Respect is the third Army Value of seven. The others are loyalty, duty, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.
This month we celebrate Women’s History Month. As we take this opportunity to honor all of the achievements of women throughout history, spend some time to do two things; #1- ponder what women have meant in your life, and #2- ponder the many obstacles women have overcome along the road to success in each of our services.

From the Revolutionary War to the current Global War on Terrorism, women have made and are making the ultimate sacrifice for God and country to defend our nation’s rights and freedoms.

Mary Hayes McCarty, also known as Molly Pitcher, served during the Revolutionary War at Valley Forge. She carried water to her husband manning an artillery cannon and other servicemen while aiding the wounded on the battlefield. However, she is most known for taking her husband's post at the cannon and persisting through the entire battle of Monmouth. For that action George Washington himself issued her a warrant as a non-commissioned officer and she then was known by most as "Sergeant Molly." Sergeant Molly and women like her began the tradition of distinguished service to our Nation.

However, women were not officially recognized as members of the Armed Forces until 1901 with the creation of the Army Nurse Corps, the result of their outstanding care and service in the field during the Spanish-American War. At that time women had no rank, benefits or entitlements of full military status.

It was not until World War II and the bombing of Pearl Harbor that the government understood the true value and necessity of women in the armed forces. Thus the Women’s Army Corps was established to support the manpower crisis and acknowledge that women had a right not only to citizenship in this great country of ours but the choice to serve. The WAC allowed women to work within the ranks doing noncombatant military jobs like factory work. The objective was to have women contribute to the war effort in other areas outside of nursing.

As a result of the unprecedented media coverage since the Persian Gulf War, the world sees the true contributions of women to our services. Women serve now in positions previously reserved for men: flying helicopters on reconnaissance and search and rescue missions, manning patriot missiles, and driving convoys through the desert in combat.

As we honor the past, we must preserve our future and reaffirm our obligations to serve this country in a society where gender does not predetermine a person’s future successes in life.

Today, more than 20 percent of our force consists of women. We are all Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines Coast Guardsmen or "Soldiers in Slacks" no matter our gender. I am proud of your accomplishments. So, in recognition of Women's History Month, take the time to thank that wife, daughter, aunt, mother or grandmother who is serving beside you today and making their own history as we fight the War on Terrorism. And, since this is Women's History Month, I personally thank the wives and children of each of you for their selfless sacrifices and service as a valuable part of our Third Army Team - PATTON’S OWN.
After a 25-hour flight over the Atlantic Ocean, Chief Warrant Officer Michael Mitchell, master of the vessel, arrived to his new duty station. Less than a day later, his first mission was underway.

With his new crew aboard the Landing Craft Utility boat Fort Danielson, Mitchell’s team transported Kuwait air-defense equipment from the Kuwait Naval Base to Failaka Island off the coast of Kuwait City.

“This is to become proficient in the deployment of the assets to the theater of operation,” Mitchell said. “We’re the Army’s watercraft transportation. We take an improved facility to an unimproved beach head.”

For 13 years, the Kuwait Air Defense Artillery Brigade has conducted the “Sky Shield” training exercise at Failaka. However, this is the first time U.S. forces have partaken in the exercise.

“The maneuverability of the Army LCU allows it to reach shallow, restricted areas that most roll-on, roll-off and military sealift command boats cannot,” Mitchell said.

Receiving clearance and assistance from Naval Costal Warfare Squadron 26, the Fort Danielson commuted through the Arabian Gulf for five hours. Eventually, they were met at the Failaka harbor by the air-defense unit’s force protection team and off-loaders.

“Soldiers work side-by-side with more than 60 Kuwaiti air defenders, naval personnel and coast guardsmen,” said Chief Warrant Officer Scott Jackson, 481st Transportation Corps commander. “This is where the rubber meets the road and the hull meets the water.”

Having to meet the required time table for the operation, the roll-off crew went to work once docked. Within two hours, the Kuwait battery’s air-defense equipment was off-loaded.

According to Jackson, the operation was easier said than done. One of the obstacles the team faced was to overcome the clearance restriction of the Kuwaiti military equipment being loaded.

“Nothing happens until something moves. You call, we haul.”

Upon completion of the off-load, the U.S. forces not only participated in the exercise, but the Kuwaitis learned of the capabilities of the Army LCU.

“They know what we need if we need them,” Al-Maghrabi said. “It’s very good to be able to coordinate and concur with one another during this practice.”

Heald said, “Our joint participation has done a lot to build cooperation.”
Injuries holding troops back...
Rehabilitation program provides recipe to healthy return

Spc. Robert Adams
Assistant Editor

Unrelenting elbow pain while lifting weights, persistent knee aches after running or unbearable back throbs due to heavy work loads? Don't try to shoulder the pain alone.

The Kuwait Naval Base Troop Medical Clinic established a new musculoskeletal rehabilitation program in January to evaluate, treat, heal and educate troops with acute and chronic injuries.

Several servicemembers with physical therapy backgrounds saw the need to start the program at KNB due to the number of troops being referred to Camp Arifjan for treatment under the care of Lt. Cmdr. Fred Schmitz, Emergency Medical Facility - Kuwait physical therapist.

"The second biggest thing we see at the clinic is injury related, and the highest referral is for rehab," said Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Orsello, EMF-Kuwait, KNB TMC officer in charge.

The KNB musculoskeletal rehabilitation team, comprised of Army medics and Navy corpsmen, are setting aside time to see patients in need of rehab in addition to their regular unit duties.

"My command was good about getting me here, where I have the access to keep my skills up," said Sgt. Jeana Johnson, 343rd Medical Company health care specialist.

Johnson was in the 3rd year of the physical therapy program at Mary Mount University when she deployed with her unit.

"It was good timing, because there is a high volume of troops with injuries coming back from the field," Johnson said.

The new program has been beneficial to both physical therapy personnel at Arifjan and troops seeking treatment that have difficulties with transportation.

"We have treated 75 patients over the last month which has opened up Schmitz to see more appropriate appointments," Orsello said. "He has been very supportive of the program."

The team goes to Arifjan for training with the physical therapy staff every three to four weeks.

"It's great to have these medics and corpsmen involved," Schmitz said. "We get more in depth on how injuries occur, how to find out what injury it is and how to treat it appropriately," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Tom Young, EMF-Kuwait hospital corpsman, who is part of the KNB rehabilitation team.

The program has given the team a chance to educate their patients on the therapy they are performing so they understand how the injury occurred, how they can treat themselves and how to prevent it from happening again in the future.

A drawback of an injury is that it affects unit missions.

"My unit's job is to provide harbor security, so we are constantly bouncing around on the waves," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Cory Smith, Mobile Inshore Underwater Warfare Unit 101 coxswain.

Smith developed back problems and tried to take care of it himself.

"Before treatment I'd have to be off the water, but now the unit is back to 100 percent," Smith said. "They've got me doing stretches and using proper form when lifting weights in the gym... I get workout plans once a week."

"Now I haven't had back problems since I began," he added.

The KNB TMC is seeing many Soldiers redeploying through KNB for injuries they received from constant heavy loads of combat gear. Though units have medics they don't have the capabilities of physical therapy out in the field.

"I'm referring Soldiers from my platoon to get worked on instead of them being laid up with injuries," said Sgt. Mark Kaminiski, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery Regiment medic, who is part of the KNB rehab team.

"Many injuries occur because one size doesn't fit all and because some troops try to overachieve which leads to injury," he said.

After being diagnosed with a musculoskeletal injury by Orsello, he determines whether the patient should be referred to physical therapy at Arifjan or can be managed by his staff. The KNB team will assess the injury and determine a treatment plan with the oversight of Orsello, who gets regular reports on the patient's progress.

Orsello said, "The neat thing is these people are getting better and the outcome is exciting."

Spc. Robert Adams

Sgt. Jeana Johnson, 343rd Med. Co. health care specialist, works on the back of Petty Officer 2nd Class Cory Smith, MIUWU 101 coxswain, during a physical therapy session at the KNB TMC Feb. 24. KNB started the physical therapy program in January.
Just like junk yards in the United States, the “junk yard” at Camp Arifjan is concerned with salvaging materials. The mission of the Controlled Parts Reclamation point is to take vehicles that were supposed to be cut up for scrap, reclaim them and return usable parts into the supply system.

The remainder of the vehicle is sent to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office for scrap. The unit also retrieves vehicle repair parts from the other class yards before they are sent to DRMO.

The unit has saved the Army approximately $732,000 since the point was set up Oct. 12.

“It’s a supplement to the overall logistics system… It’s been a $700,000 infusion of parts that cost zero dollars,” said Chief Warrant Officer A.R. Ballard, 321st Theater Material Management Center forward fleet maintenance management officer in charge.

“We’ve saved … because we didn’t have to purchase the parts. This seemed like the fastest, easiest way to get those parts,” he said.

The eight-person operation has four mechanics, two inspectors, a warrant officer officer in charge and an administrative specialist.

Inspectors identify usable parts, mechanics remove them and a welder removes major fasteners with a torch or impact wrench.

The most common items taken off the vehicles for use include common variant springs, frame rails, ballistic doors and glass, fuel tanks, gauge panels, hard-to-find bolts, items with long ship dates. It also includes major parts not pulled by contractors including engines and transmissions.

The parts are then cleaned and tagged by condition code. Then they are logged and taken to the warehouse to be integrated into the system.

“Every part we pull is one less that we have to buy again,” said Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Rombalski, CPR officer in charge.

Items are sorted into condition codes A, B and F. Condition A is brand new in the packaging. Condition B is like new, but not in the original package, and condition F is serviceable or repairable, but needs to be tested or inspected.

“An operation like this is important for the Army because if we weren’t in the yard here pulling off these parts, putting them back into the system, they would go straight to DRMO and nobody would be condition coding anything – everything would be getting cut up as scrap,” Rombalski said.

By doing this, vehicles are removed from the deadline report for the entire theater.

“The warfighter will come down from Iraq and various places in Kuwait and we’re basically their last avenue before they have to be at the mercy of ordering it through the supply system,” Rombalski said. “Usually these parts are extremely difficult to get through the system or the system doesn’t even have them.”

“We help them get back in the fight quicker … faster,” added Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Blohowaik, CPR noncommissioned officer in charge.

Ballard said this is the only CPR site he knows of but would like to implement it in other parts of the theater.

Ballard said, “It’s a crown jewel here in Arifjan – it’s a shining example of how the system works well… We’re using the system to its maximum.”
Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

Spc. Josh Anderson, CPR wheeled vehicle mechanic, removes a nut so the seat to a vehicle can be removed. CPR takes hard-to-find parts and turns them in to the supply system.

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Blohowiak, CPR NCOIC, removes an instrument panel.

(Above) Spc. Josh Anderson works to take a seat out of a vehicle.
(Left) Pfc. Nick Eiting, CPR mechanic and forklift driver, places a vehicle to be stripped.
Mardi Gras brings fun, longing

Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
CFLCC PAO/11th PAD

Missing important events and holidays is something servicemembers tolerate while deployed. Birthdays, Christmas and even Mardi Gras are events some servicemembers want to experience every year.

This year Morale, Welfare and Recreation threw a Mardi Gras celebration to give servicemembers a good time.

Some troops found the celebration to be just the taste of home they needed.

“It was like being home – I needed something to remind me of Louisiana to appreciate what I miss at home – what I could be doing and what my husband is doing,” said Sgt. 1st Class Denise Roberts, 377th Theater Support Command from Marrero, La. “It was for the troops to enjoy and experience a little taste of what it would be like in Louisiana.”

While Spc. Jeremy Thibodeaux, information system operator – maintenance of Port Allen, La., didn’t attend the celebration, he did have a small taste of home.

“We had king cake in our section and I cut everybody a piece,” he said. “I was telling everyone about the little baby that comes in them. I ended up getting the last piece and it had the baby in it.”

The king cake is a traditional part of the Mardi Gras celebration, but some servicemembers say they have their own celebrations.

“In my hometown, the parade goes through and my cousin lives down the street so we park there and barbeque with the whole family,” Thibodeaux said. “It’s a family tradition. It’s something I’ve grown up with and don’t ever want to stop doing. It’s a fun time to relax and kick back.”

Roberts said her usual Mardi Gras is surrounded by family and friends.

“It’s always the same – party, family, friends, being down in the French Quarter. It’s just a big block party to me,” she said. “It’s a family thing we do every year together.”

For Staff Sgt. Lisa K. Reed, 377th TSC, from Folsom, La., Mardi Gras is a time she usually spends with her friends.

“It’s a time for wild and crazy fun,” Reed said.

Roberts, Reed and Thibodeaux said they missed being home for Mardi Gras, but for different reasons.

“I miss partying, hanging out with friends and having fun,” Thibodeaux said. “I miss the food. They tried at the community center, but it just wasn’t the same,” Roberts added. “I miss jambalaya the most.”

They also had mixed emotions about Mardi Gras in New Orleans this year.

Roberts said she was excited to see they still held it.

“I didn’t expect them to have it this year, but I’m glad they did because it shows New Orleans is coming back,” she said.

Reed and Roberts were disappointed with the size of the celebration in New Orleans this year.

Thibodeaux found watching it nostalgic.

“Seeing it on TV makes me wish I was back home,” he said. “It makes me a little homesick.”

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Pfc. Latanya Matthews, one of the Mardi Gras court queens, presents Capt. Karen Hill, 278th Signal Company commander, with a commander’s cup for the unit’s float.
After more than four months of changing oil, towing military vehicles and repairing tactical vehicles, Soldiers of the 1072nd Maintenance Company are passing their torches and wrenches to a new brand of mechanics — civilian contractors.

The Department of Logistics of Area Support Group Kuwait is taking over the shop, and Combat Support Association contractors will don their coveralls and take over the job.

No matter who runs the operation, Soldiers or civilians, the mission is the same. The 1072nd serves as the theater’s local mechanic shop, providing tow service for tactical vehicles in Kuwait and conducting on the spot and shop repair services, said 1st Lt. Martin Paulsen, 1072nd commander.

Unlike mechanics in the states, the 1072nd Maintenance Company runs operations 24/7. Their primary customers are units deploying to Iraq or training, Paulsen said.

The units are often unfamiliar with the roadways and easily get lost.

“Even with a map, if you’re out in the desert, there’s no terrain features,” Paulsen said.

But Soldiers need not worry. “We tell the troops, just leave your headlights on and we’ll find you,” he said.

“Between vehicles and weapons, we are regular customers,” said Sgt. Chris Reed, 49th Military Police Brigade.

The 1072nd’s services have been essential, he added.

“We call them to fix equipment on a weekly basis,” he said.

Going beyond a traditional motor pool, the shop has welders, machinists and mechanics as well as telephone, night vision goggles and computer repairmen.

They use their skills to keep equipment operational for all military services, Paulsen said.

“When we told our customers we were leaving, they screamed they wouldn’t be mission capable without us,” Paulsen explained.

“But once we assured them the service would continue through CSA, they calmed down,” he said.

“We’re happy CSA is taking over,” Paulson added.

“As long as there’s someone taking care of troops, that’s a good thing,” he said.

“As long as the same outstanding service is there, we’ll be happy,” Reed said.

The Soldiers of the 1072nd Maint. Co. will move to a different camp in Kuwait to conduct maintenance missions as they finish their year-long deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Passing responsibilities from servicemembers to civilians is an ongoing goal in Southwest Asia as the U.S. military moves from a contingency operation to a sustainment operation.

CSA also provides support services in computer networking, security, and Morale Welfare and Recreation, said Capt. James Tulloch, ASG Kuwait. “Since the Gulf War, CSA has been here.”
Looking at tactical information on a computer monitor, a soldier tracks friendly forces while patrolling his area of responsibility.

Simultaneously, the commanding officer monitors all patrolling vehicles as his soldiers conduct a practical exercise around Camp Arifjan.

Soldiers from the Danish Army Contingent or DANCON, as the deployed Danish units are called, took a course on operating the Blue Force Tracking System Feb. 17-20.

The system is designed to give commanders and troops enhanced tactical situational awareness, said Master Sgt. Carlos Nieves, Acquisition Corps master sergeant.

The BFT computer tracks friendly units carrying miniature transmitter devices. The devices send a satellite signal displaying the individual’s or unit’s location.

In addition to showing friendly forces, the BFT computer allows the operator to input enemy coordinate positions and obstacles on patrol routes.

Numerous maps and navigational coordinates dot different forces on the computer screen. Enemy forces appear as red squares, obstacles appear as green squares and friendly forces appear as blue squares.

Before the system can assist patrolling units, the troops must be equipped with the know-how of using the technology.

The BFT course is divided into two parts: classroom instruction and practical exercise, said Rene Vargas, BFT course lead instructor.

“During the hands-on exercises, we learned the most,” said Danish Capt. Tano Svendsen, DANCON communications officer. “We were able to learn from our mistakes and become confident using the equipment.”

The BFT system will assist DANCON in safely completing missions, Svendsen said.

Danish infantry and military police soldiers took the BFT course because they will be using the systems regularly during patrols and escort missions, he said.

“The BFT is going to help a lot because in all missions outside of our camp, escorts are needed,” he said.

Comprising with more than 500 troops, DANCON’s missions include providing security around the Danish camps, providing escorts for convoys traveling through the supply routes in southern Iraq and rebuilding areas in southern Iraq.

To make the system compatible to DANCON vehicles, antennas and cables were installed on three types of vehicles, Nieves said.

The Eagle, which is similar to the U.S. military humvee, received its equipment at the end of January. It was followed by the Piranha, similar to U.S. military Stryker. The last type completed were the Mercedes Benz, used as armored escort cars.

Aside from showing the location of obstacles, friendly and enemy forces, the BFT system details patrol routes, speed of vehicles and altitude.

With the training complete, more than 30 DANCON soldiers have the capability to use the BFT and majority of Danish vehicles have the antennas and cables installed.
**Navistar**

**Wednesday**

Ping pong tournament, 7 p.m., Recreation Center

**Thursday**

Basketball championships, through March 13

**Friday**

Karaoke Night, 9 p.m., Oasis

**Saturday**

Spades doubles tournament, 7 p.m., MWR dayroom

**Sunday**

Spins Class, 6 p.m., Aerobics Room

For more information call 839-1063

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**Spearhead/SPoD**

**For information call 825-1302**

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**Virginia**

**Wednesday**

Ping pong, 7 p.m., Community Center

**Friday**

Dominoes, 7 p.m., Community Center

**Saturday**

Volleyball, 6 vs. 6, 6 p.m., Volleyball courts

**Monday**

Checkers, 7 p.m., Community Center

**Tuesday**

Bingo Night, 7 p.m., Dusty Room

For more information call 832-1045

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**Kuwait Naval Base**

**Wednesday**

Step Class, 6 p.m., Aerobics Room

Spades doubles tournament, 7 p.m., MWR dayroom

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Thursday**

Latin Dance Night, 7 p.m., Aerobics Room

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Friday**

Spin Class, 6 p.m., Aerobics Room

Bingo Night, 7 p.m., MWR stage

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Saturday**

Horseshoe doubles tournament, 10 a.m., Pits

Tae Kwon Do, 6 p.m., Aerobics Room

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Sunday**

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Monday**

Spin Class, 6 p.m., Aerobics Room

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

**Wednesday**

Latin Dance Night, 7 p.m., Aerobics Room

Hip-Hop Night, 9 p.m., Aerobics Room

For more information call 828-1340

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**Artijan**

**Wednesday**

March Madness basketball tournament sign-up, through March 19, Zone 1 and 6 Fitness Centers

Women’s basketball tournament sign-up, through Monday, Zone 1 and 6 Fitness Centers

Bingo Night, 7 p.m., Zone 6 Community Center

Country Night, 7 p.m., stage

Old School Night, 7 p.m., Zone 1 Community Center

**For more information call 832-1045**

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**Buehring**

**Wednesday**

Weekly fun run, 7.5k, 5:30 p.m., Green Beans

Montgomery Gentry concert, 6 p.m., stage

Halo tournament, 7 p.m., Palms

Basketball championships, through March 13

**Thursday**

Ping pong tournament, 7 p.m., Recreation Center

For more information call 430-1205/1302

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**For more information call 844-1137**

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**Victory**

**Wednesday**

Spa Day, 9 a.m., MWR dayroom

Bingo, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

**Thursday**

Horseshoe tournament, 3:30 p.m., MWR courts

Comedy Tour, 7 p.m., stage

**Friday**

Bazaar, 9 a.m., MFT

Texas Hold 'em tournament, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

**Sunday**

New Movie marathon, 11 a.m., MFT

**Monday**

Spa Day, 9 a.m., MWR dayroom

1000 pound club contest, 3:30 p.m., gym

**Tuesday**

Spa Day, 9 a.m., MWR dayroom

Spades tournament, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

**Wednesday**

Bingo, 6 p.m., MWR dayroom

For more information call 823-1033

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**Desert Voice**

March 8, 2006
respect (rɛ-spɛkt) n. v. respected, respecting, respects n 1: (usually preceded by 'in') a detail or point. "it differs in that respect". 2: the condition of being honored 3: an attitude of admiration or esteem; 4: a courteous expression (by word or deed) of esteem or regard; 7: courteous regard for people; v 1: regard highly; think much of, "I respect his judgement". 2: show respect towards, "honor your parents!"