

Yankee Engineer

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Volume 47, No. 8 May 2014

Building Strong



*New England District Team,
Partners Celebrate Earth Day
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Yankee Voices

Maureen Davi, Janice Williams and Moly McCabe



Save the Date Founder's Day Celebration

The annual Founder's Day award ceremony and picnic will be held at Concord Park headquarters on Friday, June 20. Retirees may contact Jess Levenson, Public Affairs at 978-318-8238, for more information.

Congratulations

...to **Jeffrey Gaeta**, Cost Engineering Section of Design Branch, who was selected as the Employee of the Month for January 2014, by the New England District Work Environment Association.

Sympathy

...to **Bob Simeone**, Programs/Project Management, on the passing of his father, **Frank Simeone**, April 28 in Rhode Island. The late Mr. Simeone served his country faithfully in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

... to recent Real Estate retiree **Donna Russell** on the passing of her mother, **Dorothy Russell**, May 11.

Deputy Commander, Color Guard, march in local Patriot's Day Parade

Each Patriot's Day the New England District team is invited to participate in the town of Concord, Massachusetts' annual parade. This year the New England District Ranger Color Guard and New England District Deputy Commander, Lt. Col. Charles Gray marched the three miles starting at Concord Center, passing over the Historic North Bridge before returning to the Town Center.

The District team was joined by British and Colonial re-enactors dressed in period costumes that represented militia from towns all over the country as well as the British Regulars. Once at North Bridge, the parade stopped for "Old Glory's Journey of Remembrance" that honored the service and sacrifice of America's fallen men and women with a flag raising ceremony.

Patriot's Day is a special Massachusetts state holiday that commemorates the opening battle of the American Revolutionary War on April 19, 1775. The famous "Shot Heard 'Round the World" took place in nearby Lexington.

The Corps of Engineers traces its origins back to the Revolutionary War when Gen. George Washington named Col. Richard Gridley of Massachusetts as the first Chief of Engineers during the Battle of Bunker Hill in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

Members of the New England District Ranger Color Guard who marched with Lt. Col. Gray during the parade were: Matt Coleman, Brad Clark, Jamie Kordack, Steve Patchkofsky, Jenn Samela, Jason Robinson and Joe Faloretti.

Increase productivity at work by taking better care of your health

Want to be more productive at work? The answer may start with getting in shape and eating better.

A study by researchers at Brigham Young University found that employees with unhealthy habits are less productive at work than their colleagues in better shape. Data from over 19,000 subjects at three big organizations revealed that people eating an unhealthy diet are 66 percent more likely to report being less productive than their co-workers with better nutrition, and workers who exercise only rarely are 50 percent more likely to feel less productive than colleagues who work out regularly. Eating better and exercising often aren't just vital to your health and longevity, the research suggests; they could be crucial to your career as well.

(First Draft Magazine)

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>.



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Commander's Corner:

Communication = Understanding = Bridging the Generations

By Col. Charles P. Samaris
District Commander



"Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it".

~ George Orwell

"I think that to acknowledge a new generation is to acknowledge some degree of obsolescence in yourself, and that is very hard to

do and often comes with undeniable anger."

~ Douglas Coupland, Canadian novelist

New England Team,

Alas, this is my next-to-last entry in the highly regarded Yankee Engineer. As such, I would like to share my perspective on what I believe to be one of our (USACE) greatest challenges – and opportunities – as we advance into the future: *to adapt and excel in an unpredictable and rapidly evolving environment.*

With each passing year, the pace of change – societal, technological, professional, social, fiscal – increases. So, to adapt and excel requires an *agile and balanced team of experts and leaders* that spans, understands, and effectively communicates across, all working-age generations.

One habit of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* is: Seek first to understand, then to be understood. This very important concept of *understanding* is foundational to the success of a multi-generational workforce ranging from traditionalist to millennial. The cornerstone of understanding is clear, open, transparent *communication*. And, the basics of effective communication are: 1) know yourself, and 2) know your audience.

Bottom line: It's not simply **WHAT** we communicate, but

HOW we communicate.

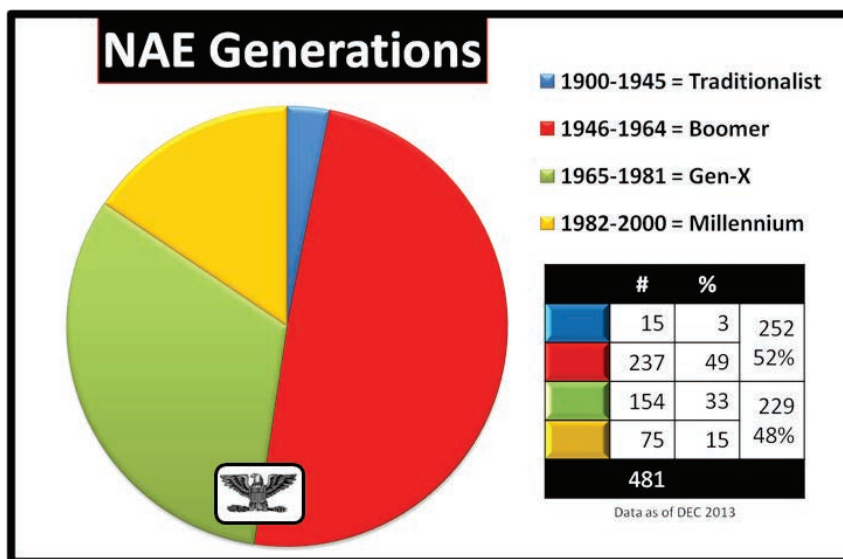
Why is all this important? Take a look at this chart. USACE compiles and analyzes enterprise-wide demographics annually...this is the most recent NAE generational snapshot. Pretty clear...we're a bit out of balance. At face value it's not a huge issue. In fact, we nearly mirror the USACE averages.

Issues arise because each generation has their own perspective from which they operate, and their own context within which they operate. While understanding this is a two-way street, it is incumbent upon leaders to proactively initiate purposeful communication to achieve cohesive understanding with their individual team members and across multi-generational teams.

If we intend to build a strong NAE, NAD and USACE into the future by attracting and retaining great talent, we need to get good at this. No, there is no silver bullet. This takes effort, empathy and a willingness to acknowledge...and perhaps accept...a completely different perspective. And, more importantly, it takes recognition of the need (and the agility)

to adapt personal communication and leadership to achieve understanding.

"Generational differences in work related characteristics and expectations" by Anick Tolbize is an excellent comparison of the generational perspectives. It is located on the District Sharepoint under Commander's Corner. Hopefully, they help to understand our differences. I know they



helped me.

It is an honor to serve alongside you!

Essayons! Serving New England since 1775!

"Each generation goes further than the generation preceding it because it stands on the shoulders of that generation. You will have opportunities beyond anything we've ever known."

~ Ronald Reagan

"Progress is the injustice each generation commits with regard to its predecessors."

~ Emile M. Cioran, Romanian philosopher and essayist

Elizabeth Mine Team takes top environmental award

The Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site Project Delivery Team (PDT) has recently received the prestigious Green Dream Team Award in the 2014 USACE Sustainability Award Program. The project was selected from a large number of projects throughout the Corps of Engineers and the award will be presented at the USACE Senior Leadership Conference in August.

The Green Dream Team Award recognizes exceptional leadership by an interagency green team to effectively place a federal sustainability idea into action. "The NAE PDT implemented a comprehensive Green Remediation Strategy that resulted in significant reductions in onsite emissions, fuel consumption, off-site materials, and also resulted in recycling large quantities of consumable waste," said Col. Charles Samaris, New England District Commander. "Through the PDT's focused

effort, the 2013 construction season included capping over 3 million cubic yards (43 acres) of mine tailings, treating over 10 million gallons of impacted water, and creating over 10 acres of wetland."

"The Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site is located in Strafford, Vermont. It is an abandoned copper and iron-sulfate mine that operated from 1806 until 1958," said Scott Acone, Chief, Engineering and Planning, and former Project Manager. "The operations were open-pit type mining. At the end of its operation, the mine was abandoned without any closure measures to restrict access or to prevent run-off from entering the mine. In addition, there were 40 acres of exposed tailing piles (TP) which were still producing acid mine drainage. The acid run-off was causing water quality problems in receiving waters of the drainage, Copperas Brook,

and downstream in the west branch of the Ompompanoosuc River."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approached the New England District for assistance in 1999, beginning a long and massive cleanup effort. "Starting in 2005 and continuing through 2013, EPA Region 1 retained the New England District to design and cleanup the Superfund site," said current Project Manager Stephen Dunbar. "The New England District PDT initially focused their efforts on constructing surface water and groundwater diversion structures, stabilizing the steep slopes of the tailing piles, and capturing and treating the contaminated discharge."

During the 2011 and 2012 construction seasons, the District and its contractor, Nobis Engineering, conducted building demolition/abatement compliant with historic preservation



An aerial view of the project in September 2007.

requirements, regraded the 43-acre site, constructed an engineered cap of over 3 million cubic yards (CY) of waste, and treated over 10 million gallons of Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) impacted water in using an innovative Lime Amendment Rotating Cylinder Treatment System (RCTS) to oxidate and precipitate metals. "In addition, the Elizabeth Mine Team completed \$21 million in field work over the fiscal years 2011 and 2012 construction seasons, completing the 45-acre engineered cap weeks ahead of schedule and \$654,000 under budget," said Dunbar. "At the close of the 2012 construction season, Nobis Engineering, Inc., recorded roughly 96,000 man hours without an OSHA recordable event or lost time."

At the onset of the cleanup actions, the PDT recognized that the remediation of the 250+ acre site could impact the natural and cultural resources in the immediate area, according to Dunbar. This included increased air emissions, degradation of natural resources, potential impacts to historic structures and increased waste stream. In response the District PDT implemented a 'Green Remediation Strategy' at the site that would identify measures to minimize the impacts to the local environment.

"The New England District's Green Remediation Strategy reduces air contaminants associated with onsite or offsite fuel consumption; uses on-site rather than imported material for



Cleanup at the Elizabeth Mine Superfund Project in November 2009.

Photos provided by Programs/Project Management

backfill and site restoration; establishes processes for maximum recycling or reuse of waste materials; and initiates a procurement process for environmentally preferred products," said Dunbar. "In addition, the strategy calls for reducing the volume of materials entering the waste stream (refuse) and assuring preservation of the site's historic aspects and ecosystem. By executing this strategy without significantly impacting overall costs, the NAE PDT implemented 11 measures that ranged from reducing onsite emission of air contaminants to using biodegradable, wood fiber-based material on all slopes adjacent to the TP-1A soil cap to control erosion while still allowing re-vegetation to occur."

The New England District Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site PDT members cited in the nomination are: Scott Acone (former Project Manager); Steve Dunbar (Project Manager since 2011); David O'Connor (Construction PM); Chris Caisse (on site Construction Representative through 2012, includ-

ing cap construction); Randy Lecuyer (on site rep in 2013 during wetland restoration); Mark J. Anderson, Jr. (Technical Lead); Jon Kullberg (Geotech); Silas Sanderson (Geotech); Kathy Malinowski (Geo-Environmental); Kate Atwood (Cultural) and Mike Penko (Environmental).

Nobis Engineering, Inc., of Concord, New Hampshire, has been the project contractor since 2011. The company was awarded the American Council of Engineering Companies/Vermont Section 2013 Engineering Excellence Award for its work on the project.

In addition to Nobis Engineering, two other contractors worked on the Elizabeth Mine project over the years. Conti Environment & Infrastructure, Inc., of Edison, New Jersey was on site from 2003-2005. Weston Solutions, Inc., a company that has offices in Connecticut and Massachusetts, worked on the project from 2006 to 2010. A majority of the earthwork was performed by a local sub-contractor, Northwoods Excavating.

With HQUSACE support, the Elizabeth Mine Green Dream Team has also been nominated for the President's GreenGov Green Dream Team Award.



The Elizabeth Mine on its last day of operation in 1958.



Photos provided by the Cape Cod Canal

Boston University freshmen construct a split-rail fence at the Cape Cod Canal.



Photo by Fred Stone and James Blais

Volunteers begin beautification and cleanup of Thomaston Dam.

New England District, partners celebrate Earth Day

Several New England District Project Teams and volunteers celebrated making the District's grounds more beautiful and environmentally-friendly with cleanup and improvement projects during Earth Day observances held in April.

The Cape Cod Canal in Buzzards Bay Massachusetts, held their celebration on April 19. North Brookfield Brook Lake and Thomaston Dam, both in Connecticut, held Earth Day events on April 27.

Thomaston Dam teamed up with the Pathfinders Motorcycle Club to clean up the project's trail areas. According to Christopher Way, Operations Manager at the Naugatuck River Basin, about 15 volunteers weed whacked along bridge abutments on trails; added stone fill in mud holes near the Route 8 bridge; performed rut repairs on trails; collected enough garbage to fill a pickup truck; and assisted with trail inspections.

At Northfield Brook Lake, about 15 Boy Scouts performed a litter pickup

service project.

The Cape Cod Canal team co-hosted its 14th annual Cape Cod Canal Cleanup with long-time partner AmeriCorps Cape Cod. The two partners recruited 175 volunteers to include Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, college students and AmeriCorps Team Members to perform a wide variety of tasks that extended the entire 7.5-mile North Service Road and its adjacent recreation areas.

Brownie Girl Scouts from Mashpee constructed and planted a rain garden with the help and guidance of an AmeriCorps volunteer.

Boston University freshmen were able to use their work at the cleanup as their Global Day of Service. Together with Park Manager Roger Hagan and AmeriCorps volunteers, the students installed an interpretive wayside, built a new walkway and constructed a split rail fence.

According to Park Ranger Elisa Carey, other projects included trail maintenance, installing new bulletin boards at recreation areas, trash

pickup, fence painting and invasive species removal.

The Cape Cod Canal Cleanup wasn't just all work. The National Marine Life Center, Buzzards Bay Coalition and Buy Fresh, Buy Local setup educational booths and fun activities for the public to enjoy throughout the day. A local group, the Falmouth Fiddlers, provided entertainment while 30 AmeriCorps volunteers set up and ran activities such as face painting and making planters and bird feeders out of recycled bottles.

The first national Earth Day observance was held April 22, 1970, and 44 years later it is still celebrated annually all over the country. The Army's Earth Day theme for 2014 is "Sustaining the Environment for a Secure Future." The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers embraces Earth Day as part of its mission to support sustainability. The organization strives to seek opportunities to incorporate sustainability in everything it does, not just on Earth Day, but every day.

District representatives attend Tribal Ceremony for the Signing of a Watershed Assessment Cost Sharing Agreement

**Story and Photos by Marc Paiva
Engineering/Planning**

On April 23, Wendy Gendron, New England District Study Manager, Planning Branch, and Marc Paiva, New England District Tribal Liaison and NAD Regional Technical Specialist Cultural/Tribal, were invited to a special ceremony and celebration commemorating the signing of a Watershed Assessment Cost Sharing Agreement (WASCA) for a Watershed Assessment Management Plan (WAMP) with the Houlton Band of Maliseets, Maine, and the Maliseets First Nations of Canada. This study is being conducted under Section 203 Tribal Partnership Program (TPP) authority (WRDA 2000 and 2007). New England District is only the second District nationwide to execute a TPP study, and the only one in the eastern United States.

The ceremony began with a greeting from Brenda Commander, Chief of the Houlton Band of Maliseets. Representatives from the St. Mary's, Tobique



Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseets celebrate with traditional songs of thanks and blessings.

and Madawaska Maliseet First Nations of New Brunswick, Canada, then conducted a smudging ceremony for blessing all of the participants. This was followed by a traditional pipe ceremony with sacred smoke in the four cardinal directions. Everyone in attendance was then offered the opportunity to

smoke the pipe. Informal introductions by all present followed along with a Tribal blessing and a traditional Native American lunch.

The afternoon session consisted of a presentation on the New England District study aimed at assessing the water resources within the international Wolastoq (Saint John River) watershed as it relates to fish habitat, identifying problems and opportunities to improve habitat, and recommended actions to improve or protect conditions throughout the watershed for native fish. Sharri Venno, Environmental Planner for the Houlton Band, and Gendron led the presentation and discussion and took questions from the audience including Tribal school children who were present.

Lastly, there was a traditional offering of tobacco by all participants to the Meduxnekeag River, a tributary of the Saint John River on Tribal lands, followed by the singing and drumming of traditional Maliseet songs of thanks and blessings.



The Meduxnekeag River is a tributary of the Saint John River on Tribal lands in Maine.

District holds informational meeting on newly released interim policy for flood risk management projects in rehabilitation program

By Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released an interim policy for determining eligibility status nationwide for flood risk management projects in the rehabilitation program (Public Law 84-99). The Corps is in the process of revising its policies, including those related to the Flood Risk Management Program, the Levee Safety Program and the Rehabilitation Program.

As a result of public feedback and interest, the Corps initiated a comprehensive review of the rehabilitation program and is revising the program to better synchronize flood risk management and levee safety. The intent is to improve agency policy, support the agency's strategic direction and advances in risk-informed decision making, increase transparent communication and enhance long-term sustainability.

The changes will be implemented in two phases. The first phase will be through an interim change to the existing policy addressing only levee systems covered under the Rehabilitation Program. The second phase will be to develop a final policy covering all types of infrastructure covered under the Rehabilitation Program. The interim policy change will allow eligibility determinations to be made for the Rehabilitation Period while the new final policy is being developed.

The interim policy is only applicable to levee systems. All other types of infrastructure (channels, dams, or hurricane shore protection projects) will remain suspended (i.e. eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program will be frozen as of the status on Nov. 25, 2013) until the final policy is completed. The new final policy will require changes to 33 Code



Local Protection Project in Derby, Connecticut.

of Federal Regulations, Section 203 through the rule making process which can take up to 12 months or longer.

The Rehabilitation Program is the program in which public sponsors of flood risk management projects (mostly levee systems, but also channel and dam projects) can voluntarily decide to participate. In doing so, the public sponsor agrees to maintain these projects in accordance to specific maintenance standards and once all these standards are met, those projects are eligible for rehabilitation assistance if they are damaged by a flood or coastal storm.

"Life safety is paramount. Managing, communicating and reducing flood risk is a shared responsibility among federal, state and local government agencies," said Michael Bachand, Levee Safety Program Manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District.

Previously, eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program was determined

based on the Overall Segment/System Rating. If the Overall Segment/System Rating was rated as either "Acceptable" or "Minimally Acceptable", the segment/system remained "active" in the Rehabilitation Program and eligible for rehabilitation assistance.

If the Overall Segment/System Rating was rated as "Unacceptable", the segment/system was moved to an "Inactive" status in the Rehabilitation Program and ineligible for rehabilitation assistance until the "Unacceptable" rated items were corrected and confirmed by the Corps through an inspection.

Effectively immediately, the Overall Segment/System Rating will not be used to determine eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program. Instead the eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program will be determined by subset of the inspection items drawn from the existing checklist in accordance with the interim policy. An "Unacceptable"

rating on any of the subset items will result in the system being put into an "Inactive" status in the Rehabilitation Program and as a result ineligible for rehabilitation assistance. The subset items are taken directly from the current Inspection Checklist. The ratings of "A", "M", or "U" will be based on the guidelines for each rated item in the Inspection Checklist. Any Inspection Report sent out (regardless of the date of the field inspection) after Nov. 25, 2013, the eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program must be evaluated based on the interim policy.

In New England, many of these flood risk management projects were built 40 to 70 years ago by the federal government as a result of historic floods. Once built, by program agreement they were turned over to the local government for operation and maintenance and funding. The Corps conducts periodic inspections. As long as the project was not rated unacceptable, it remained active in the PL 84-99 Rehabilitation Program, and was eligible for federal assistance for repairs if the project was damaged in a storm.

Considerations for developing the interim policy included: interim eligibility criteria would be drawn from information currently collected during inspections; no new eligibility criteria would be created without a rule making process; and vegetation on levees is no longer a criteria for determining eligibility in the Rehabilitation Program.

The future eligibility criteria for the Rehabilitation Program will focus on encouraging flood risk management activities such as emergency preparedness planning, risk communication and prioritization maintenance activities based on risk.

More information on local protection projects in New England is available at:

<http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/FloodRiskManagement.aspx>.



Restoration work being performed on Misquamicut Beach in Westerly, Rhode Island

Photo by Christopher Hatfield

District awards contract for restoration at Misquamicut Beach

**By Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs**

Construction of shore protection and beach restoration at Misquamicut Beach in Westerly, Rhode Island, will be completed under the terms of a \$3.1 million contract recently awarded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District.

Work will be accomplished by MZM Construction Company, of Newark, N.J. Construction started in mid-April and is expected to be completed by June 1. The contract was awarded on March 20.

Misquamicut Beach is a Rhode Island state beach located approximately halfway between Weekapaug Breachway and Watch Hill Point in Westerly. It is owned by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) and managed by the Division of Parks and Recreation. It includes the beach, beach pavilion, public parking, and a public campground.

Misquamicut Beach was initially constructed by the federal government in late 1959 and early 1960 as a beach erosion control project. The project was authorized by the River and Harbor Act of July 14, 1960.

The project involved the direct placement of sand fill along 3,250 feet of beach to form a 150-foot wide berm at elevation +7.5 feet mean low water (MLW).

"The restoration project involves the placement of sand fill at Misquamicut Beach in order to restore the project to full profile dimensions," said Project Manager Chris Hatfield, Engineering and Planning Division. "The deposited sand will be placed in piles above mean high water and then graded to the elevations required. The project will require approximately 84,000 cubic yards of sand to be placed on the beach."

The sand was purchased from a local supplier, trucked to the site and spread on the beach using earth moving equipment.

For information on Misquamicut Beach visit the website at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/ShoreBankProtection/Rhode-Island/Misquamicut.aspx>.

The project will be managed by the Corps under the supervision of a Corps' Quality Assurance Representative from the New Bedford Office to assure compliance with contract requirements.



Lt. Col. Charles Gray, Deputy Commander, lends a hand building cardboard bird houses while the children learn about bird habitats.

Photos by Brian Murphy

Daughters and Sons visit District for annual STEM event

Every year on the last Friday of April vacation in Massachusetts, New England District's halls are filled with the footsteps and laughter of children as they make their way from one conference room to another to take part in a unique learning adventure.

The children attended one of the District's most popular events, "Take Your Daughters and Sons To Work Day," held this year on April 25. Forty-four children between the ages of 8-12 years signed up for this year's program, breaking all attendance records for this event.

"Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day," sponsored by the Federal Women's Program and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, is not only a way for the children to get a glimpse at what the New England District team members do, it is also designed as a STEM event to encourage them to consider a career in the fields of engineering and science.

To kick the day off, the children listened to welcoming remarks by Lt. Col. Charles Gray, New England District's Deputy Commander. Denise Kammerer-Cody, Federal Women's Program Manager and Jackie DiDomenico, Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, also addressed the children with a layout of what the day would bring and

some basic rules to keep everyone safe.

After all the introductory and housekeeping remarks, the children participated in an ice breaker. "Each child received a puzzle piece," said DiDomenico. "Then they needed to find the matching piece and interview their new friends with questions to find out basic information like their name, their age, their favorite sport and favorite subject."

The children broke into three groups and rotated through the first three morning sessions. Session 1, "The Ranger Mission," was hosted by Park Rangers Viola Bramel and Matt Coleman. They explained what a Corps of Engineers Park Ranger does. During this outdoor activity, the children also learned about flood damage reduction as well as natural resource management and recreation.

Park Rangers Michelle Cucchi and Amber Reilly headed up the second session that addressed one of the most important messages the Corps of Engineers can emphasize – water safety. In this activity the children learned how to put on a life jacket properly. They also learned how to safely assist a possible drowning victim.

Session 3, entitled, "Wildlife Encounter," was hosted by Park Rangers Jean Hixson and Nicole Giles. In this session, the children got to look at and touch skulls, furs

and animal mounts. They also participated in an animal tracking craft and a wildlife game.

After finishing the first three sessions, the children met their adult sponsors in the cafeteria for a pizza lunch and to catch up on the day thus far. Following lunch, the children assembled back into their groups for the three afternoon activities. Session 4 focused on birds and bird feeders. During the birding lesson, the children learned some interesting facts about the common Massachusetts birds and the importance of building and maintaining bird houses. The children then built and decorated their own cardboard birdhouses. When the children finished their birdhouses, they learned to recognize some of the most common birds in Massachusetts, including the state bird, the Black-Capped Chickadee. Printouts and fact sheets were passed out to the children who could color the bird with its distinct markings. Richard Kristoff, Valerie Cappola and Tina Chaisson hosted the activity.

Session 5 – “Building Big” by Dave Margolis and Raushanah Muhammad explained what the job of an engineer is and all the types of structures they design and build. The children compared the strength of a triangle design vs. a square design using gumdrops and toothpicks. After that activity, the children were encouraged to build structures of

their own using the same materials. The structures were tested for strength using small weights and packs of paper towels. Drinking straws were also incorporated into the materials to give their structures more strength.

The final session featured a lesson on wetlands. Dan Vasconcelos, Lindsay Flieger and Erica Mark instructed the children in the various plants and wildlife that live in different types of wetlands such as marshes, beaches, ponds and bogs.

At the end of the day when their sponsors picked up the children in the cafeteria, the room was filled with excited chatter about the day’s activities and oohs and ahhs of sponsors looking at the many crafts the children made throughout the day.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New England District recognizes the critical role that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education plays in enabling the U.S. to remain the economic and technological leader of the global marketplace, and enabling the Department of Defense and Army to excel in the security of the nation. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a whole is committed to teaming with others to strengthen STEM-related programs that inspire current and future generations of young people to pursue careers in STEM fields.



There was plenty to see and touch during the "Wildlife Encounters" event.



Raushanah Muhammad helps the children build gumdrop domes during the "Building Big" activity.



Dan Vasconcelos shows children samples of what lives in local wetlands during one of the afternoon sessions.



Park Ranger Michelle Cucchi demonstrates the proper way to fasten a life jacket.

Dredging up the past



Marine Pinede, Ann Turcotte, Rosalie Tekeyan and Mary MacDonald enjoy some time together during a Real Estate Holiday get-together in this circa 1995 picture.

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