

Yankee



Dick Reardon, Dave Goodrich and Bobby Byrne

Sympathy

... to Mark Wilmes, UCRB Operations Project Manager, on the passing of his father in law, Francis James (Jim) Murray, Jan. 9.

... to Laura Lally, Regulatory, on the passing of her mother, Margaret Vincuilla, Jan. 18.

... to Joanne Mccarron of the Cape Cod Canal of the sudden death of her husband William Miller on Jan. 22.

...to the family of retired East Brimfield Lake Project Manager Leo Roberts who passed away Jan 23. Mr. Roberts retired in 1987 after 22 years of service. He was also a World War II US Navy veteran serving on the USS Anthony (DD-515) in the Pacific.

Words worth repeating

"I still find each day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read, and all the friends I want to see."

- John Burroughs

Army Chief of Staff: Sequestration Would Impact Army Readiness

Furloughs, budget cuts and curtailment of training would significantly impact Army readiness if the billions of dollars in spending cuts triggered by sequestration are allowed to take place March 1, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Ray Odierno told lawmakers.

Odierno, along with other senior defense and military leaders testified on the impact of sequestration before the Senate Armed Services Committee. "The fiscal outlook that the Army faces in fiscal year 13 is dire, and to my knowledge, unprecedented," Odierno said.

Since 2008, the total Army budget will have been reduced by 37 percent. If sequestration is enacted, it will be greater than 45 percent. This reduces the ability to reset the force, and delays modernization programs the Army currently funds, he said.

"We simply cannot take the readiness of our force for granted. If we do not have the resources to train and equip the force, our soldiers, our young men and women, are the ones who will pay the price, potentially with their lives," Odierno said.

The Army will also have constraints on military training and readiness, Odierno said. Even though current military personnel are spared, civilian employees will be affected through layoffs and furloughs. An Army-wide hiring freeze is already in effect, and about 3,100 temporary and term employees have been terminated.

Sequestration will mean curtailing training of 80 percent of ground forces, affecting basic war-fighting skills. It could also introduce a critical shortfall in areas such as aviation, intelligence and engineering, Odierno said.

Local business will be affected as well. "In the Army, we are going to have to reduce purchase orders from 3,000 small companies," said Odierno. "From an Army perspective, it will hit the small companies" an impact that he predicted would be devastating.

Gen. Frank Grass, chief of the Army National Guard told lawmakers "In the area of personnel: a government, civilian, and military-technician hiring freeze compounded by a 22-day furlough will limit our ability to train and maintain our National Guard forces."

Those testifying urged lawmakers to prevent sequestration from occurring.

"I know what it takes to prepare this nation's sons and daughters for war. I know what it takes to grow leaders in our Army. I know what is required to send Soldiers into combat, and I've seen the consequences when they are sent unprepared," said Odierno. (Army News Service)

YANKEE ENGINEER is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper under provisions of AR 360-1 published monthly. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Contributions from readers are solicited, but publication depends on judgment of the editor. No payment will be made for contributions. Published by the Public Affairs Office, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751, 978-318-8777. Printed by the offset method on recyclable paper by the Defense Printing Office in Boston, Mass. Circulation 1600. The YANKEE ENGINEER can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/news/yankee.htm. ON THE COVER: Artist's rendition of the Muddy River Restoration project. Inset photo: Flooding at the Muddy River. Materials provided by Mike Keegan.



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Commander's Corner:

Advancing Ourselves and the Organization through Critical Thinking!

by Col. Charles P. Samaris District Commander



"The Problem: Everyone thinks; it is our nature to do so. But much of our thinking, left to itself, is biased, distorted, partial, uninformed or down-right prejudiced. Yet the quality of our life and that of what we produce, make, or build depends precisely on the quality of our thought. Shoddy thinking is costly, both in money and in

quality of life. Excellence in thought, however, must be systematically cultivated."

~ Richard Paul and Linda Elder, 2008

New England Team,

What a year thus far! Already chock full of challenges! Fiscal constraint, Superstorm Sandy, Budget Guidance, Coastal Recovery, Conference Rules, Key Leader Retirements, and now...Blizzard NEMO! Yes, indeed...very complex challenges!

So, what's the good news? YOU ARE! You see, I know two things: 1) We - New England District, North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – are rich with character, passion, and talent; and 2) Within every challenge exists the seed of opportunity...we just have to look for it!

But to find that seed within the immensely complex challenges we face requires leaders at all levels to think... and think critically. Critical thinking is a purposeful, directed, reflective effort to identify root causes and/or opportunities, develop solutions and/or initiatives, and achieve superior results.

Richard Paul and Linda Elder, in The Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking Concepts and Tools (2008), offer an exceptionally useful explanation of critical thinking...

A Definition: Critical thinking is that mode of thinking - about any subject, content, or problem - in which the thinker improves the quality of his or her thinking by skillfully taking charge of the structures inherent in thinking and imposing intellectual standards upon them.

The Result: A well cultivated critical thinker:

- Raises vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely; gathers and assesses relevant information, and using abstract ideas to interpret it effectively comes to well-reasoned conclusions and solutions, testing them against relevant criteria and standards;
- Thinks open-mindedly within alternative systems of thought, recognizing and assessing, as need be, their assumptions, implications, and practical consequences; and...
- Communicates effectively with others in figuring out solutions to complex problems.

Critical thinking is, in short, self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective thinking. It presupposes assent to rigorous standards of excellence and mindful command of their use. It entails effective communication and problem solving abilities and a commitment to overcome our native egocentrism and sociocentrism.

So, our real challenge does not reside in the list found in the first paragraph. Our real challenge, especially for our leaders at all levels, is to think critically about ourselves and our organization. Find the seed, or more likely seeds, of opportunity...that present themselves every single day. And think, act, and advance the entire team!

Essayons!
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"Critical thinking is the use of those cognitive skills or strategies that increase the probability of a desirable outcome. It is used to describe thinking that is purposeful, reasoned, and goal directed."

~ Diane F. Halpern, Psychologist and past-president of the American Psychological Association

"The word 'critical' really has to do with purposeful, reflective and careful evaluation of information as a way to improve one's judgment."

~ Colonel (Retired) Stephen J. Gerras, Ph.D., Professor of Behavioral Sciences, U.S. Army War College



The Ipswich Antenna Testing Facility will be demolished under a \$2 million contract.

Photo provided by Ruth Cormie

Construction site at Ipswich Antenna Testing Facility in Ipswich is off limits to public access

By Timothy Dugan Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District and contractor Watermark Environmental, Inc., are conducting construction activities at the Ipswich Antenna Test Facility site in Ipswich, Mass., and the public is restricted from access to the site. The entire site is an active construction zone now through Oct. 19, and is therefore off limits to public access for safety reasons.

The project involves the planning, execution, and closure reporting for the deconstruction and restoration of the Ipswich Antenna Test Facility located at 16 Skytop Road, in Ipswich, Mass. It includes the decommissioning,

demolition, and proper disposal of all buildings, structures, utilities and oil tanks; identification and removal of hazardous materials; and the restoration of the project site disturbed by demolition work.

The intent of the project is to restore the site to conditions similar to those encountered on the site when the U.S. Air Force first occupied the location in 1943. The site has been leased by the U.S. Air Force since the end of World War II and has served as an antenna test facility since that time.

The \$2 million contract for the work was awarded to Watermark Environmental, Inc. of Lowell, Mass. on Sept. 7, 2012. The project will be managed by the Corps and all work will be ac-

complished under the supervision of a Corps' Quality Assurance Representative to assure compliance with contract requirements. The entire site is a construction zone and is off limits to the general population while the Corps is conducting its work.

The contractor will be putting up notification signs and barricades to prevent people from entering the site. The public is asked to stay out of the construction site for its own safety.

For any questions about this activity contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Devens Resident Office at 978-318-8104. For more information about the Corps' New England District projects and activities visit the website at: http://www.nae.usace.army.mil.

Construction on Muddy River project to begin

By Timothy Dugan Public Affairs Office

Construction on the Muddy River Restoration Project, a flood and erosion mitigation project that aims to enhance the aquatic environment and improve the quality of the watershed, has officially begun.

The construction project is located in the footprint generally between the Riverway and downstream to Avenue

Louis Pasteur. The only trees being removed are those removals necessary to conduct the construction activities. These removals have been coordinated with the city of Boston and Massachusetts DCR. Since some branches of these trees overhang the roadways, there will be periodic roadway lane closures to protect the traveling public. Police details will be used to assist in traffic management. Additionally, for safety reasons, pedestrian traffic will need to be re-routed around

the work areas associated with the tree removal efforts. Signage will be used to direct the pedestrians around active work areas until such a time as they are enclosed with fences and barriers.

Immediately following the completion of the tree removal effort, the construction areas will begin to be enclosed with fences and barriers to prevent access to active work areas by the public. Once the old Sears parking area (also known as the Sears rotary) is enclosed by a barrier with fencing, efforts to relocate a Boston Water & Sewer Commission sewer line will begin. Most of this effort will take place off of the roadways. Some roadway closures will be made when the new line is cut into the existing manholes.

These lane closures will be planned for off-peak travel periods and police details will be used to assist in traffic management.

The major Phase I project components involve the installation of a 10-foot by 24-foot box culvert under the Riverway roadway, the installation of a 10-foot by 24-foot box culvert under the Brookline Avenue roadway, daylighting of the area between the Riverway and



Col. Charles Samaris, Michael Dukakis, former Mass. Governor, and Gov. Deval Patrick, at the Muddy River groundbreaking ceremony.

Brookline Avenue, and daylighting of the area between Brookline Avenue and Avenue Louis Pasteur. Daylighting is the removal of a culvert and excavation of the area to return the waterway to a natural state

Starting on about March 1, traffic management changes will be started that will allow for the installation of the culvert under Brookline Avenue. Traffic on Brookline Avenue between Fenway and Park Drive will be one way only headed inbound. Traffic coming down Brookline Avenue or Boylston Street outbound that want to continue down Brookline Avenue to the medical center will need to travel around the rotary between Brookline Avenue, the Riverway and along Fenway. New traffic signals

will be installed to ease the congestion that occurs when traffic traveling down Park Drive from Brookline tries to merge with traffic exiting the Riverway.

On or about March 1, work will begin on relocating the driveway exit out of the Landmark Center onto Park Drive. This relocation is being done to allow traffic exiting to have access to the various roadways as they do now throughout the construction period and

beyond. Once traffic management changes have been completed, work will begin on the installation of the Brookline Avenue culvert. This work will initially be conducted in the Sears rotary area. As the work progresses further downstream, traffic pattern changes will need to be made to Brookline Avenue. Installation of test piles/drilled shafts will be initiated as part of the Brookline Avenue culvert effort.

During the entire construction period, sidewalks will be maintained to allow safe passage to pedestrians.

There will be some pathways, such as the diagonal path across the Sears Rotary that will be eliminated. Other early incremental work activities scheduled to happen during the upcoming 90-day period include erosion control installation, soil borings and sampling, survey, and observation well installation. These activities will also require periodic roadway lane closures and pedestrian re-direction to allow for the work. All roadway lane closures will be supported by police details to assist in traffic management.

The work that is expected to occur in a 90-day look ahead is posted on the Corps web page. The information can be found at the hyperlink shown below. The information will be updated as work progresses. http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/projects/muddyRiver/ConstructionActivities.pdf



Ken Paton addresses the audience during his retirement lunch.

Photos by Brian Murphy

Paton retires after 33 years of federal service

Ken Paton, with over 33 years of service to the nation as a Military Programs Project Manager, retired Jan 2, at a ceremony at Concord Park.

Scott Acone, Chief of Military and Environmental Project Management Branch, served as host during the retirement ceremony that followed the lunch. He welcomed the audience and recognized Paton's family and retirees who were in attendance.

About 65 family members, friends, retirees and coworkers attended to celebrate Paton's distinguished career and to wish him the best in retirement.

Several speakers stepped up to the microphone to honor Paton, both the person and the professional. Tony Mackos, Interim Chief, Engineering/ Planning, spoke about Paton's career when he was in Engineering. Darrell Deleppo, Program Manager from North Atlantic Division, shared some personal stories when he and Paton would hike together. Deleppo also talked about Paton's support to NAD and thanked

him for his service. Tom Schluckebier, Civil Engineer from Hansom Air Force Base, spoke about the support that Paton had provided the base for more than a decade. In appreciation for his service and support, Schluckebier presented Paton with a bean pot with the Hanscom Minuteman logo embossed on it. Farrell McMillan, retired Chief of Engineer/Planning, also got up to pay tribute to the District's latest retiree.

After the speakers made their remarks, Acone presented Paton with a Bunker Hill plaque in appreciation for his many years of service to the District. "Your ability to build relationships with coworkers and customers alike is a credit to your leadership and selfless service," read Acone. "You took on every project and challenge with a relaxed style and sense of humor that infected everyone else on the team and lead to success in everything you touched."

Acone presented Paton's wife, Darleen, with a bouquet of flowers, representing the District's appreciation for the sacrifices she had to make during Paton's career. Bill Scully, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/ Project Management, assisted Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander, in presenting Paton with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service. He received the honor for his invaluable service to the New England region and the nation during the past 33 years. "His leadership and expertise is of the highest caliber and is a credit to his selfless service and professionalism," read Scully.

Col. Samaris also presented Paton with his retirement certificate and pin. Other gifts that Paton received during the lunch included a "Book of Knots" to learn, an emergency radio/flashlight/cell phone charger with crank handle and a gift certificate to L.L. Bean from the audience.

Paton began his career with the Corps in New England in 1986 as a mechanical engineer. Prior to working for the District, he worked as a safety



Col. Charles Samaris presents Ken Paton with his retirement certificate.



Scott Acone presents Darleen Paton with flowers.

intern at the U.S. Army Materiel Command in Texarkana, Texas, a firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service in California, and a mechanical engineer at Fort Devens, Mass.

When he transferred from the District's Engineering Division to Programs/Project Management in 2000, he immediately began to make an impact in the District's military programs, to include installation and support work at the Natick Soldier System Center and a \$37 million project at Hanscom Air Force Base.

Paton received the 2002 Design Agent of the Year award from the Commanding General of the U.S. Air Force Materiel Command. He also received recognition from the Commanding General of the Natick Soldier System (NSS) Command for his support that same year.

Paton successfully oversaw the completion of close to \$100 million in



Ken Paton's riends and coworkers.

funded installation support projects for NSS and Hanscom, forging close working relationships with the staff at both installations. He earned their respect and a reputation as a responsive, dedicated project manager.

Some of his numerous projects include an addition to a mental health clinic and the construction of a 72 room dormitory at Hanscom as well as an Air Force Recruiting Center in Rutland, Vermont under the Base Realignment and Closure program (delivered on time and within budget).

When called to support the Corps Overseas Contingency Operations came, Paton answered by serving five months as the Resident Engineer in the Tallil Area Office in Iraq.

While there, his exemplary performance continued, working on several critical infrastructure projects such as railway improvements, water treatment and pumping projects. Paton also



Ken Paton cuts his retirement cake.



Tom Schluckebier presents Ken Paton with a Bean Pot.

lent his expertise stateside when he deployed for disaster recovery with the Corps Hurricanes Georges and Floyd missions.

Over his career, Paton has received numerous awards and citations, both from the District and outside agencies to include a Commander's Award for Civilian service for his outstanding work in Iraq.

Paton plans to take it easy and enjoy life during his retirement years. Family members who attended his lunch were his wife, Darleen, his daughter Erica and husband Neil, daughter Andrea and her boyfriend Jack.

Distinguished Civilian Gallery members Dick Reardon and Dick Carlson attended the lunch.

Other retirees that came to wish Paton well were Greg Buteau, Mark Otis, Bobby Byrne, Joe Colucci, Farrell McMillan, Deborah Gabrielson, Mike Remy and Chris Lindsay.



Lt. Col. Steven Howell presents Mark Vance with his retirement certificate.

Photos provided by Laura Fraser

A celebration of Mark Vance's 35-year career

Friends, co-workers, and retirees of Senior Geotechnical Engineer Mark Vance gathered at the Great Wall restaurant in Bedford, Mass., Dec. 20

to celebrate his distinguished 35-year career and his decision to join the District's retirement community.

About 60 people attended the

lunch. Laura Fraser and Chris Scabia served jointly as hosts for the event and made presentations. Fraser concluded the speaking portion of the event by giving Vance a Bunker Hill plaque in appreciation for his many years of dedicated and distinguished service. Fraser and Scabia also presented Vance with gift cards to REI and Bass Proshop.

Vance received his retirement certificate from Lt. Col. Steven Howell, Deputy District Commander, at a small gathering the day after the lunch.

Vance served all of his 35 years of federal career with the New England District. During that time he worked on a myriad of projects to include the Hodges Village Dam Rehabilitation, the West Hill Dam Rehabilitation, Town Brook River Improvements, Quincy Dam and Construction and the Ball Mountain Dam studies.

An avid outdoorsman, Vance plans on spending his leisure time fishing, canoeing, hiking and riding his motorcycle. Distinguished Civilian Gallery members Dick Reardon and Dick Carlson attended Vance's lunch. Other retirees who came to wish him well were Farrell McMillan, Joe Bocchino, Mark Geib, Terry Wong, Yuri Yatsevitch, Bobby Byrne, Don Wood, Joe Colucci and Greg Buteau.



Friends and coworkers gather at the Great Wall restaurant to celebrate Mark Vance's career.

Survey Team members retire from federal service

Steve Johnston, Chief of Survey, and survey technician Paul Cohn retired from federal service recently.

Johnston retired on Jan. 2 after more than 40 years of federal service. Johnston chose to retire quietly, so a small retirement lunch was held at Café Luigi's in Bedford with the seven team members that work in his office. "There was no Master of Ceremonies or presentations," said Maureen Murray. "It was very informal and a quiet gathering as Steve requested."

During his career, Johnston was instrumental in directing the survey efforts for numerous dredging projects that include Boston Harbor improvement, Chelsea River improvement, Bass Harbor and Bucks Harbor improvement projects.

"He worked closely with Real Estate, contracting out surveys for property acquisition of several border patrol sites throughout New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont," said Murray. "He pioneered the implementation of a multibeam survey system for full survey coverage of channels at a time when that state of the art equipment was barely heard of."

According to Murray, in early years he worked in the field, when it was normal to conduct surveys in open boats with transits based on shore and just a fathometer in the boat. He also was part of the survey team who worked on the Park River tunnel project and the proposed Dickey Lincoln hydroelectric project.

Johnston received many performance awards, letters of appreciation and other recognitions during his distinguished career with the New England District. In addition to his service with the Corps of Engineers, Johnston was a Vietnam vet and served as a platoon sergeant in the field during the war.



Steve Johnston retired as Chief of Survey Section with over 40 years of federal service.

Johnston will be spending his retirement with his family and enjoying his grandchildren. He also plans to indulge his passion of restoring antique cars.

Paul Cohn retired on Nov. 30, 2012 with 10 years of federal service. A small coffee and cake reception was held in the Survey Section with the eight Survey Team members and Tony Mackos in attendance. Mackos presented Cohn with his retirement

certificate during the reception.

Cohn joined the District in 2002 after working many years in the private sector. He began his federal career in the field as a laborer and through a progression of promotions and increases of responsibilities, he became a survey technician with the topographic survey crew. In this position, he worked on several Superfund projects, wetland restoration and civil design projects.



Tony Mackos (left) presents Paul Cohn with his retirement certificate.

Photos provided by Maureen Murra



Dave Margolis (left) stands with the latest Leadership Development Program graduates with Col. Charles Samaris (right).

Photo by Brian Murphy

Program graduates new group of leaders as next group begins two year commitment

The Directors of the New England District's Leadership Development Program (LDP) held a ceremony for graduates of the two-year program and introduced the incoming first year enrollees, Jan. 23 in the Concord Park Theatre immediately following the Commander's Whiteboard Session.

According to their SharePoint Site, the goal of the LDP is to develop those employees willing to take the challenge to advance their leadership skills to their fullest potential.

Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander, thanked John Astley for all his work on the program after taking it over from Dick Carlson. Astley stepped down last year as the Program Director, but assisted Dave Margolis during his year-long tenure heading the program.

In an effort to tie the LDP to the NorthAtlantic Division Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP), Mr. Margolis, an ELDP Graduate, was selected. The position now rotates annually, with the most recent ELDP

graduate taking the Deputy position. Margolis has stepped down and Scott Michalak, the former Deputy Director, is now the Program Director, with Stephen Dunbar, the most recent ELDP graduate, acting as his deputy.

The New England District Commander praised the Program's participants for their enormous commitment to become better leaders by joining the program.

Margolis explained that the program has only a limited number of slots each year and that in recent years the program has received many high quality applicants – this year alone, 14 District employees applied for eight slots.

He said that the graduates were active in many of the District's strategic planning groups and attended monthly sessions held by District leaders on such topics as Army Leadership, Self Assessment, Communication, Project Management Business Process, Budget Appropriation and Authorization and Contracting Processes and Procedures.

Also during their last year, the graduates met to discuss books and attended optional field trips to hear motivational speakers, including John Maxwell, Soledad O'Brien, and Tim Tebow. Margolis stated that although nothing is official at this time, it was probable that the new second year participants would likely have a formal yet-to-be-named project.

The former Program Director had the 2012 graduates come to the front of the audience to receive their certificates and talk a little about what they got from the program.

The graduates were: Casey Haskell (mentor Frank Fedele), Karen Hoey (mentor Joseph Faloretti), Andrew Jordan (mentor Gary Lacroix), Daniel LaPolla (mentor Christopher Hatfield), Natalie McCormack (mentor Theresa Negron) and Matthew Tessier (mentor Cori Rose).

Most of the graduates expressed gratitude to their mentors and the senior leaders for the opportunity to experience how decisions are made that affect

the District. "I got the opportunity to meet and interact with people I normally wouldn't due to the fact that I work in the field," said Dan LaPolla, who works for Operations Division in the Merrimack River Basin.

"I appreciate the time and effort the mentors and Dave took with us so that we would have a positive, meaningful experience," said Tessier. He presented Margolis with a gift from the graduating class.

After Tessier's presentation, Margolis introduced the participants who successfully completed the first year of the program and are moving on to the second year.

They are: Michael Adams (mentor Christopher Hatfield), John Almeida (mentor Dave Margolis), Patricia Bolton (mentor Frank Fedele), Christine Johnson-Battista (mentor John Astley), Jason Paolino (mentor Cori Rose), Jennifer Samela (mentor Joseph Faloretti), Stephen Umbrell (mentor Dave Margolis), and Jeffrey Teller (mentor Sean Dolan).

Margolis concluded by introducing the new, first year LDP participants: Wendy Gendron (mentor Scott Acone), Michael Bachand (mentor Scott Acone), William DeSamarais (mentor Theresa Negron), Rachel Whitermore (mentor Mark Anderson), Alan Anacheka-Nasemann (mentor Sheila Winston-Vincuilla), Amelia Bourne (mentor Gary Lacroix), Kristine Blanchette (mentor Steve Dunbar) and Joshua Levesque (mentor Scott Michalak).

The LDP accepts applications in early January, with only a few spots available each year.

To learn more about the program, please contact Scott Michalak, Program Director, or Stephen Dunbar, Deputy Director.



Photos by Brian Mumby

Robert Russo, Jr. (left) and Mike Russo tally up the votes while Barbara Newman selects the chili she wants to win.

WEA warms things up with the annual Chili Cook-off

There's no better way to warm up on a bitter cold New England day than with a nice, steaming-hot bowl of good chili.

The Work Environment Association (WEA) held their annual Chili Cook-off in the Concord Park Cafeteria, Feb. 1. More than 50 people forked over a mere \$2 to sample 10 different types of chili lovingly prepared by New England District team members in the hopes of winning the top prize.

The District's Top Chefs pulled out all the stops concocting their varied creations, with each slow cooker offering unique versions of Chili, including meat-based with chicken and beef, and two vegetarian.

Some dishes were spicy, some were sweet. By all

delicious.

But only three chillies could win prizes, with just one of those taking the first prize and bragging rights of having the best chili in the District. Dara Gay was last year's winner, but was unable to hold on to her title.

This year's first prize went to Irene Russo. Second place went to Zina Cassulo-Henderson, and Leanna Martin's chili nabbed third place. Rhonda Anderson took the prize for best vegetar-

ian chili.

Other chefs who submitted their tasty chili for the contest were Cora Bertrand, Robert Meader, Dara Gay, Marcus Madison, Jack Karalius and Grace Bowles.

Robert Russo, Jr., was the lead organizer for this year's contest. He was assisted by Kane Turmelle, Greg Penta, Dara Gay, Grace Bowles and Leanna Martin.



were sweet. By all Cora Bertrand sits with Lt. Col. Howell as she waits to hear accounts, all were the names of the contest winners.

Dredging up the past



Members of the New England District World Trade Center Team listen as Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, 50th Chief of Engineers, reads a citation expressing his gratitude before presenting each member with a Commander's Coin for their work immediately following the Sept. 11, 2011 attacks. Lt. Gen. Flowers presented the coins during a special town meeting held Feb. 22, 2002 in the Concord Park cafeteria. It was one of several visits the Chief made to New England during his command.

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