Heads Up Yokosuka

Community Announcements

UMUC Asia Orkand Family Military Book Awards - University of Maryland University College Asia (UMUC Asia) is offering the Orkand Family Military Book Awards for active duty enlisted service members. Through this book award program, active duty enlisted service members attending UMUC Stateside, Europe and Asia can apply to receive a $100 award to help pay for textbooks. The awards will be available for the fall sessions and applications are being accepted now. For application and eligibility requirement, log on to http://www.asia.umuc.edu/finaid/orkand.cfm. Contact your local field representative or the UMUC Asia Financial Aid Office for questions regarding available financial aid programs.

USNH Yokosuka Seeking Volunteer Help – USNH Yokosuka is seeking a volunteer environment of care community representative who will represent patients and provide input to the hospital on topics such as patient flow, privacy, comfort and dignity, safety and security, fire prevention, utilities, facilities, medical equipment, hazardous material and waste, environmental issues, infection control and emergency management. This is a great way to gain experience in a medical treatment facility. Volunteer must be able to attend a quarterly meeting and contribute time throughout the year as needed by the hospital and as the volunteer's schedule permits. For more information, please contact Bill Heath, the hospital's safety manager, at 243-8691/080-5444-8691 or william.heath@med.navy.mil.

The Chief says:

Did you know the Navy blue working coveralls are only authorized for wear at specific areas of Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY)? In accordance with a CFAY Policy Statement released April 24, 2007, coveralls may be worn on the 'waterside' of Howard Street (the street in front of the Fleet Recreation Center), between King Street (the street that runs in front of SRF and Dry Dock 2) and Fechteler Road (the road that runs between Dry Dock 6 and FISC Household Goods Warehouse).

One other place coveralls are authorized is the Fleet Recreation Center as long as they are clean and presentable. Coveralls are not authorized in the commissary area.

If you didn't know, now you know. - MCC(SW/AW) Eric Hannah, CFAY Public Affairs

On eagles wings

By Chaplain Donald Moss

Once upon a time there was a chicken farmer with too many chickens. All day long he heard nothing but the noise of chickens. So, he decided to try to raise something else. He decided to raise an eagle. He traveled to the mountains and climbed far up to an eagle's nest. He waited until the mother bird was gone. Then he reached into the nest and took an eagle's egg.

He took that egg home and placed it under the biggest and fattest hen he could find. The hen sat and sat until the egg cracked open and a small eaglet emerged. He was a healthy eagle. The problem was that he thought he was a chicken. He followed mother hen all around. He chased bugs and scratched in the earth for worms. He did well in the chicken yard and was popular among the chickens. That is, until he because a teenager and began look more and more like an eagle.

One day, he was sitting on a rock in the chicken yard and happened to look up into the sky to see something circling around. Whatever it was, it was getting bigger because it was getting closer. Finally, it came to land right in front of our little eagle friend. It was the biggest, most magnificent eagle he had ever seen. This eagle seemed to be very unhappy with the little eagle.

The big eagle said, "what are you doing sitting on a rock in a chicken yard, of all places?"

The little eagle said, "I'm sitting here because that is what chickens do."

"Have you lost your mind? Can't you see that you are not a chicken? You are an eagle," said the big eagle.

"No, I'm a chicken," said the little eagle. "My mother is a chicken. My daddy is a chicken. I eat chicken food. I live on a chicken farm. I do chicken things. I' m a chicken."

The big eagle said, "You are about as smart as a bale of hay, boy. Just look at yourself, you are a chicken and I can prove it. See that tree over there. We are going to go to the top of that tree and then I will show you that you are an eagle."

The little eagle said, "Chickens don't climb trees and I am a chicken. My mother is a chicken and my daddy is a chicken. I eat chicken food and live on a chicken farm. I am a chicken."

Finally, the big eagle got so tired of the chicken talk that he grabbed him by the neck and lifted him high into the air to the top of the tree. Then he said, "Okay, boy jump."

The little eagle didn't want to jump. He said, "Chickens don't jump out of trees and I am a chicken. My momma is a chicken. My daddy is a chicken. I eat chicken food and I live on a chicken farm. I'm a chicken."

So, the big eagle pushed him out of the tree. He tumbled out and spread his wings. The updraft caught his wings and began lifting him higher and higher. He began to circle around and soar higher and higher. It was at that point that be began to understand that he was not a chicken. He was an eagle.

Sometimes we all need to be reminded that we can soar high. We are more than we think. Sometimes, all it takes is a little encouragement and we can help others fly a little higher and realize a little more of their potential.

Fire Prevention Activity Camp held

Story and photo by Kazuyuki Takagi, CFAY Public Affairs

The 14th Japan-U.S. Fire Prevention Activity Camp was held at Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan (CNFJ) Regional Fire Department July 31 where local Japanese and American children gathered to have an opportunity to experience U.S. Navy firefighting technology and equipment.

Japanese and American children experience how water is discharged from a fire hose during the 14th annual Japan-U.S. Fire Prevention Activity Camp at Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan Regional Fire Department July 31.

CNFJ Regional Fire Department Deputy Fire Chief Bill Casey welcomed the children to one of several tours the fire department offers local residents throughout the year.

"It's always a pleasure to have children at this station. Especially, to have Japanese children here," Casey said. "It's great to see them interact with American children."

More than 40 Japanese and American children were divided into small groups, then each group took turns experiencing different firefighting activities learning about ladder trucks, ambulances, water discharge, changing into firefighting gear and how to use fire extinguishers.

"I think it's useful for both Japanese children in Yokosuka and American children from the base to learn about fire safety together," said Yokosuka City Fire Bureau Fire Chief En Takahashi. "Yokosuka city's theme is safety and security. So it's important for all children to learn about fire safety together at a young age."

After the tour concluded, the children visited the Yokosuka City Disaster Museum "*Anshin Kan*," to learn about disaster prevention using the latest disaster simulation technology.