



Hurricane exercise tests District's readiness

By Joyce Conant
Public Affairs Office

Is Baltimore District ready for this year's hurricane season? Are you? That's what a team of district leaders from the executive office and the division and support offices wanted to find out during the "Hurricane Max" exercise held May 25.

Led by Michael Schuster, Planning Division exercise coordinator, and Maria de la Torre, chief, Emergency Management, the 2010 hurricane/flood table-top exercise was developed and based on real life situations that could occur in Baltimore's area of responsibility to include New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Washington and Northern Virginia. Its purpose was to validate Baltimore District's Emergency Management standard operating procedures and the district's capability to respond to and recover from a hurricane and flood event.

"It's extremely important to update and revisit our emergency plans annually to make sure everyone knows their roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency



Katisha Draughn, a public affairs specialist, plays the role of a reporter and interviews Vickie Rohr from the Logistics Office and Lacy Evans from Operations Division, during the hurricane exercise May 26.

(Photo by Clem Gaines)

and to ensure we have accurate contact information," said Ms. de la Torre.

Schuster developed the "Hurricane Max" exercise storm using HURREVAC 2010, which is a computer program used by government emergency managers to track hurricanes and assist in decision-making for their communities. Baltimore District, under the North Atlantic Division planning center of expertise for coastal storm damage reduction, is the national hurricane program office responsible for protecting communities and residents from hurricane hazards through various projects and activities.

"Using HURREVAC 2010, I plotted the storm track for every Atlantic hurricane since 1851. There were over 150 hurricanes that have come through or impacted the mid-Atlantic region. With this historical record, we need to be prepared," said Schuster.

Harold Joyner, a contractor from PBS&J, who played the role of facilitator, set the expectations for the exercise. He introduced the sce-

narios and various modules, managed the time and group reports, and facilitated the discussions between the groups.

The exercise measured and validated performance of a selected group of capabilities and their critical tasks. The selected capabilities were communications, planning, emergency operations center management, critical resource logistics and distribution, emergency public information and warning, rapid impact assessment, debris removal and documentation and financial reimbursement.

"The exercise was conducted in an open, low-stress, no-fault learning environment wherein systems and processes, not individuals, were evaluated," said Joyner. "Everyone played their exercise roles seriously and actively participated in all the group discussions."

Some of the areas affected by "Hurricane Max" included the flooding of Fort McHenry, water releases at Whitney Point dam, a

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Commander's Comment

'A Culture of Discipline'

By Col. Dave Anderson
Baltimore District Engineer

Good is the enemy of great.

These are the powerful opening words of the book "Good to Great" by Jim Collins.

This book, embraced by Lt. Gen. Robert L. "Van" Van Antwerp, U.S. Army Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps, contains a simple framework for making an organization great - disciplined people, disciplined thought and disciplined action.

In his first year, General Van talked with Corps leaders about the book and outlined four characteristics of a GREAT Corps:

1. Delivering superior performance every time;
2. Setting the standard for our profession;
3. Making a unique, positive contribution to our Nation and other nations; and
4. Building the Corps to last.

Three years later, we have made strides toward meeting those challenges. I'm asking each of you to assess your progress - to look at your individual and team efforts - to ensure you're doing everything you can do take us from good to great.

Disciplined people

Take a hard look in the mirror. Are you being the best leader you can be? Are you self-disciplined? Do you finish things you start? Is your life balanced? Are you capable of facing and dealing with brutal facts, even about yourself? Are you willing to adhere to the organization's systems and processes for getting work done? Are you hiring the right people? Do you give good people good opportunities?

Disciplined thought

Can you stay focused? Do you have faith that you can and will prevail in situations, regardless of the difficulties? Do you have the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of your current situation, whatever they may be?

Disciplined action

Are you deliberating the way forward carefully? If you are a supervisor, do you empower your workforce to do what's right for the right reasons? Are we following our processes in order to consistently deliver superior results every time?

Building a culture of discipline calls for disciplined people to use disciplined thought that ultimately drives disciplined action. As Collins notes, "A culture of discipline is not a principle of business; it is a principle of greatness."

The Corps' Culture of Discipline is being significantly bolstered by USACE's new Quality Management System (QMS), which is intended for:

- Capturing business processes and developing standardize business processes;
- Developing and executing supplemental business processes to meet unique requirements;
- Continuously improving and looking for efficiency in things we do; and
- Using a disciplined approach in managing improvements and changes.

I look forward to continuing to implement QMS in the Baltimore District to help formalize our processes and assure superior results, every time.

By blending disciplined people, disciplined thought, and disciplined action with the four characteristics outlined by General Van, we will strengthen our culture of discipline to create superior performance that also delivers impacts of lasting endurance.

Division commander promoted to brigadier general

By **Katisha Draughn**
Public Affairs Office

Col. (P) Peter A. DeLuca, Commander and Division Engineer of the North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general May 11 at a ceremony held at the home of Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers and Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

"A general officer should have vision, leadership and character. DeLuca is an incredible leader in that capacity," said Van Antwerp during his opening remarks. "I want to continue to build our future, and we are taking a giant step in that direction with this ceremony today."

During the ceremony, the promotion order was read, the old rank was removed and the new rank was placed on DeLuca's Army combat uniform by his family members, Tracy and Nicholas.

"This opportunity is being offered to me because of the sacrifice of American Soldiers and their Families. That sacrifice is



(Photo by John Hoffman)

Brig. Gen. Peter A. DeLuca, Commander and Division Engineer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers North Atlantic Division, takes the oath of office from Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers and Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C., as part of his promotion ceremony May 11.

huge," said DeLuca. "I accept this on behalf of all the great people I have served with."

DeLuca began his present assignment April 17, 2009.

As the commander, he oversees the planning, design and construction of projects to support the military, protect America's water resources, and restore and enhance the environment within an 180,000

square mile area along the Atlantic Coast. This includes more than \$7 billion in work to support Base Realignment and Closure 2005. He is also responsible for a variety of Division engineering and construction activities for international, federal, state and local governments and agencies in the United States and overseas, including in Europe and Africa.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

CONSTELLATION

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Corps employees honored at Federal Executive Board annual awards luncheon, ceremony

By Tina Carlsen
Public Affairs Office

A Washington Aqueduct employee earned a gold medal, while several other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District employees took silver and bronze awards at the Federal Executive Board awards luncheon and ceremony held May 7 at Martin's West in Baltimore.

Vikas Singhal, the senior financial management analyst at Washington Aqueduct, received the gold in the Rookie of the Year Administrative/Management Analyst Category.

Singhal began working at the Aqueduct in 2008, coming to the Corps from the private sector. He's responsible for all financial activities at Washington Aqueduct, including wholesale rate setting; revenue collection; cash, escrow management and Treasury loan management. He develops and administers the annual Operations and Maintenance and Capital Improvement Budgets. He's also Washington Aqueduct's Financial Management System and Program Manager.

"Through his technical skill, his ability to understand and communicate and his overall level of detail and professionalism, he made an immediate and significant contribution to our mission," said Tom Jacobus, Washington Aqueduct general manager. "He has transformed the financial section of the Washington Aqueduct."

Silver finalists were Sara Robert, Engineering Division, in the Outstanding Supervisor (Grades 13 and above) Category; Barry Cortright,



(Photo by Michael Cleveland)

Vikas Singhal, the senior financial management analyst at Washington Aqueduct, was honored in May as the Federal Executive Board Rookie of the Year in the Administrative/Management Analyst Category.

EN, in the Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Category; Mark Tucci, Operations Division, in the Outstanding Trades and Crafts Employee (Non-Supervisory) Category; and Megan Penn, Resource Management Office, in the Outstanding Administrative Assistant Category.

Bronze winners were Andrew Roach, Planning Division, in the Outstanding Professional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative Management and Specialist Category; Helen Busch, Office of Counsel, in the Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support Category; Jane Breedon, EN, in the Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Administrative/Management Analyst Grades 8 and above Category; Emily Shiffmacher, EN, in the Vol-

unteer Service Category; Ethan Weikel, EN, in the Rookie of the Year (Trades and Crafts) Category; and the Department of the Defense National Relocation Program Team of Natalie Schleicher, Sue Jones, Felecia Johnson, Tanya Harleston, Janet Kriner, Lillian Lamb and Samantha Zimmerman of Real Estate, in the Outstanding Para-Professional (Non-Supervisory) Technical, Scientific and Program Support Team Category.

The Baltimore Federal Executive Board's award program is the only government-wide awards program in Maryland.

"It provides a unique opportunity to recognize all federal employees for the outstanding work they do every day in their agency and the nation," said George King, Baltimore FEB chairman.

Teammates,

16 JUN 2010

Happy Birthday Corps!!

Today marks the 235th Birthday of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The strength and resolve of our team are as strong today as when the engineers of the Continental Army formed into the Corps of Engineers on June 16, 1775.



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG.

As we celebrate this day, I'd ask that every USACE team member take a brief moment to remember those on whose shoulders we stand.

Many challenges remain for us. Your best efforts are necessary as the Corps team supports two overseas contingency operations, strengthens the infrastructure of our country and readies to support or prevent the next disaster at home and abroad. Thank you for helping take the Corps from Good to Great!

Happy Birthday Corps!

BUILDING STRONG.
Van

Baltimore District Annual Picnic

July 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blob's Park in Jessup, Md.

Tickets for the meal are \$12 for Corps employees, \$14 for non-Corps employees and \$8 for children. The meal includes hot dogs, hamburgers, bratwurst, sauerkraut, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, chips, pretzels, soda and ice cream.

Attendees may bring their own lunch to avoid the ticket fee. Ticket sales will begin soon.

Look for an Employees' Activities Association e-mail for more information.

All employees are encouraged to attend.

Brown bag held to discuss overseas contingency ops

By Fred Furney
Public Affairs Office

The Baltimore District and representatives from North Atlantic Division hosted a brown bag discussion at the District May 27 about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Overseas Contingency Operations program.

Kirsten Smyth, NAD's Deployment Coordination Administrator, or DCA, and Connie Morinello, NAD's Regional Community Support Coordinator, traveled to Baltimore to give a presentation about volunteer opportunities, the Family Readiness Program, safety and overall concerns.

The first goal for USACE is to deliver support to combat, stability, and disaster operations through forward deployed and reach back capabilities. NAD was tasked with helping achieve this goal by providing staffing support and developing an NAD Family Support Program to promote readiness and quality of life for team members and their families.

Overseas contingency operations projects include design and construction of schools, hospitals, health clinics, police stations, military facilities, roads, railroads, rail stations, airports, power plants, oil refineries, water treatment and supply.

There are two ways for USACE employees to volunteer for OCO duties; the first is for the volunteer to submit their resume and their supervisor's name to the District's DCA, and the second is to apply to a vacancy announcement on CPOL or USAJobs, said Ms. Smyth.

Heidi Vause, in the Human Resources Office, is the Baltimore Dis-

trict DCA.

NAD's Family Readiness Program, or FRP, was addressed by Ms. Morinello.

The program is designed to enhance the quality of life and morale of civilian employees, soldiers and their family members who deploy.

Vause also serves as the District's acting FRP coordinator.

There are three stages of deployment: pre-deployment, deployment and redeployment.

In pre-deployment, the volunteer fills out the Family Readiness Information Form, ENG Form 107-R. This form gives permission to the FRP coordinator to stay in contact with the deployee's family, a key District goal.

Prior to deployment, the FRP coordinator contacts the deployee to set up a meeting with them and their family. At this meeting, the FRP coordinator reviews resources available to the employee and their family, and encourages them to set up a power of attorney, health care proxy, and a will, if they don't have one.

During the deployment phase, the FRP coordinator is in contact with the family at least monthly.

In the event of an injury or casualty, the commander will instruct the

FRP coordinator what assistance may be given to the family. This may include assistance with flight arrangements, ground transportation, childcare and pet care.

When the employee redeployes back to the District, the FRP coordinator schedules a meeting with the employee and their family members to discuss any assistance needed.

Ms. Smyth and Ms. Morinello said volunteers must keep in mind that they are being deployed to a war zone.

Here are some things to keep in mind:

- USACE will not typically send civilians out to very dangerous areas;
- Helicopters are often used to get to and from a site that is safe;
- Large convoys and armored vehicles are also used;
- Typically everyone wears full battle gear outside the safety zone at all times, and civilians usually accompany military personnel who carry weapons.

Lastly, people were reminded that they must approach deployments with an open mind.

Conditions will be tough and work hours are often long. However, the experience will provide rewards long after the volunteer returns home.

Baltimore District deployments

Baltimore District has 27 people deployed in support of overseas contingency operations, including Robert Martirossian, NGA-IPO, and Chris Collver, Fort Belvoir-IPO, (left to right), who deployed in May.



Stimulus funds result in repairs, upgrades at Raystown Lake

By Tina Carlsen
Public Affairs Office

Several repairs and upgrades were made at Raystown Lake, Pa., as a result of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds.

The majority of the projects are complete; the rest are due to be finished within the next few months.

The \$3.6 million that Raystown Lake received in 2009 went toward 14 projects, including reinstatement of seasonal employees and service contracts, engineering and design for a water treatment plant upgrade, replacement of steel doors and windows, wildlife enhancement, nearly 30 miles of road repairs, deer management, invasive species prevention, a bat survey, water and sewage line replacement, shoreline erosion repairs, universal access modifications, campsite electrical upgrades, a cultural resource management plan, and the repair and painting of spillway tainter gates.

Work began April 12 on the two tainter gates, 45 feet wide by 45 feet high, which control flood flows. The dam, completed in 1973, backs up water for more than 30 miles, protecting populated areas from flooding from Huntingdon, Pa., to the mouth of the Susquehanna River as it flows into the Chesapeake Bay. Raystown Dam has saved property owners and municipalities tens of millions of dollars in flood damage that would have occurred since its construction. The tainter gate work is scheduled to be complete in the fall.

"We focused on infrastructure with the ARRA work. Of primary concern were repairs to the tainter gates which were showing signs of



(Left photo by Tara Whitsel; right photo by Tina Carlsen)

Infrastructure repairs and upgrades were the focus of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds at Raystown Lake. An older restroom was demolished (left) and a wheelchair accessible one took its place. Spillway tainter gates are being inspected and repaired (right).

deterioration. The work we are doing today will improve the integrity of the tainter gates and prepare them for the next 40 years of operation. Additionally, a full structural inspection of the gates performed under this contract assures their continued safety," said Dwight Beall, Raystown Lake operations manager.

The funds spent on deer management were divided into three contracts. The first contract was for a series of three infrared surveys to show the deer population. The second was a forest vegetation study. The vegetation study and the infrared surveys will be used to determine the amount of deer harvest tags to be issued. The third contract was to install deer fencing around timber cut areas which will allow for maximum regeneration of native trees.

The shoreline repairs were needed because the extensive erosion from wind and wave action threatened critical shoreline vegetation and lake shore campsites. The Corps partnered with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to design a shoreline protection sys-

tem that would be cost effective and also provide fish habitat.

Universal access modifications included installing automatic doors at the visitor center, upgrading campsites to meet current design standards required by the Americans with Disability Act, wheelchair access to Seven Points Beach and remodeled restrooms at Bay Camp, the dam and a new restroom for Seven Points beach.

Jude Harrington, Supervisory Park Ranger, said these improvements moved Raystown Lake much closer to its goal of providing barrier free recreation facilities for all visitors.

Campsites now have a dependable water supply and campsite electrical service has been upgraded to 50 amps. The electrical upgrade now meets the demands of larger recreational vehicles without compromising the campsite's power system.

Bat surveys, completed last summer, checked for the presence of the endangered Indiana Brown Bat. No bats were found, which will allow the continuation of critical forest management operations.

District provides leadership in stormwater management

Story and photo by Clem Gaines
Chief, Public Affairs

Tackling a huge and high-visibility project, the Planning Division hosted the Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Management workshop May 20 at the Patuxent Research Refuge conference center in Laurel.

Maj. Hugh Darville, deputy commander, opened the workshop with a welcome to more than 70 people from Department of Defense installations located in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Larry Eastman, Planning Division branch chief, said "The purpose of the conference was to increase DoD installation's understanding of new and pending stormwater requirements and highlight the advantages and disadvantages of tools and practices that can assist installations in meeting these requirements."

The Chesapeake Bay is the nation's largest estuary, covering approximately 2,500 square miles. It's also one of the largest and most biologically productive estuaries in the world.

The entire Chesapeake Bay watershed covers 64,000 square miles, including the District of Columbia, and large portions of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware and West Virginia.

Nearly 17 million people live in the watershed and depend on the Bay and its tributaries as a source of drinking water, food, power, recreation, and jobs.

The Bay continues to experience poor water quality, degraded habitats, and low populations of many species of fish and shellfish. Despite on-going progress in some areas, its



Dr. Angie Sowers, Planning Division biologist, briefed workshop attendees on the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Plan May 20.

most pressing health issues today are nutrient and sediment pollution, toxic chemical contaminants, habitat loss and over-harvesting of fish and shellfish. Many of the Bay issues are caused by non-point source activities such as stormwater runoff.

On May 12, 2009, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13508, Chesapeake Bay Protection and Restoration. In July 2009, the Army released its first Army Chesapeake Bay Strategy to renew its commitment to restoring and protecting the Chesapeake Bay. In April 2010, the Army released the Annual Army Chesapeake Bay Action Plan with clear goals, objectives and targets.

Currently, the Army operates 19 major installations totaling more than 220,000 acres in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, with wetlands collectively covering more than 26,000 acres. The Corps Civil Works program plans, designs and constructs projects related to ecosystem restoration, navigation and flood risk management with support from non-federal sponsors. The Corps Regulatory Permit program provides protection of the Bay watershed by regulating placement of dredged or fill

materials into the Bay and its tributaries, both tidal and non-tidal, including wetlands.

Heather Cisar, Chesapeake Bay program manager, said "The Baltimore District has a long history of working on Chesapeake Bay projects like civil works, military construction, environmental restoration, navigation, etc. This workshop was a way to capture what the key issues are in order to plan for future workshops."

The five goals of the Army Chesapeake Bay Strategy address nutrients, toxics and sediment reduction, habitat and living resources protection, community outreach and engagement, and stormwater management and partnerships.

According to Eastman, the attendees gained a greater understanding of new stormwater requirements and practical tools and they learned that the Corps can provide assistance to installations in dealing with watershed management and stormwater compliance.

The Army plans to compile an Army Chesapeake Bay Progress report for release in October. Eastman said that "at least four or five targeted areas could be addressed in future workshops."

PMP: What you need to know about this valuable credential

By Helen Bunche

Programs and Professional Development Support Center

The Project Management Professional credential was initiated by the Project Management Institute Inc. in 1984 to recognize a person's demonstrated understanding of the knowledge and skills to lead and direct project teams and to deliver results within the constraints of schedule, budget and resources.

PMP candidate

The PMP candidate is one who ensures that all aspects of the project plan are executed and that progress and variances are properly addressed and communicated.

They are responsible for not only **leading** and **directing** the project, but also **managing** the work performed by the project team members. In essence, the candidate is responsible for all aspects of individual projects for the life cycle of the project.

Credential benefits

Here are a few of the benefits of earning the PMP credential:

- Globally recognized credential;
- Access to tools and techniques to help tighten timelines, schedule and resource projects;
- Networking with other professionals;
- Demonstration of project management skills;
- Professional development.

In addition, Baltimore District has a policy where exam fees are reimbursed upon successfully passing the test.

Becoming a PMP

The majority of Baltimore District employees complete a week-long class offered quarterly by the Programs and Professional Development Support Center.

The classes are structured to prepare candidates for the certification exam through live training and question preparation.

Completion of the training also fulfills the 35 Pro-



(Photo by Fred Furney)

Week-long classes offered quarterly by the Programs and Professional Development Support Center can help lead to PMP credentials. The next class is July 12 - 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the City Crescent Building's 4th floor conference rooms 4A and 4B. For more information, call or e-mail Mehrnoosh Mirzaei-Fard at (410) 779-0231.

fessional Development Units requirement necessary for the credential process.

Eligibility requirements include secondary diploma with five years project management experience with at least 7,500 hours spent leading and directing project tasks and 35 hours project management education **or** a four-year degree with three years project management experience with 4,500 hours spent leading and directing project tasks and 35 hours of project management education. Candidates must complete the application process and schedule themselves to sit for the certification exam.

"A good project manager has the ability to manage the risk of their project scope, schedule and budget and predict outcomes. A great project manager has those abilities plus the professional credentials to back it up. Investment in obtaining certification as a Project Management Professional is a great way to develop our new PMs and demonstrates our commitment to striving for excellence," said Jim Jones, deputy district engineer for programs and project management.

For a current list of the District's PMPs and a list of upcoming training classes, visit: <https://nabinfo.nab.usace.army.mil>, then click PMBP.

Construction picks up pace at Fort Detrick

By David Ruderman
Public Affairs Office

Construction picked up pace for the Baltimore District team at the Fort Detrick Integrated Program Office in May.

Steel placement for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases got under way May 12, while a string of groundbreaking ceremonies beginning in late April pointed the way to more building in the year ahead.

Kicking off the series of groundbreakings was a ceremony April 29 for a \$6 million, 22,200-square foot Navy BRAC Medical Administration Facility to house both Chemical Biological Medical Systems and the Naval Medical Research Center. Construction is scheduled for completion in August 2011.

"CBMS's journey is a journey of coming home," said Col. David Williams, Joint Project Manager for the CBMS Joint Project Management Office. "The command started here in about 800 square feet in a series of trailers. This collocation, from our perspective, is very good for us."

"To go from 800 square feet to 22,000 square feet, from a building where you fight over heat to a LEED-certified facility, is a big step forward for your organization," said Col. Dave Anderson, Baltimore District Engineer. "At the Corps of Engineers, we're absolutely committed to getting this project done so you can come in here and execute your vitally important missions."

A combined groundbreaking was held May 18 for two satellite communications projects: an \$11.7 mil-



(Photo by Dave Rolls)

Maj. Hugh Darville (far right), Deputy District Engineer, poses for a photo with the Project Delivery Team after a groundbreaking ceremony May 21 for the National Museum of Health and Medicine at the Forest Glen Annex in Silver Spring.

lion, 34,000-square foot Satellite Earth Terminal Station for the 21st Signal Brigade, and a \$10.1 million, 27,224-square foot Wideband Satellite Operations Center for the 1st Space Brigade.

"This is not a trivial matter. It shows the commitment of the Army to satellite communications and control, to get the last mile to soldiers in

the field," said Col. Jeffrey Farnsworth, 1st Space Brigade commander.

"We project this will be our busiest year yet in supporting the warfighter," said Lt. Col. Kirby Watson, 21st Signal Brigade deputy commander. "None of this is possible

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(Photo by Dave Rolls)

(Left to right) Maj. Hugh Darville, Deputy District Engineer; Col. Judith D. Robinson, Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Detrick; Dr. Florabel Garcia Mullick, Director, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology; Dr. Adrienne Noe, Director, National Museum of Health and Medicine; and David Costello, President, Costello Construction, prepare to break ground May 21 on the museum's new facility to be built on the Forest Glen Annex in Silver Spring.

Child Development Center

The Fort Belvoir Garrison and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers joined with local government and Department of Defense officials and contract partners to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new Child Development Center on Fort Belvoir April 30. The center is being constructed on the Fort Belvoir main post, using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.



(Photo by Marny Malin)



(Photo by Adam Skoczylas)

Green barracks

(Left to right) Col. Roarke Anderson, Commanding Officer of Headquarters and Service Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps Henderson Hall; Col. Dave Anderson, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District; Maj. Gen. Karl R. Horst, Commanding General, Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region/Military District of Washington; Russell Hall, Director, Installation Management Command Northeast Region; Mike DiNapoli, Vice President and General Manager of Suffolk Construction Mid Atlantic Region; and Col. Carl R. Coffman, Joint Base Commander, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, break ground on the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing project May 10.

The 70,056 square foot facility is the first Joint Service "Green" barracks building in the National Capitol Region and will provide servicemembers with state-of-the-art living arrangements. The \$19 million design-build contract was awarded to Suffolk Construction Company in November 2009.



(Photo by Fred Furney)

Baltimore District honors Asian Pacific Americans

Edward Chow, Jr., the secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, spoke to Baltimore District employees at an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month observance May 10 in the City Crescent Building.

Chow shared his experiences and challenges with the audience. Chow enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1956 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1962 after completing the Reserve Officer Training Corps program and earning his undergraduate degree at Seattle University.

He served in Germany and completed his service as a captain in Vietnam where he was awarded with the Bronze Star.

The observance also included food sampling.

June marks start of hurricane season: Preparation is key

By taking the time to create a family disaster plan and putting together a supplies kit, your family will be prepared.

By John Houvener

Safety and Occupational Health Office

June is the beginning of hurricane season and it's important to reiterate the importance of being prepared before a disaster happens.

History teaches us that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are common threads among all major hurricane disasters.

By knowing your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane.

In a disaster, local officials and relief workers cannot reach everyone immediately. Help may not arrive for hours or days. You need to be prepared ahead of time because you won't have time to shop or search for the supplies you will need when a disaster strikes.

Hurricane hazards come in many forms: storm surge, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding and can happen anywhere in the Baltimore District's region.

This means it's important for your family to have a plan that includes all of these hazards. Think through the safety actions associated with each type of hurricane hazard and prepare your family disaster plan accordingly. But remember your plan is only a guide.

The first and most important thing anyone should do when facing a hurricane, or any other disaster, is to use common sense.

By taking the time to create a family disaster plan and putting together a supplies kit, your family will be prepared.

The supplies kit can be kept in a plastic tub, small suitcase, or other container.

Important information on hurricanes flooding, and other disasters as well as guides for preparing – before, during, and after an event – can be found at <http://www.ready.gov/>

Emergency Supply Kit Contents

- First aid kit and first aid manual
- Flash light and extra batteries
- Battery-operated radio
- Supply of prescription medications
- Credit cards and cash
- Identification for each family member
- An extra set of car keys
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Signal flare
- Phone numbers and a map identifying safe places to go
- Special needs items such as diapers, formula, hearing aids, spare eyeglasses or items for other physical needs
- Three gallons of water per person
- Three-day supply of nonperishable food
- Kitchen tools such as mechanical can openers and utensils
- Complete change of clothes for each family member
- Tools and other accessories
- Sanitation and other personal hygiene products such as toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes
- Entertainment such as games, books, compact discs and tapes with battery-operated players.

In remembrance of Jim Sikorski



(Courtesy photo)

James W. Sikorski died May 17 after a brief illness. Jim served 18 years in Washington Aqueduct's machine shop.

He was a highly skilled machinist. Not only was he able to create a complex device from a piece of raw stock, but he also helped those with whom he worked improve their skills. When we was promoted to a shop supervisor, he continued to lead by example and set high standards.

Jim's contribution to Washington Aqueduct went beyond the machine shop. He volunteered to be a leader in the Washington Aqueduct Civilian Activities Association and was always there helping make the holiday party or the fall picnic a great time for his fellow employees.

Jim always had something to say. Whether it was an opinion, a suggestion, a story or a clever comeback, he had a smile on his face when he said it.

Jim's presence will be sorely missed.

Information provided by Tom Jacobus, Washington Aqueduct general manager

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without the great support we've had from the Corps."

Fort Detrick's Forest Glen Annex in Silver Spring was the site of a third groundbreaking May 21 for the National Museum of Health and Medicine, an arm of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The Baltimore District will construct a \$10.5 million, 40,000 square-foot facility scheduled for completion within a year, to coincide with the museum's 149th anniversary.

The museum is "a tangible link between the past and the future," providing unique resource to the armed forces through research and partnering with academia and private enterprise," said museum director, Dr. Adrienne Noe.

"The museum has had a long history . . . but it's not just a museum,"

said Col. Judith D. Robinson, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick commander. "It's about groundbreaking research that takes the past and brings it into the future."

"We're creating a new home, and a beautiful one, for one of our most visionary museums," said Dr. Florabel Garcia Mullick, AFIP director.

Meanwhile, at Fort Detrick proper, USAMRIID steel placement will continue throughout the year

ahead, said Resident Engineer Matthew Nawn.

The \$680 million, 850,000 gross-square-foot construction, scheduled for completion in 2014, marked the one year anniversary of its Notice to Proceed date June 1 with more than 10 percent of the project completed and the team jelling well, he said.

"It's a one-of-a-kind project," said Nawn. "It's tough. It's a lot to do in a short time period, but it's not breaking anyone."



Architect's rendering of the future National Museum of Health and Medicine.

Blood drive scheduled

A blood drive will be held July 2 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the City Crescent Building, 4th floor conference room. See your division or office point of contact to register or call (410) 962-2087 for more information.

P2 Bootcamp

P2 Bootcamp will be held July 19 - 23 in City Crescent Building, Rm. 9500. PMP's can earn PDU's by attending these sessions. For more information, call Helen Bunche at (410) 962-3410.

Credit for unused sick leave

Unused sick leave will be used as service credit in the computation of benefits under the Federal Employee Retirement System, but not for determining eligibility for a retirement annuity.

Sick leave will be used in the computations in the same manner it is used in CSRS computations.

Effective Oct. 28, 2009, people separating with entitlement to an immediate annuity or who die leaving a survivor eligible for a survivor annuity will be entitled to credit for 50 percent of their unused sick leave.

Effective for separations and deaths occurring on or after Jan. 1, 2014, 100 percent of the unused sick leave will be used.

The provisions apply to unused sick leave to the individual's credit under a formal leave system and for which the employee has not received payment.

In the case of people who have annuities computed under the provisions of both CSRS and FERS, only sick leave not included in the CSRS part of the calculation will be available under FERS.



(Photo by David Ruderman)

Encouraging youth at APG

Baltimore District civil engineers Joe Reed (left) and Beatrice Arreola (right) demonstrate a Trimble R8 RTK GPS device and tablet loaded with geographic data that are used for levee inspection projects with high school students at the Aberdeen Proving Ground May 14. The pair chatted with students about their interests in science and technology, and related their own educational and life experiences that brought them to professional careers with the Corps of Engineers, as part of the installation's Armed Forces Day outreach to area schools.

Our Proud Past

This series presents vignettes from Baltimore District's history, culled from vintage issues of the District newsletter. We welcome contributions from long-time employees and retirees.

From the May 1974 issue:

Raystown Lake Dedication June 6

Raystown Lake, a new man made flood control and recreation facility in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, will be dedicated at ceremonies at the War Veteran Memorial Field in Huntingdon ... Thursday, 6 June.

Vice President Gerald R. Ford will be the principal speaker.

The dam and the recreational complex are to be wholly supervised, operated and managed by the Baltimore District.

This project, part of our proud past, is still in use today. The full article is available in the District Library, City Crescent Building, Rm. 9000-W.

*Baltimore District's
"Check It" Program
June's Theme is: Safety*



(Photos by Fred Furney)

Temporary electrical wiring and the use of flexible cords on construction projects are common and often, are a source of multiple safety hazards. In accordance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Safety and Health Requirements, "All receptacle outlets that provide temporary electrical power during construction, remodeling, maintenance, repair, or demolition shall have ground-fault circuit-interrupter, or GFCI, protection for personnel" and "For construction sites, all flexible cords shall be inspected by the user of the cord at least daily." Users are responsible for inspecting and using their equipment and tools, but we all need to be on the lookout for common and easily overlooked hazards. The Check It program's goal is to remind us of the importance of double-checking ourselves and our work for safety and accuracy.



(Photo by Katisha Draughn)

Career Day

Megan Garrett, a geologist in the Engineering Division, speaks to eighth grade students during the career day at Dumbarton Middle School in Baltimore May 20. Capt. Joshua Thaniel, deputy commander for Support Operations; Larry Mathena, a civil engineer in the Engineering Division; and Kate O'Mara, a program analyst in the Programs and Project Management Division, also attended the career day and spoke to the students about their careers and the importance of education and internships.

EXERCISE cont. from page 1

power outage at the Washington Aqueduct, a building under construction at Fort Meade collapsing, trees down and millions without electricity.

"It was the storm of the century! The challenges were numerous," said Schuster. "We wanted to capture a wide range of emergency situations that the Corps may have to respond to in addition to the challenges the employees themselves were facing."

Following the one-day exercise, an after action review was conducted. Some of the discussion included employee accountability, essential personnel notification and the need for convening the crisis management team more often to make sure the District is always ready to support whatever emergency may arise.

"This exercise really served its intended purpose – it got the Baltimore District Team deeply engaged in reviewing our plans in event of a natural disaster in our area. The scenario was very well developed and realistic, and the team took the exercise very seriously," said Col. Dave Anderson, District Commander. "This event will go a long way toward improving our planning and disaster response capabilities."



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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Baltimore District
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Baltimore Newsmakers

Welcome to... Calvin Mitchell, Michele Bistany and Chaprie Robinson, RSFO; Brian Cantu, Safety Office; Vera Jaffe, OP; Heather Cisar, PL; Brett Merkel, EN; William Unkle, Mary Rudy, Bill Lawrence, Carsten Western, and Staff Sgt. David Nieves, BAO; and Drew White, Bill Tully and Dan Encinas, Fort Belvoir-IPO;

Welcome back to... Zach Mothershed, Fort Belvoir-IPO, who is returning from a deployment to Afghanistan; and Shelby "Bud" Nelson, NGA-IPO, who is returning from a deployment to Afghanistan.

Congratulations to... Terri Davis, who was selected as Chief Counsel of the Baltimore District; Adam Larrimore, APG-IPO, on the birth of his daughter; Ashleigh Huber, OP, on her engagement; Valerie Miller, APG-IPO, on her promotion; Cathleen Rodriques, BAO, on her promotion; Karen Austin, CO, on her promotion; Ray McNeil, Fort Belvoir-IPO, on his recent promotion;

Farewell to... Ann Haught, EX, who is retiring after more than 54 years. A retirement ceremony will be held in August or September for Ann. Farewells also go to James Supinger, George Jezek; Derek Smith, OP; and Brian Fain from the Washington Aqueduct.

Transfers... Ray McNeil, from Fort Belvoir-IPO to PPMD; Teresa Haynes, from EN to PPMD; Melanie Reese and Joe Schaefer, from APG-IPO to PPMD; Aaron Ross, from BAO to PPMD, for a



(Photo by Matthew Malone)

Congratulations to Stephanie Ferguson, formerly Stephanie Lavezza, in the Human Resources Office. She was married to 1st Lt. James Ferguson on March 26.

120-day detail; Barbara Church, from RM to PPMD, for a 120-day detail; Jennifer Nicolae, from RSFO to the Safety Office; Roddy Locust from NGA to EN; Jim Bruneske from Fort Belvoir-IPO to Fort Detrick;

Sympathy to... Debby Nizer, OP, on the loss of her father-in-law; Tom Pluto, OP on the loss of his father; Jasmine Armstrong, EN, on the loss of her father; Kevin Parris, Tioga-Hammond and Cowanewsque Lakes, on the loss of his father; Scott Watson, PL, on the loss of his mother;

Get well wishes to... Dale Duncan, APG-IPO, who is recovering from a recent surgery.