



March 2003

The CCPS All-Points Bulletin

A Message from the Secretary

As you are aware, the United States has begun military action in Iraq to reduce the threat of weapons of mass destruction to the U.S. and the world. North Carolina has a long tradition of military service and is playing a major role in this effort. We are home to some of the nation's most elite military units from Fort Bragg Army and Pope Air Force Bases in Fayetteville, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base in Jacksonville, and the Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point. These bases have more than 30,000 personnel in the Gulf region, along with nearly 3,400 members of National Guard and Reserve units from North Carolina. A few of the Guard and Reserve members are employees of CCPS.

These men and women are on the front lines of the war against terrorism, and they deserve our support. Listed below are some recommendations from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) on what citizens can do to help support the troops. I ask you to include these brave Americans and their families in your prayers. Thank you.

Bryan E. Beatty

DoD officials ask citizens not to flood the military mail system with letters, cards, and gifts. Due to security concerns and transportation constraints, the Defense Department can't accept items mailed to "Any Service Member". However, there are numerous other ways in which you can show your support for our troops. The following are websites for several organizations sponsoring programs for members of the Armed Forces overseas. While it would be inappropriate for DoD to endorse any specifically, Service members do value and appreciate such expressions of support:

- Donate a calling card to help keep service members in touch with their families at Operation Uplink at <http://www.operationuplink.org/>
- Send a greeting via e-mail through <http://anyservicemember.org/> or <http://www.OperationDearAbby.net>
- Sign a virtual thank you card at the Defense America web site at <http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html>
- Make a donation to one of the military relief societies:
 - Army Emergency Relief at <http://www.aerhq.org/>
 - Navy/Marine Relief Society at <http://www.nmcrrs.org/>
 - Air Force Aid Society at <http://www.afas.org/>
 - Coast Guard Mutual Assistance at <http://www.cgmahq.org/>
 - Donate to "Operation USO Care Package" at <http://www.usometrodc.org/care.html>
 - Support the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services at <http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/>
 - Volunteer at a VA Hospital <http://www.va.gov/vetsday/> to honor veterans who bore the lamp of freedom in past conflicts.
 - Support families whose loved ones are being treated at military and VA hospitals through a donation to the Fisher House at <http://www.fisherhouse.org>.
- U.S. troops deployed to the Persian Gulf region and other overseas locations can now receive personal messages from family members, friends, neighbors, colleagues and supporters via the pages of "Stars and Stripes" as well. "Messages of Support," a daily section that debuted March 17, gives family and friends of deployed service members a chance to pass their greetings, words of encouragement and announcements free of charge. "Messages of Support" can be e-mailed to "Stars and Stripes" 24 hours a day at messages@estripes.com, are limited to 50 words or less and will be printed on a first-come, first-run basis. "Stars and Stripes" reserves the right to screen and edit all messages and to omit any determined inappropriate.
- Reach out to military families in your community, especially those with a loved one deployed.

From the Human Resources/Benefits and Safety Office

All job postings, for current CCPS employees ONLY, may now be viewed online. The web address is <http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/intranet/ccpsinternaljobs/>.

Call-ups for federal active duty in the National Guard and Reserve are continuing. State employees who have questions regarding Military Leave can find answers at <http://www.osp.state.nc.us/manuals/2002/MilitaryLeave.pdf>.

The Office of State Personnel recently asked state employees to express their opinions about possible changes to the State Personnel Act. The results of the responses from more than 21,000 employees are located at <http://www.osp.state.nc.us/E-Connect/2003/SPAAggregateSummary.pdf>.

Reminder: April 4th is the deadline for getting your dental insurance enrollment forms turned into the Benefits and Safety Office. Fortis Dental purchased American Pioneer Dental last year, therefore, all employees currently enrolled with American Pioneer must complete the enrollment form and/or cancellation form. If you have questions, contact the Benefits and Safety Office at 919-733-4080, ext. 249.

Comings & Goings

Welcome to our new employees: **Casandra Skinner**, Secretary's Office; **Shamekia McNeil**, Fiscal; **Dennis Stephenson**, GCC; **Melissa Jacobs**, **Miracle Smith**, and **William Welch**, SHP.

Good luck to our recent retirees: Lt. **R.D. Keenum**, L/Sgt. **D.N. Kiger**, MCE Officer **M.D. Medlin**, OAIV **Brenda Jolly**, Telecommunicator **Robert D. Knight**, REII Neill Singletary, SHP.

Employee Appreciation Lunch

Mark Friday, May 2nd on your calendars! That's when CCPS will celebrate **Employee Appreciation Day 2003**. We'll be at the popular Harrill Center at the N.C. State Fairgrounds again with lots of great food and fellowship for everyone. Here are some of the things we have planned:

- a tug-of-war competition between Division Teams (5 to 10 people per team: this was a big hit last year!)
- a Womanless Beauty Pageant (featuring some of your favorite CCPS He-Men)
- the first ever CCPS Idol Contest (think American Idol with a southern Simon Cowell)
- an egg race and dunking booth
- the usual singing, dancing, karaoke, basketball, volleyball and horseshoe games
- door prizes: lots of fun stuff to win!

Tickets go on sale April 11th and the deadline to purchase is April 30th. Tickets are only \$5 and get you lots of food and fun for the afternoon. See your Employee Appreciation Day committee member or call Janice Turner at 919-733-2126 or Renee Hoffman at 919-733-5027 to find out how to get tickets.

Employee Spotlight

Normally Mark Ezzell has his hands full as the Federal Grants Coordinator with the Governor's Crime Commission. But he's taken on a new challenge in his personal life: an ascent to the 17,500-foot base camp of the world's highest peak, Mr. Everest, in his wheelchair. In a trip organized by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, Mark is joining about 20 other climbers with disabilities. The 30-mile trip, over yak-trodden trails in the midst of the Himalayas, starts at 9,184 feet. It's his first mountain expedition.

Born with spina bifida, Mark has some feeling in his legs above the knees but none below them. The birth defect results from the spinal cord failing to close properly while in the womb. Mark is the chairman for the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities and learned about the trip at a conference.

The [Coalition of Texans with Disabilities](http://www.coalitionoftexanswithdisabilities.org/)' (CTD) missions are to better serve individuals with disabilities and raise funding and awareness for disability related issues. Team Everest '03 will be one of the most important events in the disability community, radically changing the way individuals with disabilities are perceived. The year 2003 marks the 50th anniversary of the first summit of Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay. The ascent of Mt. Everest began on March 20th. The best way to follow the progress of Mark and his fellow team members is on the Team Everest '03 website at <http://www.teameverest03.org/>. Click on "Daily Logs."

Let's all keep Mark in our thoughts and prayers as he attempts this incredible feat.

The *All-Points Bulletin* is your newsletter! If you have information you would like included, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 919-733-5027 or send e-mail to rhoffman@nccrimecontrol.org before the 15th of each month.