#### SEPTEMBER 2021

## **EAST GATE EDITION**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District



Far East District employees unite to donate Chuseok gifts to Korean orphans

Employees of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District rallied together over a period of four weeks to collect and donate six large boxes filled with gifts for Sungyook Orphanage, located near District headquarters in Pyeongtaek, Sept. 13.

The District conducted its first Sungyook Orphanage donation drive from Aug. 11 through Sept. 10. During that period, there was significant participation from across the workforce, which resulted in the collection of 675 items, such as clothes, books, toys, makeup, accessories, and school supplies. <u>*READ MORE*</u>

### Division Commander highlights partnership, engineering excellence at USACE Far East District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Kirk Gibbs conducted an official visit to the Far East District, engaging with employees, U.S. and international partners and touring critical projects while in the Republic of Korea Aug. 19-27. <u>READ MORE</u>



Linked in

#### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology (KICT) sign Implementing Arrangement to further develop technical cooperation

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division and Far East District held an Implementing Arrangement signing ceremony with the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology (KICT) at the FED Headquarters, Aug. 27.

The purpose of the IA is to establish a mutual partnering framework, that governs collaborative activities between KICT and USACE. This partnership will undertake initiatives in construction technology, standards, infrastructure management & sustainment, and related topics. <u>*READ MORE*</u>



### Far East District Transportation Branch earns perfect environmental inspection score

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District Transportation Branch recently scored a perfect score, 31 out of 31, on their USAG Humphreys Environmental Inspection. The USAG Humphreys Department of Public Works conducts the inspection to ensure that an organization is operating in line with the policies and regulations of the local area. FED Environmental Officers, Choe Min-kwan, Yi Yong-han and Kwon Po-song, continue to lead the effort, ensuring personnel follow all regulations and policies. <u>*READ MORE*</u>

#### FED leads biodiversity efforts for U.S. military in the ROK

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Far East District is entrusted with ensuring that natural resource conservation measures and activities on all U.S. Forces Korea installations are integrated and consistent with federal stewardship requirements. <u>READ MORE</u>

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Story Request





## MERITORIOUS LOGISTICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

# **DAVID COOK**



To receive this award is an honor to be recognized at the enterprise level. Receiving this award was unexpected, I am just doing my job and I do it to the best of my ability to support the Far East District on all Logistics needs, along with my team here at the vehicle maintenance facility. My recognition is not solely my own doing, but all members of LMO team, we take a teamwork approach and resolve issues and problems together.

Knowing the job and understanding the duties of my position has allowed me to learn and grow while working in the Logistics Management Office. My time spent in the military have positively shaped my work ethic and character, thus allowing me to perform my best.

BRAVOI

## CONGRATULATIONS, MR. STEVE BROWN!

Far East District | Equal Employment Opportunity Manager



## 2021 USACE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY & LEADERSHIP EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO) TROPHY AWARD WINNER

# Ramon Sierra

Far Eat District Construction Division Construction Control Rep.





Growing up, I learned quickly how important it was to never forget your roots. My mother would instill this in us growing up around a large Hispanic population. I quickly learned how important it was to learn all about my Hispanic culture. The best thing I can say about my Hispanic culture is that I've carried on my family traditions and continue to share my culture with my family and friends.

My parents taught me to understand the Hispanic culture growing up in a Spanish-speaking environment. We enjoy home cooking as my mother would provide us fresh cooked tortillas with rice and beans. I was fond of the Spanish music my mother would listen and dance to. I now pass this on to my daughter by introducing her to the culture and customs.

Most people's perception is that Spanish food is all the same, but if you travel to Texas, near the border, you will find that there is a big difference in taste. I recommend you try Gorditas and Carne Asada mini tacos. Don't forget to listen to Mariachi while eating in a Mexican restaurant environment.



I was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico until a few years ago when I moved to Texas as a recent graduate. After college I started my federal career as an Army Civilian Training, Education and Development Systems (ACTEDS) intern from Installation Management Command at Fort Hood Texas with the Directorate of Public Works. After that, I joined the Far East District as a Project Manager for the Air Force Branch.

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Growing up in a diverse population taught me the importance of never forgetting where you came from and who you are. My Puerto Rican roots provide a map on where we've been, where we are at and the progress we can create in science, society and in the world.

Both my mother and father pass down traditions and culture through music with Bombay Plena and Salsa. I listened to these genres of music when I was young in our celebrations of holidays like Christmas and Three Kings. Another way that they passed my heritage is through food. We often cooked together plates like rice with green pigeon peas, fried plantains and chicken, Mofongo and Pastelon that provide a way to connect with family and friends. No matter where I go, Puerto Rico's food unique taste is one of comforts, love, passion, and home which brings people from different backgrounds together.

## NOFFICIAL PASSPORT REQUIREMENT

BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021, OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO SOUTH KOREA MUST BE CONDUCTED WITH A SPECIAL ISSUANCE PASSPORT (COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS "OFFICIAL PASSPORTS")

DoD Civilians and eligible Family Members on official travel must have a Special Issuance Passport (SIP) and K-ETA Authorization prior to departure from the point of origin.

#### INFO ON HOW TO APPLY FOR A SPECIAL ISSUANCE PASSPORT:

https://home.army.mil/humphreys/i ndex.php/about/Garrison/logisticsreadiness-center/passportvisa

#### ADDITIONAL INFO ON THIS TOPIC: Transportation Division

Phone: (DSN) 315-757-2460 / 755-1133 (Comm) +82 050-3357-2460/050-3355-1133 Email: usarmy.humphreys.403-afsblrc.mbx.passport@mail.mil

#### **US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS | FAR EAST DISTRICT**



# Going to KOREA? Don't forget your

#### **Electronic Travel Authorization**

K-ETA is an electronic travel authorization that visa-free foreign visitors need to obtain before entering the Republic of Korea, by submitting relevant information online such as their travel information.

Κ ΕΤΑ

K K·ETA

#### Starting May 2021

#### Who need K-ETA?

#### **112** countries

(countries that concluded a visa-waiver agreement with the Republic of Korea and designated visa-free entry countries)

Eligible countries are subject to change based on the COVID-19 situation. Please check the website announcements for details.

#### How to apply

Visit www.k-eta.go.kr (PC or mobile app)

#### **Period of validity**

2 years from the date of authorization

#### Fee

#### **10,000 KRW** (Additional fee excluded)

- Fee is waived during pilot operation (May to August, 2021)





## Far East District 2021 Fall Classic Golf Tournament



#### 4 Person Scramble

Open to All USAG Humphreys personnel Where: <b>River Bend Golf Club</b> When: <b>22 October 2021 (Friday)</b> Shotgun Start Tee off at 0800 <b>Register by 8 October 2021</b> Why: Team Building Event Format: 4 Person Scramble *To be eligible for FED Champion, a team must have at least two FED employees (US or KGS) * FED Employees teams have preference to fill the field		<ul> <li>Prizes for : 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Places</li> <li>Longest Drive Men's and Women's</li> <li>Closest to the Pin Men's and Women's</li> <li>Raffles</li> </ul>
STATUS	Cost	The Price Includes: Green Fees
RBGC MEMBERS	<mark>\$45.00</mark>	Cart Fees Lunch (1) Raffle Ticket Prizes for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Places Skill Competitions for Men and Women
NON-MEMBERS	<mark>\$75.00</mark>	

#### Club rental \$15 (Extra if needed)



All Registration forms are due NLT 1700 8 October2021 to: Jim DeGraff in PRO Office (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor FED HQ)

**Contact Info:** 

<u>Jim DeGraff at 755-6560;</u> james.w.degraff@usace.army.mil



## FED Safety Gram — September 2021



### **Fire Safety & Fire Extinguishers**

*Fire prevention is everyone's responsibility.* 

#### Ways to prevent workplace fires

- Assess the worksite for problem areas in housekeeping.
- Don't let trash accumulate.
- Smoke only in designated areas and properly dispose of waste products.
- Do not interfere with smoke alarms or block fire extinguishers.

What to do if there is a fire

- Stay calm!
- Call 911 and provide location and all necessary details to operator.
- Evacuate the area and assist others if they need help.
- If you are trained, confident, and your escape route is not between you and the fire, you can fight an incipient fire.



Incipient definition: in an initial stage; beginning to happen or develop

#### Fire Safety at Home

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms, and outside sleeping areas.
- Test alarms every month and change the batteries as necessary.
- Talk to your family members about a fire escape plan and where to go.
- Keep a fire extinguisher near/in the kitchen.
- Make sure to periodically inspect the fire extinguisher. They have an expiration date!



#### Do you know where to go if there is a fire?

• Buildings #12600 & #12710 Evacuation Area is the FED Rally Point across the main parking lot near the Bus Stop. Outlying Resident Offices have their own Evacuation Areas.

Knowing where extinguishers are, how and when to inspect them, and how and when to use them is part of our Corps of Engineers Safety and Occupational Health Management System (CE-SOHMS). Ask your supervisor for training.



#### NOTE: FED Doesn't require you to fight fires.

## HPCON B

FOLLOW ALL ROK LAW, RULES, AND GUIDELINES WHILE OFF-INSTALLATION, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS.

RESTRICTION TO TRAVEL SHALL BE IMPOSED ON DISTRICTS WITH A 7-DAY CUMULATIVE INCIDENCE RATE GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 50 CASES PER 100,000 PERSONS

ALL USFK-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL WHO LIVE OR WORK WITHIN A RESTRICTED DISTRICT SHALL MINIMIZE ACTIVITIES TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE TO MITIGATE COVID EXPOSURE

TRAVEL TO A RESTRICTED DISTRICT AUTHORIZED FOR WORK-RELATED AND MISSION ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES ONLY

## **MISSION ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES**

ARE DEFINED AS LIFE, HEALTH, AND SAFETY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: EMERGENCY SERVICES, HOSPITALS, HEALTH CARE PROVIDER VISITS, PHARMACIES, EDUCATION, CHILD CARE, AND REALTOR SERVICES

### **MASK WEAR IS MANDATORY**

MASK WEAR IS MANDATORY FOR ALL USFK-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS, AT ALL INDOOR SETTINGS ON INSTALLATIONS WITHIN A GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARY THAT HAS A 7-DAY CUMULATIVE INCIDENCE RATE GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 50 CASES PER 100,000 PERSONS. MASKS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES IN THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS OR INCIDENCE RATE:

- A. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES
- B. MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND VETERINARY TREATMENT FACILITIES

TRAVEL THROUGH A RESTRICTED DISTRICT AUTHORIZED IN BOTH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND PRIVATELY OWNED TRANSPORTATION. STOPS WITHIN A RESTRICTED AREA DURING TRAVEL NOT AUTHORIZED EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY. TRAVEL TO/FROM AND BETWEEN USFK INSTALLATIONS AUTHORIZED.

OFF LIMITS for UNVACCINATED PERSONNEL BARS & CLUBS SAUNAS, BATHHOUSES, OFF-INSTALLATION GYMS







UNVACCINATED USFK-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL MUST WEAR MASKS AT ALL TIMES. INDOOR MASK WEAR IS MANDATORY FOR ALL USFK-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL UNDER HEALTH MONITORING STATUS.

INSTALLATION COMMANDERS MAY IMPOSE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON MASK WEAR

EXCEPTION TO POLICY (ETP) FOR TRAVEL TO A RESTRICTED DISTRICT REQUIRES APPROVAL FROM A BATTALION/SQUADRON/EQUIVALENT LEVEL COMMANDER OR DESIGNATED CIVILIAN EQUIVALENT (OR HIGHER).



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