



CONSTELLATION

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District awards \$4.6 million contract to help protect National Mall from river flooding

By Tina Carlsen
Public Affairs Office

Baltimore District awarded a \$4.6 million contract Sept. 16 to construct an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-funded levee closure across 17th Street N.W., just south of Constitution Avenue N.W. to help protect downtown Washington, D.C., and the National Mall from river flooding.

Hirani Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C. of Jericho, N.Y., was awarded the contract and is scheduled to begin work in October and to complete work in summer 2011.

The contract award follows an unprecedented collaboration among federal and District agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, the National Capital Planning Commission, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and District of Columbia agencies.

The existing levee, which runs parallel to the Lincoln Reflecting Pool, has been in place since the late 1930s, as have the emergency procedures for closing 17th Street, N.W., between the levee and the Washington Monument.

These procedures involve bringing in "Jersey barriers" and



Courtesy graphic

The Baltimore District provided technical guidance and secured American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to complete the design and fund the construction of the levee closure across 17th Street N.W., just south of Constitution Avenue N.W., to help protect downtown Washington, D.C., and the National Mall from flooding. Construction is scheduled to begin in October.

sand bags, as well as removing soil from the Washington Monument grounds to build a temporary earthen levee.

The current levees are labor intensive and not completely reliable.

Post-Katrina federal standards require a more reliable levee system be in place.

The improved levee will consist of a removable post-and-panel barrier system connected to permanent masonry walls and earthen berms designed to seamlessly blend with the setting of the National Mall.

Without upgrades to its system of temporary closures, ma-

yor federal and private sector offices, cultural institutions, and critical infrastructure in the downtown core are at risk of flooding. In addition, much of Washington's downtown and monumental core would lie within the 100-year floodplain, according to proposed flood maps issued by FEMA in 2007.

"The Baltimore District is proud to be part of this important project. It will benefit both the citizens of Washington, D.C., and the millions of annual visitors to the National Mall. We are eager to get started," said Col. Dave Anderson, Baltimore District Engineer.



Commander's Comment

Unexpected feedback on a great team

By Col. Dave Anderson
Baltimore District Engineer

Every once in a while I have an experience that leaves me amazed by the awesome impact that the Baltimore District makes on our region and the nation.

A couple of weeks ago at a tailgate party following one of my son's soccer games, I had three separate conversations that brought this home. None of the gentlemen I was conversing with knew where I worked or what I do for a living, which made these exchanges even more special.

There I was ... manning the grill with a few other soccer dads. I asked one of the men where he lived. He said he was from southwest Delaware, but spent most of his time at Ocean City, Md. I asked him how things were going at Ocean City after last winter's storms. He excitedly told me that the Corps of Engineers was starting to replenish the beaches and dunes that were damaged during the Nor'easter in November 2009 when winds averaging 50 miles per hour gusted there for two days.

Another father told me that he lived in Salisbury, Md. I asked him if he had a boat... "yes," he said, we keep it docked on the Wicomico River." I asked about the depths of the river, and its navigability. He went on to

describe the sedimentation and erosion in the Wicomico River and the challenges those conditions present to the watermen, boaters, and overall commerce in our area. He was well aware of our dredging operations in the 150-foot wide Wicomico. We typically remove about 100,000 cubic yards of material from the channel there annually.

Later, a father from Frederick, Md., told me he is a government contractor who supports several activities on Fort Detrick. I asked how things were at Detrick. He offered that "there is a ton of construction going on. It is going to be an amazing place once everything is done."

What was the common denominator in all three conversations? The good work that you do in the Baltimore District in support of our armed forces and the people of the mid-Atlantic region.

Yes, indeed - we are replenishing the beaches of Ocean City, maintaining navigation in the Wicomico River (and many other places), and playing a significant role in revitalizing and modernizing our military's infrastructure. We do all that and so much more...

What we do is extremely important - often high viz - and deeply appreciated by the people with whom we live and play. All of us can be proud to say we work for the Corps, as I was that night (and every night).

Thanks for all you do every day!



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

CONSTELLATION

District Engineer: Col. Dave Anderson

Editor: Tina Carlsen

Contributors: Joyce Conant, Katisha Draughn, Ashley Williams and Fred Furney.

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New automotive test facility opens at APG

By Ashley Williams
Public Affairs Office

The Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility Phase 1 officially opened Sept. 8 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, dramatically increasing capability for the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and the Department of Defense.

ATEF's joint ribbon cutting ceremony with Army Research Lab's Rotorcraft Survivability Assessment Facility, included Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Dr. John Foulkes, director of the Test Resource Management Center in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and Maj. Gen. Nick Justice, senior installation commander at APG and commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

"Our Army is an Army on the move," said Mukulski. "Their vehicles need to be road ready, air ready and battle ready, so they must be battle tested."

Phase 1 of ATEF consists of a 4.5 mile high speed testing course for the current vehicle fleet and vehicles associated with the Army's Future Combat Systems. With vehicle capabilities and operational employment speeds increasing to more than 70 miles per hour, DoD did not have adequate facilities to test a full spectrum of wheeled, tracked and unmanned vehicles at sustained high speeds.

"Prior to today, the Department of Defense had no means of testing their vehicles at high speed on gravel surface," said Foulkes.



Photo by David Gray

A ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility Phase 1 official opening Sept. 8 at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The facility will increase capability for the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and the Department of Defense.

"All of DoD will reap the benefits of the new facility immediately."

The new 207 feet wide, tri-oval track with wide safety run-off areas and stringent grading criteria will allow the military to test braking, endurance, steering, fuel efficiency and reliability of each vehicle, some of which may be heavily armored and weigh up to 120 tons.

"The opening of the Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility culminates a vision more than 20 years in the making," said Col. Jeffrey Holt, commander of the U.S. Army ATC. "ATEF will enhance the quality and reduce the time it takes to test our armored vehicles, and with our ongoing support to missions overseas, speed is essential to serving the warfighter."

ATEF was a joint undertaking between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore and Philadelphia Districts. The Philadelphia District awarded the contract to American Infrastructure of Worcester, Pa., and designed the scope of the project. The Baltimore

District provided geotechnical, cost estimating, value engineering, stormwater management and erosion and sediment control support, in addition to project management and construction oversight.

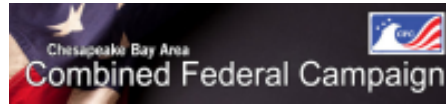
"Partnership is the key to what we do at this installation," said Col. Orlando Ortiz, APG commander. "Congratulations go out to the Aberdeen Test Center and the Army Research Lab on turning this vision into a reality, and to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for bringing this facility to fruition."

The ceremony concluded with a vehicle convoy of Army and Marine Corps vehicles being tested at ATC.

Design is nearly complete on ATEF's Phase 2; construction is set to begin in spring 2011. This phase includes a braking and maneuver test area, and adding a paved road surface alongside the gravel track. Phase 3, a fiscal 2012 project, will widen the gravel track to 30 feet, add a 10 foot wide median, and increase the safety over-run area to full width.

Combined Federal Campaign kicks off, activities set

By Tina Carlsen
Public Affairs Office



employees wearing pink on Thursday; **Oct. 18-21:** Going Green: Environmental Awareness Week with a putting and chipping contest; **Oct. 25-29:** Children's Charities Week with a costume/cubicle decorating contest; **Nov. 1-5:** Animal Charity Support Week with photos with the Orioles mascot; **Nov. 8-12:** Support our troops week honoring District veterans; **Nov. 15-19:** World Hunger Relief Week with a USACE Top Chef Challenge; **Nov. 29-Dec. 3:** Family Week with a hoop-shooting contest; **Dec. 6-10:** Humanitarian Week with a special Army vs. Navy fundraising event week; and **Dec. 13-15:** HIV/AIDS Awareness Week. Most special events are held on Thursdays.

For full details on these events, a list of office points of contact and a link to online pledges, visit the Baltimore District intranet at <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/> and click on the CBACFC link under Employee Quick Links.

The Chesapeake Bay Area Combined Federal Campaign runs through Dec. 15; and Baltimore District has many events planned to help meet, and even exceed, its goal of 25 percent employee participation and \$95,000 in donations.

The Combined Federal Campaign is the only authorized workplace giving campaign for employees. The CBACFC is the third largest CFC in the world, with donations of more than \$6 million annually.

"The CFC offers three attributes: choice, confidence and convenience," said Randall Graves, co-coordinator of the District's campaign.

"There are more than 3,000 charities to choose from. Your donation goes directly to the causes that mean the most to you. Each charity is audited annually

so contributors can feel confident that their money is going where the organization has promised. For convenience, there are many ways people can give -- from payroll deduction to online pledges," he said.

Co-coordinator of the District CFC Campaign, Kent Dickerson outlined the goals for increasing participation this year.

"There are weekly themes," he said. "Each week is centered around a specific cause. Special events will help motivate and keep interest on the campaign."

The campaign will kick off Oct. 7 with a Ravens tailgate party. Participants should wear their favorite team football jersey. Ravens cheerleaders will sign autographs and be available for photos.

Other themes are **Oct. 11-15:** Cancer Awareness week with

Brazilian delegation visits

The Chief of Engineers for the Brazilian Army, along with several other members of the Brazilian delegation, toured the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Campus East project site at Fort Belvoir Aug. 24. The visit, a part of a U.S.-Brazil exchange program, also included a visit to the Baltimore District Aug. 25 where they were briefed on the District's Military, Civil Works and Environmental programs.



Photo by Marc Barnes

South Campus Electricity Utility Plant contract awarded

The Baltimore District awarded a \$125,283,000 contract on the South Campus Electricity Utility Plant to Clark/MC Dean Joint Venture, based out of Bethesda on Aug. 30. The project will improve the reliable delivery of electricity to Fort Meade and provide backup power to the substation. Real Property Services Field Office served as the contracting agent on the project and National Security Agency is the customer. “The project delivery team really came together and made this



Photos by
Katisha Draughn

happen very smoothly, under budget and a month ahead of schedule,” said Randy Winemiller, chief of RSFO. PDT members include Jimmy Patel, program manager; Robert Kobayashi, project manager; Allison Scannell, contract specialist; and URS/Leo A. Daly, the Architect Engineer Firm. The completion for this project is 1,305 calendar days after the Notice to Proceed date. (Left photo) Ms. Scannell (center) receives a coin for her work with getting the contract awarded. (From left to right) Jerry Rifkin, assistant chief of the Contracting Division; Randy Westfall, from NSA; and Jared Olsen, deputy chief of RSFO. (Right photo) Rifkin signs the contract.



Photo by Jean Braithwaite

Accessible fishing pier

The Jennings Randolph Lake staff hosted the dedication of an accessible fishing pier at Kalbaugh Pond Aug. 25. The pier, designed for use by physically challenged visitors and their families, was the result of several community partnering efforts and the award of funds through the challenge partnership handshake program for the purchase of construction supplies. Ribbon cutting participants pictured left to right are Marie Burns, Operations Division chief; Karl Hakala, Jennings Randolph Lake operations manager; Boy Scout Nathan McKenzie, who cleared the pond area; Gary Kalbaugh, who completed the construction on the facilities; and Jane Belt, who oversaw the blacktop process. The pier and associated facilities are all American Disability Association compliant. The paved handicap parking lot allows parking of two side-loading wheelchair lift vehicles.

Chestnut restoration celebration

Approximately 90 people attended a Chestnut Restoration Celebration at Raystown Lake on Aug. 21. The event, hosted by Juniata College Field Station, included a tour of the Raystown Lake chestnut orchards, speakers from The American Chestnut Foundation, and highlights of the agreements the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has with the organization. Money was raised to help fund the nearly 100 restoration seeds slated to be planted in spring 2011. These test seeds represent seeds of hope as they are some of the first plantings to occur in central Pennsylvania that may be blight resistant. The Corps hopes to use the seed orchard for long-term planting of American Chestnuts across the Corps’ property, said Jeff Krause, Raystown Lake biologist.



Courtesy photo

World traveler lands at Baltimore District as EEO officer

By Fred Furney
Public Affairs Office

Gloria Wilson-Ahlemann, the new Equal Employment Opportunity Officer for Baltimore District, loves to travel so much that she spent the first six weeks of her life on vacation – she was born while her mother was visiting Mississippi.

Her travels didn't stop there.

Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann refers to herself as southern by birth, but the majority of her childhood years were spent in Detroit, Mich.

Early in her high school years, Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann moved to New York City and eventually attended New York University where she received a bachelor's degree in communications.

After graduation, she was a photographer for several small weekly publications in New York.

In 1982, Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann began her government career in the public affairs office at Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany.

She travelled as an embedded journalist with the soldiers of U.S. Army Europe wherever their mission took them, whether it was the war in Bosnia or humanitarian aid missions in Africa, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. "You got to see what life was like behind the iron curtain," she said.



Photo by Fred Furney

Gloria Wilson-Ahlemann, the Equal Employment Opportunity officer for Baltimore District, arrived in August after serving as the EEO specialist with U.S Army Installation Management Command in Mannheim, Germany.

During the 1990's, Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann earned her master's degree in human relations through the University of Oklahoma's extension program.

"I realized it was time to get out of the PAO field and into my next career when the camera started to get too heavy, and I realized I couldn't run as fast as I once did," she said. "When I decided it was time for a career change, I looked for a field where I could apply my professional background in communication with my education in human relations."

In 2005, she took a position as an EEO specialist with U.S Army Installation Management Command in Mannheim, Germany.

She started her new position with Baltimore District in August.

Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann said she likes Baltimore because it has a European feel, with its cobblestone streets, boutiques and bakeries.

Her hobbies include reading, photography and travelling.

Future travel plans include vacations to Morocco and Vietnam.

"Travel makes you more tolerant," she said.

"As the EEO officer for Baltimore District, I plan to establish a model EEO program, which adheres to all regulatory processes and timelines," said Ms. Wilson-Ahlemann.

Jennings Randolph Lake embraced by community

By Jean Braithwaite

Friends of Jennings Randolph Lake

With the first project of the newly organized Friends of Jennings Randolph Lake, Inc., complete, the group is developing future plans to enhance the Corps of Engineers site at Jennings Randolph Lake, located in Mineral County, W.Va.

The project, the rehabilitation of the nearly mile-long Lakeside Trail connecting Shaw Beach and the lake's picnic area, took about 188 manhours of labor. Volunteers clear-cut the area of brush and small trees, rocks were removed and four culverts for drainage were installed.

Though the official date of the group's incorporation is July 19, the group began to form in earnest, earlier this spring.

In April, a small gathering of citizens with similar interests and goals entered into discussions with Jennings Randolph Lake Operations Project Manager Karl Hakala to form an organization that would promote increased visibility of the Jennings Randolph Lake site.

Meetings were held monthly, and the Friends core group has pinpointed items of importance by fashioning a mission statement and a purpose that assembles the foundation for a successful organization.

As part of the mission, members of the Friends group desire to protect and promote the natural and recreational resources of the project by sponsoring and developing programs dealing with resource management, public education, and recreational improvements.

In addition, a mission of the mem-



The newly-formed Friends of Jennings Randolph Lake spent 188 manhours rehabilitating a nearly mile-long lakeside walking path. The area was clear-cut of brush and small trees, and four culverts for drainage purposes were installed.

Courtesy photo

bers is to offer improved and sustainable wildlife diversity and recreational opportunities for future generations.

The building blocks for the Friends group are anticipated to be a solid band of volunteers from surrounding communities.

Fundraising efforts will be a significant component of the organization, and a partnership-type grant is being sought from West Virginia legislators to provide seed money.

Jim Tichnell, president of the Friends of Jennings Randolph Lake, recently announced that the group is now registered with the West Virginia Secretary of State's office as a charitable organization and has its Articles of Incorporation filed.

The group is working with its financial advisor, Jessica Durr, regarding the completion and submission of documentation to attain 501 (c)(3) tax exempt status for the Friends group from the Internal Revenue Service.

Along with Tichnell, the officers for the Friends group includes Gordon Green, vice president; Ri-

chard Virts, treasurer; and Jean Braithwaite, secretary. Other members of the core group are Tom Braithwaite, Allan Green, Matthew Virts, Mary M. Rinehart, Janice LaRue and Mona Ridder.

Jennings Randolph Lake Park Ranger Norm Dennis serves as Corps liaison to the group.

Future plans for the group include a fishing rodeo at the area below the dam known as Blue Hole, at Barnum.

A lake and river clean up day in cooperation with the local scouts is also being planned.

A more extensive proposal involving the construction of a footbridge across the Potomac River is in the early stages of planning. That bridge, also to be constructed in Barnum, would allow fishermen access to both the West Virginia and Maryland sides of the river during high water events.

For more information about the Friends of Jennings Randolph Lake, call Ranger Dennis at (304) 355-2346.

Important dates in hurricane history, research

In 1494, during his second voyage, Christopher Columbus sheltered his fleet from a tropical cyclone. This is the first written European account of a hurricane.

In 1838, Royal Engineer Lt. Col. William Reid published his "Law of Storms" which advised mariners on how to avoid a hurricane at sea.

In 1848, the Smithsonian Museum organized a network of weather observers across the United States and its territories.

A devastating hurricane struck

Galveston, Texas, in 1900, resulting in as many as 12,000 deaths.

In 1992, Hurricane Andrew leveled parts of south Florida and caused more than \$26 billion in damages there, and also damaged the Bahamas and Louisiana.

One of the busiest Atlantic hurricane seasons on record was in 2005. There were 28 named storms formed, 15 of them hurricanes, seven were major, and four reached Category Five status. For the first time, the alternate Greek alphabet scheme for naming

storms had to be employed.

2009 was one of the quietest Atlantic hurricane seasons.

In 2010, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration added 12 hours to its watch/warning lead time, issuing watches 48 hours before landfall and warnings 36 hours ahead of time.

Information courtesy NOAA. For more hurricane history information, visit NOAA's website at <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/J6.html>.



**"Honor the past,
support the
future - vote!"**

General Election Day is Nov. 2. In order to vote in U.S. elections, people must be:

- A citizen of the United States on the date of the election in which they wish to vote, and

- At least 18 years old on Election Day. Some states allow 17-year-olds to vote in primary elections if they will be 18 on or before the general election.

People who have questions about voting, to include questions about absentee voting, can visit the Federal Voting Assistance Website at <http://www.fvap.gov/index.html> or call Capt. Joshua Thaniel, the Baltimore District voting assistance officer, at (410) 962-4547.

Baltimore District deployments



Baltimore District has 19 people deployed in support of overseas operations. Evan Carter, CT, deployed this summer.

Emergency Management will hold an Overseas Contingency Operations brown bag session Oct. 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in City Crescent Building, Room 11240. Participants will be provided an overview of the program, deployment opportunities, process/benefits, and can hear from employees who have deployed.

Some accidents can be avoided by speaking up

By John Houvener
Safety and Occupational Health Office

I recently read some interesting points made in a book titled *Over the Edge: Death in Grand Canyon* by Michael P. Ghiglieri and Thomas M. Myers. The book researched a number of untimely deaths in the canyon and provides some insight and details as to their causes.

One root cause that came up over and over again seems to affect solo hikers. The explanation and the author's conclusion is that when hiking alone, an individual is more likely to leave established trails to take short cuts or will exceed their conditioning level or abilities. Their deaths usually results from a fall or dehydration. Without another person to provide an opinion that what a hiker is about to do just might not be a good idea, the solo hiker tends to take risks he or she wouldn't otherwise take.

This concept can be used for most risky things we do at work and in our daily lives. If we see our co-workers taking unsafe short cuts or not trained or prepared to complete a particular task, we should say something.

After all, how many of us have had second thoughts about doing something risky at work or

at home and did it anyway? If it resulted in an injury, you probably said to yourself "I knew better" or if you witnessed it and didn't say anything, you probably said to yourself "He should have known better, but I should have said something."

Imagine how many of these incidents wouldn't have happened if someone had simply nudged us or reminded us of what we already knew.

Some basic rules include:

- Don't take risks you're not prepared for or you wouldn't want your child to take,
- Make sure you feel secure about saying something when someone is about to do something dumb. We must look out for each other, and
- Ensure that the incentive to work faster doesn't encourage excessive risk.

Whether you're a contractor or government employee, the human side of accident equations is our single largest problem. We injure ourselves more because of human error than to any other accident cause. Making the right choices and understanding the ramifications of bad decisions will help ensure we stay safe wherever we are and whatever we're doing.

A great take-away quote from the book is "There are no new accidents, just new people repeating old accidents."



Photo by Tammy Cleveland

Helmets protect cyclists; loaner program begins

Aaron Parzenese, son of Patricia Miller of Reading, Pa., is the first child to benefit from the newly instituted Helmet Loaner Program at Tioga-Hammond and Cowanesque Lakes in Pennsylvania. After continually seeing young children riding their bikes without helmets, Park Ranger Steve Sporer took action. He approached fellow Corps employee Chris Heichel, an avid bicyclist, to see if his biking club would be interested in helping with the effort to get kids to wear their helmets while visiting the lakes. Heichel and his club, the Tioga County Ridge Riders Bicycle Club, came through and donated eight helmets. Now children who accidentally leave their helmets at home can go to the Ives Run Visitor Information Center or the Tompkins Campground office to borrow one for the duration of their stay. In the past, rangers stopped children under age 12 from riding bikes in the park if they didn't have a helmet because Pennsylvania state law requires them to wear a helmet while biking. Each year, approximately 400,000 children under age 14 are treated for bicycle-related injuries. The ranger staff at Tioga-Hammond and Cowanesque Lakes encourage bicyclists of all ages to wear a helmet. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, helmets are 85 to 88 percent effective in preventing or lessening brain injuries.

Maryland cell phone law changes

Beginning Oct. 1, Maryland drivers cannot use cell phones while driving unless a hands-free device is used. The law calls for “secondary enforcement” with fines between \$40 and \$100.

Maryland’s law against text messaging and driving went into effect Oct. 1, 2009. Fines are up to \$500. Enforcement is “primary,” meaning police can pull over drivers for that reason alone.

New library books

The following books have recently been added to the District Library: *From Transformation to Combat: The First Stryker Brigade at War*; *Castles in the Far East: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Okinawa and Japan*

Districts, 1945 – 1990; Quality, Service, Teamwork, and the Quest for Excellence; Great Quotes from Great Leaders; Cove Point Expansion Project: Final EIS; and Weapon of Choice: ARSOF in Afghanistan.

The library is located in the City Crescent Building, Room 9000-W and is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (410) 962-3423.

Baltimore District has new intranet

The Baltimore District has a new intranet.

Using Microsoft SharePoint, the new intranet aims to provide up-to-date and important information to all Corps employees regarding policies, procedures, events, training, deployment, employee services, and more.

Baltimore District’s “A Culture of Discipline” *Office of Counsel*



Photo by Fred Furney

Carlin Walsh and Lynn Marshall are two members of the Baltimore District Office of Counsel who provide legal guidance to the District regarding mission execution. Great organizations endure by focusing on core values and purpose. By complying with legal requirements, the Baltimore District lives up to the Army values and earns a reputation among its stakeholders and the public for upholding those values when executing its missions.

Baltimore District’s “Check It” Program: *Contracting Division*



Photo by Fred Furney

Business Management Team Leader Evelyn Cross from Contracting Division, reviews a Government Purchase Card account audit with GPC Program Manager Bruce Lorie, CT, for irregularities in purchasing habits and late approvals of purchase request and commitments. The purpose of the Check It program is to remind employees of the importance of double-checking work for safety and accuracy. The Constellation focuses on a different organization each month.

It also can serve as a launching point to many other web sites and programs we use, such as ACE-IT Enterprise Service Desk, CPOL, AKO, MyPay, ENGLink, and CEFMS. Forms, District regulations, and travel procedures can also be located with ease.

The new Intranet is a work in progress, and will continue to evolve rapidly throughout the remainder of the calendar year. Each division/office is in the process of setting up its own site within SharePoint to house information specifically related to their mission.

Those sections are brand new, and will continue to grow as we continue to meet with each Division/Office.

To access the intranet, click the following link: <https://kme.usace.army.mil/NAD/NAB/intranet/default.aspx>. People should bookmark this new link, or save it as a icon on their desktop.

To have items included on the new District Intranet such as announcements, calendar items, policies and forms, contact the Digital Media Team at NABdigitalmedia@usace.army.mil.

Fraud doesn't pay

A lieutenant colonel at Fort Belvoir, Va., was recently given a \$15,000 fine and forfeiture of \$3,800 for three months for a temporary change of station fraud of \$31,000.

A sergeant at the Pentagon was sentenced to 16 months confinement, fined \$60,000 and given a bad conduct discharge for TCS fraud of \$145,000.

And the list goes on.

In conjunction with Defense Finance and Accounting Service and the Army Criminal Investigation Division, the Army Staff Judge Advocate is actively pursuing those who have or are currently defrauding the government.

The fraud usually occurs in two main ways. The first is appearing to rent a home, typically using a straw man or company, when they really own the home. The other is simply renting a home and paying one amount while providing documentation of a different amount.

Retirees or people who were de-mobilized are not exempt from prosecution. According to recent stories, DFAS is alert and making referrals to CID when they detect fraud.

Our Proud Past

This series presents vignettes from Baltimore District's history. We welcome contributions from long-time employees and retirees.

In 1876, Baltimore District Engineer William P Craighill's Report to the Chief of Engineers requested federal funds for harbor improvements.

Over the next several years, he wrote strongly requesting, almost demanding, the funds.

He also gained the support of several Baltimore businessmen, whose trade and commerce depended upon the harbor. Most notable among these was the vice president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, who referred to Baltimore Harbor as the 'front door' of his company. He estimated that more than 85 percent of his business derived directly or indirectly from commerce flowing to and from Baltimore's shores.

Craighill enlisted John W. Garrett, president of the B&O, to lobby for money from Congress, instructing him on how to go about it. His instructions included the suggestion of inducing someone in the Maryland delegation to introduce a bill requesting the Chief of Engineers to obtain an estimate of the cost of deepening the harbor. Craighill stood ready to report to Congress, believing that action would be taken during the current session. Craighill insisted to Garrett that the DE's role remain confidential.

If done today, would the ethics officer come after him? Probably.

Commerce in Baltimore Harbor in conjunction with the B&O, now CSX Railroad, continues today. Goods from all parts of the world enter our harbor, are transferred to railcars, and distributed throughout the country. The Baltimore District has had its own continuing role in that trade and is something else we can all be proud of.

This article was adapted from a portion of The Mid-Atlantic Engineers, which is available in the District Library, City Crescent Building, Room 9000-W.

Information provided by Steve Brooks, District librarian.



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Official Business



Baltimore Newsmakers



Printed on recycled paper

Welcome to... Tim Alexander, William Evans, Thomas Marchese and Steven Stewart, EN; Tracy Crump, CT; John (Jack) Connolly, PPMD; Robin Armetta, PL; Micah Stiegler and James Zechman, WA; Jesse Walsh, RSFO; and Sikhu Huynh, BAO.

Farewell to... Dave Hand, CO, who retired July 30, and Allen Gray, CO, who retired Aug. 3; Gloria Frost, CT, after 27 years of service with the Army Corps of Engineers; Carlzell Seals, WA; and Bill Lawrence, BAO.

Congratulations to... William Selinsky, OC, on the birth of his grandson; Ashleigh Huber, OP, on her recent marriage; Debbie Hardick, PL, on the birth of her son; Duane Alston, RSFO, on his engagement; and Jared Scott, PL, on the birth of his daughter.

Transfers... Parris McGhee-Bey, from DC-IPO to CO; Jennifer Carr from Baltimore District to APG-IPO; James Earwood from NGA-IPO to BAO; and Mike Rafter, Larry Bradshaw, Jean Hawthorne, John Borders and Noureddine Chourafa from DC-IPO to BAO.

Thanks to... Wesley Brown for all his volunteer help



Congratulations to James Bemis, OC, on his military retirement after 22 years of active duty and reserve service in the U.S. Air Force. He retired as a lieutenant colonel Aug. 27 in a ceremony at Bolling Air Force Base.

Courtesy photo

during the 2010 recreation season from the staff at Raystown Lake; and the countless number of people who donated sick leave, sent cards, thoughts and prayers to **Dale Duncan**, APG-IPO.

Get well wishes to... Walt Tyburski, CO.

Sympathy to... Christopher Penney, PL, on the loss of his grandmother; Karla Hill, PL, on the loss of her grandmother; Gregory Harrison, WA, on the loss of his father; the family of James Supinger, former WA employee, and Renee Smith and the NAB RMO team on the loss of Larry Smith, retired RMO employee. Prior to his retirement in 2009, Larry was a Corps employees for 35 years.