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**US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District**

Volume 38, No. 9

Yankee Engineer

June 2002

Cross Sound cable installation delayed

by **Timothy Dugan**
Public Affairs

The New England District met with officials from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Cross Sound Cable Company on May 30.

The meeting was held to review the status of the Cross Sound Cable project to place a cable system in the Long Island Sound, a portion of which will be located in the Federal navigation channel in New Haven Harbor, New Haven, Conn.

While installing the underground

cable, Cross Sound Cable came across seven areas in New Haven Harbor that they were able to bury the cable but were not able to reach – 48 feet mean lower low water as required in the Corps permit. They suspect these areas to be rocky. "Although not all areas have reached minus 48 feet, the cable is totally buried in New Haven Harbor," said Chris Godfrey, chief of Regulatory Division. "The cable is not exposed on the seabed."

"The project is still under construction," Godfrey said. "This is just a delay. The federal permit allows them five years to complete the project."

No cable installation work will be

done in the New Haven Harbor between May 31 and Oct. 1 to meet with the requirements of the environmental window described in the permit.

"The Corps will prepare a letter to Cross Sound Cable requesting a full report on the hard rock conditions and the permittees plans to achieve the required depth," Godfrey said.

Once these methods are determined, the Corps and other agencies will review them and identify appropriate actions to meet the permit conditions.

Cross Sound will have to more fully characterize those seven rocky locations before they can develop a plan and schedule to finish the cable installation.



Photo by Mark McInerney

Giving up his day job?

Dick Carlson, Chief of Construction/Operations tries out one of the instruments played during the Asian American/Pacific Islander celebration, May 30. See page 10 for complete coverage of the event.

Yankee Voices



Karen White
Regulatory

Congratulations

...to **Kathy Bucciarelli**, Engineering/Planning Division (EPD), who was selected as the WE Committee's Employee of the Month for June 2002. Kathy is recognized for her selfless service, willingness to mentor and her genuine desire to excel in all undertakings.

...to the Base Development Team (BDT) of **Farrell McMillan, Ken Paton, David Mark, Phil Durgin, David Hakanson, Chris Lindsay and Ed Mills**, who have been selected as the WE Committee's Team of the Month for June 2002. Team members are recognized for their commitment to help the District fulfill its Field Force Engineering (FFE) mission. This is a high priority mission in support of the U.S. military, which has recently been assigned to the District.

Words worth repeating

"We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same."

- **Anne Frank**

New online federal benefits guide, and program overview, is available for veterans

by **Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA**
American Forces Press Service

The Department of Veterans Affairs has made its comprehensive benefits guide available for free on the Internet.

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents [<http://www.va.gov/pubaff/fedben/Fedben.pdf>] is a 100-page handbook describing benefits provided by the VA and an overview of programs and services for veterans provided by other federal agencies.

VA officials estimate most of America's 25 million veterans qualify for at least some VA benefits, but many are unaware of their entitlements. This handbook includes a listing of toll-free numbers, World Wide Web information resources, and VA facilities.

Most veterans are eligible for health care and burial benefits. Many are also eligible for home loan guarantees, educational assistance, vocational rehabilitation, life insurance, and compensation for service-connected disabilities.

This guide explains how to access many of these benefits online. For instance, it provides a Web address and instructions for enrolling via the Internet into the VA health care system.

The book describes in detail the priority for care and services available. Separate sections describe specialized services available to Gulf War veterans and those exposed to Agent Orange or radiation.

The Montgomery GI Bill and other education benefits are explained in depth. Burial benefits and employment service are also covered, as are rate charts for the various forms of compensation VA provides.

The book can be purchased through the Government Printing Office for \$5 for U.S.-based customers and \$6.25 for those overseas by calling toll-free (866) 512-1800. By providing it online at <http://www.va.gov/opa/feature/>, the VA hopes to make the information available to more veterans.

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Commander's Corner: A Farewell Top Ten

by Col. Brian E. Osterndorf
District Engineer



Unbelievably, my tour here in New England is coming to an end. Many of you have asked about what I will do next, and how I have enjoyed my time here. There are (almost) literally a million things I have enjoyed about my time here, but, with apologies to Letterman, here is my TOP TEN LIST of things

I will miss most.

10. The Weather. To be a real New Englander, you have to love the weather. Here you get to enjoy four distinct seasons (pre-winter, winter, severe winter, and not winter). Each offers scenic delight (fall foliage, snowfall) as well as numerous opportunities to enjoy great recreational activities in New England (shoveling snow, for example; in May).

9. The Traffic. If it is true that adversity builds character, then New Englanders must certainly rival anyone with the strength of their character. Not only is the traffic volume something to marvel at (New England doesn't have an exclusive claim), but the willingness to self-inflict character building opportunities (rotaries??) has to be truly unique. And only New Englanders would think of combining transportation engineering, (continually) revisionist economic theory and slapstick comedy into one project (the Big Dig).

8. Sports. There is a passion in New England for the home teams unlike anywhere else. Professional sports, especially the Red Sox, are the stuff of life here, as we live and breathe and anguish over Pedro's arm, Nomar's wrist and whether the manager should have pinch hit in the seventh inning. In New England, sport is not a metaphor for life, it is life itself and I will dearly miss not being a part of the excitement when the Red Sox finally win the big one. (This is the year!)

7. The Dialects. Part of the charm of New England is the distinctive pronunciation, and dare I say, accent that sets New Englanders apart. Moreover, you have to admire that Yankee thrift in saving not only "r"s, but often whole syllables when pronouncing "Woostah", "Glostah" and "Noh'eastah". I'll have to get directions to the Bureau of Missing Consonants to retrieve the missing "r"s in Osterndorf. (Honestly, how many of you knew my last name was spelled this way?)

6. The Attention. One of the best things about being the commander is how hard everybody works to satisfy whatever

I might need. Whenever you notice that my desk might be getting a little empty, you graciously bring in some more items to help fill the space. You never let on that I might have just asked a stupid question or never did get the various CAP authorities or project cost sharing percentages straight. Moreover, you always let me be the one to receive the media attention and fan mail from some of our most satisfied customers, including those that offer the most specific advice on how to better serve them (or where to stick my head if I don't take their advice). In the town that features the bar "where everybody knows your name," I appreciated the times that my name became all too familiar.

5. PRBs. This might not have made the Top 10 except for the fact that I just got through sitting through another one, so the experience is still fresh in my mind, although that's not

'We can do serious work without having to be serious all the time – I have enjoyed coming to work every day.'

- Col. Brian E. Osterndorf

exactly where the painful sensation is right now. Many of you don't get to enjoy these monthly rituals where I get to solve all of the problems (generated over years) of each of the projects in about 3 minutes per, except for the several that invariably take somewhat longer. Moreover, the staff gratitude when I finally accede to a bathroom break is truly overwhelming.

4. The Projects. I have had a great view of most (but by no means all) of the important work that is being done in New England by the Corps of Engineers. The wide scope of work, from flood control projects and recreation areas, to construction and environmental remediation projects, to regulatory projects and all of the others is stupendous, and I am truly fascinated each and every time I get to work with each of you on your projects. I honestly feel that I have learned more from you than I could have ever learned anywhere else, and I am extremely grateful.

3. The Fun. This is a fun place to live and work. So much history has occurred in this region, and there are so many interesting places to go and interesting things to do. Additionally, this is a fun place to work – by and large everyone keeps a sense of humor and feels good about what they do. We can do serious work without having to be serious all the time – I have enjoyed coming to work every day.

2. The Automated Information Systems. Hey, how can

Continued on page 4

In Memory:

Bruce Chapman, Regulatory, loved his work

The New England District lost a valued employee and friend when Bruce Chapman passed away after a long illness May 9.

Bruce had been an office assistant with Regulatory since 1995. Prior to that, he worked for DCAA in Boston. His federal service totaled nearly 15 years. According to his supervisor, Karen Adams, Bruce really enjoyed his work. "When he got sick, his goal was to get himself better so that he could come back to work," she said. "It was his motivation."

Greg Penta, Regulatory, recalled some good times with his co-worker. "I got to know Bruce, aka 'Juicy-Brucy,' well in the few years I worked with him," he said. "He and I would often laugh and joke about movies that we'd both see. After seeing Nutty Professor he'd refer to me as 'Hercules.' If you saw the movie, you'd know it wasn't such a compliment! Bruce was an avid reader and extremely knowledgeable about pop culture and historical events."

Corps employees, through the leave-sharing program, exhibited appreciation

for Bruce's personable demeanor and hard work.

According to Karen, the contributions of leave poured in when people realized Bruce was ill. "The leave really helped him a great deal, both emotionally and financially," she said. "The generosity shown by District employees really meant a lot to him."

Bruce was also very fond of the nurses and his doctor at New England Medical Center who helped him get through his first battle with cancer.

During his time with the Corps, Bruce received on-the-spot and performance awards as recognition for his work. A decorated Vietnam veteran, Bruce served in the U.S. Navy. He received the national defense service medal, Vietnam campaign medal, and the Vietnam service medal with two stars.

Bruce was a graduate of Norwood High School. A brother, a sister, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews survive him.

Bruce was laid to rest at Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton, Mass. Donations in his memory can be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Research Institute, 10 Brookline Place West, Brookline, MA 02455.



Bruce Chapman (far left) with his friends and coworkers from Regulatory.

Photo by C.J. Allen

Col. Osterndorf's Farewell Top Ten

Continued from page 3

any list about life with the Corps be complete without some obligatory reference to such beloved work savers like CEFMS, PROMIS, MODERN, and the several other wonderful technological marvels we get to work with.

What I will really miss is finding out whether any of the above systems can be pronounced without the accompanying physical gestures. For example, can anyone really say

"CEFMS" without sneering, or say "PROMIS" without rolling one's eyes back or say "MODERN" without shaking one's head from side to side. I suspect that CEFMS is actually an old English curse word that is still widely used only in the Corps (as in "Forsooth, yon knave put his horse in my stall last night and left behind yon pile of cefms.")

And the number ONE reason I will miss being part of the NAE family:

1. **The People.** All the previous nine notwithstanding, what really has

made this assignment enjoyable is the caliber of the people that I have been able to work with. Not only the District employees, but all of our extended family including contractors, customers and other agencies, have helped make these the most professionally satisfying years of my career.

I admire you for what you do and how you do it, and wish you all the best as you continue to so faithfully serve.

Rovero bids farewell to District, heads off to Israel

A farewell party wishing Lt. Col. John Rovero, Deputy District Engineer, the best of luck in his new assignment was held June 6 at the Hanscom Officer's Club at Hanscom Air Force Base.

Approximately 90 people including friends, employees, and members of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) attended the after hours event. Lt. Col. Rovero, who has been with the New England District since 1998 will be heading to Israel for his next tour.

Joe Bocchino, Executive Assistant, served as Master of Ceremonies. He and Lt. Col. Rovero traded "short" jokes throughout the evening, causing more than a few laughs to erupt from the audience. Joe also presented Lt. Col. Rovero's wife, Nike, with two dozen roses from party attendees.

Dianna Barela, Chief, EEO, was the first guest speaker. She praised Lt. Col. Rovero's support of the Equal Employment Opportunity Program. Because of him, she said, the program has made great strides. Dianna concluded by presenting Lt. Col. Rovero with a District pen.

Dick Carlson, Chief, Construction/Operations, commented on how Lt. Col. Rovero has had a major part in the employees in the field offices becoming closer to the Concord Park employees. He presented the Deputy District Engineer with a Junior Ranger Patch and a Junior Park Manager Patch.

Thames River Basin Park Manager Bob Hanacek expanded on Dick's comment by thanking Lt. Col. Rovero for the support he has given to the Park Rangers during his tour with the District.

Christine Godfrey, Chief, Regulatory and the District's Work Environment (WE) Committee Chair, stepped up to the podium next. She credited Lt. Col. Rovero with the huge success of the WE Committee and their programs. In appreciation for this support, Chris presented the out-going Deputy with a WE Committee starter kit to bring to his new staff in Israel. The kit included pens, a



Photo by C.J. Allen

Col. Osterndorf fastens Lt. Col. Rovero's Meritorious Service Medal on during the farewell party.

T-shirt, and a coffee mug, and a sample charter.

Union Representative Mike Hicks followed Chris and presented Lt. Col. Rovero with a pin and a union t-shirt. According to Mike, the lapel pin is called "The Officer's Jewel" and is extremely collectable because it is the NFFE-IAMAW, AFL-CIO combined emblem, of which there is only a limited number of them in existence. No other non-union member of New England District has ever received the award. Mike said that Lt. Col. Rovero is an now honorary member of NFFE-IAMAW, AFL-CIO Local Lodge 1164 and an Officer Emeritus in recognition of his solidarity in the need for Labor Education to Management and the Bargaining Unit during his tenure at the New England District.

Sheila Warren of SAME stepped up to the microphone and mentioned to the audience that not only was Lt. Col. Rovero a past president of SAME, but he was also a recently elected fellow. According to Ms. Warren, being a fellow is one of the highest and rarest honors SAME can bestow on a member. As she wished him well, Ms. Warren presented him with a sand colored baseball cap so that the color would blend in with the desert environment.

After a few more jokes and teases, Joe presented his "paisano" with the traditional Bunker Hill plaque. Part of the citation read, "Our workplace is

better because of you, and your tour with the New England District will be fondly remembered."

Bill Scully, Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, said that Lt. Col. Rovero was a wonderful leader and friend. He presented him with a minuteman statuette resting on a plaque.

Before turning the microphone over to Col. Brian Osterndorf, District Engineers, Joe presented Lt. Col. Rovero one last gift – a scrimshaw money clip for his new Euro dollars.

The final presentation was saved for Col. Osterndorf, who awarded Lt. Col. Rovero the Meritorious Service Medal for his work while he was with the District.

Lt. Col. Rovero concluded the program by thanking individuals as he worked his way around the audience. He expressed the enjoyment and professional satisfaction he got while with us. He emotionally said he would miss us all.

Angie Vanaria and Ella Minincleri organized the farewell party for Lt. Col. Rovero. New England District retirees who attended were Charlie Coe, Jack Caffrey, former Deputy Division Engineer Lt. Col. Ed Hammond, Joe Ignazio, and former Division Engineer Col. Carl Sciple.

Family members who attended were Lt. Col. Rovero's wife, Nike, father-in-law Henry Poos and brother-in-law, Byron Poos.



Bob Hunt and his family pose for a quick picture during Bob's party.



Attendees enjoyed a piece of Bob's retirement cake for dessert.

Bob Hunt retires after 33 years of service

The courtyard at Concord Park transformed into a place for a retirement function May 31 when over 95 New England District employees, retirees, friends and family gathered to wish Bob Hunt, Programs/Project Management, good luck on his retirement. Bob retired after 33 years of federal service.

While munching on a variety of pizzas, attendees were entertained by watching the Golden Knights, the Blue Angels, and other aircraft practice for the Hanscom Air Show that was to take place the following day.

Bill Scully, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/Project Management, served as Master of Ceremonies. As is customary at New England District retirement luncheons, Bill welcomed the audience, introduced the retirees and Bob's family members who attended.

Bill remarked that family is an extremely large part of Bob's life. As a surprise, Bob's father, Bill, arrived at the luncheon from Maine. "Mr. Hunt is a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy," said Bill. "He was watching the air show practice and saw the type of plane he used to fly go by."

After chronicling Bob's career with the Corps of Engineers, Bill explained that Bob was a true team player. "He is very much a team guy, which is why he wanted to have his retirement party in the courtyard of Concord Park."

Mark Otis, Bob's supervisor, publicly recognized Bob for all his efforts on the many projects he has worked on. "I know that Bob will dive into retirement the way he dived into his work," he said.

Mark presented Bob with gifts from the audience that included a sign for his garden, gardening tools, a gardening book, a gift certificate to his local nursery, and a Corps of Engineers pen. Bob also received the traditional Bunker Hill plaque in appreciation for all his years of service to the District.

Retired Planning Chief, Joseph Ignazio, also had a few words of praise for Bob. "He has done a great job and he is a hard working man," he said. "He has been a real asset to the Corps. I wish him and his wife, Brenda, the best of luck."

Before turning the microphone over to Bob, Deputy District Engineer, Lt. Col. John Rovero, officially retired Bob



Photos by Brian Murphy

After several presenters praised Bob for his work, it was his turn at the microphone to say a few words.



Family, friends, and coworkers crowded the courtyard at Concord Park to wish Bob well in his retirement.



Quentin Walsh, Real Estate, congratulates Bob on his retirement.

by presenting him with a certificate and retirement pin.

Expressing his surprise over the size of the crowd, Bob said, "I thought this was going to be a small pizza party, but look at all of the people who came. Thank you very much for coming."

Before the luncheon concluded, Bob credited the teams that he has worked with for the successes his projects have enjoyed over the years. "The credit doesn't just go to the District employees—our contractors also made large contributions," he said. "Every project has been a total team effort."

Bob, who is a Vietnam era veteran, began his career in 1969 as a Captain with the Corps of Engineers. He joined the civilian side of the Corps (Detroit District) in 1974.

Some of the projects that Bob has worked on over the years include emergency flood control projects on the Great Lakes; Dworshak Dam and Reservoir in Idaho; Roughan's Point and Revere Beach in Revere, Mass; Saugus River and Tributaries in Revere, Lynn, Saugus and Malden, Mass.;



Bob's grandchildren help him in opening his retirement gifts.

Passamoquoddy and Cobscook Bay Tidal Power in Maine, St. John River Basin in Maine; Maine Cropland Irrigation and Conservation Project; Raymark Superfund in Stratford, Conn.; and New Bedford Harbor Superfund Project in New Bedford, Mass.

During his career, Bob has received numerous performance, special act and suggestion awards. He was also named Planner of the Year in 1987.

Bob holds an Associate in Business Administration from Middlesex Community College in Bedford, Mass., and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Maine in Orono, Maine.

The new retiree is involved in organizations to include youth sports (soccer, basketball, and baseball), Christian youth programs, Boy Scouts, and is a middle school soccer coach. Bob also prepares professional papers and presentations for ASCE, ASAE, the Coastal Engineers Research Board, Board of Engineers for River and Harbors, and the EnviroExpo.

In his spare time, Bob enjoys parenting, grandparenting, carpentry, camping, coaching, water/vegetable/flower gardening, and auto repair. Bob and his wife, Brenda, are the parents of five children and three grandchildren. They expect two more grandchildren in the very near future.

Judy Antonellis organized the luncheon. Retirees who attended were Charlie Coe, Arthur Doyle, Ed Fallon, Joe Finnegan, Joe Ignazio, and Pete Jackson. In addition, several representatives of Foster Wheeler attended the party to wish Bob a happy retirement.

Members of Bob's family who came to celebrate Bob's retirement were Bob's wife, Brenda; daughter, Julee, and her son, John Patrick; son, Jim, and his wife Candy; daughter-in-law, Lori, and her son Maxwell; son, Danny, and his fiancé, Lori Inman; daughter, Cyndi, and her son Spencer; and Bob's father, Bill Hunt.



Bob cuts his retirement cake to serve to friends and family.

Health and Wellness



'Tis the Season to Prevent Summer Heat Injuries

by Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Barrett, USA
American Forces Information Service

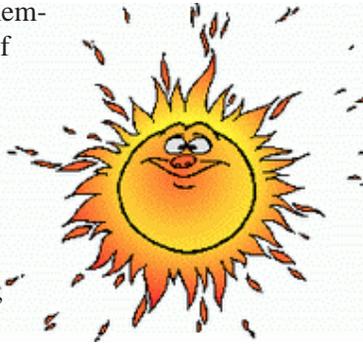
When many Americans think “summer,” they think of vacations where they will spend more than they have on things they’ll always remember. They will remember the beaches, amusement parks and golf courses. And they will remember to take the precautions they need to have a safe and healthy vacation.

However, service members and DoD civilians should remember those same vacation precautions must apply when they return to duty. Many people work outside despite the sun, heat and humidity.

Sgt. Henry Harris of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Preventative Medicine Office recommended people work in shifts and get into cool, shaded areas when they are not working. “With temperatures reaching 90 degrees and above, they also need at least two quarts of water an hour to prevent dehydration and heat injuries,” he said.

This pertains to off-duty activities, especially to athletic events like soccer, softball and running. The heat of competition often makes people ignore their bodies’ demands. “If you know you’re going to be out competing in the heat, start drinking water early and keep replenishing yourself,” said Harris. “Listen to your body and help cool it.”

Harris also emphasized knowing heat injury symptoms. “You have to keep an eye on your people, and that means knowing what to look for and taking the steps to prevent or treat injuries,” he said. There are three types of heat injuries—heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.



The symptom of heat cramps is cramps accompanied by excessive sweating. Treatment is easy: Move into a shaded area, loosen clothes and slowly drink water.

Heat exhaustion is more serious. Besides the cramps, sweating is more profuse and leaves cool, moist skin. Victims often suffer headaches, dizziness, stomach pains and nausea. In severe cases, victims may have seizures, lose consciousness and experience breathing problems.

In both heat exhaustion and heat stroke cases, immediately call medical authorities. While waiting for help, provide the victim water and shade, elevate feet to prevent shock and cool the body by pouring water over the patient and by fanning.

Other suggestions to prevent heat injuries:

- Don’t take salt tablets. The body may lose salt in sweating, but eating normal meals replenishes that supply.

- Drink cool water, preferably 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

- Drink one quart of water in the morning, at each meal and before strenuous work. Water requirements vary with climatic conditions and workloads. In hot climates, hourly water requirements increase to over two quarts.

- Smaller, frequent drinks are more effective than drinking the same amount all at once.

- When possible, limit work and physical fitness activities during the first few days of exposure to heat, then increase gradually to acclimate.

- Modify activities if conditions are present that increase heat injury risks. These conditions include fatigue or loss of sleep, previous heat exhaustion and taking medications.

Practical safety tips for mowing the lawn

- Read the operator’s manual before using a power mower.
- Dress properly for the job: long pants, close-fitting clothes, sturdy shoes, and safety glasses. Don’t wear anything loose that could get caught in moving parts.
- Fill the gas tank before you start. Never refuel a hot mower.
- Wait for grass to dry after rain or heavy dew. Wet grass

- may clog the chute or make you slip.
 - Clear the area to be mowed of rocks, twigs, toys – and children and pets – before you start.
 - Turn off the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire before unclogging or working on outdoor power equipment. Use a stick, not your hands, to clear a chute.
- (Ideas Unlimited)*

Citizens express their opinions at scoping meeting on Quonset/Davisville EIS

Representatives of the New England District traveled to Providence and North Kingstown, R. I. to listen to comments and concerns regarding the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed Quonset/Davisville port and commerce park.

The public scoping meetings were held June 4 in Providence and June 6 in North Kingstown. In total, 229 citizens attended the meetings with 74 making oral comments both for and against the application.

Larry Rosenberg, Chief, Public Affairs, served as meeting facilitator and moderator; Christine Godfrey (June 4) and Joanne Barry (June 6) served as hearing officer; and Sue Holtham spoke on the EIS process.

On January 10, the state of Rhode Island applied for a permit with the Corps of Engineers to develop a compact, automated container terminal at the Quonset/Davisville facility in North Kingstown to handle anywhere from 250,000 to 1,200,000 containers per year.

According to the application, the project proposes to dredge up to 6.3 million cubic yards of material from the Quonset and Davisville channels to a depth of 52 feet, provide 4,000 linear feet of marginal wharf for container ship dockage and fill up to 115 acres of



A member of the public gives his comments and concerns regarding the Rhode Island permit application for a Quonset port during the meeting.

Narragansett Bay to provide a 200-acre laydown area for container processing.

In March, Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer, determined that an EIS would be required for the permit request.

“Preparation of an EIS is necessary for the Corps to evaluate and decide on this permit request,” said Christine Godfrey, Chief of Regulatory. “We have to consider the project’s scale, scope and potential for significant environmental and/or socioeconomic impacts. We have to consider its effect on the quality of the human environment. Additionally, we have a requirement

under National Environmental Policy Act for full and fair public disclosure to ensure that all public interest factors are brought forward and fully evaluated.”

The District will work closely with other federal, state, and local agencies during the environmental review process. Input from the public and these agencies will be included in the EIS, which is why the public scoping meetings were held.

“The purpose of the scoping meetings is to assist the Corps in defining the issues that will be evaluated in the EIS,” said Greg Penta, project manager.

Some of the issues that the EIS will analyze in-depth will include recreational and commercial boating and fishing activities, endangered marine mammals and reptiles, aquatic and benthic habitat destruction and alternation, circulation patterns, invasive species, economics and job creation.

In addition to the comments made directly to District representatives, meeting attendees also utilized the services of the on-site stenographer to voice their opinion. Written statements were also handed in at the meeting. The District continues to receive comments on the scoping throughout the process.



Photos by Mark McInerney

Christine Godfrey, Chief of Regulatory, addresses the public during the scoping meeting.



Elisa E. Cheung and Ching S. Cheung perform musical selections during the celebration.



Following the celebration, EEO serves authentic Asian cuisine to attendees.

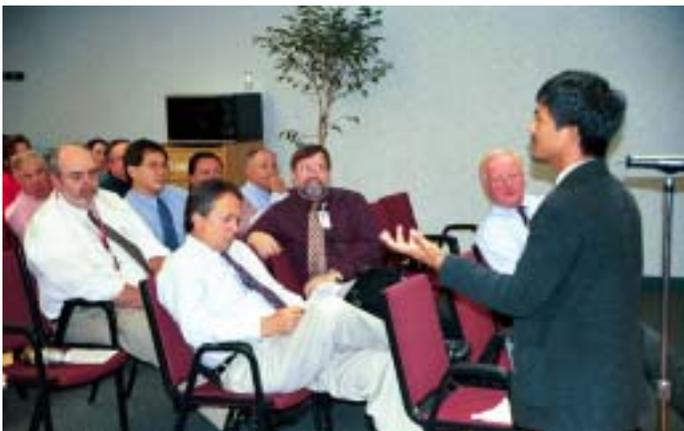
District celebrates Asian American/ Pacific Islander Heritage Month

by **Melissa Mancuso**
Public Affairs Office

(Editor's note: The Asian American/Pacific Islander celebration described below took place at Concord Park on May 30 in the Concord Park cafeteria. The purpose of the EEO-sponsored program was to celebrate the culture of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders.)

The program bears the words "Unity In Freedom" beneath a photo of American flags and soldiers. The idea of freedom is certainly paramount to Chath pierSath.

When the Lowell resident was just 7 years old, Pol Pot's horrible Khmer Rouge reign over Cambodia began. The regime sought to dispense with every cultural and intellectual development, using violence to achieve its aims. Democracy as we know it had no part in Chath's reality. His father died fighting for democracy, battling alongside American troops against the Viet Cong.



Photos by Mark McInerney

Keynote speaker Chath pierSath shares his life experiences with the audience.

Chath, along with other children in his age group, was taken from his family to work from 5 a.m. until 7 p.m., subsisting on a single bowl of rice porridge. His mother was marked for death by the regime because she, as Chath jokingly said, "...had a big mouth." He described how, in an environment where criticizing the government meant certain death, "Your friends were your enemies. Even your family was brainwashed into reporting you." His mother, however, was saved by an invasion by the Vietnamese, which spelled the end of the Khmer Rouge.

Chath came to the United States at the age of 11 with his sister and became the first member of his family to graduate from college. After college, he returned to Cambodia as an aid worker. When he came back to America, he devoted himself to helping others again, working on AIDS awareness outreach to other Asian American and Pacific Islanders.

Thus the poems to his mother and father that he read were even more moving. Chath lost his parents to violence bereft of rhyme or reason, something that, since September 11, has become a reality for many Americans. Chath's story is one of endurance that highlights the freedoms that the majority of Americans take for granted. Through it all, however, he manages to maintain a sense of humor. He quipped, "The United States is lucky to have me!" And then, with a sincere smile, he said, "Who could love America more than me?"

His remarks, coupled with beautiful musical performances by Elisa E. Cheung and Ching S. Cheung and authentic cuisine, made for a program that brought Asian American and Pacific Islander culture to life. The program was the result of efforts by Dianna Barela, EEO, and Chiway Hsiung. Chiway's work, along with that of Dianna, her staff, and the Asian American/Pacific Islander Committee, produced an enlightening and affecting program.



Photo by C.J. Allen

Cory Rogowski, right, and a little friend, plant shrubs at Barre Falls Dam.

Cub Scout works on his conservation badge

by Delia A. Vogel
Barre Falls Dam

Cory Rogowski loves Earth Day at Barre Falls Dam. He has been coming to the event every year since his father, Park Ranger Gary Rogowski, started working for the Lower Connecticut River Basin. This year he celebrated Earth Day by donating time to earn the community service portion of his Conservation Badge.

Cory is a Cub Scout with Pack 26 in Barre, Mass. Most scouts his age get credit for community service donating two or three hours, but Cory spent over eight hours helping the Barre Falls Dam staff host Earth Day. Cory is 10 years old and is in the fourth grade.

He began the day at 8 a.m. helping

his father and the Park Rangers put up signs, road barricades, traffic cones, and exhibits. Then he picked up litter along Coldbrook Road, at the picnic area, and along the access road. After that he helped the project manager plant shrubs in the picnic area. The rest of the day he ran errands for the staff, took photographs, and helped take down exhibits.

When he got home, he was still very excited and told his father he wanted to come back next month and help with Earth Day. He was rather disappointed when his father told him Earth Day is only once a year.

Cory enjoys football, fishing, and bird hunting. One of his favorite things to do is to ride along in his father's car when Gary, who is also the assistant fire chief in Barre, responds to a call.

Federal Recreation Areas Open

by Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs

Recreation areas at the 31 federal flood control reservoirs in New England operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers opened to the public in mid-May.

"Most offer a wide range of recreational opportunities, including picnicking, swimming, boating, fishing and hunting, while a few also provide facilities for overnight camping," said Richard C. Carlson, Chief, Construction/Operations.

Fishing is permitted at all federal flood control reservoirs in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. The only requirement to fish the lakes is a state license and adherence to state regulations. Trout, bass, pickerel, horn pout and perch are available at most reservoirs, while a few areas have their own specialties. Many of the areas are stocked by state fish and game agencies to provide some of the finest fishing in the region.

Developed facilities, including beaches, picnic areas, athletic fields and campgrounds are available at a number of locations. Many are open to individuals or small groups free of charge on a first come, first served basis. A nominal fee is charged to reserve covered picnic shelters. Large groups may be required to obtain user permits for a small fee.

For a brochure about recreational opportunities, including directions to each site, contact Tim Dugan in Public Affairs.

Dredging up the past . . .



Brig. Gen. Jed Brown, North Atlantic Division Commander, Col. Brink Miller, New England Division Commander, and Joe Ignazio, Chief of Planning enjoy a casual conversation during the SAME luncheon held at the Hanscom Officer's Club in this April 3, 1993 photo.

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