

# Yankee Engineer

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*Building Strong*



**New England District projects host Earth Day activities**  
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# Yankee Voices

David Grandy, Matt Coleman and Nicole Giles



## Greenan, Jacek receive medals for work on details

Colin Greenan, Regulatory Division, received a Civilian Service Commendation Medal and Christine Jacek, also from Regulatory received a Civilian Service Achievement Medal for completing details in support of the Aquaculture Reinforcement Team.

The national team was formed to assist the Seattle District in evaluating approximately 900 permit applications in the state of Washington.

Greenan completed a seven-and-a-half-month extended detail and Jacek completed six months.

Greenan was recognized for his superior customer service and was selected to develop a training plan for new staff, greatly increasing the effectiveness of the team. Jacek received her honor for continually delivering reasonable and balanced decisions on complex and controversial shellfish aquaculture projects.

Greenan and Jacek received their medals during the project close-out at the end of March.

*(Regulatory Division submission)*

## Ranger Spotlight: Samantha Schupp Natural Resource Specialist Hopkinton- Everett Lakes By Karen Tyron-Hoey



I started with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) at Hopkinton Everett Lakes in June 2019 as a seasonal Park Ranger and then came on permanently in January 2020 as a Natural Resource Specialist.

I graduated from Rollins College in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies with a minor in Sustainable Development. Following graduation, I served 10 months with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps in California and Wyoming.

Before becoming a seasonal Ranger, I worked for the YMCA in childcare for two years.

What excites me about working for the New England District is that every day is different. From performing flood risk management operations and patrolling the project lands and waters to leading interpretive programs and writing and overseeing service contracts, I learn something new every day. There is an abundance of opportunities to join different teams that interest you that allow you to share your knowledge and improve your professional skills while working with USACE employees from different projects, districts, and divisions. I work with an amazing team, and I love being a USACE Ranger in New England!

I enjoy taking wildlife and nature photography, kayaking, hiking, doing escape rooms with my husband, and gardening! I am currently on the New England District Interpretive Services and Outreach Programs Committee, New England District VA Instructor Team, and I am one of the North Atlantic Division representatives on the Park Ranger Community of Practice.



# From the New England District Deputy Commander Holocaust Days of Remembrance

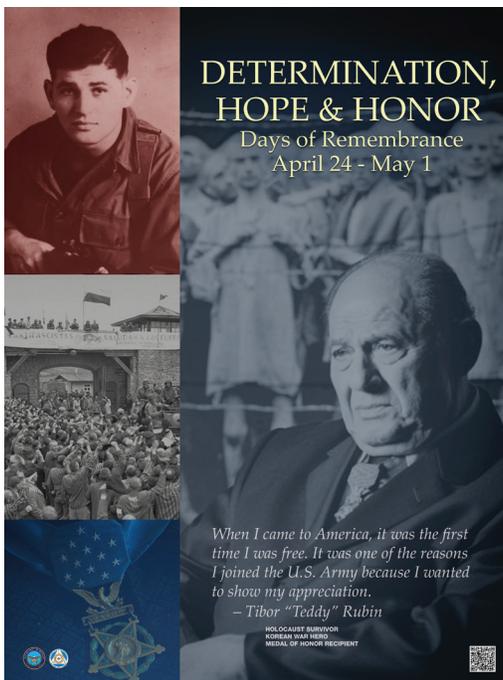
by Lt. Col. Michael Carvelli  
Deputy Commander, New England District

From April 24 to May 1, we will commemorate the Holocaust Days of Remembrance. We hold the Days of Remembrance from the Sunday before Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom



HaShoah, held from the evening of April 27 to the evening of April 28 this year) through the following Sunday. We take this week to mourn and remember those who lost their lives, to honor those who survived, and to pay tribute to American and Allied Soldiers who liberated victims.

The Holocaust is one of the darkest times in world history. According to the United States Holocaust Museum, between 1933 and 1945, the German government, led by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, carried out the systematic persecution of Europe's Jewish population as well as LGBTQ individuals, the physically and mentally disabled, Roma, Poles and other Slavic peoples, Jehovah's Witnesses, members of political opposition groups and many more. By the end of World War II, six million



Jewish people and millions of non-Jewish victims were killed. They were mothers and fathers, daughters and sons, friends and neighbors. Their descendants have preserved the victim's memories, and survivors have shared stories of their experiences with the world to keep these atrocities from happening again.

The horrors of what happened during that time remind us to confront the evils of anti-Semitism, bigotry and hate where we see it. These ideologies go against some of our most sacred values as a nation – diversity, freedom of religion and freedom of expression.

To our New England District team who have family members who either died or survived the Holocaust and have stories of your own, I see you. During this week, your teammates and I stand with you to remember those you have lost and recognize those who made it out alive. To

those who have relatives that helped liberate Holocaust victims, I know you have stories as well. I thank your family members for their bravery and their service.

I would urge you to go to the reference links listed below in your spare time to learn about the Holocaust to understand why it is so important to remember what happened.

Never forget. Never again.

United States Holocaust Museum  
- <https://www.ushmm.org/remember>

American Jewish Historical Society - <https://ajhs.org/>

Jewish Virtual Library - <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/non-jewish-victims-of-the-holocaust>

## New England District procures military career center

Clare Lubicz-Nawrocki, Real Estate Division, joined several members of the U.S. Army's New England Recruiting Battalion to celebrate the procurement of a multi-service military career center in Augusta, Maine, March 10.

The project began around the onset of COVID-19, which caused delays in obtaining materials, building supplies, and labor to complete the project.

Compounding the COVID effects, supply chain issues also affected the specifications needed to outfit the site and the budget for this facility.

After a two-year long process to open the doors, the New England District took possession of the new office on March 10. The ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for April 2022.

(Real Estate Division submission)



Operations Division

## New England District team participates in Denim Day

Members of the New England District team, in solidarity with survivors of Sexual Assault, wore jeans on National Denim Day, April 27.

“Last year was the first time we participated in this event and members of the New England District team joined me and proudly wore denim as a show of support to survivors,” said Col. John Atilano II, New England District Commander.

National Denim Day started in Italy back in 1992 when an 18-year-old woman was raped by her 45-year-old driving instructor. She reported the rape, and the man was arrested and convicted. Years later, the man appealed the conviction saying that it was not rape at all, but consensual



Contracting Division



Don Hassett, Engineering, and Shadow



Larry Sanders, Executive Office



Charlotte Jaeger, daughter of Beth Gosselin, Public Affairs



Sally Rigione, Public Affairs



AnnMarie Harvie, Public Affairs, and Shrewsbury Girl Scout Troops 30304 and 11087



Jason Tremblay, Operations

sex. Unbelievably, the Italian Supreme Court overturned the conviction, and the perpetrator was released. The Court argued that because the victim was wearing very tight jeans, she had to help him remove them, and by removing the jeans it was not rape but consensual sex. This became known throughout Italy as the “jeans alibi.”

The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans in solidarity with the victim. Denim Day is a campaign sponsored by the nonprofit organization Peace Over Violence to bring awareness to victim blaming and destructive myths that surround sexual violence.

“Sexual misconduct of any sort will not be tolerated at the New England

District. I stand with, and support, survivors of sexual assault and as I did last year, I will be wearing denim during the day on April 27,” said Col. Atilano.

According to the CDC, more than 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes.

“That’s a staggering number,” said the District Commander. “The mental consequences of sexual assault linger well after the cuts and bruises have healed. Sometimes they linger for a lifetime, which is why it is important to stop it before it happens. The leadership in the District and I are committed to ensuring that everyone has the freedom to work and thrive in a safe and trusted environment.”



Park Rangers James Higgins and Angela Erskine operate an information booth during Charlton's Earth Day event.



An Earth Day activity participant finds a Mayfly at West Hill Dam.

## New England District project host Earth Day activities

Earth Day 2022 brought chilly weather, but volunteers converged on three New England District project sites anyway to work on improvement projects and to attend events that promoted environmental stewardship.

West Hill Dam, Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam and the Cape Cod Canal all hosted Earth Day events.

West Hill Dam did something a little different this year. Instead of hosting a clean up day, the team held a nature presentation with Cub Scout Pack 150 of Northbridge, Massachusetts.

"We viewed the animal mounts at the office, held snakeskin and turtle shells and played a game of 'What Am I?'" said Park Ranger Viola Bramel.

After some time inside it was time to go outside with animal tracking cards and salamander viewing ranger containers to try their luck finding any tracks. According to Bramel, their efforts paid off. "We found worms, mayflies, and deer, dog and other animal tracks," she said.

According to Bramel the Cub Scouts also tasted dandelions and clover and learned skills to help them listen to bluebirds, blue jays, titmice and other birds. The group also discovered skunk cabbage, which was not a popular smell with the young scouts.

Despite the stinky vegetation discovery, some exciting things happened on the way back.

"An immature red tail hawk landed above us in a tree, less than 15 feet above our heads and stayed the entire time," said Bramel.

The group also rescued a mayfly from the pond, dried its wings and released it.

Park Ranger Angela Erskine, Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam, held a small clean up at the projects and then she and Park Ranger James Higgins attended the town of Charlton's Earth Day event, April 30.

"We were able to make 136 public water safety contacts where we discussed details of the project offices, handed out brochures and water safety

materials to all in attendance and re-initiated some community contacts post COVID," she said. "The booth was very well received and well attended by the public."

Park Ranger Elisa Carey headed up the Cape Cod Canal team's annual Canal Clean up with their partners, AmeriCorps Cape Cod, April 23. Eight locations along 14 miles of shoreline were cleaned up during the four-hour event. Over 175 volunteers removed 377 pounds of trash from the Canal. This year marked 21 years of the USACE/AmeriCorps partnership for this event.

"Volunteers had the option of pre-registering and choosing a location online or arriving the day of to sign up to participate in the day's events," said Carey. "Each registration site had activities and refreshments provided by local non-profits that centered around an Earth Day theme."

One of the favorite activities at the registration sites was "Litter Bingo."

"Event participants were given a reusable BINGO card with different items of litter on it," explained Carey. "If you brought back the card with a BINGO on it you received a prize. Prizes were also given to the volunteers who collected the most trash at each site."



Volunteers pick up trash along the Cape Cod Canal.



The New England District Ranger Color Guard stand by the Minuteman Statue during the wreath laying ceremony.

Photos by Brian Murphy

## District Color Guard marches in Patriot's Day parade

For the first time in three years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) Ranger Color Guard unfurled the Command Flag and marched in the town of Concord, Massachusetts' Patriot's Day parade, April 19. The town of Concord canceled the parade during the COVID-19 pandemic and last year held a virtual ceremony.

Matt Coleman, Naugatuck River Basin Manager, David Grandy, Park Ranger, Thomaston Dam and Nicole Giles, Buffumville Lake Project Manager, made up the 2022 Ranger Color Guard.

This year's Patriot's Day parade marks the 247<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Concord fight and the beginning of the American Revolution. The parade ended Concord's month-long scheduled filled with activities commemorating the event that included re-enactments and commemorations.

The Ranger Color Guard joined over 30 other units at the Hunt Recreation Center where the parade commenced at 9 a.m. The parade route covered three miles of residential streets around the town, through Concord Center to the Old North Bridge. A brief ceremony remembering the Soldiers of the American Revolution and the events of April 19, 1775 took place on the bridge. The parade then returned to the Recreation Center back through Concord Center and

passing a reviewing stand. The parade took about two hours to complete.

Patriots Day is a state holiday celebrated in multiple states all over the country as well as in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is held each year on the third Monday in April to commemorate the battle of Lexington and Concord, the first shots fired in the American Revolutionary War. Events held all over the Commonwealth include the Concord events, re-enactments in Lexington, Massachusetts and the running of the Boston Marathon.



The New England District Ranger Color Guard march past crowded streets during the parade.

# Dredging up the past



File photo.

Joanne Ellis (left) and Judy Antonellis congratulate Bob Martin on his retirement during his retirement luncheon at Hanscom Air Force Base's Minuteman Lounge in this April 2005 photo. Martin retired with over 30 years of service.

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