

CPC CyberFlash

From the Director's Desk

Congratulations to the officers listed below. Please be patient, it will be several more weeks before the nomination list passes through the White House, Senate, and returns to Commerce.

<>Some of the most recent approved assignment changes are now available at the CPC web site: <u>http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/approvedassign.html</u>

CPC will be launching a new and improved website within the next couple of weeks. The site contains various headings with drop down menus which we believe will enable you to proceed more expeditiously to the topic of interest.

Jubbly

Captain Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

Selection for Promotion

The Officer Personnel Board (OPB) met in February, 2005, to recommend officers for promotion to the grades of Lieutenant and Lieutenant (junior grade). The Secretary of Commerce has approved the recommendations of the OPB and the following officers have been nominated for permanent promotion to the grades indicated, subject to approval by the President with advice and consent by the Senate.

To Be Lieutenant:

Price, Daniel J. Kroening, Stephen Z. Kondel, Jessica S. Ristau, Shannon M. Lambert, Nicole S. Brown, Chadwick A. Colasacco, Nicole D. Cary, Chad M. Pralgo, Jennifer E. Cimilluca, Sean D. Yoos, Charles J. III Golden, Keith A. Maddock, Shawn Whitmore, William D. MacIntyre, Douglas E. Dunsford, Sarah L. Mrozek, Sarah K. Bauman, Joshua D.

To Be Lieutenant (junior grade):

Davidson, Michael C. Fischman, David E. Ayers, Silas M. Householder, Paul A. Samuelson, Nicola Murphy, Patrick L. Little, Colin D. Harman, Leah A. Mansour, Jason R. Stevenson, Michael J. Welton, Briana J. Higgins, Abigail S. Pounds, Brent J. Goeller, Amanda L. Jackson, Sarah E. Salisbury, Timothy D. Sniffin, Benjamin S. Blankenship, Mark A. Matheson, Fionna J. Taylor, Jonathan E. Halbach, Andrew P. Priester, Nathan S. Wells, William I. Jones, Sarah K. Barry, Stephen P.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) OPEN SEASON CHANGES

The final open season for directing changes to TSP pay deferrals begins 15 April and will run through the end of June. Beginning 1 July 2005 participants may make TSP deferral changes anytime. Though e-mail requests for open season changes were accepted in the past, the Coast Guard office managing the TSP input has discontinued the practice. A signature is required on form TSP-U-1 for pay deferral changes. The form may be faxed or mailed to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit in Topeka for processing. The payroll unit fax number is (785) 339-3773. The mailing address is PO BOX 397, Topeka, KS 66601-0397. To obtain TSP forms, and for answers to questions about the program, contact the payroll unit at (785) 339-3497/9, or visit www.tsp.gov.

<u>The Department of Defense Awards New TRICARE Dental Program Contract to United</u> <u>Concordia Companies, Inc.</u>

On April 6, 2005, the Department of Defense awarded the new TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) contract to United Concordia Companies Inc. (UCCI) of Harrisburg, PA. The total value of the contract is estimated at \$1,422,940,516 for the period of performance, including an approximate 10-month base period for transition and 5, one-year option periods for dental services. The base period is from April 6, 2005, through January 31, 2006. Dental services will begin February 1, 2006, and will end January 31, 2011, if all options are exercised. UCCI will furnish worldwide, comprehensive dental coverage to include preventive, diagnostic, restorative and maintenance services to all eligible Uniformed Services active duty (AD) family members, members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and their eligible family members. The contract is a fixed-price premium-based contract.

"We will work closely with UCCI to maintain beneficiary and provider satisfaction while ensuring that quality and access standards continue to be met," said Dr. William Winkenwerder, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

The TDP is an affordable and portable program that makes it easy to maintain good dental health. It is a cost-effective benefit that eligible beneficiaries cannot afford to do without. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to enroll as a single member or as a family. For those who are not currently enrolled, UCCI will continue to enroll new members. Beneficiaries who enroll in the TDP will receive a new TDP card and benefit handbook prior to the new contract taking effect. TDP beneficiaries and providers will be sent regular updates on benefits and coverage.

For more information about the TDP, beneficiaries may access the benefit handbook online at <u>www.ucci.com</u> or by calling toll-free 1-800-866-8499, 24 hours a day. Representatives are available to assist members in English, German and Italian 24 hours a day, Monday through Friday.

Thomas Jefferson's Birthday

President Thomas Jefferson was born on 13 April in 1743 at Shadwell in Albemarle County in Virginia. Most Americans associate him along with other patriots for the birth of our nation, as he wrote the Declaration of Independence at the age of 33. The NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps traces their lineage to 1807 when President Thomas Jefferson, among the most scientific of our Presidents, signed a bill for the "Survey of the Coast."

This message was generated for the Director of Commissioned Personnel