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the Columbus Federal Voice

http://federalvoice.defensesupplycentercolumbus.dla.mil/voice



Vol. XIX, No. 24

The Newspaper of the Central Ohio Federal Community

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Federal employees discuss navigating change during leadership conference

By Dan Bender

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

About 150 federal employees from various agencies in central Ohio focused on ways to successfully handle turbulent times of change at this year's Federal Executive Association of Columbus and Central Ohio's annual Leadership Conference.

The theme for this year's conference, held Nov. 19 at the Quest Business Center at Polaris, was "Navigating the White Waters of Change."

Opening keynote speaker Mae DeVincentis, the recently retired vice director of the Defense Logistics Agency, was introduced by DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McClaugherty, who noted that she was "soaking wet with change" during her career, much of it involved in DLA's informa-

tion technology initiatives.

DeVincentis discussed the importance of leaders' consistency and honesty during her remarks on "Leadership Constants in a Turbulent World."

She noted that change is one of the top stressors in people's lives.

"Things change at an incredible pace and it's really hard to keep up with them," she said.

Leaders in the workplace need to be proactive about change and get as much information as possible so they can explain to employees what to expect, she said, adding that helping people cope with change is a big part of being a leader and failing to be honest and consistent in responding to change will lead to a lack of trust among employees.

"Change and consistency can co-exist. For leaders, being con-



DLA PHOTO BY CHUCK MORRIS

Mae DeVincentis, the recently retired vice director of DLA, discusses the importance of consistency and honesty by leaders in maintaining the trust of the workforce when dealing with change. She was the opening keynote speaker at this year's FEA leadership conference at the Polaris Quest Center.

PLEASE SEE Leadership, PAGE 4



DLA PHOTO BY CHUCK MORRIS

Maritime Customer Operations weapon system support manager Johana Maisonave chats with a group of DLA Land and Maritime associates during a "flash mentoring" event in the Building 20 Buckeye Room. Maisonave was one of six senior leaders who served as mentors for the event.

DLA associates participate in 'flash mentoring' event at DSCC installation

By Mislin A. Perez-Fernandez

DLA Columbus EEO Hispanic Employment Program Public Affairs Liaison

DLA Land and Maritime associates had an opportunity to learn from senior leaders during a "flash mentoring" event held in the Building 20 Buckeye Room.

This form of mentoring is a new concept that involves one-time mentoring exchanges. The event was sponsored by the DLA Columbus EEO Hispanic Employment Program as a professional development activity.

As part of this event, junior professionals seeking leadership development were matched randomly with senior professionals for brief one-time coaching sessions. During the one-hour session, six mentors from DLA Land and Maritime shared their life experiences within the federal government, and gave important advice to other DLA associates.

The senior leaders who participated as mentors were Land Supplier Operations deputy director and Hispanic Employment Program execu-

tive champion Ben Roberts, Human Performance Division chief Robert L. Boggs, Land Supplier Operations division chief Linda K. Johnson, operations officer Maj. Alfonso Edwards, Maritime Customer Operations weapon system support manager Johana Maisonave and senior cost/price analyst and Asian/Pacific American program manager Hoa Ta.

During the "flash mentoring," these mentors passed along valuable knowledge and experience to all the participants. The mentors met with small groups of five or six associates for 15 minutes before rotating to another group of mentees, each of whom had an opportunity to meet and listen to at least three mentors and ask about the mentors' development and personal growth in a more informal setting.

The mentors started each rotation with a short biographical sketch before discussing with the mentees questions such as managing work/life balance, challenges they faced moving up the career ladder and what

PLEASE SEE Mentoring, PAGE 2

Members of installation Army Reserve unit train at Fort Knox

By Army Master Sgt. Dave Johnson

412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne)

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The U.S. Army Reserve 412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), based at Defense Supply Center Columbus, put its companies through a myriad of real life scenarios during annual training at Fort Knox.

Because civil affairs soldiers deploy at such a rapid rate, training soldiers with current doctrine and lessons learned is imperative to the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations (Airborne) command.

The resounding theme of the 412th's training focus was "back to civil affairs basics." Because civil affairs soldiers deploy often, the 412th utilized its seasoned combat veterans at Fort Knox to train and prepare civil affairs teams and soldiers for upcoming missions.

Two such veterans who helped shape most of the training were captains Rob Beat and Barry Mattson, who used their



PHOTO BY ARMY SGT. 1ST CLASS CHAD CLARK

Army Staff Sgt. Alexis Feliciano, a civil affairs non-commissioned officer with 412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), speaks with role-players in a mock Afghan village during training at Fort Knox, Ky. It is customary for soldiers to remove their headgear when engaging in conversations with Afghani leaders.

combat experience in Afghanistan and Iraq to shape real-life scenarios.

"We had two mock villages," said Mattson, who deployed to Iraq from 2010 to 2011. "We organized the sce-

PLEASE SEE Fort Knox, PAGE 4

Lilli named new deputy commander for DLA Aviation

By DLA Aviation Public Affairs



Charlie Lilli

Former DLA Land and Maritime Commander Navy Rear Adm. Charlie Lilli will become the next civilian deputy commander of DLA Aviation in Richmond, Va.

In a Nov. 19 message to the DLA Aviation work force, DLA Director Vice Adm. Mark Harnitchek announced that Lilli was expected to report in early December for his new position with DLA.

Lilli served as commander of Defense Supply Center Columbus, as DLA Land and Maritime was formerly known, from 2005-07. He left DSCC to take a position at U.S. Northern Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

"Mr. Lilli has a wealth of experience, including as a former Navy Supply Corps officer, as a former commander of Defense Supply Center Colum-

bus, and most recently, experience with industry... experience which will serve DLA Aviation very well," said DLA Aviation Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Scott Jansson in a message to the DLA Aviation workforce.

Prior to accepting the senior executive service position, Lilli was the director of operations and the deputy to the vice president, F-35 Global Sustainment for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Corp. Lilli has more than 30 years' experience in aerospace/defense and military logistics and served 28 active duty years in the United States Navy, retiring at the rank of rear admiral in 2009.

A native of East Stroudsburg, Pa., Lilli received his bachelor's degree in political science from Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pa., in 1980 and a master's degree in inventory management from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Cal., in 1992.

Mattingly recognized as DISA Associate of Quarter



DISA PHOTO BY SARA DOWNING

John Mattingly (right) receives the DISA Columbus Associate of the Quarter award from site director Rob Reed. Mattingly is an IT specialist in DISA's Applications Branch.

DSCC police officers win CFC shooting contest for second year in row



DLA PHOTO BY CHUCK MORRIS

DFAS Columbus site director and CFC chair Martha Smith presents the "Top Gun" trophy to DSCC police officers (from left) Sgt. Don Myers, Cpl. Jerry Pyle and Cpl. Christopher Catalogna for winning the "Shoot for CFC" shooting competition for the second year in a row. The event, which raised money for the Combined Federal Campaign, was held Nov. 16 at the DSCC shooting range and featured competitions in the categories of marksmanship, tactical and steel plate target shooting. Coming in second was a team from the U.S. Marshals Service, while the 375th CID team finished third and the 342nd MP Battalion came in fourth.

Mentoring

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they wished they would have known earlier in their career.

To conclude the flash mentoring session, each mentor discussed in one word what the mentees need to be successful, and they said the following:

"Fun - Have fun and enjoy what you are doing. When you enjoy what you are doing, you are always going to succeed," Ta said.

"Relationships. To be successful in business and in life, we need to build strong, meaning-

ful relationships. The key to building relationships is to do what you can to benefit those you have a relationship with and to move outside your comfort zone if you tend toward introversion," Boggs said.

"Goal. Have a purpose, something that you want to achieve. It becomes your motivation, the fire inside you that keeps you moving and getting things done while having fun and building relationships along the way," Maisonavave said.

"Mission. Focus on the mission and the way to do this is by learn-

ing your job and learning it well. No matter what your job is, it contributes towards our ultimate mission, which is warfighter support. Also, always perform your job in a professional manner by acting with integrity and treating people fairly," Johnson said.

"Perseverance. When we face challenges with determination and persistence we develop perseverance," Edwards said.

"Attitude. It is something that you have complete control over. If you approach everything you do with a pos-

itive can-do attitude, you will amaze yourself and others with your accomplishments," Roberts stated.

More "flash mentoring" sessions are tentatively scheduled for Jan. 30 for GS-11 and above associates and Feb. 6 for GS-09 and below associates, both in the Buckeye Room from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call acting HEP manager Shaelene Seda Vargas at 614-692-3134 or flash mentoring leads Mislin A. Perez-Fernandez at 614-692-3379 and Romulo A. Faria at 614-692-9850.

Sisler selected J6C Employee of the Month



PHOTO BY J. SPENCER DENISON

Kevin Sisler (left) was recently recognized as the J6C Employee of the Month for November. J6C director Susan Van Meter presented the award and certificate to him. Sisler is an IT specialist on the Windows Systems administration team. He started working for DLA in August 2010 and has a degree in digital communications from Franklin University.

Briefs

DSCC installation CDC maintains accreditation

DLA Installation Support at Columbus's Child Development Center has maintained accreditation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

The CDC recently measured its program/services against the 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria. Additionally, NAEYC assessors conducted an on-site visit to ensure the program met each of the standards. Only 8 percent of early childhood programs nationwide have the NAEYC accreditation.

Intern program changes name

DLA Training Center recently announced that the name of the DLA Corporate Intern Program has been officially changed to DLA Pathways to Career Excellence (PaCE) Program. Interns will now be referred to as "Pacers."

The intern name changed due to the signing of the Executive Order 13562, entitled "Recruiting and Hiring Students and Recent Graduates." This execu-

It's A Date

December 2012

National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

Universal Human Rights Month

DEC. 7 – Pearl Harbor Day

DEC. 6-7 – DLA Land and Maritime senior leaders offsite, DFAS Conference Center

DEC. 7 – DSCC Installation Holiday Ball, 6 p.m.-midnight, Aladdin Shrine Center

DEC. 7 – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 Pod C basement

DEC. 9 – Hanukkah begins

DEC. 18 – Armed Forces Blood Program blood drive, 9:30

a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 Pod C basement

DEC. 21 – First Day of Winter

DEC. 25 – Christmas Day

DEC. 26 – Kwanzaa begins

DEC. 31 – New Year's Eve

January 2013

JAN. 1 – New Year's Day

JAN. 4 – Armed Forces Blood Program blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 Pod C basement

JAN. 15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

JAN. 18 – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20 Pod C basement

JAN. 20 – Inauguration Day

JAN. 21 – Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observance

utive order established the Pathways Program, which consists of three accepted service avenues for entering the federal workforce: the Internship Program (formerly known as the SCEP Program), the Recent Graduates Program (formerly known as the Intern Program), and the Presidential Management Fellows Program. More information is available at www.opm.gov/hiringreform/pathways/.

Former DSCC Navy officer promoted to captain

DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, commander U.S. Navy Supply Corps officer Jeffrey A.

Schmidt has been promoted to the rank of captain. Schmidt assumed command of DLA Distribution Sigonella, Italy, in May 2011.

A native of Union, N.J., Schmidt enlisted in the Navy in June 1985. Before assuming his current command, Schmidt was assigned as executive officer, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Sigonella, Italy, from July 2008 to March 2011. His other shore assignments included serving as maritime readiness officer at Defense Supply Center Columbus from January 2003 through December 2005.

FEHB Open Season continues until Dec. 10

The annual opportunity for federal employees to make changes to their medical, dental and vision insurance programs ends Dec. 10. Open season allows employees to add or make changes to their Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Programs, and Flexible Spending Account programs. All elections during this open season will become effective Jan. 13, 2013.

There are several major changes to be aware of for this year's open season. Sever-

al FEHB and FEDVIP plans are either reducing or changing service areas, leaving the programs, or changing plan names and codes. It is each employee's responsibility to ensure their FEHB plan will continue into 2013.

For more information, call the DLA Human Resources Service Center at 614-692-2224.

CPR AED classes available

Federal employees on the DSCC installation who would like to become certified in CPR and in the use of an Automated External Defibrillator can register for a class by calling the Health Unit in Building 21 at 614-701-5104.

Class spaces are limited and associates should check with their supervisor before scheduling to insure they can attend. Those who schedule are expected to attend as a reserved space cannot be refilled at the last minute.

Classes will be held in Building 20, C Pod basement, Room 006 and will be available on the following dates: 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Dec. 19, Jan. 9 or Feb. 5 and 20, or 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Jan. 9 and 23, and Feb. 5.

Obituaries

Mary Lee (Smith) Darden

Mary Lee (Smith) Darden, 88, of Dayton, died Nov. 18 at Hospice of Dayton. Ms. Darden was retired from DESC after 20-plus years of service.

Richard J. "Dick" Fabian Sr.

Richard J. "Dick" Fabian Sr., 77, of Circleville, died Nov. 23 at OSU Medical Center. Mr. Fabian was U.S. Air Force veteran and retired from DSCC after 39 years of government service.

Joseph P. Heist

Joseph P. Heist, 75, of

Alexandria, died Nov. 21 at his home. Mr. Heist was retired from Newark Air Force Base, where he worked in metrology for more than 30 years.

Florence M. Holcomb

Florence M. Holcomb, 86, died Nov. 15 at Summit's Trace Care Center. Ms. Holcomb worked for DCSC for more than 30 years.

Clara M. Hoyer

Clara M. Hoyer, 94, of Kettering, Ohio, died Nov. 16 at her home. Ms. Hoyer was retired from DESC.

Thomas W. Kincaid

Thomas W. Kincaid, 64, died Nov. 19. Mr. Kincaid served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps, was a Vietnam war veteran and worked many years at Newark Air Force Base.

Azell Robison

Azell Robison, 88, died Nov. 11 at Grant Medical Center in Columbus. Mr. Robison was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and retired from DSCC.

Phyllis Tucker

Phyllis Tucker, 88, died Nov. 15 at Summit Trace Assisted Living. Ms. Tucker was retired from DCSC.

Navy captain is new director of Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate

By Dan Bender

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

A Navy captain with a strong background in supply management is the new director of the Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate at DLA Land and Maritime.

Navy Capt. Kerry Pearson arrived in September and assumed the role from Steve Rodocker, who had been acting director since Navy Capt. Roland Wadge departed in April.

He came to Columbus from the Pentagon, where he worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Navy for Acquisition and Procurement. Prior to that, he served in Manama, Bahrain, as chief of staff to commander and assistant chief of staff for logistics as part of Expeditionary Strike Group Five.

At DLA Land and Maritime, he supervises about 165

employees who are responsible for writing, executing and administering long-term contracts and management of key programs such as the Fleet Automotive Support Initiative and the Tire Successor Initiative.

Pearson said he has wanted to work for DLA, and Land and Maritime in particular, through his previous exposure to DLA and working with former Land and Maritime commanders Rear Adm. Linda Bird and Rear Adm. Charlie Lilli.

“Columbus has always had a great reputation,” he said, adding that he is impressed by the Land and Maritime workforce.

“We have quality people here who are very professional,” he said.

His priorities are achieving mission priorities set forth by DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Mark Hamitchek and DLA Land and Maritime

Commander Navy Rear Adm. (Sel.) David Pimpo and ensuring the continued development of his SAPD workforce.

“I feel like I’m a success if my commanders and associates are a success,” Pearson said, adding that he believes in “treating people like you want to be treated.”

“That way, they’re empowered to do the job to the best of their ability so that we can take care of the mission.”

A Mississippi native who was raised in Chicago, Pearson has served in the Navy for 22 years and was commissioned in 1990 out of the Navy ROTC at the University of Mississippi. He also served in the Marine Corps for five years prior to entering the Navy.

Pearson’s wife, Sheila, is a retired U.S. Navy commander. He has three daughters and a stepson. He has bachelors and master’s degrees in business administration from the



DLA PHOTO BY CHUCK MORRIS

Navy Capt. Kerry Pearson is the new director of the Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate at DLA Land and Maritime.

University of Mississippi and a master of arts degree in military science from Air Command and Staff College.

Away from work, he enjoys following the Chicago Bears, his favorite National Football League team.

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Phone: (614) 692-2328 Fax: (614) 693-1563
Editorial deadline: Friday, one week prior to publication date

Advertising inquiries to:

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e-mail: jhayden@coxohiomedia.com
Advertising deadline: Thursday, one week prior to publication date

the Columbus Federal Voice



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Photographers: The Columbus Federal Voice is published by Cox Ohio Media Group, a private firm in no way connected to the Defense Logistics Agency, under exclusive contract with DLA Land and Maritime. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized unofficial newspaper published bi-weekly for federal employees of Columbus and central Ohio. Contents and opinions expressed by the publisher and writers herein are their own and are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, DLA Land and Maritime or Cox Media Group of Ohio. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit fact of the purchase, user or patron.

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Female soldiers train to help gather info from female villagers during exercise

By Army Master Sgt. Dave Johnson
412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne)

FORT KNOX, Ky. – In many training scenarios employed by the 412th's Civil Affairs Battalion, there are elements built in to get soldiers accustomed to cultural restraints when interacting with women. So it was with a recent training opportunity.

According to Capt. Rob Beat, commander of Alpha Company, interacting with women is a subtext in such training.

"Teams with female soldiers were supposed to engage the women role players in conversation to see what they knew," Beat said. "In the Arab world, women represent 50 percent of the population that most soldiers will never get a chance to talk to. Teams without female soldiers were to essentially ignore the women unless specifically approached. It was ambiguous, and it was meant to be."

Despite cultural roadblocks, the female soldiers of the 412th hoped to learn first

hand, so they expanded their roles in the training.

"Afghan women know all about their villages," said Pvt. Jessica Holland, a civil affairs soldier assigned to Bravo Company. "Many male soldiers may not engage in conversation with local women because of cultural restrictions. However, there is a wealth of information that can be obtained from the women."

Routinely, women members in civil affairs teams learn to use all cultural resources available to engage with women within villages to gather information.

"Women are information assets," said Staff Sgt. Leah Fitch, a combat veteran who deployed to Iraq. "First, you must build and establish trust."

Fitch used her experience to teach the younger female soldiers in the unit, and to challenge their fellow male CA soldiers to make them adhere to proper customs before approaching local women.

"We can learn to connect the dots when assessing a vil-

lage or situation because of the information we gather from women," Fitch said.

It wasn't always simple for unit members.

"I had some culture shock when preparing for my role," said Pvt. Rachel Kington. "Even as a young soldier just out of school, I learned I am a real asset because women soldiers can talk to women villagers."

"You cannot get tunnel vision," echoed Holland. "(You have to) keep an open mind."

Developing soldiers so they gain confidence in interacting with people in foreign countries was Beat's objective.

Experience with different cultures helps civil affairs noncommissioned officers lead CA teams into remote villages and culture centers.

Fitch learned from combat experience to observe cultural traditions.

"It is proper for male soldiers to ask permission from local men before speaking to women," said Fitch.

There are proper ways to approach women in areas of the world where civil affairs



PHOTO BY ARMY 1ST LT. F. BERNARD HARRIS
Army Pvt. Rachel Kington role-plays an Afghan woman while Pvt. Jessica Holland interacts with her at a mock Afghan village at Fort Knox. Holland gathered information to help civil affairs teams with local assessments. Women are an excellent source for community information, and women soldiers are able to gather that valuable information to augment the CA assessments.

soldiers deploy. Gathering information to assess communities' infrastructure to make recommendations to local and regional commanders is the crux of what civil affairs soldiers and teams do during

deployments. By training female soldiers and using their unique ability to gather vital information, the 412th civil affairs teams are more prepared for their next mission.

Fort Knox

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

narios to utilize local leaders who had loyalties to each village. By doing this, it trained our civil affairs soldiers how to piece together information during their assessments."

Like many military training installations, Fort Knox has training resources to meet current demand from units seeking mock villages that resemble Afghanistan.

Basically, civil affairs training emphasizes the ability to negotiate with people, read kinesics and develop empathy and cultural understanding.

To this end, the 412th soldiers trained in many difficult situations that concentrated on various scenarios that required them to utilize all their civil affairs and cultural interaction skills.

"The training I received was better than the classroom teaching I had," said Spc. Colton

Denig, from Bravo Company. "This training required me to embrace the entire realm of a CA situation."

Beat and Mattson's built-in variables worked well, as soldiers had to examine each side of an argument and hone their mediation skills.

"I had to deal with people who had different opinions of what was going on in their village," said Spc. Dallas Dent, assigned to Bravo Company. "I learned to arbitrate. One person had a good opinion of what we were doing to help his village, and another person would come in to disagree."

"The scenarios were excellent," said Staff Sgt. Leah Fitch. "The lanes at Knox were constructed to make the CA soldiers piece together information. There were two villages and the government leaders played roles to give out just enough information for the CA participants to assemble a puzzle to get the 'big picture' of the village."

Some of the community issues that 412th soldiers had to assess included battle damage, local school buildings and supplies, logistical needs and recommendations for police, ascertaining medical supply needs, and road building projects. The soldiers also had to interact with and evaluate a district governor's performance as well as the department of state.

"The learning objectives focused on assessment and participating in the decision-making process," Fitch said.

"We want our soldiers to be able to develop rapport with strangers," echoed Beat. "We also teach methods to help CA troops determine corruption in local leaders and if they are part of a counter insurgency."

Continual assessment in communities is what civil affairs soldiers do, and rebuilding infrastructure is the primary goal.

The 412th conducted after-action reviews after each training lane was completed. Soldiers



PHOTO BY ARMY 1ST LT. F. BERNARD HARRIS
Army Spc. Robert Scott, a 412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne) soldier, practices his cultural interaction skills as he shakes hands with Spc. Alan Cooper, a 412th soldier who is role-playing a local Afghan security leader during training at Fort Knox, Ky. Army Spc. Jared Coffey, another role-player (in black coat), looks at Scott.

benefited from on-the-spot corrections, realistic environment and constant feedback.

The civilian role players insert realism and an 'Afghan flavor' into the training, participants said. Jerry Wheatley, a volunteer, played Sher Ahmed Shah. Wheatley, a machinist in the Army, has been a role player since 2002. Adam Rose, another volunteer, played

an insurgent.

With the combined efforts of eager civilian volunteers and cadre from the battalion, the 412th soldiers learned a lot about civil affairs that will help them during future deployments.

Experience is paramount when it comes to building training regimens and the soldiers of the 412th now have that solid foundation.

Leadership

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sistent is vital to maintaining the trust of the workforce," she said.

Attendees also rotated among three workshop sessions during the day. The speakers were Stephen Boyd, a retired Northern Kentucky University professor and motivational speaker who spoke on "Be Present When You Are Present," about paying attention to what matters; Mary Ellen Lipinski ("Dr. Mel"), a psychologist and professional speaker who spoke on "The Essence of Change," during which she stated "the essence of change is you;" and DLA Land and Maritime Human Performance Division chief Robert Boggs, who spoke about the differences between introverts and extroverts during his presentation on "Leadership Styles."

DLA, DFAS associates celebrate diversity at Latino conference

By Mislin A. Perez-Fernandez
Hispanic Employment Program Public Affairs Liaison

Associates from the Defense Logistics Agency and Defense Finance and Accounting Service recently participated in the 2012 Ohio Diversity Latino Talent and Leadership Conference in Columbus.

This year's conference focused on the theme "Reinventing ourselves anew" and issues related to attraction and retention of Latinos and other minorities in the workplace.

This event was hosted by Empleos & Employment LLC, a Hispanic and woman-owned business specializing in providing bilingual employment solutions that enable employers to effectively recruit and retain the best talent for competing in a multicultural workplace. The company's mission is to strengthen organizations by promoting inclusion and career development of Latinos and other minorities in the workforce across

all organization levels.

"The goal of this conference is to provide forums and methods to honor our heritage and diversity, tear down divisions and the illusion of separation, and create opportunities for our talented Latino community to soar," company founder and president Cristina Villancida-Farr said in her welcoming remarks.

In his opening remarks, DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McClaugherty discussed how employees can adapt to better equip themselves for a future competitive edge.

The conference was geared towards companies seeking to employ Latinos and other minorities as well as potential employers wanting to learn how to access the job market and make use of their multicultural skills. Through the event, attendees received tools and practical advice to promote leadership development, cross-cultural competency and professional growth.

DLA associates in attendance included Land Supplier Operations deputy director and Hispanic Employment Program executive champion Ben Roberts, Hispanic Employment Program coordinator Shaelene Seda Vargas, Evelyn Soto Giraud, Angel R. Gonzalez, Ana V. Cardona, Norma V. Rivera Cortes, Yoely Perez, Maria I. Resto-Gonzalez and Aixa Rivera. The coordinators for the DLA Land and Maritime job fair booth were Alessia Payne of the Human Performance Division and Hispanic Employment Program manager Maria Buch Castillo.

Six conference tracks were designed and developed to meet the needs of the diverse audience: Outreach and Retention, Leadership Development, Entrepreneurship/Business, Inclusion, Mujeres (Women), and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Each track offered three different workshops presented by experts and



professionals in different fields.

DLA Land and Maritime panelists were Maritime Supplier Operations deputy director and Federal Women's Program executive champion Pat Shields and EEO Affirmative Employment manager Frances Quinones. During a workshop on "What women really want," Shields spoke about the changing role of today's female in the workplace, the family and the world.

As part of the Outreach

and Retention track, Quinones spoke about topics such as engaging and expanding Hispanic/Latino Employee Resource Groups (ERG), attracting participants from younger generations, encouraging participation of middle management, and leveraging the ERG to reach Latino market segments.

The conference keynote speaker was Alfred D. Heger, who practiced psychotherapy with adults, couples and families in Puerto Rico.

Acquisition specialist recognized as DLA Land and Maritime Associate of the Month

By Tony D'Elia

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

Acquisition specialist Theresa M. Moore of the Land Supplier Operations directorate has been selected the DLA Land and Maritime Associate of the Month for August.

Moore, a Pittsburgh native, has worked for Land and Maritime for 13 years. In the Combat Vehicles Support Division, Moore serves as a purchasing agent under the system known as the Disciplined Production Control strategy. In this production strategy, all the purchase requests are loaded into DPC and after Moore gets the current

technical updates and the demand requirements, she assigns PRs to buyers on her Wheeled Vehicles Team based on their priority. Moore was nominated for the award for her "superior performance results" in the efficient monitoring of those purchase requests.

According to Land Supplier Operations deputy director Ben Roberts, Moore has "been consistently outstanding in resolving administrative requirements and transferring the highest priority requirements to the Wheeled Vehicle Team buyers for action."

Moore has been cited for effectively address-

ing expedite requests and monitoring workload prioritization within the Wheeled Vehicles Team to ensure that the team of 16 buyers is executing priorities in support of the warfighter. The team is responsible for management of more than 1,700 purchase requests and it's up to Moore to review and take action to clear any obstacles before assigning them to a buyer. The Wheeled Vehicles Team regularly meets its monthly award production goal by maintaining in excess of 300 manual contract actions per month.

Moore has been praised for excellent customer service skills in the course of

her work. In this capacity, she must routinely interact with both internal and external customers. In the end, she has been instrumental in obtaining the most reasonable price for the taxpayer.

Moore was also cited for her work in reducing aging PRs. She independently researched PRs older than 60 days and obtained PR status from the assigned buyer. She coordinated with supply planners and customer account specialists to determine the level of need for the item and interacted with technicians to clear any technical blocks. Her efforts in this area have resulted in a substantial reduction of



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Acquisition specialist Theresa M. Moore of Land Supplier Operations receives the DLA Land and Maritime Associate of the Month Award for August from DLA Land and Maritime Chief of Staff Air Force Col. Steven Foss.

aged PRs.

Moore has also been a key player in the imple-

mentation of the reverse auction initiative on the Wheeled Vehicles Team.

IRS seeking volunteers to help with tax prep programs

By Jennifer Jenkins

IRS Media Relations

Tax return filing season 2013 is just around the corner, and the Internal Revenue Service's volunteer tax preparation recruitment effort is now underway.

The IRS is reaching out to about 17,000 federal employees in the Greater Columbus area to seek their participation in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and/or Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs.

A special recruiting event for area federal workers was held Oct. 25 at the John W. Bricker Federal Building in downtown Columbus.

The IRS is also seek-

ing non-federal volunteers to help prepare federal income tax returns and partner organizations to host tax return preparation and filing sites in communities throughout central Ohio and nationwide.

VITA and TCE volunteers provide free tax preparation for seniors, military personnel and taxpayers with low- to moderate-incomes (generally, less than \$50,000) who need help filing their tax returns. VITA and TCE sites are typically located in community centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations and are normally open evenings and week-ends during the tax filing season.

VITA and TCE volun-

teers come from all walks of life and backgrounds, and include professionals, retirees, college students, IRS employees and others motivated by a desire to help their communities. Prior tax preparation training is not required – partnering with local nonprofit, community and governmental organizations, the IRS provides free training and all needed materials to volunteers. A variety of volunteer positions are available, to include tax preparers, greeters, recruiters and equipment coordinators.

During the 2012 tax return filing season, 250-plus IRS-certified volunteers at 17 sites throughout Greater Columbus helped area residents with

the preparation and filing of more than 4,000 federal income tax returns. Volunteers helped low- to moderate-income and elderly taxpayers identify their eligibility for money-saving tax credits and deductions, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Child Tax Credit and the Credit for the Elderly or Disabled.

For more information, prospective volunteers can start by visiting www.irs.gov, search "Volunteer" for program information, then email TaxVolunteer@IRS.gov.

Land and Maritime Joint Reserve Team holds annual summit

By Tony D'Elia

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

The DLA Land and Maritime Joint Reserve Team was host to the Joint Forces Operational Summit, which brought together more than 50 representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps reserve team units at DLA Land and Maritime.

The attendees and key leaders from within the Land and Maritime command tackled a full agenda of important topics in sessions conducted at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Conference Center on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation.

At the summit, Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McLaugherty emphasized the integral role the reserve team members have played with deployments during the last 11 years. He also

acknowledged the transition taking place from deployment support to more operational support as the wars end, or the beginning of the draw down.

Additionally, McLaugherty gave a DLA Land and Maritime support overview. Other topics related to operational support included missions for reservists who will be assisting with Post Award Administration and Process Cycle Memorandum (PCM) documentation. DLA Training representatives presented some information on systems and tools that could help reservists with operational support and Veterans Administration representatives presented information on benefits.

The group also shared telephone calls to forward deployed DLA members, including Land and Maritime's Navy Cmdr. Brian Vosberg, who is serving as DLA Support Team

Deputy Commander in Kabul, Afghanistan. Other deployers reporting via telephone were Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ono Margioni from DLA HQs J9, on duty as DLA Detachment Commander in Bagram; Navy Lt. Glenn Conley of the DLA Land and Maritime Reserve Team, on duty as operations officer for DLA Support Team in Bagram; and Marine Corps Col. Phillip Taggart, of DLA HQs J9, serving as DLA Support Team commander in Afghanistan.

Several other Reserve Force deployers were recognized with medals for their outstanding support in Afghanistan.

Collectively, organizers considered the summit an excellent opportunity to share information and ideas among all members of the DLA Land and Maritime family. Among those participating were Army Col. William Stratton, the joint team lead; Army Lt. Col. John Dreska,



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Members of the DLA Land and Maritime Joint Reserve Team pose for a photo at the Joint Forces Operational Summit at the DFAS Conference Center. They are (front row from left) Lt. Col. Rich Kraehling, Cmdr. Jim Shelton, Lt. Col. John Dreska, Col. Bill Stratton, Lt. Col. Steve Force, and Lt. Col. John Cleveland; (second row from left) Maj. Cory Grabenbauer, LS2 Jhunar Medenilla, Lt. Col. Daphne Wheeler, LS1 James Grace, Capt. Nick Cushion, LS2 Danielle Green and Maj. Jennifer Kostic; (third row from left) ENS Randall Fletcher, Capt. Jeff Campbell, Maj. Jorge Manresa, Maj. Alfonso Edwards and Lt. Col. Nick Louketis; (fourth row from left) YN2 Debra Warden, YN1 Joanna Tucker, LSSN Christopher Dillon, Master Sgt. Robert Martell, LSSN Gyron Willingham, LS1 James Hershberger and LS2 David Johnson; and (fifth row from left) Staff Sgt. Peter Navarro, LS2 Daniel Collins, Master Sgt. Tadd Long, Tech. Sgt. Jason Hutson and Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Graves.

deputy joint team lead; Lt. Col. Steven Force, Marine Corps team lead; Army Lt. Col. Richard Kraehling, Army team lead; Marine Corps Lt. Col. John Cleveland, Air Force team lead; and Air Force Lt. Col. John Cleveland, Air Force team lead.

Associates get early jump on holiday shopping at craft shows



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Ohio State buckeye trees and plate clocks were among the items available at this year's annual Associate Craft Shows, held Oct. 30 in Building 21 and Nov. 13 in Building 20. Creativity ran rampant at the 11th annual shows as new and former vendors displayed their one-of-a-kind homemade goods. About 30 different vendors were in attendance between both of the shows. The craft shows were part of the MWR Office's 'Tis the Season Holiday Program, which continues through Dec. 14 with numerous events and specials. More information is available on the MWR website at www.dsccmwr.com.

Associates discard unwanted documents during Shred Day



DLA PHOTO BY CHARLES MORRIS

The MWR Recycling Team, along with Royal Document Destruction, went to work bright and early Nov. 15 for Shred Day in support of America Recycles Day on the DSCC installation. More than 150 visitors brought 13,545 pounds of paper, equivalent to 6.8 tons of processed materials. Recycling that amount of material is equal to saving 115 trees, 47,390 gallons of water and 27,757 kilowatts of energy. Besides also saving about 34 cubic yards of landfill space, about 406 pounds of pollutants were saved from the atmosphere. The installation hopes to reach a 50 percent recycle rate by 2015.