



(DSCC photo by Brian Settlage)

The 2009 Heart of Ohio and Tri-State area Loaned Executives (from left) Tammy Johns of DFAS, Vikki Hawthorne of DSCC and Gregg Parenti of the VA Medical Center - Huntington, W.Va., unveiled the grand total of \$1,714,112.70 in donations during the Jan. 14 recognition luncheon.

Heart of Ohio and Tri-State CFC celebrates successful campaign

By Leah Hout
DSCC Public Affairs Office

After months of planning, fundraising events and counting donations, supporters and top contributors wrapped up the 2009 Heart of Ohio Combined Federal Campaign during a Jan. 14 recognition luncheon at the Concourse Hotel in Columbus.

More than 100 donors and volunteers attended the luncheon to see the grand total of \$1,714,112.70 unveiled. The amount exceeded the \$1.7 million goal

and was raised from pledges and fundraisers donated from September to December 2009.

Guest speaker and 2009 campaign chair Army Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson, commanding general of the Defense Supply Center Columbus, reminded everyone of his charge at the campaign kick-off.

"At the beginning of this campaign, I challenged everybody to step up during these hard times," he said.

Richardson then praised the support-
See CFC on page 12

Agreement will speed support to MRAPs

By Tony D'Elia
DSCC Public Affairs Office

A memorandum of agreement that will help speed spare parts to the warfighter for the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, one of the Department of Defense's highest-priority weapon systems, was signed at the recent MRAP Supply Chain Working Group meeting.

The meeting, the first for the working group sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, was held Jan. 14 at Defense

Supply Center Columbus at the DFAS Conference Center.

"The MOA more or less codifies what we have already been doing for the past year and a half," said DSCC's Dan Bohn, director, MRAP Sustainment for DLA. Bohn signed the agreement along with Army Lt. Col. John Conway, product manager for MRAP Logistics and Sustainment.

The purpose of the agreement is to establish and maintain adequate spare parts support for MRAP

See MRAP MOA on page 8



(DSCC photo by Brian Settlage)

Signing a Memorandum of Agreement between DSCC, DLA and the MRAP Joint Program Office are (from left) Dan Bohn, director, MRAP Sustainment (DLA) and Army Lt. Col. John Conway, product manager, MRAP Logistics and Sustainment. Standing is Suzanne Rieder of the MRAP Special Projects Team.

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NEWS BRIEFS

BIG dinner/dance scheduled for Feb. 13

The Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks In Government, in partnership with the DSCC African-American Employment Program and Equal Employment Opportunity Office, will hold its 9th Annual Black Tie Dinner/Dance on Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Hilton Columbus Easton from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The guest speaker is scheduled to be Hilary Shelton, director of the NAACP Washington Bureau/Vice President of Advocacy, with opening remarks by Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman.

Tickets are \$40 per person, which includes a dinner buffet. The deadline to purchase tickets is Feb. 5. For more information, call Monica Oliver at 614-692-9606 or Gretchen Shivers at 614-692-6061.

DSCC Hall of Fame nominations being taken

Nominations are now being accepted for the DSCC Hall of Fame, which honors past associates for exceptional leadership, service, dedication to duty, and contributions to supporting the mission.

Former associates of DSCC, Defense Construction Supply Center, Defense Electronics Supply Center and other DLA entities housed on the DSCC installation are eligible.

For more information, call Joyce Bryant at 614-692-2928. The nomination deadline is March 12 and the induction ceremony is scheduled for June 9.

DLA EEO Office director to retire in April

Famia Magaña, director of the DLA Equal Employment Opportunity Office, has announced her intent to retire in April.

Magaña has served DoD for 36 years and joined the DLA team more than 21 years ago. As the EEO director for the agency, she has put in place a world-class program that emphasizes and actively supports the value of diversity in our workforce, DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson said.

A formal retirement ceremony will be held in April at the McNamara headquarters complex.

Associates need CAC for base entry

As of Feb. 1, associates have to carry two ID cards in order to get into and around the DSCC installation.

Associates need their Common Access Card to enter the gates, and when they get to their building, they need their electronic key card, also known as the Lenel card, to enter. The Lenel card, named after the company that produced it (Lenel Systems International), is no longer accepted for gate entrance.

The Department of Defense authorized CAC is issued by the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)/Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) machine.

The change puts DSCC in compliance with DoD Regulation 5200.08-R which reads in part that the "CAC shall be the principal identity credential for ... access to installations."

MORPC seeking survey takers

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission is hoping to get 10,000 responses from central Ohio residents to the Shape the Future of Central Ohio survey.

Shaping our Future is a plan MORPC is spearheading for 12 counties in central Ohio. Expected to be completed in 2012, Shaping Our Future will integrate elements that impact the region including the transportation system, land use patterns, air quality, energy security, water quality, food production and economic development.

The survey takes about 10 minutes and can be completed anonymously; it is available online at <http://regionalplan.questionpro.com/>. It's an opportunity for residents to say what they like about central Ohio and what they think would make it better.

More information is available at <http://regionalplan.morpc.org> or by calling Patty Olmsted at 614-233-4133.

Several events planned to celebrate Black History Month on DSCC installation

During the month of February, several events are planned on the DSCC installation in celebration of Black History Month.

The Eastmoor Academy show choir will kick off the month's events during a Feb. 4 performance at 12:30 p.m. in the Building 20 auditorium.

The Ft. Hayes Jazz Band will perform Feb. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Building 20 Buckeye and Cardinal rooms. Soul food cuisine will be served that day in the Building 21 cafeteria.

On Feb. 13, the Columbus area chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) will hold a Black Tie Dinner and Dance from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Hilton at Easton. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$350 for a table of 10. Dr. Hilary O. Shelton, director of the NAACP Washington Bureau/Vice President for Advocacy, will be the guest speaker. Opening remarks will be given by Columbus Mayor

Michael B. Coleman. For more information, call Monica Oliver at 614-692-9606 or Gretchen Shivers at 614-692-6061.

On Feb. 17 BIG, in conjunction with the African American Employment Program and DSCC Equal Employment Office, will show the film series "Freedom song: 100 years of African American Struggle and Triumph" during a brown bag lunch session from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Building 20 Buckeye and Cardinal rooms.

To close the month, a Feb. 24 Black History Month celebration program and 20th Carter G. Woodson award presentation will be held in the Building 20 auditorium from 1 to 2 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Frank Hale Jr., vice provost and professor emeritus at The Ohio State University.

Contact Gretchen Shivers at 614-692-6061 for more information.

OBITUARIES

Boyd J. Burke

Boyd J. Burke, 87, died Jan. 24 at the Zusman House Community Hospice in Columbus. Mr. Burke was a U.S. Navy veteran and was retired from DCSC after more than 30 years of service.

Edna Merle Chilcote

Edna Merle Chilcote, 85, of Groveport, died Jan. 23 in New Albany Care Center. Ms. Chilcote was retired after 47 years of service at DCSC.

Betty J. Gilliam

Betty J. Gilliam, 78, of White-

hall, died Jan. 24 at Mt. Carmel West. Ms. Gilliam retired from DCSC in 1992 after 32 years of service.

Wilbur James Patterson

Wilbur James Patterson, 88, of Dayton, died Jan. 17 at the VA Hospice Care unit of Dayton. Mr. Patterson was a U.S. Army veteran and was retired from DESC with 30 years of service.

Raymond F. Rice

Raymond F. Rice, 86, died Jan. 19 in Lakeland, Fla. Mr. Rice was a World War II veteran and was retired from DCSC.

Bad weather should prompt call by DSCC installation associates

Associates who work on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation are reminded to call 614-692-1800 in the event of adverse weather conditions for updates on the status of the

installation's operation.

If bad weather impacts the center's operation, an update will be available at that number by 4 a.m.

DSCC commander outlines five-year strategic plan

By Dan Bender
DSCC Public Affairs Office

During his first town hall meetings with the workforce, Defense Supply Center Columbus Commanding General Thomas Richardson discussed his five-year strategic plan regarding how DSCC does business and also praised the efforts of DSCC's deployed associates.

Richardson mentioned the ongoing changes that are occurring at DSCC, such as the implementation of Enterprise Business Systems and eProcurement and the addition of numerous BRAC site detachments to DSCC's family, and said his five-year plan is a way to prepare for the future.

"How do we move forward with all these changes and how do we position ourselves for the next 30 years?" he asked.

In his Jan. 21 Director's Call, Defense Logistics Agency Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson expressed a desire to make sure DLA is postured for future fluctuations in sales volumes that would impact the Department of Defense and DLA's budget.

In echoing that theme, Richardson said he wants DSCC to "enhance our capabilities and build for the future.

"By 2015, we will have an agile and lean organization able to flex with fluctuations in expected sales volumes, with the correct structure and skill sets to last us for the next 30 years," he stated.

Part of the five-year plan will involve making sure DSCC has the proper staffing levels, Richardson said. The current baseline staffing levels in each directorate and office by job title and classification, including military and contractors, will be discussed at a Feb. 5 offsite with directors and office chiefs, Richardson said.

Guidance on "where do we want



(DSCC photo by Brian Settlege)

DSCC Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson speaks at the first of two town hall sessions held Jan. 25 to update DSCC associates on new initiatives and ongoing programs.

to be and how do we want to be structured as a workforce five years from now" will also be discussed, Richardson said.

The commander is targeting a 20 percent reduction in personnel, but he cautioned that the process will be a gradual transition.

"We're not going to get rid of anybody," he said, adding that most of the reduction will be accomplished through the natural attrition rate, which is about seven percent a year. "I'm just trying to be prudent here on how we go about doing our business and making sure we have the right job skills and sets to do our mission."

Without undertaking such a review, DSCC could be forced to make draconian cuts sometime in the future when sales decrease, he pointed out.

Discussion at a follow-up offsite in May will focus on numerous initiatives that will impact how DSCC does business, including initiatives that will help streamline the business process.

The commander said the workforce will be kept updated on the five-year plan as it evolves and that it will be reviewed every year and adjusted as needed.

Richardson also spent some time discussing DSCC's deployed associates and the work they are doing to support the warfighter. He also encouraged associates who can to go on a deployment.

"We have a lot of great people out there doing great things for us. If you haven't deployed before, take advantage of opportunity to do so," he said.

Richardson said he realizes people have reasons why they can't do it, but deployments offer personal and professional satisfaction and an opportunity to see "the direct results of what you do back here" in supporting the warfighter and making sure they are prepared to successfully complete their missions.

He pointed out that members of armed forces deployed overseas still have to do their mission even if they don't have everything they need.

"The small things matter a lot to them and it's important we all understand that. It might seem very trivial to us, but that trivial thing is very important to them," he said.

For example, the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle support team sent to Afghanistan has increased readiness for that vital weapon system by 10 percent, Richardson said.

"They're a great benefit," he said, particularly in a country with numerous logistical challenges such as not having an interconnecting transportation system.

Deputy Commander James McLaugherty briefly discussed DSCC's telework policy when bad weather occurs and the results of the 2009 Culture Survey, which showed significant improvement from the 2006 results.

"As you can see, we have continued on the journey to improve workplace culture and continue to make good progress," he said.

He pointed out that today about 20 percent of the DSCC workforce is located outside the Columbus area and in the future, as more detachments join the DSCC family, 30 percent of the DSCC workforce will be located outside the gates of the installation.

"The culture of our workforce is changing, and adapting to those changes will be a key part of our continuing effort to improve our workplace culture," he said, adding that each directorate has come up with an action plan to address culture in the future.

McLaugherty also mentioned some significant upcoming events, including DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson's visit to DSCC scheduled for March 1 and the recertification process for the Voluntary Protection Program this spring.

Both sessions ended with time for questions from the audience.

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Nevin returns to DSCC's small business office as director

By Dan Bender
DSCC Public Affairs Office

Cindy Nevin has returned to the same office she started in when she first started working at Defense Supply Center Columbus in 1996.

Nevin recently became director of the DSCC Office of Small Business Programs. She was a small business specialist in the same office for the first year after she arrived at DSCC from the Defense Electronics Supply Center in Kettering, Ohio.

She had also been a small business specialist her last four years at DESC.

"I feel like my warranty with small business never expired," she said, noting that she still receives calls from people with whom she made contact years ago asking questions about small business contracts or other related subjects. "In some respects, I feel like I never left. I feel like I've always been part of the small business arena wherever I worked.

"It's nice to get reacquainted with some of those folks. It's been good so far."

Immediately prior to her new job, Nevin was working as chief of the long-term contract team in Land Supplier Operations. In her time at DSCC, she has also worked as a core team chief in the Commodities



(DSCC photo by Brian Settlege)

Cindy Nevin is the new director of the DSCC Office of Small Business Programs, taking over for Eleanor Holland, who retired in August. Nevin was a small business specialist in the office when she first started working at DSCC in 1996.

Application Group, on the Tailored Support Unit, in acquisition policy and also as chief of the long-term contract team in the Aviation Detachment.

"I've done a lot in the 13 years I've been here," she said with a laugh.

As the Small Business Office director, Nevin oversees an office with 10 associates that is responsible for providing small businesses

with the information and tools to successfully do business with DSCC. It also provides support to DSCC buyers and contracting officers during the procurement process and provides support for the various small business and socio-economic programs in order to maximize their participation in business opportunities.

Those programs include the Small Disadvantaged and 8(a)

Small Business programs, the HUBZone program, Woman-owned Small Business program, the Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business program, and the Ability-One program for the blind and severely handicapped.

Nevin said she would like to focus on opportunities to increase the number of NSNs set aside for those small business programs. For example, when she worked in Land, there was a focus on getting more work related to the battery program done through the Ability-One program, she said.

Nevin, who has nearly 38 years of service with DLA and was a DSCC Associate of the Month for November 1997 and December 2001, said small businesses "are a vital part of innovation for our country and for our warfighters," adding that "they are probably struggling more than anybody with the challenges in the economy right now."

One of her goals is to make the Small Business Office more of a partner in the acquisition process to enable DSCC and DLA better support the warfighter.

"I think sometimes the Small Business Office is looked at as a roadblock in the acquisition process," she said. "I want to do away with that perception and have us work as partners."

DSCC helping keep carrier stocked with supplies in Japan

The Defense Supply Center Columbus has helped bump the supply stockage rate for the USS George Washington (CVN 73) aircraft carrier back up to 99 percent after a slight dip last year.

In late July, the item population for the carrier project managed by the Defense Logistics Agency rose by about 600 items to more than 5,500 items. With the addition of these items, the support rate had dropped to slightly less than 95 percent but has consistently been rising to its current rate of 99.01 percent, according to Laura Stimmel, a weapon system support manager in Maritime Customer Operations at DSCC who works to support the USS George Washington.

The George Washington's home port was moved to Japan in 2008; it is the Navy's only carrier to be home ported outside the



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Clifford L. H. Davis)

Sailors man the rails aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) during her transit off the coast of Fremantle, Australia before a port visit last July. George Washington is the Navy's only permanently forward deployed aircraft carrier, located in Yokosuka, Japan. DSCC is heavily involved in pre-positioning stock items for the George Washington and making sure the ship has what it needs to complete its missions.

United States.

The Navy approached DLA in 2007 requesting assistance in pre-positioning assets at Defense

Depot Yokosuka, Japan, in anticipation of its move to Japan in late 2008. A team consisting of DLA

HQ personnel, Defense Distribution Command and various DSCC personnel began working to get the Navy-identified DLA-

managed material to DDYJ in early 2008.

The initial push for material was for January 2009 in order to support the George Washington's first Selective Restricted Availability (SRA), an annual five-month availability for which pre-positioned materials of both the Navy and DLA are used to do repair work.

Stimmel pointed out that by pre-positioning assets in Japan, the Navy anticipated that requisition lead-time would be significantly reduced. The standard shipping time from the U.S. to DDYJ averages 45 days and with this lead-time eliminated, the best possibility existed for on-time work completion at the most efficient cost.

DLA reported 99.1 percent success in pre-positioning the originally requested 4,900-plus requested items.

DSCC's quick action helps supply Army with needed bridge parts

By Tony D'Elia
DSCC Public Affairs Office

Teamwork and lightning fast execution resulted in the Army getting spare parts for much-needed semi-permanent bridges in Afghanistan.

"They did it in record time," said Marine Corps Lt. Col. Rolando Guzman, Customer Operations division chief. His Land Weapons Systems Division of Defense Supply Center Columbus played a key role in seeing that the parts were made available from Mabey & Johnson Ltd. of Lydney, England. The company, which began building semi-permanent bridges during World War II, manufactures its "Logistic Support Bridge" to replace damaged civilian bridges, create new routes for warfighters, or to simply upgrade routes for heavier traffic. Coming in sections, the bridge can accommodate all types of vehicles and is composed of a variety of standard parts: panels, transoms, decks, bracing members, ramps and beams. The modular design allows for a number of different configurations for a wide range of loads and spans.

According to Jim Losey, a land weapon system support manager in the Land Weapons Systems

Division, the Army is mainly using the bridge to create new routes for warfighters. It might be used to create an alternative route to save fuel, or a route that avoids dangerous areas.

Getting the bridge to the theater was a team accomplishment involving DSCC, DLA headquarters, DLA Cent Com, Defense Logistics Information System and Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

"The Army had acquired the bridges but a lot of parts were missing," Losey said.

The Army had about 60 LSB sections, or about 4,500 meters of bridge, but since it wasn't fielded through TACOM the parts didn't go through the provisioning process to ensure proper management.

That's when the Army came to the Defense Logistics Agency. But the problem was that all the National Stock Numbered-items were managed by NATO and the Army wasn't listed as a user.

"We were able to work with DLIS to process requisitions for all their requirements - some 54 documents worth \$1.4 million in parts - all this within a week," explained Losey. "By the time the requisition hit the system, we had awards."



Above, soldiers in Afghanistan assemble a British-made semi permanent bridge. DSCC helped get the Army the spare parts needed to build the bridge used in the war zone to replace damaged civilian bridges, or create new routes for warfighters. Below shows what a finished bridge looks like.



By the second week of January, Mabey & Johnson began filling four 40-foot containers (obtained from Defense Distribution

Depot Europe) with DSCP-managed parts destined for Bagram and Kandahar, Afghanistan.

What made the quick

action even more impressive was the fact that the company had closed its factory for 12 days during the holidays.

DSCC associates recognized for effort to support USS San Francisco

Two Defense Supply Center Columbus supervisors were recently recognized for their effort to provide emergency support for the USS San Francisco (SSN-711), a Los Angeles-class attack submarine home ported in San Diego.

Myrtice Gray and Kelly Penwell received a "Well Done, BZ" for expeditiously issuing an emergency modification to authorize premium transportation for five steam pressure cleaners. Due to their efforts and coordination with the customer account specialist, Yvonne Mattison-Pardon in Maritime Customer Operations, the parts arrived at Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif., in time to be expedited to the ship to meet the ship's underway schedule.

Gray, the Maritime Post Award supervisor, received a call from Mattison-Pardon on Jan. 8 requesting an emergency modification that was required to authorize premium transportation for the cleaners to be delivered the next morning to the New Cumberland depot.

Gray coordinated with Penwell, the Post Award chief, to issue the modification within the hour. Authorization was relayed to the trucking company in time to schedule receipt at the depot for the next morning.

These expeditious actions allowed delivery to the depot in time to further transport the parts to the USS San Francisco to meet its drop-dead mission date on Jan. 10.



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Rialyn Rodrigo) The Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS San Francisco (SSN 711) pulls into its new homeport at Naval Submarine Base Point Loma in San Diego in April 2009.

DSCC Level II mentoring program ranks high among participants

By Leah Hout
DSCC Public Affairs Office

The Level II Mentoring Program for Leaders at Defense Supply Center Columbus proved its strength as a workforce development tool by earning high scores on a recent program assessment given by The Training Connection.

TTC administered an online survey and evaluation to 33 mentees, 33 mentors and 32 supervisors in the Level II program. Twenty-nine mentees, 28 mentors and 19 supervisors responded to the survey. The participants had an opportunity to assess their professional growth during the course of the nine-month program and provide feedback on lessons learned and successes realized.

"The highest marks were given by both mentees and mentors to the program's ability to help mentees gain access and exposure to employees at different organizational levels at DSCC,"

said JoAnn Swonger, who managed the 2009 program. The survey also revealed that associates were better able to recognize the skills needed for success at DSCC since being in the program, she added.

According to the survey report, 100 percent of the mentees found the program helped them make positive connections with employees at different levels in the DSCC organization. Ninety-eight percent of the mentees said they would recommend this program to a friend or colleague and 93 percent said the program benefits were worth their time and effort.

"Mentees had opportunities to capitalize on the wisdom of their mentors' experiences," Swonger said. The survey agreed and showed that 82 percent of participants felt the program is fostering an open environment where information is shared and knowledge is transferred.

Results also show that support

for the program on all levels is currently strong:

- 89 percent of mentees and mentors agreed the DSCC program has created a general acceptance of mentoring as a valuable tool and important process.

- 95 percent of the mentees said their supervisor was supportive throughout the mentoring process.

- 75 percent of the current mentors have supported the mentoring program for two or more years.

- 95 percent of the mentees said the in-house program coordinator was supportive throughout the mentoring process.

Additionally, 79 percent of the participants agreed the program has helped build a well-rounded cadre of employees in the organization.

"Mentoring meetings helped mentees sharpen their personal and professional skills, while increasing their organizational

effectiveness," Swonger said.

The Training Connection's survey report said that one of the most resounding comments was the consensus from mentees, mentors and supervisors who all said the program has helped promote and enhance interpersonal awareness and skills.

The DLA Training Center manages the Level II program, which targets employees in grade levels GS-9 through GS-12, or equivalent. The program is designed to enhance employee professional and career development with the help of a more experienced associate.

Applications for the next nine-month Level II Mentoring Program for Leaders are being accepted through close of business Feb. 12. For information about the Mentoring Program for Leaders, visit the DSCC Training Web page or contact Jane Guggenbiller at 614-692-6180 or e-mail Mentoring.Program@dla.mil.

Mentoring program leads DSCC associate to accomplish goals

By Leah Hout
DSCC Public Affairs Office

For Patrick Kershner, participating as a mentee in the 2009 Level II Mentoring Program for Leaders made a positive impact on his current and future professional development. Kershner, a packaging specialist in the Defense Supply Center Columbus Operations Support directorate, said he was able to set and accomplish new goals because of his experience.

In one of the first mentoring sessions, Kershner set a goal to shadow a senior level executive.

"I wanted to see how senior executives interact

with associates and to further my knowledge in leadership at his level," he said.

With the help of his mentor, Dan Nettler, Kershner set up a time to shadow DSCC Deputy Commander James McClaugherty. Kershner observed many different management styles in the meetings he attended during his shadowing.

"I was able to gain further knowledge of senior leadership and how they come

together to solve current issues at hand," he said of the experience.

Kershner's experience is a real-life example of the positive program results revealed in a recent program survey conducted by The Training Connection, in which the DSCC program earned high marks in areas such as networking, program support and knowledge transfer.

Besides learning new

management styles, Kershner also gained a broader network of contacts. This helped him discover a job role that he would like to pursue.

"I now have new goals and resources to reach them," Kershner said. "With the guidance, leadership and networking skills I learned through the mentoring program, I was able to accomplish all of my goals that I set."



(DSCC photo by Chuck Morris)
Patrick Kershner (right) said his participation in the 2009 Level II Mentoring Program for Leaders helped him set and achieve new career goals. During a Dec. 10 recognition ceremony, Kershner presented DSCC Deputy Commander James McClaugherty a signed group photo as a thank you for his support to the Level II program.

IT'S A DATE

February 2010

Black History Month

Feb. 4 - DSCC Black History Month celebration, 12:30 p.m., Building 20 auditorium

Feb. 5 - American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 basement, C6 South

Feb. 12 - Abraham Lincoln's birthday

Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day

Feb. 15 - President's Day Holiday

Feb. 19 - Armed Services Blood Program blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Building 20 basement, C6 South

Feb. 22 - George Washington's birthday

March 2010

Women's History Month

March 5 - American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 basement, C6 South

Bayless, Brown to be inducted into DLA Hall of Fame

By Dan Bender
DSCC Public Affairs Office

Two long-time federal employees who filled different roles on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation will be inducted into the Defense Logistics Agency Hall of Fame during a Feb. 25 ceremony at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

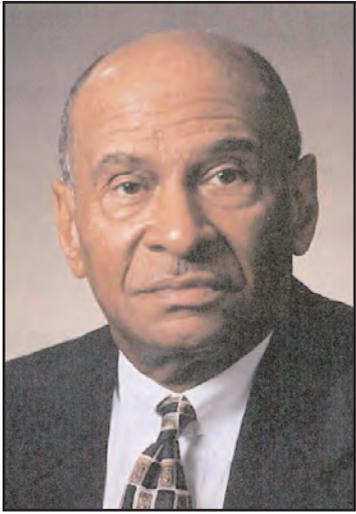
The inductees include Ron Bayless, who retired as director of the Operations Support Group in 2006 after nearly 50 years of federal service, and Don Brown, who retired as director of the Defense Distribution Depot Columbus, Ohio, upon its closure in 2008.

Bayless, who completed nearly 25 years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force before beginning his civilian career, was inducted into the DSCC Hall of Fame in 2009. He was nominated for leading an organization that came to be regarded as one of the best standardization organizations in the Department of Defense.

He began his civil service career in 1981 as a quality assurance representative at Defense Electronics Supply Center in Kettering, Ohio. He served in a full range of quality assurance positions to include specialist, branch chief and division chief before his retirement as a director.

At his retirement ceremony, Bayless was lauded by Jim Gambert, his predecessor as Operations Support Group director, for his attention to detail.

“Ron Bayless managed by checklist, because he



Ron Bayless retired as director of the Operations Support Group at DSCC in 2006, completing nearly 50 years of federal service.

grew up with them,” Gambert said. “As a private pilot, he followed a checklist to ensure the aircraft was safe. As a military weapons technician, he followed a checklist to ensure safety. And when he dealt with drawings and specifications, he followed a checklist to ensure total compliance with standards. This was his effective leadership style - he was not one to take risks.”

Brown, a U.S. Army veteran, began his federal civilian career at DSCC in 1985, when he was hired as a management analyst at Defense Construction Supply Center, as DSCC was formerly known. He began his career at DDCO in 1987, when he was selected as a traffic management specialist.

In 1992, Brown was selected as the distribution facilities manager, the lead civilian in charge of the DDCO organization.

Brown was selected as DDCO’s director in 1997



Don Brown was director of Defense Distribution Depot Columbus, Ohio, from 1997 until its closure in 2008.

and remained in that position until the depot closed in 2008 as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure action.

Brown’s friend and colleague, Senior Executive Service member Twila Gonzales, director for DLA’s Defense Reutilization and Marketing Services, and previous deputy commander for the DDC, said she is excited for him.

“Don Brown is a superb example of ‘servant leadership.’ Don always, always did the best he knew how, the very best he could; and he kept on doing it until the day he retired,” Gonzales said.

“I learned much about leadership from Don and I am remarkably fortunate to call him friend. He is truly deserving of this recognition.”

His nomination states that Brown “constantly exceeded all expected performance requirements and more than frequently went the extra mile to provide exceptional warfighter support.” It also stated that throughout his career, “Brown raised the bar on performance for himself, his employees and his peers. He was always the epitome of a dedicated professional.”

The other inductees are former Defense Supply Center Richmond Deputy Commander Jim Bailey, the late Jerri Taylor, former director of Defense Distribution Depot Richmond, Va., Francis Ciccarone of Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, Alton Ressler of DLA Corporate Administration (J-1) and Nancy Rheume of Defense Reutilization and Market-

ing Service.

The DLA Hall of Fame recognizes and honors former members of the DLA community who have made significant and enduring contributions to the Agency. Membership in the Hall of Fame is open to all former DLA military and civilian personnel regardless of rank or grade.

Editor’s note: Stacy L. Umstead of the DDC Public Affairs Office and Dan Bell of DSCC contributed to this article.

THANK YOU

My family and I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the DSCC Command Office, to the Civilian Welfare Fund and Post Restaurant Council, and to all of my friends and coworkers for their thoughtful expressions of sympathy for the passing

of our mother, Kathy Prince. The lovely flowers and cards were greatly appreciated, and the many kind heartfelt words of support and caring continue to help us endure this difficult time.

**Michelle Prince and family,
DSCC**

To submit a thank you for publication in the Columbus Federal Voice, e-mail the thank you to publicaffairs.dsc@dla.mil.

MRAP teams meet at DSCC to keep high readiness rate up

By Tony D'Elia
DSCC Public Affairs Office

Fatalities among U.S. armed forces from roadside bomb attacks decreased almost 99 percent after the deployment of the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle into the war zone. Two years ago, about 75 percent of casualties in combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan were attributed to improvised explosive devices

"They've (MRAPs) taken hits, many hits that would have killed soldiers and Marines in up-armored Humvees," Navy Adm. Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in a mid-2008 USA Today article.

Army Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, who commanded a division in Baghdad, said in the same article that the 14- to 25-ton, V-hull MRAPs have forced insurgents to build bigger, more sophisticated bombs to knock out the vehicles. Those bombs take more time and resources to build and set up, which gives U.S. forces a better chance of catching the insurgents in the act and then attacking them.

The MRAP Joint Program Office held its Supply Chain Integrated Product Team meeting Jan. 12-13 at the DFAS Conference Center on the Defense Supply Center



(DSCC photo by Tony D'Elia)

The MRAP Joint Program Office held its Supply Chain IPT meeting Jan. 12-13 at the DFAS Conference Center to discuss and resolve various support issues. Attendees include the JPO, field maintainers, logisticians, all services, SOCOM, TRANSCOM, DLA, DCMA and representatives from the original equipment manufacturers. Above, Lt. Col. John Conway, product manager, Logistics and Sustainment, MATV, discusses the strategic and tactical level approach. Despite the unmatched acceleration of the program, MRAP readiness remains high.

Columbus installation. IPT meetings allow stakeholders to come together periodically in one place, at one time, to discuss and resolve issues. Attendees include the JPO, field maintainers, logisticians, all services, SOCOM, TRANSCOM, DLA, DCMA and representatives from the original equipment manufacturers.

The JPO has already procured more than 16,000 MRAP vehicles, with almost 14,000 operating in the two theaters. The more maneuverable M-ATV has firm requirements for 6,644 vehicles destined for Afghanistan, but that requirement

will likely grow towards the contract ceiling figure. Total procurement funding for the MRAP vehicles, mostly through supplemental appropriations, was about \$22.7 billion. Despite the unmatched acceleration of the program, MRAP readiness remains high in both OEF and OIF, with readiness figures hovering between 94 and 96 percent overall. This level of readiness is unprecedented and considered a tribute to all the hard work of the MRAP community.

On Jan. 14, the JPO held its first strategic IPT, as directed and sponsored by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Known as the Supply Chain Working Group (SCWG), the team is a high-level policy group tasked to address strategic concerns of the MRAP joint program. At the conclusion of the meeting, DLA's director of

MRAP sustainment, Dan Bohn, and the MRAP project manager, Logistics and Sustainment, Army Lt. Col. John Conway, signed a Memorandum of Agreement between DSCC and the JPO regarding DLA support to the MRAP program.

Among those in attendance was DSCC Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson and DSCC associate John Dreska, deputy manager of the DLA MRAP Project.

"The purpose of this meeting is to follow up on pressing logistics issues and discuss solutions to help the MRAP Program Office rapidly deliver and sustain MRAPs and [MRAP All-terrain vehicles], with emphasis on Afghanistan support," said Army Col. Betty Yarbrough, with DLA's operations and sustainment office, part of the Logistics Operations and Readiness Directorate.

Estevez praised the team's efforts so far, but steered discussion toward streamlining the sustain-

ment process. "We have an extraordinary readiness rate," he said. "Today we want to discuss what we can do to make the program better and to build on the success of the last Deep Dive. We are looking for ways to synchronize collectively and correct any disconnects so we can completely focus on providing the best for the warfighter."

Marine Brig. Gen. Michael Brogan, commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, said collaboration and cooperation on the program have been key to its success. "[Paul Mann of the Joint Program Office] and his team have a tremendous track record in resolving issues and keeping the MRAP program moving forward," Brogan said.

Briefings covered progress of the MATV fielding mission, the program's provisioning aspects, supply chain updates, battle damage and retrograde, and the status of the maintenance mission to support USCENTCOM.

An update was also provided on the Independent Suspension System upgrade. MATVs are fielded with this suspension system, which was designed to put less stress on axles and allow the vehicles to navigate easily up steep slopes. The ISS makes the vehicles suitable for Afghanistan's rough terrain, officials said.

DLA currently has long-term sustainment contracts with Oshkosh Defense, which won the initial MATV contract worth \$1 billion, to build and support 2,244 MATVs.

DLA will procure initial spares and stock, coordinate deviations from JPO forecasts, maintain safety level stock on critical items, and provide routine updates regarding procurement

execution, budget status and support strategies. "Again, we have been doing these things for quite some time, but the document made it official," Bohn said.



(DoD photo)

Discussion at the second Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle "Deep Dive" meeting covered the MRAP and its lighter, all-terrain variant, the MRAP All Terrain Vehicle, which has now made its debut in Afghanistan.

Senior DoD leaders convene at DLA to discuss MRAP delivery, sustainment

By Christine Born
DLA Strategic Communications

Senior leaders from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, combatant commands, military services and the Defense Logistics Agency gathered at DLA headquarters Jan. 15 to discuss delivery and sustainment issues for critical armored vehicles.

Alan Estevez, acting deputy undersecretary of defense for logistics and materiel readiness, chaired the second Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle "Deep Dive" meeting.

Covering the MRAP and its lighter, all-terrain variant, which has now made its debut in Afghanistan, the forum included presentations by U.S. Central Command, the MRAP Joint Program Office, DLA, U.S. Transportation Command, the Army and the Marine Corps.

Among those in attendance was DSCC Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson and DSCC associate John Dreska, deputy manager of the DLA MRAP Project.

"The purpose of this meeting is to follow up on pressing logistics issues and discuss solutions to help the MRAP Program Office rapidly deliver and sustain MRAPs and [MRAP All-terrain vehicles], with emphasis on Afghanistan support," said Army Col. Betty Yarbrough, with DLA's operations and sustainment office, part of the Logistics Operations and Readiness Directorate.

Estevez praised the team's efforts so far, but steered discussion toward streamlining the sustain-



(Photo by Army Spc. Ryan A. Cleary)

Maj. Gen. Matthew L. Kambic, Ohio's assistant adjutant general for Army, hands the 371st Sustainment Brigade guidon to Lt. Col. Maria E. Kelly as she assumes command of the unit during a Jan. 10 ceremony in the clubhouse at Camp Perry Joint Training Center, Ohio.

Ohio Army National Guard appoints first female brigade commander

By Army Spc. Ryan A. Cleary
196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment,
OANG

CAMP PERRY JOINT TRAINING CENTER, Ohio - Soldiers, family members, special guests and Ohio National Guard senior leaders filled the Camp Perry clubhouse Jan. 10 to witness a historic change of command ceremony for the 371st Sustainment Brigade.

Lt. Col. Maria E. Kelly, the brigade's deputy commanding officer, took the reins from Col. Daniel L. Tack, becoming the first female brigade commander in the Ohio Army National Guard. The 371st headquarters is located in Kettering, with detachments in Newark.

"I am going to provide for you with unwavering leadership, with support, guidance and direction, strategic resources and a way forward," Kelly said to her new brigade troops. "Give your best to yourself, to your families, to your soldiers and your duty."

Kelly commanded the brigade's rear detachment for 18 months during the unit's 2008-2009 deployment to Iraq. She brings with her a wealth of command and organizational experience and knowledge, including two combat deployments to Iraq, first in 2004 as a plans officer with the 371st Corps Support Group and again in 2006 with the 237th Forward Support Battalion, where she served as the base commander for Forward Operating Bases Marez and Diamondback and Mosul Army Airfield. She has also served as a public

affairs officer, an Officer Candidate School instructor, detachment commander, battalion operations and training officer and battalion executive officer.

"Diversity is one of this organization's top priorities, and is an issue we've been committed to promoting for many years," said Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, Ohio adjutant general.

Although Kelly has only now become the first female brigade commander in the Ohio Army National Guard, Wayt said the organizational culture has been evolving for some time.

"You cannot just create a brigade commander, they have to be grown, nurtured and given opportunities over the span of his or her career," Wayt said. "But we recognize that by providing those opportunities to all of our members - women and minorities included - we allow the best the organization has to offer to rise to the top. It makes us stronger and the selection of Lt. Col. Kelly as commander of the 371st demonstrates the validity of this ideal.

"She may be the first," Wayt said, "but there are many powerful, intelligent women advancing in our ranks."

Tack began his career in 1970 and is retiring from the Army National Guard with 40 years of service. During his time with the 371st, the brigade was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Global War on Terrorism campaign streamers.

Tack also received the Legion of Merit award during the ceremony.



In 2008, a soldier in the Army Special Forces wrote this note on the door of an MRAP: "This truck saved my life as well as 5 others on 02 Apr 08 at 2300 in Basrah, IZ."

MRAP MOA

Continued from page 1

vehicles by spelling out what the Joint Program Office and DLA will do relative to maintaining adequate spare parts. Suzanne Rieder of the MRAP Special Projects

Team drew up the agreement.

For example, the JPO will keep DLA apprised of new and emerging initiatives, provide initial spare parts forecasts, manage a

DLA funding line within the JPO spending plan for initial spares purchase, and provide funding for initial procurement of sustainment spares.

Meanwhile, DLA will pro-

vide initial spares and stock, coordinate deviations from JPO forecasts, maintain safety level stock on critical items, and provide routine updates regarding procurement

execution, budget status and support strategies.

"Again, we have been doing these things for quite some time, but the document made it official," Bohn said.

IRS offers eight tips for choosing a reputable tax preparer

By Eric Erickson
[IRS Media Relations](#)

The Internal Revenue Service urges people to use care and caution when choosing a tax preparer because they are legally

responsible for what's on their tax return even if it was prepared by another individual or firm.

Most tax return preparers are professional, honest and provide excellent service to their clients. Howev-

er, unscrupulous tax return preparers do exist and can cause considerable financial and legal problems for their clients.

Therefore, it's important to find a qualified tax professional.

The following tips will help people choose a preparer who will offer the best service for tax preparation needs.

1. Check the person's qualifications - Ask if the preparer is affiliated with a

professional organization that provides its members with continuing education and resources and holds them to a code of ethics.

2. Check on the preparer's history - Check to see if the preparer has any questionable history with the Better Business Bureau, the state's board of accountancy for CPAs or the state's bar association for attorneys.

3. Find out about their service fees - Avoid preparers that base their fee on a percentage of the amount of your refund or those who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers.

4. Make sure the tax preparer is accessible - Make sure you will be able to contact the tax preparer after the return has been filed, even after April 15, in case questions arise.

5. Provide all records and receipts needed to prepare your return - Most reputable preparers will request to see your records and receipts and will ask you multiple questions to determine your total income and your qualifications for expenses, deductions and other items.

6. Never sign a blank return - Avoid tax preparers that ask you to sign a blank tax form.

7. Review the entire return before signing it - Before you sign your tax return, review it and ask questions. Make sure you understand everything and are comfortable with the accuracy of the return before you sign it.

8. Make sure the preparer signs the form - A paid preparer must sign the return as required by law. Although the preparer signs the return, you are responsible for the accuracy of every item on your return. The preparer must also give you a copy of the return.

You can report abusive tax preparers and suspected tax fraud to the IRS on Form 3949-A, Information Referral or by sending a letter to Internal Revenue Service, Fresno, CA 93888. Download Form 3949-A from www.irs.gov or order it by mail at 800-829-3676.

Local FEW chapter to be host of group's training program

By Arlena Fitch-Gordon
Federally Employed Women

The local chapter of Federally Employed Women will be the host for the organization's Regional Training Program that will held Feb. 18-20 in Columbus.

Hosting the training program at the Marriott Columbus Airport in Columbus will be a milestone in the history of the local Equalitarian Chapter.

The FEW's National Board of Directors holds four meetings a year at different locations within the United States. Any of the organization's 10 regions can submit a proposal to host a Regional Training Program in conjunction with the National Board of Directors semi-annual meeting.

Michelle Thrower of Defense Finance and Accounting System Columbus prepared a proposal to host the Great Lakes Regional Training Program in Columbus; her proposal was approved by the orga-



(FEW photo)

Members of Federally Employed Women's local Equalitarian Chapter include (front row from left) Arlena Fitch-Gordon and Alice Mullins; and (back row from left) Regine Williams, Foronda Hall, Debra Hobbs, Mable Seldon, Rosie Worles-Gentry and chapter president Nolene Smith. The chapter will host FEW's Regional Training Program Feb. 18-20 in Columbus.

nization's national board of directors.

The theme for the conference is "Stay Focused with FEW" and the keynote speaker will be Ohio Rep. Tracy Maxwell Heard. The cost will be \$100 for FEW members and \$125 for non-members.

Anyone who wants registration information should call Inez Toney at 614-692-9736, Rosie Worles-Gentry at 614-692-8708 or Carla Murray at 614-693-9155.

Some of the training will include sessions such as "Lean Six Sigma Overview" by Adrienne McGeachy of

Defense Supply Center Columbus, "Project Management" by Scott Hornbeck of DFAS Columbus, "Interviewing Techniques" by Rochelle Anderson of DSCC, "Financial Planning" by Sandra Moody of Dehan Enterprises, LLC, "Leadership" by Dr. Robert Boggs

of DSCC, "Compliance" by Michelle Crockett, FEW's national vice president for compliance, and "Officer Training" by Becky Fasulo, FEW national vice president of Membership and Chapter Organization.

FEW is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1968 after the issuance of Executive Order 11375 that added gender to the prohibited discriminations within the federal government.

FEW works to end sex discrimination and towards the advancement of women in federal service by encouraging diversity and equity in the workplace, enhancing career opportunities, establishing and maintaining relationships with organizations to advocate the fair application of laws, policies, procedures and practices, improving the quality of life for women by influencing legislative actions, committing to maintain a unified and diverse membership and providing opportunities for professional growth.

HUD Secretary visits Columbus to announce grant funding

Columbus to receive \$23 million grant to help neighborhoods recover from housing crisis

By Amanda Mead
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan announced Jan. 14 that HUD is awarding \$2 billion in Recovery Act funding to states, local governments and non-profit housing developers, under HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), to spur economic development in hard-hit communities and create jobs.

Nearly 60 grantees are receiving awards. Among them is the City of Columbus, which is receiving a \$23.2 million grant through the program. Donovan made the announcement during a Jan. 14 appearance in Columbus at the Dodge Recreation Center in Franklinton.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,



(HUD photo by Amanda Landon)

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan announces that Columbus will receive \$23,200,733 in Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding to stabilize targeted neighborhoods and create long term affordability in the housing market. He spoke Jan. 14 at the Dodge Recreation Center in Columbus. Behind him listening are (from left) Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman, Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown and Ohio Lt. Gov. Lee Fisher.

this round of NSP grants is being awarded competitively to applicants who developed the most innovative ideas to rebuild local communities, while demonstrating that they have the capacity to be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

"Vacant homes have a debilitating effect on neighborhoods and often lead to reduced property values, blight and neighborhood

decay," Donovan said. "This additional \$2 billion in Recovery Act funding will help stabilize hard hit communities by turning vacant homes into affordable housing opportunities. The Neighborhood Stabilization program is a key part of the Obama Administration's comprehensive approach to address the national housing and economic crisis."

The City of Columbus, in a con-

sortium agreement with Franklin County, Affordable Housing Trust of Columbus and Franklin County, Campus Partners, Columbus Housing Partnership, Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Columbus, has been awarded \$23,200,733 in NSP2 funds. These funds will be used in targeted areas across 55 census tracts with high residential foreclosures and vacancies.

The consortium agencies proposed to acquire and rehabilitate 396 foreclosed or abandoned properties, demolish 100 properties, land bank 50 properties, and redevelop 275 vacant or foreclosed properties. These activities will benefit households whose income is at or below 120 percent of area median income, with 25 percent of the funds for households at or below 50 percent of area median income.

These funds, and the leveraging of \$11,161,000 in other funds, will stabilize the targeted neighborhoods and create long term affordability in the housing market. The consortium agencies will

See HUD Secretary on page 15

DISCO employees nearly reach Combined Federal Campaign goal

By Arlena Fitch-Gordon
 Defense Industrial Security
 Clearance Office

During its recent Combined Federal Campaign, the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office raised \$13,764, about 92 percent of its goal of \$15,000 through pledges, donations and special events.

Kathy Watson, the director of Defense Security Service, of which DISCO is part, kicked off the 2009 CFC Campaign by encouraging everyone to take a few minutes to review the lists of charities in this year's catalog.

Additionally, she stated "that today's challenging economic times highlight just how important these groups are."

She thanked everyone for their support in previous campaigns and asked for their continued support.

The DISCO CFC campaign coordinator was Katina Jennings and key workers were Donna Miles, Lori Miller and Robert Patrick.



(DISCO photos by Jim George)

The Ohio State Buckeyes themed basket (above) raised the most money in DISCO's Themed Basket Silent Auction CFC fundraiser, which raised \$1,216. Teams of associates were provided a theme for each basket and asked to bring in items that pertained to the theme to fill the baskets.

Jennings informed all employees that "Caring For a Better Tomorrow" was the theme for the 2009 CFC. To give the campaign a "jump" start, DISCO associates

were invited to wear their favorite jersey or team colors for the Oct. 15 pizza kick-off.

Jennings stated that "these are tough economic times we're living

in. Life happens. We never know when we might be placed in the position to request the assistance or services of any one of the organizations listed in the brochure.

"A donation of \$1 per pay period or a one-time donation can show you care to make a better tomorrow for someone in need. No donation is too small," she added.

Among special events that were held was a drawing for those who turned in their pledges by Oct. 16. The winner of a \$20 gas card was Joy Cullop.

A silent auction held Oct. 22 for a Halloween Basket raised \$80 for CFC.

The most successful event was the Themed Basket Silent Auction, which raised \$1,216. Teams of associates were provided a theme for a basket and asked to bring in items that pertained to their team's theme. The Ohio State Buckeyes themed basket raised the most money and all of the funds raised from the basket auction went to the CFC.

CFC

Continued from page 1

ers and campaign workers for their efforts.

"You did the hard work and there are many Americans that will benefit from your work. That \$1.7 million will mean something to so many," he said.

Richardson said in this current economy many campaigns around the country are struggling.

"Not everyone's meeting their goal, so you should feel good about the work you've done," he said.

After lunch, a brief introduction to the 2010 campaign was given by Rebecca Beck of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Columbus, the agency that will chair the campaign next year. DFAS will be the first to chair the campaign under the new name of Central Ohio and West Virginia CFC.

Entertainment during lunch was provided by Tom Cash of the U.S. Postal Service.



DSCC Commanding General Army Brig. Gen. Thomas Richardson was the 2009 Heart of Ohio and Tri-State area chair and also served as the luncheon guest speaker. Richardson said that the money raised during the campaign will benefit many.



(DSCC photo by Chuck Morris)

DSCC recognizes recently deployed associates

DSCC associates Jim Penzenstadler (left) and Brian Lewer (right) were recognized recently by Deputy Commander James McClagherty after they returned from overseas deployments. McClagherty presented each of them with a Commander's Coin and thanked them for their efforts. Penzenstadler was deployed from June to December as a universal customer account specialist with the DLA Support Team-Iraq located at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq. His duties consisted of being the lead CAS for the 12 CASes in Iraq and expediting critical Class IX parts needed by U.S. Forces-Iraq. This was his second deployment as a UCAS in Baghdad; his last deployment was February to August 2008. Lewer was deployed from June through November as the primary universal CAS/team lead for DLA Support Team-Afghanistan in Bagram, Afghanistan. He was responsible for all DLA multi-class support to U.S. and NATO forces and provided sustainment of multiple classes of supply, including Class IV and Class IX mandatory repair parts while in a volatile combat environment. Lewer was also previously deployed, as a warfighter support representative to the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at LSA Anaconda/Joint Base Balad, Iraq, from May to October 2008.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Fruit stand buy
- 5 Goethe's soul seller
- 10 Lump of dirt
- 14 Throb
- 15 Delhi coin
- 16 Trout habitat
- 17 Coat or sweater
- 18 Once more
- 19 Lot size, often
- 20 Outback maker
- 22 Piece of cake! (2 wds.)
- 24 Our sun
- 25 Grassy shoulder
- 26 Silliest
- 30 Bakery lure
- 35 Dixie st.
- 36 Item in a poker pot
- 37 Citrus trees
- 38 Pulls a muscle
- 41 Cream puffs
- 43 Strong devotion
- 44 Contented sigh
- 45 Pedro's aunt
- 46 Eric Clapton tune
- 47 Ludicrous imitation
- 50 Prefix for "trillion"
- 53 Moonbeam
- 54 Invigorate
- 58 Did not cook (2 wds.)
- 62 Harvard rival
- 63 Agreed with
- 66 Unfounded, as rumors
- 67 Flush with
- 68 Biscotto flavor
- 69 Fewer than few
- 70 Chair
- 71 Oui and si
- 72 Metric unit

LAST ISSUE'S ANSWER

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- 4 Meal
- 5 Bavarian miss
- 6 Before Sept.
- 7 — — creek
- 8 Trawler gear
- 9 Operatic voice
- 10 Crowbar end
- 11 Shoestring
- 12 Creole veggie
- 13 Mosquito repellent
- 21 King, to monsieur
- 23 Petite
- 25 252 calories
- 26 Schnoz-related
- 27 Extremely
- 28 Running late
- 29 Soap pad brand
- 31 Narrow inlet
- 32 Excludes
- 33 Kind of raise
- 34 Mineral analysis
- 39 E-mail provider
- 40 In a foul mood
- 41 Corn serving
- 42 Parlor game
- 44 — — disadvantage
- 48 Winery feature
- 49 Gazing at
- 51 Piece of prose
- 52 Lorelei's river
- 54 Deli breads
- 55 Chalet feature
- 56 Unwanted guest
- 57 Monthly expense
- 59 Hound's trail
- 60 Arm bone
- 61 Swarm with
- 64 Put down, slangily
- 65 Compass pt.

DOWN

- 1 Ferret feet
- 2 Pantyhose shade
- 3 Crazy captain

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Want more puzzles?

Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.
Today's clue: O equals Y

" L G H S X Z U Y H W Z K L W Z Y L N
W B S C N B M K C U Z U Y H N N H H T V U H H N
L K Z W Y A Z Z V B N H H T H U K G H H S
K F Z L U V B O U H T T K H K Z Y K K F L S J Y ."
- B T B S M H U Z S

Previous solution: "LEAD, FOLLOW, OR GET OUT OF THE WAY." - TED TURNER

"GIVE ME THE READY HAND RATHER THAN THE READY TONGUE." - G. GARIBALDI

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(Photo courtesy of Angie Tabor)

Port Columbus USO Lounge dedicated to Brewer

The Port Columbus International Airport USO Lounge was formally dedicated to longtime executive director Jake Brewer during a Jan. 7 ceremony. Brewer (far right) helps with the unveiling along with Franklin County commissioner Paula Brooks (center) and veteran Joe Wells. Brewer's late wife worked at DSCC for 40 years. The USO is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the troops by providing welfare and recreation-type services to men and women in uniform. At Port Columbus, the USO offers a lounge area for new military recruits on the move. Local USO volunteers work with area recruiting offices to greet new recruits and their families at the airport. Located on the ticketing level near the Concourse C checkpoint, the lounge is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and provides snacks, books, games, telephone services and television.

DLA detachment busy supporting submarines at Pearl Harbor

Defense Logistics Agency detachment associates in Mechanicsburg, Pa., who are part of Defense Supply Center Columbus, have been busy making sure the Navy's Virginia-class submarines have items they need.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard home-ported its first two Virginia-class submarines this past year. As part of their maintenance, the boats periodically enter into Continuous Maintenance Availabilities (CMAV). Because much of the work is based on inspection, Pearl Shipyard is not able project in advance the items that will be required to perform much of the maintenance.

Joseph Thompson, the project manager for Virginia-class support at Naval Inventory Control Point Mechanicsburg, noted that in such an arrangement, funded requisitions must be acted upon quickly.

With the Virginia class being relatively new, many of its unique items of supply have not received sufficient demand to be stocked. In the case of some of the items needed recently in support of the USS Texas (SSN 775) and USS Hawaii (SSN 776), DLA was able to procure excess material from shipbuilder Electric Boat. These items would have otherwise been sourced to their original manufacturers and would have required much longer lead times, Thompson said. DLA issued fast pay contracts and Electric Boat sent the material out immediately in order to support the shipyard.

In another example of quick expediting, Thompson pointed out that the external surface of these submarines is covered with Special Hull Treatment tiles. When applying these tiles, products such as seam filler and



(U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Josh Thompson)

The Virginia-class submarine USS Texas (SSN 775) arrives at its new homeport, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, last November during an inner-fleet transfer from Groton Submarine Base.

primer are needed. These products carry such short shelf lives that that they cannot be stocked in supply.

Pearl Shipyard personnel had been using their local purchase shop to acquire this material, but upon learning that the material had been successfully procured on demand by the wholesale system in order to meet customer needs, Pearl submitted funded requisitions, Thompson said. Within one week of each requisition's submission, the material was under contract, he added.

Most recently, DLA Mechanicsburg associate Jennifer Bell awarded a high-priority requirement for a liquid level transmitter urgently needed for Pearl Harbor Shipyard Virginia-class support. Bell negotiated and awarded the contract in three days, and Electric Boat is scheduled to deliver the item by the end of January.

DLA director thanks employees for job well done on Haiti response

By Deborah Parker
 DLA Strategic Communications
 Office

The Defense Logistics Agency's response to the Haiti disaster is forward leaning, supportive and very well done, agency director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson said at his Jan. 21 Director's Call.

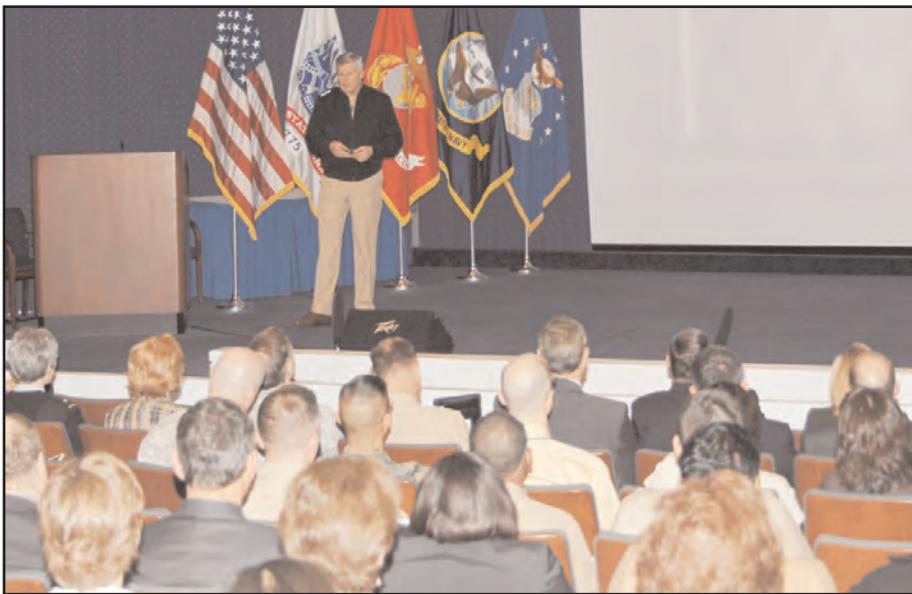
Unique factors resulting from the destruction caused by the earthquake and the country's underdeveloped commercial infrastructure have interfered with the crisis response of U.S. troops, but those challenges are being resolved, he explained.

Thompson provided information on the situation in Haiti along with updates of DLA activities around the world as part of his quarterly briefing to the agency. Other regions covered included DLA support provided to the U.S. Europe, U.S. Africa and U.S. Central commands.

The briefing concluded with summaries of the agency's newly formed Acquisition Operational Evaluation Team actions and the coming transition of nearly 5,000 DLA employees from the National Security Personnel System back to the General Schedule system.

Disaster-relief operations took center stage as Thompson discussed DLA's involvement in the situation. The agency deployed a 12-person, full-spectrum logistics team to U.S. Southern Command to assist that organization's logistics operations, he said. Thompson noted this was going beyond purely DLA work but was necessary in order to ensure progress in the humanitarian efforts.

DLA is also preparing two additional teams, one to support Joint Task Force-Haiti and another for possible deployment to Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba,



(DLA photo by Teodora Mocanu)

DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson speaks on the situation in Haiti at his Jan. 21 Director's Call.

to assist if Haitian migrants are transferred there.

"One of the concerns ... is we'll soon see a flood of Haitians, by sea, out of the country. The intent is to prevent that from occurring and when it occurs to rescue those migrants and position them at a migrant camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba," Thompson said.

The Haiti and Guantanamo teams are made up of DLA staffers from across the agency; both teams are expected to arrive at their assignments within the next week.

Thompson said the agency's response has been good across all the supply classes and team members have gone the extra mile to make sure the response was rapid and effective as possible.

Although Haiti is the current focus area, the director explained that DLA's support to warfighters is still the primary focus and the workforce must continue pursuing the full scope of its logistics operations.

Moving on to Europe and Africa, the admiral described the impor-

tance of continuing operations in Africa, including counter-piracy activities based out of Camp Lemonier, Djibouti. DLA has a representative assigned to the base to ensure the agency's full support is supplied to warfighters there, he said.

In addition to sustainment, the agency's efforts in Africa include first-ever reutilization work, which the director said is helping resolve problems with clean-up and removal of excess equipment and material. As part of this effort, DLA's Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service is planning a first reutilization sale. Thompson said DRMS hopes the sale will serve as a basis for increased support of the local economy.

In addition to operations across Africa, the director said DLA is heavily involved in the U.S. European Command exercise schedule, extending comprehensive logistics support to maneuvers in Kosovo, Bulgaria and several other countries.

In the U.S. Central Command

area of responsibility, the admiral said an expected 30,000 troop plus-up in Afghanistan, and its accompanying build up of bases, translates directly to increased DLA requirements for construction material, subsistence, fuel and spare parts - particularly parts for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and the MRAP all-terrain variant.

USCENTCOM has established the goal of moving supplies for sustaining the Afghan theater via the Northern Distribution Network - a rail and truck system that brings material into the country through central Asia to offset the challenges of moving material through Pakistan, he said.

The admiral said he met with multiple stakeholders and senior Defense officials during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and those meetings provided the agency an opportunity to discuss current support requirements across the department. Among the contacts were USCENTCOM Commander Army Gen. David Petraeus; Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Dr. Ashton Carter; and Defense Department Comptroller Robert Hale.

Overall, DLA stakeholders are pleased with the agency's work, Thompson said. The relationship with DLA's superiors is strong and supportive, with favorable reactions to the agency's performance. Thompson said he plans to continue meeting with DLA's major influencers to strengthen and reinforce the relationship between the agency and its advocates.

Moving away from DLA's combatant command support, Thompson turned to his latest agency initiative - development of an acquisition operational evaluation team. The

See DLA Director's Call on page 15

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HUD Secretary

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also emphasize job creation, business development, and green-building trainings in the targeted communities.

The Columbus grant was part of more than \$175 million in funding provided to cities and agencies

in Ohio. The others included the City of Dayton (\$29.4 million), the City of Springfield (\$6.1 million), the city of Toledo (\$10.15 million), Cuyahoga County Land Revitalization Corp. (\$40.8 million), Hamilton County (\$24.1

million), the State of Ohio (\$25.4 million) and The Community Builders Inc. (\$16 million).

The \$2 billion in NSP grants will build on the work being done now to help state and local governments and non-profit developers collaborate to acquire land and property; to demolish or rehabilitate abandoned properties; and/or to offer down-payment and closing cost assistance to low- to middle-income homebuyers. Grantees can also create "land banks" to assemble, temporarily manage, and dispose of foreclosed homes.

The awards will also require housing counseling for families receiving homebuyer assistance funds through NSP. In addition, it will protect homebuyers by requiring grantees to ensure that new homebuyers under this program obtain a mortgage from a lender who agrees to comply with sound lending practices.

DLA Director's Call

Continued from page 14

team is charged with reviewing acquisition processes, and gathering and applying lessons learned across DLA's acquisition operations.

Simone Reba, Financial Operations deputy director, has been named the team's leader, with Rich Ellis, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia senior acquisition executive, serving as her deputy. The team's members come from across DLA and provide a wide range of knowledge and capability to the effort, Thompson said. The team will review DLA acquisition procedures and determine whether the agency is performing as well as possible, from contract award through administration.

"We are a huge and important acquisition organization in the Department of Defense, and we need to be focused on continuous improvement ... constantly checking that contracts are written as tightly and accurately as possible, and administered appropriate-

ly," he said.

The team's intent, he said, is to guarantee DLA provides full value to the taxpayer for everything it purchases and eliminate potential for fraud, waste or abuse from the acquisition process. The review team will initially focus on Afghanistan, where Thompson said he is concerned the speed of the troop surge might open doors for vendors to take advantage of DoD's need to move quickly.

Ultimate plans call for the team to work through all of DLA's supply centers, providing the opportunity to address deficiencies across the board.

"I think it's going to be great ... it's going to help us be absolutely as good as we can be," the director said.

Also included in Thursday's call was an update by DLA's new Human Resources director on the transition of agency employees from the National Security Personnel System back to the General Schedule system. Brad Bunn provided a rundown of the coming changes, including last year's Defense Authorization Bill that repealed DoD's authority to continue implementing NSPS and directed movement out of the system.

Since the agency began to work transition issues in advance of much of DoD's guidance, Bunn said he expects DLA to complete its transition this spring.

Closing out the program, Thompson thanked DLA team members for their important work - whether it is in support of crisis response or ongoing contingency operations - in service of warfighters, customers and stakeholders around the globe.

"Thank you for all you do, day in and day out. A special thank you to those most directly involved in the earthquake in Haiti ... I appreciate the very immediate and focused response. I don't think any of us could ask for more," he said.



(J6C photo by J. Spencer Denison)

West is J6C Employee of Month

Octavia West (left) was named J6C's Employee of the Month for January. J6C director Susan VanMeter (right) presented the award.

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