

# Consular News

December 2007

Consular Section, U.S. Embassy Port Louis  
(230) 202-4400 or [PTLconsular@state.gov](mailto:PTLconsular@state.gov)

## Inside This Issue

Greetings

Welcome

Cyclone Info

2008 Voting Information

## Greetings from the Consular Section

As we come to the end of the year, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support and cooperation over the past twelve months. Many of you attended the Independence Day celebration at the Ambassador's residence, and your participation made that event a great success. Others supported the sailors of the visiting USS Normandy when it was in port this year. The sailors navy vessel the reported that Mauritius was the best shore experience they had during their tour. They were grateful to those U.S. citizens who opened their homes and hearts for the "Adopt a Sailor" program. Thanks once again from the U.S. Embassy for helping to support our troops.

As the year comes to a close, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish you happy holidays.

All the best for a safe and happy New Year.

Best regards,

Your consular team,

Wendy Ryde, Angela Henry, and Travis Jensen (Seychelles)

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*Contact the Embassy:*

*(230) 202-4400*

*Or*

[PTLconsular@state.gov](mailto:PTLconsular@state.gov)

*Contact the Consular*

*Agency:*

*(248) 22 52 56*

*Or*

[Consularagency](mailto:Consularagency)

[Seychelles@gmail.com](mailto:Seychelles@gmail.com)

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## Welcome to our new CLO, Jodi Bashor

The Consular Section extends a warm welcome to our new Community Liaison Officer, Jodi Bashor. Jodi begins work at the Embassy on December 24, 2007. She comes to us from Cape Town, South Africa, and has lived in a variety of places, including Washington, D.C., and Malawi. Jodi's husband, Tim, is the new Management Officer at the Embassy. Jodi can be reached at [CLO\\_PortLouis@state.gov](mailto:CLO_PortLouis@state.gov), or via telephone at (230) 202-4459.

*The U.S. Embassy will be closed on the following dates in recognition of holidays:*

New Year	1/1/2008 1/2/2008
MLK Jr. Day	1/21/2008
Cavadee	1/22/2008
Abolition of Slavery	2/1/2008
Chinese Spring Festival	2/7/2008
President's Day	2/18/2008
Maha Shivaratree	3/5/2008
National Day	3/12/2008
Ougadi	4/7/2008
Labor Day	5/1/2008
Memorial Day	5/26/2008
Independence Day	7/4/2008
Assumption	8/15/2008
Labor Day	9/1/2008
Ganesh Chaturthi	9/4/2008
Eid Ul Fitr*	10/1/2008
Columbus Day	10/13/2008
Divali	10/28/2008
Arrival of Indentured Servants	11/2/2008
Veterans Day	11/11/2008
Thanksgiving	11/27/2008
Christmas	12/25/2008

*\*indicates moveable feast*



## Cyclone Season is Here

Cyclone season is once again upon us in both Mauritius and Reunion Island. The best way to stay informed is to listen to the radio.

Broadcasts occur in Mauritius on AM1 – 684 KHz, AM2 – 819 KHz, and FM – 97.3 MHz. Information may be in English, French, or Creole. A distinctive trumpet fanfare tells you a warning is about to be issued. You can also **dial 96** from a land line telephone (not cell phone) for a recorded message from the Meteorological Department.

In Reunion, local channels AM 729 KHz, 666 KHz or RM 96.6 MHz, 96.0 MHz broadcast cyclone information.

Information is also available via the internet. The local official weather link in Mauritius is:

<http://metSERVICE.intnet.mu/index.htm>

The U.S. Military has a cyclone tracking system that can be viewed at the following site:

[http://www.nrlmry.navy.mil/tc\\_pages/tc\\_home.html](http://www.nrlmry.navy.mil/tc_pages/tc_home.html)

## 2008 Elections – Register Now!

Don't miss out – the 2008 elections are almost here. 2008 is both a general election and a presidential election year. Overseas citizens are eligible to participate in presidential and state primary elections, run-off elections, and special elections that occur throughout the year, as well as the general elections in November 2008, but you **MUST BE REGISTERED** to do so. In many states, advance registration is required.

The Consular Section strongly urges you to register to vote and/or request absentee ballots well in advance of the presidential and state primary elections. The primaries will begin in January 2008. Early registration ensures that ballots are received on time and that any problem may be resolved prior to the elections.

One way to register is by using the online version of the Federal Post Card Application. Visitors to the FVAP website at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) are now able to save their completed Online Federal Post Card Application (OFPCA) and Online Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (OFWAB) to their computer for future use, using an Adobe Acrobat Reader version of 7.0 or higher.

For more information on voting or for assistance in obtaining information, please contact the Consular Section.