

That's all water under the bridge

By Terry White
Directorate of Base Support

Did you hear about the great flood of 2017? The waters crested on Jan. 9, all around the Greater Herlong Metropolitan area.

Okay, so that's not exactly the way the headlines read. However, the Truckee River running through Reno and Sparks in Nev., did make the national news headlines; although Sierra Army Depot (SIAD) was not mentioned, the Depot had its own share of concerns and problems as well.

Lt. Col. Brian Kuhn, depot commander, authorized a two-hour delayed start for all employees on Jan. 9, due to the hazardous road conditions. The delayed start allowed employees traveling on Highway 395 (both north and south) to see any standing water on the highway before they came up on it, thus preventing any accidents. After roads were safely reopened to all traffic, employees made the slow commute to work.

On Depot there was localized flooding within the Long Term Storage, putting some containers and multiple assets in water; while other

areas of the base experienced storm drainage facilities to capacity. Overall, the installation fared quite well.

Just when it seemed like all the issues surrounding the "great flood" were getting back to normal, Sierra received a call from Lassen County there was a problem with the bridge on County Road A-26 crossing Long Valley Creek and the road was being closed for safety purposes. Why would Sierra have a problem with this County road being closed? This access road is the main vein for employees who live south of the installation, not to mention the truck traffic doing business on Sierra. This closure forced all traffic coming up from the south to be detoured to the other county access road that services the depot, thus creating congested traffic at times.

A meeting was held in Susanville, Calif., between Depot and County leadership to address the issues and create a plan forward to get the county road reopened. County officials acknowledged the importance of the road to Sierra Army Depot and explained the amount of damage the bridged had sustained. The County stated before a full as-

See WATER pn Page 8

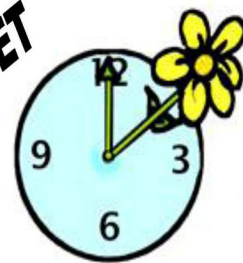


Above, a crew from the depot's Roads and Grounds Division removed debris from underneath the bridge on County Road A-26 that sustained damage during a recent flood. Below, the crew cleared debris that gathered under the bridge on County Road A-25.



The above pillar located under A-26 bridge was damaged during the recent storm as heavy debris slammed against it, causing the bridge to close to one-lane traffic.

DON'T FORGET



SPRING
AHEAD

SET YOUR CLOCKS
1 HOUR AHEAD
12 MAR 17 / 0200

Commander's View



LTC Brian D. Kuhn

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope everyone managed to survive another holiday season with their sanity still in tact, and that you got a chance to spend some quality time with your loved ones and friends. My family and I enjoyed our time together in the Reno area and now I am refreshed and ready to tackle all the opportunities the New Year offers.

The year has already started out with some big challenges thanks to the recent rain and snow storms. The timeline and repair status of the A-26 Access Road bridge; concern about the status of

the bridge on the A-25 Access Road; and the challenges of getting the word out on time changes for reporting to work are just a few of the challenges the Depot is working on. I can tell you during normal working hours, Monday-Thursday, as information becomes available it will be pushed out through email as quickly as possible. During non-duty hours, IF there are any changes that will affect employees and depot operations, an official message will be sent out using the Sierra Army Depot Facebook; Depot Information Line - (530)827-4998; and the Alert Notification System.

If you have a concern or a question regarding issues that impact depot operations and a message has not been sent out, contact the Public Affairs Officer at 4343. Bottom line, short of a catastrophic natural disaster, the depot will always remain open.

As of print time for The Challenge, the update on both bridges on the access roads remain the same. The bridge on A-25 is in good condition, as is the entire road, and is not in jeopardy of closing down. The Depot provided support to Lassen County to help clear debris from under the bridge for safety purposes in the event the water rises again. As for the damaged bridge on A-26, the county is still waiting for CalTrans from Sacramento to conduct an engineering assessment. It is open for one-lane traffic controlled with stop signs. We will continue to update the workforce as new information becomes available.

Another big challenge that we will face are changes that came with the swearing in of a new

president and his administration. Although we do not anticipate any changes that would directly affect Sierra, what I can tell you is as information is passed down from our higher headquarters, I will be sharing that as quickly as possible. We are still waiting for guidance from the Department of the Army and AMC on the new NDAA hiring practices and also the interpretation and guidance on the newly signed government hiring freeze.

We have received the guidance that the February term appointments can be processed for their extensions. Please keep in mind that as part of the original presidential memorandum, the president has given OMB, in consultation with OPM, 90 days to recommend a long term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government workforce through attrition. That being said, we can anticipate that all facets of the Federal government workforce will get a hard look to determine their long term value. In order to show our significance back to the Soldier/Army/DOD, it is important that we continue to maintain diligence in completing our programs (quality products, on time, on budget). This will preserve our relationships with our customers and highlight our positive support to the soldier and Army readiness.

The Depot celebrated its' 75th birthday on Feb. 5. We are currently in the planning stages to set a date for a celebration to be held later on this year when the weather is a little warmer.

Thanks for all that you do for our Country and Service Members! Keep up the great work!!

THE UNION'S POSITION - AFGE LOCAL 1808

As we ring in the New Year, AFGE Local 1808 would like to thank those who joined us/attended the 2016 Union Ball. The event was a complete success and we sincerely hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Here are just a few highlights of that evening's affair:

(Pictures)

For those union members wishing to transition into the new dental programs provided by Local 1808, please feel free to contact us through the union office main phone line; 530-827-5375, the union cell; 530-249-6110, or through the union's work emails at your earliest convenience,

and we will be happy to assist further. Please remember lunch time appointments are available just call.

As a reminder, AFGE Local 1808 provides a Facebook page for those bargaining unit employees interested in keeping abreast of what's going on with Local 1808 do please feel free to friend us and stay informed.

AFGE Local 1808 monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Union Hall. All members are invited to attend and voice their concerns. Union Office phone number is 530-827-5375.

Sierra Army Depot's Diamond Anniversary



1942 - 2017

The Challenge

Depot Commander/Publisher _____
Public Affairs Officer/Editor _____
Photographer _____

Lt. Col. Brian D. Kuhn
Lori K. McDonald
Eric Shadowens

This is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of *The Challenge* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army. 1,000 copies are printed by Folger Graphics, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Government, under exclusive written contract with Sierra Army Depot. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Sierra Army Depot Public Affairs Officer. It is published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, Sierra Army Depot, Herlong, CA., 96113. Telephone (530) 827-4343, Email: lori.k.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil. Unless otherwise noted, all articles and photographs are provided by the editorial staff. Letters to the editor and classified ads must include a name, signature and telephone number to be considered for publication. Letters may be edited to fit space.





Notifications from USAJOBS

PURPOSE AND LENGTH OF TERM APPOINTMENTS

Term appointments are appointments made for more than one year but not more than four years to positions where the need for an employee's services is not permanent. The circumstances under which these nonpermanent appointments are appropriate include (but are not limited to) project work, extraordinary workload, uncertainty of future funding, scheduled contracting out or abolishment of a function, or the need to maintain permanent positions for placement of potential surplus employees.

Term appointments may be made in any increments as long as the appointment is for more than one year and no more than four years. If, for example, the initial term appointment is made for 13 months, the appointment may be extended up to the 4-year limit in as many increments as the agency chooses. The vacancy announcement for a term appointment for less than 4 years should state that the activity has the option of extending the appointment up to the 4-year limit.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) may authorize extending an employee in a term appointment beyond 4 years when the extension is clearly justified. Requests for such extensions must be initiated by the employing office and sent through MACOM channels to Headquarters Army, through DoD and final approving authority will be with OPM. When seeking OPM approval, the activity must document the reasons for the continued need of the employee, keeping in mind that if there is a need to continue the term appointment for an extended period of time, a permanent appointment may be more appropriate.

HIRING TERM EMPLOYEES

Agencies may make term appointments from competitive registers through delegated examining, as provided in 5 CFR part 332.

Noncompetitive term appointments may be made to individuals who meet the eligibility criteria under specific appointment authorities listed in Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Among these authorities are:

- (1) Reinstatement (5 CFR Section 315.401)
- (2) Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA) (5 CFR Section 307.103)

Note that such appointments are competitive service appointments -- not excepted VRA appointments -- and do not lead to conversion to career-conditional appointment.

(3) Appointments of veterans with compensable service-connected disability of 30% or more.

(4) Reappointment on the basis of having left a term appointment prior to serving the 4-year maximum time allowed. Reappointment must be to a position in the same agency and for which the individual qualifies. Combined service under the original term appointment and the reappointment cannot exceed the 4-year limit.

(5) Conversion in the same agency from a current temporary appointment when the employee is or was within reach on a certificate of eligibles for term appointment at any time during service in the temporary position. "Within reach" means that the person could have been selected for the position under competitive hiring procedures and that the certificate was actually used for term appointment. The person must have been continuously employed in the position from the date found within reach to the date converted to a term appointment.

Although term employees often are hired following the same competitive procedures that

See CPAC on Page 8

TSP Catch-up Contributions

Federal employees who participate in the Thrift Savings Plan and will turn age 50 during the year are eligible to make TSP catch-up contributions. "Catch-up contributions" are supplemental tax-deferred contributions that employees age 50 or older (or turning age 50 during the calendar year) can make to the TSP beyond the maximum amount they can contribute through regular contributions.

To be eligible to make catch-up contributions, you must be:

- Age 50 or older anytime during the calendar year in which the catch-up contributions are being made (even if you become age 50 on December 31 of this year);
- Currently employed and in Pay Status;
- Making regular contributions to a civilian or uniformed services TSP account (or both), and/or an equivalent employer plan (such as 401(k), 403(b), or 408 plan), that will equal the maximum allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). See <http://www.tsp.gov/> for the current year's limit.

You are not eligible to make catch-up contributions (or regular contributions) within 6 months of making a financial hardship withdrawal from the TSP, nor while in a "non-pay" status.

Please visit the TSP website <http://www.tsp.gov/> for additional information regarding catch-up contributions.

New Hires at SIAD

As you go about your day to day operations, in some type of fashion you have probably come in contact with one or several new employees. Below is a list of employees who joined our team since the last edition of The Challenge was printed:

Alvarez, Carla	Hyrns, Nathan
Blaker, Delina	Long, Rhonda
Busano, Troy	Oum, Peter
Buss, David	Silva, Rachel
Call, Jonathan	Trau, Lynette
Calypso, Luc	Verzola, Matthew
Dimsdale, Chantell	

SALARY TABLE 2017-RUS INCORPORATING THE 1% GENERAL SCHEDULE INCREASE AND A LOCALITY PAYMENT OF 15.06% FOR THE LOCALITY PAY AREA OF REST OF U.S. TOTAL INCREASE: 1.63% EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2017

Annual Rates by Grade and Step

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	\$ 21,316	\$ 22,029	\$ 22,738	\$ 23,443	\$ 24,152	\$ 24,566	\$ 25,267	\$ 25,975	\$ 26,002	\$ 26,661
2	23,966	24,537	25,330	26,002	26,295	27,068	27,841	28,614	29,387	30,161
3	26,150	27,022	27,894	28,766	29,638	30,510	31,383	32,255	33,127	33,999
4	29,356	30,334	31,312	32,290	33,268	34,246	35,224	36,202	37,180	38,158
5	32,844	33,939	35,035	36,130	37,225	38,321	39,416	40,511	41,607	42,702
6	36,611	37,832	39,053	40,273	41,494	42,715	43,936	45,156	46,377	47,598
7	40,684	42,041	43,397	44,754	46,110	47,467	48,823	50,180	51,537	52,893
8	45,056	46,558	48,059	49,561	51,062	52,564	54,066	55,567	57,069	58,570
9	49,765	51,424	53,083	54,742	56,401	58,060	59,720	61,379	63,038	64,697
10	54,803	56,630	58,457	60,285	62,112	63,939	65,766	67,593	69,420	71,247
11	60,210	62,216	64,223	66,230	68,236	70,243	72,250	74,256	76,263	78,270
12	72,168	74,574	76,980	79,386	81,792	84,197	86,603	89,009	91,415	93,821
13	85,816	88,677	91,537	94,398	97,258	100,118	102,979	105,839	108,699	111,560
14	101,409	104,790	108,170	111,551	114,931	118,312	121,692	125,073	128,453	131,833
15	119,285	123,261	127,238	131,214	135,191	139,167	143,144	147,120	151,097	155,073

I Am an Army Civilian

- a member of the Army team

I am dedicated to the Army,
its Soldiers and civilians

I will always support the mission

I provide stability and continuity during
war and peace

I support and defend the Constitution of
the United States and consider it an
honor to serve the nation and its Army

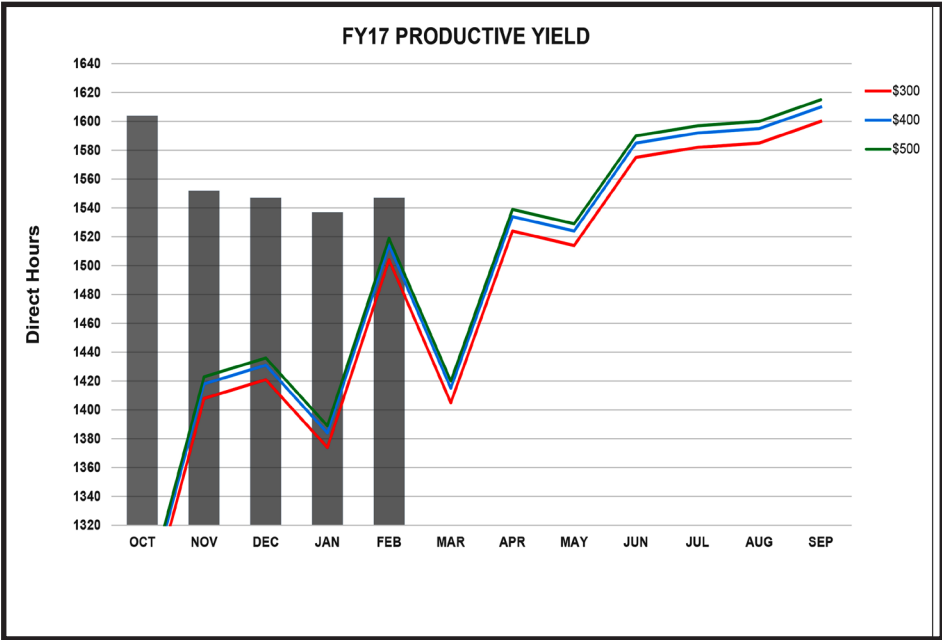
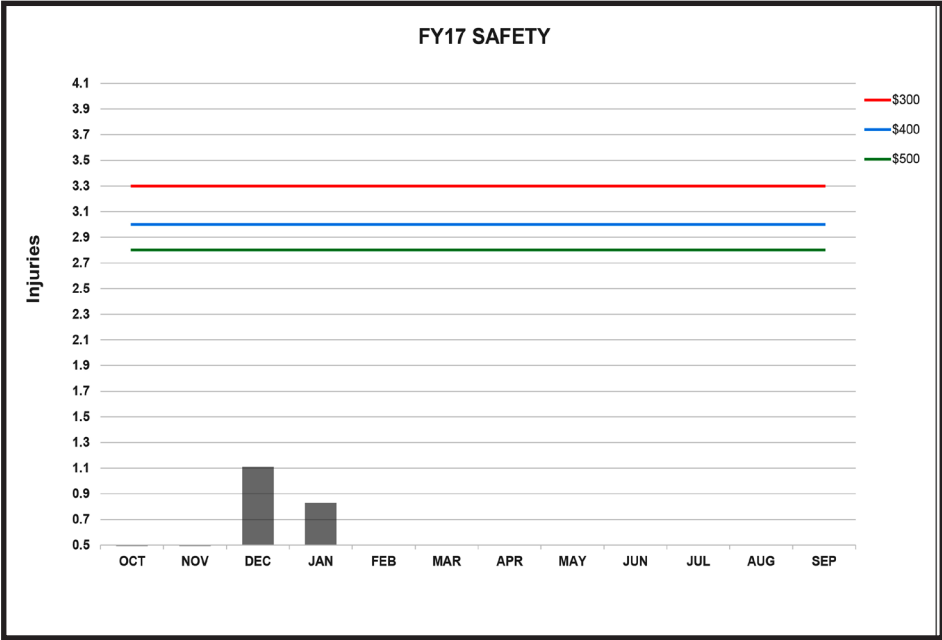
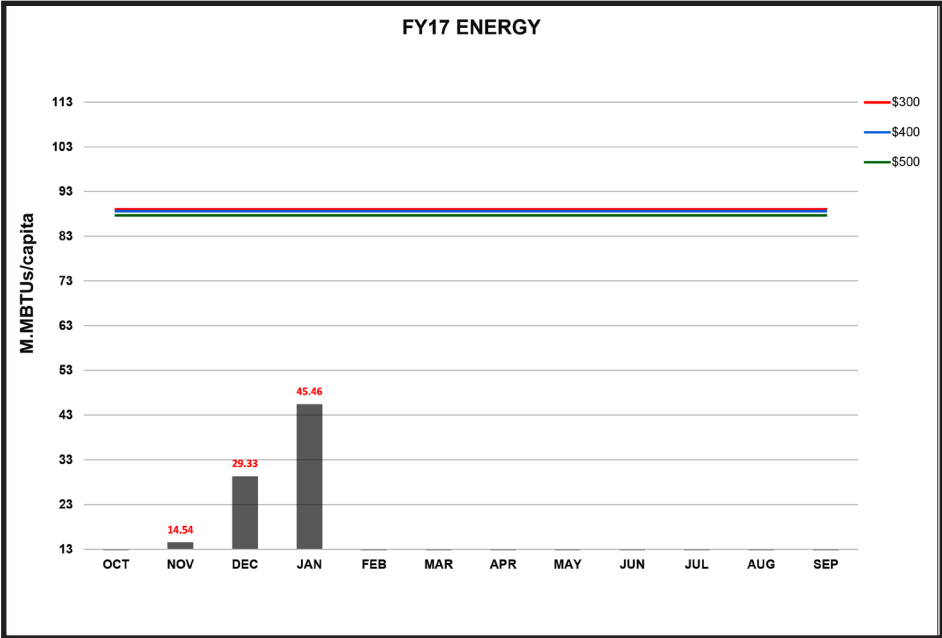
I live the Army values of loyalty, duty,
respect, selfless service, honor,
integrity and personal courage

I Am an Army Civilian

FY 17 GAP Award metrics

The Depot has once again budgeted over \$3 million for the annual Group Awards Program (GAP). Like last year, there are a total of four metrics. Energy, Productive Yield, and Safety metrics remain, but the CPI metric has been replaced with a Training metric. If you complete your Mandatory Training by Aug. 15, 2017, you will receive \$500. This will be tracked individually.

The other three metrics are work between \$300 to \$500, with an additional \$500 award if all four metrics are met at the highest level. To help employees track where the depot is for each metric, the following charts will be shared each month in The Challenge. As of the end of January, the metrics shown below are at the highest level for payout. Keep up the good work!



SOUTHCOM deputy military commander visits Sierra



Top Photo, Mr. Don Olson talks to Lt. Gen. Joseph DiSalvo about the parts reclamation process that is performed to help production lines and units in the field that have problems acquiring specific parts for equipment. Middle photo, DiSalvo poses the question to Ms. Kathy Ayers on the assets being sent to Sierra, how much is declared as excess versus the amount being returned to the field for the Soldier. Bottom photo, Mr. Mike Collins, explains a lean process that helped save money and time for metal tubing needed for the reset of the M149A2 Water Buffalo.



On Feb. 14, the deputy military commander for US South Command hoped to gain a better understanding of Sierra Army Depot's (SIAD) support in the Foreign Military Sales program. Lt. Gen. Joseph DiSalvo, along with Col. William Truax,

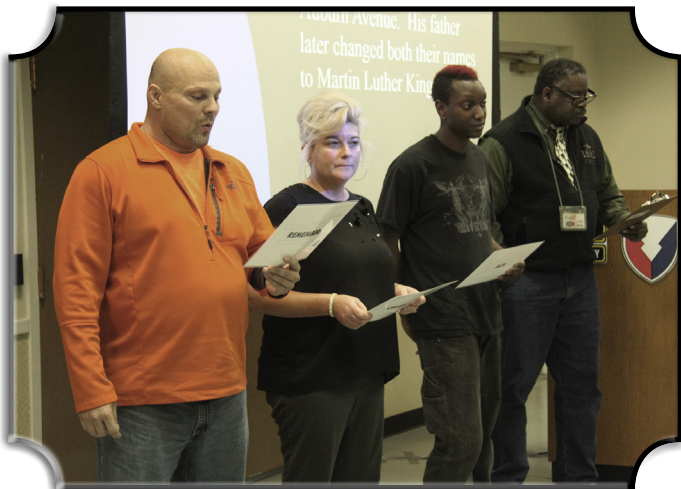
SOUTHCOM SCJ4, Lt. Col. Robert Armstrong, XO to DiSalvo, Mr. Juan Berrios SOUTHCOM SCJ5 Deputy Division Chief, and Mr. Lenard Dotson, USASAC Liaison Officer to SOUTHCOM SCJ5, received a command briefing and EDA briefing

See SOUTHCOM on Page 6

AFGE Local 1808 Annual Ball



Martin Luther King Celebration Luncheon



Employment & Salary Verification



The Department of Defense's Current Employees (Civilian and Military) and Former Employees (Retired Military, Retired Civilians and Separated) have the following choices to meet provider requests for employment and salary verification.

Third Party Requestors **CANNOT** use this system. It must be initiated and processed by the Employee.

THIRD PARTY REQUESTORS

Lenders, Social Service Agen-

cy Representatives, Landlords, and others **MUST** work through the employee to obtain employment and/or salary verification information.

CURRENT EMPLOYEES AND MILITARY SERVICE-MEMBERS

- Civilian Employees may use Employment Verification, a MyBiz+ tool, using their Common Access Card (CAC) to send a password-protected email attachment.

- Military Servicemembers can refer requestors to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) website for independent verification of service dates and/or to obtain a copy of their leave and earnings statement via myPay, a Defense Finance and Accounting Service tool.

FORMER EMPLOYEES

- Civilian and Military Retirees may use myPay, a Defense Finance and Accounting Service tool, to obtain a copy of their Retiree Account Statement.

- Retired Civilian Employees may request service from the Office

See VERIFY on Page 8

Early tax filers may not receive refund until after Feb. 15

Bob Kramer
Defense Media Activity

FORT MEADE, Md. – Some taxpayers plan their holiday shopping and other purchases on the assumption they will get their tax refund from the Internal Revenue Service in January.

In 2017, that may no longer be the case.

The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes, or PATH Act, signed into law December 2015, requires the IRS to hold tax refunds which include Earned Income Tax Credit and Additional Child Tax Credit until Feb. 15, 2017.

This law requires the IRS to hold refunds until mid-February in 2017 for people claiming the EITC or the ACTC. Also, new identity theft and refund fraud safeguards by both the IRS and individual states may mean some tax returns and refunds face additional review.

SOME REFUNDS DELAYED IN 2017

Beginning in 2017, the IRS must hold the entire refund – even the portion not associated with the earned income credit or additional

child credit – until at least Feb. 15. The IRS says this change helps ensure taxpayers get the refund they are owed by giving the agency more time to help detect and prevent fraud.

“This is an important change, as some of these taxpayers are used to getting an early refund,” said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. “We want people to be aware of the change for their planning purposes during the holidays. We don't want anyone caught by surprise if they get their refund a few weeks later than in previous years.”

As in past years, the IRS will begin accepting and processing tax returns once the filing season begins. All taxpayers should file as usual, and tax return preparers should submit returns as they normally do. Although the IRS cannot issue refunds for some early filers until at least Feb. 15, the IRS reminds taxpayers most refunds will be issued within the normal timeframe: less than 21 days, after being accepted for processing by the IRS. The Where's My Refund? tool on IRS.gov and the IRS2Go phone app remains the best way to get the status of a refund.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
FEBRUARY 2017

“SUCCESS ALWAYS LEAVES FOOTPRINTS.”
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Mary McLeod Bethune Linda Brown Ruby Bridges
Lieutenant Henry O. Flipper Booker T. Washington Little Rock Nine James Meredith

Designed by C-CHM - Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR TAX REFUND

If you file your tax return early and claim the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Additional Child Tax Credit, a new law requires the IRS to hold refunds until mid-February in 2017.

The law requires the IRS to hold the entire refund - even the portion not associated with the EITC and ACTC - until at least February 15, 2017.

New identity theft and refund fraud safeguards by the IRS may mean some tax returns and refunds face additional review.

SOUTHCOM (From Page 4)

given by Mr. Bert Liptak, TACOM SAMD Director.

The morning session was dedicated to the SAID Command brief and excess defense articles (EDA) briefing given by Mr. Bert Liptak, TACOM SAMD Director. The briefings and follow-on discussion went well and the FMS process was a lot clearer by the end of the morning.

It was also a good education on the overall FMS process for senior leaders at SIAD, to include where the Depot's support (JVI's for assets at SIAD) fits in the process.

The afternoon included tours of the Long Term Storage, Retrograde Operations in AJ1, Add-on-Armor kitting, and Maintenance facilities.

DiSalvo walked away with a greater appreciation for what Sierra has to offer to the Army and DOD as a whole.

New driving laws in California

January isn't just the start of a new year, but the start of new driving laws within the State of California. Below are just a few that could impact employees driving to and from work.

Use of Electronic Wireless Devices (AB 1785, Quirk): Driving a motor vehicle while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communications device will be prohibited, unless the device is mounted on a vehicle's windshield or is mounted/affixed to a vehicle's dashboard or center console in a manner that does not hinder the driver's view of the road. The driver's hand may only be used to activate or deactivate a feature or function on the device with the motion of a single swipe or tap of the driver's finger, but not while holding it. The law does not apply to manufacturer-installed systems that are embedded in a vehicle.

Child Safety Seats (AB 53, Gar-

cia): This law requires a parent, legal guardian, or the driver of a motor vehicle to properly secure a child who is younger than 2 years of age in an appropriate rear-facing child passenger restraint system, unless the child weighs 40 or more pounds or is 40 or more inches in height (3 feet, 3 inches).

Motorcycle Lane Splitting (AB 51, Quirk): This law defines "lane splitting" as driving a two-wheeled motorcycle between rows of stopped or moving vehicles in the same lane. The law authorizes the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to develop educational guidelines relating to lane splitting in a manner that would ensure the safety of motorcyclists, drivers, and passengers. In developing these guidelines, the law requires the CHP to consult with specified agencies and organizations that have an interest in road safety and motorcyclist behavior.



SAVE the DATE
See the Benefits Representative
From
TRICARE/United Healthcare
Military and Veterans
March 1, 2017

9:00A.M.— 4:00P.M.
No Appointments, Walk-Ins Only

Bring all your Tricare Questions

Located At:
685 E. Plumb Lane Reno, NV 89502
Nevada Military & Family Support
Services Center

- For all Eligible Veterans, Military Retirees, Active Duty Service Members, National Guard and Reserve Service Members and their Families.



It has NOT CHANGED!



Think about OPSEC BEFORE you talk !

Contracting 101

Providing for Competition

You want to buy a new television for your home so you look around at various stores and advertisements before you make the purchase. You took your time because you wanted to get the best deal for your money. If you purchased the television on impulse and didn't allow time for comparison shopping, chances are you may have paid a higher price.

By taking an adequate amount of time to obtain competition, the Contracting Office applies the same concept when buying supplies and services for the Depot. This is what's called "providing for competition".

When the Contracting Office is not given realistic delivery requirements, etc. it can impact competition, therefore possibly not allowing us to get the best price available. Of course, we always have to justify the price to be fair and reasonable for any award.

Normally, we provide contrac-

tors approximately 30 days* to prepare and submit a quote for small purchases under \$150,000. That's only reasonable. For large purchases, especially if they are not for commercial items, we are required to synopsize the requirement with a 15 day* waiting period and then issue the solicitation and allow a 30 day* period for contractors to submit proposals. These are Federal Acquisition Regulation requirements.

Any reduction in response times for potential vendors only reduces the chance of obtaining competition and getting the best price.

Keep in mind that we understand that some purchases are genuinely urgent and that we will always do our best to make accommodations within our authorities.

*These timeframes do not include the time required for evaluation of quotes/proposals, clarifications, reviews and approvals or contractor delivery, etc.



CPAC (From Page 3)

are used for hiring permanent employees, term employees do not have status in the competitive service. Consequently, unless they attained status through an earlier appointment, they cannot be selected from their term appointment for permanent career or career conditional appointments through internal merit promotion procedures. Such conversions cannot occur without special legal authority. The authority for personnel demonstration projects (Title 5, United States Code (USC), Part 4703) is the only provision that currently allows the possibility of term conversions.

Benefits and Entitlements

Term employees in General Schedule are eligible for within-grade increases.

Term employees with full or part-time work schedules are eligible for coverage under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance Program, and a Federal employees retirement system.

Term employees are covered by reduction in force (RIF) procedures as tenure group III employees if affected by a RIF action prior to the expiration of their term appointments. RIF procedures do not apply when term employees are separated on their appointment expiration dates.

OPM's latest rules on term employment can be found in Title 5, CFR, Part 316

Types of Appointment (Status)

The Federal Government employs permanent and temporary employees. Permanent employees are generally hired under a career-conditional appointment (Permanent - Career-Conditional Appointment). Normally this is the first career-type of appointment and the appointee must complete a 1-year probationary period and a total of 3 years continuous creditable service to attain a career appointment (Permanent - Career Appointment).

Temporary appointments are defined as appointments expected to last for a specified period not to exceed 1 year (Temporary Appointment - Time limited not to exceed 1 year but could be less) or a specified period of time that is at least more than 1-year but not to exceed 4 years (Term Appointment - Time limited more than one year but not more than 4 years). Neither type of appointment is a permanent one, so they do not give the employee competitive/permanent status.

Sierra Army Depot
Public Affairs Office
74 Currant Street
Herlong, CA 96113

WATER (From Page 1)

assessment could be done on the bridge, the vast amount of debris collected around the columns would need to be cleared away. Unfortunately, they were short on manpower due to all the flooding throughout the county and the piece of equipment needed, an excavator, they did not have.

Depot leadership committed to helping the County by providing both equipment and personnel to clean up the debris immediately so that assessments could be made as to the extent of the damage. Once the debris was cleared and the water receded, inspection of the bridge and determination what needed to be done to remedy the situation was ultimately the responsibility of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

It did not take employees with the Directorate of Base Support, Roads and Grounds Division very long to jump into action and get the debris cleaned up. For the next several days, depot and county personnel worked side-by-side clearing the debris and reinforcing the banks to curtail further erosion – all this while snow storms were moving through the area. There was a sense of

urgency on this project because of the predicted storm event the following week, which was set to bring about a vast amount of rain. Fortunately, that did not happen.

While work on the A-26 bridge was being performed, it was discovered large amounts of debris were being forced against a couple of the piers on the bridge located on County Road A-25. The crews cleared the debris and thankfully there was no damage to that bridge.

So what is the timeline for County Road A-26 to re-open? Great question. The county has opened up the road, but with some restrictions. There is one-lane traffic over the bridge with stop signs at each end. Only legal load trucks will be authorized over the bridge. Anything requiring a permit load, will use the detour route of County Road A-25. So the quick fix is in place, but what about the long-term plan to have the bridge repaired and road fully opened? Unfortunately, SIAD does not know. According to Lassen County, the repair of the bridge is Caltrans responsibility. The recent storms have had devastating affects all across northern California and Caltrans is responding to each of the situations as quickly as they are able.

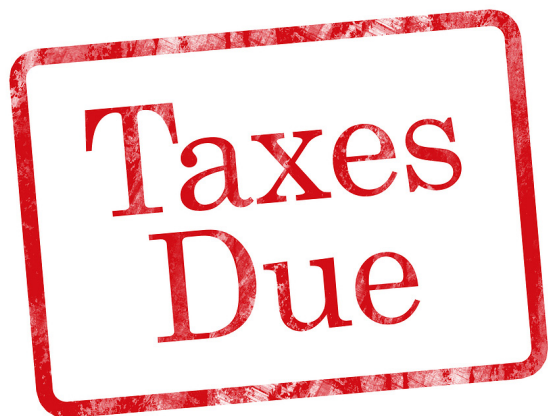


Sierra Army Depot had areas that were flooded from the recent storms that traveled through the area, such as the above hardstand where Air Force containers are stored.

VERIFY (From Page 6)

of Personnel Management (OPM) Retirement Office by phone or via OPM Services Online. Your 1099-R reflects both taxable Retired Pay and taxable Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay.

- Separated Civilian Employees (non-retirees) may request access to their Official Personnel files (after 120 days from Separation Date), either in person or electronically, from the National Personnel Records Center Federal Records Center Program.



April 18

