrella, glove, tees, balls, nice bag, pull cart, \$150. Call 52785.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

PARENTS Make a Difference support group meets at 4:45 p.m., today, in the hospital conference room. Topic: "Belief Systems are formed throughout life, but especially during the time from birth through early child-

**Religious Services****Catholic**

5:30 p.m., Saturday, Small Chapel  
9:15 a.m., Sunday, Island Memorial Chapel  
Roi-Namur service, 4:45 p.m., Second and Fourth Friday of each month. Appointments with Fr. Vic available after dinner.

**Protestant**

8 a.m., Sunday, Island Memorial Chapel  
9:15 a.m., Sunday School  
11 a.m., Sunday, Island Memorial Chapel  
6:30 p.m., Friday, Roi Chapel

**Latter-day Saints**

10 a.m., Sunday, CRC Room 3  
Contact the chaplain's office at 53505 for more information.

**Captain Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility****Lunch**

| Sunday                 | Monday            | Tuesday          | Wednesday     | Thursday        | Friday           | Feb. 15      |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Maple Glazed Ham       | Herb Roasted Beef | Meat Lasagna     | Roast Turkey  | Pork Spareribs  | Chicken Sandwich | Pasta        |
| Barbecue Beef Sandwich | Tuna Casserole    | Cheese Manicotti | Sage Stuffing | Baked Beans     | Pot Roast        | Meatballs    |
| Scalloped Potatoes     | Quiche            | Garlic Toast     | Pork Stir-fry | Corn on the Cob | Fish du Jour     | Garlic Bread |

**Dinner**

| Sunday             | Monday          | Tuesday                | Wednesday         | Thursday          | Friday              | Feb. 15            |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Rosemary Pork Loin | Beef Curry      | Kwaj Fried Chicken     | Top Sirloin Steak | Teriyaki Beef     | Hamburger Bonanza   | Breaded Pork Steak |
| Chicken Stir-fry   | Buffalo Chicken | Hawaiian Chopped Steak | Grilled Chicken   | Pork Egg Foo Yung | Vegetarian Stir-fry | Onion Gravy        |
| Mixed Vegetables   | Brown Rice      | Potatoes O'Brien       | Pineapple Salsa   | Sesame Noodles    | Rice Pilaf          | General's Chicken  |



hood". Questions? Call the EAP at 55362.

**MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION!** 8 p.m., tonight, at the Ocean View Club. Come enjoy Fat Tuesday on a Saturday, complete with beads, feather masks and featured drink specials.

**DATE CHANGE:** Kwajalein Running Club's 4X1 Sweetheart Relay will be at 9 a.m. on Feb. 17, instead of Feb. 10. This is a no-fee event, but pre-registration is required. Questions? Call Bob or Jane Sholar at 51815.

**BARIATRIC SURGERY** Support Group meets at 4:45 p.m., Tuesday, in the hospital conference room. Questions? Call the EAP at 55362.

**KWAJALEIN ART GUILD** meeting is at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, in the Art Annex. Community welcome.

**COOKIE EXCHANGE.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, at the Grace Sherwood Library. Make and bring your favorite baked goodies to exchange with others! Questions? Call 53439.

**OPEN RECREATION Event:** Valentine's Craft Night. 5:30-7 p.m., Wednesday, in the SAC room. Register at the CYSS Central Registration Office by calling 52158. Questions? Contact Katrina Ellison at *Katrina.m.ellison.ctr.@us.army.mil*.

**KWAJALEIN SCUBA Club Meeting.** 7 p.m., Wednesday, at the Pacific Club

**ATTENTION DEFICIT** Support Group meets at 4:45 p.m., Thursday, in the hospital conference room. Topic: "Where do I go from here?" Questions? Call the EAP at 55362.

**RESILIENCY PRESENTATION** to the community: "Avoiding Think Traps." 4:45 p.m., Feb. 15, in the hospital conference room. Presented by Ray Drefus. Questions? Call the EAP at 55362.

**SPECIAL MOVIE** Presentation: "Antarctica: A Year On Ice." 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, at the Rich.

**KWAJALEIN SCUBA CLUB,** Project Aware, Harbor Clean-up. 1-3 p.m., Feb. 16. Divers: this is a rare chance to dive the Kwajalein Harbor. Sign-in starts at 12:30 p.m. at the Small Boat Marina. Bring gloves. Contact Bill Williamson for details.

**THE FEBRUARY Kwajalein School Advisory Council** public meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m.,

Feb. 19, in the Elementary School Coconut Room. The public is invited to attend.

**SMOKING CESSATION** for the Kwaj community on Feb. 22. Call the EAP at 55362 to register.

**IF YOU ARE** interested in seeing more images from Operation Flintlock, a collection of historic photographs are available at <https://kwajweb.smdck.smdc.army.mil/usaka/esh/Pages/HistoryPage.aspx>. Questions? Call Leslie at 58867.

**MAILING A PACKAGE?** With the new ATI schedule, mail is leaving our warehouse at new times. Please have your packages and letters mailed at least 72 hours prior to when you want them to be leaving island.

**NEW POSTAL RATES** are now in effect. Visit

<https://www.usps.com/new-prices.htm> for details. First-Class letter Mail is now \$0.49.

**ADULT POOL NOTICE:** Kwajalein Swim Team will be using the Adult Pool while construction continues at the Family Pool. KST will use three lanes for team members. Three lanes will remain open for Adult Pool patrons. All facility policies and patronage rules still apply. Practice times are Mondays 8:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesdays and Saturdays 5-8 p.m.

**E-TALK:** The Eniwetak Conservation Area has been established to promote conservation of wildlife and coral reef resources. Visitors are NOT allowed without consent from USAG-KA.

**SAFELY SPEAKING:** Wind Hazards: Protect your eyes from windblown debris. Protect your fingers and body when doors open or close quickly from the wind's energy.

### New Post Office Finance Window Hours

All package pick-up hours will remain the same.

#### Kwajalein Post Office Finance Window

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Monday        | 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday       | 3-6 p.m.             |
| Wednesday     | CLOSED               |
| Thursday      | 3-6 p.m.             |
| Friday-Sunday | CLOSED               |

#### Roi Post Office Finance Window

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Wednesday        | 8 a.m.-4 p.m. |
| Thursday         | CLOSED        |
| Friday           | 8 a.m.-4 p.m. |
| Saturday-Tuesday | CLOSED        |

### New Kwajalein Hospital Pharmacy Hours

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday                   | 1-4:30 p.m.                 |
| Wednesday-Thursday        | 8-11:30 a.m.<br>1-4:30 p.m. |
| Friday                    | 8-11:30 a.m.*               |
| *Closed on payday Fridays |                             |
| Saturday                  | 1-4:30 p.m.                 |

## Post Office News

New postal rates are in effect as of Jan. 26, 2014. For complete details, visit <https://www.usps.com/new-prices.html> First-class postage stamps are now \$0.49.

With the new ATI schedule, mail is leaving our warehouse at new times. Please have your package/letters mailed at least 72 hours prior to when you want them to be leaving island.

## THUMBS UP!

... to Mandie Morris for getting our visiting WWII veterans upgraded to first class on their flight to Kwajalein ... to everyone who helped make the vets' experience on Roi-Namur and Kwaj one of the best times of their lives. Special thanks to Dan Farnham and Josh Vance!

... to "Labtak, Dax and Kezin for your immediate response to help us get the x-ray machine at the airport up and running!"

**THUMBS UP!**  
... to Leslie Mead and the Roi-Namur residents who made the new memorial plaque for the fallen Marines on the island possible.  
... to "Dax Mitchell, the Electrical Shop supervisor, for going above and beyond for his customers. Your knowledge, expertise and customer service are much appreciated."

## Café Roi

### Lunch

| Sunday             | Monday             | Tuesday               | Wednesday         | Thursday          | Friday           | Feb. 15          |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Smokey Mt. Chicken | Steak              | Chicken Breast        | Beef Stew         | Char Siu Pork     | Tuna Casserole   | Meat/Veg Lasagna |
| Veggie Frittata    | Breakfast Burrito  | Fried Zucchini        | Chicken Strips    | Beef Stir Fry     | Yankee Pot Roast | Spaghetti        |
| Parslied Potatoes  | Scalloped Potatoes | Oven Roasted Potatoes | Hot Spiced Apples | Veggie Fried Rice | Vegetable Medley | Garlic Bread     |

### Dinner

| Sunday          | Monday         | Tuesday         | Wednesday       | Thursday          | Friday           | Feb. 15             |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Jambalaya       | Spaghetti      | Pork Chops      | Herb Chicken    | Roi Fried Chicken | BBQ Pork Ribs    | Philly Cheese Steak |
| Rost Beef       | Marinara Sauce | Chicken Curry   | Baked Potatoes  | Baked Fish        | BBQ Chicken      | Chicken Nuggets     |
| Mashed Potatoes | Garlic Bread   | Mashed Potatoes | Corn on the Cob | Mashed Potatoes   | Roasted Potatoes | Tater Tots          |



# Ready and Resilient Wellness Calendar Feb. 9-15

Sponsored by the Community Health Promotional Council

|   |    |   |  |   |  |  |
|---|----|---|--|---|--|--|
| 9 | 10 | 11<br>Bariatric Support Group, 1645 – 1730, Hospital Conference Room. | 12<br>Zumba, 1730-1830, CRC, Rm 1<br><br>Wellness Wednesday<br>1730 – 1830 | 13<br>AD/HD Support Group, 1645 – 1730, Hospital Conference Room. | 14<br>Resiliency: Avoiding Think Traps, 1200, Hospital Conference Room. (Hospital Staff only)<br><br>Zumba, 1730-1830, CRC, Rm 1 | 15<br>Community Resiliency Training: Avoiding Think Traps 1645 – 1745, Hospital Conference Room. |
|---|----|---|--|---|--|--|



| BASKETBALL | WEEK 2 RESULTS   | WEEK 4 SCHEDULE  | LEAGUE STANDINGS   |
|------------|--|--|--|
|            | <b>Jan. 28</b><br>Fun "da" mentals def. Ebeje Boran 44-34<br>Icy Hot def Spartans 59-41<br>REMIX def Regulators 47-27                                  | <b>Feb. 11</b><br>Ebeje Boran vs. Icy Hot<br>REMIX vs. Fun "da" mentals<br>Spartans vs. Regulators                       | <b>Youth League</b><br>Dribblers 2-0<br>BreakFast 2-0<br>Space Jam 1-1<br>Alley-Oops 1-2<br>The Federation 0-3         |
|            | <b>Jan. 29</b><br>Space Jam def. Alley-Oops 37-35<br>Dribblers def. The Federation 40-27<br>USAG-KA def. The Other Guys 40-26<br>Auto def. SJC         | <b>Feb. 12</b><br>BreakFast vs. The Federation<br>Dribblers vs. Alley-Oops<br>Auto vs. Yokwe<br>SJC vs. The Other Guys   | <b>A League</b><br>Fun"da"mentals 4-0<br>Remix 3-1<br>Icy Hot 3-1<br>Regulators 1-3<br>Ebeje Boran 1-3<br>Spartans 0-4 |
|            | <b>Jan. 30</b><br>REMIX def. Ebeje Boran 65-56<br>Fun "da" mentals def. Spartans 47-34<br>Icy Hot def. Regulators 56-29                                | <b>Feb. 13</b><br>Spartans vs. Icy Hot<br>Ebeje Boran vs. Fun "da" mentals<br>Regulators vs. REMIX                       | <b>B League</b><br>USAG-KA 3-0<br>Auto 3-1<br>Yokwe 1-2<br>SJC 1-2<br>The Other Guys 0-3                               |
|            | <b>Jan. 31</b><br>BreakFast def. Space Jam 41-36<br>Alley-Oops def. The Federation 40-12<br>USAG-KA def. Yokwe 56-43<br>Auto def. The Other Guys 37-30 | <b>Feb. 14</b><br>The Federation vs. Dribblers<br>Alley-Oops vs. Space Jam<br>SJC vs. Auto<br>The Other Guys vs. USAG-KA |  |

## Weather

Courtesy of RTS Weather

| Day       | Skies        | Chance of Rain | Winds                   |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday    | Partly Sunny | <10%           | NE-ENE at 11-15 knots   |
| Monday    | Mostly Sunny | <10%           | NE-ENE at 13-16 knots   |
| Tuesday   | Partly Sunny | 10%            | ENE-E at 13-18 knots    |
| Wednesday | Mostly Sunny | 20%            | NE-ENE-E at 15-19 knots |
| Thursday  | Mostly Sunny | 20%            | NE at 15-19 knots       |
| Friday    | Mostly Sunny | 30%            | NE at 15-19 knots       |

Yearly total: 4.83 inches

Yearly deviation: +.23 inches

Call 54700 for updated forecasts or visit [www.rts-wx.com](http://www.rts-wx.com).

|           | Sunrise<br>Sunset      | Moonrise<br>Moonset    | High Tide                        | Low Tide                             |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 7:09 a.m.<br>6:58 p.m. | 2:21 p.m.<br>2:21 a.m. | -----<br>1:02 p.m. 2.8'          | 5:45 a.m. 1.3'<br>8:06 p.m. 1.1'     |
| Monday    | 7:09 a.m.<br>6:58 p.m. | 3:10 p.m.<br>3:10 a.m. | 1:55 a.m. 2.2'<br>2:10 p.m. 3.1' | 7:33 a.m. 1.1'<br>8:51 p.m. 0.7'     |
| Tuesday   | 7:09 a.m.<br>6:58 p.m. | 3:58 p.m.<br>3:58 a.m. | 2:44 a.m. 4.5'<br>2:52 p.m. 3.5' | 8:28 a.m. 0.7'<br>9:21 p.m. 0.3'     |
| Wednesday | 7:08 a.m.<br>6:58 p.m. | 4:45 p.m.<br>4:44 a.m. | 3:17 a.m. 2.9'<br>3:25 p.m. 3.9' | 9:06 a.m. 0.3'<br>9:48 p.m. -0.1'    |
| Thursday  | 7:08 a.m.<br>6:58 p.m. | 5:33 p.m.<br>5:28 a.m. | 3:46 a.m. 3.3'<br>3:54 p.m. 4.2' | 9:38 a.m. 0.0'<br>10:14 p.m. -0.3'   |
| Friday    | 7:08 a.m.<br>6:59 p.m. | 6:19 p.m.<br>6:12 a.m. | 4:13 a.m. 3.6'<br>4:22 p.m. 4.4' | 10:08 a.m. -0.3'<br>10:39 p.m. -0.6' |
| Feb. 15   | 7:08 a.m.<br>6:59 p.m. | 7:06 p.m.<br>6:53 a.m. | 4:40 a.m. 3.9'<br>4:49 p.m. 4.6' | 10:36 a.m. -0.5'<br>11:04 p.m. -0.7' |