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New
England
turns 61
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**US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District**

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Yankee Engineer

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Wind Power:

District holds series of meetings on Winergy, LLC permit applications

For some entrepreneurs, clean energy generated by wind turbines will hopefully find a home for itself off the shores of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. But for some of the residents of Cape Cod and the islands, particularly Nantucket, concerns about public safety and the environment are too high of a price to pay.

Over 135 people attended a series of public hearings and an information meeting on the island of Nantucket and

in Boston, Mass., April 28-29 and May 1. The events were held so that the public could learn about the permits proposed by Winergy, LLC to establish a series of wind farms on seven sites in ocean waters, one of which is approximately 7 miles from Nantucket -- and to make their concerns on the projects known.

Winergy, LLC has applied for two permits. The first permit application is to install, operate and maintain a fixed

tower and associated oceanographic instrumentation in waters off of Nantucket. The other application is requesting permission to install wind turbine generators at one or more locations in navigable waters off the coast of Massachusetts.

Col. Thomas Koning, New England District Engineer, explained the Corps jurisdiction. "Our statutory authorities in this permit process are defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and by Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act," he said. "Our statutory process to gather information, analyze data and involve the public is the National Environmental Policy Act."

Karen Adams, Permit Manager, talked about Regulatory's role in renewable energy by wind turbines in federal waters. She discussed the Corps involvement in offshore wind power, the review of permit applications, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

Larry Rosenberg, Chief, Public Affairs, encouraged the audience's participation in the permitting review process. "The rules for this forum are simple and boil down to this: if you've got a question; ask it. If you've got

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Photo by Mark McInerney

Larry Rosenberg hands the microphone to a citizen during the Nantucket Public Information Meeting.

Yankee Voices

Timothy Hays
Information Management



Founder's Day is June 27

The New England District will celebrate the Corps of Engineers' 228th birthday on Friday, June 27 at Castle Park, Hanscom Air Force Base.

There will be an official awards ceremony, as well as the unveiling of this year's Distinguished Civilian Gallery inductee.

The celebration will include an old fashioned picnic (hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, salad, drinks, etc.), and plenty of music, games and activities.

The cost of the picnic lunch will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Retirees who wish to attend can make reservations with Ann Marie Harvie, Public Affairs, by calling 978-318-8777, e-mailing her at annmarie.r.harvie@usace.army.mil, or writing her at 696 Virginia Rd., Concord, MA 01742 by June 16. Checks can be sent to Ann Marie at the above address. Checks should be made payable to the Founder's Day Committee.

Congratulations

...to **John Winmill**, Construction/Operations, on the birth of his 5th granddaughter, Haley Rose Morrison, April 18. Haley is John's 8th grandchild.

...to **Larry Rosenberg**, Chief, Public Affairs, for his selection as the WE Committee's employee of the month.

...to the Regulatory Environmental Resources Team for being selected as the WE Committee's Team of the Month. Team members include **Ruth Ladd, Paul Minkin and Alexine Raineri**.

Sympathy

...to the family of retiree **Harold W. "Skip" Blazonis**, who passed away Nov. 1, 2002. Mr. Blazonis worked in what was the Foundations & Materials Branch of Engineering Division until he retired in 1979. He was also a long-standing member of the New England Division Bowling League.

...to the family of former Engineering employee **John Reis**, who passed away April 19. At the time of his passing, John was working at the VA Medical Center as an engineer.

...to **John Winkelman**, Engineering/Planning, on the passing of his mother, **Dorothy J. Winkelman**, April 27.

...to **Carol Chaplick**, Regulatory, on the recent passing of her father, **Frank Chaplick**.

Correction

In the April issue of the Yankee Engineer, Bob Hanacek, who appeared in the Dredging Up the Past section of the publication, was identified as the Merrimack River Basin Manager. Bob is the Thames River Basin Manager.

Words Worth Repeating

A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.

-Walter Winchell (1897-1972), Journalist

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Deputy Commander's Corner:

Force Protection and Alternative Work Schedule update

by Lt. Col. Brian A. Green
Deputy District Engineer



Thank you to Col. Koning for allowing me to take over his column this month. I would like to update everyone on several important things that will concern the District in the near future.

First, I'd like to discuss the District Force Protection intranet site and Continuity of Operations plan. There is a new, intranet-based, Force Protection page now available for use by all District employees.

This new District intranet site will allow our employees to view Force Protection resources and tools to improve their knowledge of how Force Protection impacts on our District operations.

Employees can access the site by clicking on the "Force Protection" word icon on the New England District intranet home page.

Thanks to the members of the Force Protection PDT team for doing an outstanding job developing this useful and user-

friendly site.

The Force Protection Team also completed the first draft of our District Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan. The plan will give the District the tools it needs to continue day to day operations in the event of a terrorist strike, natural disaster, etc. The COOP plan is in draft form and is currently under review by the district leadership. Stay tuned for more details in the near future.

'This new District intranet site will allow our employees to view Force Protection resources and tools to improve their knowledge of how Force Protection impacts on our District operations.'

- Lt. Col. Brian A. Green

Next, I would like to discuss where we are with the Alternative Work Arrangement test. As most of you already know, we are about nine months into the one-year test period of our Alternate Work Arrangement (AWA) telecommuting sites at Devens and New Bedford.

The initial survey results from the first six months of the test are in and are being reviewed by the District leadership. Overall, the survey results are positive and support the continuation of our efforts to provide telecommuting opportunities for District employees. Kim Kaminski-Donaher, our HR/CPAC Chief, is compiling the survey information and will brief the senior leadership in the next few weeks. Based on the results of this survey and following strategic planning discussions among senior leaders, we will decide on whether to look at developing additional AWA sites at other locations. For those of you that participated in the survey, thank you for your valuable feedback and input. Updates on the survey results and what they will mean to district employees will be published in the future.

Lastly, I would like to wish all of you a safe and enjoyable summer! Thanks for all you do, everyday, to support our customers and take care of each other. Each of you is a valuable member of the New England District Team!



Graphic provided by the Force Protection team.

Main screen to the New England District Force Protection web site.

District celebrates 61st birthday

To celebrate the Corps in New England turning 61, Col. Thomas Koning, District Engineer, decided to throw a birthday party. Held in the cafeteria on May 1, New England District employees crowded into the Concord Park cafeteria during break time to join Col. Koning, who treated them to a piece of cake.

The District Engineer indicated that the rich history of the birthplace of the Corps was a good reason to celebrate. "In this District, we can trace our lineage and history back to 1775 and Col. Richard Gridley," he said. "We can print up the lists of the District Engineers for Boston, Providence, Portsmouth and others for almost 175 years. But it was on May 1, 1942 when the Army Corps officially designated the geographic boundaries and named us the New England Division."

Col. Koning said that the New England District has evolved since it was first named 61 years ago.

"We have experienced many changes over the years, including going from a Division to a District and adding a military mission," he said. "But the basic function as an organization has remained relatively constant from that time. We have enough challenges in the

work we do that celebrating the good things cannot be underdone."

The birthday was also a good chance for Col. Koning to show his appreciation to his employees.

"The District is a busy place," he said. "All of us often become so busy doing our everyday jobs, we forget to be thankful for the good things in our lives and the people around us. We forget to say 'thank you' to our subordinates and co-workers, without whom the jobs would not get done. I also think we often forget where we came from -- meaning the history of the District, the Corps, the Army and the people that made the organization what it is today. What better way to celebrate our history and thank the work force than with a birthday party?"

Angie Vanaria, Ella Minincleri, and Diane Ray assisted the Colonel with the celebration.



Photo by Brian Murphy

Angie Vanaria (left) helps Col. Thomas Koning and Ella Minincleri (right) cut the birthday cake. Col. Koning held a party in honor of the District's 61st birthday.



Photos by Brian Murphy

A Junior Ranger demonstrates how a dam works with the District's dam model.



This child enjoys the rock climbing wall.

Barre Falls, Hubbardston celebrate Earth Day

Barre Falls Dam hosted the town of Hubbardston's Earth Day celebration, May 3 from noon to 4 p.m. The town of Hubbardston arranged for many activities to include live music by Kelly Girourd, Trevor the Games Man to entertain the children, and refreshments at a modest donation.

Horse-drawn wagon rides were held throughout the afternoon. Exhibitors included earth friendly vendors, government agencies, and local environmental groups. Smokey the Bear and Woody Owl also returned.

Local Boy Scout troops exhibited bird and bat boxes, and local Girl Scout troops painted faces. The Devreux School operated a booth that allowed event participants to make their own peanut butter bird feeder.

Barre Falls Dam sponsored a rock-climbing wall, hosted a children's shrub planting, and demonstrated the working dam model.

Barre Falls Dam's self-guided gristmill walking trail was also available for attendees to enjoy. Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife stocked the Ware

River with trout for the event and conducted a fly casting workshop. The town of Hubbardston's Fire Department was a new exhibitor this year.

Earth Day was created by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson. The first celebration was held in 1970, seven years after he convinced President John Kennedy to bring national visibility to the environment.

More than 20 million people participated in an event that would become an annual observance held throughout the nation.



Trevor the Games Man entertains children.



People pile into the horse-drawn wagon for a ride.



Children salute as the New England District Ranger Color Guard marches past during the Patriot's Day parade.

Photos by C.J. Allen

Celebrating Our History:

District Color Guard, Historian march in Concord's Patriots' Day parade

On April 19, 1775, a shot was heard around the world that started the Revolutionary War and America's road to becoming a free nation.

Two hundred and twenty-eight years later to the day, the town of Concord, Mass., commemorated its role in the war and honored the patriots who gave their lives with its annual reenactment and Patriots' Day parade.

The New England District Ranger Color Guard represented the District during the three-mile parade. District Historian Tim Hays donned his militia uniform and musket and marched with the Lincoln Minuteman.

"The New England District is always honored to join the town of Con-

cord in commemorating such an important moment in history," said Col. Thomas Koning, District Engineer. "The Corps of Engineers was formed during the Battle of Bunker Hill only a few months after the Revolutionary War began, and only a few miles away in Charlestown, Mass. We are proud to be able to share in the rich history of our nation's beginnings."

The parade began on Everett Street and continued past many historical landmarks until it paused at Buttrick Hillside along the North Bridge to view the

commemoration of the Concord conflict.

The North Bridge ceremony consisted of an invocation, a wreath-laying at the minuteman statue and the British graves at the obelisk, a cannon salute by the Concord Independent Battery and the playing of the national anthems "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Save the Queen."

The New England District Ranger Color Guard joined the rest of the participants in resuming the parade after the ceremony, ending in the center of

Concord.

The Revolutionary War began in Lexington, Mass., when 77 colonists assembled on Lexington Green, having been alerted that 700 British soldiers were advancing to arrest colonial leaders and seize any supplies of powder and arms they could find.

The British commanded the colonists to disperse, and as they were doing so, a shot was fired. No one knows which side fired the first shot, but what is known is that the British soldiers fired on the retreating colonists, killing eight. News of the shooting and the continuing march of the British soldiers toward Concord spread to the countryside. Minutemen from Concord and neighboring communities gathered near the North Bridge to keep an eye on the Redcoats.

Fearing that the British were setting fire to the town, the colonists advanced on the British soldiers guarding the North Bridge, and a brief battle occurred in which two colonists and three British were killed. As the British regrouped and marched back to Boston, the colonists followed.

Fighting broke out again and continued throughout the day as the British column retreated along the Battle Road. When the fighting ended at sunset, 49 Americans and 73 British had died.

Joe Faloretti, Merl Bassett, Mike Curran, Will Rogers, Gary Rogowski, and Bob Hanacek made up the New England District Ranger Color Guard. (*Boston College Professor Dr. Donald Hafner contributed to the history portion of this story.*)



The District Ranger Color Guard pauses during the wreath-laying ceremony.



Marchers dressed in Colonial costumes take their places for the parade.



Members of the 4H Club march across the historic North Bridge.



The Lincoln Minutemen catch up on the latest New England District news. Tim Hays (far right) is the District's Historian.

Enhancements to Concord Park will beautify landscape and improve security

by Michael Russo
Force Protection Team

Beginning this summer, individuals entering the Concord Park office complex will experience slight inconveniences as the facility will undergo a series of upgrades designed to enhance the landscape and provide additional safeguards throughout the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England headquarters.

The District Force Protection Team will oversee the construction and installation of the enhanced security upgrades at the Concord, Mass., facility. A groundbreaking is currently scheduled in June that will mark the beginning of the first phase of a multi-phase implementation process. This implementation phase is the culmination of an 18-month effort that began on Sept. 12, 2001.

The District force protection team was authorized, as part of Operation Noble Eagle, to begin work on the Concord Park security upgrades project. The first phase of the project required the team to perform a security assessment of the Corps New England headquarters.

The purpose of the assessment was to identify any potential threats to the people working in the facility, expose any vulnerabilities that existed in the current security system, and recommend possible security upgrades that would mitigate an identified threat.

As part of this assessment a conceptual design proposal was recommended to Col. Thomas L. Koning, District



Artist's view of Concord Park's main entrance.



Graphics provided by the Force Protection Team

Artist's view of employee entrance.

Engineer, for approval. Once the commander approved the assessment report, it was forwarded to USACE to obtain the necessary funding for design and implementation of the project. The funding was received in September 2002 and the second phase, the design phase, of this project began in October.

The District force protection team was faced with a number of challenges while developing the preliminary design for the new security system. Due to the diverse nature of the threat scenarios, the team needed to incorporate a combination of site alterations and electronic security upgrades to achieve the desired result.

The team also needed to address various concerns raised by the building owner, the town of Concord, and the self-imposed concerns such as safety, drainage, and aesthetics. The design package is currently being reviewed by the town of Concord.

A decision was made that (in order) to achieve all the goals identified during the planning phase, a modular implementation approach would be necessary. The first construction stage will begin next month and will result in significant modifications to the existing landscape at Concord Park. This phase will include altering the existing entry way, constructing new walls, installing vehicle gates with access control capabilities, and constructing a permanent guard shelter.

Many questions have been raised as to how this project will impact individuals entering the Concord Park facility during the construction and after its completion.

The force protection team intends to provide additional information prior to the June groundbreaking. For additional information concerning this project contact Mike Russo via e-mail or on extension 822.



Photo by Mark McInerney

Col. Thomas Koning serves as hearing officer during the public hearing for the Winergy, LLC permit application.

District holds series of meetings on Winergy, LLC permit applications

Continued from page 1

something to say; say it. And lastly, if you've got an idea; express it."

Attendees were vocal with their concerns. The environmental impacts of the project were a primary concern to Jeremy Slavitz. "Both MEPA (the Commonwealth) and the Army Corps of Engineers must require full study of the impact of these projects on these endangered species, including exploring the impact of threatened flora and fauna by alterations and damage to the ocean bottom, changes in tidal flow and the impact of scouring and materials used to prevent scouring."

The residents of Nantucket also raised many issues about allowing the wind turbines to be constructed. Safety was on the minds of members of the audience. "Lights and audible signals that must be a part of any installation of wind energy towers will inevitably introduce confusion," said Maurice Gibbs.

Timothy Lepore was also concerned with safety. "The thick fog which is a regular occurrence will certainly cause these generators to become hazards to navigation," he said. "They will be hazards not only for the

recreational and commercial fishing fleets, but to the many ships using the international shipping channels."

Arthur Pugsley of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office told the attendees that under MEPA, state agencies are required to study the environmental consequences of their actions, which includes permitting and financial assistance decisions. State agencies must also take all feasible measures to avoid or minimize the damage to the environment, according to Mr. Pugsley.

Col. Koning said that many things would be considered in the permit application decision. "This decision will reflect the national concern for both the protection and utilization of important resources as well as the benefits that may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseen detriments," he said.

The Corps of Engineers closed the comment period on both permit applications on May 16.

A website has been established for these projects. For more information, please go to <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects/ma/winergy/winergypermit.htm>

District recreation areas to 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 areas 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 of Construction/Operations for the Army Corps of Engineers in New England.

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 the Public Affairs Office or check the website at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/recreati/>.

Ceremony honors individuals and teams

"I think it's a super thing to be able to acknowledge the great work that people do."

This is the reason why Col. Thomas Koning, District Engineer, held a brief awards ceremony, May 15, to recognize the accomplishments of some of the District's employees.

The District Engineer began by recognizing the WE Committee's employee of the month for May. The honor was given to Larry Rosenberg, Chief, Public Affairs, who was selected for his work during a visit by Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, Chief of Engineers. Larry received a commander's coin, a certificate, a beach chair, and a special parking space. Joe Bocchino, Executive Assistant, submitted the nomination.

The WE Committee's Team of the month was next to receive recognition. The May award went to the Regulatory Environmental Resources Team. Team members include Ruth Ladd, Paul Minkin and Alexine Raineri.

Col. Koning said that Regulatory permits direct what people can and cannot do, and when they do something that isn't necessarily in the public's interest such as destroying wetlands, permittees must mitigate. "This team asked the question, 'do they actually mitigate?' and then they went out and did the research to find out the answers to that question," he said.

The results of that research was a mitigation study that the team presented at a Wetlands Mitigation Summit held last March. The team received the award for their work on that mitigation study.

Following the WE Committee awards, Col. Koning presented Achievement Medals for Civilian Service to the District's Force Protection Team. "This is a group that has been working hard for a year, and some of that work is now coming to fruition," said Col. Koning. "The group produced our Force Protection Dam Assessments a year ago and worked to put all the data together to send it into the Corps headquarters. The

Force Protection Team evaluated to see what projects, particularly our dams, were vulnerable."

Col. Koning said that the evaluated projects included the Cape Cod Canal, Concord Park, Resident Offices. The work was performed to ensure the Corps is taking care of its people the best it can, particularly in these uncertain times with terrorism. The team is made up of Mike Russo, Steve Andon, Marie Connor, Josh Levesque, Farrell McMillan, Mark Vance, Mark Geib, Matt Walsh, Chris Scabia, Rich Ring, Chris High, and Jim Law.

"Together we compiled about 37 reports that were submitted ahead of the game to Division," said Farrell, who served as the Program Manager while he was the deputy chief of Construction/Operations.

Farrell also received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Dick Carlson, Chief, Construction/Operations for his efforts as his deputy. Farrell spent a year in Construction/Operations. "Farrell helped build a stronger relationship that is so necessary with the field people," said Dick. "The relationship-building that he did also carried over to improve relations between Construction/Operations and Engineering/Planning."

Col. Koning wrapped up the awards ceremony with Steve Rubin's retirement awards and certificates. "All of the coaching, teaching and mentoring he has done over the years has helped him raise a generation of economists and people who evaluate our projects," he said. "That passing of knowledge and tradition is a tremendous legacy. The people who have learned from you will pass that knowledge on to another generation."

Col. Koning concluded the awards ceremony by presenting Steve with his 35 year certificate and pin, a commander's coin, and his retirement certificate and pin. "Thank you for your service and for the lives that you have touched in the District."



First prize painting for Mahan

William Mahan, Chief of Logistics, recently entered his painting, entitled "Partners" in the North River Art Festival in Marshfield, Mass., and won first prize in the oils and acrylics category. The popular festival hosted about 400 entries for its contest. The first prize ribbon brings a cash award and center stage on awards night, according to Bill.

New England District employees may recognize "Partners," as it was displayed on the walls of Concord Park along with other paintings by Bill for a year and a half, coming down just before the Change of Command ceremony in July 2002.

"Partners" was on display at the festival until June 1.

District takes its Daughters and Sons to work

Twenty-five children ages 8-14 came to work with their parents and participated in an EEO-sponsored program to celebrate, "Take Your Daughters/Sons to Work Day," April 24 from 9 a.m., to 2:30 p.m., in the theatre. The educational program touched on some of the many missions of the Corps of Engineers.

After welcoming remarks from Dianna Barela, EEO Officer, the attendees viewed a 20-minute video on the history of the Cape Cod Canal.

Raushanah Muhammad followed the video with a game of Ice Breaker Bingo. "It is played similar to the original version except there were questions in each box that addressed favorite food, most admired person, birthday, etc.," explained Raushanah. "The main purpose of the activity was to have each student meet other participants and recognize their common likes and similarities rather than focusing on dislikes."

Next up were Rich Riley and Brad Clark with an hour-long water safety presentation. They were followed by an Air Sampling demonstration given by Trish Sumner.

Scott Michalak and Siamac Vaghar entertained and informed with a dam project discussion and video. "We discussed general embankment dams and



Photos by Brian Murphy

Rich Riley and Brad Clark show kids how to put on life jackets during the water safety presentation.

the design principles," said Scott. "We had the children watch the video to show the importance of dams in regards to flood protection, hydropower, irrigation, and recreation. We also discussed the importance of having the dams designed and constructed properly while having minimum impact on the environment (fish passage). We demonstrated dam failures through seepage, piping, and overtopping and the corrective actions used to alleviate these potential problems."

As youngsters munched on lunch, Dave Schafer gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Corps' Disaster relief

mission. "The children seemed very interested," he said of the presentation. "They asked good questions and answered my questions enthusiastically."

The program continued with an interpretive program presentation by Viola Bramel and a talk on bridge building by Mike Walsh. Federal Women's Program Manager Barbara Blumeris concluded the presentation by thanking the children for participating.

Raushanah felt that the Take Your Daughters/Sons To Work Day was worthwhile. "I believe that it is important to expose young people to different professions and to show them how what you do as a parent, grandparent, aunt etc., affects everyday life," she said. "I participated in the program (through Girl Scouts) when I was young and greatly benefited from it, neither one of my parents are engineers but through these types of programs I was able to meet and spend the day with engineers, architects, attorneys and doctors."

Scott and Siamac agreed. "This provides a forum for children to see and interact with what we do every day and have selected to do as a profession," they said. "We believe it provides the children with a view of the practical application of the scientific principles they study at school."



Christopher Gardner raises his hand to ask Scott Michalak a question about his dam presentation.

Dredging up the past . . .



Workers begin the construction of the heat plant located at the Murphy Federal Center in this circa 1940s photo. The Federal Center was home to the Corps in New England for decades, and was recently torn down to make way for other structures.

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