



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Galveston District

The Sand Castle

"A newsletter by and for the employees of the Galveston District"



Cover: No, this not something from "Survivor"! Simon DeSoto, lockmaster at the Colorado River Locks, quickly snapped these shots of alligators at the east end of the east locks.



The Sand Castle

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The Sand Castle

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A newsletter for and by the employees of the Galveston District

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C O M M A N D E R ' S C O L U M N

February and March activities and accomplishments once again reflect the boundless capabilities of this world-class team. The numerous partnering sessions and workshops conducted over the last 30 days have drawn nothing but praise from everyone in attendance. I personally participated in a few of these efforts and people filled my ears with kudos about the District's workforce. It makes my job so easy and enjoyable to hear this consistent praise. Team Galveston has much to be proud of.



COL Nicholas J. Buechler

Congratulations to Sam Watson and Sharon Tirpak for being selected as the Galveston District's emerging leaders for 2001. They will be participating in the SWD Emerging Leaders program and will be eligible for competing for the national level program later in the year. Thank you to all those that participated in this year's process, both applicants and panel members.

Due to the length of my column in last month's Sand Castle, I didn't mention David Campbell's recent promotion nor Bill Wise's new posting. Please accept my belated congratulations to you both. We look forward to the many contributions that you will each make in the future. I would also like to extend a belated welcome to Barbara Watts, the District's new Small and Disadvantaged Business Unit Leader. Welcome Barbara. March 9, 2000 saw the departure of Major Randy Turner. Randy is off to do wonderful things at his next duty station just as he has here for the last 21 months. I would like to thank all for the fantastic send-off. I know that he really appreciated it. He is an exceptional officer and the District is better because of his service with us. We wish him the very best and look forward to serving with him again.

I would like to close with a few words about the exceptionally courageous efforts of four members of Team Galveston. The actions of these four people reflect tremendous personal courage and epitomize the can-do spirit of the Galveston District. Tony Temple's and Sal Arcidiancono's physical condition continue to improve. Both are extremely strong and are engaged in a fight for their life. The District's prayers and caring actions have helped and will not stop. Valerie Riedel and Johnnie Simmons suffered huge material loss when their homes burned over the holiday period. Yet, neither missed a step in any of their responsibilities at work or home. With the help of others, but mostly through personal determination, both are overcoming this hardship and putting their lives back together. Tony, Sal, Valerie, and Johnnie; I salute you. You all are truly magnificent. ESSAYONS.

HEADQUARTERS MESSAGE

On the 15 th of March, Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers spoke out in defense of the Corps in Congressional testimony before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. The testimony went very well. A video of the event will be distributed to Division and District offices as soon as it is available. Here is an excerpt from the testimony. The complete text of his remarks is available on the web at: <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/executive/speech.htm>



Lt. Gen. Bob Flowers

“For over 200 years, the Congress and the American people have put their faith and confidence in the ability of our agency to respond to and solve some of our most complex national problems. Today I want to assure you the Army Corps of Engineers is an agency of integrity with people of high character who return real value to the nation.

The Corps has sound systematic processes that consistently provide decision-makers – the Congress, the Administration and the American people — with solid recommendations based on sound engineering, scientific fact and objectivity. Our processes are not just Corps processes. They are Federal processes that are used throughout the government in the water resources arena. We work in an open atmosphere and collaborate with many stakeholders. We have been and remain willing to incorporate improvements to get better answers.

Our intent is to achieve a synergy between economic objectives and environmental values. Toward this end, in April of last year, we improved our planning guidance, and this has clarified our ability to develop projects for environmental restoration. I pledge that we will continue to improve this process.”

JUST THE FACTS, SIR:

In all of our major mission areas, the benefits the Corps program provides are widespread. For example:

- 98% of the nation’s international trade comes through Corps-maintained channels at the nation’s ports, and this provides jobs for 13 million Americans.
- Since 1959 Corps of Engineers projects have prevented nearly \$500 billion dollars in flood damages across the country, returning nearly \$6 dollars in benefits for every \$1 invested.
- The Corps hosts 380 million visitors a year at recreation sites providing boating, swimming and fishing.
- We produce 24% of the nation’s hydropower. This power has a very high demand today.
- Your investment in the Army Corps of Engineers produces a 26 percent annual rate of return and has put \$30 billion dollars in tax revenues and savings into the Treasury.



Houston Ship Channel: Deeper, **WIDER**, and On Schedule

The extraordinary project to deepen and widen the Houston Ship Channel is progressing rapidly toward completion.

With minimal adjustments, this massive undertaking to deepen the Houston Ship Channel to 45 feet and widen it to 530 feet has moved ahead smoothly.

The five-year deepening and widening of the Houston Ship Channel is one of the largest navigation projects in recent years comprising 53 miles of deep-navigation channels and 62 million cubic yards of maintenance dredging over the 50-year project life.

When completed, some 4,250 acres of land creation consisting of marsh restoration, construction of a bird island, construction of an offshore berm to reduce storm damage and provide additional fishery habitat, and construction of access channels and anchorages for recreational boaters in mid- and lower Galveston Bay.

Dalton Krueger is Project Manager for the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District Office and oversees the Houston Ship Channel project. “Our overall game plan was to make the Channel useable in four years. It will be four-and-a-half years if everything goes according to schedule. The overall dredging will be complete by December 2002/January 2003 and we should have the Channel available for ships at that time.”

So far, the 14.4 miles of dredging for the Jetty and Entrance Channel contracts finished as expected. It was performed by the joint venture of Bean Horizon Corporation/Stuyvesant Dredging Company.

The Lower Bay Contract from Bolivar Roads to Redfish Reef is also complete. The work by Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company with Renda Marine as a subcontractor included the construction of Bolivar Marsh and a bird habitat island.

“The bird island was reduced in size from 10

P R O J E C T S

acres to six acres because of the lack of good material to build the levees,” explains Krueger. “In the marsh cells, we’re building capacity for 20 years to accommodate the maintenance material that accumulates in the Channel through the years.

“We have the initial construction material to create 2,000 acres of marsh. In the future, in years 20, 30 and 40 of the project, we’ll add some more capacity to these sites to eventually construct 4,250 acres.”

The 250-acre marsh cells are created by building protective levees so that the marsh material is not swept back in the Houston Ship Channel. The cells are filled with the soft material dredged from the Channel, and allowed to drain before grass is planted.

“Because of the water content, we pump in the material to an elevation higher than the height the grass grows at. We then let the material inside the cells settle for around two years until it gets to the elevation of about six inches where it can grow grass,” points out Krueger.

A 250-acre demonstration site planted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Port of Houston Authority several years ago has provided important information as new marsh cells are created during the deepening and widening project. “The demonstration site helped us with the spacing of the plants. The environmental regulation called for planting on three-foot centers,” Krueger states.

“Since the demonstration site, the environmentalists have realized that we can get the plants started very easily and they have changed their mind about the density. We’re talking about ten times that spacing now and maybe just using seed instead.” Grass will be planted at the three sites starting with Bolivar in 2003, then Upper Bay in late 2003, and Mid Bay in early 2005.

Another important environmental aspect of the project has been addressed. Luhr Brothers, Inc. has finished the mitigation of 118 acres of oyster reefs destroyed along the slopes of the Houston Ship Channel. “Tests of a reef show that oysters have started to grow in just three months,” Krueger states.

“At the time of testing, the oysters were



Galveston District engineers inspecting levee work.



Walking the levee.



Dan Wyatt, Chief of Safety, speaks to contractors.

continue...

about the size of a quarter. No one thought they would grow in such a short period of time. Once the oysters reach maturity, the public will be able to harvest them.”

The Upper Bay Contract is ongoing and about 79 percent complete. Weeks Marine is ahead of schedule with dredging and projects a completion date in late October 2001. This contract may finish sooner.

The dredging of the Lower Bay Contract is scheduled to be 36 percent complete but is so far ahead of schedule that it is now 50 percent complete. This Bean/Stuyvesant joint venture is far ahead of schedule that it has pulled off the site and has gone to the East Coast to do some other work and return to finish this job on time.

“The contractor feels he can do that and come back and still finish in the time frame we have given him,” admits Krueger. “We have had some real good production out of him and would have liked to have seen him stay and finish the job. But he was so far ahead of schedule we couldn’t stop him from going.”

Renda Marine, Inc. has been having some difficulty completing the dredging of the Upper Bayou Contract. “The contractor had a new dredge built and a number of things did not work out for him,” states Dalton Krueger. “He did not know how the new dredge would perform and it did not meet the expectations he had when he bid on the job. All things considered, he’s still working and is about 85 percent complete.”

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be putting out two additional contracts for bid soon. One is the Mid Bay Contract that will construct the Mid Bay Marsh. The other is the Goat Island Contract to construct additional bird habitat.

The rebuilding of Redfish Island is also a component of the Houston Ship Channel project. This popular boating destination in Galveston Bay suffered erosion from wave action through the years and finally submerged a few years ago.



Traffic going through the Houston Ship Channel

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, once it agreed to the Port of Houston Authority’s request to resurrect Redfish Island, has spent a great deal of time and effort weighing all the issues and opinions involved in the site and size of the reconstruction.

“It will be about a third of the size of the old island before it disappeared. At that size, it will still provide protection for the boaters,” assures Krueger.

“It is being restored as an environmental restoration site. We will use parts of the island for bird habitat and other parts will form substrate that oysters can attach to.”

The final component of the deepening and widening project is the addition of barge lanes to enhance safety on the Houston Ship Channel. “Currently, we are evaluating the impacts of construction, together with the cost and benefits of construction.

“We are looking at how many acres of oysters will be impacted and how we will need to mitigate for that,” stresses Krueger. “Also, we are studying how much dredging material we’ll have to take out and where will we be putting it. We’ll start the barge lanes by June/July 2002.”

***Story written by Esther di Ipoli,
Port of Houston***

*Col. Buechler presents
Maj. Turner with the
DeFleury Medal.*



MAJ Turner Says Goodbye to Galveston

F E A T U R E

Galveston District bid a fond farewell March 9 to Maj. Randy L. Turner as he prepared to leave for his new assignment with the 87th Training Division in Birmingham, Alabama.

Turner became Deputy Commander of the Galveston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, June 21, 1999. The district treated him to a luncheon followed by a “roast” held in the conference room with all employees invited to attend.



During the Galveston farewell, the major was presented with the DeFleury medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Col. Buechler also presented the major the district’s gift to him, a basketball signed by more than 200 employees.

Fellow basketball teammate and friend, Bill Wise joked when speaking of the major’s basketball abilities or should we say “lack of.”

“Do you remember in school how there was always a one kid that was the last to be picked on a team? Well, that was Randy. However, I will say this, he always tried.”

Herbie Maurer, Deputy District Engineer for PM, presented the major with a poster signed by the breakfast group.

Member of the Emerging Leaders, Paula Wise presented

“Randy is the best District Deputy Commander in the Division. He is exactly the balanced, synergistic type leader needed to lead our Army in the 21st century. I wish him nothing but the very best”

-COL Nicholas J. Buechler

Turner with a carving shaped Texas, which was made by Henry Fleming, and held a Emerging Leader coin inside.

“Thank you for always making sure that we made the meetings and that you cared. We will miss you..” Wise said.

Rick Harrison, Chief of Real Estate, presented the major with a frame poster of the Galveston Bay.

“Every time he came into my office, he would always comment on it..” Harrison stated.

After thanking him, Turner agreed, “I have had my eye on it for sometime.”

After receiving all his gifts and his roast. It was Maj. Turner’s moment to be thankful.

“There are two people I need to thank the most. First, Col. Buechler, it has been a honor to work for you. I have learned so much from you and I appreciate all your help and support. Second, I need to thank my best friend, my wife, Tammy; who could not be here to attend, because she is with our children, Corey, Chelsea, Andrew, and Matthew, but who has always supported me. Thank you,” Turner said.

The ceremony concluded with cake and punch.

Bright and early the next day, Maj Turner was headed over the Bolivar Ferry, on his way to Alabama and his family.

“In my humble opinion, he was an exceptional Deputy District Engineer. He is dedicated, respected, “down-to-earth” leader. He will be truly missed here in the District.”

-Bill Wise

From the Top: COL Buechler, Herbie Maurer, and MAJ Turner pose for the camera; MAJ Turner and Richard Curphey share a laugh; Bill Wise speaks of MAJ Turner’s basketball abilities; and Gus Marinos with Mike Flynn and Curtis Cole.

Next Page, from Top: Larry Dunaway with MAJ Turner shake hands after presenting him with a picture of Galveston; Harrison Sutcliffe, Dalton Krueger, Mike McClenan and Rick Medina at lunch; COL Buechler and MAJ Turner with the District’s gift, a basketball with over 200 Galveston District employee signatures; MAJ Turner’s says goodbye.

On Page 20: MAJ Turner with Paula Wise pose with the gift from Emerging Leaders, a carved-shaped Texas with an Emerging Leader’s coin inside; COL Buechler and MAJ at lunch; and MAJ Turner with Rick Harrison with the framed poster that MAJ Turner stated jokingly, “I have had my eye on it for sometime.”





FAREWELL!
By MAJ Randy L. Turner

“I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell. This has been one of the best assignments of my career. The past 21 months went so fast. I have gained a real appreciation for this part of the U.S. Army and the Engineer Regiment.

I would have liked to stay longer because I truly enjoyed working with all of you but those things goes with the profession I have chosen to be a part of. Galveston District is not only a great place to work but the people are great also. You take pride in planning, supporting and executing the Corps and District’s missions. You are also a great family, who cares for each other. I know that Team Galveston will reach the next level and reach its full capability because it has the right people to do it.

I have enjoyed working with you on committees, special projects and events, negotiating teams, emergencies, playing basketball and just talking. God bless you all and take care. I will stay in touch.”

National Women's History Month & Luncheon



Harry Kohler, Lillie Henkel, Katherine Guitierrez, Faye Arenz, Larry Wygant, Carol Nelson, Meg Dunleavy, and Pat Salinas.

Galveston District celebrated the Federal Women's Program on March 15, 2001 at the Galvez Hotel with guest speaker, Dr. Larry Wygant.

The program concluded with the guests and speaker enjoying lunch served on the veranda.

Proclamation

Whereas American women of every race, class and ethnic background helped found the Nation in countless recorded ways as servants, homemakers, industrial workers, teachers, reformers, soldiers and pioneers; and

Whereas American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of our Nation's life by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working in and outside of the home; and

Whereas, American women have played a unique role throughout our history by providing the majority of the Nation's volunteer labor force and have been particularly important in the establishment of early charitable and cultural institutions; and

Whereas American women of every race, class and Ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, not only to secure their own right of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist, the industrial labor union, and the



Herbie Maurer presents the Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Larry Wygant.

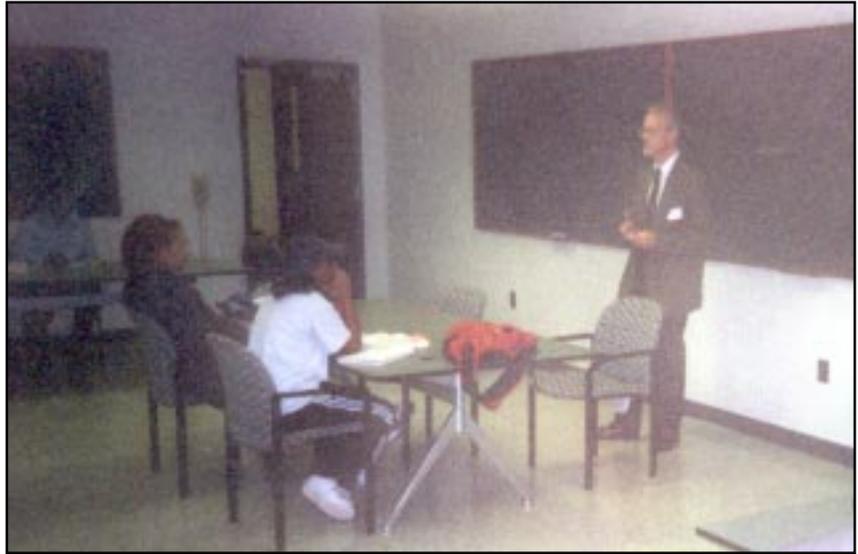
modern civil rights movements; Now Therefore, I, Colonel Nicholas J. Buechler, Commander, Galveston District do hereby proclaim the month of March 2001 as National Women's History Month at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District. The theme for this year is "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision." In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of Mach in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and One.

Nicholas J. Buechler COL, EN
Commanding

Corps Recruits at Prairie View A&M

Galveston District participated in the Prairie View A&M Job Fair on Feb. 14-15, 2001 to recruit students who would be interested in working in various fields at the Corps this summer and permanent.

Rose Caballero, Earnestine Brown-Roach, David Campbell, Harrison Sutcliffe, Bill Dawson, and Dwayne Braxton represented the Corps and received over 20 resumes. Two summer positions were filled and one permanent position was offered.



David Campbell speaks to Prairie View A&M students on the second day of the job fair about engineering. Corps employees ate lunch with the recruits and quizzed them on their plans.

Corps Participates in Clear Creek Public Meeting



Residents of Clear Creek and surrounding areas look at displays.

Residents of the Clear Creek watershed met March 15 with Corps officials who gathered their comments as part of the ongoing study of the Clear Creek flood control project.

Displays of photos and maps of the Clear Creek area

greeted people as they came into the meeting. When the three-year study is completed, the Corps will determine the best way to proceed with engineering the Clear Creek Project.

Col. Buechler, Rick Medina, Marilyn Uhrich, Lloyd

Saunders, Naime Foster, Aroha Dahl, Mike Castelline, Art Janecka, Suhail Idriss, Carlos Tate, Jackie Lockhart, Rhonda Brown, Carolyn Murphy, John Baker, Don Allen, and Robert Van Hook attended the event.

Employees Must Catch TSP Errors, New Rules Says

By Brian Friel

Federal employees are responsible for catching errors in their Thrift Savings Plan accounts, a new rule for the 401k-style investment plan reminds employees.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, which runs the TSP, issued a final regulation on Monday reminding employees that the onus is on them to spot errors that affect how their money is invested. The regulation adjusts some procedures and the time-frames for fixing errors.

“Just as users of commercial services are expected to review statements recording transactions in their accounts and to assert their rights in the event of an error, so are TSP participants,” the board’s regulation said.

Errors can happen when employees shift their money among the TSP’s three investment options, a transaction known as an interfund transfer, or when employees change the way future TSP contributions are allocated among the three options, known as a contribution allocation.

When employees make either of those changes, they receive a notice confirming that the transaction took place. Employees also get regular

statements of account activity, which can tip employees off to mistakes in interfund transfers and contribution allocations.

Employees should review confirmation notices and statements as soon as possible for such errors. They have 30 days from the date they receive the notice or statement to file a correction request, under the new regulation.

“Application of a 30-day time limit for [mandatory] correction will require a participant to be vigilant in assuring his or her instructions have been carried out correctly; it will also prevent a participant from using extended hindsight to decide whether to request a correction,” the regulation says.

Employees have more time to demand a correction if their agency should put the wrong amount of money in their TSP accounts. In such cases, the regulation gives employees six months to file a correction request.

The regulation gives the TSP board and agencies discretion to extend the deadline. Agencies and the board could use that discretion when employees are out of the country or on sick leave for a long time, for example.

Another Bad Month for C Fund

The Thrift Savings Plan’s common stock © fund suffered another losing month in February, its seventh of the last 12, dropping 9.12 percent and bringing its 12-month return to a negative 8.19 percent.

The bond (F) fund gained 0.87 percent and the government securities (G) fund gained 0.42 percent for 12-month gains of 13.51 and 6.2 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, money in the G fund is being invested at a 5.25 percent annual rate in March.



Matters of the Heart

by Tracy Orr

The heart, approximately the size of a man's fist, is a hollow muscular organ. It weighs roughly 300 grams in men and 250 in women. Although the heart comprises only about 1 percent of your total body weight, it uses 5 percent of the blood supply that flows through your body.

There are approximately 60,000 miles of blood vessels in your body. These vessels oxygenate your body's tissues, carry away bodily wastes, and act as strict regulators of your body's internal environment. If placed end to end, the blood vessels in your body would stretch almost three times around the equator!

The heart, a life-giving pump, is a simple machine with an extraordinary mission. Although there are vital connections between mother and unborn child, a two-month fetus possesses a miniature version of the adult heart.

Capillaries are the smallest blood vessels in your body. Their walls are only one cell layer thick. They are the sites of gas, oxygen, and carbon dioxide, exchange with both the cells and lungs.

A heartbeat cannot be heard. The sound you hear when you listen to someone's heart is that of the heart valves closing. A heartbeat itself is a silent contraction of the heart (cardiac) muscle.

Your blood travels through your arteries at a pressure high enough to lift a column of blood five feet in the air. About every 23 seconds the blood circulates through your entire body. A single blood cell makes about 3,000 round trips through your circulatory system every day!

If your heart beats approximately 72 times each minute, by age 65, your heart will have beaten about 2.5 billion times! Your heart rests between beats. If the length of time of these rest periods over your lifetime were added up, you would find that your heart stands still for about twenty years.

Inside your body, the blood appears to be blue in color because the blood in your veins is not combined with oxygen. Blood is actually red, not

blue. The more oxygen in your blood, the brighter the shade of red. For example, when you cut yourself and your blood hits the surface of your skin, it recombines with oxygen to yield the bright red color.

During the period of the month, all of your red blood cells are replaced with new ones. White blood cells and platelets are continuously being replaced too.

All factors considered several cardiovascular-related physiological differences exist between men and women. Most of these differences are responsible for the fact that men have great endurance in aerobic activities. For example, the male heart is larger (actually and relatively) than that of the female. Men also have a higher percentage of red blood cells (the oxygen-carrying component of blood).

Accordingly, for a given sub maximal workload, because men pump more blood during each heartbeat and deliver more oxygen to the working muscles, they tend to have to exert less effort than women to accomplish the same amount of work.

It also needs to be mentioned that cardiovascular disorders, including heart attacks, strokes, and congestive heart failure, are the leading cause of death in the United States, killing nearly 1 million Americans annually. Add the possibility that the complex network of vessels may become constricted, weakened, or clogged for a number of reasons, and it's easy to see why the cardiovascular system is a prime candidate for malfunction.

Now that you are aware of some of the unique properties and life-sustaining functions of the heart and blood vessels, as well as possible disorders that could occur, you should realize how important it is to take good care of your cardiovascular system. Your cardiovascular system must function efficiently and effectively to allow you to live not only a long life, but also a "quality" life.

Your Basic First Aid Supplies

You're first on the scene of an injury accident. You need to have a first aid kit in easy reach. What supplies do you need? Find out. If the need ever arises, you'll be glad you took the trouble.

How Much Is Too Much?

Basic first aid is emergency care that's given before expert medical aid can arrive. In most cases, few supplies are necessary to stabilize an injured person's condition while waiting for an ambulance. But limit your actions to basic first aid.

Kits are available in many places, from pharmacies to automobile supply shops. They vary from a simple three-by-five-inch box of bandages to kits that contain antiseptic wipes, scissors, thermometers, ointments, and cotton swabs. But many of these items are inappropriate for your needs.

Life-Threatening Condition

Here's what you'll need in most situations.

Severe Bleeding. Use gauze pads, adhesive tape, the roll of gauze and the scissors. Place gauze pads on the wound and apply direct pressure. Pads stay on the wound even when they're saturated. Adhesive tape is used to secure the pads to flat surfaces. The roll of gauze is useful for securing pads on arms and legs where there's little skin surface free to apply adhesive tape.

Other Conditions

Moderate Bleeding.

Use all of the same supplies, plus adhesive bandages. Broken bones and dislocations. Use inflatable splints, gauze pads, and the roll of gauze. Inflatable splints are recommended for their portability and ease of use. Gauze pads are useful for padding splints. Use the rolled gauze to secure them, and to immobilize injured limbs.

Burns. You need water, gauze pads and the gauze roll. Cold water is first aid for all kinds and degrees of burns.

Eye injuries. Use the gauze pads, adhesive tape and, in rare cases, water. In most accident situations, the best bet is to cover injured eyes with gauze pads and tape them loosely in place. Flushing with water is recommended only for chemical burns.

You Can Make A Difference

You don't have to overload your first aid kit. Choose your supplies well and learn how and when to use them. You may save a life.

The



Basics

A basic first aid supply list contains:

- **Gauze Pads**
- **A roll of gauze**
- **Adhesive Tape**
- **Adhesive Bandages**
- **Blunt-noses scissors**
- **Inflatable splints**
- **A plastic container of water**

As you can see, the inventory is small. Each item is useful in many situations. But you can also expect to adapt clothing, towels, and blankets as additional supplies. Health professionals also recommend that medications, ointment or antiseptic solutions be left at home. These things should be used only by trained medical personnel.



March



Birthdays



Sam Watson - March 3
Rick Harrison - March 4
Sal Arcidiancono - March 4
Bea Richardson - March 15
Patrick Kuhne - March 24
Phyllis Bledsoe - March 31

Wedding Bells

Congratulations! Valerie Riedel, RMO said "I DO" on March 1st to Michael Miller in Galveston, Texas.



With Thanks

"Mere words cannot express our gratitude for your donations to the Simmons Family. We thank you for the love in which the donations were made and we also thank you for your prayers, caring, thoughtful, and loving expressions of support. "May you be blessed by the Lord, who made heaven and earth!" (Psalm 115:15). Bless you and thank you! You've shown that making a difference is as simple as sharing your thoughtfulness with others. It only takes a moment to say thank you, but your thoughtfulness will be remembered a long time!

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow": We have located a place to stay until our house has been rebuilt. We continue to solicit your prayers. May God continue to bless and keep you always."

-THE SIMMONS FAMILY

Recreation Committee



Guidelines for Engineer Day T-Shirt Contest

1. You may enter more than one design if you desire.
2. Design will be limited to no more than 5 colors. Black and white each count as a color. Do not assume a certain color of T-shirt to account for a specific color.
3. Design must include the Engineer Day theme: LUAU.
4. Deadline for submission of designs will be COB 11 April.

Submit your design to Randy Moore in Project Management, cubicle 339A. Judging of the designs will be on 13 April. (Friday the 13th). Designs will be on display in the cafeteria after the judging is completed.

Condolences

Please keep in mind **Robert Muzny** of the Environmental Branch, Planning Division, who lost his mother March 6. She was laid to rest at Lakewood Funeral Home today in Lake Jackson.

Corps Kids

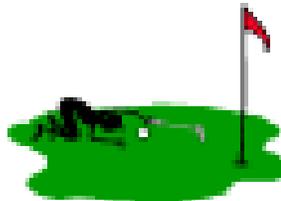


For the second year in a row, **Ryan Orr** has been selected as a member of the “first team” All-District high school soccer team. Ryan, a senior, played fullback on the Texas City High School varsity soccer team. He is the son of **Tracy Orr** of the Regulatory Branch and many will remember him as a summer hire.



Brooke Nelson of Santa Fe, granddaughter of **Carol Nelson**, CT, placed first in the Texas Championship Hare Scramble Series (TCHSS), division 60 CC A Class. The dirt bike race took place Feb. 17, 2001 at Cedar Creek Ranch, Texas. Brooke is a member of the Trail Riders of Houston (TRH). She holds 6th place in her series for the year 2000 in the state of Texas. Brooke is 11 years-old and in the sixth grade. She is a straight A student. Her parents are Gene and Carolyn Nelson of Santa Fe.

Employee Golf League



The Employee Golf League will begin play on 12 April 2001. League play will be every Thursday at Galveston Municipal Golf Course starting between 4:15 pm and 5:00 pm.

Update:

Sal Arcidiancono

Sal is improving. He has a device covering the hole in his throat so he can talk almost normally.

They have gotten him up on his feet standing several times and sitting in a chair 2 hours a day.

Lungs are getting better and he is off of the ventilator. He is still on kidney dialysis but they agreed to give him breaks from it.

He is still in Surgery ICU, but hopefully will be in a regular room within a couple weeks or sooner.

Visitors must still put on a gown over your clothes and rubber gloves before entering the room.

He thanks everyone for the prayers and all of the friendship that he was being shown.

Rick Harrison also adds his thanks to all of the good folks here in Galveston District as he knows your concerns are heartfelt about our friend Sal. Lets all keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

Upcoming Events

April 5
Town Hall Meeting

April 9-13
National Hurricane Conference in Washington D.C.

April 12
PRB Meeting

April 15
Easter Sunday and Tax Day

April 21
Earth Day Festival in Brazos Bend State Park
9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

April 25 and 26
Media Training

April 26
Brown Bag for Supervisors

April 30 thru May 3
Emerging Leaders Conference in Oklahoma City

More Pictures....

