

A.C.S. ACTIVITY

American Citizens Services Newsletter

Your Consular office sent a team to Dalanzadgad in southern Mongolia in May. They focused on observing American tourist destinations, meetings with the governor, the police, the hospital, NEMA

officials, the national park administrator, students, and Peace Corps volunteers.

When we personally know the officials, it's easier to deploy to your region and help citizens in an emergency.

sufficient water, but it can be cool at night. The Park Administrator noted that horse-back and camel riding accidents are their biggest problem with regard to tourists.

Consular Visits S. Gobi Province

The Consular team also witnessed illegal mining in Gurvan Saikhan; the abundance of gold and other minerals is tempting to some. Other beautiful sites in S. Gobi are the frozen water falls, ice fields splitting the



This trip was a huge success, in large part because of the visit with the Park Administrator from Gurvan Saikhan National Park, the largest park in Mongolia. The team learned that more than 19,000 foreign tourists went to this park last year, whose name means "Three Beauties" because it boasts three mountain ranges. Gurvan Saikhan camps are clean, safe, and well regulated. They tend to be ger style camping with limited water, electricity or cellular service. The hot days require sunscreen and

mountains, and the Flaming Cliffs. You may well know that many dinosaur bones have been discovered in this region. An interesting experience was sliding down the sand dunes in Khongriin Els and hearing the low rumbling sound created by the vibrations. The river and grassy plains cover an underground spring, which is set picturesquely before the dry sand dunes. Don't miss out on seeing this gem of Mongolia. *Story continued on page 4.*

Contact your Embassy

U.S. Embassy
Denver Street #3
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Ulaanbaatar, 14190 Mongolia

Hours: **Monday to Friday, 8:30am-5pm**

Phone: **+976 7007-6001**

Fax: +976 7007-6014

After hours emergency phone: 9911-4168

American Citizens' Information Hour:

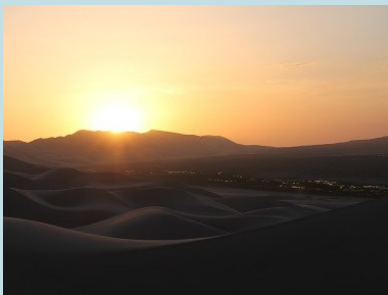
Every Tuesday 4-5pm (except on U.S. & local holidays. No appointment needed.)

E-mail: ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov

Web: <https://mn.usembassy.gov>

Facebook: **USEmbMongolia**

Twitter: **USEmbMongolia**



Take a look at your passport's expiration date.

You want at least 6 months validity

for Mongolian customs to approve your entry. That means, for a week long trip in August 2018, you want to have an expiration date of at least

February 2019. These dates can sneak up on us all, so try to mark your calendar for "Passport Renewal Time". We are happy to help!

The U.S. Consular Office encourages all Americans living in or visiting Mongolia to register in STEP for the "What If's," the "Oh No's," or the "Just in Cases!"

step.state.gov/step

Imagine an earthquake strikes your area and an underground troll surfaces from the depths to discover the flavor of Mongolian cuisine. **What if** you happen to be dining out when the hungry troll smells your "buuz." As he stomps over to your table you flee in such a hurry that you abandon your jacket. You glance back to see his drool dribble all over the jacket which contains your passport. **Oh, no!** Now, you need not only need help surviving the troll, you also need a new passport! If only you were enrolled in STEP, you would have known about the troll beforehand and never would have gone out to eat. Be sure to register now, so that you are prepared **just in case!**

TIP: Look through your Go-Bag every 6 months.

Swap out expired food/medicine, update children's clothing/diapers, freshen your pets' food. You need 1 gallon of water per person per day for at least 3 days. Put Dollars, Tugriks, passports, & other documents all in a Ziploc bag. Keep matches in a waterproof case.

NEMA has an app for your phone!

The free app is called “Anhaar” and is available in both Mongolian and English. You can download it from Google Play or the App Store. In the event of inclement weather or other disaster, you can find helpful information on first aid, shelter, emergency phone numbers by region, and more great tips.



Download it today.

Not officially endorsed by the U.S. Embassy.

She has lived in Ulaanbaatar for 32 children and counting...

Her name is Beverly Rhoades and she has changed the lives of many Mongolian children by not only opening a facility for them, but her heart, and by extension, others' eyes and hearts to their plight. She is truly making a difference in the lives of orphans and impoverished children. Beverly welcomes you to hear her story of both wonder and bewilderment.

Some of us come to Mongolia and leave a short 2 years later, but Beverly has worked here for 20 years. She felt a calling to come here and help children in need. She lives in Gachuurt on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar, where she helps children face many challenges, such as being placed in an orphanage that is bursting at the seams; fighting tuberculosis (TB); finding family; and normal every day strife. As these children grow, they face new challenges such as the lack of employment, dishonest employers, or bribery. Many people work

but do not get paid, including Beverly's own grown children. These things do not deter Beverly, or others like her, from continuing on and trying to do as much good as possible.

Beverly and others have worked to raise 32 children. One of these boys would have died without TB treatment. His father gave him away when he was a toddler, but he finally found his mother. Today, their relationship is growing and they are making a new history. Another boy discovered that his birth mother died of alcoholism. Now, Beverly is his forever “mommy.” He is grown now and his wife just gave birth to a beautiful little girl. He is a happy young man who wants to help others. And yet, as much as she has tried, a third boy, has had a difficult life.

There are funny memories for Beverly too. Like her time in the market when she forgot how to ask for “chicken” in Mongolian.

Story continued on page 4.

Travel Warnings & Alerts

Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution in:

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Posted on:</i>
Philippines	April 13, 2018
China	January 22, 2018

Exercise Normal Precautions in:

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Posted on:</i>
Cambodia	January 10, 2018
Singapore	January 10, 2018
South Korea	January 10, 2018
Vietnam	January 10, 2018
Thailand	January 10, 2018
Japan	January 10, 2018

For additional information about these travel warnings and alerts, visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html>



Mongolia boasts of beautiful landscapes and mountainous views. You are welcome to send your photo submissions for future newsletters to:

ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov

Please include your name and the location of the photo.

S. Gobi Province from page 1

We also plan to visit Khovd, in the west, and Hovsgul, in the north, this year. In 2017, Consular conducted outreach in both Bayan Olgii and Dornogovi. We hope to continue visiting all of Mongolia to maintain close contacts with government officials and American citizens living throughout the country.



Beverly Rhoades from page 3

She stopped at the sausage ladies' counter and said she needed meat "max heregtae", but not beef "uxren," not fish "tsagas," not pork "gahai.". In desperation, she raised her arms, nodded her head and clucked, "cluck, cluck, cluck!" The clerk gave her a puzzled look and asked, "Chicken?"

When Beverly first arrived there were many children on the streets, children in need of a kind touch. Now after twenty years, the government is asking her to take in ten more children. She would rather do this than anything else. Beverly says of her life here "Mongolia has become my home and these 32 children have become my family. I love Mongolia and its people, the land of my calling and my blended family. I would welcome conversations with anyone interested in helping orphanages."