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BUILDING STRONG®



New England District participates in
Newburyport Harbor media event
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Yankee Voices

from left: Wendy Gendron, Coral Sileto, Erika Mark and John Kennedy



Thanksgiving Message from the New England District Commander

I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

I'm on leave next week to spend time with Daniella and the kids. Daniella's birthday is also on Thanksgiving so we will be celebrating her 29th birthday... again.

I have much to be thankful for this year. A lot of that is due to being a part of this incredible team.

Commanding the New England District remains the best assignment I have ever had in the Army, and it is because of all of you, our fantastic people.

Please be safe during the holiday. Plan for extra time traveling and watch the weather.

COL John A. Atilano II
Commander
New England District



Photos by Bryan Paul

District team inspects Hop Brook Lake

Ben Lloyd, Marine Operations Program Manager – Environmental Branch, and Sean Terrill, Marine Ecologist, prepare the Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) for an inspection at Hop Brook Lake, Nov. 1.

The New England District's Marine Operations Program has two ROVs as part of their fleet which are used for inspections, underwater video surveys for monitoring, assessments, and search and recovery operations.

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Commander's Corner:

Native American Heritage Month message

by Col. John A. Atilano II
New England District Commander



In November we celebrate Native American Heritage Month. We take this month to honor the remarkable Native Americans' diverse and rich cultures, histories, and traditions. We also take time to appreciate the contributions Native Americans made to our country.

The first Native American observance was called, "American Indian Day." Dr. Arthur Parker, a Seneca Indian, convinced the Boy Scouts of America to host an observance in 1900. Fast forward to 2009 when President Barack Obama issued a declaration to designate the entire month of November as National Native American Heritage Month.

A great many Native Americans have served in the military dating back to the Revolutionary War. Currently, there are 33 Native American service members who have received the highest medal of valor – the Medal of Honor. I encourage you to go to this site and read about some of their outstanding acts of courage - <https://www.cmohs.org/recipients/lists/native-american-indian-recipients>.

Native Americans have made important contributions in STEM as well. Fred Begay of the Navajo Nation was a nuclear physicist at the Los Alamos Laboratory in New Mexico. Begay's research focused on nuclear fusion as an alternative energy source. John Herrington of the Chickasaw Nation was an aeronautical engineer and astronaut. He was a mission specialist aboard the space shuttle Endeavor. He later became the commander of the NASA Extreme Environmental Mission Operations, working

at the Aquarius Underwater Laboratory as part of a mission to stimulate survival in extreme conditions. These are only a couple of the many outstanding engineers and scientists of Native American Heritage who have made a difference in the STEM field.

Native American contributions can be found everywhere in our society including the New England District. I appreciate what our Native American teammates bring to the table to help us accomplish our mission.

There are so many enjoyable ways to celebrate Native American Heritage. For example, go outside and explore the Native American Trail right here in Massachusetts. You can find more information here: <https://www.bostonusa.com/things-to-do/sightseeing-and-trails/native-american-trail/>.

The Boston Public Library has a [booklist](#) you can check out for free and is holding events celebrating Native American Heritage. If you don't want to go into Boston, check your local library, I'm sure they will have something similar to Boston.

Rebecca Gaudreau is our Native American Heritage Champion. Thank you Rebecca for taking this on! I look forward to seeing the information you provide us.

References:

<https://nationaltoday.com/american-heritage-month/>
<https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/Story/Article/2825658/dod-honors-native-americans-and-their-many-contributions-to-the-nation/>
<https://www.sciencebuddies.org/blog/native-american-scientists-engineers>
<https://artsandculture.google.com/story/10-ways-to-celebrate-native-american-heritage-month/GAUhe-CUIT6IPQ?hl=en>

Veterans Day message

Every year on November 11 we honor all U.S. Veterans who served our nation. I can tell you from experience that deciding to join the Armed Forces is life changing both for the person who puts on the uniform and their families. We honor the brave men and women who have stepped forward to volunteer to defend the security of our country. Your sacrifice is seen and appreciated.

Today, 19 million men and women are U.S. Veterans. Fifty percent of our Department of the Army Civilians are veterans. Here in New England, 20 percent of our team

has served in our Armed Forces. I want to thank each of you for coming forward and putting on the uniform of your respective service. Thanks to you, we enjoy many freedoms people in other countries only dream of.

The District has put together a page honoring our NAE Veterans who chose to submit their names and photos. If there is a U.S. Veteran in your office, make sure to thank them for their service. I encourage everyone to do something to honor that special veteran in your lives on Friday.



Janet Harrington and Lt. Col. Michael Carvelli speak with a homeowner during the media event.



Sen. Edward Markey addresses the audience during the Newburyport Harbor media event.



Lt. Col. Michael Carvelli stands with Janet Harrington and the New England District Newburyport Harbor team at the site of the media event.



Lt. Col. Michael Carvelli discusses the dredging and beach nourishment project.

New England District participates in Newburyport Harbor media event

**Story and photos by Bryan Purtell
Public Affairs Office**

Officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New England District took part in a “Sand Breaking” media event Oct. 31, on Plum Island in Newburyport, Massachusetts, to provide information on the maintenance dredging of Newburyport Harbor and the beach nourishment project on the North Point.

Lt. Col. Michael Carvelli, USACE district deputy commander, U.S. Sen. Edward Markey and U.S. Rep. Seth

Moulton joined a group of local and state officials, public and environmental interest groups, and homeowners at Reservation Terrace to celebrate the beginning of the Federal Navigation Project dredging of Newburyport Harbor.

The dredging project will maintain the authorized dimensions of the Newburyport Harbor federal channels, located within the Merrimack River, to ensure safe and reliable navigation through the area for commercial fishing vessels, U.S. Coast Guard operations,

recreational boating, and all other users of the Harbor.

Maintenance dredging operations began in early October and are expected to be completed by March 31, 2023.

The sand is being hydraulically dredged from the harbor and placed directly on the beach via pipeline to provide immediate protection to the most critical at-risk sections of Plum Island beaches and to reestablish and protect public beach, public infrastructure and private homes.