司令官の相談室

Capt. Daniel L. Weed, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

BMCM(SW/EXW) Raynard Kidd, Acting Command Master Chief

Carney "Boardwalk" Pedestrian Gate Closure due to Upgrade – The Carney "Boardwalk" Pedestrian Gate will be closed from now through Aug. 27 due to the installation of the new Smart Gate. The new gate will allow pedestrians 24-hour access to the base provided they are properly registered in the Defense Biometric Identification Data System (DBIDS). The DBIDS registration office is located at the main gate inside building 1495. Customer service hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Interested in becoming a Certified Mediator? – Opportunities are available for Sailors, civilians and Japanese Master Labor Contract (MLC) employees to become certified mediators. Mediators are neutral and objective members trained to facilitate resolution of workplace disputes. Successful mediators possess qualities to include fairness, patience, credibility, integrity, neutrality, active listening skill and a professional demeanor. Mediators assist participants with identifying issues, fostering joint problem solving and exploring settlement opportunities in a neutral environment. Mediators, however, do not make decisions or force a decision on the parties in the dispute. Mediation training includes an introduction to mediation skills, advance mediation skills, a screening and evaluation session to ensure candidates possess the skills required and three co-mediations with a certified mediator. Participation will require occasional time away from the office to attend training and to conduct mediations. Supervisory approval is required for participation in the Mediator Certification Program. If you are interested in learning more about the mediation program and willing to make the commitment of time and effort to become a certified mediator, contact the CNFJ Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program Manager at 243-9579.

Military Advancement Study Opportunity Offered – Need help understanding your bibliography? Can't find items on your bibliography? Do you want to learn good study habits to better your opportunity for advancement? Contact CSCS Randall Clift at 243-5774, by e-mail to randall.clift@fe.navy.mil or stop by building 3333 for more information.

BZ: My wife and I wish to express our deep gratitude to So Koshimizu and his crew of the Housing Office who conducted a thorough inspection of our residence in Kamakura yesterday. Throughout the entire event he and his crew were completely professional, courteous and respectful. After listening carefully to our concerns they provided us with helpful advice about how to proceed with remedying the problematic situation in our home. They were able to reassure us that our problems can be solved. Before this excellent service we felt we were in a hopeless situation. Please inform his supervisor and those of his crew that we thank and commend them for a job well done. It is comforting to know that the Housing Office employs such courteous professionals.

BZ: I would like to submit a comment and feedback on the staff at the Youth Center to include members of Camp Adventure. The support and activities that they have provided for my child has been outstanding and very much appreciated. I would like to specifically point out and commend the outstanding support that Barbara Kahn of the Youth Center has provided. She has always managed to go the extra mile for me when I ask for her assistance. She is a definite asset and a must have for the Youth Center. Please pass my thanks and sincere appreciation to her and the rest of the Youth Center staff.

Q: Why are the sailing classes at Green Bay Marina three to four times more expensive than at other Navy installations? I reached a dead-end to this question with MWR staff. The basic 2-day sailing class costs:

- CFAY: $150
- CFAS: $50
- NAVSTA San Diego: $75

I received my sailing training at Naval Station Norfolk for $39 about six years ago. Is the quality of instruction really worth the extra money?

A: Thank you for allowing us to respond to your concern. We contacted the other base you mentioned and compared their sailing programs to ours. In brief, the analysis concluded that when comparing similar programs, our sailing program basic sailing certification course is very closely aligned with both Norfolk ($200/class) and San Diego ($125-$175/class). As for the Sasebo program, there are many differences in their program compared to ours. The most significant difference is that our staff instructors are certified by the American Sailing Association (ASA) whereas their staff has no affiliation with any sailing association. In fact, to ensure we offer a qualified and safe sailing program we pay for ASA Instructor Trainers to travel to Yokosuka and train and certify our local sailing instructors every two years. This certification adds considerably to our costs, but we feel its well worth the expense to ensure our instructors are well-trained, and equates to well-prepared customers and safer Sailors. The Sasebo classes have many other differences, including types and sizes of boats used, curriculum and total hours trained. In summary, on the surface, fees and class descriptions can be understandably misleading. However, in this case, once the matter was drilled down and a comparison of like programs was conducted, we discovered that our sailing program fees are similar with other Navy MWR sailing programs. The same analysis holds true for the Youth/Teen/Junior sailing programs. Contact the MWR Recreation Director Paul Lopez at 243-1215 for any additional questions or concerns you may have.

Action Line correspondence may be edited for length and readability. Your questions, suggestions and "Bravo Zulu" comments are appreciated. Address concerns with your chain of command or directly with the parties involved, at the lowest level possible. If you don't get results, send an e-mail to cfay.pao.watch@fe.navy.mil. We welcome your feedback, especially if it is of a general nature and can help others. To contact the Seahawk, call 243-5607/3003 or send an e-mail to: Seahawk-Umitaka@fe.navy.mil.

American Citizen Services appointments have come to U.S. Embassy Tokyo

By U.S. Embassy Tokyo

Starting Aug. 17, most nonemergency American Citizen Services (ACS) at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo will be by appointment only through an online appointment system. You can make your appointment now by visiting the ACS Web page http://japan.usembassy.gov/e/tacs-main.html.

Appointments will be needed for all passport services, Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) applications, notary services and federal benefits services.

No appointments are necessary for Americans requiring emergency services. Emergency ACS services include:

- Reporting the death, arrest of, or a missing American citizen, and accidents and illnesses involving American citizens.
- Replacement of lost, stolen or expired passports for those with an urgent need to travel.
- Americans requiring emergency financial assistance to return to the United States.
- American victims of criminal incidents.

Tokyo ACS hours are Monday through Friday from 8:45 a.m. to noon; and on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 2-4 p.m. The ACS section in Tokyo will be closed to the public on Wednesday afternoons.

Passport services: Appointments for new and replacement passports and for adding extra visa pages will be offered every morning Monday through Friday, and in the afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. You need to make only one appointment per family.

Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA): Appointments will be offered every morning Monday through Friday, and in the afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. When you make an appointment for a birth record for your infant, we will process your infant's passport application at the same time, plus any other passport application for your family. There's no need to make a separate passport appointment when you make a CRBA appointment.

Notary services: Appointments will be offered Monday through Friday in the mornings only.

Federal benefits services are already offered on an appointment-only basis. Please see our Federal Benefits page online for appointment details.

This announcement does not affect consulates elsewhere in Japan. For information on operating hours and ACS services provided by consulates in Sapporo, Nagoya, Osaka-Kobe, Fukuoka and Naha, please see their individual Web pages on the U.S. Embassy Web site.

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