





AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - COMMUNITY NEWS

Number 11 - Issue 6

their contributions to our countr



SECAF Heather Wilson visits Team Kadena

By Senior Airman Quay Drawdy

18th Wing Public Affairs

2/8/2018 — Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited Kadena Air Base Feb. 1 and 2, for the first time since taking the position.

Secretary Wilson met with members across the installation to discuss her priorities of readiness, innovation and modernization, as well as listening to their ideas and how they do their

"I really enjoyed getting out to the flightline and talking to all the Airmen about what they're doing," Secretary Wilson said. "Being briefed by so many of the units here was a very varied and fast time. I got to see a lot and hear a lot from the Airmen about what they do and how they're staying ready to fight at any time."

After experiencing and learning about the missions being accomplished by all of Team Kadena, Secretary Wilson expressed her pleasure with how the Airmen conducted themselves.

"I just really appreciate the Airmen here at Kadena who are taking the time to become ready," Secretary Wilson said, "Always being ready, always honing your skills, always strengthening your team and always taking care of the Airman who's next to you.'





2018 Okinawa Marathon - Kadena Traffic Delay

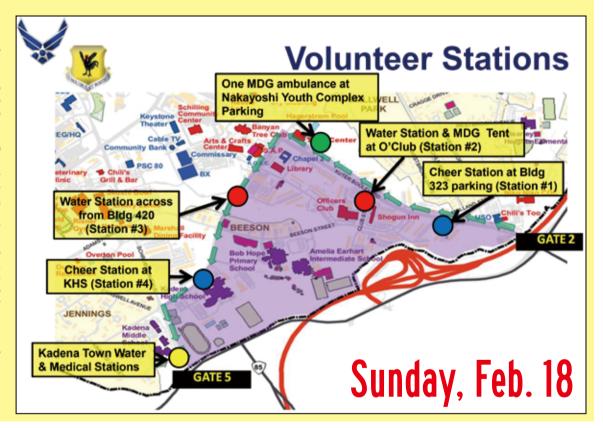
By 18th Wing Public Affairs 2/15/2018 — Gate 2 and Gate 5 will be closed to vehicle traffic from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Roads will be closed from Gate 2 on Kuter Blvd. to Vincent Avenue and from Vincent Avenue to Schreiber Blvd. and from Schreiber Blvd. to Gate 5. However, Gate 2 will remain open for pedestrian traffic with authorized base passes. Gate 1 and Gate 3 will be open as normal.

Runners will enter Kadena Air Base through Gate 2 on Kuter Blvd., turn left onto Vincent Avenue at Chapel 2, turn left on Schreiber Blvd. at Kadena High School, and exit the base through Gate 5.

The following facilities will be affected by the marathon: Chapel 2; the Kadena Library; Shogun Inn; Officers Club; Kadena High School; Bob Hope Primary School; Amelia Earhart Intermediate School; dormitories located along the route, family housing on Beeson Avenue; the temporary lodging facility; and visiting officers quarters.

Residents living inside the on-base route should consider parking their vehicles outside the affected area if they plan to travel anywhere from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will only be one authorized vehicle egress route into/out of the affected area. Vehicle traffic will be allowed to cross at the intersection of Vincent Street and Beeson Street. Traffic will be regulated by Security Forces. Runners will have priority and wait times to cross may be as long as 30 minutes; please plan accordingly. Pedestrians will only be authorized to cross the marathon route on the crosswalks near the Base Exchange, at the Kadena USO, and behind the Officers Club to cross over Kuter Blvd. These crosswalks will also be regulated by security forces.

Please direct any traffic related questions or concerns to Master Sgt. Wilkinson, Kennedy or Tech. Sgt. Moore, Christopher at the 18th Security Forces Squadron at DSN 634-1349.



Kadena Air Base Weekly Newspaper



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18th CMS Egress keep fighter pilots safe



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jessica H. Smith)

Airman 1st Class Shu Hsu, 18th Component Maintenance Squadron egress systems journeyman, performs a visual inspection on an F-15 Eagle ejection seat Feb. 7, at Kadena Air Base. Hsu enjoys the specialization of his job and takes great pride in praticing excellence with his tasks.

By Senior Airman Jessica Smith

18th Wing Public Affairs

2/9/2018 — Let's be honest, when people think about the mission of the Air Force, they generally think of the aircraft and the pilots, then the individuals working out on the flightline keeping said aircraft flying. But what about the Airmen that make sure the pilots are good to go? What about the small behind-the-scenes shops that have a major impact on the safety of those pilots?

The 18th Component Maintenance Squadron egress shop does just that. From maintaining ejection systems, swapping out and changing survival kits and removing and installing seats out on the flightline, egress performs a very specific set of tasks to ensure the safety of the pilots during missions.

For Airman First Class Shu Hsu, 18th CMS egress systems journeyman, the specialization is his favorite part of the job.

"We only work on one system as opposed to knowing about a whole lot of other stuff that may or may not conflict in your mind," he explained. "Once you know too much, you start mixing things in your head, but for us it's just that one system and one system only."

Although it is in fact a small and specialized career field – focused mainly on the ejection of the pilot and their seat – doesn't mean it's a simple job. Egress is responsible

for the ejection system on fighters, bombers and U-2s Air Force wide.

"Egress is a very interesting job," Hsu said. "People think it's a really simple system, but once you go to tech school you realize that there's a lot more importance stressed on the safety of the pilots, safety of the aircraft and safety of the crew working on the system itself."

The job can include tasks of corrosion control – which can lead to deterioration of the metal on the seat if left unmanaged – inspections and time changes of the seats and cockpit systems and visual inspections of the seat to check for damage to explosives, visible cracks, safety wiring or anything that could weaken the integrity of the system.

Egress performs two routine inspections on all of the seats – one scheduled every 30 days while the seat is in the aircraft and one scheduled every three years where the seats are removed and brought back to the shop, completely disassembled, repainted, thoroughly inspected and repaired if necessary and then rebuilt and placed back in the aircraft.

To ensure safety and avoid complacency, the egress members follow technical data to a T, take their time and practice attention to detail.

"To avoid complacency, we always work in pairs – since it's explosives we have to work in pairs – but anytime a seat comes in here it's always looked at a minimum of 3 times," said Tech. Sgt. Ernest Franks, 18th CMS aircrew egress systems section chief. "As soon as it comes into the shop we look at it and see what's wrong with it. Once we're done working it, somebody looks at it and then once that persons looks at it a third person

comes in behind them and double checks that – the last person to look at it has to be a 7-level NCO."

The ejection system can't be tested for reliability – it's a one-time pull system, which means a lot of pressure for those working on it.

"The egress system only goes off once, and that's only when it's needed, so in the event where an accident happens and it doesn't go off, it can cost someone their life," Hsu said. "This entire position is a bit stressful because you don't ever want to put someone's life at risk – but at the same time it's kind of a unique experience – the first time is the last time you can do it."

Egress members take pride in what they do and have one main goal, Franks explained, making sure the system is reliable and that aircrew can safely depend on their seat if the need arises.

"Worst case scenario would be a pilot pulls the handles to get out of the aircraft and nothing happens – loss of life is extremely high, there's no margin for error," he said. "Unlike other systems with the aircraft, we don't get to test if we've done our jobs correctly – you can only pull the handles once, so if it doesn't work, it doesn't work."

When a seat leaves the shop, the team has the utmost confidence that it's going to perform how it should if need be.

"I feel like our job is important because the aircrews go out there and they risk their lives flying the mission—both deployed and at home station getting their training done – and in the very unfortunate event that something disastrous does happen and an airplane goes down, we are literally a fighter pilots last chance to get out of the aircraft," Franks said.



Kadena dragon boat team practices for Naha Hari



The Kadena Shoguns women's dragon boat team practice at the Fairchild Pool Feb. 7, at Kadena Air Base. The Naha Dragon Boat Race is the largest dragon boat race on Okinawa, with more than 50 competing teams. The Kadena Shoguns women's dragon Boat Team is defending their Best U.S. Women's Dragon Boat Team title against both the Army and Navy women's dragon boat teams. The dragon boat teams, composed of 32



THE RISING OF THE WINTRY SUN

rowers, row fiberglass boats painted to resemble mythical seafaring dragons

An F-35A Lightning II assigned to the 34th Fighter Squadron, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, sits on the flightline at Yokota Air Base, Japan, Feb. 9, in support of the vice president's visit to Japan. The F-35As from Hill Air Force Base, are deployed to Kadena Air Base, under U.S. Pacific Command's Theater Security Package program, which has been in operation since 2004.





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33rd HMU begins 600-hour phase

By Senior Airman Omari Bernard

18th Wing Public Affairs

2/9/2018 — Imagine a classic car, each door is taken off and every part of the interior removed, nothing is left except for the shell. Every part of the vehicle is cataloged and inspected before it's restored. Just like that classic car, every time an HH-60G Pavehawk reaches 600 flight hours at Kadena Air Base, it has to be dismantled, inspected and then put back together to keep it in pristine condition.

During a phase inspection, the phase dock section of the 33rd Helicopter Maintenance Unit inspects every nook and cranny of the aircraft looking for damage, rust or corrosion.

"We attempt to zero out the aircraft to the best of our ability," said Tech. Sgt. Cory Lee, 33rd HMU phase dock flight chief. "We replace anything we have to, repair anything we can and then reassemble the aircraft."

A 600-hour phase inspection also includes all of the prerequisite ones that HH-60 crew chiefs perform on the flight line, Lee explained.

"It also includes a 300-hour inspection, a 150-hour inspection, a 50-hour inspection and major time compliance technical orders with delayed discrepancies that may have accumulated over the 600 hours flown on the flight line," he continued.

During the entire phase process maintainers remove more than 620 parts from the aircraft in order to access the 1,136 items that must be checked during this process. Once the parts are removed, any discrepancies found must be fixed to meet aviation safety standards. The average phase inspection lasts 45 days,



after which the aircraft is reassembled.

The 33rd Rescue Squadron, which flies the aircraft, constantly trains over the surrounding waters of the Pacific Ocean and specialize in rescue operations. The 718th Air Craft Maintenance Squadron supports them by ensuring the aircraft they fly are safe and reliable.

"Phase is important because these birds are old," said Staff Sgt. Paul Roberts, 33rd HMU HH-60G Pavehawk crew chief. "Over time, everything starts to wear out and needs to be replaced."

According to Roberts, the salt water in the air can get into the tiniest of gaps and crevices, which causes rust.

"Most of the components and parts

that we look at will not be inspected again for another 600 hours," Lee said, "so, it is paramount that those are inspected by experts that are highly skilled."

Over a 45-day period, more than 40 Airmen can work on this aircraft during phase inspection. After the phase inspection is complete and the aircraft is reassembled, it must go through a thorough flight test by aircrew.

"Once the aircraft passes its functional flight check it is released from phase," Lee said. "Hearing the engines startup, the rotors turn and watch it take off for the first time is a rewarding feeling. Nothing beats the feeling of watching a helicopter pass its function check the first time after phase."





THE AUTO HOBBY SHOP

Presidents' Day Special



20 - 23 February

Pull a president out of a hat, and receive his presidential order's percentage off service and labor.

For example, pull President Trump's likeness from the hat and receive 45% off. Pull William McKinley out of the hat and receive 25% off. It's all luck of the draw!





18th Wing 4th Quarterly **Awards Winners**



By 18th Wing Public Affairs

2/9/2018 — The 2018 Fourth quarter award ceremony for 18th Wing was held at the Keystone Theater, Feb. 9.

Congratulations to the following award winners.

The 18th Wing award winners are:

Honor Guard Airman: Senior Airman Jon Barrett, 18th Maintenance Group Honor Guard NCO: Staff Sgt. Ryan Thom, 18th Mission Support Group Airman: Airman 1st Class Shane Butler, 18th Mission Support Group NCO: Tech. Sgt. Timothy Whitaker, 18th Maintenance Group Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Thad Burton, 18th Maintenance Group Company grade officer: Capt. John Krzyminski, 18th Operations Group Field grade officer: Maj. Jared Struck, 18th Maintenance Group Civilian Cat I: Wendy Weatherspoon, 18th Medical Group Civilian Cat II: Andrea Strong, 18th Mission Support Group Civilian Cat III: Chiaki Taira, 18th Civil Engineer Group Key Spouse: Mallory Stone, 18th Mission Support Group **Dorm of the Quarter:**

Dorm 149, hosted by the 18th Communications Squadron Dorm 758, hosted by the 353rd Special Operations Group and the 733rd Air Mobility Squadron

Air Force to institute new method to protect PII

By Secretary of the Air Force Public **Affairs Office**

2/8/2018 - WASHINGTON — Air Force officials announced Feb. 6, emails containing personally identifiable information, and similar numeric constructs, will be blocked from transmission unless the email is encrypted. For members unable to send or receive encrypted emails, members will be directed to utilize the AMRDEC SAFE application.

This is not a change in policy, but a new method to halt PII breaches via email. PII is information about an individual that identifies, links, relates, or is unique to, or describes a member. For example – social security numbers (full or partial), age, marital status, race, salary, home/personal cell phone numbers, other demographic biometric, personnel, medical and financial information.

"The Air Force depends on reliable, secure communications to operate," said Under Secretary of the Air Force Matthew Donovan. "Ensuring confidentiality of every Airman's personal information is part and parcel for maintaining operational security, as well as an inherent command responsibility".



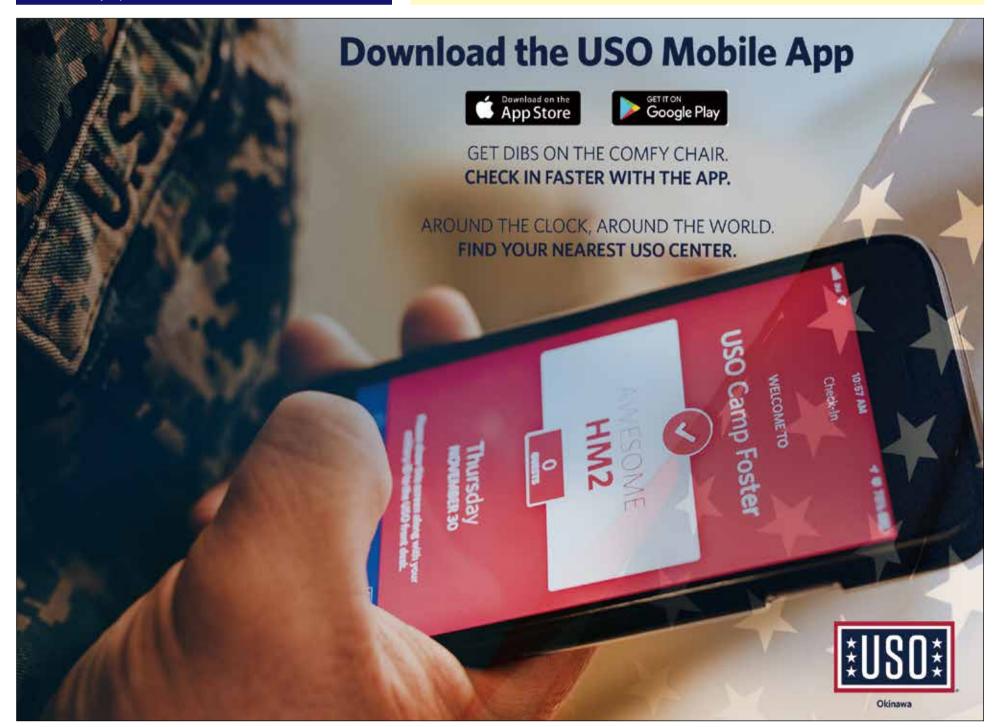
Users will be notified via a dialogue pop-up box or email response and provided with the option to either remove PII content, encrypt or send via AMRDEC SAFE. There are no user accounts for AMRDEC SAFE and authentication is handled via email and password. Everyone has access to AMRDEC SAFE. The application is convenient and intuitive to utilize.

If users send an email that contains a series of numbers that resemble PII information, the system will also block the email transmittal. In order for the email to transmit, the user will need to treat the email as if it does contain PII by encrypting the email or using AMRDEC SAFE. Feedback to the Help Desk in these instances will aid in changing the blocking tool "sniffers" to differentiate non-PII data in the future.

"Ideally, email would be the last medium used to transmit PII information," said Col. Patrick Ryan, reserve advisor to the chief, information dominance and chief information officer. "However, if you have to send PII via email for mission accomplishment, then either encrypt or use AMRDEC SAFE."

AMRDEC SAFE can be accessed through the following website: https://safe.amrdec. army.mil/safe/Guide.aspx

For more information, please contact the PII Program Lead at (571) 256-2515 or DSN: 260-2515.



AF upgrades to Windows 10



By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

2/13/2018 - WASHINGTON — In accordance with the Department of Defense mandate, the Air Force must complete the Microsoft Windows 10 migration by March 31. Any operating system not upgraded by the deadline will be denied access to the network.

Windows 10 is not compatible with many systems currently in the Air Force inventory, resulting in the need to replace a significant number of computer hardware.

To minimize downtime during the migration, users should take the following steps:

- 1) Manually back up their data to a shared drive or DVD discs
- 2) Make a list of any special computer software or hardware the technician will need to install
- 3) Be patient, the upgrade will take 1-2 hours to complete

"The Windows 10 migration is critical to Air Force readiness," said Lt. Col. Brian Snyder, Windows 10 lead action officer, cyberspace strategy and policy.

"It introduces a number of new security features; making it the most secure Windows version to date. Additionally, base and organizational leadership must ensure communication/cyber squadrons are provided all the support and availability necessary to guarantee success."

The security features allow software patches to install faster, making it less obtrusive to Airmen while its ability to counter emerging cyber intrusion makes the networks safer. This will have a positive security impact on the protection of DoD and special access programs, mission systems, as well as strategic, tactical, and research, development, testing and evaluation systems.

"In cyberspace...every Airman is an operator. They need to be aware of cyber threat and do their part by being prepared for the Win10 migration," said Bill Marion, deputy chief, information dominance and deputy chief information officer. "The long term benefit is not just about defending the Air Force against the cyber threat, but having a reliable and capable computer to accomplish the mission."









■WEEKDAY: 10 A.M. - 8 P.M. ■SAT/SUN/JP Holiday: 10 A.M. - 9 P.M.

Carnival Park Mihama 1F 15-69 Mihama, Chatan-cho, Okinawa

Phone





Soldiers with 1-1 ADA host a tour for JGSDF leadership on MCAS Futenma (1.3. Marie Corps piolos by Lines Col. Binelle R. Prontice)

By Lance Cpl. Danielle Prentice

Marine Corps Installations Pacific

2/1/2018 - MCAS FUTENMA — U.S. Army Soldiers with Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery held a tour of an ADA site for members of the 15th Anti-aircraft Artillery Regiment, 15th Brigade, Western Army, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Jan. 30 on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Throughout the tour, the soldiers explained the six different crucial pieces of an ADA site, which featured phased array tracking radar intercept on target missiles. Those include: engagement control station, radar station, electronic power plant, antenna mast group, patriot launching station, and missile segment enhancement launching station.

"A PATRIOT missile is a highly capable missile against the wide range of air threats," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Neal Lape, the commanding officer of 1-1 ADA BN. "Our mission in 1-1 ADA is to defend critical assets in Okinawa, as well as the people and infrastructure of Okinawa, and you can't do that all from Kadena. Being able to move out to different locations on Okinawa is absolutely crucial for us."

PATRIOT's fast-reaction capability, ability to track numerous targets simultaneously, and ability to operate in a severe electronic countermeasure environment make it the Army's premier air-defense system. It has the ability to locate and track more than 100 potential targets from over 80 kilometers [49.7 miles] away.

"Escorting JGSDF Col. Eiji Shimamori was incredible," said Lape. "I have a great

relationship with him. We talk all of the time. This is the first time he's seen a patriot battery. So for him to come out to MCAS Futenma, and see this equipment for the first time on location was awesome. He had a lot of questions that we answered for him. He is very inquisitive as far as what our weapons systems can do, just like we are with the JGSDF when we visit their base. It's always good to see his perspective of things as an officer in the JGSDF."

Throughout the tour, JGSDF members were able to ask questions to help them understand the training process and security that 1-1 ADA provides for Okinawa. Leadership on both sides also took this opportunity to discuss future events and training opportunities to continue enhancing the Japan-U.S. alliance.

"Our alliance is very strong," said

Lape. "Having them understand what our mission set is, and likewise we understand what their mission is, makes the bilateral bond even stronger."

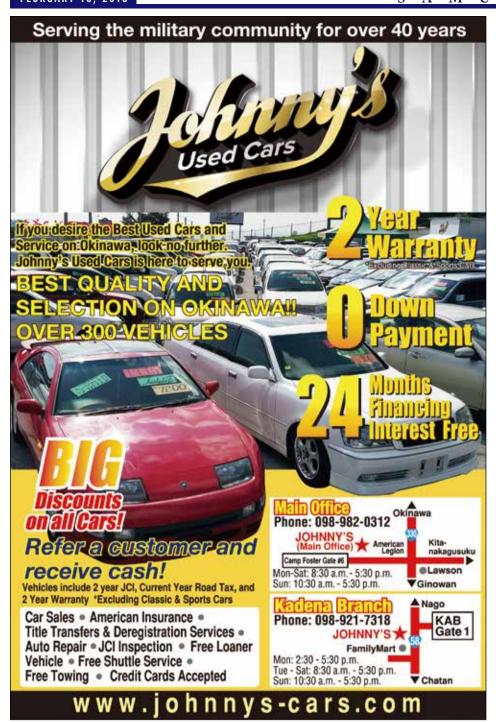
The U.S. Armed Forces and the JGSDF often come together for bilateral training to better prepare for the worst and strengthen the Japan and U.S. alliance.

"These are some exciting times in the Asia-Pacific," said Col. Mark Coppess, the commanding officer of MCAS Futenma. "It has been 13 years since I was last on Okinawa, and I am happy to see how much stronger the alliance is between the U.S. and Japanese forces. These types of interoperability training events are fun for me. It is inspirational to watch these highly skilled and dedicated men and women from both nations working together to ensure our alliance is ready to face any challenge."















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Torii MWR - Okinawa





Kadena Air Base Community Notes

To submit an announcement for the base bulletin, please visit **www.kadena.af.mil** NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES IS INTENDED.

SGLI Online Enrollment System (SOES) Implementation

On Aug. 1, 2017, the Air Force implemented the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Online Enrollment System (SOES) for the uniformed services. The Air Force's 12-month implementation of SOES will continue through July 31, 2018. During your birth month, all Airmen (officer and enlisted) will update their SGLI/FSGLI election option, validate coverage level and add beneficiary information. Also, prior to deployment, and in some instances prior to retirement or separation, if applicable. You will receive a message. More information is available at the Kadena MPS site.

Kadena and Camp Foster Emergency Numbers

Kadena Fire Emergency Services reminds everyone to program their cell phones with the emergency numbers. To report an emergency on Kadena via cell, dial 098-934-5911, and from an office phone, dial 911. For Camp Foster via cell, dial 098-911-1911, or from an office phone, dial 911

How to File a Complaint with IG

If you believe you are unable to resolve your complaint through supervisory channels, you may seek IG assistance to determine if the complaint should be filed with the IG. You can file a complaint if you reasonably believe inappropriate conduct has occurred or a violation of law, policy, procedures, or regulation has been committed. Complete the personnel data information on an AF Form 102 and briefly outline the facts and relevant information related to the issue or complaint. List the allegations of wrongdoing briefly, in general terms and provide supporting narrative detail and documents later, when interviewed by an IG person. Allegations should be written as bullets and should answer who committed the violation; what violation was committed; what law, regulation, procedures, or policy was violated; when did the violation occur.

Help is available: Call your Kadena IG office at 634-7622 for Maj. Sarabia or 634-1109 for Mr. Lovingood, or leave a message on the Kadena Fraud Waste & Abuse (FWA) Hotline at 634-0404.

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Did you drink tonight? Made a plan but it's falling through? Can't catch a cab? If any of this applies to you, call AADD. Don't risk it all, when you can get a ride home for free. Call AADD at the cell phone number 098-961-1110 and then ask for the USO or dial DSN: 634-3889. We're open from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. and we're here to help. Any questions please Email our Work Box or contact us on Facebook, Kadena Air Base A2D2. Angel Vargas, President, 090-9786-9431. Henry Huynh, Vice President 090-9785-7935. Roman Nieves, Secretary 080-6485-6464. Jared Bland, Head Scheduler 070-3135-9906. Zachary Todd, Public Affairs 080-9850-5200.

Kadena Lodging Shortages

Kadena Lodging is in a compressed state for availability of rooms. We anticipate limited to no space for the next 10-12 months. We will make our very best effort to support your needs based either on base if we have it or through certificate of non-availability and a recommended off base hotel list. Contact 632-1010 "Reservations" for more information.

18th MDG Clinic Closures

The Kadena Air Base clinic will be closed on the following dates this year:

Feb. 19 (Washington's BDay) Closed All Day Feb. 20 (5th AF Family Day) Closed All Day Mar. 15 (MDG Training Day) Closed ½ Day

The 18th Medical Group is responsible for ensuring the 18th Wing's medical readiness in support of the United States' and Japan's mutual interests. In keeping with this mission, the Kadena Clinic will be participating in 18th Wing upcoming exercises. During exercises, our normal patient care and clinical services

(pharmacy, lab, immunizations, etc.) will be impacted, as the clinic may be closed for one day during these exercises (exact dates subject to scenario). We ask for your patience as our trusted professionals exercise their skills and work with the Wing and other agencies on island in support of these training events. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. As always, in the event of an emergency, seek emergency services at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Foster, or by dialing ambulance services at 634-1796 or by cell phone 098-934-5911. For more information, contact Capt. Jennifer Stark at 630-4565, Staff Sgt. Larissa Palmer at 630-4504, or Ms. Melissa Cook at 630-5050.

18th Wing Equal Opportunity

Do you face concerns of unlawful discrimination or sexual harassment? If so, Kadena Air Base leadership maintains a strict "zero-tolerance" policy pertaining to discriminatory behavior. If you feel you are being unlawfully discriminated against, to include sexual harassment, take action. We encourage members to use the chain of command first to resolve issues at the lowest level. However, you can also contact the EO office at 634-2571 to set up an appointment; or you may visit our office. Please note that the EO office will not accept a Formal Complaint more than 60 calendar days for military and 45 calendar days for civilian complaints after the alleged offense occurred without sufficient justification.

Public Affairs Photo Studio

The Public Affairs photo studio is open Mon.-Thurs. from 9-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Appointments are available in half-hour increments. Award, bio or package submission photos are scheduled Mon-Wed. Full length photos are only available on Thurs. Official Passport photos are by appointment only until further notice, Mon-Fri, and require a letter from your UDM or the passport office. For questions or to schedule, please call 634-3813.

Finance Office Closure

The Finance office will be closed the third Thursday of every month for training. For emergencies please call 080-6487-6969.

Kadena Air Base women's softball

Are you looking to play slow pitch softball? Our women's team competes all-year round on Kadena with other local bases and there is even opportunities to play in tournaments throughout the Pacific Theater! Practices are held twice per week and is open to all active duty personnel, spouses and DOD civilians. For more information, please contact Master Sgt. Crystal Benitez at crystal.benitez@us.af.mil

Preparation for Promotion Testing

As the promotion cycle nears, your Test Control Officer would like to ensure all examinees receive the best opportunity going forward. All examinees should be prepared on their scheduled day by ensuring they:

- Are on time (late arrival will generate a no-show)
- Have CAC at all time during both tests
- · Be in appropriate military uniform

Road Cuts on Hampshire Street

Construction is scheduled Feb. 5 - April 14, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Hampshire street and an adjacent unnamed road for installation of electrical and communication conduits.

Road cuts on Kuter Blvd

Construction is scheduled Jan 22 – March 3, from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Kuter Blvd near Bldg 507 and 302.

Nominations for Volunteer Recognition Awards

The Airman and Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) will host the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony on April 20, to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of Continued on PAGE 11

Okinawaetcetera?

SEFA UTAKI, OKINAWA'S MOST HIGHLY RANKED PRAYER SITE

In Okinawa, there are many places which are called 'Utaki'.

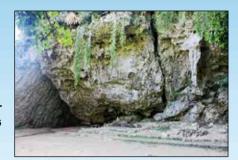
They can either be a vast, calming space on the outskirts of a village, or an open, lonely place in a field or forest. Although there are many various types of Utaki, they are all places of prayer and considered holy land for Okinawan people who worship their ancestors and the gods.

A well-known example of such Utaki is the "Sefa Utaki", the most highly ranked sacred site among the seven Utaki that appeared in the Ryukyu mythology.

At one time, it was the place of national festivals and men were originally forbidden to enter. Even the Ryukyu King was only allowed to enter halfway.

Today anybody can enter and in 2000, it was registered as a world heritage site under the "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu". When visiting, it is important to be modest and respectful when praying.

Passing through the triangle road formed



by piling large rocks, the path leads to a small place of worship on a cliff that looks out over the ocean. Looking in the direction of "Niraikanai" (*), Kudakajima Island can be seen and is worshipped as "Island of the Gods". The white stones that are spread out all over the Sefa Utaki site are brought over especially from Kudakajima Island.

*Niraikanai is a Utopia said to be in the ocean far away to the East. People's souls are born here and it is said to be the place where we all return. Also known as the Country of the Gods, it is also said to be the source of good harvests.







16-Feb 1100-1700 KAB Concession Mall Nukumi Kitchen 17-Feb 1100-1900 Foster Main Exchange Old Spices 17-Feb 1100-1900 KAB Concession Mall Café Shiyu de Pokko 18-Feb 1100-1900 KAB Concession Mall Triple A 18-Feb 1100-1900 KAB Concession Mall Old Spices 19-Feb 1100-1700 KAB Concession Mall Nukumi Kitchen 20-Feb 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Café Shiyu de Pokko 20-Feb 1100-1400 Torii Express Nukumi Kitchen 20-Feb 1100-1900 Foster Main Exchange Old Spices 21-Feb 1100-1700 KAB Flightline Old Spices Café Shiyu de Pokko 22-Feb 1100-1400 KAB Flightline **Old Spices** 22-Feb 1100-1700 Torii Express



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Kadena volunteers in 2017. Nominations for the Volunteer Excellence Award and Angel Awards (seven categories: 1. active duty member, 2. civilian employee (NAF, GS/WG, Contractor), 3. family member (spouse of AD/civilian employee/ retiree), 4. retiree (not employed), 5. Youth Angel (youth up to age 18), 6. civilian from the local community (Local National) and 7. Team Kadena (Group/Unit)) are currently being accepted and can be submitted to the A&FRC NLT March 30. Contact the A&FRC for guidance and packages at 634-3366 or email laurie.lewis.4@us.af.mil.

Men's USAF Dragon Boat Looking for Members

Do you want to be a more "All Around Airman", and feel like losing weight after the new year? Come Join the Men's USAF Dragon Boat team. Practices start Jan. 22, at Kadena Marina and finish with a race through the NAHA Harbor against Military Teams and Local Nationals in May. Practice is held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday beginning at 6 p.m. at Kadena Marina. More information is available on Facebook at: 2018 Kadena Shoguns Air Force Dragon Boat

Kadena Dragons full contact football team is looking for players

The 2018 Kadena Dragons football team are on the hunt to repeat as USFJ-AFL champions. We are currenty seeking active duty, DoD civilians, and the SOFA status dependants to join our dynasty. All positions and talent levels are welcome. Contact head coach Jermaine Baker at 080-6499-5445 or via e-mail at kadenafootball@ gmail.com. Follow us on social media https:// www.facebook.com/kadenafootball

Housing Office Closures

The Kadena DoD Family Housing Office, Camp Kinser Office, Camp Courtney Office, Camp Foster, Furnishing Management Section and Furnishing Management Section Self-Help and Appliance Repair will be closing in observance of Washington's Birthday, Feb 19-20. For emergency assistance, please contact 634-HOME (4663).

UPCOMING EVENTS 2018 AFSA Golf Tournament

The 2018 AFSA Golf Tournament is coming up on March 7, at the Kadena Banyan Tree Golf Course. This year's event is a four member team scramble with lunch included. Start time is 6 a.m. Contact afsagolfkadena2018@gmail.com for more information or to sign up!

2018 African American Heritage Observance Month events

- Book Readings at the Child Development

Open to anyone with base access at Niko-Niko and Wakaba. Every Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. for Niko-Niko CDC. Every Thursday for Wakaba 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. *Looking for volunteers*

- AAHC Golf Tournament:

Open to anyone with base access at Banyan Tree Golf Course, Feb. 22, 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- "Movie Night" at the Schilling Community

Open to anyone with base access at Schilling Community Center, Feb 23, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- Breakfast Luncheon:

Open to anyone with base access at Kadena Officer's Club / Banquet Room on Feb. 26. Guest Speaker, III Marine Expeditionary Force Sergeant Major, Sgt. Maj. Mario A. Marquez.

EFMP-Special Needs Group Monthly

"Seeking Okinawa Synergy", S.O.S, EFMP, Special Needs Parents Group welcomes families with extraordinary children to come and share, network and grow while part of the Okinawa community. The group will meet the 1st Wednesday of every month from 5:15-6:15 p.m., at the Amelia Earhart Intermediate School. For more information, contact Mr. Jeffrey Sweeney at 634-3366.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Seeking Volunteer Weight Trainers

The Kadena High School football program is looking for volunteers that would like to help with its weightlifting program. Volunteers would be assigned one day a week to come in and monitor the prescribed workout for correct form, effort, safety and motivate athletes through their workouts, helping students write down their weight, sets and repetitions in their logs. The students will be on a prescribed program but extra activities could be added if they finish early or feel that they could benefit from more exercises. Volunteers are needed one day per week for about 60-90 minutes per day unless the volunteer chooses to do more. The workouts would last from 1415-1545 on Mondays through Fridays. The start day is Jan. 8 and ends on May 18. This is a great opportunity for community members to earn volunteer hours and resume experience. If you are interested, please contact Coach Sergio Mendoza, at 634-1216 or via email at sergio.mendoza@pac.dodea.edu. A volunteer packet and background check will be required.

Ryukyu Middle School Saturday School Volunteering

Volunteers needed to assist Ryukyu Middle School students with school assigments. LOAs will be written and given to all volunteers. DATE(s): Feb. 10 and 24 / March 10 and 24 / April 14 and 28 / May 12 and 26 / June 2. All classes will be from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information, please contact Ms. Lee Mik at DSN 634-4849 or email lee.mik@pac.dodea.edu

Native Spanish Speaking Volunteers Needed at Kadena High School

The Kadena High School Foreign Language Department is seeking native Spanish speakers to volunteer in some of the Spanish classrooms to interact with students in Spanish. Speakers are needed during the school day (7:20 a.m. -2:05 p.m.) on Feb 9, March 9, April 20, June 1. If interested, please contact Elizabeth Elansari at 634-1216 or via email at elizabeth.elansari@pac. dodea.edu.

Come Volunteer at The Wired Bean

The Wired Bean is a home away from home for our junior enlisted and we need E-4s and above to volunteer to monitor the facility and check out equipment. Please sign up using the link below or email Melissa Rafferty for more information at rafferty515@yahoo.com.

Kadena Post Office Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer to help out the Kadena Post Office with holiday mail Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed on holidays). Times and dates may be claimed at http://www. signupgenius.com/go/60b0f4dadab2fa2f58holiday. Please call customer service at 634-4458 for any questions you may have.



