



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Far East District

EAST GATE EDITION

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Tour gives employees a glimpse of the future

By Stephen Satkowski
FED Public Affairs

Far East District employees took the first of three orientation tours of Camp Humphreys on April 12. The series of tours offers a look at the new district headquarters building, as well as Camp Humphreys and the surrounding Pyeongtaek area.

“We want to provide the best possible transition for all employees who will be moving here next year,” said SeukHwan Son, Far East District corporate communications specialist. “We want to make it as easy as possible for everyone and this is a first step in that process.”

Sixteen employees (12 Korean Nationals and four Department of the Army Civilians) boarded a bus at district headquarters in Seoul and arrived at Camp Humphreys 90 minutes later. For many, this was a first look at the extensive construction efforts on the installation.

“I think it’s amazing to see the

installation and construction,” said Edin Shin, Far East District contract specialist. “I only heard that the district headquarters building is up, but actually seeing the building was impressive. I’m just thinking new building, new location and the start of a new future is exciting.”

Son and Far East District Sgt. Major Robert Stanek guided the group on the tour, providing information on new housing developments in Pyeongtaek where district employees may choose to live and the layout of the rapidly changing installation.

Continued on 3




Pak Son-yong (left), Far East District construction surveillance resident office project engineer, briefs district employees on the construction status of the new district motor pool April 12 at Camp Humphreys. (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)



Eleven Far East District engineers participated in builder assessors training March 29-31 at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys. The training certifies engineers to perform a standard facility condition assessment using the Builder RED (BRED) software. A total of 17 Far East District engineers have been certified so far. (Photos by Jamie Hagio)



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www.pof.usace.army.mil

Tour gives employees a glimpse of the future

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“Now I know where the Far East District building is located,” said Shin. “I now have a better picture of what to expect when I move down there. Also, I was able to discuss with my family and plan out the possible areas around Camp Humphreys for house hunting. The trip helped my concern about housing location and now I have a better sense of which part of town I would like to live (in).”

The orientation included a floor-by-floor tour of the new district headquarters building, which is nearly seventy-five percent finished and scheduled for completion in 2017. Employees also had the opportunity to discover where their new offices will be situated.

“The trip allowed me to familiarize myself with where we’ll be located on base in relation to other important places, like schools and places to eat,” said Jason Zimmerman, a Far East District supervisory electrical engineer. “It definitely helped allay some of my

concerns about the move. Just being oriented helped me mentally prepare for the challenges of living and working there. It will also help my planning for the move down.”

Zimmerman said he now feels more at ease with the move, and he highly recommends the orientation to other district employees.

“It’s definitely not a waste of time. To me, familiarization with the base and surroundings is the key to living in the new environment,” he said.

Two additional tours for district employees are scheduled for later this year.

The Far East District held the first of three tours of the new district headquarters building and Camp Humphreys April 12. The tour is designed to give current employees a better understanding of what to expect when the district moves its headquarters to Camp Humphreys next year. (Photos by Stephen Satkowski)



Spring cleaning sparks transition toward paperless office goal

By Maj. Michael S. Lohrenz
FED Pyeongtaek Resident Office

April begins with a day of pranks and japes, but of the jokes made about the modern workplace, the “paperless office” has to be one of the most ironic: the advent of computers was supposed to eliminate the need for paper.

While not a completely paperless office, the Pyeongtaek Resident Office at Camp Humphreys found a lot of paper they no longer needed and recycled it, shredding almost seven tons worth of waste on April 5.

Judy Whitfield, the office administrative assistant, was the driving force behind this effort to eliminate excess paper and reduce the amount used in the future.

“We were able to conduct this shredding event by safely removing and properly disposing of mounds of paper, books and binders accumulated over the years,” Whitfield said.

Andrew Nimitz, PRO office engineer and Whitfield’s supervisor, said that the recycling effort “is an environmentally good thing to do, (because) it

sends less waste to landfills and less trees need to be harvested.”

“Shredding outdated document files and manuals will enable us to have a better performing office by improving operations, morale, security and safety,” Nimitz said.

Examples of the improvements include: fewer important files obscured by the outdated or obsolete; security is enhanced by securely shredding discarded files; and morale is enhanced by having a cleaner office

The shredding event was also a symbolic milestone. While shredding alone wouldn’t result in a “paperless office,” it marked a change in doing business.

The Corps of Engineers directed all divisions and districts to begin using the paperless contract file to more effectively manage contracting files in 2012, but the practice of going paperless has been a work in progress at the Far East District. Several months on

the job, Whitfield decided to do something about the abundance of paper surrounding her.

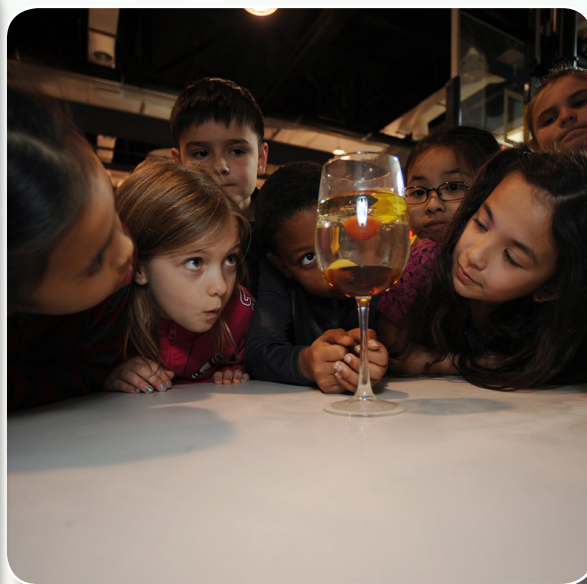
Whitfield held regular meetings with the project engineers and quality assurance representatives to work through their concerns about reducing the amount of paper being used. She found out that the systems were already in place. It was just a matter of training the staff and contractors to use the resident management system and paperless contract file system properly.

“Going paperless is an ongoing process that will take time and involves changing old habits. By going paperless, PRO will be able efficiently maximize the use of state-of-the-art software systems already in place, which will allow our construction projects to come together more efficiently,” Whitfield said.



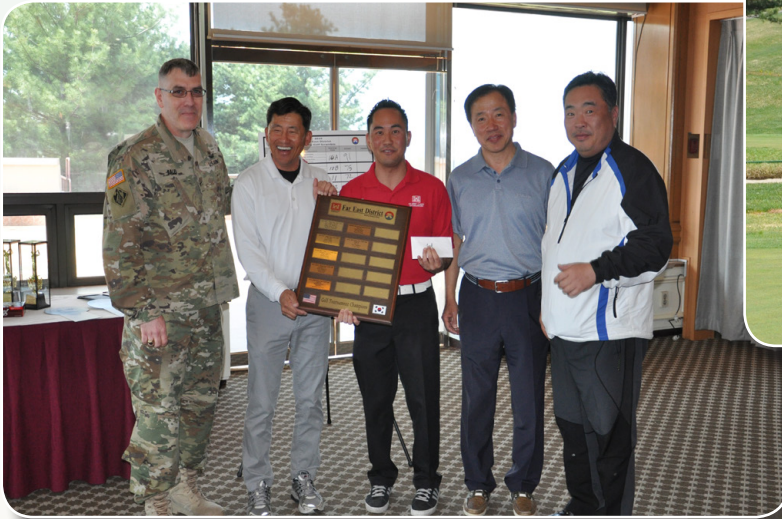
The Pyeongtaek Resident Office at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys found a lot of paper they no longer needed and recycled it, shredding almost seven tons worth of waste on April 5. (FED file photos)

Far East District engineers set up six experiment stations for U. S. Army Garrison Humphreys elementary school students at their gym April 19 to inspire them with fun and interesting science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) projects. The Far East District promotes STEM activities throughout all DoDDS schools in South Korea. Activities, such as these, are part of an education partnership agreement signed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DoDDS Korea. The partnership centers on support for the STEM initiative. (Photos by Bob McElroy)



2016 FED Spring Golf Scramble

Far East District employees got together for the annual FED Spring Golf Tournament April 18. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you everyone for participating in the event! (FED file photos)



Spring is here at the Far East District!



Far East District Parcel Two Resident Office Construction Control Representative Dennis Ward (left) and Gene Afan from Kunwon/CH2M Hill Program Management Consortium (KCPMC)

posed on top of the tallest water tower installed at U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys on April 22. The climb was initiated as part of FED's construction quality surveillance activities, making sure everything is built to last. (FED file photos)



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Are You Using a Personal Checklist?

Operators of machinery or vehicles are expected to check them over to make sure they are in safe running order before going to work. The operators use a checklist to inspect the important components of their equipment, one at a time. In the same way, you should go through a personal checklist to make sure you are properly prepared for the task at hand.



The following checklist applies, in one way or another, to workers in just about every field:

- ◆ Have you received proper safety training for the job you do? Do you ask questions if you are in doubt?
- ◆ Do you inspect your work area, machinery, and tools before you start work?
- ◆ Do you wear the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) for each aspect of your job? Have you been trained in the correct way to select, fit, use, maintain, and inspect your PPE?
- ◆ Do you avoid the hazards of electricity by understanding its dangers and by treating it with respect?
- ◆ Do you know how to safely use compressed shop air and/or compressed gases (nitrogen, oxygen) and treat them with respect?
- ◆ Do you know more than one way to escape from your work area in case of fire, and could you find these exits right now if you had to do so in the dark or in smoke?
- ◆ Do you know how to report a fire in your work area and where nearby portable fire extinguishers are located?
- ◆ Do you make correct use of guards on machinery and tools? Do you understand the consequences of tampering with them or removing them?
- ◆ Do you practice good housekeeping by keeping your work area clean and orderly, free of scrap, spills, and other hazards? Do you clean your tools and put them away after each use?
- ◆ Are you aware of hazardous chemicals and gases that you work with or that you may encounter in your work situation? Do you know how to protect yourself against them? Do you know how and where to properly dispose of chemicals?
- ◆ Do you know how to find and use safety showers and eyewash stations?
- ◆ Do you know how to avoid repetitive stress injuries?
- ◆ Do you know how to lift safely and how to protect your back in your particular job?
- ◆ Do you avoid slips and falls by eliminating hazards and wearing safe footwear?
- ◆ Do you drive defensively and always wear your seatbelt?
- ◆ Do you understand the consequences of drug or alcohol use before or during work?
- ◆ Do you keep yourself physically and mentally fit - and healthy - so that you will be able to work safely?



Hopefully, you answered "yes" to all of the questions. If you answered "no" to any of the questions, then seek out ways to make a change.

From the commander: ***Thank you for doing GREAT things:***

Congratulations to these employees who were recognized for their hard work and dedication!



Yi Chin-u
Engineering
5 Years of Service Award



Jin Y. Kim
Contracting
10 Years of Service Award



Robert Do
Information Management
10 Years Service Award



Yi Son-u
Engineering
10 Years of Service Award



Kang Pyong-ho
Engineering
30 Years of Service Award



Nam Son-hui
Construction
35 Years of Service Award



Choe Kyong-mi
Resource Management
Achievement Medal for Civilian Service



Stephen Satkowski
Public Affairs
**First Place Winner, Audio Spot
Production, Herbert A. Kassner
Journalism Competition**



Yi Tong-kun
Engineering
Commander's Coin



(from left to right)

Lee Kyung-yol
Construction

William Daniels
Construction

Commander's Coin



Nam Hui-ku
Construction
Commander's Coin

(from left to right)

Brian Cohill
Construction

Sang Lee
Construction

Sung Ho
Construction

Commander's Coin



Lt. Col. Timika M. Wilson, Far East District deputy commander, was presented an Army Achievement Medal April 7 by **Col. Stephen H. Bales**, Far East District commander, for her role as guest speaker at the Far East District's Women's history month program held at the district compound March 24. This year's theme was "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government." (Photo by Stephen Satkowski)



Master Sgt. Thomas Burns, Far East District operations noncommissioned officer in charge, is presented with an Army commendation medal April 15 by **Lt. Col. Timika Wilson**, Far East District deputy commander. Burns was awarded the medal for superior technical expertise during the Far East District's successful participation in the training exercise Key Resolve 16. Master Sgt. Burns coordinated all account access for four FEST teams, S-6 support, and overall host support for their participation in the exercise. (Photo by Yi Yong-un)



Anthony Hambrick
Construction
Came from Baltimore District



Harvey Robinson
Construction
Came from Omaha District



Nicholas Johnston
Contracting
Came from Fort Worth, Texas



Maung Myat
Construction
Came from Seattle District



Valerie Bradley
Equal Employment Opportunities
Came from USAG Humphreys



Yi Kang-hun
Logistics Management
Newly hired



Master Sgt. James Jones
Construction
Came from Fort Sill, Oklahoma



Far East District construction representative Basil Meyer was presented with a letter of appreciation from the Department of Defense Education Activity-Pacific Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) coordinator Alisha Williams March 23. Meyer was presented with the certificate for his participation in scoring students scientific research papers for the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium. This is one of the many activities that the Far East District participates in to encourage STEM education. (Photo by Gina Estrada)



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