

Yankee Engineer

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Volume 54, No. 6 April 2021

Building Strong



General officer visits New England District for site visits, employee recognitions

Story on page 5

Yankee Voices

Andy Lamborghini and Col. Michael Mueleners



Retirements

Congratulations to Kim Kaminski-Donaher on her retirement as Chief, CPAC, on March 31 after more than 30 years of distinguished service.

Congratulations to Charlene Berry, Administrative Officer, Cape Cod Canal, on her retirement March 31. The Cape Cod Canal team held a small, socially distant ceremony to honor her distinguished service.

Maynard receives Army honor

Tim Maynard, Security Manager, was recently inducted into the 2020 Army Antiterrorism Honor Roll.

Maynard received the honor for being a, "consummate security professional who works behind the scenes to protect USACE personnel, facilities and assets."

Words worth repeating

"Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase."

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Distinguished Civilian Gallery member Andy Lamborghini remembered

Engineering retiree and Distinguished Civilian Gallery member Andrew "Andy" Lamborghini passed away, March 19.

Lamborghini was a technical lead engineer in the Coastal Engineering Section, Design Branch. He retired in May 1997 with over 33 years of federal service.

His entire career centered on coastal and riverine work and spanned a period of dramatic advances in hydrographic survey techniques evolving from manual operations to the current level of sophistication using satellite systems. Throughout the evolution, Lamborghini was the technical lead in adapting field hydrographic surveys to engineering drawings assimilating an unparalleled knowledge of numerous New England harbors.

Lamborghini's expertise was so extensive, he was moved from a technician position to an engineer position responsible for critical support to the USACE New England Navigation Program.

Lamborghini possessed a steady, even demeanor and always offered reasoned, technically sound decisions and advice during periods of unusual stress or heavy demands. He served as a mentor for many junior engineers, study and project managers.

"I'll remember Andy's smile, his sense of humor and willingness to teach and mentor less experienced folks," wrote Scott Acone, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/Project Management in his e-mail announcing Lamborghini's passing.

During his induction into the Distinguished Civilian Gallery on June 21, 2002, Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, then District Engineer, praised Lamborghini's legacy as an outstanding mentor. "Those that have gone before us have contributed so much to the region and the District," he said. "Most of Mr. Lamborghini's legacy is sitting in this room. To all of you that have worked with him or were mentored by him, he also served as an example of his service to the nation."

Lamborghini is survived by his daughter, Susan Hamblin, his grandsons, Christopher, Jeremy and Damien, his sisters Lissa Ferreira and Linda Faste and his brother Peter Lamborghini.



Lt. Col. Gillman speaks to Veterans Organization

Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, Deputy Commander, New England District, accepted an invitation to speak to the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW) at their virtual event, March 2.



During his presentation, Lt. Col. Gillman discussed the many varied missions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New England District (USACE) to include the Cape Cod Canal bridges, dredging Boston and Plymouth Harbors, work at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) and the agency's support to the Veterans Administration.

Lt. Col. Gillman told his audience that the New England District team has many professionals in varied career fields to include engineering, natural resources, biology and geology. The Deputy Commander said that the District recognizes the talent and values the professionalism of its Veterans.

"Of our approximately 500 team members, we are proud that 20-percent of them are Veterans," he said. "Of these Veterans, 15-percent are female, and more than half have a service-related disability."

Lt. Col. Gillman discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and what the District did to support federal, state and local agencies.

"Locally, we assessed alternate care facilities around New England," he said. "Our COVID-19 response team worked quickly to perform assessments of large-scale venues, such as sports stadiums, to determine the feasibility of turning them into emergency health care facilities."

The New England District's missions continued through the pandemic, but the team had to make process adaptations, according to Lt. Col. Gillman. In person meetings and inspections went virtual. Regulatory Division developed a paperless permit application and evaluation process. Disasters still happen in pandemics and the District was able to assist during Hurricane Isaias and the Presumpscot, Maine mud slide.

Lt. Col. Gillman talked about the New England District's 31 recreation sites throughout New England and all the various,

and socially distant, ways people can enjoy the outdoors.

"Part of the reason why our recreation sites are so popular is because they are always well-kept and offer a safe environment for families," he said.

The deputy commander credits volunteers and many civic groups, young and old, the help the New England District team maintain them. He named specific instances such as Junior ROTC groups installing benches, an Eagle Scout building a life jacket loaner kiosk, Girl Scouts creating pollinator gardens and Boys and Girls Scouts coming out to clean up at National Public Lands Day.

Lt. Col. Gillman talked about the New England District Ranger Color Guard and how New England is one of the few districts in USACE to have one. "Along with our military members, these rangers march in the yearly Patriot's Day parade in Concord, Massachusetts," he said.

The New England District Ranger Color Guard have also marched in Fourth of July, Memorial Day and Veterans Day parades all over New England, according to Lt. Col. Gillman.

Globally, New England District team members have deployed overseas to Iraq and Afghanistan to assist with emergency operations.

"So, as you can see, we are a busy organization that takes pride in what we do, but also in our dedicated employees," he said.

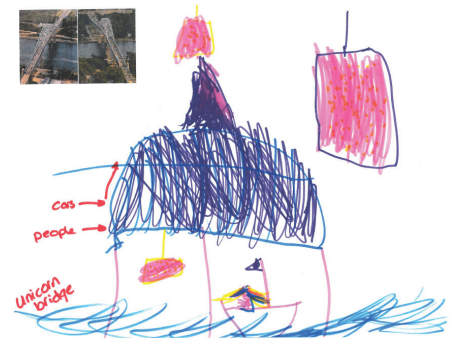
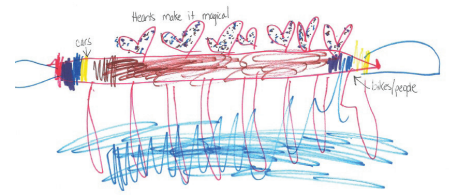
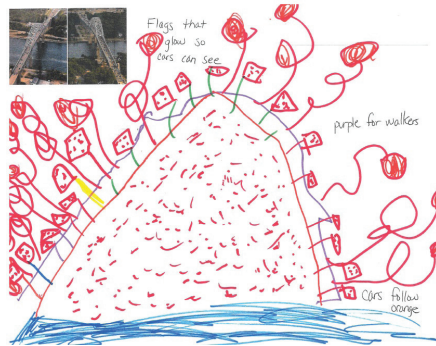
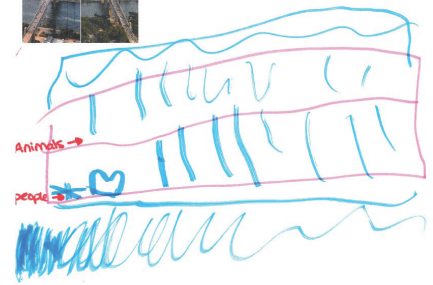
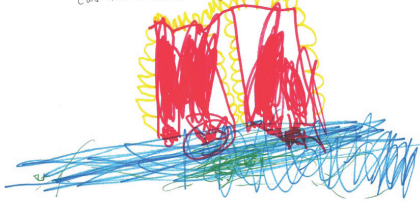
Lt. Col. Gillman concluded his presentation by encouraging the members of MOWW to visit the New England District on Facebook and Twitter. The event concluded after a brief question and answer period.

MOWW was founded in 1919 when J. J. Pershing, General of the Armies, requested his officers continue serving America after their active military service ended following World War II. Since then, they have performed a variety of services to the nation to include "Massing of Colors," ceremonies in conjunction with Memorial Day, Flag Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day. They also serve the country's young people by hosting youth leadership conference programs and sponsoring awards programs for youth groups such as the ROTC, Junior ROTC, the Boys and Girl Scouts of America.

"I want to extend my sincere appreciation for your service to the nation," said Lt. Col. Gillman. "As a member of the military myself, I know all too well the sacrifices that you had to make when you served during wartime. Our nation is a safer place because of you."



Cars have to bounce to go on this dinosaur bridge



Kindergartners “design” dream Cape Cod Canal bridges

Heather Cedrone is a kindergarten teacher at the Apple Orchard School in Brookline, Massachusetts. When she heard that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) and the commonwealth of Massachusetts decided the 86-year old Cape Cod Canal bridges needed to be replaced, she talked to her students about it. Cedrone’s class had ideas on what should be included as features on the new bridges. Big ideas. So big, Cedrone asked them to draw their ideal Cape Cod Canal bridge. The class went straight to work, each one designing the “perfect” bridge. Their creative designs included a unicorn bridge, two dinosaur bridges and a magical bridge. Most of the ten designs included access for people, bikes and animals as well as vehicles. But the

mini engineers added special touches to make their designs over the top.

For example, one design included room for a Post Office building. Another forward thinker compensated for possible tornados in his design and included a racetrack. Once the young designers finished their drawings, Cedrone sent them to Col. John Atilano II, New England District Commander. He was so delighted with the drawings,



Bridge designs from Heather Cedrone’s Kindergarten class.

he sent a letter to the class thanking them for their wonderful ideas. The colonel made sure he addressed each bridge design and how each of them would make a special addition to the Cape Cod landscape.

“Ellie’s unicorn bridge will be the most colorful and unique bridge,” he wrote. “Lonam’s dinosaur bridge will certainly be the toughest bridge in the world.”

The District Commander hoped that the children would see the new bridges being built and that they might even see some of their ideas incorporated.

“I can see that there are many future engineers and scientists in this group,” he wrote. “Keep up the hard work and I hope you stay interested in science and engineering!”



Maj. Gen. William Graham addresses members of the New England District team during his visit to Concord Park.

Photos by Brian Murphy

General officer visits New England District for site visits, employee recognitions

Maj. Gen. William Graham, USACE Deputy Command General for Civil Works and Emergency Operations, visited the New England District April 13-15 to conduct site visits, meet with partners and recognize District team members.

Maj. Gen. Graham visited the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier in New Bedford, Massachusetts, and Tully

Lake in Royalston, Massachusetts. He also visited the Muddy River Flood Risk Management project in Boston and Brookline, Massachusetts. While in Boston, the general met with Carl Spector and Sanjay Seth from the city to discuss the Boston Metropolitan Feasibility Investigation.

As part of his visit, Maj. Gen. Graham visited the District's Concord

Park Headquarters where he met with senior leaders and got briefings on the Boston FRM study, Boston Harbor Deepening project, the Upper Connecticut River Basin Study and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Maj. Gen. Graham also recognized team members with Commander's coins as he visited District projects. New England District team members who received the coins included Samantha Hutchins, Hanna Speranza, Steve Umbrell and Wendy Gendron.



Maj. Gen. William Graham, accompanied by members of the New England District team, tours the Muddy River project.



Wendy Gendron (left) receives a Commander's Coin from Maj. Gen. William Graham.

Jack Perry takes a tour with Europe District, plans to retire upon his return

Jack Perry, Engineering, has decided he wants to retire, but not before taking one last tour to Europe District before he goes. He plans on returning to New England District to retire when his tour is over. A small group of friends and co-workers gathered outside in the Concord Park Courtyard, March 11, for a socially distanced ceremony to celebrate his 41 years of distinguished service.

Gary Lacroix, Deputy Chief of Engineering, hosted the event. During the awards portion of the ceremony, Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, Deputy Commander, New England District, presented Perry with the deFleury Medal, Bronze Level.

According to the Army Engineer Association, the Bronze Level of the award is presented to an individual who has rendered significant service or support to more than one element of the Engineer Regiment.

Perry received the deFleury



Photo courtesy of Gary Lacroix
Lt. Col. Mark Gillman presents Jack Perry with the deFleury Medal, Bronze Level.

Medal, "in recognition for more than four decades of superior service to the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment, supporting the Army and the nation," according to the citation. "Throughout his career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mr. John Perry's dedication to providing high quality design solution and superior teamwork across the military, civil works, and interagency

programs has been instrumental to accomplishing the Army's mission."

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, Perry's friends could not join him in Concord Park. However, that did not stop them from posting many heartfelt sentiments on a Kudo Board set up for him.

"You have provided me with so much guidance and support over these past few years," wrote Megan Cullen. "Regardless of how busy you were, you always stopped what you were doing to help me – and you never made me feel like a nuisance or a nudge."

"Thanks for all that you have done over the years as a civil engineer, technical lead, golf handicapper and so much more," wrote Scott Michalak. "Your professionalism, attention to details and overall knowledge will be greatly missed. You are a phenomenal engineer, model employee and a great friend."

Maryellen Iorio retires with more than 30 years of service

Maryellen Iorio, Chief, Geo-Environmental Engineering Branch, Engineering Division, has made the decision to retire after more than 30 years of service.

A virtual retirement party was held Feb. 18. Fifty family, co-workers and friends attended the event via WebEx.

Gifts Iorio received were an electronic kudo board filled with personal messages and congratulations, a gift card, glass sun catcher, New England District sweatshirt and a donation in her name to a local food pantry. In addition to her retirement certificate, Iorio also received the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal presented by Col. John Atilano, New England District Commander.

Iorio joined the New England District in 1993 as an engineering intern. Through a succession of

promotions and positions of increasing responsibility, she retired as the Chief, Geo-Environmental Engineering Branch.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, and a Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Northeastern University. Iorio is also a graduate of the Sustaining Base Leadership and Management Program at the Army Management Staff College.

During her career, Iorio spent over 15 years as a technical lead or a project manager. High profile projects she worked on during that time include the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site and the Stratford Army Engine Plant – Tidal Flats Remediation. She also supported many of the District's missions to include dam safety, formerly

used defense sites, base realignment and closure and Superfund.

Iorio received many well wishes from people who added to her kudo board.

"Welcome to the next stage of your life where every day is a weekend, from a career you've worked so hard to build and can now step back and appreciate how far you've come," wrote Sarita Martinez.

"I'll never forget your thoughtfulness, kindness and kick ass collaboration," wrote Jessica Kidd. "I wish you all the freedom and joy retirement can bring."

Iorio intends to stay very busy in her retirement. She plans on working on her house, buying a camper to explore the national parks, explore all the rail trails close to her home and reading all the books she purchased over the years but never had time to read.



Photos courtesy of Paige DeNegrís

John DeNegrís of Boy Scout Troop 2 (Center, yellow mask), and his team assemble bluebird houses to install around West Hill Dam.

Eagle Scout completes project at West Hill Dam

John DeNegrís, Boy Scout Troop 2 from Milford, Massachusetts, completed his Eagle Scout project April 11 at West Hill Dam.

DeNegrís upgraded and installed eight bluebird houses and removed old boxes that could injure wildlife. According to Park Ranger Viola Bramel, the new boxes were not only built to code, but were placed in areas where the birds would select them for their habitat.

In addition to the new boxes, DeNegrís and his team cleaned all the bird boxes at the remaining ten sites for spring arrival of bluebirds. DeNegrís also constructed extra boxes to use for future seasons.

“John joins a fine line of 62 Eagle Scouts at West Hill Dam,” said Bramel. “Houses for bluebirds, like the ones John made, as well as houses for wood ducks and bats are critical for these animals.”

DeNegrís said that working with the West Hill Dam team was a positive experience. “This project was fun and I’m glad I could help out the West Hill Dam.”



John DeNegrís, Boy Scout Troop 2, removes an old bluebird box from West Hill Dam.

Dredging up the past



Joanne Ellis (left) and Judy Antonellis (right) wish Robert Martin the very best in his retirement in this April 2005 photo.

First Class
U.S. Postage
Paid
Concord, MA
Permit No. 494

Public Affairs Office
New England District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751
Meter Code 40