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Building Strong

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Planning for New England District's new headquarters on schedule Story on page 3

Yankee Voices



Live a fuller life by enhancing your senses

Our senses are our connection to the world. They can make us feel more alive. Here are a few tips for heightening your senses:

• Touch. Close your eyes while you are performing familiar tasks. For instance, when you are taking a bath, close your eyes and then locate the water taps, the soap, etc. Closing your eyes will prevent your sense of sight from predominating. To stimulate nerve endings, go for a massage.

• Smell. Sniff specific objects and pay close attention to what you are smelling. Add smells to familiar items, for instance by sprinkling cinnamon in your coffee.

• Taste. Eat foods that are high in zinc, or take a multivitamin that contains zinc. If you are on medication, it can affect your taste, so check with your doctor.

• Sight. Make sure you wear 100 percent UV-blocking sunglasses.

District awards contract for electrical upgrades at Colebrook River Lake dam in Colebrook

By Timothy J. Dugan Public Affairs Office

A project to provide electrical upgrades to the Colebrook River Lake dam in Colebrook, Connecticut, will be completed under the terms of a \$95,623 contract recently awarded by the New England District.

Work will be accomplished by Swan Contracting of Millis, Massachusetts. The contract was awarded on Sept. 11. Once a notice to proceed is issued construction will be authorized to start. Construction is anticipated to take one month to complete.

The work involves: replacing the existing pad-mounted transformer at the entrance to the service bridge with a new pad-mounted transformer in the same location, using the same concrete pad; replacing the feeder from the transformer to the dam tower (this will involve pulling wire through the ground for about 20 feet from the transformer to the end of the service bridge where it starts at the dam crest road, and then pulling wire through the suspended metal conduit that is currently emplaced underneath the service bridge); replacing the electrical breaker inside the tower; installing a manual transfer switch inside the tower; and installing a generator start button inside the tower.

Colebrook River Lake dam on the West Branch of the Farmington River in Colebrook was completed in 1969 at a cost of \$14.3 million. At capacity, the 1,300-foot-long, 223-foot-high dam can impound a lake of 1,185 acres containing 16.5 billion gallons of water. To date, the project has prevented damages of \$92.7 million.

Recreational opportunities abound at Colebrook River Lake and include boating (with a launching ramp), fishing, ice fishing and hunting. Nearly 158,000 visitors enjoy the recreational pursuits at Colebrook River Lake each year.

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Artist's rendering of the new headquarters building at Hanscom Air Force Base.

New England District moves forward with plans for new headquarters at Hanscom Air Force Base

Although still in the very early planning stages, the New England District is moving forward with its plan to move to Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Massachusetts. The District is currently headquartered in Concord, Massachusetts, not far from the base. The District moved from the dilapidated Waltham Federal Center to Concord Park on March 16, 1998.

In an e-mail sent out to District employees, Aug. 29, Scott Acone, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/ Project Management, wrote that the District has made a lot of progress with layouts and is wrapping up any last adjustments of office spaces.

In the e-mail, Acone shared some of the current certainties about the new headquarters building. Cubicle and office sizes will be somewhat smaller than what team members currently have at Concord Park. However, there will be more natural light in all the offices and cubicles in the new building than what Concord Park currently offers. "Our goal is that wherever you sit, when you stand at your desk, you can see outside," wrote Acone.

According to the e-mail, to maximize

light and air flow, the height of the cubicle walls will be lower than what is currently at Concord Park. Acone notes that when the New England District was located in Waltham, Massachusetts, there were no cubicles and that the Waltham setup led to more collaboration among teammates.

The new headquarters will have many open rooms with varied uses. Some of these will be phone rooms, which can be used by up to two people for private phone calls; collaboration space that can hold four to eight people; conference rooms that will accommodate eight to 16 people; and finally the large training/meeting space that can hold more than 30 people at a time. "No matter where you sit, you'll be very close to these spaces as they're integrated throughout the building," Acone wrote.

Scott Michalak is the Senior Program Manager for the new headquarters. He said that the District has taken some of the best practices from the recently relocated Baltimore District and is using them for New England's new headquarters. "We are incorporating those practices with our Architect/Engineer, Symmes, Maini and McKee Associates' vast experience renovating office space for a wide variety of professional clients, to make our new offices professional, welcoming and efficient," he said.

Knowing that the space will be smaller so far ahead of time gives New England District team members time to clean out their cubicles and to assess their hard copy file needs. "We will have less hard copy file space in the new building," wrote Acone in his e-mail. "We are evaluating the best way to get our critical documents scanned and filed electronically but we also need everyone to start reducing their paper footprint."

Acone recommends recycling excessive additional copies of project paperwork. He said there will be a District-wide cleanup day some time in fiscal year 2019. "This will be a day where all Concord Park employees will have their duty station in Concord Park and will come prepared to go through old files," he wrote.

More information about the progress of the new headquarters building will be shared with the District when it becomes available. 4 YANKEE ENGINEER September 2018

Former Peace Corps volunteers serve at New England District

There are those in the District who have always wanted to make a difference in the world. They are people of action, people who will travel any distance and endure any environment to bring comfort and assistance to others. People like that join the Peace Corps. Planning Division is home to four former Peace Corps volunteers – Elizabeth Decelles, Kevin Foster, Sharon Pailler and Mike Penko – who served in different parts of the world before arriving at the New England District.

Decelles, a biologist, served in the Peace Corps from 2003 to 2005, traveling to a rural fishing village in Jamaica to help with environmental projects and community development. "I was assigned to work as an environmental volunteer with a small community development group in my town which was comprised of the Justice of the Peace, the Primary School Principal, the head fisherman, a local shop owner, and a small hotel owner," she said. "My group planned and ran fundraisers such as a hook-n-line fishing tournament and off-road triathlon, whose proceeds all benefited the local primary school."

Decelles said she and her group put a three-room addition on the school and that she started an environmental club that continued on to win national recognition. "The environmental club projects included composting, planting native trees and vegetation around the school, field trips to the local estuaries, and making art from recycled materials that would normally be burned as trash," she said.

Many travel to Jamaica for a tropical vacation, but after a monster storm ripped through the island, Decelles and the villagers found themselves in a paradise lost. "Hurricane Ivan decimated Jamaica and my community," she said. "Almost everyone lost their roofs and fishermen lost all their traps. We were without power for months."

Decelles and her community development group began recovery efforts and with USAID's assistance, they were able to donate fish trap line, in regulation



Sharon Pailler (kneeling front) poses with some of the community members in Guinea.



Elizabeth Decelles (standing in the middle) with her community development group in lamaica.

for sustainable fishing, to the grateful fishermen.

Decelles said the highlight of her tour with the Peace Corps was the people's positivity and resilience in the face of poverty and struggle.

Foster, who is also a biologist, served in the Peace Corps from 1982 to 1985. "I served as both an aquaculture specialist and a community development advisor during my three years as a Peace Corps volunteer on the island of Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia," he said. "I also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer Leader in my third year. I served two years in the remote village of Utwa and my third year in the main population center of Lelu.

Foster began his assignment starting several aquaculture projects, but like Decelles, his island community faced a life threatening disaster and his projects had to be put aside for efforts that were more urgent. "We encountered the first major El Nino event from 1982 to 1983," he said. "Our annual rainfall fell from more than 300 inches of rain per year to less than 40 inches over a nine month period."

The situation continued to deteriorate as no rain fell for long periods, so Foster spent much of his time working on finding water solutions for the 900 villagers in his community. "There was no drinking water so we drank coffee, coconut juice, beer or soda," he said. "We took baths in the ocean and our hair turned tinges of red. We suffered and the mortality rate escalated among the elderly and children. Disease was rampant."

Foster helped refurbish the village water pipe system and dam in order to pipe water from upland sources to his village. "I solicited funds from my home church in Bedford, New Hampshire, and purchased materials to construct 500 and 800 gallon water catchments," he said.



Kevin Foster serving on the island of Kosrae. He served from 1982 to 1985.

The biologist worked with a squad of Navy Seabees based on the island to build 12 catchments for his village.

When he moved on to his other assignment on the island during his third year, Foster turned his efforts to improve recycling. "During my third year, I worked with another Peace Corps volunteer to start up a project to recycle cans," he said.

According to Foster, thousands of beer cans littered the mangrove forest along the side of the circumferential road. "With start-up funds from the Kosraen Government, we employed two Kosraens to crush the cans into wafers and filled a Matson container," he said.

It took a while to fill the container, but Foster said once it was full, it was shipped off to Japan. "Funds from the first shipment began a cycle of collecting cans, crushing them and shipping them," he said. "Kosraens were paid five cents per can, so the island was cleaned up quickly."

Foster said that in 1985, it was the first recycling effort in the U.S. Pacific and that today the recycle project is run as a private business on the island.

Pailler is an economist who volunteered with the Peace Corps from 2001-2003 in rural Guinea. "My role was to work with farmers to integrate 'sustainable' agricultural approaches, like live fencing, composting, water conservation, etc.," she said. "I also did some reforestation projects along the Niger River and some sensitization efforts to discourage bush fires. I ended up working with the Health Center a lot because it was gravely understaffed and I had experience working as a nursing assistant through high school and college."

Pailler, who says she entered the Peace Corps because she wanted to save the world, encountered some challenges such as language barriers and problems with communication. "There weren't cell phones in Guinea when I was there, and the land lines were only accessible in large cities and didn't work well," she said. "My whole first year I wasn't able to speak to my father, which was really challenging. My grandfather passed away and I didn't find out until months later in a letter from my mother. It was very isolating."

While she was in Guinea, Pailler learned that even with best efforts, one person could only do so much. "My biggest challenge was realizing that my relative impact on the world was pretty darn small," she said. "I remember my first visit to a nearby gold mine, which was a massive kilometerswide-open-pit mine. The company had moved an entire village and cleared thousands of acres of forested land to accommodate their operations. It was very discouraging to think while I was trying to teach villagers in rural Guinea how to improve the environment, there was a huge foreign company less than 100 kilometers away that is destroying it."

Despite the hurdles, Pailler said she had many good experiences with those she encountered. "The people were wonderful," she said. "Guinea's population is predominantly Muslim; an important part of their religion and culture is to treat strangers in their communities as guests. As such, I was very well taken care of and was protected wherever I went. I made some life-long friends that I stay in touch with. It is really magnificent the moment you make your first genuine friendship with someone from another culture, religion and background."

Penko, a biologist who is too modest to make any remarks of his time in the Peace Corps, served as a forester in Burkina Faso in the 1980's.

No doubt, the people the Planning Team encountered and worked with during their Peace Corps years benefited from their selfless service; however, when asked, the team members said they also got much out of their experiences as the people they helped. "The best part about being in the Peace Corps was learning that I was stronger than I thought I was," said Decelles.

"My best memory is my Peace Corps family," said Foster. "I lived with the district judge and his 10 children who helped me learn the language, spear fish, paddle my outrigger canoe, walk bare foot in the upland jungle, climb coconut trees and fall in love with coral reefs, which I later pursued as a career, starting with the University of Guam Marine Laboratory."

"I learned more from my Peace Corps experience than any other experiences, and perhaps all my prior cumulative experience," said Pailler. "It is the strangest thing, because at the time you may not feel like you are learning, but you come away with this deep understanding of things and how they work or don't work. Things you never thought about before or didn't even know existed. It is really hard to explain, but I think anyone who has done Peace Corps would know exactly what I'm talking about."

(Editor's note: Pailler has moved on to a position with the ASPCA and Penko has retired from the Corps with 33 years of federal service.)

Corps seeks public comments on 35 projects applying for funding through New Hampshire's In-Lieu Fee program

By Timothy J. Dugan Public Affairs Office

The New England District is seeking public comments on the 35 projects which have applied for funding through New Hampshire's In Lieu Fee program, the Aquatic Resource Mitigation

Fund. The sponsor for the program is the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. The In Lieu Fee program serves as an alternative form of compensation for impacts to aquatic resources authorized by the Corps'New England District and/or the state of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).



projects to receive funding from the ARM Fund. Any comments received will be provided to the Site Selection Committee which makes recommendations to the Interagency Review Committee, including the Corps of Engineers, and will be considered in the evaluation of the projects and the determination of which will receive funding. Comments are used to assess

These projects were

Great Bay Estuary in New Hampshire.

submitted in response to the 2018 Request for Pre-Proposals (RFPP) and approved for development of full proposals to be considered for funding. The RFPP includes the criteria used to evaluate projects, the information required for a proposal and other related information. DES and the Corps reviewed RFPPs and invited those meeting the criteria to submit full applications. The RFPP, ARM Fund application, current amount of funds available for release, and additional information can be found at the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM)Fund website: http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/wmp/index.htm.

The proponent for any proposed project that needs a Department of Army permit or authorization will apply for it independently of this project review process. Project descriptions and maps of the 35 projects applying for funding through the NH In-Lieu Fee ARM fund are listed in the public notice on the Corps website at: http://www.nae. usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx.

The decision whether to approve funding for projects will be based on an evaluation of each proposed activity and how and where it will compensate for aquatic resources lost through authorizations issued under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. The decision will reflect the national concern for no net loss of aquatic resources. The benefit that may reasonably accrue Photo by Fish and Wildlife Service impacts on endangered

species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors.

The New Hampshire DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund was established in 2006 to provide wetlands permit applicants with an additional option to address federal and state mitigation requirements when impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and other aquatic resources are permitted that require mitigation. DES manages and implements the ARM Fund in accordance with both the state statutory requirements and a Memorandum of Understanding between DES and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that ensures consistency and compliance with federal standards. ILF agreements in New England are available for review at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/ Missions/Regulatory/Mitigation/InLieuFeePrograms.aspx.

Public comments on these 35 projects seeking funding through the New Hampshire In-Lieu Fee Program, the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund (file # NAE 2005-1142), should be forwarded no later than Oct. 18, 2018 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Regulatory Division (ATTN: Lindsey Lefebvre), 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751; or contact Lindsey Lefebvre at 978-318-8295 or toll free 800-343-4789 or 800-362-4367 (if calling from within Massachusetts) or by email to: lindsey.e.lefebvre@usace.army.mil.

foreseeable detriments and/or its appropriateness considering the ecological needs of the service area in which it is located. The Corps is seeking comments from the public; federal,

from each proposal must be balanced against its reasonably

I he Corps is seeking comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested groups in order to determine the most appropriate

District, partners, teach children the importance of safe drinking water during Connecticut STEM event

Most children take safe drinking water for granted, but not the seventh graders at the Strong Middle School in Durham, Connecticut. Their school is only steps away from the Superfund site that has contaminated their drinking water. In the near future, thanks in part to the New England District, a new, clean water solution will be in place and their drinking water will be safe.

Steve Dunbar, Project Manager of the Durham Meadows Superfund Site, and Technical Lead Dave Heislein, joined their contractor and partners in hosting two educational sessions Sept. 4 at Monitoring Well 3 to teach the children about groundwater contamination and how the New England District plans to provide them with clean water. Each session – one in the morning and one in the afternoon – took approximately a half hour each.

The Durham Meadows Superfund Site centers around the Durham Manufacturing Company, which is still in operation, and the remnants of the Merriam Manufacturing Company, which was destroyed by a fire in 1998. To make metal cabinets, boxes and other items, the companies used chemicals such as Trichloroethene, 1-trichlorothane and methylene chloride. Groundwater contamination occurred because of past disposal of wastewater in lagoons or sludge drying beds as well as spills at both sites and poor drum storage at Merriam Manufacturing. As part of EPA's cleanup process, the New England District will be constructing a water distribution system for the lead agency, to include bedrock monitoring wells.

During the STEM event, the team introduced themselves. Representatives came from EPA Region I, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, District contractor Koman Government Solutions and Koman's geophysics subcontractor, Hager-Richter. Dunbar said the team talked about the importance of clean water. "We explained why we we're installing the testing wells," he said. "The water in town is contaminated and there is a long-term plan to install a new water distribution system, including a new water storage tank and over 5 miles of new pipe."

"The presentation included showing the students the bedrock cores from our drilling, the ongoing geophysics work via computer screen in a \$250,000 Hager-Richter van and groundwater tools being used in the well," said Heislein. "They were very excited to take back to the classroom some of the bedrock cores to study further."

Heislein said that after the event, the team sent the students additional site figures and plots of the geophysics work for classroom study. "The students are working to support the town's Sustainable CT Certificate Initiative which includes their study of water quality testing, investigations into impact and remediation on their community and plans to protect their water supply," he said. the technology the team uses, Dunbar, Heislein and the other representatives made it clear how much education is required to use the equipment and problem solve the water quality issues. "We emphasized the importance of taking math, science, writing and public speaking classes to pursue these careers," said Heislein. "They will carry forward what they learn in school and in jobs and apply it to new challenges and situations."

If the impact of these presentations were ever in doubt, concerns were laid to rest when a surprise revelation occurred during the STEM event. "We found out between presentations that the Koman Government Solutions representative was from Vermont and actually got interested in geology from hearing one of these same presentations at the Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site in Stafford, Vermont," said Dunbar, who is also Project Manager for that site.

Heislein agreed that participating in events like the one for Strong Middle School is valuable. "We show students that they can pursue what really interests them and apply what they learn in class towards a career," he said.

Award of the waterline project is expected by the end of November 2018.



Steve Dunbar (second from left) and New England District partners talk water quality with Strong Middle School students during a STEM presentation.

In addition to showing students all

Boy Scouts Complete Eagle Projects at Buffumville Lake and Hodges Village Dam

By Jamie Kordack Park Ranger, Buffumville Lake

Three Boy Scouts successfully raced the clock, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout by completing their projects at Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam before each turned 18. The scouts took over Buffumville/Hodges Village, performing community service projects, large in scope and grand in benefit.

The first of the three young men to complete his project before the onset of adulthood was Dan Kelly, Boy Scout Troop 273 in Dudley, Massachusetts. His labor-intensive project was to anchor with rocks along the Buffumville Dam blacktop edge that began crumbling from people stepping off. He blocked unwanted walkers' paths up and down the rip rap slopes, both top and bottom, with large, flat stones to alleviate the erosion problem. He then installed educational signs to explain why visitors should keep off the rock slopes. Besides the issue of erosion and damage to the road surface, walking on the riprap is a visitor safety concern. It took Kelly and his troop four mornings to complete over two dozen paths along the onemile length of the dam structure.

Matthew Mulcahy, Boy Scout Troop 165 in Oxford, Massachusetts, chose a Buffumville Boat Ramp Life Jacket Loaner Kiosk that focuses on Water Safety at the Lake, as his Eagle Project. Mulcahy researched, designed and built an open yet protected kiosk to hang life jackets to be used by boaters who forgot their essential safety equipment. A sign installed on the front of the kiosk, "Did you forget something?" gently reminds boaters to wear life jackets while on the lake. In addition, Mulcahy created an educational sign that explains how to pick the proper life



Eagle Scout Dan Kelly's Eagle Scout project helped with erosion control at Buffumville Dam.

jacket size from child to adult. The Eagle Scout candidate was able to obtain the life jackets from donations by private companies. Mulcahy's kiosk at the boat ramp complements the big kiosk across the street at the day use beach. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on July 13 to mark the kiosk opening for business. Mulcahy's mother and grandparents attended the ceremony.

Lastly, Jack Cady of Boy Scout Troop 147 in Oxford, Massachusetts took inspiration from his father, a member of the local law enforcement/ EMS community, for his Eagle Project. His "Lost" Trail Plan at Hodges Village focused on Visitor Safety. Cady walked the entire east side of the Hodges Village trail system to figure out the best locations – to include multi-trail convergences, large landing/sitting zones, major trail heads – for posts with signs. He designed each sign with distinct names, numbers and



Matthew Mulcahy and his mother at the Life Jacket Loaner Kiosk he created for his Eagle Scout award.

GPS coordinates, then with his Troop's assistance, installed pressure-treated posts. Before installing the signs, Cady met and coordinated with the chiefs of police, fire/EMS. Additional information packages about the "Lost" Trail Plan were mailed out to Massachusetts State Police and the Massachusetts Environmental Police. Cady's project inspired other scouts to continue the program. One Eagle Scout candidate is currently working on the West Side of Hodges Village, while another is working on a similar project for the whole 7.2-mile loop of Buffumville Lake. With over 22 miles of trails at Hodges Village Dam, this program will be invaluable if the Park Rangers need to assist a lost hiker or an injured mountain biker.

The projects that these three young men have constructed will greatly assist members of the public who visit the Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dams sites. The team thanks them for their service and congratulates them on becoming Eagle Scouts.



Eagle Scout Jack Cady.



Junior Rangers learn water safety at West Hill Dam

Two brothers got a lesson in water safety and boating as part of the Advanced Junior Ranger Program, Sept. 15. Park Ranger Viola Bramel gave both boys a detailed safety briefing before taking to the shallow part of the lake, with Bramel keeping a watchful eye the entire time. Both boys passed the course and had a wonderful time doing it.





Photo of three tractor trailer trucks in parking lot.

New rest rooms arrive at Buffumville Lake Park

Story and photo by Nicole Giles Park Ranger, Buffumville Lake

It's been a long time in coming but the new rest rooms for Buffumville Lake Park have finally arrived! After a few years of planning on the morning of June 26, three low boy trailers with 70,000 pounds of building sections awaited a crane to set them in place.

Getting the loaded trucks to the final site was quite a challenge. Contractors and park staff scrambled to create temporary gravel ramps and roadways to maneuver the three wide loads to the waiting crane.

Along with the installer from CTX Inc., Central Mass Crane operated their 300-ton crane to lift the building sections into place within millimeters of each other.

Buffumville Lake has been utilized for recreation since the dam was finished in 1958. For a few years the beach was located directly across from the dam, on the south end of the lake and was complete with a boat ramp, parking lot and trash cans. In the early 1960's the new park was built in its current location on the northeast side of the lake. Over 50,000 people visit Buffumville Lake Park and Boat Ramp every year.

Over the last few years on busy holidays, the rest rooms could not keep up with demand and Porta-Potties were being rented with project funds to accommodate the park visitors' needs. The rest rooms experienced frequent breakdowns and were dark and dingy no matter how much light and paint was applied. The old 1960's era rest room was removed at the end of the recreation season in October 2017.

Over the winter, local contractors prepped the new site

by installing new plumbing and electric lines from as-built drawings of the new rest rooms. The building was ordered through Noble Supply to be installed for the summer of 2018.

During the placement of the new rest rooms, the park was closed to the public. Temporary adjustments to the roadway and site preparations were necessary to get the rest room pieces down to the final site. The first trailer tried to back the load down into the site but got hung up on the curve of the roadway. With several adjustments and a few tense moments, the skilled driver was able to deliver the first rest room piece to the crane site. By the third trailer the drivers had it down to a science. Four loading straps were connected to the corners of the building sections and the crane lifted and swung the sections into place.

Operators on the ground made minor adjustments to fit the sections over the utilities on the prepared pad. While the crane company was on site for 12 hours it took about 30 minutes for each section to be prepped, lifted and swung into place.

It took another four days until the building installer was finished with the final steps linking the three pieces together which included cabling the buildings together, filling in the cracks, painting, connecting water pipes and making electrical connections. With the help of local contractors, the final utility connections were completed. Before the park could be reopened, project staff brought the site to final grade, installed temporary stone walkways and spread mulch for opening weekend.

The new rest room is much larger and will better accommodate future park visitors. New features include



Photo of crane lifting building section and Park Ranger Jason Robinson in front wearing safety vest and hard hat.

ADA compliant men's and women's rooms with two separate family rest rooms on the back side of the building. All of the new features are energy efficient with low flow sinks and toilets and smart LED technology lights.

Each room has a row of windows letting in plenty natural light and high efficiency fans providing fresh air. The building was designed for easy clean-up and maintenance with all the utilities in the center chase-way.

The entire building is concrete and can withstand hurricane force winds and floodwaters.

The concrete was molded to mimic a rustic wood

building with a field stone foundation and metal roof. CXT painted the concrete to achieve a very realistic appearance.

Rangers and volunteers worked diligently to ensure the rest rooms were up and running just days before July 4, the park's busiest week. During the first seven days, over 4,500 visitors enjoyed the new restrooms and everything worked as designed.

We have received many wonderful comments from the public about the facility improvements.

Work will continue in the coming months to include design and paving of walkways, kiosk installation, picnic site improvements, and a new garden.



Photo of "finished" product as it stands now.







Jason Robinson, Steven Patchkofsky, Bradley Clark and Jennifer Samela stand at attention during the 2008 Patriots Day parade in Concord, Massachusetts.

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