

# Yankee



Members of the Resource Management Team

#### Health Insurance Open Season

OPM's website now has 2015 health plan information available. Click on this link to go directly to the plans: http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/plan-codes/2015/states/ma.asp.

Open enrollment is Nov. 10th-Dec. 8th for health benefits, flexible spending account and dental and vision benefits. There is no open enrollment for life insurance currently.

Health plan changes need to be made in EBIS https://www.ebis.army.mil/. Dental and Vision changes need to be made in BENEFEDS https://www.benefeds.com/.

Please see anyone in Human Resources if you need assistance or please call the Army Benefits Center at (877) 276-9287.

#### Words Worth Repeating

"Do the thing you fear most and the death of fear is certain." - Mark Twain

#### New England District Inclement Weather and Contingency Alert Program for the 2014/2015 Season

During periods of extreme weather that may impact on operations, District employees are advised that the District's Inclement Weather/Contingency alerts and announcement hotline is up and running. During those periods, beginning at 5:30 a.m., affected personnel should either call 978-318-8888 for the latest advisory information or:

- Closing or delayed opening information is available by logging in online to Channel 7 News (WHDH-TV) at http://www.whdh.com.
- WHDH also has another very convenient option: "Snow Day Alert." By registering with the news station online, they will send a message to your cell phone if the District has any closing/delay information. To take advantage of this option, go to http://whdhstore.hipcricket.com and follow the directions.
- District Team members can also listen to following radio stations to receive closings or delays: WOKQ (97.5 FM), WPKQ (103.7 FM), The SHARK (102.1 FM) or WCAP (980 AM).

Additionally, the Inclement Weather Alerts and announcements regarding closings or delays will appear on the New England District's Facebook page, the NAE Facebook Internal News Site (employees only), and as Twitter "tweets." If you are a Facebook member, District employees are invited to become a "fan" of the NAE Facebook Internal News Site, a closed page that employees must request membership to be included. Subscribers to Twitter must "follow" the CorpsNewEngland to receive tweets.

Those links are:

- NAE Facebook Internal News Site: http://tinyurl.com/oyf4snr
- Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland
- Twitter: http://twitter.com/CorpsNewEngland

Lastly, it should be noted that this does not affect essential and emergency personnel and those scheduled to work at home on days where weather events affect NAE operations. Further, all closing or delay announcements are Concord Park Headquarters only. The Operations, Construction, and Regulatory Chiefs have been delegated the authority to make inclement weather decisions for the Basin, Resident, and Regulatory offices throughout New England by utilizing individual inclement weather plans and notification procedures for each field office (this is not a change to the current NAE policy).

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Photo by Mark Anderson

Col. Christopher Barron, New England District Commander, signs a STEM partnership agreement with Worcester State University's president, Barry Maloney, Oct. 27.

#### **District Enters Into STEM Agreement With Local University**

The New England District has entered into a STEM Partnership in Education Agreement with Worcester State University in Massachusetts. Col. Christopher Barron, New England District Commander, and New England District's STEM coordinator, Mark Anderson, traveled to the university to meet with President Barry Maloney on Oct. 27, to sign the agreement.

"The purpose of this partnership is to encourage and enhance study in STEM disciplines for students and faculty at Worcester State University," saidAnderson. "It offers a unique opportunity for our District to engage STEM-related careers like physics, chemistry, mathematics, GIS and remote sensing that we typically do not engage with on a regular basis."

According to Anderson, this is the District's first educational agreement with a four-year college or university. The District currently has two agreements signed with Concord Public Schools and the Schools to Careers Partnership.

"While working with multiple schools simultaneously, we were fortunate that Worcester State was so eager to execute the agreement and begin working with the District," he said.

Anderson will work with Worcester State University faculty member Linda Larrivee on any STEM initiatives brought about by the agreement. Worcester State University is one of 12 universities and colleges in Worcester, Massachusetts, the second largest city in the Commonwealth and is 40 miles away from Boston.

Anderson credits Planning Division retiree Joe Horowitz for helping the agreement come about. "Thanks to Joe, we were able to make the right connections and make this happen quickly."

Some examples that USACE may do to support the agreement could include collaborating with the university in research of mutual interest; involving the university faculty in USACE projects through certain programs; identifying and developing areas of research where students could get academic

credit for working on projects; and forming a pool of volunteer professionals to assist in developing and or taking STEM-related courses, and possible site visits to USACE facilities.

Anderson sees some exciting activities involving the university in the future. "The District will likely be participating in some panel discussions and career fairs on campus, and we will begin working toward site visits and possible demonstrations of some of our remote sensing capabilities," he said.

Worcester State University is a 58-acre campus college with 5,556 registered undergraduate and 891 graduate students.

According to the university website, among the STEM-related degrees they offer are: bioinformatics, biology, biotechnology, chemistry, mathematics and natural science.

New England District entering into this partnership with Worcester State University supports the Corps of Engineers Campaign initiative, "Prepare for Tomorrow."

### USACE mission in West Africa aimed at supporting Ebola containment Corps of Engineers team deploys to West Africa

#### By Vince Little Europe District

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has joined the fight against Ebola in West Africa.

The main body of Europe District's Forward Engineer Support Team-Advanced departed Oct. 21 for Monrovia, Liberia, to take part in Operation United Assistance, an Africa Command mission to provide logistics, training and engineering support to U.S. Agency for International Development-led efforts at containing the virus outbreak in the region. District officials said the deployment could last up to six months.

The USACE team consists of personnel with expertise in engineering, environmental management and prime-power generation. It will support the construction of multiple Ebola treatment units at locations chosen by Liberia's Ministry of Health and armed forces.

Civilian and military personnel also will assist with the planning, surveying, and design of life-support and logistics facilities at base camps in Senegal and Liberia for the U.S. government, Liberian and humanitarian workers coordinating virus-containment measures.

The FEST-A is made up of 13 members – nine Army civilian volunteers and four Soldiers. Six represent Europe District, while the remainder joined from other organizations within USACE and its North Atlantic Division. The unit is comprised mostly of civil, electrical, mechanical and environmental engineers.

"I am so proud that we're able to support this with the technical expertise we provide," Col. Matthew Tyler, the Europe District commander, said during a departure ceremony Oct. 20 at the agency's headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany. "You'll be able to augment not just USAID, AFRICOM and [U.S. Army Africa], but specifically the 101st Air-



(U.S. Army Corps of Engineers photo by Jennifer Aldridge)

The Forward Engineering Support Team-Advanced, deploy to Liberia in support of Operation United Assistance and will support the construction of Ebola Treatment Units as part of the operation.

borne Division that's going to be there on the ground and really head up this mission, along with all the other troops supporting them. You bring incredible expertise that they just do not have.

"You know how to do projects. You know how to do that planning and design. You know how to monitor that construction, and it's going to be absolutely essential to be able to provide the facilities that they'll need ... to support all those forces running the operation. You all are the best at it. I know you're going to make a difference."

The total U.S. troop deployment to West Africa will reach 3,900 by the end of October, according to Pentagon officials, who stress that service members will not provide medical care or have direct contact with Ebola patients. The military role is strictly aimed at boosting civilian health care efforts through construction of new facilities, logistical support and training locals in prevention methods.

"We've been talking for weeks now about the support the Corps of Engineers is going to provide to the Ebola crisis," Lloyd Caldwell, the US-ACE director of Military Programs, told the team. "People in Washington have been on the edges of their seats waiting

for the time when we can put some of our experts, our great professionals, in theater to help the 101st. ... So there are a lot of people who have their eyes on you. You've stepped up to fill that requirement, and I know you're going to do it beautifully."

The FEST-A mobilization unfolded over just a few weeks. The majority of augmentees arrived Oct. 5 at Europe District and quickly engaged in a series of medical checks, immunizations, individual training sessions and team exercises to gain certification for the deployment.

"We're as prepared as we can be," said Maj. Michelle Dittloff, the FEST-A commander and a Europe District project manager. "That said ... I think that you wouldn't be human if there wasn't a fear about this. That's why I'm so proud of all these volunteers – everybody raised their hands for this mission knowing the risks.

"I understand the unit's mission is to go in and build facilities; my mission is to bring everyone home safely."

The team is equipped with a multitude of protective gear, some of which has never been used by most members, said Master Sgt. John Walls, the unit's non-commissioned officer-in-charge. They will continue gaining familiarity with the equipment through added preparation work, should the need for it ever occur. The group also will follow all necessary safety and health protocols set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the technical lead in this interagency endeavor, to safeguard against exposure.

This year's Ebola epidemic has claimed more than 4,800 lives in West Africa, with additional suspected cases topping 9,600, according to recent statistics from the World Health Organization.

"It's an interesting mission where the biggest fear isn't being shot at, it's being hugged," Dittloff said.

USACE officials said the FEST-A's environmental component will assess existing site conditions for suitability, while its engineering piece prepares location plans. Power requirements for the various facilities also need to be evaluated.

Two specialists from USACE's Contingency Real Estate Support Team, or CREST, flew to Liberia a few days before the other FEST members to hammer outland-use agreements for this humanitarian-assistance mission. Both work in South Atlantic Division.

"I have a heart for people. That's why I volunteered," said James Burch, a real-estate appraiser from Jackson-ville District. "The people really need help, so we'll do what we can. Also, it wouldn't hurt to contain this thing to keep it from spreading and becoming a major plague."

Operation United Assistance hits close to home for Milton Ricks, a FEST-Acivil engineer out of New York District. He was born and raised in Monrovia before attending university in Texas. His family later emigrated to the United States, after his father died and prior to the First Liberian Civil War, which broke out in 1989.

Ricks, recruited to the team by Walls, brings immense knowledge of

the landscape. He plans to retire to Liberia and still visits other relatives there every year. None has been affected by the Ebola outbreak, he said.

"When I saw the announcement

very supportive. ... She understands that I'm trying to do my piece in this and I want to go there and help before [the virus] spreads any further. I hope we get there fast enough and succeed

## 'It's an interesting mission where the biggest fear isn't being shot at, it's being hugged.'

- Maj. Michelle Dittloff

Forward Engineer Support Team-Advanced Commander

for volunteers, I thought, 'Whatever the case is, just allow me to assist,'" Ricks said. "It was personal, and moral, first of all. To hear that USACE was going and I work for USACE, I felt so good. This is my agency, they are doing this, this is great. That's when I felt a moral obligation.

"No way they can go and I'm here. I know my way around, I know the culture, know the traditions. . . . I can help."

Ricks has deployed multiple times to Afghanistan and Kuwait – all with USACE. But this one strikes an emotional chord. "My father was a surveyor engineer and a very proud man," he added. "What I get from this is, if he was alive, he would be so proud that his son did this: 'He lives in America, he's got a comfortable life, but you know what, he's a good man for doing this.' That is my motivation."

Anton Klein, a Europe District electrical engineer, said he feels so strongly about the humanitarian mission that he's leaving behind his wife and their two small children. He's been to Afghanistan three times, but this marks his first FEST deployment.

"This might be some of the best and most impactful work I ever do in my career, and I didn't want to turn down the opportunity," he said. "Even though I'm a little scared of going, I know I'm going with a good team and I know we're going to take care of each other.

"I think my wife has done most of my worrying for me, but she's been in our mission, and I hope to come home safe."

Europe District's FEST-A had a short "dwell time" between deployments. It just returned in late February from a six-month stint in Jordan. Two of the 16 members who served on that campaign are back for the West Africa mission: Walls and Rick Long, a civil engineer from the district's Spangdahlem Project Office.

Dittloff said she believes this group will be highly effective in carrying out the Liberia tasking.

"We have some remarkably talented and intelligent technical minds on this team," she added. "What we're rolling in with is a tremendous amount of flexibility to provide to the joint task force commander - we have a unit that should be able to do just about anything."

When the mission ends, personnel will undergo appropriate screening and testing for potential Ebola exposure or symptoms before returning, USACE officials said. The Army has announced that all its Soldiers and civilians coming back from Africa would go through a 21-day controlled monitoring process as part of reintegration.

Tyler says safety precautions will be paramount in handling this mission. "I feel confident that our military, as they have done preparations for this deployment, has put the right procedures in place to make sure everyone comes home safely," he added.



During the flag retirement ceremony, Col. Christopher Barron urges the crowd to honor Veterans not just on Veterans Day but throughout the year.

#### District Commander Honors 'Those Who Served' During Concord Ceremony

Col. Christopher Barron, New England District Commander, joined Concord, Massachusetts town officials, state representatives and residents in the annual Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony held, Nov. 11.

The official procession began at the Prichard Gate of the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Col. Barron and parade marshal, Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CW2) Robert Norton of the Massachusetts National Guard, lead Veterans and military representatives, bagpipers, the 4-H Fife and Drum Corps, the Concord Minutemen and Concord Independent Battery, clergy, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth groups as well as selectmen and government officials through the cemetery to the cemetery flagpole for the official presentation.

"Veterans Day, for me, is a time for reflection, appreciation and reverent celebration," he said. "It's a time for the nation, and each of us – its citizens – to remember those citizen-Soldiers who throughout our history have made the sacrifice to serve in the United States Armed Forces and defend the nation."

The District Commander reminded

the audience that the freedom that all Americans enjoy is not free and that Veterans all over the country have been the ones who have stepped up to pay for it. "The price of our freedom is paid for with the dedication of the service and in some cases the lives of our citizens," he said. "Across the globe, Patriots of the U.S. Armed Forces – America's sons and daughters – our nation's dearest treasure – protect our freedom with

their blood, sweat and tears."

Following the speeches, patriotic musical selections and invocation, the actual retirement of the American flags commenced. Residents lined up in front of several flaming barrels, one hand on top of the flag and one on the bottom, to reverently present them to the flag receiver who placed them into the flames. Piper Adam Holdaway played musical selections during the



A member of the Concord Fire Department respectfully places an American flag into the flames during the retirement ceremony.

ceremony. The Concord Independent Battery fired cannons between songs.

Colleen Giddings, member of Concord's Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee and Master of Ceremonies for the event, explained the significance of the flag retirement ceremony. "When the American flag, the symbol of our nation, is in such condition that it no longer is a fitting emblem for display, it should not be simply cast aside or discarded in any way that might be viewed as disrespectful, but should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning," she said.

According to Giddings, the tradition of the flag retirement ceremony in Concord began in 1965 when a group of residents proposed that the ceremony take place every year before winter arrived.

While residents waited in line for their flags to be retired, Giddings reminded them of why the American flag is so significant and why Americans should treat it with great respect. "It is red because of human sacrifice." she said. "It is blue because of the true blue loyalty of its defenders. It is white to symbolize liberty - our land of the free. The stars are symbols of the united efforts and hope in the hearts of people striving for a greater, nobler America."

During the event, Col. Barron spoke with Veterans who marched in the procession and brought flags to be retired. Col. Barron said that honoring Veterans does not have to be limited to just one day. "I urge you to remember our Veterans, today and throughout the year," he said. "Remember their sacrifices and remember how much they loved their nation, so much so that they took up arms to defend it – in peace and in war. As I say this, our great nation has men and women of all our Armed Services deployed around the world, putting their lives on the line to preserve our freedom... every single day."



Members of the 4-H Fife and Drum Corps play musical selections during the flag retirement ceremony.



Col. Christopher Barron and CW2 Norton speak with Veterans after the flag retirement ceremony.



The Concord Independent Battery fire cannons in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery as flags are retired.





Stephen Dunbar, representing the PDT members is presented the Green Dream Team Award in the 2014 USACE Sustainability Award Program from Lt. Col. Charles Gray, Deputy Commander, New England District.

#### Elizabeth Mine Team Receives Top Environmental Award

The Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site Project Delivery Team (PDT) received the prestigious Green Dream Team Award in the 2014 USACE Sustainability Award Program during a virtual awards ceremony held via video teleconference (VTC) in the Vermont Conference Room on Oct. 7.

Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, Deputy Chief of Engineers, handed off the presentation of the Green Dream Team Sustainability Award to Lt. Col. Charles Gray, Deputy Commander, New England District during the VTC. Lt. Col. Gray presented the award to Stephen Dunbar, Project Manager, and the other members of the PDT.

The Green Dream Team Award recognizes exceptional leadership by an interagency green team to effectively place a federal sustainability idea into action.

The PDT implemented a comprehensive Green Remediation Strategy that resulted in significant reductions in onsite emissions, fuel consumption, off-site materials, and also resulted in recycling large quantities of consumable waste. Through the PDT's focused effort, the 2013 construction season included capping over 3 million cubic

yards (43 acres) of mine tailings, treating over 10 million gallons of impacted water, and creating over 10 acres of wetland.

The District PDT implemented a 'Green Remediation Strategy' at the site that would identify measures to minimize the impacts to the local environment. The strategy reduced air contaminants associated with onsite or offsite fuel consumption; used onsite rather than imported material for backfill and site restoration; established processes for maximum recycling or reuse of waste materials; and initiated a procurement process for environmentally preferred products. In addition, the strategy called for reducing the volume of materials entering the waste stream (refuse) and assuring preservation of the site's historic aspects and ecosystem. By executing this strategy without significantly impacting overall costs, the NAE PDT implemented 11 measures that ranged from reducing onsite emission of air contaminants to using biodegradable, wood fiber-based material on all slopes adjacent to the TP-1A soil cap to control erosion while still allowing re-vegetation to occur.

The Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site

is located in Strafford, Vermont. It is an abandoned copper and iron-sulfate mine that operated from 1806 until 1958. The operations were open-pit type mining. At the end of its operation, the mine was abandoned without any closure measures to restrict access or to prevent run-off from entering the mine. In addition, there were 40 acres of exposed tailing piles (TP) which were still producing acid mine drainage. The acid run-off was causing water quality problems in receiving waters of the drainage, Copperas Brook, and downstream in the west branch of the Ompompanoosuc River.

The New England District Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site PDT members are: Scott Acone (former Project Manager); Steve Dunbar (Project Manager since 2011); David O'Connor (Construction PM); Chris Caisse (onsite Construction Representative through 2012, including cap construction); Randy Lecuyer (onsite Construction Representative in 2013 during wetland restoration); Mark J. Anderson, Jr. (Technical Lead); Jon Kullberg (Geotech); Silas Sanderson (Geotech); Kathy Malinowski (Geo-Environmental); Kate Atwood (Cultural) and Mike Penko (Environmental).

#### **District Observes Disabilities Awareness Month event**

Sheila Radziewicz, published author and award winning advocate, speaker and educator served as keynote speaker during the New England District's Disabilities Awareness Month event. Oct. 6 in the Concord Park Theater.

Radziewicz has Thrombocytopenia Absent Radius (TAR) Syndrome, a rare disorder the affects fewer than one in 100,000 newborns. According to U.S. National Library of Medicine, TAR Syndrome is characterized by the absence of a bone called the radius in each forearm. Among many possible abnormalities, TAR Syndrome is also associated with short stature and additional skeletal abnormalities, including the under development of bones in the arms or legs.

Radziewicz's presentation, entitled, "The Impossible Only Takes a Little Longer," chronicles her challenges and struggles from an infant, the strong support she received from her loving family, and her determination to lead a normal life. Radziewicz



successfully overcame many obstacles that would seem impossible for people with her disability, such as baby-sitting, her involvement in sports and having a job in high school.

The keynote speaker's fight for equality continued through her young adult years to include the right to drive a car - she uses her feet, going to col-

lege and graduate school, getting a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, snorkeling and scuba diving. Among her support systems, Radziewicz named her family, the Shriner's Hospital and her own ability to, "understand the puzzle of her life."

Radziewicz emphasized that at no time in her life was she ever frail, feebleminded or lame. Instead, she proved over and over that she was strong, determined, intelligent and confident.

After her presentation, Lt. Col. Charles Gray thanked Radziewicz on behalf of the District by awarding her a Bunker Hill plaque.

Sheila Radziewicz is a dedicated and determined advocate for people with disabilities with a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice. She was a volunteer coordinator at Healing Abuse Working for Change and currently works at the Northeast Independent Living Program providing advocacy with systems to empower persons with disabilities to achieve vocational and medical success. She is also the author of the newly released book, "The Impossible Only Takes A Little Longer: One Woman's Story of Determination."



Photos by Brian Murphy

Sheila Radziewicz talks about TAR Syndrome and the challenges she had to overcome to live a normal life.

#### 'Boooo at Buffumville' Attracts Hords of Ghouls and Gobblins

Halloween is a popular holiday in New England. It is celebrated throughout the month of October with haunted houses, haunted hay rides and various festivals and events. It was only natural that the Corps in New England got in on the Halloween fun. The response was astounding -- an estimated 2,400 ghouls and goblins turned out for Buffumville Lake's first ever "Boooo at Buffumville Park" Halloween celebration on Oct. 8.

The main events for the evening consisted of three guided story walks. Three stories were posted along a trail and travelers read the pages as they went along. Danielle Morrow, South County Community Partnership and the Oxford Public Schools guided a group through, "Stellaluna."

Debbie Bilis, Youth Services Librarian for the Oxford Free Public Library guided participants through the "Little Owls Night," story walk and Renee Bichan, Youth Services Librarian from the Auburn Public Library took travelers on a literary voyage through, "By the Light of the Halloween Moon."

Other activities that took place during the two-hour event included a Shadow Animal presentation that consisted of animal silhouettes projected onto a screen in the large shelter, a spooky pirate ship, bonfire and scavenger hunt. There was also some trick or treating for children on the way out of the event while supplies lasted.

Safety was priority one for everyone involved and the Buffumville Team was successful in its effort – not one injury or accident was reported during the event. Buffumville team members borrowed stadium lighting from West Thompson Dam to light the parking lot to keep the thousands of little



Photo by Jamie Kordack A local family prepare to enter the Boooo at Buffumville event for the story walk and

revelers from tripping and falling.

In addition to the Oxford Library and Public Schools and the Auburn Library, other organizations that assisted were the South County Community Partnership and the Last Green Valley. An event this massive with no injuries doesn't happen without a lot of help. Approximately 22 chaperones, costumed helpers and Park Rangers managed the crowd. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were on hand to help as was Nicole Giles' mother, Judith Giles. New England District team members who participated in the event were Jamie Kordack, Tim Russell, Giles and Cathy St. Andre.

#### District Team Celebrates Another Successful Fiscal Year End

A successful Fiscal Year End is always a cause for celebration for the New England District Team. This year the Work Environment Committee hosted a catered barbecue meal on Oct. 29 at the Concord Park cafeteria to celebrate the end of FY14 and usher in FY15. About 123 team members attended. For a small fee, District celebrants were treated to a catered lunch by Redbones of Somerville, Massachusetts.

Menu items for meat-eaters included: pulled pork and chicken, macaroni and cheese, roasted vegetables, pickles, onions, corn bread and potato salad.

The District vegetarians menu had everything but the meat on their list of choices as well as coleslaw, baked beans and collard greens. To finish off the meal, the WEA Committee provided celebratory cake for participants to enjoy.

Loredana Caruso headed up this popular annual event for WEA. She was assisted by Karen Wolfe and Bonnie Ortiz.



John Almeida and Sarah Bennett, Office of Counsel, enjoy cake and camaraderie during the Year End celebration.

#### Roger Hagen retires with over 40 years of service

One of New England District's best ambassadors has decided to hang up his "round brown" and try his luck at retirement.

Roger Hagen, Park Manager at the Cape Cod Canal, retired from federal service after an impressive and distinguished 42-year career. About 40 family, friends, co-workers and retirees gathered at the Trowbridge Inn in Bourne, Massachusetts to celebrate Hagen's decision to relax and take it easy.

Michele Breen served as MC for the celebration. Among the speakers were Larry Davis, John MacPherson and John Pribilla. Hagen received various tokens of appreciation from party-goers to include an engraved buck knife, collage of Canal photos taken throughout the years and a gift certificate to help finance the conversion of his Ford van into a camper.

Larry Davis presented Hagen with his 40-year Length of Service certifi-



Photos by Brian Murphy

Cape Cod Canal Manager Larry Davis presents Roger Hagen with his forty-year length of service certificate.

cate and pin, as well as his retirement certificate and pin. Hagen served 40 of his 42 years of service with the Cape Cod Canal. He also worked for the National Park Service's Cape Cod National Seashore.

It was evident by the successes that Hagen achieved during his career that he loved being an interpreter. And he was great at it – he created the Canal Outreach Program, focusing on Grades 3 and 4 to educate students on the canal and its history. The outreach program consists of two visits: one visit is conducted at the school by Park Rangers in late winter/early spring and the second visit is by the students to the Canal in mid to late spring. The program is extremely successful – 24 local schools with over 1,500 children participate in the program.

Hagen's wife Debbie, son Eric and his wife Desiree and family friend JoAnn Ferris accompanied him to the celebration. Distinguished Civilian Gallery members Frank Ciccone and Fran Donovan as well as Bob Russo, Leon Creminini, Jane Heckler and Bill Norman all turned out to welcome Hagen into the New England District's retirement community.

Once that van is converted into a camper, Hagen and his wife plan to travel and see the sites all over the country.



Roger Hagen cuts into his retirement cake after the official presentations.

# Dredging up The past



Col. Thomas Koning, New England District Commander, presents a flag for retirement during the town of Concord, Massachusetts' Flag Retirement Ceremony in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in this Nov. 11, 2003 photo.

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