

KWAJALEN HOURGLASS

THIS WEEK

KWAJ EOD CRABS

HELP SPOT UXO 3

PAINT BALL

COMING TO USAG-KA 4

HOUSING AWARD

ANNOUNCED FOR KWAJ 5




LOGISTICS PERSONNEL AT ECHO PIER GET READY TO
RECEIVE A REALLY BIG SHIPMENT OF GROCERIES.

 JESSICA DAMBRUCH



EOD COCONUT CRABS WORK ON USAG-KA

 COURTESY OF KWAJALEIN EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL

Kwajalein EOD Techs assess a 100-pound bomb found at the west end of Kwajalein in 2018 during the old Navy dump cleanup.

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Don't touch the coconut crabs. They are government property.


U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Explosive Ordnance Disposal has enacted a new program to help island EOD technicians locate and dispose of unexploded ordnance. They will work in concert with experts in the field: coconut crabs trained to track down UXO.

The EOD Coconut Crab Operation—known as ECCO—is one in the latest series of new demining and UXO recovery techniques adopted by Department of Defense bomb disposal experts and contract operators around the world.

“Think of all the bomb-sniffing dogs we rely on at airports and military installations,” said Jon Lucas, Kwajalein EOD Technician. “Those working animals have a qualitative impact on the safety of human personnel, whether they be contract or active duty. Then there are the coconut crabs we use when terrain proves difficult to navigate. The ECCO program is just the next step.”

Mammalian assistants in the DOD are far from new; animals have helped servicemembers in the U.S. Armed Forces deter adversaries for more than 30 years. In 1967, the United States Navy Marine Mammal Program was among the first programs of its kind to integrate marine life into its threat deterrence operations. Dolphins in the San Diego-based program were initially trained to assist DOD personnel in ballistic hydrodynamics studies. USNNMMP successfully expanded the program and has since trained dolphins and sealions in a variety of reconnaissance tasks, including but not limited to mine detection, swimmer re-



 U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

EOD Coconut Crabs on the job will be marked with a large red circle. Residents are advised to leave these crabs alone.

covery, camera surveillance, object recovery and attack.

Coconut crabs are a protected species under USAG-KA's environmental protection policy with the Republic of the Marshall Islands. An agile crab with multiple appendages can freely roam the island without disrupting the local ecosystem. Kwajalein's ECCO program is the first instance on record that the DOD has deployed indigenous crustaceans as a UXO cleanup strategy. A similar program was also used by DoD support-contractor PAE in UXO cleanup operations on the island of Palau in early 2010.

Kwajalein's EOD crabs—known as ECCOs by the team—were successfully deployed seven months ago during the

height of the ongoing “old Navy dump” shoreline revetment project and cleanup. As part of the cleanup effort, several thousand tons of scrap metals were removed from the island. Areas along the garrison's west end shoreline were graded, removed and rebuilt to reduce near-shore pollutants and deter erosion.

The cleanup unearthed items of interest, including the turret of a Sherman tank and two WWII-era 100-pound bombs.

“We found the first one,” said Lucas. “The ECCOs found the second one.”

The ECCOs were turned loose onto the west end and scabbled over the pile. They searched a site for a full hour before congregating over one end of a then-dis-

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

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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U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY PHOTOGRAPHER'S MATE 1ST CLASS BRIEN AHO.

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U.S. NAVY PHOTO

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rupted embankment. After clearing the area and securing the ECCOs, EOD personnel were able to safely remove and dispose of both UXOs.

"I was skeptical of the program at first," said Lucas of the ECCOs. "I'm familiar with stories of how coconut crabs are excellent hunters and how they can take down a wild fowl. I've rarely seen how they behave in the wild. It so happens they are excellent UXO hunters as well."

Details about the program are forthcoming. But the hardy coconut crabs undergo several weeks' training before they are turned loose into the wild. Each is fitted with a unique tracking microchip that allows Kwajalein EOD to locate the crabs at a moment's notice should one travel far from the group. The range on the tracking device is good up to several miles away. A sensor station at the Kwajalein EOD Launch Ordnance Office allows EOD techs to monitor ECCO activity. Any congregation of coconut crabs might mean a UXO find.

How will you know a working coconut crab when you see it? Kwajalein EOD Technicians say they will be hard to miss.

"Each of these ECCOs will have a large, red circle marking its back," said Jon Lucas of Kwajalein EOD. "It's against Army regulations to mess with coconut crabs anyway. If you see that red circle, leave the crab alone. If you see a group of several ECCOs all piled together, you should not attempt to dislodge or distract them."

Lucas and the EOD team remind Kwaj residents to be mindful that they live on a battlefield that was buffeted by a heavy aerial and marine bombardment. Live UXO may still pose a threat, and residents should remember the three Rs of UXO: Recognize an item as possible Unexploded Ordnance; Retreat from the area of the UXO; and Report suspected UXO immediately by notifying EOD (5-1433) or CPS (5-4445).

"We want people to understand that if they see something, they should neither pick it up, nor take it home," said Lucas. "UXOs are not souvenirs. They are dangerous. If you spot UXO, you should report it."



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. COHEN A. YOUNG

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U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

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1) K-Dog, a bottlenose dolphin belonging to Commander Task Unit 55.4.3, leaps out of the water in front of Sgt. Andrew Garrett while training near the USS Gunston Hall in the Persian Gulf in 2003. Attached to the dolphin's pectoral fin is a "pinger" device that allows the handler to keep track of the dolphin when out of sight. On this mission, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Units Six and Eight conducted deep/shallow water mine countermeasure operations

to clear shipping lanes. 2) An NMMP sea lion attaches a recovery line to a piece of test equipment during training. 3) NOUMEA, New Caledonia Navy and Air Force personnel manage dolphins aboard a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft en route to New Caledonia in 2009 where they participated in a humanitarian demining project to remove WWII-era mines. 4) Thanks to clean-up and environmental efforts, the west end of Kwajalein is looking healthier these days.



HOLMBERG PAINTBALL RANGE COMES TO KWAJALEIN IN 2021

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

The transition from USAG-KA to Joint Expeditionary Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll is going according to schedule, said Gen. James Read, special advisor to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. That impending schedule means changes for the Kwajalein community. However, the biggest change will be something Kwaj residents are sure to enjoy. The DoD will open part of its west end training facility for Kwaj residents to use for recreational purposes during training offseason—and that facility is Kwajalein's new paintball range.

"I have been waiting to supervise a paintball range since I was a kid," said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Alexandra Ainsworth of the impending project. The Army range supervisor visited Kwajalein in early February with USINDOPACOM personnel for a site tour. During her visit, she checked out the island, met with USAG-KA Command staff and discussed environmental needs with island directors.

Ainsworth is one of a handful of DoD personnel who will travel to Kwajalein to supervise training for visiting personnel next year, according to USINDOPACOM public affairs. Though she is now stateside, she can't wait to get back out to play.

"Paintball is just so much fun," said Ainsworth. Before enlisting in the Army back in 2002, she regularly visited paintball ranges in the Blue Ridge Mountains with her older siblings.

"I love strategy, I love being outside and getting to practice marksmanship skills" she said. "Also, from a training perspective, paintball offers a lot in terms of readiness and fitness. It will be great to have the range here as a training alternative, as well as a recreational asset for the local community."

If you haven't already guessed, the new range—USAG-KA Command staff are already calling it the Holmberg Paintball Range—will occupy the footprint of the Holmberg Fairways Golf Course for a portion of the year. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Golf season and tournaments will be condensed in anticipation of training schedules. Repurposing the golf course is not expected to pose a seri-

ous challenge for the island's eight active golfers. Instead, it will open opportunities for more people to enjoy the space.

Pizza-and-paintball tournaments are not a too-far stretch of the imagination, according to USAG-KA FMWR Director Jeffrey Suis.

"Really, since we are such a small island, it makes sense that we would make each new facility a multi-purpose space," said Suis. "Two years ago, we sourced and received paintball gear from Camp Red Cloud, in South Korea. The time to use it is nearly here."

In the coming months, keep an eye out for changes at the golf course. Storage facilities for paintball markers and protective gear, as well as additional facilities for personnel in training, will be erected near the Country Club. Portable partitions will allow the range to be reconfigured to accommodate a near-limitless number of training scenarios. Protective barriers will shield commuters during training. As an added safety measure, during some operations, areas in and around the runway will be closed to Kwajalein residents. During

those times, contract vehicles will use an alternate route.

For Ainsworth, the new range on the tiny garrison is something everyone can look forward to. "It's not a huge installation," said Ainsworth of Kwajalein. "But you don't need a huge place to do paintball. You need a dedicated space and the tools and equipment to conduct the right training."

"We look forward to keeping up our skills and training," said Ainsworth. "It is such a privilege to train on Kwajalein. We look forward to staying mission-sharp, and to sharing the facility with the civilians on island that support us during the year."

In the coming months, mariners and pilots can expect the mid-atoll corridor to be closed in support of Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Test Site operations and joint training operations for the U.S. Armed Forces, according to Read. Residents are advised to stay informed by checking the AFN roller channel, the official USAG-KA Facebook page and *The Kwajalein Hourglass*.



Kwajalein will receive a new paintball training facility in 2021. Island residents can look forward to new opportunities to use the Holmberg Paintball Range when it is not closed for U.S. Armed Forces training activities.



DOD ANNOUNCES AWARD FOR USAG-KA'S NEWEST HOUSING

The \$3.5 million construction award for Kwajalein's newest housing was awarded to Bateman, LLC. The company will build capsule quarters, a build plan similar to the company's 2010 projects in Tokyo and Dubai.

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

The Department of Defense announced Tuesday it has awarded Honolulu-based contractor Bateman, LLC, with a \$3.5 million award to construct Kwajalein's new capsule housing.

News of the award was released in a March 21 teleconference meeting with personnel from USAG-KA, Bateman and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"We are pleased with the choice and look forward to partnering with Bateman on this much-anticipated project," said Scott Hill, USAG-KA director of housing.

New Direction Saves Space

Bateman received the Global Innovation Commendation from the National Association of Architectural Design Professionals in 2010 for its award-winning urban space-saver construction in downtown Tokyo and Dubai. It is also internationally recognized for metropolitan industrial design work with acclaimed designers Kyomi Shibata and U.S. Army Installation Management Command's Alix Mun.

Bateman was chosen after a series of engineering discussions at the USAG-KA Department of Public Works prompted changes in the original housing build plans.

"We feel that going in a new direction will benefit both the mission and island residents," said Hill.

Bateman will receive the \$3.5 million award to build new, modern housing on island after completing eco-friendly and energy efficient housing for state colleges in Boston according to a company press release issued last week. The company beat out 10 major contractors to claim the award.

Build Plan

Following the demolition of new housing, Bateman will construct new living spaces at North Point. The initial build of 73 units is set for fiscal year 2021, according to USAG-KA DPW Director Derek Miller. The footprint for future builds will be expanded to areas of former Silver City.

Following this project, portions of old

Navy housing and dome housing will be demolished and replaced with capsule housing. The ultimate goal is to replace all island housing with these new quarters by 2030.

First Look

For months the question of what the new quarters will look like has been a hot topic around the island. "Nothing like this has ever been tried on Kwajalein before," said Hill. "From a design perspective, this gets back to the true spirit of barracks housing on military installations around the world."

The "space age" design of the buildings will let the new neighborhood blend seamlessly into the aesthetic set by Kwajalein's dome homes. Most importantly, the new build solution offers an elegant approach to Kwajalein's housing dilemma. For Hill, the outcome of the build—new designs and a new direction—were inevitable.

"Let's face it," said Hill. "Kwajalein residents need their single-occupancy privacy. We need more bed space to support the mission. This solution offers a big win for everybody."

Bateman will construct four to five dormitory-style buildings to accommodate up to 450 occupants. Each will include a communal bath, laundry, lounge and locker-storage area on the ground-floor. Inside, individual quarters—called capsules—will consist of a bed or day-lounger mattress. Units come equipped with a single wall charging unit for USB-powered devices.

Each floor of the building includes energy efficient windows designed to maximize Kwajalein's abundant daylight. Current designs will allow for full, future-integration of a water-cooling air-conditioning system. There are discussions about incorporating solar energy into the plan as that option becomes viable.

The interior construction of the capsules is a molded polyurethane—think ice cube tray—that will be easy for a staff of maintenance technicians to sanitize during weekly cleanings, said Hill. In addition, the reduced personal item weight allowance better assures that a balance between housing and house-

hold goods can be achieved.

Personal Goods Allocation

The new build plan offers the garrison and individual contractors increased cost-savings in terms of shipping and storage. Beginning April 1, 2022, new employees on Kwajalein will be able to carry out 75 pounds—the equivalent of one checked bag—to Kwajalein. All personal goods carried out must fit into the allotted weight limit. Additional storage on island will be limited to what employees are able to store in their allotted locker space.

Hill realizes that the reduction in storage space may present a challenge to some Kwajalein residents, many of whom have lived here for more than a decade. To accommodate the transition, a series of Morale, Welfare and Recreation yard bazaar sale events will provide opportunities for residents to sell personal items and furniture prior to their move-in dates.

Name That Neighborhood

USAG-KA Command is sponsoring a quarters-naming contest for the new neighborhood. Have an idea for a good name? Send it to the Commander's Hotline or message USAG-KA Facebook online. Before you get started naming, remember there are a few rules to follow.

Names should be 8-15 characters in length, and contain one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a special character.

Contestants are encouraged to submit up to four names—one for each new building. Consider theming your answers (ie, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta; Broncos, Packers, Cowboys and Vikings; MacDonalds, i-Hop, Waffle-home and Dennie's).

The use of profanity or sexism in a name selection will result in disqualification.

"We feel this build plan is an appropriate measure to support the mission," said Hill. "By pairing increased housing with environmentally-friendly building, we can generate cost-savings for the government and guarantee that we can meet the challenges of our operational tempo."

VISITING DIVER ADOPTED BY LOCAL PUFFERFISH

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

It could happen to you, and it might make for a great adventure story. On a recent visit to US-AG-KA, Dan Smith, a recreational diver, made a few friends. One of them was a pufferfish.

“It followed me all day,” said Smith of his back-to-back dives. “I didn’t mind. It was kind of cute—until it puffed up, of course. Then it was adorable.”

Smith and his dive buddy, Chris Androsik, had spent an afternoon diving near P-Buoy. After more than 35 minutes, the divers completed a safety stop and made their ascent—followed by the puffer, who they later named Señor Chonky McFishface III.

That’s a big fish name for a small fish story. If you’re wondering about the “third,” know this is not the first time a fish has adopted Smith.

Like most divers, Smith has been checked out by the occasional manta ray and sea turtle. He was adopted by puffers on his last dive trips to Barbados and the Red Sea, respectively. Smith named them Walter Cronkite and Puff Baddy.

Androsik shot a few photos of Smith with Señor Chonky Mcfishface III with a GoPro camera before they tossed some snacks in the water to encourage their fishy friend to return to his marine home.

“I doubt that chubby little guy is going to find me again the next time I am here, but I hope he does,” said Smith. “Fish like Senor Chonky Mcfishface III are the closest I ever come to having a dog or a pet.”

So, if you see Señor Chonky Mcfishface III during your next dive, Smith reminds you never to try to touch or pet marine life. He advises that the pufferfish seemed to enjoy goldfish crackers.

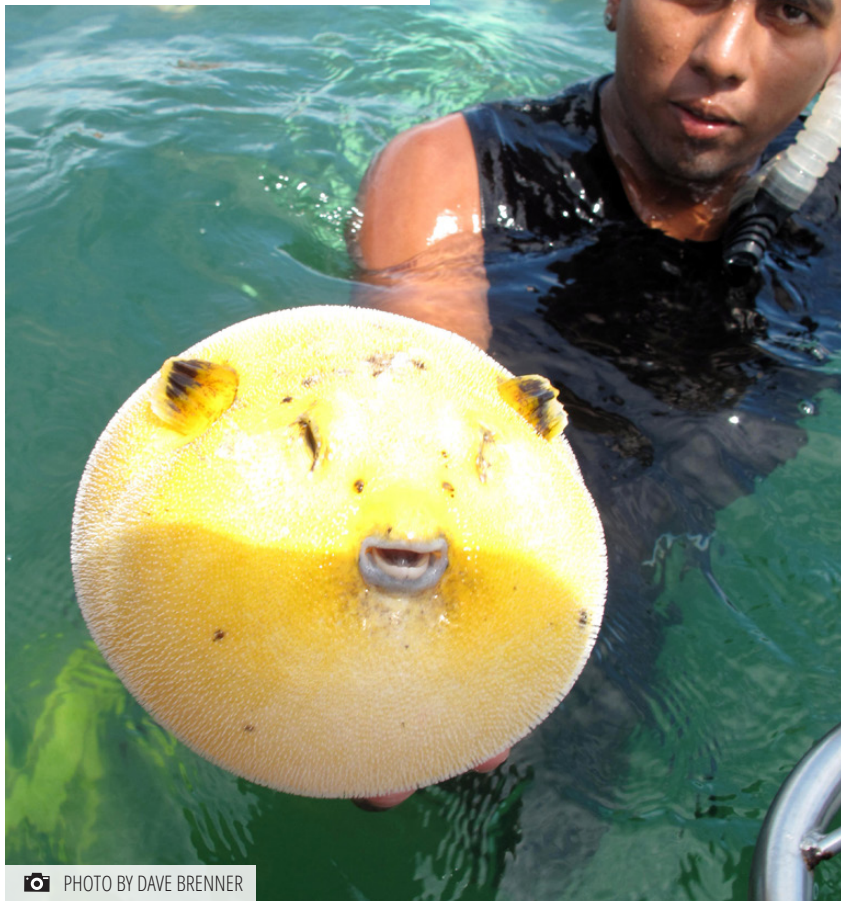


PHOTO BY DAVE BRENNER

Dan Smith (the human) and Señor Chonky McFishface III (the pufferfish) float in the water off Emon Beach during Smith’s recent visit to the atoll. While diving, this plucky pufferfish followed Smith and his dive buddy all the way from P-Buoy back to the Small Boat Marina.

NIGHT VISION GOGGLES APPROVED AS ALTERNATIVE TO BIKE LIGHTS

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Island security personnel want you to stay safe riding your bikes at night.

“We have a required flashlight rule,” said Kwajalein Police Department Chief Dennis Johnson. “However, since it is not always possible to purchase a bike light here, we have approved a safety alternative.”

Now, if you are riding your bike out to the Country Club, or jogging late at night, you can use night vision goggles. A limited selection of commercial-grade goggles will be available at points of sale around the island in upcoming weeks.

The decision to allow the change in garrison bicycling regulations came down last week in an internal security meeting.

“We discussed how a light is not

necessarily always going to be the safest option for someone working or biking outdoors,” said Johnson.

“A flashlight casts a beam on what you can immediately see—maybe five to eight feet away, at most,” he said. “In this case, night vision will help you see anything moving and any obstructions in your path, like fallen coconuts or debris.”

Here’s the catch: wearing night vision goggles does not excuse you from stopping at stop signs or following other rules for bicycle riding around the garrison. The Kwajalein Police Officers on night patrol will be wearing night vision goggles, too—and they’ll spot you a mile away.

“We want you to know that we are dedicated to keeping the roads and thoroughfares safe for travel,” said KPD Sgt. Miles Eiswirth.



A Kwajalein cyclist in training for the 2020 RustMan Triathlon cruises around the runway last week in this Kwajalein Police Department night vision security photo.

ALCOHOL RATIONING BEGINS MAY 3

Beginning May 3, AAFES will ration sales of liquor, beer and alcoholic beverage supplies. Customers must display a ration punch card at time of purchase. Cards will be available for pick up at AAFES beginning April 1. For more information, please call 5-3743.

KEYSTONE RAISES FUNDS WITH FITNESS

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Move over, Yokwe Yuk Women's Club. There's another Basket Auction in town, and this one's got game.

The Kwajalein Keystone Club invites you to support an action-packed fundraiser. "Dollars for Hoops" combines fun fitness activities with an exciting challenge. The event is coordinated with co-partnerships between U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Kwajalein School System.

How many baskets can you make in 15 minutes?

Anyone in the community can participate in "Dollars for Hoops," a fun community fitness challenge and fundraiser taking place April 1 in the CRC Gym. Referees and scorekeepers will tally up your baskets. Every basket scored during a series of 15-minute challenge events earns a \$1. Proceeds will be used to support Keystone activities and travel expenses for the Military Youth of the Year.

During the event, participants can sign up for up to four blocks of time to sink baskets, play keep-away or enter in a one-on-one team challenge.

Think you've got what it takes to beat a member of a Spartans basketball team? Advanced sign-ups are open now for the special "Spartan Battle" event where you can test your mettle.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable athletic wear and closed-toe shoes. Snacks and drinks will be available for sale at an outdoor tent (please, no food in the gym) for participants to enjoy on breaks. For more information, please contact MWR.

Keystone Club
presents

DOLLARS FOR HOOPS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1
CRC GYM
5-9 P.M.



PICTURE PAWS AT PET SELFIE-STATION

The Kwaj Pet Selfie-Stand is now open at the Sunrise Bakery. The next time you take your island pet for a walk be sure to visit the bakery so your dog can snap a photo with our Bakery GoPro camera.

Photos will be uploaded to the U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Facebook Page. On your visit, don't forget to purchase a delicious cup of espresso or one of our Kwaj-famous "Yokwe Pizzas." For more information, please contact MWR at 5-3331.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE JO

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COURTESY OF THE BUSSEY FAMILY

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1) Even goldfish need to get out every once in a while. 2) Kwaj poodle Teddy Bussey visited the Sunrise Bakery last week with her family and took this snazzy self-portrait.



UNITED STATES ARMY
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
1234 Philadelphia Ave.
Tel. No. (805) 555-5555



Involuntary Recall of Retired U.S. Army Officers for MWR Service

The U.S. Army is reaching out to gauge the interest of our noncommissioned and retired officers and Soldiers who would be willing to assist with Pre-K Morale, Welfare and Recreation Child and Youth Services should their skills and expertise be required.

The unprecedented challenges posed by caring for young children require teamwork and perseverance. That's why we're calling upon trusted professionals capable of adapting to overcome rapidly changing circumstances. You stepped up to answer the nation's call to service. Now, that call may come again—as a loud holler from the playground.

Separated personnel who remain qualified to serve in any of the following specialties are requested to muster at Fort Polk, Louisiana at 2500 HRS 12 April 2020. Specialties requested include the following: Project Manager, 001A; Operations Manager, 567Y; Clerk, 002B; Lego Wrangler, 022; Airplane Spoon Pilot, 247D; Baking Soda Volcano Handler, 422C; and Spills Clean-up Officer, 98R.

This request is targeted at all specialties. If you are interested in rejoining the U.S. Army and were in a different specialty, please declare your interest.

Please contact Human Resources Command, Reserve Personnel Management Directorate, at usarmy.polk.1234.hrc.mbx.gx-involuntary-recall@mail.mil or call 805-355-5555 and order a large pizza.

R/

Private 1st Class Marcus Reynolds
Clerk to the Clerk to the Secretary of U.S. Army Resource Personnel

WATER TOWER DECORATOR CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

And the winner is David Hasselhoff, folks.

This week, USAG-KA Command and the Kwajalein Art Guild announced the winner of the 2020 Water Tower Decorator Contest. Artists and crafters submitted their entries by the February 1 deadline. A panel of judges from USAG-KA Command staff, the Yokwe Yuk Women's Club and the KAG all voted on the top three entries—and narrowed it down to The Hoff.

The winning entry was designed by Kwajalein resident and AFN Communications Manager Jordan Vinson, with help from Kwaj buddies Jeffery Robinson and Caitlin Gilbertson. When asked why they chose Hasselhoff as their entry, they became enthusiastic.

"Who wouldn't want to be watched over by David Hasselhoff," said Vinson in an interview with *The Kwajalein Hourglass* last week. "I feel so much safer. Whenever I go biking long distances and I see the water tower beacon, I feel like The Hoff is looking out for me."

Indeed, the version of Hasselhoff chosen by the artists is, if anything, iconic. It portrays the American actor, singer and producer, known for his roles on hit TV series "Knight Rider" (1982) and "Baywatch" (1989) in the character of Mitch Bu-

channon, lifeguard. Hasselhoff went on after "Baywatch" to have a successful singing career and jumped the perilous generation gap from popular TV programming to Saturday morning cartoons, when he appeared in "SpongeBob SquarePants The Movie." On the water tower, Hasselhoff, shirtless, will smile down at passersby with his classic, red backboard, ready to come to the rescue.

Vinson chose the concept and rendered the overall design. Robinson provided moral support and the occasional "atta boy," as Vinson worked on the drawing. Gilbertson, a Kwajalein archaeologist who specializes in osteoarchaeology, provided guidance to the team as they tried to get Hasselhoff's square jaw and musculature just right.

"Hasselhoff is a household name, so trust me," said Gilbertson. "If we didn't get this right, someone out here would complain."

In the coming months, island logistics personnel will safely hoist Vinson—wearing a security harness laden with art supplies—up to the non-potable water tower in front of the Zamperini Cafeteria in a manlift to complete the drawing.

Completing the sketch should take Vinson a week. The painting will take up until next month, or whenever the next barge full of art supplies arrives.



Jordan Vinson, Jeffery Robinson and Caitlin Gilbertson are the winners of the USAG-KA Water Tower Decorator Contest. Vinson's concept art, above, shows the intended design: "Baywatch" star David Hasselhoff, ready to save the day.

NEW TANNING SALON TAKES THE SUN OUT OF SUNTAN

BY JORDAN VINSON

A **mighty array** of 6,000 solar panels has now been built on Meck Island. The 2.4 megawatt system, which took more than one year to assemble, will exclusively power a large fleet of tanning beds to be installed around Kwajalein Atoll. The atoll’s first tanning salon, Sizzlers, opened last week in the strip mall downtown.

“This really is the perfect solution to getting a solid, enviable golden tan without going out into all that awful nature,” said Sizzlers Manager Sarah Warrick. The shop has 20 brand-new XQ Serena 9000 stand-up tanning units featuring dozens of white-hot LED tubes that can turn anyone’s pasty skin into a deep golden amber in only a few visits. 10 more lie-down units, for the lazy, are on the way, Warrick said.

Spots to get a nice tan aren’t limited to Kwajalein. More tanning salons are slated for sites around Roi-Namur, Ebeye, Majetto, Bigej, Carlson, Carlos, Lone Palm Island and the homes of Kwaj residents Jeff

Jones and Auntie Normen Sablas.

“This can’t come soon enough,” said Roi resident James Rustler, who expects the island’s first tanning beds to arrive next week. “I moved from Wisconsin here to Roi only a few weeks ago, and I’ve already lost much of my tan. Because I never go outside. There just haven’t been any good indoor tanning solutions here for me yet. I’m excited about the tanning beds.” As are many of the Roi Rats on the island. The 120 residents there have a poll running on what to name Roi’s tanning salon. Rat Roaster, Red Bellies and The BBQ Pit are fan favorites, thus far, for the shop’s name.

Of course, none of the tanning salons would be possible without the juice that the \$500 million solar array system provides from Meck.

“Solar panels are a miracle of modern science,” said Sweaty Epidermis Annihilating Tan system (SWEAT) Engineer Tasha Knowles. She and her team have been busy assembling and netting together the 6,000 fix-tilt panels over the past 13 months, and they’re glad to be

finished. She took a few moments to explain a bit of the science behind the project.

“So here’s how it works,” Knowles explained, walking me through the solar farm. “The sun beats down on the solar panels, aka photovoltaic modules. Those thingermajigs convert those awful sunrays into sweet, sweet electrical energy. All 60,000 of these things feed the energy into combiner boxes and inverters that change the electrical power to AC from DC. The energy goes into a transformer, which steps up the voltage from combiner panels to a sizzling 480 volts, and off it goes to a solar array combiner panel. Something called a micro grid controller comes into play at some point. Anyway, all that electrical energy is fed into the garrison’s SWEAT system, an electrical grid installed to deliver the energy to the tanning network on the atoll. Sizzlers on Kwaj, as well as all the other tanning salons on the atoll, will run off this grid system, powered by these solar panels. No sun needed whatsoever to get a nice, even tan.”



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JORDAN VINSON

1) Sizzlers is now open for business on USAG-KA. 2) This photo of an indoor tanning salon gives Kwaj residents a taste of the sun-good time that’s to come, thanks to modern technology. 3) Technicians change solar panels in the Meck Island Solar Power Array. 4) The array reflects sunlight on a hot day last week. Approximately 6,000 solar panels make up the Meck array and will be used to power sunless tanning on USAG-KA.

EPIC ATTEMPT

HOURLASS REPORT

Kurt “Freewheelin” Douglas, a resident known for trying to do stupid things on his bike, sought a Marshall Islands record Sunday afternoon by attempting to jump 19 Cushman golf carts on his Sun cruiser.

Before a crowd of dozens of spectators, Douglas pedaled his heart out from the intersection of 6th Street and Lagoon and hit the 4.5-foot vert ramp at a whopping 31 miles per hour, soaring into the air like a

graceless bird. As if in a slow-motion montage in an 80s big budget action movie car chase crash scene, Freewheelin’ Douglas cleared the first three carts, threw his fist in the air and promptly reached apogee before violently crashing into cart number four.

Had he cleared all 19 carts, Douglas would have beaten the previous record of 0 carts ever jumped in the Marshall Islands.

“Why go for 19?” a spectator asked, as Douglas was hoisted onto a gurney. “It doesn’t make sense.”

“Bro, some men just want to watch the world burn,” Douglas yelled. “And I want to jump it, yyyeeeahhhh!”



Pictured above, Kurt Douglas makes his speed run on the MWR vert ramp outside Building 805 last week. The attempt landed him in the Kwajalein Hospital with multiple contusions. Douglas is undeterred and will probably try this stunt again. If you see Douglas about to do something downright unsafe, please call Security and Access at 5-4445.



SPACE FORCE ANNOUNCES RANKS, TITLES

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. JONATHAN SNYDER

Lt. Gen. David D. Thompson, Vice Commander of the United States Space Force, talks about the future of the USSF at the Air Force Association, Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 27. AFA’s Air Warfare Symposium is a premier event for the aerospace and defense industry geared toward the professional development of Air Force officers, enlisted members, civilians, retirees, and veterans.

EXTERNAL REPORT

By Ensign Vincent Jordan
Air Force News Service

ARLINGTON, Va.—The U.S. Space Force has been on the hunt for feedback from U.S. military space professionals on what Space Force members should be called—similar to how the Air Force refers to its members as ‘Airmen’ or the Army refers to its members as ‘Soldiers’.

Given the significance a name has to the identity and culture of an organization, the Space Force has in the past few months taken a deliberate approach to ensure Space Force member titles and ranks appropriately convey the nature of the newest Armed Forces branch and the domain in which it operates.

To that end, Space Force officials have solicited ideas related to Space Force ranks, names for operational units and what Space Force members should be called collectively. They were especially interested in soliciting ideas from those

currently assigned to the U.S. Space Force or those who expect to be members of the Space Force in the future.

As of March 25, 2020 this deliberative process has reached its conclusion, and all ranks and some of the 135+ job titles estimated in the Space Force are announced as per the following list:

Ranks

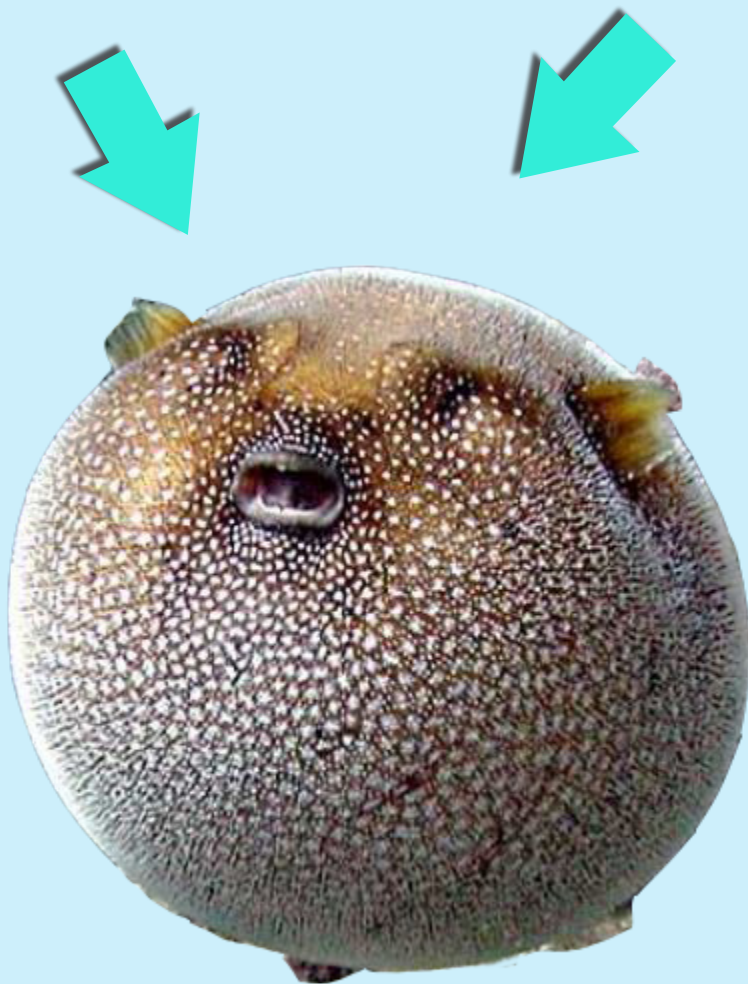
- E-1 Padawan
- E-2 Spaceman
- E-3 Spaceman First Class
- E-4 Senior Spaceman
- E-5 Staff Spaceman
- E-6 Technical Spaceman
- E-7 Master Spaceman
- E-8 Senior Master Spaceman
- E-9 Command Chief Master Spaceman
- E-9 Chief Master Spaceman of the Space Force
- O-1 Second Rogue Leader
- O-2 First Rogue Leader
- O-3 Space Captain
- O-4 Major Lazer
- O-5 Lieutenant Stardust
- O-6 Ziggy Stardust

- O-7 Brigadier Skywalker
- O-8 Major Skywalker
- O-9 Lieutenant Skywalker
- O-10 Skywalker
- O-10 Skywalker of the Space Force

Air Force Specialty Codes

- Rancor Keeper
- Replicant Hunter
- Tactical Air Control Party Animal
- Robocop
- Avatar Pilot
- Man In Black
- Dream Extractor
- Xenomorph Pest Controller
- Area 51 Conspiracy Storyboard Artist
- Zoidberg Body Double
- Time Reassigner
- UFO Tracking Operations Specialist
- Desk Flight Attendant
- Survival Evasion, Resistance, Escape & Time Dilation (SERETD) Specialist
- Moon Rock Trebuchet Engineer
- Astronaut Bean Farmer
- Solar Flare Analyst
- Star Destroyer Mechanic
- MWR Space Golf Pro

We now return you to real announcements,
actual Classifieds, *serious* business—and
this pufferfish.



Stay healthy and don't forget to laugh.

—*The Kwajalein Hourglass*



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
P.O. Box 16 ~ Majuro ~ Marshall Islands ~ 96960
Tel. No. (692) 625-5327 Email: sechhs.rmi@gmail.com



REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS
2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
UPDATED INTERIM HEALTH TRAVEL
ADVISORY & RESTRICTIONS
ISSUANCE 10: As of 17 March 2020

(Subject to regular review, as required)

On 30 January 2020, World Health Organization declared the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). The virus was first detected in Wuhan city, Hubei Province, PRC, and subsequently cases of COVID-19 have been detected in **162 countries and territories**.

The new virus is a coronavirus, which is a family of viruses that include the common cold, and viruses that cause severe respiratory infections. The virus can be transmitted from person to person, similar to other influenza viruses.

In response to the declaration of PHEIC, the Republic of Marshall Islands' (RMI) former COVID-19 travel advisories and restrictions (Issuance 1: 24 January 2020, Issuance 2: 31 January 2020 and Proclamation declaring State of Emergency dated 7 February 2020, Issuance 3: 13 February 2020, Issuance 4: 26 February 2020, Issuance 5: 25 February 2020, Issuance 6: 3 March 2020, Issuance 7: 5 March 2020, Issuance 8: 7 March 2020, Issuance 9: 8 March 2020) have been reviewed and updated as of **17 March 2020** (Issuance 10) with the following interim inbound and outbound travel restrictions for all visitors to RMI. These requirements will come into force effective immediately.

An extension of the **total suspension of international travelers coming into the RMI** via air travel until April 5, 2020. All aircraft that need to land in the RMI for refueling purposes must adhere to the RMI Ports Authority Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Human-to-human contact is strictly prohibited.

- Suspension of all domestic passenger air travel between Kwajalein and Majuro on international airlines. Air travel between Kwajalein and Majuro on Air Marshalls is still permitted.
- All cruise ships and yachts at this time are suspended from visiting the RMI until further notice.

To make sure that we can continue to allow food and supplies to enter the country, all container vessels and fuel tankers, which are coming from the restricted countries listed below on their routine path or port of departure, are exempt from the suspension of sea travel though strictly required to spend **14 days** outside of the RMI after departure and prior to arrival at the RMI Pilot Station. All container vessels and fuel tankers must adhere to the RMI Ports Authority Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Human-to-human contact is strictly prohibited.

Citizens and residents of the RMI with plans to travel abroad are **strongly advised** to consider postponing their travel arrangements. If travel arrangements cannot be postponed, individuals should be aware that they may be subject to restrictions on reentering the RMI.

- All GRMI officials, including elected officials, SOEs and auxiliary bodies, are required to suspend all international trips paid for by the GRMI or sponsored by outside agencies or organizations with the exception of patients approved by the RMI Medical Referral Committee.

RMI Residents and Citizens who are planning to attend missions, conferences, trainings and group trips held outside of the RMI are **strongly advised** to postpone their travel until further notice.

- The Chief Secretary, as the head of the National Disaster Committee, together with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, based on recommendations from the RMI Public Health division and the National Disaster Committee, reserve the right to make exceptions to any of the above restrictions to allow for essential services. All safety protocols developed by the Ministry of Health and Human Services in compliance with WHO and CDC guidelines will be followed in these instances.

These are interim travel restrictions, which have been introduced by the Government of the RMI as part of current health emergency preparedness measures for COVID-19. These restrictions will be reviewed and updated as needed and communicated to the public.

Jack Niedenthal
Republic of the Marshall Islands
Secretary of Health & Human Services

March 17, 2020

READ UP ON THE BIG PICTURE WITH JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

The global outlook for COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, is constantly changing. To help keep you stay informed, we'd like to share a live map of COVID-19 global cases published by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering. The map is a tool to help travelers and researchers understand the spread and containment of the virus around the globe.

Click the logo to the right, or visit <https://systems.jhu.edu/research/public-health/ncov/> to view the map.



MANAGE COVID-19 STRESS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION / KWAJALEIN HOSPITAL

As we all read and learn about COVID-19, we are bound to have different reactions. The impact of the disease may feel somewhat distant. It might also elicit a sense of panic or fear.

Many of us have family and friends that are losing jobs or transitioning to a more isolated way of life back home while we try to offer whatever form of support we can from a distance. Some of our residents may feel guilt for not being there with loved ones who are affected by the greater impact while others are practicing gratitude for the separation.

What is most important right now is to practice awareness of our mental health and support healthy strategies to maintain a positive approach to the changes.

You may notice increased feelings of overwhelm, nervousness or uneasiness. Symptoms of stress and anxiety may begin to show up in your mood and behavior. When our routines shift and impact our interactions, these feelings are expected and common. Signs of a shift may be changes in sleep, difficulty concentrating, appetite changes, restlessness, irritability or becoming short tempered and moody. Those with pre-existing anxiety conditions may feel worsened symptoms. These increased feelings could potentially elicit depression or hopelessness. There is also the reality of experiencing health anxiety:

- You feel unable to stop seeking out information on COVID-19
- Constantly evaluating yourself for symptoms

- Experience extreme anxiety or fear over contracting the disease
- Become trapped in a thought loop of imagining worst-case scenarios

You might also experience the impact of socialization changes—fear of having to work from home and experiencing increased loneliness. Scarcity of goods, food or resources could also drive anxiety.

No matter what you are feeling or which area of concern feels the most impactful, it is important to remain steady and aware of how to best care for yourself and those around you. Creating a plan, focusing on the areas within your control and maintaining a consistent routine can be extremely beneficial.

Other ideas and strategies to manage any fear or anxiety:

- Maintain a realistic connection with updates and information from trusted sources like the Centers for Disease Control or World Health Or-

ganization in order to stay appropriately informed of best practices.

- Remain social through digital platforms such as Skype or WhatsApp.
- Practice good selfcare.
- Subscribe to an at-home exercise program to stay active or find classes on YouTube or Netflix for free. Keep those endorphins working to limit stress.
- Continue a healthy, balanced and nutritionally sound meal plan.
- Try to keep a clear sleep schedule by limiting screen exposure and keeping devices out of the bed.
- Start implementing meditation practices, deep breathing and other relaxation techniques.
- Sunlight and fresh air can also go a long way so make sure to get outdoors.
- Do things you enjoy that you may not always have had the time to do such as reading, cooking or baking, watching movies, playing video games or board games.
- Use the emerging online resources to tour a museum online, create an uplifting playlist or learn a new language.
- Catch up on cleaning or other repairs.
- Practice an old skill like art, music or poetry writing.

It is not uncommon to have some anxiety around the changes happening around the world. This situation is certainly unprecedented, and uncertainty can cause a lot of fear.

If you're experiencing trouble staying positive or are feeling an increased hopelessness, remember you're not alone. There are tele-health resources both on- and off-island.

If you're having thoughts of suicide or feel in crisis, consider reaching out to the National Helpline either online or by phone 1-800-273-8255. Crisis text: HOME to 741741 and speak with trained and compassionate counselors for free support 24/7.

At this time, on-island EAP/ counseling services are being provided confidentially through a secure and HIPAA compliant tele-health platform.

Additionally, please check with your HR or supervisor. Many companies offer additional EAP services and support for you during difficult times.

To schedule an appointment, call 5-5362 or email marybeth.dawicki@ms.internationalsos.com.

CYS has changed a few days and times of activities to better fit the busy schedules of our kiddos.

The next two sessions of Open Rec will be held March 28 and April 4 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

4-H will also be held Wednesday and Friday 4:30-5:30 p.m. until the last meeting April 4/29.

A Medevac Insurance Primer

Traveling to the Republic of the Marshall Islands is an exciting experience. It is important to ensure your medical insurance is in order before cleared visitors make their departure. To learn more about what you need to do as an on-island sponsor, read below.

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Once the Department of Defense travel restrictions have been lifted and you have visitors traveling to Kwajalein on a 480 or 55R, medical evacuation insurance is a very important part of the on-boarding process to consider.

Ensure your visitor is covered by a medevac insurance plan before travel plans are finalized. Failing to do so could net you, the visitor's sponsor or the garrison, \$130,000-250,000 in uncovered costs associated with performing a medical evacuation for a serious illness or injury to Hawaii or beyond. It's like buying a house—but not getting a house.

Of course, we all want our friends, family and staff who visit to have a fun and safe time, and to have a safety net if something happens. Fortunately, that safety net can cost a fraction of a fraction of the price of an uncovered medevac from Kwajalein Atoll.

To shop around for plan prices, simply use your favorite internet browser to take you to online insurance plan exchanges where you can compare different plans and prices to fit your visitor's needs.

Here are some pointers to keep in mind during the shopping process.

Travel insurance does not equate to medical evacuation insurance. Unless your travel insurance plan explicitly states medical evacuations, you should only assume medical expenses, such as medical procedures and medicine, are covered—not the costs of physically relocating the patient from point A to point Z.

If your visitor has health insurance (typically plans offered through employers), there is no guarantee medevacs are covered. Again, you must read the plan's details and know ex-

actly what is covered and what is not. For most stateside residents, medevacs from nations as remote as the Marshall Islands will not be covered. Your visitor will need to contact their insurance provider for additional information and to verify service areas.

If your visitor has a credit card that offers medical evacuation coverage as part of their membership benefits, again, it's important to read the fine print. For instance, is Kwajalein Atoll/Marshall Islands within the area of responsibility of the credit card company's coverage provider? A medevac from the Bahamas may be covered by a credit card company, but a medevac from the Marshall Islands may not be covered. Your visitor will need to call customer support to find out more before traveling.

Most importantly, if your visitor is not covered by medevac insurance via one of the methods already described, they should take this to heart: Medevac coverage does not have to be pricey. Yes, it is possible to visit USAG-KA without medevac insurance; it is not a require-

ment to enter the garrison on a 480 pass, for instance. But a three-week period of full coverage can cost as little as \$120. That's \$40 per week for peace of mind—and freedom from the catastrophic effects a full medevac bill will cost a sponsor in the event of a medical evacuation.

When selecting a plan, be sure to take note of any plan activation conditions associated with the plan. For instance, some providers stipulate that the plan must be purchased a month or so before the start of the travel period. Not understanding these conditions could make or break the bank in the event of a medevac.

As you consider policies, make sure that you select a medical evacuation insurance policy that includes a mini-mum of \$1 million of emergency medical evacuation (costs vary from \$130,000 to \$250,000), medical expenses, repatriation to home of record and repatriation of mortal remains (\$25,000-50,000), as well as 24/7 access to a travel assistance center.

The policy should also include coverage for emergency medical expenses, as your home country insurance may not extend to Kwajalein. Moreover, if you are evacuated, the destination health-care system may not accept your current insurance plan.

Finally, make sure Kwajalein Atoll is within the geographic area of responsibility of the medevac provider. Ask this at the beginning of the process, during the shopping process, and verify at the end before purchasing. For questions regarding medevac coverage for you and your dependents, contact your human resources office.



When using alcohol-based hand sanitizer:

Check out the Centers for Disease Control online for more information at <https://www.cdc.gov/patientsafety/features/clean-hands-count.html>

PUT PRODUCT ON HANDS AND RUB HANDS TOGETHER



COVER ALL SURFACES UNTIL HANDS FEEL DRY



THIS SHOULD TAKE AROUND 20 SECONDS



DOD RAISES HPCON LEVEL

CHARLIE
SUBSTANTIAL
Sustained community
transmission

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Defense has raised the HPCON level worldwide to level Charlie (Substantial). With that said, there are still no suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Continue all previous actions and:

- Expect cancellation of in-person gatherings (e.g., schools, daycare, all community activities) and restricted ability to travel.
- Plan activities for family mem-

bers, especially children, in case you are restricted to your home for prolonged periods of time.

- Prepare for the potential of limited access to supplies and services, including severely restricted access to military installations.
- Implement remote work procedures as directed by your employer.
- If outside the United States, authorized or ordered departure actions may be implemented.

0
ROUTINE
No community
transmission

ALPHA
LIMITED
Community transmission
beginning

BRAVO
MODERATE
Increased community
transmission

CHARLIE
SUBSTANTIAL
Sustained community
transmission

DELTA
SEVERE
Widespread community
transmission

UNDERSTANDING HEALTH PROTECTION CONDITION LEVELS

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

By The Army Public Health Center

The Department of Defense Instruction 6200.03 “Public Health Emergency Management Within the DoD,” and supplements, provides military commanders with policy applicable to the COVID-19 outbreak. Commanders review and update the health protection condition based on the risk level in the local community and in cooperation with local, state, or host nation guidance.

Commanders and public health personnel use HPCON levels to guide specific actions you can take in response to a health threat.

While it’s always important to prevent the spread of germs, there are additional steps you can take if COVID-19 transmission becomes more widespread in your community.

This page lists potential actions that may be indicated as a result of COVID-19. Regardless of the current HPCON level, always follow the guidance from your installation and local public health agencies.

O ROUTINE:
No community transmission

Take everyday actions to stop the spread of germs:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Cover your coughs.
- Sneeze with a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash; cough/sneeze into your elbow if tissues are unavailable.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and

mouth.

- Ensure all immunizations are up to date, including seasonal flu shots.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with family members and pets.

ALPHA LIMITED:
Community transmission beginning

Continue all previous actions and: Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

If you are sick, call your medical provider for instructions on receiving care before going to the clinic

Stay informed by routinely checking reliable sources of information such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and your local public health agencies.

BRAVO MODERATE:
Increased community transmission

Continue all previous actions and:

- Avoid unnecessary contact with others, such as shaking hands and hugging.
- Avoid unnecessary travel, especially to areas known to be experiencing active disease transmission.
- Ensure supplies of food, medication, and other items needed for babies and pets are available to last at least 14 days.
- Prepare for travel restrictions and cancellation of public gatherings, such as school, religious, and other community activities; make alternative arrangements for childcare.
- Observe local guidance on movement restrictions and access requirements for military installations.

- Seek guidance from employers and unit leaders about changes to work practices (e.g., telework) and training events.
- Comply with medical orders for self-isolation or quarantine.

CHARLIE SUBSTANTIAL:
Sustained community transmission

Continue taking all previous actions and:

- Expect cancellation of in-person gatherings (e.g., schools, daycare, all community activities) and restricted ability to travel.
- Plan activities for Family members, especially children, in case you are restricted to your home for prolonged periods of time.
- Prepare for the potential of limited access to supplies and services, including severely restricted access to military installations.
- Implement remote work procedures as directed by your employer.
- If outside the United States, authorized or ordered departure actions may be implemented.

DELTA SEVERE:
Widespread community transmission

Continue taking all previous actions and:

- Expect to remain at home for extended periods of time as movement in the community may be restricted.
- Expect that home isolation or quarantine may be directed.
- Follow all directives and guidance from local, state and Federal authorities. These actions are to protect the health and safety of you and your Family.

U.S. NAVY SUPPORTS FSM COVID-19 PREPARATIONS

U.S. NAVY REPORT

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 preparations in the Federated States of Micronesia, the U.S. Navy is assisting in the construction of a quarantine facility in Pohnpei, which includes the installation of shower stalls, doors and windows. The facility will serve as a quarantine station, if needed for COVID-19-related cases.

In the state of Yap, the Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Five are anticipating construction of 13 handwashing stations throughout the island.

Lt. Bradford Garrigues described the enduring presence of the U.S. Seabees, who first arrived in 1969: "Over the last 10 years, Seabees have only deployed for short visits and projects. But the people of Yap have a long memory and are quick to tell us stories of projects and community events that took place decades ago when they were children. Today, we are reestablishing a presence with our FSM partners in a way not seen since the 1990's. It is very exciting to play such a key role in establishing Detail Yap and continuing the Seabees-in-Yap story."

Currently, NMCB5 is also building a library/computer lab at the Sokehs Pah Elementary School. This building will serve 140 students from kindergarten to

eighth grade.

"The best part has been working around and getting to know the students of Sokehs Pah Elementary School. Every day when we pull in, we're welcomed with smiles and friendly waves. The community has been extremely welcoming of us and everyone we interact with is happy to see what this once-old school building is becoming with our help," said Builder Second Class Petty Officer Christian Carlson, NMCB5 crew leader.

In addition to the Sokehs Pah Elementary School library/computer lab, NMCB5 is also constructing handwashing stations throughout Pohnpei. This project is in partnership with UNICEF, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency, Pohnpei Department of Health, Pohnpei Department of Education, and the United States Agency for International Development.

"Nothing that I have ever done in my life compares to this deployment in Pohnpei," said Officer in Charge Lt. Brian Wood, NMCB5. "My hometown—near Chicago—is thousands of miles away, and I've been away from home for a long time now. But the people and communities of U, Kittu, and Sokehs have made me feel like I'm back home working in my cousins' back yards. It's been a wonder-



Builder Second Class Petty Officer Christian Carlson briefs U.S. Ambassador Carmen Cantor and Pohnpei State Governor Reed B. Oliver during a recent site visit to the Sokehs Pah Elementary School.

ful experience to work supporting kids looking to grow up and become leaders in these same communities, as well as the rest of the world. It's also just great fun, and Pohnpei is a beautiful place to be."

The U.S. Navy is deployed across the Indo-Pacific region, conducting high-quality construction projects, in order to bolster U.S. and FSM bilateral relations, deter foreign aggression, and enable expeditionary logistics and naval power projection.

ARMY WORKING TO DEVELOP COVID-19 VACCINES

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases are aiding in the development of five separate COVID-19 vaccines, Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy announced Thursday.

In support of the federal government's plan to combat the virus, the Army received an additional \$900 million in funding to help prevent, detect, and treat the disease, McCarthy said.

"We got to spend a few hours with extraordinary Americans who are at the forefront of this fight. We are giving them all the resources that they can try ... to help knock down any roadblocks in their path," McCarthy said about his visit to Fort Detrick, Maryland.

The Army is doing all it can to assist the global medical community as they work together to defeat COVID-19, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville said. The force is also monitoring several dozen vaccine candidates that are currently under development by the public and private sectors.

"The heroes are in this fight. These scientists are working to find a vaccination ... working to find the drugs for treatment ... and are aggressively increasing the capacity of our testing capabilities," McConville said.

During their visit to USAMRDC and USAMRIID, the Army's top leaders witnessed the force's ongoing effort to fight against the disease, McCarthy said. Army leaders also received an update on the first Soldier to come down with the virus in South Korea.

While McCarthy did not share the information about the Soldier's current



Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy visits a Walter Reed National Military Medical Center facility at Fort Belvoir, Va., to observe the health care guidance implemented to handle COVID-19, March 20, 2020.

condition, he did indicate that the virus has put him and his family under a lot of stress.

Preparing to Fight

Currently, the National Guard is assisting the states as the active-duty force aligns its personnel and resources for when it is called upon to support, McConville said.

The Army is prepared to provide Army medical support to civilian communities, McConville said.

Deployable Army medical units "were designed for combat-type operations ... not designed for infectious diseases," McConville said. Expeditionary military medical capabilities can help take some of the load off, "allowing the civilian hospitals to focus on the issue."

Army leaders are also working to mitigate risk, McConville said. The majority of the Guard and Army Reserve's medical personnel are already working in their communities to combat COVID-19.

"If we call them up, the Reserves, we

may be taking them out of the very communities that we're trying to help," McConville said.

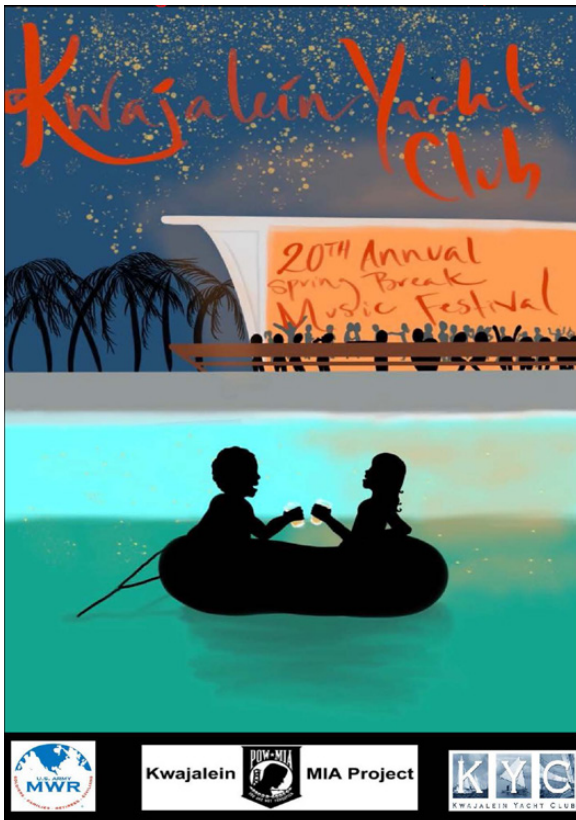
Along with the Army's effort to support the medical field, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently working with four state governors, including the governor of New York, to develop alternative hospital facilities.

"We are offering these governors options," McConville said. "We think the fastest way is to take hotels and dormitories that are available and re-scope them" into medical facilities.

Altering a pre-existing facility to support the Army's mission is not uncommon, McConville said. During World War II, for example, the Army used the Greenbrier hotel in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, as a Soldier surgery and rehabilitation center.

"Large open tents are not the best place to put people with infectious diseases," McConville said. "We are giving (the governors) some options that they can work with."

ARTS AND MUSIC



Kwajalein Yacht Club 20th Annual Spring Break Music Fest

Calling All Musicians. The 20th Annual Kwajalein Yacht Club Spring Break Music Fest is coming up April 5 from 3-10 p.m. The day-long event is a family-friendly fundraiser that supports the Kwajalein MIA Project, an organization dedicated to the recovery of missing WWII aircraft in the lagoon with possible missing service-members on board.

Want to Play?

Contact Tim Roberge with your lineup and performance plan.



MWR MOVIES

All movies begin at 7:30 p.m.

YUK THEATER

Saturday, March 28
"Miss Bala"
(PG-13) 104 min.

Sunday, March 29
"Father Figure"
(R) 113 min.

Monday, March 30
"A Question of Faith"
(PG-13) 104 min.

TRADEWINDS THEATER

Saturday, March 28
"The First Purge" (R)
97 min.

Sunday, March 29
"Holmes and Watson"
(PG-13) 91 min.

For more information or questions about the movies, please contact MWR at 5-3331.



Kwajalein Art Guild Spring Art and Craft Bazaar

Join Kwaj crafters, vendors and artisans April 6 in the CRC Gym for an annual island favorite. It's never too early to stock up on holiday gifts to send to your loved ones, or to pick up a vendor's licence to participate in next year's fair. Contact Teresa Mitchell with USAG-KA FMWR to learn more about how to acquire a vendor's licence at 5-3400.

EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 11

4:30 — 7 P.M.

BRANDON FIELD

EGG HUNT STARTS AT 5 P.M.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY:

GAMES, CRAFTS,

SLIP 'N SLIDE AND BOUNCE HOUSES.

BRING YOUR OWN BASKET.





CYS APRIL SPOTLIGHT



U.S. ARMY GARRISON-KWAJALEIN ATOLL CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES

Visit USAG-KA CYS on Facebook for more pictures and information about our events and programs. <https://www.facebook.com/USAGKACYS/>

Child Development Center

STEAM Afternoons

Join the CDC as we explore science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics.

- Tuesdays-Swimming at Millican Family Pool, 1 p.m.
- Wednesdays-Functional Fitness at 1 p.m.
- Saturdays-Reading Buddies with Ms. Crump's third grade class, 2:10 p.m. STEAM- Swimming at the Pool will be on Tuesday afternoons.
- Yoga on the patio will be on April

Upcoming CDC Events

Start Smart Sports. Fitness is fun in this program for children aged 3-5 years.

Tumbling. Inquire at Central Registration about program care openings. Season runs April 9 through May 27.

Baru Classroom Special Reminders

Saturdays are Water Play Days. Please send your child with swim clothes, a swim diaper (if needed), a towel, and dry clothes.

Special Events

April is Month of the Military Child

March 31- April 4th- Pre-K spring break but care is still available

April 11 - Classroom Easter Celebration

April 14-18 - Week of the Young Child Celebrations

April 14-Tasty Tuesday

April 15- Work Together Wednesday

April 16- Artsy Thursday

April 17- Family Friday

April 18 - Music Saturday

April 17 Army Wide CYS 40th Birthday Celebration

April 24- Purple Up Day- Wear Purple for Month of the Military Child

April 26- 3rd Annual MOMC Family Carnival 1-3 p.m.

School-Age Care

Mentor Program

Meets daily 7- 8:30 a.m.

Teamwork is the highlight of this fun, new program, as School-Age Care kids mentor the CDC "littles" in fun projects and activities.

Open Rec

This free fitness program for K-6 students meets first and third Saturdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

April 4- Egg Decorating

Drama with 4-H Program

Join us as we get into creative theatrics and acting onstage. Please register in Central Registration.

Functional Fitness—Join this free program physical exercise activity program. Meets Wednesdays from 2:30-3 p.m.

CYS Sports

Inner Tube Water Polo season runs April 7 to May 2.

Special Events at SAC

Spring Camp. Runs March 31-April 4 from 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Pre-K Spring Break runs March 31-April 4. Care is still available.

April is the Month of the Military Child

March 31- April 4th- Spring Camp

March 31- Hat Day- Wear your favorite hat.

April 1- Crazy Hair Day- Get Crazy about SAC

April 2- Twin Day- Team Up and Come to SAC

April 3 - Purple Pride- Month of the Military Child

April 4 - Shades Day- Future is So Bright

April 26- 3rd Annual MOMC Family Carnival 1-3 p.m.

April 29- 4-H Drama Celebration of Learning

Daily Focus

Let SAC help you foster your child's growing talents and interests with our special one-day activity programming: Art Tuesdays; STEM Thursdays; Recreation Fridays; Character & Leadership Development Saturdays

Namo Weto Youth Center

Sundays—Drama Club, 4 p.m.- April 12 and 26

Tuesdays—Keystone Club at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays—Smart Girls at 4 p.m.

Thursdays—Trivia Night at 8 p.m.

Saturdays—Keystone, Torch Club Officers meetings at 4 p.m.

Special Events at Namo Weto Youth Center

Extreme Dodgeball- Register now in Central Registration- Season runs April 8- May 1.

April 1-2- UPS Road Code- 4-7 p.m.

April 2-3- Caregivers Course- 12:30- 4:30 p.m.- At the CDC

April 3- Ping Pong Tournament- 4-6pm

Month of the Military Child Family Carnival- 1-3 p.m.

Movies

March 29- Miracle

April 5- Rudy

April 12- Groundhog Day

April 19- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

April 26- October Sky

Parents' Corner

Special Note

Many CYS programs require preregistration. If you have questions or would like to learn more about registering your child or volunteer opportunities with CYS, please contact Central Registration at 5-2158.

New Hours of Operation for CYS Programs

The new hours of operation for 4-H are 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The new hours of operation for Open Rec are 3:30-5:30 p.m. The Namu Weto Youth Center will now be open during the following days and times: Monday- Closed; Tuesday- Outdoor Recreation from 3:15-4:15 p.m. only; Wednesday- 2 -9p.m.; Thursday- 3-9 p.m.; Friday- 3-9 p.m.; Saturday- 3-9:30 p.m.; Sunday- 1-9:30 p.m.

Teachers' Note

Unless otherwise indicated, all programs for the Namu Weto Youth Center start or meet at the Center. Dates and times for events are subject to change. Please check in at your CYS location for the latest information.



CYS Needs You!

Want to help coach for CYS? Contact Central Registration at 5-2158 for how to become a registered volunteer.

COMMUNITY NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE ISLAND MEMORIAL CHAPEL

April 5

Palm Sunday Services
ID Service- 11 a.m.
Catholic Service- 9:15 a.m.

April 9

Mass of the Lord's Last Supper/
Holy Thursday 7 p.m.

April 10

Good Friday Service
7 p.m. in main sanctuary

April 11

Easter Vigil
7 p.m.

April 12

Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service at Emon at
6:30 a.m. followed by a brunch
potluck.

Easter Mass of Renunciation
9:15 a.m.

April 13 and 27

Youth Fellowship

April 19

Christian Women's Fellowship at
12:30 p.m. in the REB

April 20

Theology on Tap at the
Adult Recreation Center
6:30 p.m.

Services on Roi

Catholic Mass – 6:30 p.m. on
second and fourth Friday of every
month.

April 27

Youth Fellowship—7-9 p.m. in
the REB

Interdenominational Service—
6:30 p.m. first and third Friday of
each month

HELP WANTED

To research and apply for govern-
ment employment opportunities on
U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll
and worldwide, visit usajobs.gov.

RGNNext, LLC seeks qualified candi-
dates to fill several open posi-
tions on Kwaj and Roi in engineer-
ing, technical and other areas. For
more information and to apply, go
to: www.rgnext.com.

DynCorp International (DI) is look-
ing for qualified candidates for
various positions. Current DI open
positions on USAG-KA include
administrative services, data ana-
lysts, education services, aviation
and airfield operations, marine op-
erations and public works among
others. To apply, go to: www.dilog-cap.com or contact your local HR
representative.

Kwajalein School System seeks
substitute teachers. If you enjoy
having a flexible schedule and
working with children, we have a
perfect opportunity for you. Please
contact Susan Davis at 5-3601.

NOTICES

AA meets weekly on Tuesdays
from 6:30-7:30 p.m. upstairs in the

REB (Rm. 213).

Ongoing Smoking and Tobacco
Cessation offered. Please call
EAP at 5-5362 or make an appoint-
ment with a physician.

Calling All Vendors. The Kwajalein
Art Guild Spring Arts and Crafts
Bazaar will be held Monday, April
6 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Email Vickie at
travelratz2@yahoo.com for a ven-
dor application.

Internet customers can access
their account and pay online. Sim-
ply visit KwajNetBilling.dyn-intl.com to log in and pay via our se-
cure, online payment gateway us-
ing the payment method of your
choice. You may also pay online
for future months in advance! For
support, contact us via phone @
805-355-0843 (5-0843) or email
KwajNet.Billing@dyn-intl.com.

USAG-KA 2020 Home Business
License. Vendors who want to sell
goods or offer services need to ob-
tain a license. Stop by the FMWR
Office on the first floor of Building
805 for an application. For more
information or to submit an appli-
cation, contact Teresa Mitchell at
5-3400 or teresaj.mitchell4.naf@mail.mil. Please include the fol-
lowing with your application: Appli-
cable licenses and certifications;
pictures and examples of goods of-
fered; proof of insurance; and other
relevant business information.

No food and drink on Metro Flights.
Eating and drinking on Metro and
helicopter flights is strictly prohibi-
ted. For your own safety and the
sanitation of flights, we ask that you
refrain from consuming food and
beverages during flights. All drinks
and snacks should be enjoyed in
the air terminals or upon arriving
at your destination. We appreciate
your cooperation. For questions,
please contact Lee Holt at 5-2102
and Fly Roi at 5-6359.

Need to report a non-emergency
incidents or information? Send in
secure reports online at the US-
AG-KA Police Department Face-
book page. For more information,
visit <https://www.facebook.com/kwajaleinpolice/>.

Self Help is located in Bldg. 1791.
Hours of operation are Monday,
Wednesday and Friday– 9:30 a.m.-
6 p.m. Visit Self Help to pick up tools
to complete a number of household
maintenance and upkeep projects,
including the following:

- Various appliance and house-
hold lightbulb replacements
- Pest control traps and sprays
- Lawn and garden tools
- Hand tools and power tools
- Painting supplies
- Miscellaneous
- Plumbing supplies
- Appliance accessories

Power Walk Ex. Stand strong,
move forward and get to stepping
with Power Walk ExClass meets
Thursday and Saturday from 6
a.m.-7 p.m. Walk will begin and end
at the Ivey Gym. All MWR fitness
classes require a wellness class
pass. For more information and to

purchase your pass, visit the MWR
desk at the Grace Sherwood Li-
brary and call 5-3331.

FERAL CAT INFORMATION

The Kwajalein feral cat population
must be controlled to prevent fed-
erally-protected endangered spe-
cies from being hunted. For more
information about the Trap-Neuter-
Adopt/Release Program, please
call 5-2017. To report a feral cat
sighting, call Veterinary Services at
5-2017 or Pest Control at 5-4738.

If you work with hazardous mate-
rials, wastes, or petroleum prod-
ucts, you do you are required to
be trained in safe handling and
awareness. Classes on Offer: Spill
Notification (ENV110), HMWPP
Awareness (ENV081), and HM-
WPP Custodian Training (ENV100)
in one session. Where and When:
Kwajalein: CRC Room 1, April 2 or
3, from 8:30-11 a.m. or 1-3:30 p.m.
Roi-Namur: TRADEX Conference
Room, April 1, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
or 12:30-3 p.m. Call DynCorp En-
vironmental at 5-9817 if you have
any questions.

Coaches needed for Child Devel-
opment Center Activities. Volunteer
activity leaders needed for bowling,
tumbling and inner tube water polo.
Call CYS Central Registration at
5-2158 to volunteer.

Interested in losing weight or just
making healthier choices? Kwaja-
lein Hospital staff are here to help
with coaching and support. We will

work with you to design a custom-
ized nutrition and exercise plan to
meet your goals. Call the Public
Health Nurse for an appointment at
5-8836 or 5-2224 or stop by Bldg.
566.

Beginning April 9, Surfside Salon
will now accept walk-in customers
for haircuts only Thursdays from
2-6 p.m.

Due to safety reasons from wear
and tear, beginning at 3:45 p.m.
on Saturday, March 21, the play-
ground equipment at George Seitz
Elementary School will be off limits.
Please do not climb on or around
the equipment and leave the red
tape in place. Parents, please do
not send your children unattended
to the school playground.

Please consider wearing water
shoes/aqua socks at the Millican
Family Pool and Adult Pool as
there may be sponge spicules on
the pools' floor. While the sponge
spicules are always present in the
seawater used in the pools, they will
be more common in the Adult Pool
while the pump system stabilizes.

New TV antennas have been in-
stalled on Shell and Coral BQ's.
Also A.R.C. and Country Club
buildings. If you are experiencing
TV or radio reception issues on
Kwaj, call AFN at 5-3743 and we
can help.

Island Memorial Chapel Yoga is
cancelled March 30 and April 6.

USAG-KA ROI RESIDENT Q&A



U.S. Army Garrison – Kwajalein Atoll Roi Resident Q&A with USAG-KA Commander Col. Jeremy Bartel

**Tuesday, March 31
2:45 p.m. at the
Tradewinds Theater**

**All Roi-Namur residents are invited
to a special question and answer
session with USAG-KA Commander
Col. Jeremy Bartel.**

READ ALL
ABOUT IT.



WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION





WEATHER WATCH

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION: The Intertropical Convergence Zone is active along 5N latitude, bringing rain to the southern Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kosrae and Pohnpei. The atmosphere will remain mostly dry in our area with exception of Saturday night into Sunday morning as a small wave in the ITCZ brings some rain further north. Trade winds will be brisk for the entire weekend, but don't expect need for any advisories.

So far in March, Kwajalein has received 1.28 inches of rainfall or about 42 percent of normal. For the year, we are 86 percent of normal. The central and northern RMI, including Kwajalein, are in short-term drought conditions which is common this time of year. Seasonal switch to wet and rainy season is typically during May and June time-frame.

SATURDAY: Partly sunny. Winds ENE at 14-18 knots. Isolated evening showers (10 percent coverage on radar).

SUNDAY: Partly sunny with a stray shower possible (less than 10 percent coverage). Winds ENE-E at 15-20 knots.

MONDAY: Partly sunny with a stray shower (less than 10 percent coverage). Winds ENE-E at 14-18 knots.



SUN-MOON-TIDES

	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	6:48 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	9:58 a.m. 10:43 p.m.	6:31 a.m. 4.1' 6:42 p.m. 3.5'	12:18 a.m. -0.1' 12:46 p.m. 0.1'
MONDAY	6:48 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	10:43 a.m. 11:35 p.m.	6:59 a.m. 3.8' 7:11 p.m. 3.0'	12:41 a.m. 0.2' 1:20 p.m. 0.5'
TUESDAY	6:47 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	11:32 a.m. -----	7:34 a.m. 3.5' 7:49 p.m. 2.6'	1:07 a.m. 0.5' 2:05 p.m. 0.9'
WEDNESDAY	6:47 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	12:24 p.m. 12:27 a.m.	8:27 a.m. 3.1' 9:11 p.m. 2.1'	1:42 a.m. 0.9' 3:28 p.m. 1.3'
THURSDAY	6:46 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	1:20 p.m. 1:23 a.m.	10:28 a.m. 2.9' -----	2:52 a.m. 1.4' 6:23 p.m. 1.2'
FRIDAY	6:46 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	2:18 p.m. 2:18 a.m.	12:38 a.m. 2.1' 12:50 p.m. 3.2'	5:56 a.m. 1.5' 7:48 p.m. 0.7'
APRIL 4	6:45 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	3:18 p.m. 3:14 a.m.	1:56 a.m. 2.7' 1:58 p.m. 3.8'	7:35 a.m. 1.0' 8:32 p.m. 0.2'

E-WARENESS

PETROLEUM PRODUCT STORAGE TANK WEEKLY INSPECTION

Each department must inspect tanks weekly via trained custodian:

- Examine tank and piping for evidence of leaks and weeps.
- Examine tank for evidence of fuel/water within interstitial spaces.
- Inspect secondary containment area and ensure locks are in place (if applicable).
- Inspect leak detection system and alarm panels to ensure they are functional.
- Verify adequate spill response kit is readily available.

Kolaajrake rijerbal ro ekkar nan tank ko remaron jerbal ie.

- Etale storage tank ko aolep week.
- Komman ien nan jeek e storage tank ko aolep yio.
- Jeiki aolep jorren im likjab ko rar walok im pikwot kilen jerbale jorren ko. Ne ejab, kir lok Service Desk ilo 5-3550.

NEED TO KNOW?
CLICK BELOW.



YOUR WEEK IN PICTURES

Check out Kwajalein Hourglass photos online at the HG Flickr website.



SATURDAY

5 p.m. Saturdays and noon on Tuesdays on AFN 99.9 The Wave. Turn on the TV and listen in on Channel 29-1 or on the Roller.



KWAJ CURRENT

Catch the latest episode of Kwaj's local TV show on AFN 29-1.



AFN KWAJALEIN ROLLER CHANNEL IS STREAMING ONLINE

An island mainstay comes to the Internet at last. Stay in-the-know with the AFN Roller Channel online! Check out the US-AG-KA Facebook page connect.



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Department of Defense personnel are encouraged to visit the Centers for Disease Control online for the most accurate and up-to-date information on the global status of COVID-19.



SHARP
SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE & PREVENTION

**CONTACT THE
USAG-KA SEXUAL HARASSMENT/
ASSAULT RESPONSE
AND PREVENTION
VICTIM ADVOCATE**

Staff Sgt. Yadira Vazquezrodriguez
SHARP Victim Advocate
Work: 805 355 0660 / 1419

USAG-KA SHARP Pager:
805 355 3243/3242/3241/0100
USAG-KA SHARP VA

DOD SAFE Helpline:
877 995 5247



UXO REMINDER

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Remember the three Rs of UXO: Recognize an item as possible Unexploded Ordnance. Retreat from the area of the UXO. Report suspected UXO immediately by notifying EOD (5-1433) or CPS (5-4445).

Provide the following information: Location (building #, GPS, landmarks, etc); Size (compared to common items - football, scuba cylinder, etc). Treat UXO like you would treat dangerous sea creatures. Look but do not touch. For a detailed refresher, please attend the Island Orientation Briefing on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

Kemejmej R ko 3. Recognize (kile) juon kwopej bajjok emaron Bokutan ak kein kabokkolok (UXO). Retreat (Jenliklik) bed ettolok im jab kepaak UXO eo. Report (Ripoot e) boktun ak kein kabokklok eo ien eo emokajtata non EOD ilo nomba kein (5-1433) ak CPS (5-4445).

Ken melele kein: Ia eo (nomba in ijo, GPS, kakolle in ijo, etc.); Jonan (jonan e ibben jet kain mweik - football, taan in turan, etc.). Tiljek kon UXO kein einwot am kojparok menin mour in lojet ko rekawotata. Kalimjek wot jab jibwe. Non bar kakemejmej eok, eokwe jouj im koba lok ilo Island Orientation allon otemjej.



f/2.8



f/4



f/5.6



f/8



f/11



f/16



f/22



**CLASSIFIED/
CRITICAL/SENSITIVE**

**NOT SURE?
DON'T SHOOT.**
**HOBBIES SHOULDN'T
COMPROMISE OPSEC.**

If you're not sure, don't shoot. Whether your photographs are for work or for recreation, visitors and residents on U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll must abide by applicable physical security regulations for island photography. Please contact an island security representative for more information about how you can do your part to take great pictures while supporting the mission of the U.S. Army.

VISIT USAG-KA ONLINE.

For community updates, and episodes of the Kwaj Current, please visit the official USAG-KA Facebook page and YouTube channel. For command information questions, please contact Public Affairs at 5-4848.



YouTube