

# Yankee Engineer

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Volume 46, No. 6 March 2012

*Building Strong*®



*Searching for munitions on Cape Cod Islands  
story on page 4*

# Yankee Voices

Bobby Byrne receives award from  
Maj. Gen. Merdith Temple.



## Sympathy

...to **Larry Oliver**, Engineering/Planning, his wife, **Ellen** and their family on the passing of Ellen's father, **Joseph Trumbour**, March 12. Ellen is a former New England Division employee who worked in the Impact Analysis Division (now Evaluation Branch). Mr. Trumbour was a veteran who served in the U.S. Army.

## Soup before a meal may help you lose weight

Dieting doesn't have to mean a life of bland rice cakes and raw vegetables.

A bowl of hot soup before a meal may encourage you to eat less, according to research. The idea: Hot soup forces you to slow down if you don't want to scald your tongue. This gives your stomach more time to process the sensation of filling up, and when your meal arrives, you won't feel as hungry as you would otherwise.

For best results, choose a soup that's low-fat and not cream-based.

*(First Draft Magazine)*

## Bobby Byrne and Eva D'Antuono receive National Small Business Program Awards

By William Scully, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/Project Management



Robert Wolfe presents Eva Marie D'Antuono with her award.

Two New England District members were honored at the recent Annual Small Business Awards luncheon held during the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) 2011 Small Business Conference for DOD Engineering, Construction and Environmental Programs. Nearly 2,000 attendees were at the three-day event held at the National Resort and Convention Center at National Harbor, Maryland.

Maj. Gen. Merdith Temple, Acting USACE commander, presented Bobby Byrne with one of four Small Business Champion Awards. Bobby, chief of PPMD's Programs and Civil Project Management Branch, was recognized for his dedication, commitment and hard work in support of the New England District's Small Business Program. His work with our district's Small Business Specialist, his project managers, firms of the small business community, and the Small Business Administration are based on his firm belief in the value that small businesses bring to successful execution of our mission.

SAME Executive Director Robert D. Wolfe presented Eva Marie D'Antuono with the SAME 2011 Small Business Advocate Award. One such award is given annually to a Department of Defense person for outstanding support to DOD Small Business Programs. Eva, chief of the district's Small Business Programs Office, is a true champion for the small business community. She keenly understands where and when small business firms can be a fit for our projects -- and just as importantly when not, and has worked effectively with the project delivery teams in the district in establishing a record of some of the best small business participation numbers in the Corps. Eva had been recognized at the past two Annual Small Business Awards luncheons with the USACE Small Business Specialist of the Year Award. Bill Scully, NAE's Deputy District Engineer for Programs & Project Management, notes that the award received by Eva this year is different. "It has a different significance," Scully said. "It is a selection made by SAME from a pool of nominations submitted nationally by small business firms, and is thus a recognition from outside the Corps of her outstanding contributions to the Small Business Programs."





# Commander's Corner: Reality Check!

by Col. Charles Samaris  
New England District Commander



*"The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality."*

*- Max DePree  
Businessman and author of  
"Leadership is an Art."*

Team,

As many of you already know, March included many highlights, activities and actions - some of which you'll read about in this

month's Yankee Engineer. One that deserves a bit of discussion up front is the North Atlantic Division's Regional Management Board (RMB) and Command Council (RCC) held at the Norfolk District's headquarters.

The focus of this RMB/RCC was a very important one, as it was the first of many that will take a critical look at a very important topic - district and regional workload/workforce analysis, affordability and balancing. Why is this important? Well, unless you're a hermit, you're aware that our great nation is facing some significant financial challenges. As a result, the federal government is tightening its financial belt. The impact is that many of our partners will have fewer discretionary funds available to engage our services.

So, the RMB took the first step towards setting the conditions for long-term regional success - honestly defining reality. In the operational Army, the concept is termed "Battle Command - See Yourself, See the Enemy, See the Terrain."

Briefly, the RMB analyzed the financial situation, customer capacity, workload projection, and workforce requirements of the region and of each district. They then projected three possible scenarios - best, worst, and most realistic. Next, they presented the RCC with initial courses of action (immediate, mid-, and long-term) to mitigate the impact of the changing financial situation. The RCC decided to act on some, defer others, and to track progress at each ensuing RMB/RCC.

From my humble perspective, this was the most productive RMB/RCC in which I've participated. It was what I always

expected a "regional management board" to be - intensely focused on running the organization on sound business principles. The result was the ability to pretty honestly "see ourselves" as a region. Importantly, we dealt with an honest assessment of reality - which is the responsibility of every leader and foundational to advancing any organization into the future.

In their book "Execution: The Discipline Of Getting Things Done," Bossidy and Charan assert: "Realism is the heart of execution, but many organizations are full of people who are trying to avoid or shade reality. How do you make realism a priority? You start by being realistic yourself. Then you make sure realism is the goal of all dialogues in the organization."

Bossidy and Cahran continue: "Robust dialogue brings out reality, even when that reality makes people uncomfortable, because it has purpose and meaning. It is open, tough,

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'The federal government is tightening its financial belt. The impact is that many of our partners will have fewer discretionary funds available to engage our services.'

*- Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander*

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focused, and informal. The aim is to invite multiple viewpoints, see the pros and cons of each one, and try honestly and candidly to construct new viewpoints. This is the dynamic that stimulates new questions, new ideas, and new insights rather than wasting energy on defending the old order."

So, I must thank you for making me very comfortable as I participated in the RCC. Why? Well, we proactively began the hard and honest work of defining reality - and visualizing the future - last September. We've had, and will continue to have, even more robust dialogue. Our team did some excellent work preparing our workload/workforce analysis for the RMB's review. Our focus was then, and will continue to be, setting the conditions for the future health and success of the New England District and the North Atlantic Division. And, you will be a big part of it!

*"The reason that most companies don't face reality very well is because their dialogues are ineffective."*

*- Bossidy and Charan*

**Essayons**



A helicopter equipped with geophysical instrumentation gets ready to fly around Nantucket, Mass.

Photos provided by Marie Swiech-Laflamme, Weston Solutions

## *New England District conducts Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study on Nantucket*

Nantucket residents were informed in March that a low flying helicopter with strange appendages attached, would be conducting aerial geophysical surveys of the Tom Nevers area and they shouldn't be alarmed or concerned.

The New England District Army Corps of Engineers, working closely with the Baltimore District Office, and contractor, Weston Solutions and its subcontractors, conducted an aerial geophysical survey of approximately 2,267 acres of land and water on and around the Island of Nantucket. The helicopter arrived on the island on March 5 and operations began on March 7. The survey was part of a remedial investigation (RI) under the Corps' Military Munitions Response

Program to locate old munitions buried on land and in the sands offshore. The scanned project area is known as the Nantucket Beach Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS).

"Nantucket Beach is approximately 2.2 miles of beach, between the Former Tom Nevers Naval Facility and the Nantucket Airport," said District Project Manager Carol Ann Charette. "The U.S. Navy conducted aerial military training exercises at the former Nantucket Beach range during World War II."

The New England District conducted an earlier site investigation of Nantucket Beach in 2010. As a result, approximately 534 anomalies were recorded both on land and offshore. Due

to the potential for buried munitions, further investigation under a remedial investigation was recommended.

A helicopter (owned by National Helicopters) specially equipped with geophysical instrumentation (owned by Battelle), flew as low as safely possible above surfaces to be scanned, usually 3 to 9 feet above ground surface. The fly over resulted in intermittent temporary road, bicycle and pedestrian traffic exclusion zones and/or detours and closures.

The aerial fly over is the first phase of the RI. After the aerial geophysical survey is complete, ground-based geophysical surveys will be conducted that will help further define the boundaries of where munitions may

be buried. UXO trained personnel will use geophysical instrumentation to find metal objects buried below the ground and ocean surface that might be military munitions. Areas covered during the ground-based surveys will include beaches, dunes, upland areas and shallow waters near the shoreline as well as deeper waters offshore. All ground based geophysical surveys require the Corps to obtain rights of entry prior to entering onto private property. As such, the New England District has contacted residents to obtain rights of entry from affected property owners in order to proceed with the RI work.

When the ground based surveys are laid out in the form of transects (straight and/or meandering paths 5-6 feet wide by 100 feet or more in length) or grids (50 feet x 50 feet), cleared of dense scrubby vegetation (as needed), geophysical technicians will conduct

surveys of these areas to detect anomaly clusters associated with suspect munitions.

Objects detected within the grid areas and possibly in some of the transect areas will be dug manually by UXO specialists to confirm the buried metal objects are indeed munitions items and not just cultural debris. "After the remedial investigation is completed, a number of remedial alternatives will be evaluated in the feasibility study to address the munitions," said Charette.

According to Charette, the remedial investigation/feasibility study will help determine if any future actions are required to protect human health, safety and the environment. "Signs notifying the public of what actions to take should they find any object that looks like or they believe to be, a munitions item, will be posted at various locations accessing the beach," said Charette.

If munitions are found, Charette said that the public should immediately follow the three R's: Recognize the item as potentially hazardous, Retreat from the area without touching or moving the item, and immediately Report the item to the local police by calling 911.

The New England District conducted aerial geophysical surveys as part of a remedial investigation/feasibility study on three projects on Martha's Vineyard in February 2011: South Beach Former Moving Target Machine Gun and Aerial Rocket Range; the Former Tisbury Great Pond Practice Dive Bombing and Strafing Range; and the Former Cape Poge Little Neck Bomb Target Site.

A project website has been created for this project. For additional information please go to <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects/nantucketBeach.htm>.



A helicopter flies low over Nantucket.





Vegetated roofing is only one of many environmentally friendly attributes to the Middletown AFRC.

Photos courtesy of [www.paulburkphotography.com](http://www.paulburkphotography.com)

## *BRAC project in Middletown, Conn., receives high honors from two organizations*

The New England District's Middletown Air Force Reserve Center Team and its contractors, KBE Building Corporation of Farmington, Conn., and DeRita Construction Company, Inc., of Middletown, Conn., recently received top honors from the Connecticut Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. (ABC), and from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACE) for their outstanding work on the project. The Middletown AFRC received "Best in Show" in ABC's Excellence in Construction Awards and the 2012 Engineering Excellence Grand Award from ACE.

Work on the \$54 million AFRC in Middletown included the construction of a five-story facility, vehicle maintenance shop and an unheated storage building. "This project is currently the third largest of its kind in the nation," said Sean Dolan, Chief, Construction Division. "Among the many features in the facility are classrooms, full kitchen, library and fitness areas."

In addition to the awards mentioned above, the Middletown AFRC is on track to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold Certification. "We are extremely proud to receive such prestigious awards, said KBE Principal and CEO Mike Kolakowski. "It is also an exceptional honor to not only be recognized by ABC, but also all the other Connecticut contractors for our work on the Armed Forces Reserve Center."

This impressive facility also had some impressive environmental attributes. According to Jeff Perchak, Lead Civil Engineer for the project, this is the first AFRC in the United States that went partially green with a roofing system that has vegetated roofing materials over the main assembly hall. The plants will help reduce storm water runoff by absorbing more storm water than a metal or shingled roof would.

Other environmentally friendly features include solar hot water heating systems and photovoltaic panels that will



The multi-award winning Middletown, Conn., Air Force Reserve Center.

produce 40 kilowatts of electricity and retention ponds and other water features that make a first class water management system. Ironically, the environmentally friendly Middletown project's challenges included wetlands and habitat issues that included protecting the Eastern Box Turtle, a Connecticut species of concern.

According to Perchak, the District Team hired a turtle specialist and trained canine to locate the turtles so we could relocate them out of harm's way.

The New England District team and its contractors were also challenged with the removal of over 425,000 cubic yards of soil from the site to prepare it for construction. "That's about 21,000 dump truck loads," explained Dolan.

The bigger the obstacle, the more determined the team was to overcome it. "With all these challenges, the con-

struction duration was compressed to a mere 14 months for the facility and its related buildings to be completed," said Perchak.

"\$54 million of work in a short time period is truly amazing," said Dolan.

The Westover Resident Team members who worked on this project were Perchak, Ray Goff, Pat Devine, Kurt Mintell and Sue Loubier. Cori Rose handled the Regulatory issues for the project. Joe Redlinger and Kirk Bargerhuff also contributed to the completion of the project. "Lt. Col. Larry Rea and Lt. Dan Richardson, Army Reserve Officers with the Personal Force Innovation (PFI) Program, were significant contributors to the success of our project delivery team (PDT) as were contractors Eugene Bowen and John Boudreau," said Dolan.

## Ready for Action

*The patrol boat MARION was the first boat to be launched in the Cape Cod Canal on March 9 after it was hauled out on Dec. 12, 2011 and spent the winter inside the high bay garage. The boat underwent a total overhaul with the hull, cabin and deck being stripped down and repainted. The deck also received a new, non-skid surface. Both engines were removed, the marine gears sent out for inspection and dynode. New drive dampers were installed. This boat was built by the Coast Guard in 1979 and for a 33-year-old boat she came out real nice. The patrol boat AGAWAM, built in 1979 has been hauled out and work on its overhaul has begun. Last year, the patrol boats and their crews performed 427 small boat assistances.*



Photo by Rich Patterson





Photos by Brian Murphy

Chris Lindsay (center) receives a Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Farrell McMillan (left) and Lt. Col. Steven Howell.

## *Cost Engineering Chief retires after 34 years of federal service*

After 34 years of faithful and distinguished service, Chris Lindsay, Chief, Cost Engineering, Engineering/Planning, decided to retire from federal service.

To mark the special occasion, friends and family members gathered on a special day – Feb. 29, Leap Year – at Waxy O'Connors Irish Pub and Restaurant in Lexington, Mass., for an after-hours celebration.

Despite the threatened winter storm set to begin that evening, 64 co-workers, friends and retirees joined Lindsay and his wife, Barbara for a buffet meal before getting to the formal presentations. The Cost Engineering Section Team – Bill McIntyre, Patricia Bolton, Andy Jordan, and Mike Remy presented Lindsay with a Concord Minuteman statue as a parting gift and to thank him for his many years of exceptional service to the District. Bolton and Jordan both organized the

get-together and served as hosts for the evening.

Lt. Col. Steven Howell, Deputy District Commander, assisted by Farrell McMillan, Chief, Engineering/Planning, presented Lindsay with a Commander's

Award for Civilian Service for 34 years of loyal federal service with the New England District. "In his role as the District's chief of Cost Engineering, Mr. Lindsay has displayed an exceptional expertise and initiative," read McMil-



Patty Bolton, Andy Jordan and Bill McIntyre (right) present Chris Lindsay with a Concord Minuteman statue.





Chris Lindsay and his wife, Barbara, cut the retirement cake.



Tony Mackos, Fran Donovan and Chiway Hsuing enjoy good conversation during the party.

lan from the citation. "In addition, his efforts as Technical Team Leader and Cost Engineer on the District's Base Development team has made significant contributions in the Army's effort to rebuild both Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Lindsay's exemplary performance has been in the highest tradition of the Corps of Engineers and reflects credit on himself, the New England District and the Corps of Engineers."

Tony Mackos presented Lindsay with a Bunker Hill Plaque on behalf of the New England District, "in recognition of 34 years of service to the nation and the Corps of Engineers," he read. "As Chief of Cost Engineering and many other positions, you have demonstrated the highest quality of professionalism, leadership and admired character. You are a true inspiration to the Corps motto, 'Essayons!' Best wishes on your retirement."

Mrs. Lindsay, Mike Walsh, Gary LaCroix and Don Hassett also made presentations during the retirement party. Lt. Col. Howell officially retired Lindsay when he presented him with his retirement certificate and pin.

When it was his turn, Lindsay had his own presentations to give to Cost Engineering. They included a pair of dice "for those really tough estimates," a set of PMBP disks, a can of repellent spray, and an ID lanyard.

Distinguished Civilian Gallery members Dick Reardon and Fran Donovan attended the event.

Other retirees who came to wish Lindsay well and to welcome him into the retirement community were: Thomas Ayau, Lynne Bleakney, Greg Buteau, Joe Colucci, Nick Forbes, Mark Geib, Bill Holtham, Chiway Hsuing, Ken Paton, John Yen and Don Wood.

Former District employee Marie Wotjas also attended the retirement party to wish Lindsay well on his retirement.



Photos by Brian Murphy

(From left) Tim Russell, Rick Magee and Steve Patchkofsky present Bob Hanacek with a broken, gold dipped prop after telling the audience how it got broken.

## *Bob Hanacek retires with 35 years of federal service*

Nearly 100 field and Concord Park team members joined family, retirees and former co-workers at the Public House in Sturbridge, Mass., to celebrate the distinguished career of Thames River Basin manager Bob Hanacek and to wish him well on his retirement after 35 years of service.

Jamie Kordack, Park Ranger Buffumville Lake and organizer of the luncheon, welcomed the audience and introduced his "Brothers in Arms," Joe Faloretti and Mike Curran who served as ceremony hosts. They began with a toast to the guest of honor to his distinguished career.

Curran talked about Hanacek's early career and how he, Hanacek and Faloretti were known as "Reese's Pieces," because they were all hired by Distinguished Civilian Gallery Member Reese Morgan. Curran also told some funny stories about their adventures skiing. "I look forward to many days skiing with my friend Bob," he said.

Faloretti said that he has known Hanacek and has been his friend for

more than 34 years, meeting him at Hop Brook Lake when Faloretti had a job interview. Faloretti had the audience laughing when he told stories about his and Hanacek's misadventures as up-and-coming Park Rangers. Faloretti talked about Hanacek's friendship and his bravery. According to Faloretti, he jumped into the water in full uniform not once, but three times to save the life of potential drowning victims. "He never even thought twice about it," said Faloretti. "He once saved a choking baby on a highway. That's just the kind of person he is."

Faloretti said that Hanacek and Curran were his best friends and confidants. "You've always been there for me," he said. "It's been a great ride. I'll miss you. God's Speed."

Don Hassett, who was deployed with Hanacek and Ken Paton in Iraq told funny stories about their adventures overseas. Hassett presented Hanacek with a special commander's coin with Hanacek's name engraved on it. In return, Hanacek presented Hassett with

a key chain from the Italian Camp where they had cappuccinos every morning before meetings.

Jim Hachigian, Thames River Basin, spoke next and told the funny story of the plunger that briefly took his place while he was overseas. He then read a congratulatory letter from Jim and Jan Crawford welcoming Hanacek into the retirement community. He also presented Hanacek with a Broken Dam Award, which he appropriately dropped and broke in the parking lot on the way into the luncheon, and a survey marker with Hanacek's name and Basin Office coordinates engraved on it. Hachigian concluded by thanking Hanacek for being a good mentor, leader and friend. "Thanks for supporting me," he said.

Keith Beecher, East Brimfield Project Manager, said he met Hanacek in 1983 at the University of Connecticut as a college student listening to his presentation. "I had no idea back then I would be working for you," he said.

Beecher thanked Hanacek for being there for him and his family during



hard times and said Hanacek was welcome to come by East Brimfield anytime.

Larry Davis, Cape Cod Canal Manager, said that although he didn't spend as much time with Hanacek as the other speakers, he did have some stories about skiing trips, to include a pair of "Elf Skis" that had the audience laughing. He presented Hanacek with a picture of the Cape Cod Canal at sunset. Hanacek had a presentation for Davis as well.

Telling the audience that he stole the Woonsocket Flood Control Project in Rhode Island from Davis, Hanacek presented him with a picture of a train falling off a broken bridge with the caption, "Oh Darn!"

Tim Russell, Buffumville Lake, and Steve Patchkofsky, Naugatuck River Basin, presented Hanacek with a nautical award for his work as a marine boat operation instructor, saying that Hanacek had a perfect safety record. The pair then brought up former District Ranger Rick Magee, who now works for St. Paul District and flew in from Minnesota to attend the lunch, to present Hanacek with an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for his work as a boat operator. They also presented Hanacek with a broken prop dipped in gold in recognition of the time when the prop was attached to a boat and then two hours later was accidentally ripped off by Hanacek who tried to take the boat out that day.

Frank Fede, Chief, Operations, read a letter from Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander, that congratulated Hanacek on his retirement. He also presented Hanacek with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service and his retirement certificate and pin.

When it was Hanacek's turn to speak, he introduced his fiancé, Jeanette, his son Mark and Mark's girlfriend, Whitney. He presented his fiancé with a corsage and said that now that he was retired they were going to take a cruise.

Hanacek gave a detailed history on



Steve Patchkofsky presents Bob Hanacek with an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, one of the many honors bestowed upon the retired Thames River Basin Manager.

the origin of the Park Ranger Campaign Hat, and then presented one to Joan Gardner. He also gave her his CaC card, door card and other materials that signified his retirement. He presented stuffed animals to Viola Bramel and Jamie Kordack and thanked Kordack for organizing the luncheon. He also presented Larry Rosenberg with a Smokey Badge because "he always wanted one."

The now retired basin manager recognized many attending retirees who, "got me here and kept me here." They included Bill Norman, Reese Morgan and Distinguished Civilian Gallery Member Dick Carlson. To conclude his presentation, he put on his "retirement

sweater" and said, "It's been a great ride. Now that I'm retired I can do whatever I want."

Hanacek received many gifts at the end of the luncheon to include a gardening container filled with gardening tools and a gift card from the audience, and personal gifts from friends and family.

In addition to Morgan and Carlson, Distinguished Civilian Gallery members who attended Hanacek's luncheon were Ron Tryba, Fran Donovan, Frank Ciccone and Bernie Manor. Other retirees who attended were Norman, Jan Szwed, Beverly Hilli, Dave Hebert, Walter Smith, Claire Sullivan, Phil Morrison, Mike Currie, Benny Moretz, Paul Battista, Paul Marinelli, Greg Buteau and Tom Ayau.



Bob Hanacek (right) and his fiancée, Jeanette, listen to the presentations during the retirement luncheon.



Photo provided by the Cape Cod Canal

(from left) Larry Davis, Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum, Roger Mathurin and Frank Fedele tour the Cape Cod Canal.

## *Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum tours New England District projects, headquarters during visit*

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum paid a visit to the New England District and its projects, Feb. 1-3, as part of his goal to visit all Corps of Engineers Districts during his tenure.

Command Sgt. Maj. is the highest rank an enlisted serviceperson can achieve. Buxbaum serves as the Chief of Engineers "right hand" who goes out to the field to bring back the concerns of the people. The New England District visit brought the Command Sgt. Maj., closer to his goal of visiting all of the Corps' District offices before he retires.

Although he briefly stopped into Concord Park Headquarters to get a briefing from the senior staff and other leadership, Buxbaum spent almost all of his time touring New England District's projects. He stopped by the Cape Cod Canal, where he got the full tour of the entire facility to include the Visitor's Center, Marine Traffic Control Center, Marine Operations Center and the Railroad Bridge. The Command Sgt.

Maj. also got a boat ride on the canal.

District team members accompanying Buxbaum also took him for a tour of the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier and to meet with the New Bedford Resident Office Staff. Other projects toured during Buxbaum's visit included the New Bedford Superfund Site, the Veterans Administration Hospital and the Woonsocket Flood Damage Reduction Project and West Hill Dam. During his tours of

the projects, Buxbaum handed out coins to various New England District team members for jobs well done.

No tour of New England is complete without seeing one of the region's most famous landmarks. During off hours, Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander, took Buxbaum for a tour of historic Fenway Park -- that turns 100 this year -- prior to Buxbaum leaving for Alaska District.



Photo by Christine Johnson

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Buxbaum presents Commander's Coins to New England District team members during his tour of Woonsocket Falls Dam.



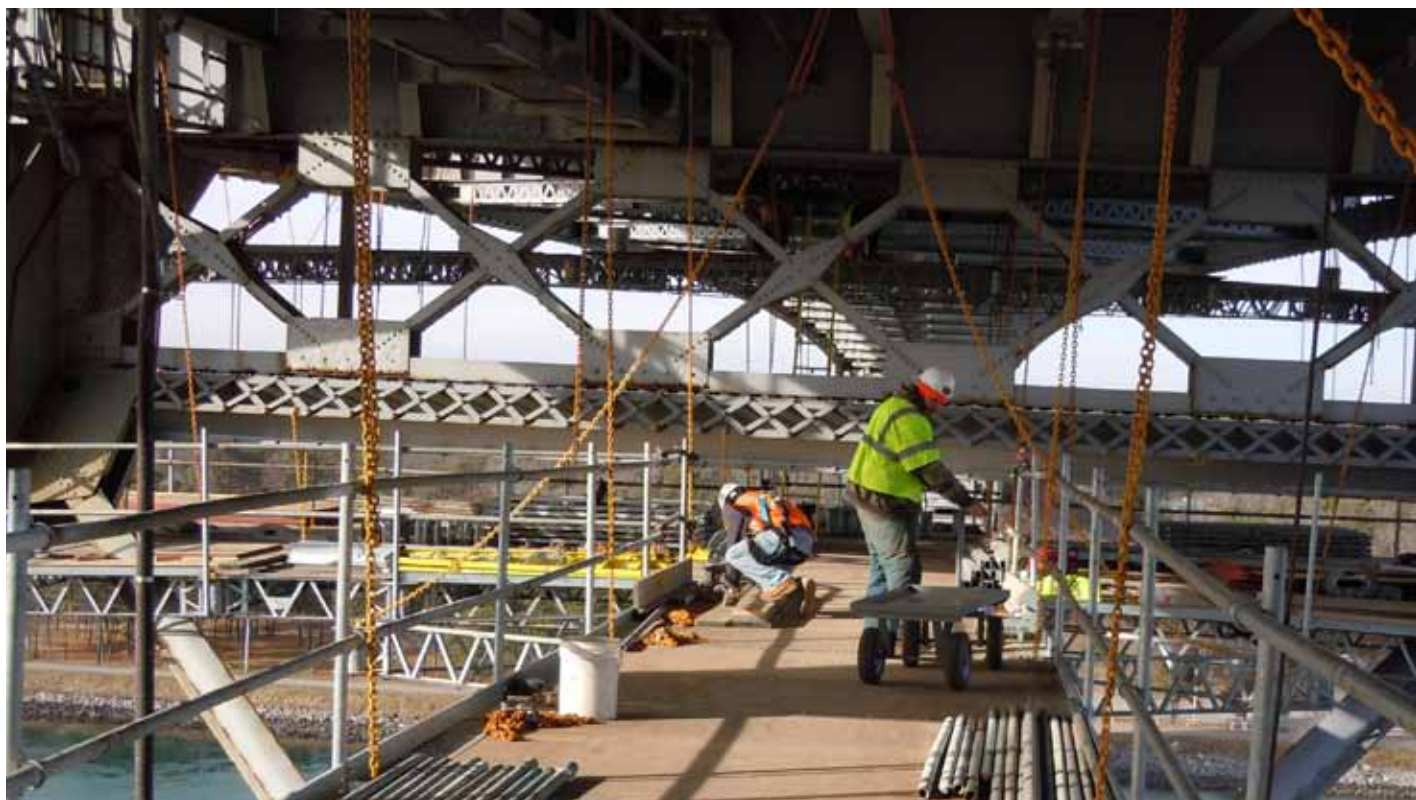


Photo provided by the Cape Cod Canal.

The New England District's contractor performs steel repair work below the deck of the Cape Cod Canal bridges. Maintenance work has now begun on the Sagamore Bridge.

## *Maintenance work on Sagamore Bridge begins* *Lane restrictions ongoing until mid- to late-May*

Steel repairs on the Sagamore Bridge spanning the Cape Cod Canal in Bourne, Mass., began March 21. During the scheduled time for repair, travel over the Sagamore Bridge will be reduced to one lane in each direction. Traffic control will be in place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through mid-to late-May 2012 (except for two weekends) to perform work above the road surface on the Sagamore Bridge. Motorists planning to use the Sagamore Bridge during this time frame should be aware that travel delays are likely to occur during the morning and afternoon peak travel periods each day.

During the periods of Easter Weekend, April 7-8, and Patriots Weekend, April 14-16, all equipment will be removed from the Sagamore Bridge and all lanes will be open to traffic. The Bourne Bridge will be fully open to traffic as well for these weekends.

The \$8.5 million Sagamore Bridge and Bourne Bridge repair project involves the removal and replacement of structural steel secondary members, strengthening of existing structural steel members, replacement of structural fasteners, removal of selected existing welds, and strengthening of selected gusset plates. Completion of steel repairs

is critical to maintaining the integrity of the bridges, vital components of the transportation system for the Cape, the Islands and southeastern Massachusetts. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2012.

Signage will keep motorists advised of travel restrictions. Accessing the Canal website ([CapeCodCanal.US](http://CapeCodCanal.US), then Bridge Alerts) will inform motorists of schedule changes. Those who want to be notified of changes to the work schedule can sign up for the Bridge Alerts email notifications. Send an email to: [CapeCodCanalBridges@usace.army.mil](mailto:CapeCodCanalBridges@usace.army.mil) with the subject title "Bridge Alerts." An email alert is sent when there are major changes to the bridge work status or schedule.

The Corps will use Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland](http://www.facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland) and Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CorpsNewEngland> to give updates to the bridge work, as well as answer questions or concerns about the bridge repair work or its other activities in New England.

For more information about the bridge repairs contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Public Affairs Office at 978-318-8238.

*(New England District News Release)*



Barge carrying the new railcars approach New Bedford just after dawn.

Photos by Paul L'Heureux

## *All Aboard!*

### *New trains float through New Bedford Hurricane Barrier*

Several brand new railroad cars passed through the New England District's New Bedford Hurricane Barrier recently. The trains were purchased by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority. "Working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission, the Hyundai Company contracted to use the New Bedford Superfund Treatment Plant facility to offload the new double-decker commuter trains," said Paul L'Heureux of the District's New Bedford Resident Office. The brand new vehicles will eventually make their way onto Boston railroad tracks to service Massachusetts residents.



Barge carrying railcars passes through the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier.



New MBTA double-decker railcar is lifted off barge at the New Bedford Superfund Treatment Plant.





Dara Gay's Gronkowski chili took top honors.



Who let these two in? New York fans sneak in to sample chili.



Charles Farris picks the chili he wants to try.



Lt. Col. Steven Howell and Mark Anderson participate in the chili contest.

Photos by Brian Murphy

## *District events beat back New England winter blues*

The Work Environment Association (WEA) hosted several successful events during the winter months to drive away the blahs by improving morale and to also raise funds for future WEA initiatives.

The annual WEACHili contest held in February, the after hours St. Patrick's Day get-together and the flea market, both held in March, were all highly anticipated and well attended events.

Nothing hits the spot on a cold February day like a piping hot bowl of chili. WEA hosted the annual chili contest to coincide with the soon to be played Super Bowl that pitted the New England Patriots and the New York Giants.

A dozen crock pots filled with chili in every imaginable variety and heat intensity were offered up to hungry participants to judge, Feb. 3.

For a nominal fee, 82 participants,

clad in the attire of their favorite football team, voted on the sumptuous chili pots. In the end, Dara Gay's "Rob Gronkowski" chili took the top prize, followed closely by Irene Russo's "Jerod Mayo," chili recipe. Tied for third place were Tim Maynard's "Julian Edleman," and Rich Fortuna's "Wes Welker" concoctions. All of the winning chefs received WEA store gift certificates in varying amounts as prizes.

The old saying, "one man's junk is another man's treasure," held true on March 14 when WEA hosted a flea market in the Concord Park cafeteria. The event, which has been absent from WEA's events list for five years, drew in donations from more than two dozen people and brought in over \$500 in proceeds for future WEA events. Members of the New England District team were not the only beneficiaries of the flea market – unsold items were donated

to the Wounded Warriors Program at Hanscom Air Force Base, the Salvation Army and the Global Women's Shelter.

And finally, to celebrate the wearing of the green, the Irish and the not so Irish made their way to a local Irish Pub and Restaurant on March 15 for an after hours get together sponsored by WEA. About 30 team members kicked back around the bar with the beverage of their choice to drink responsibly and relax after a hard day's work.

The WEA Committee meets monthly and works hard to plan fun filled events for the New England District team. Any New England District team member who is interested in helping out the committee should contact Chair Greg Penta for details.

Future initiatives will include a Red Sox Opening Day event, an after hours Cinco de Mayo get together and a Mother's Day celebration.

# Dredging up the past



The late Sen. Edward Kennedy listens as Larry Rosenberg, Chief, Public Affairs, speaks at the Hammer Award Ceremony in Boston, Mass., in this circa 1993 photo.

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