

## MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

## **News Release**

## Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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## MVA, VOLUNTEERS ENHANCE MEMORIALS IN MARPI, SAIPAN

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – With the aid of volunteers from LJ Lawn Care and the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) Women's National Team under the NMI Football Association, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has given a loving facelift to three memorials in Marpi, Saipan, that commemorate individuals who lost their lives on the island during World War II.

The three entities combined resources to complete enhancements at the site ahead of the Memorial Service Association for the Deceased Compatriots Overseas memorial service to be held at the Korean memorial this Saturday (May 18) with dignitaries from South Korea.

"We commend LJ Lawn Care and the women's national team for making tourism their business and helping The Marianas put our best foot forward for all our visitors coming to pay their respects at our memorials in Marpi," said MVA Acting Managing Director Judy C. Torres.

With supplies provided by the MVA, LJ Lawn Care water blasted the three memorials, the parking lots and stalls, sidewalks, and retaining wall. They also trimmed plants and overgrown

grass around the area and cleared debris. Twenty volunteers of the women's national team helped paint the facilities.

"The quality of work in the effort of beautification to our island is the reflection of our dedication to our tourism industry," said LJ Lawn Care Managing Member Lillian Camacho.

The project commenced on May 7 and was completed on Tuesday (May 14).



Volunteers from the Women's National Team of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association paint parking lot curbs in Saipan, The Marianas, in May 2024 to enhance the Korean, Okinawan, and Japanese memorials in Marpi.



An employee of LJ Lawn Care water blasts at the Korean Memorial in Saipan in May 2024 as part of the company's community service during May Marianas Tourism Month to enhance the Korean, Okinawan, and Japanese memorials in Marpi. The company collaborated with the Marianas Visitors Authority and Women's National Team of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association on the project.



Jeffrey David of LJ Lawn Care edges a sidewalk in May 2024 at the Korean Memorial in Saipan, as part of the company's community service to enhance the Korean, Okinawan, and Japanese memorials in Marpi. The project was also supported by the Marianas Visitors Authority Destination Enhancement Division and volunteers from Women's National Team of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.



World War II memorials in Marpi, Saipan, are cleaned and painted by the Marianas Visitors Authority, LJ Lawncare, and the Women's National Team of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association in May 2024. The memorial group Memorial Service Association for the Deceased Compatriots Overseas will hold a commemorative service at the site on May 18, 2024.

The Marianas is an archipelago of 14 islands - including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota - in the Western Pacific. The Marianas are home to indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people, as well as over 20 different ethnicities from around the world who live and work in this harmonious tropical paradise. Ancient latte stone limestone monoliths, traditional nature-based ocean navigation not reliant on modern technology, and a culture seasoned by East and West influences are just a few of the experiences found in The Marianas, where pristine sea, sand, and skies are only a 3–4-hour flight from major Asian gateway cities. From South Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights to Saipan from Seoul-Incheon. United Airlines flies three times a week from Tokyo-Narita, Japan, and daily from Guam. Hong Kong Airlines flies twice weekly from Hong Kong. Interisland travel between Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is provided by Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit <a href="www.mymarianas.com">www.mymarianas.com</a>, Facebook/VisitTheMarianas, or Instagram @themarianas.

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