

# STATE USE NEWS

JUNE 2015



## NEW PRODUCTS

State Use has several new products. We are constantly striving to add more to the program.

Here is a partial list of new items:

- Bottled water – South Central Industries
- Styrofoam cups – South Central Industries
- Awards and trophies – Dale Rogers Training Center
- Mops and dust mops – People First of Bryan County

## DISABLED VETERANS COMPETE IN VALOR GAMES

By Keith Upchurch, The Herald-Sun 12:01 a.m. EDT June 1, 2015

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Laura Root's brow was dripping sweat as she pulled back hard on a rowing machine Wednesday at Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium.

The effort paid off for Root with a third-place showing during the second day of the Valor Games Southeast, a series of adapted sports for emotionally and physically disabled military veterans.

Root, a Navy veteran, was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy in the middle of her military career, and had to retire. She's had some tough times in the past two years, but the Valor Games have been good medicine.

She said most veterans like to be independent and view themselves as "warriors who can handle anything." But the truth is that many need help.

"We need the civilian population to understand what we went through, so they'll know what we're dealing with when we come home," she said. "A lot of veterans never go back to being 100 percent civilian again."

Root said one of the best ways to help is to listen to veterans.

"We also need a lot of help getting medical coverage," she said. "Every veteran I know has a horror story with military medicine or the (Veterans Affairs Department). We need friends and family to help us through the endless paperwork, the pain and the medication. We need patience. It's a long process."



Photo: Christine T. Nguyen/The Herald-Sun/AP

Root spoke of the veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder who kill themselves, more than 20 a day.

"When we lose someone on the home front, it's even more of a tragedy than losing them in combat," she said.

"We need more attention to

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## STAPLES ADVANTAGE

We are pleased to announce State Use and Staples Advantage have extended their partnership.

Staples Advantage continues to be an excellent tool, offering State Use items at your fingertips.

If you need assistance with your current account or new account setup, contact Teresa Sherwood at 405-521-2128 or [teresa.sherwood@omes.ok.gov](mailto:teresa.sherwood@omes.ok.gov).



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## A MESSAGE FROM STATE USE ADMINISTRATOR DARON HOGGATT

The State Use program holds a very special place in my heart. When I accepted the position of administrator I had to write a biography for a training program. That's when I realized why this program means so much to me, on a personal note.

When I was 10, I had a best friend named Raymond who was 27 years old. He had muscular dystrophy. I remember riding around town on the back of his electric wheelchair. We constantly collected monetary donations and aluminum cans for the Jerry Lewis Telethon. We also built all kinds of models together. We did so much together I couldn't begin to list everything. Unfortunately, he passed away when I was 12.

My mother owned a craft/hobby store. Behind the store was a small engine repair shop. I went back there and began helping repair lawn mowers. Earl, the gentleman who did the repairs, was in a wheelchair. His wife had accidentally backed their car over him and he was paralyzed from the waist down, but he did not let this stop him. I worked with him until we moved away.

I had a good friend in high school who had a sister who was deaf. So I learned a little sign language so I could communicate with her.

I worked at a hospital in the mental health stress unit, and I worked with juveniles who were abused or had learning disabilities. My brother-in-law also has a severe mental illness.

There have been so many people with disabilities in my life, I get goose bumps down my spine when I really think about it all. I feel my life has come full circle because I am now privileged to work with agencies that employ persons with severe disabilities. I have always been impressed with the way people with disabilities try not to let it get them down. Often, they are the best employees you will ever find.

Feeling blessed!

-Daron Hoggatt



## DISABLED VETERANS COMPETE IN VALOR GAMES (CONTINUED)

► *Story continued from page 1*

those returning with PTSD," Root said. "They might not have a physical limitation, but they still need support."

One Army veteran with PTSD at Wednesday's games was April Snemith, who was practicing table tennis for a competition later in the day.

"We're trying to be part of society," she said. "Don't feel sorry for us, because we don't feel sorry for ourselves. Give us your support."

Some veterans are unemployable but can still do volunteer work in fields for which they're trained, she said.

"I have pharmacy and paramedic certificates that I can't use anymore, but many of us can volunteer. That would make us feel better."

Veteran Peter Way, who was wounded by an explosion in Afghanistan, had his leg amputated but now has a new, high-tech one that's improved his life.

"It has a computer-controlled hydraulic unit along with motion and pressure sensors," he said. "It knows what direction I'm moving and where my weight is going."

Way, an Army's special operations veteran, was competing in archery outside Duke's Wilson Gym.

He can program his new leg for activities like cycling, running, golfing and hiking. The leg is

waterproof, which allows him to swim, go boating and kayaking.

Way said the Valor Games are therapy without unwanted side effects.

"There's a lot of therapy in being able to hang around guys who understand why maybe you're a little strange, why you may do things differently than other people," he said. "These guys get it."

Way said he loves it when people thank him for his service to the nation.

"I think that's awesome," he said. "I always tell them I appreciate their support."

## HOW TO USE THE PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE

The committee shall designate by regulation a schedule, hereinafter referred to as the procurement schedule, of the products directly manufactured, produced, processed or assembled or services directly performed, offered or provided by any severely disabled person or qualified nonprofit agency for the severely disabled, as defined by this act, which the committee determines are suitable for procurement by the state. No state agency shall purchase, pursuant to Section 3007 of this title, products or services purporting to be made by severely disabled persons in workshops which are not certified by the committee or by severely disabled individuals who are not certified by the committee.

Once you get into the procurement schedule, it is quite simple to use. Please follow these steps:

1. Go to [http://www.ok.gov/DCS/Central\\_Purchasing/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/DCS/Central_Purchasing/index.html). At the top center of the page, choose State Use Program.
2. Choose Procurement Schedule on the left side.
3. Scroll down to the Attachments and choose the attachment SW001-Revised, which will open an Excel document.
4. There are several tabs at the bottom of the Excel document. The first tab is a cover page to show you when the schedule was last updated. The second tab is a complete list of the qualified vendors in the State Use Program. Feel free to call them with any questions. The third tab is the Procurement Schedule. It gives you a complete list of vendors, contract numbers and products associated with each vendor. The next tab is the most important tab. All tabs are searchable.
5. If you choose the Mandatory tab it will bring up several categories that are mandatory. Select one of the "SW" numbers to be taken to the contract page to view the actual contract information.
6. If you don't find what you want in the Mandatory section, you can search the Suitable to Procure tab. This tab is also searchable, with links to contracts and an abundance of information. This section of contracts are not mandatory. However, the vendor listed here **MUST** be included in any solicitations involving these items.
7. Continuing to the right, the rest of the tabs are additional information and links about the specific contract numbers.

***If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. We are glad to assist in anyway we can.***

## #GoTEAMUSA



On Oct. 2, 2009, it was announced in Copenhagen that Rio de Janeiro had won the right to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, bringing these events to South America for the first time. The announcement was a rich reward for the hard work and vision of the bid team, and marked the beginning of a journey full of opportunities and challenges for Rio and Brazil.

The Paralympic Games continue to gain momentum. After the huge success of the London 2012 Summer Games and the Sochi 2014 Winter Games, the Rio de Janeiro edition promises to be the largest celebration yet of high-performance sport for people with impairment.

The infrastructure work for the Olympic and Paralympic Games constitutes a huge project. More than 140,000 people will work in the staging of the two events, including approximately 7,000 organizing committee staff, 65,000 contractors and 70,000 volunteers. Millions of people in Rio, Brazil, South America and around the world will be inspired by the Games. About 4,350 Paralympians from more than 160 nations will compete at Rio 2016, in front of many thousands of sports fans, tourists and media professionals.

In the longer term, the 2016 Paralympic Games will leave an important legacy, both in terms of improved accessibility in public spaces and on public transport, and in changing perceptions towards people with a disability.

**RIO 2016  
PARALYMPIC  
GAMES**  
will include  
approximately  
**4,350 athletes**  
from more than  
**160 countries.**

Athletes will compete in 526 medal events in 22 different sports including paracanoe and paratriathlon, both of which make their Paralympic debut in 2016.

Learn more about the Paralympic Movement  
[USParalympics.org](http://USParalympics.org) | [Facebook.com/USParalympics](https://www.facebook.com/USParalympics) | [Twitter.com/USParalympics](https://twitter.com/USParalympics)



### VENDOR HIGHLIGHTS



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Hugo, Ok 74743  
Phone: 580-326-7548  
Fax: 580-326-7540  
[www.kiamichioportunities.com](http://www.kiamichioportunities.com)

Kiamichi Opportunities offers a variety of vocational services for people with developmental disabilities, presenting many choices for our consumers. Our agency has work centers in Hugo, Antlers and Broken Bow that house state contracts for beans, laundry, pasta, spices, condiments and health care products. These contracts enable us to provide meaningful work experiences for our consumers as well as work-related training opportunities in a sheltered environment. The centers also offer contracts that allow our consumers to perform in integrated work settings. At Beavers Bend Resort Park in McCurtain County we have contracts to furnish cleaning and maid service to Lakeview Lodge and laundry service for all of the linens used in the park. These contracts afford opportunities for integrated training and employment for people with disabilities.



Our goal at Kiamichi Opportunities is to provide quality residential and vocational services for people with developmental disabilities in Southeastern Oklahoma. Our agency spans the tri-county region of Choctaw, McCurtain and Pushmataha counties with the abilities and resources to provide opportunity for all consumers that we serve. We have a well-trained staff that promotes individualized training and growth for our consumers.

### History

Kiamichi Opportunities was established in 1984 to provide much needed vocational services in the Hugo area. Residential services were added in 1987 with the opening of the Estus House, a state-of-the-art group home that is still the crown jewel of the agency today. Through the years, services have expanded to meet greater needs for people with disabilities and also to cover more area in and around Hugo.

### Sales Catalog

Our goal at Kiamichi Opportunities is to provide quality products to the State of Oklahoma with a workforce of people with developmental disabilities. Our products come from suppliers who are nationally recognized in the food service industry as being the best in their chosen field. We would like to thank you, not only for choosing our food products, but also for providing a job opportunity for people with developmental disabilities.

### VENDOR HIGHLIGHTS



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405-247-7377, 405-247-3936 (fax)  
office@apexok.com

Apex, Inc. was established in 1984 under the governance of a volunteer board of directors as a 501C3 corporation with a purpose to provide desirable employment and residential options for persons with significant mental and/or physical challenges.

Apex, Inc. offers employment to persons with developmental disabilities with the aim to provide services that empower individuals with disabilities, and provide opportunities to achieve independence and become fully participating members of our community and society.

Apex, Inc. is located in Caddo County, in Anadarko, Oklahoma. Apex, Inc. and its sponsored 501C3 residential corporations (Oklahoma Elms, Anadarko Willows and Anadarko Group Homes) have purchased or constructed accessible housing providing an array of affordable housing choices for 45 persons with disabilities to live in safe, attractive residences.



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### State Use Committee Meetings

August 5, 2015

October 7, 2015

December 9, 2015

**Vendor Training** — August 18, 2015

**Disability Employment Awareness Month** — October

**CPO Conference** — October 22, 2015

All meetings start at 1:00 p.m.  
and are held at:

Oklahoma History Center  
800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

*It's not just a purchase... it makes a better Oklahoma!*

### CONTACT US

Contact us for more information about our services and products:

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Visit us on the web at

[http://www.ok.gov/DCS/Central\\_Purchasing/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/DCS/Central_Purchasing/index.html)