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New housing at Fort Detrick will accommodate families.

(Photos by Susanne Bledsoe)

Baltimore District builds new housing

by Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

Today, a stroll through almost any U.S. town will reveal a renewed sense of pride and support for American soldiers. Whether it is by displaying an American flag, purchasing a patriotic bumper sticker or wearing a patriotic T-shirt, Americans are eager to show their pride in the defenders of their freedom.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, too, prides itself on being one of the most diligent supporters of the U.S. armed forces. Since its inception over two hundred years ago, the Corps has always followed the mission of serving the nation's soldiers in times of peace and war. While the Corps displays

American flags and provides soldiers with other types of support, it has distinguished itself by going one step further—building quality housing for U.S. soldiers and their families.

Three Baltimore District projects—renovation of housing at Forts Belvoir and Detrick, and construction of new barracks at Fort Meade—prove that the Corps is committed to providing American soldiers with quality family housing.

In July 2001, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with Harkins Builders, a construction company based in Marriottsville, Md., began the revitalization of 148 family housing units at Fort Belvoir. Glenn Morsey, assistant area engineer at Fort Belvoir, said

the original housing at the installation was in pretty poor condition.

“There was termite damage in some of the houses, and many of them were old and worn out,” said Morsey.

But today, the housing units have been completely renovated to include new ceilings, floors, electrical systems and other amenities.

Morsey said the partnership between the Corps and Harkins resulted in a great project for the soldiers.

“Throughout the project, the soldiers continuously provided positive feedback about our work,” said Morsey. “They are very happy with their new living quarters.”

(Continued on p. 6)



U.S. Army Corps
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Baltimore District

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Commander's Comment

Support to war efforts continues through FFE

by Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr.
Commander & District Engineer

In the March issue of the *Constellation*, I talked to you about Lt. Gen. Flowers' three primary missions. One of those was national security and the role the Corps is playing, and will continue to play, in keeping the world safe for democracy.

Since that article, the United States and the coalition forces have been engaged in a war to liberate Iraq from its current regime. We hope by the time you read this, that mission will be complete and we will be well on the way to helping stabilize this country.

Field Force Engineering, or FFE, is a deployable group of Corps employees who deal with war and peace-keeping efforts around the world, including operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Two types of units make up the FFE components. One unit deploys to the theater—providing onsite support to a mission—while another unit stays home to provide “reach back” capabilities to the forces in the theater.

Having a unit at home to access information through hundreds of methods of research allows FFE teams to handle requests for information, or RFI, in an extremely efficient manner. The unit of

FFE that stays home is called the Base Development Team, or BDT.

The Baltimore District BDT is a 10-member team, and each member represents a different skill set. When the team receives a request for information, they spring into action, assessing all resources available, from personal experience and Corps experts at hand to members of the academic community. Crucial answers and comprehensive information gathered by the BDT is packaged and sent back to the force in the field that executes the mission.

I'm proud to say that the Baltimore District BDT was the first BDT to be put on two-hour standby, and has already been called to provide mission support. The sacrifice of these dedicated employees has been remarkable. To date, the Baltimore BDT has received and answered five RFIs, ranging from design requests to cost estimates and infrastructure assessments.

While the BDT represents one side of the FFE team, the 25 District employees slated for deployment when called upon are part of a Forward Engineering Support Team—Main, or FEST-M. As the war winds down, and vital areas of Iraq become more secure, it will be the responsibility of FEST-M teams to enter parts of the theater and carry out

similar duties for the military that they do on a daily basis with the Corps. Due to the heightened level of battle, only one five-member augmented FEST team has been deployed to date, but that number is likely to increase as more and more Iraqi territory is secured. We expect our Baltimore team will be called up.

Lt. Gen. Flowers recently returned from visiting the FFE teams already working to combat the War on Terrorism, and each commander testified to the tremendous impact the Corps has had on the mission. The combination of the FEST-M teams in the field and the BDT support from home provides a tremendous combination of expertise and ability. FFE already has a strong record of success, from designing master plans for bases in Afghanistan to building airfields in Africa.

With the challenge of reconstructing Iraq before us, the need for continued support of FFE will increase. I encourage you to offer your services. Reconstructing Iraq will not be easy, and promises to be a long-term operation. But I know each member of the FFE will come away with a renewed sense of pride and satisfaction for having helped rebuild a country and bring democracy to the people. **Essays.**



Memorial Day, May 26, 2003

Their tomorrows are no more. In the dark days of many past wars, the one gift members of the armed forces were not sure to receive was. . . tomorrow.

The men and women honored on Memorial Day have no more tomorrows.

They remain forever at a point in time and place where they probably never wanted to be.

But they answered the call to duty and left their homes and families, never to return.

What they left were memories. Memories of them and their times.

And they left some other things, things that are very important now: the basic free-

dom and liberty they fought for belongs to all Americans.

To all who have lost a father, husband, son, daughter, brother or sister in this nation's battles, you have heroes in your family. They are honored for their personal sacrifice.

Take time to remember this Memorial Day. As you see people visiting graves and playing taps, take a moment to remember what the day is all about.

The fallen cannot read these words of thanks or take part in cookouts and picnics. But they are the ones to whom so much is owed—the ones that must never be forgotten.

Memorial Day: The most dramatic salute

Few tributes are as moving as the traditional flyover at a military funeral or important public event. The flyover is even more dramatic when one aircraft zooms out of formation in the "Missing Man Salute."

The missing man formation had its early beginnings during the World Wars, when observers would watch for returning aircraft to see empty positions in the formations.

During the Korean War, when one member of the 35th Fighter Group was killed, a formation of three Mustangs, rather than four, flew over the pilot's funeral ceremony. By the war's end, the "missing man" was taking its place in military salutes.

In April 1954, Air Force General Hoyt Vandenberg was buried at Arlington National

Cemetery with several departures from the prescribed military funeral. The traditional horse-drawn caisson was not used. As part of the new tradition, a flyover of jet aircraft with one plane missing from the formation honored the general.

The formation is usually flown

by four to six aircraft in a "V" formation. The flight leader is at the point of the arrowhead. As the formation approaches the gravesite or ceremonial area, the wingman following to the leader's right leaves the formation in a spectacular pull-up, suggesting the hero's soul going up to God.

In addition to military aircraft, at least one civilian unit has performed the salute hundreds of times. The Missing Man Foundation at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, Calif., performs it in their matching T-34 Korean War-era Trainers.

Foundation pilots wear crisp, identical black flight suits to honor departed pilots at their funerals. All pilots and crew involved in the salute are seasoned combat veterans.



Corps retiree now Virginia farm owner

story and photo

*by Christopher Augsburg
Public Affairs Office*

Sitting in his favorite room of his newly restored, historic farmhouse—a building that he and his wife continuously work to improve—Tom Rowe could not be any more removed from his desk at Baltimore District.

After retiring from the Corps in January 2001, the Rowes moved to High Point Farm, which they had inherited from his wife's father nearly three years ago. Since then, Rowe has applied nearly every skill he used at the Corps to transform the degenerating farm.

The Rowe's 300-acre farm sits high atop the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Somerset, Va.

A quick, five-minute trip on a road that connects James Madison's house at Montpelier to Thomas Jefferson's home at Monticello takes you through a winding stretch of country road that weaves around acres of rolling green hills, to the entrance of High Point Farm.

The driveway passes over a rickety wood bridge, crosses over railroad

tracks and cattle grates—occasionally forcing the driver to dodge a cow or two—before arriving at the entrance of the refurbished farmhouse. The image of Rowe as a farmer conjurs up an image distant from how people

knew him at the Corps. “No one would believe me if they saw me here right now,” he said.

Over the years, the Rowes have poured their hearts into rebuilding the house and farm. The improvements to the house include all new windows, roof, siding, plaster ceilings, and a rebuilt kitchen. They've also built a new secondary home and a tool shed for their farm equipment.

The revitalization and remediation process of the land, house, stables and irrigation system mirrors many of the same projects that Rowe oversaw at the District.

Using economic analysis, he determined the cost and benefits for remodeling the front and interior of the main house. He rebuilt another house on the land, using contractors, saving on cost and using the same financial planning principles he used at the Corps.

His work on projects at Forts McHenry and Myers instilled the knowledge of historic preservation, enabling him to accurately rebuild sections of the

house to its original form, which dates from the mid 1800s.

For the Rowes, the life of cattle farmer means more than tagging a calf or selling Black Angus.

They're becoming integral members of the area by involving themselves in the rural community. Everyone shops at the same neighborhood deli, and Rowe's comfortable, friendly demeanor makes it evident that he enjoys his new “everybody knows your name” farming fraternity. However, the labors of farm management have been challenging.

“Life here is physically demanding, and it's every day, sunup to sundown, seven days a week,” he said.

Rowe gave much of his passion and life to the Corps, and still thinks about the many friends and people that he met along the way. He credits the success he's had in rebuilding High Point to the lessons learned from co-workers.

High Point, which doubles as a farm and a “no-fee bed-and-breakfast,” always has vacancies for friends.

Guests can canoe, fish in the pond, and enjoy the abundant wildlife—ducks, deer and hundreds of different kinds of birds. High Point is a collaborative effort of Rowe and his wife, and shows that he never really retired; his office has just become a little bigger.



The Rowes stand in front of their refurbished farm home.

Retiree builds dollhouses for local charity

by Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

Mary-Ellen Peters may have retired from the Corps, but her days in the workforce are certainly not over.

Twice a week, on Thursdays and Fridays, Peters' smiling face will greet you as you enter the *Forest Diner* in Ellicott City. Peters, 70, is a part-time cashier at the diner, located on Route 40 West.

"I enjoy working at the diner," said Peters. "The people there are down to earth, and it's a pleasure to work for them."

Just as Peters enjoys working in the diner, she also loved her job with the Corps of Engineers. She began working for the Corps in 1972 and eventually became a project manager in the Engineering Division. Peters credits such District employees as her supervisor, Carl Schletzer, with severely influencing her and serving as a role model for excellence.

Although Peters loved her job with the Corps and did not want to retire early, she left the Corps in 1998 after her mother's Alzheimer's condition worsened.

"I retired to be a caregiver for my mother," said Peters. "I wanted to look after her and ensure that she was safe."

After Peters' mother died three years ago, she began working at the diner. Peters

said that she originally thought retirement would be boring, but now admits that she was wrong. She has traveled to several cities across the country since her retirement.

"I cannot believe how busy I am," said Peters.

In addition to traveling, Peters' hobbies include sculpting, painting and horseback riding.

But she has also stayed busy with another hobby—building dollhouses in her Ellicott City home. The dollhouses are very detailed, often including hand-made people, furniture and other props. One of her dollhouses even includes a

dollhouses for charity.

"I donate my dollhouses to *Little Sisters of the Poor* and they raffle them to provide housing, food and clothing for the elderly," said Peters. "Sometimes they raise between \$600 and \$800 on the sale of one dollhouse."

Little Sisters of the Poor is a religious organization of women who have dedicated their lives to service of the elderly. The group aids needy citizens in 30 countries and across five continents.

Although Peters is not married and does not have children, she enjoys spending time with the rest of her family—her sisters, niece and nephews.

Recently, she joined her family in a class at the Maryland School for the Deaf.

"My niece is deaf, and the whole family is taking sign language classes so we can talk to her," she said. "We are having a ball."

Peters says that she frequently visits one of her sisters in Richmond, Va., and is contemplating moving there to spend more

time with her.

Even though there is no biological tie, Peters said that the Corps is still a part of her extended family.

"The people in the Corps of Engineers were like a family to me," said Peters. "The time I spent with the Corps was a very fun time, and I enjoyed every minute of it."



Mary-Ellen Peters helps to raise money for the elderly by donating dollhouses like this one to charity.

doctor's office, a lawyer's office and a store.

Peters says that her gift for carpentry stems from imitating her father.

"My father was good with his hands and I guess I inherited his gift," she said.

Peters does not do all of her construction for pleasure, however. Sometimes she builds her

Detrick, Belvoir, Meade get new housing

(continued from cover)

Fort Belvoir, however, is not the only place where the Corps has taken on the responsibility of improving soldiers' quality of life. Last spring, the Corps again partnered with Harkins to complete a \$6 million project that called for the renovation of 36 family housing units at Fort Detrick.

Dan Durski, acting resident engineer at Fort Detrick, said that there was an immediate need for renovated housing at Detrick.

"It's pretty expensive to rent a house here in Frederick, so many of the soldiers try to live in the housing on post," said Durski.

Frederick, the second largest city in Maryland, is an ever-expanding area whose real estate market is growing daily. Durski says that the Corps wanted to provide American soldiers with competitive housing at affordable costs.

Today, that dream is a reality. Last month, Harkins Builders finished the renovation of the 36 single-family housing units.

Each of these three-bedroom townhouses has enhanced living features including a second-floor laundry room, an outdoor patio and remodeled kitchens and bathrooms.

Two of the houses are also handicapped accessible. Eric Widerman, a Corps construction representative, said these handicapped units have many special features.

"We have built driveways for the handicapped residential units and provided these units with extra space," said Widerman.

To further create a sense of community, all of the townhouses are in a cluster surrounding a community parking lot. There are also many recreational facilities nearby.

According to Durski, the Army is pleased with the renovation and soldiers are already putting in their bid to move into the improved housing.

Durski said that he, too, is proud of the completed project.

"Here at Fort Detrick, we proved that the Corps of Engineers can construct quality

family housing units for our soldiers at competitive costs," said Durski.

Not only has the Corps partnered with Harkins to remodel housing, but the two agencies are also working together to construct new barracks at Fort Meade.

Daria VanLiew, resident engineer at Meade, said that the older barracks are becoming unsuitable for the residents.

"The older barracks were built in the '60s, and many of the soldiers are suffering from poor heating and lack of air-conditioning," said VanLiew.

In an attempt to improve the quality of life for these soldiers, the Corps awarded Harkins a contract last spring to build 288 residential units at Meade.

The \$25 million project is scheduled for completion next month, five months ahead of schedule. When completed, the project will include eight barracks' buildings arranged in an arch and a soldier community center.

The older barracks complex at Fort Meade can hold a maximum of 288 soldiers, but the new barracks will hold up to 576 soldiers.



A Fort Belvoir family housing unit.



The Fort Meade barracks are still in the construction phase although they are several months ahead of the projected completion date.



A new housing area at Fort Detrick, Md.



One of the new tot lots close to the Belvoir housing area.



A kitchen in a Fort Belvoir, Md. unit.

Tim Mathews, a Corps project engineer at Fort Meade, said the housing will meet the Army's "one-plus-one" standard, which calls for junior soldiers to be paired in two-bedroom suites, with a bathroom in between.

Mathews also said that the new Fort Meade barracks will have another quality that distinguishes them.

"The new residences at Fort Meade will be the first wood-frame barracks that the military has ever constructed," said Mathews.

Although both the Corps and Harkins Builders played an equal part in restoring the quality of family housing at these three military installa-

tions, each group credits the other with the overall success of the projects.

Corps representatives said that they are consistently impressed with Harkins because they produce high quality products ahead of schedule and below budget costs.

"Harkins Builders is a great contractor to work with," said Morsey. "They are very customer-oriented and I think they have done an excellent job."

Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr., district engineer and commander of Baltimore District, credits Harkins for the success of the Fort Belvoir project because the contractor moved the soldiers into the new houses 16 months ahead of schedule.

Fiala also gave a special award to Harkins for completing the project with no safety accidents.

But Harkins Builders credits the Corps for the successful completion of the three projects. Mike Ebrahimi, a Harkins project executive at Fort Meade, said that the success of the projects would not have been possible without the help of the Corps.

"The military is one of our best customers," said Ebrahimi. "We received unbelievable support from the Corps. They are fair, reasonable and easy to work with."

Though both agencies admit that they have a mutual respect for each other, they said that their love of country is what closely unites them.

"At this time in our nation's history, we are pleased that we can do something to improve the lives of our soldiers who put their lives on the line every day," said John Wildrick, vice president of the construction division of Harkins Builders. "We are just doing our little part in helping the troops."

Belvoir breaks ground for new addition

Baltimore District and the Mid Atlantic division of Centex Construction Company broke ground for a \$60 million addition of the Defense Threat Reduction Center, or DTRC, to the Andrew T. McNamara Building in Fort Belvoir, Va., April 16.

The contract includes the construction of a blast resistant building addition, parking structure and associated site work on a secure compound.

The building will have a 319,000-square-foot, six-story (one and a half stories below ground) structural steel addition, featuring a precast, brick and curtainwall façade.

A new parking structure will include a 300,000-square-foot, three-level, precast parking structure designed to accommodate 1,000 vehicles.

The site work will have access drives to the parking structure, storm water management and landscaping. The project is slated for completion in 2005.

Designed by RTKL Associates Inc., of Baltimore, the completed project will house 1,350 personnel of the DTRA.

DTRA's mission is to reduce the present threat from weapons of mass destruction and prevent future threats.

The new building will consolidate functions currently being accomplished in five buildings into one location.

Millions saved by reservoirs, levees

Baltimore District officials estimate that federally built levees and reservoirs in the upper Susquehanna River basin prevented nearly \$37 million in potential flood damages.

During the last two weeks of March 2003, the southern New York and northern Pennsylvania region experienced warm temperatures, resulting in the rapid melting of the region's snow pack. This, combined with an additional 1 to 2 inches of rainfall, generated significant rises in stream flows.

Reservoir operators in the upper Susquehanna basin reduced river levels by as much as 2 feet in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. River levels were also reduced by about 1 foot in the

Williamsport, Sunbury and Harrisburg areas of the state.

In southern New York, river levels were reduced by 1.7 feet in Binghamton and 1.6 feet in Corning.

As a result, many rivers crested just below their flood stages. However, some locations still experienced river levels that exceeded flood stage, especially around Binghamton (3 to 5 feet) and Wilkes-Barre (approximately 1 foot over flood stage).

Officials estimated that reservoirs accounted for about \$8 million, and local levees prevented about \$29 million in potential damages.

Baltimore wins NAD, HQUSACE awards

Baltimore District's Tioga, Hammond and Cowanesque Lakes Master Plan Project Delivery Team, or PDT, received top honors last month when the team tied with a team from the Walla Walla District to win the Outstanding Planning Achievement Award for 2002.

The award is given each year to a Corps of Engineers' team that successfully advances the state of the art in the practice of water resources planning.

The Tioga-Hammond PDT won at the district and division levels, and went on to receive a joint first place award at the national level.

The PDT was selected as a national winner for its exceptional use of modern analytical tools, superb teamwork and contractual efforts.

HQUSACE officials also praised the team for its extended customer involvement program.

Sue Hughes, a program manager in the District's Planning and Environmental Services Branch, said the Tioga team won because of their innovative efforts and because they used sound planning

principles.

According to USACE guidelines, a good master plan concerning a reservoir project anticipates what could happen, recommends future development and stewardship at the lakes and is flexible to meet changing conditions.

The PDT's plan surpassed all of these guidelines. The team developed a plan that will assist the project staff and the Corps' partners in the development of recreational facilities and natural resources enhancement activities for the Tioga, Hammond and Cowanesque Lakes. The plan also calls for sensitivity to the environment and the nation's water resources.

The members of the winning Baltimore District team are: Lacy Evans, Jeffery Krause, Greg Mollenkopf and Peppino Persio (OP) and Gwen Meyer, Andrea Walker, Scott Watson and Heather Wells (PL). These team members will be honored this August at the 2003 Senior Leaders Conference.

Federal Women's Advisory Conference

Not just for women any more

by Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

National Women's History Month concluded March 27 when dozens of District employees joined hundreds of federal employees across the region at the Annual Federal Women's Program Conference.

The program, at Baltimore's Martins West, celebrated the achievements of federally employed women and urged women to be "pioneers for the future."

Although the majority of the attendees were female, a few men attended. U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes gave opening remarks and elaborated on the need to support women in government.

Sarbanes was not the only public official there. The keynote speaker for the event was Patricia C. Jessamy, the State's Attorney for Baltimore City. Jessamy used examples of women in the past to demonstrate the qualities that women should exhibit.

"Sojourner Truth is a woman on whose shoulders we stand," said Jessamy, alluding to the famous activist who testified at the first Women's Right Convention in 1850.

Jessamy also talked of the need for women to work together cooperatively.

"We have to work collectively to maintain gains we already made," said Jessamy. "There is power in the sisterhood."

While Jessamy admitted that one's career is important, she said a woman's most important



Kevin Mainquist and Bob Blama, Operations Division, were among a number of men who attended the Federal Women's Advisory Conference.

responsibility is to be an example to her children.

"No matter how high we go, our number one responsibility is to be the best mother we can be to our children," said Jessamy, who is a mother and grandmother. "If our children falter, then our future is in doubt."

In addition to having prominent speakers, the conference also used a variety of workshops to empower and enlighten women.

Sandy Gembicki, a staff assistant in Real Estate, said she thoroughly enjoyed the morning and afternoon workshops.

"This year I attended the *Career Development* and the *Aspiring Attire* workshops," said Gembicki. "The speakers were informative and interesting, touching on topics that benefit women in their careers and lives in general."

But women were not the only ones to benefit from the workshops. Bob Blama, a project manager in the District's navigation section, said that men also enjoyed the *Aspiring Attire* workshop and were given a chance to be full participants.

"The attire session was lighthearted and fun because [a man] was chosen to participate in a game called *Fashion Feud*," said Blama. "It's amazing how much he knew about women's accessories. He was an instant success in the life of the feud."

Two other workshops, *Resume Writing* and *Financial Planning*, were also offered. Overall, Blama said the Federal Women's Conference was well worth attending.

"The food was good, the company I kept was better, and it made for an interesting day," said Blama.

Phase 4 of space consolidation moves toward completion

Phase 4 of the space consolidation in the City Crescent Building has begun, and involves the following changes:

- consolidation of the District library,
- relocation of the Security Office to the 9th floor adjacent to the library,
- consolidation of Contracting Division to accommodate the relocated Small Business Office,
- a new general storage room on the 7th floor, and
- enlargement of the Union Office on the 4th floor.

Phase 4 should be completed by the end of May.

Design for the 5th and final phase of the project has been completed, and work should begin in June.

Phase 5 involves creating a permanent office for the Project Management Service Center, and moving some offices within



Workers dismantle shelving in the library to make space for the Security Office, which will share this space with the library. (PA staff photo)

Planning Division and Programs and Project Management to achieve more efficient space use.

Phase 3 of the space consolidation project was completed in mid April.

As part of Phase 3, the

Logistics Management Office moved from its location on the third floor to the former Map Files room on the 10th floor.

All work on the space consolidation project should be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

Harvest for the Hungry program ends above goal



Mark Harris (left), LMO and Harvest for the Hungry coordinator, stacks boxes of food for the program. Nearly every division and office participated in this year's Harvest for the Hungry program, with many donating over 100 items.

Committee keymembers planned four activities that produced a total of \$685.50 and 192 food items. The first event was a breakfast and silent auction, followed by two raffles. With money donated by some employees, the committee purchased 1,725 items, making a total of 3,473 for the campaign.

"I feel really good about this year's effort," said Harris. "And, I want to thank all the key persons who helped make this such a successful year.

"Without your hard work, it would not have been possible." (PA staff photo)

Anacostia named urban river pilot project

In celebration of Earth Day, the U.S Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency announced April 21 that the Anacostia River has been selected as one of eight urban river restoration pilot projects. The pilots result from the Urban Rivers Restoration Initiative, an agreement signed by the two agencies last July.

Baltimore District Commander Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr., representing the Corps, met EPA Administrator Christie Whitman and D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams in Washington, D.C., to make the announcement.

"This river is fortunate to have a great many people from the community interested in its health and future," Whitman said.

"The neighboring Potomac

may be the more famous of the capital's waterways, but the Anacostia outdoes the Potomac in one dubious respect," Fiala said. "The Anacostia ranks highly among American rivers described as 'severely polluted.'"

Fiala described the Corps' efforts in the 170-square-mile watershed. Along with other federal, state, county and D.C. agencies, and civic groups devoted to the Anacostia's revival, the Corps has restored or is planning to restore 25 miles of streams, 12 miles of migratory fish habitat and 120 acres of freshwater wetlands, he said.

The Anacostia was selected through a competitive process for its plans to restore wetlands, expand forest coverage, redevelop underused brownfields and expand private and public stakeholder involvement.

Congressional staffers attend annual Corps workshop in Washington, D.C.

On March 28, the Corps had its annual congressional workshop on Capitol Hill to educate congressional staffers on the Corps mission.

The daylong event included opening remarks from Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, who described the future of the Corps, and the current impact the Corps has on the nation through its military and civilian projects. Flowers emphasized the role the Corps currently plays in Homeland Security, operations around the world through Field Force Engineering teams and the benefits of civil works projects.

Representatives from every department of the Corps described their roles within the Corps, fielding questions from staffers about specific projects. Rob Vining, chief of Programs and Projects Management, Civil Works Directorate, USACE, received the most questions, as he tackled some of the more controversial projects, including the deepening of the Delaware River, the Missouri River Master Manual and the Everglades Ecosystem Restoration.

According to a number of staffers, the workshop helped them better understand the Corps' mission and purpose.

Technology and you

Cyberbegging

Some are struggling single moms. Others are college grads loaded down with loans and credit cards, and still others are people claiming they need money for medical procedures.

The stories are different, but what they want is the same. They want you to send money via home pages that are becoming a new Internet industry: cyberbegging.

It's not unusual for a good story to bring in \$1,000 a week. The site has to be attractive and interesting. Some actually raise money for nonprofit organizations, but many cyberbeggars just want your money. So, beware!

How to alphabetize your 'favorites'

To alphabetize **Favorites** in Internet Explorer for Windows, click on the "Favorites" menu in the menu bar of Internet Explorer, (not the star-shaped "Favorites" icon in the toolbar) the text menu item called Favorites.

Then right click the mouse button on any item. A menu should pop up. Toward the bottom of this menu, you will find a choice called "Sort by Name." Click on it, and your Favorites will be alphabetized.



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