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District Digest

**"It is not fair
to ask of
others what
you are not
willing to do
yourself."**

**-Eleanor
Roosevelt**

District contracting officer receives prestigious award for service in Iraq

by Christopher Augsburger
Public Affairs Office

Cathey Robertson, a contracting officer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District, received the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal from Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock for her efforts as a contracting officer supporting 'Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil,' where she managed a \$3.3 billion program to rebuild the Iraqi oil infrastructure.

Strock presented the award to Robertson during the District Engineers conference in Washington, D.C., Jan. 26.

"This award is definitely the highlight of my 29-year career," said Robertson, who awarded contracts for repairing pipelines, helping to get oil refineries up and working and importing fuel from Kuwait, Jordan and Turkey for humanitarian purposes. Robertson received the award in front of district engineers from across the Corps, including Baltimore District Commander Col. Robert J. Davis.

"It's a tremendous honor whenever our team members are recognized for work directly in support of the Global War on Terror," said Davis.

"To see the chief of engineers awarding her for her work is a huge highlight for me since taking command," he said.

Though proud of her accomplishments, Robertson also said that she felt a little



(Photo courtesy of Corps Headquarters)

Cathey Robertson was honored by Lt. Gen. Strock for managing a \$3.3 billion program to rebuild the Iraqi oil infrastructure.

embarrassed by all the accolades.

"I alone didn't earn this award," said Robertson. "It was a total team effort throughout the Corps. We had folks from Tulsa, Europe, Louisville and Albuquerque all working very hard on this mission," she said.

Robertson spent approximately 160 days in Iraq from October 2003 through March 2004, living in Iraq's Green Zone, working 10 to 13-hour workdays in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

This award came a few months after receiving a Service Citation from the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, signed by Administrator Paul Bremer. The award recognizes distinguished and devoted service to the nation, the coalition and the people of Iraq.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>

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Commander's Comment

Taking care of yourself — our greatest asset

by Col. Robert J. Davis
Commander and District Engineer

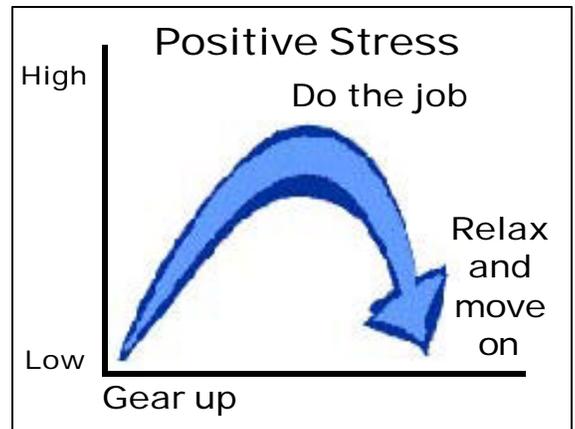
The subject of my column this month focuses on your well-being. As you know, we are faced with demanding customers and stakeholders, tighter budgets, and we maneuver around obstacles that lie at every turn of our mission accomplishment. We have a very challenging workload in the District and Region, and stress can be a by-product of this workload. I believe this stress can be both good and bad.

For example, the stress resulting from completing a task with a short deadline can often serve as a tool to sharpen our skills and focus, and lead to a more effective solution. On the other hand, high stress can also lead to worrying, inaction and decreased performance.

A key to good stress management is being able to recognize stressful situations and to develop positive ways to mitigate the negative aspects of stress. An underlying way to do this is to learn to live a balanced and happy life.

Researchers have identified the core factors in a happy life. The primary

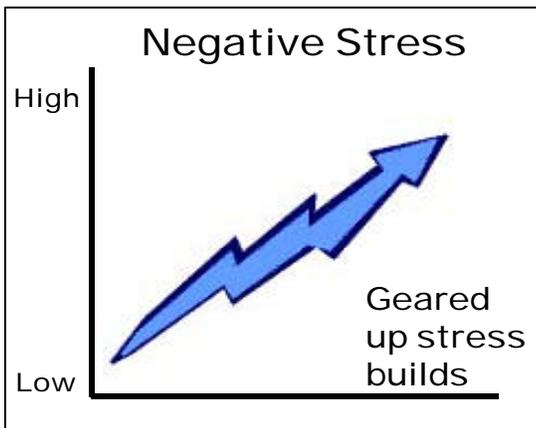
components are number of friends, closeness of friends and family, and relationships with coworkers and neighbors. After analyzing thousands of studies, Dr. David Niven, author of *The 100 Simple Secrets of Happy People*,



offers the following research-based secrets of happy people:

- **Accentuate the positive** — When an unhappy person must interpret the world, eight of 10 times he or she will see the negative in an event. When a happy person does so, eight of 10 times he or she will see the positive.
- **Don't confuse stuff with success** — You're neither a better nor a worse person because of the kind of car you drive, the size of your home or the job you have.
- **Volunteer** — Research shows a strong consensus that volunteering contributes to happiness by creating an increased sense of purpose in people's lives.
- **Enjoy what you have** — Satisfied people appreciate what they have and don't compare themselves to others.
- **Cultivate friendships** — Rekindle past relationships and take advantage of opportunities at work or among your neighbors to

(Continued on p. 3)



NAACP official delivers black history address

by Angela Moore
Public Affairs Office

The Baltimore District hosted a Black History Month event honoring the contributions of black Americans on Feb. 14. This year's theme focused on *The Niagara Movement*.

Founded in 1905, *The Niagara Movement* renounced Booker T. Washington's accommodation policies set forth in his 1895 "Atlanta Compromise" speech, and called for full civil liberties, an end to racial discrimination and recognition of human brotherhood for black Americans. The movement was organized by a group of African Americans led by W. E. B. Du Bois, John Hope and William Monroe Trotter. The movement is named for its first meeting, which took place at Niagara Falls from July 11-14, 1905.

The group disbanded after Du Bois joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or NAACP, in 1909.

John J. Johnson, director of programs for the NAACP, was this year's keynote speaker. Johnson emphasized the importance of the Niagara Movement and the strides that the NAACP has made in its nearly 100 years of existence.

"Although we have come a long way, we still have a long way to go," said Johnson.



(Photo by Tex Jobe, Information Management)

Carolyn Brown of the Department of Housing and Urban Development poses with John J. Johnson, chief programs officer for the NAACP. Johnson was the keynote speaker for the District Black History Month observance held Feb. 14.

In addition to Johnson, Congressman Benjamin Cardin, several congressional representatives and Richard Howell, executive director of the Federal Executive Board, spoke during the ceremony. The "CCB Voices of Harmony" also performed one selection.

The NAACP still tirelessly fights to ensure political, educational, social and economic equality for all American citizens.

Commander *(continued from p.2)*

expand your friendship base.

•**Share of yourself** — Don't hold your feelings, thoughts, and hopes inside. Share them with your friends and family.

•**Don't face your problems alone** — "Problems can appear to be unsolvable," Niven says. "But we're social creatures who need to discuss our problems with others."

•**Cherish animals** — Animals provide both immediate joy and long-term positive feelings. "Animals have so much to teach us about love," says Niven. "The closer we get to animals, the more joy they give us."

As we ready ourselves for the second (and more stressful) half of the fiscal year, take a moment to evaluate your personal stress reduction plan.

Here are a few ideas to consider: plan a weekend of fun activities with your family; forgive someone you're angry at; eat slowly (you'll eat less food and digest it better); exercise your mind by reading a book, learning a new card game or trying a new hobby; take an elderly family member, friend or neighbor to lunch; schedule time for exercise, (a brisk daily walk will give you energy and calm you) set aside a daily "worry period" by taking 30 minutes a day to

concentrate on what's bothering you and contemplate solutions — then free yourself from worry for the remainder of the day.

As you finish reading this, spend a few moments thinking about what you can do to help yourself manage stress in your day-to-day activities, I hope the above mentioned recommendations can help. I'm looking forward to an extremely successful remainder of the fiscal year with you.

—**Essayons!**

What does regionalization mean to you?



Dan Bierly
Chief, Navigation Section
Baltimore District

“The most apparent form of regionalization at the section and staff level is through the practice of external independent technical review. Members of Baltimore District Planning Division are

aiding other districts by reviewing their work and documentation in an objective manner. That objectivity allows them a view of one who is familiar with the requirements and procedures of the Army Corps of Engineers.

In the past year, the Navigation Section has used the expertise of the Philadelphia District for review of multi-million dollar studies related to the beneficial use of dredged material, and the New York District for their economics and management planning expertise. Ongoing and future review will occur with Norfolk District on studies related to erosion in the Chesapeake Bay and ecosystem restoration in the Potomac River watershed. The Norfolk District’s familiarity with the bay and the Potomac, coupled with their separation from the Maryland sponsors, allows for thoughtful review without bias or pressure from the sponsor. 



Janet M. Vine
Chief, Regulatory Branch
Baltimore District

“Last September’s heavy rains that caused flooding in Pennsylvania were the driving force for one specific example of successful regionalization in the Regulatory Program. Three Corps

Districts – Baltimore, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh – have regulatory authority in the state of Pennsylvania. In response to the heavy rains, Baltimore District developed a public notice describing permit procedures for Pennsylvania citizens who were affected by the flooding and needed to repair damage to public and private property and waterways. Baltimore coordinated the public notice with Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and once the notice was finalized, Baltimore provided it to them so that all three Districts could publish the public notice.

Through this effort, we shared expertise, reduced workload, and equally important, we provided a consistent, streamlined permit process and seamless service for all affected citizens of Pennsylvania.” 



Gus Rambo
Chief, Design Branch
Philadelphia District

“Regionalization is the sharing of workload, ideas, people, expertise, knowledge and experience among the Corps districts, divisions, labs and headquarters. Regionalization expands the reach a single district

has and enhances our commitment to provide a quality product to our customers. The Corps, by virtue of who we are and how we serve the nation, is the premier engineering organization in the United States, and regionalization adds to our ability to continue our excellence.

Within the past year alone, Philadelphia District has reached out to Baltimore, New York, New England, Europe and the Louisville Districts to share work, acquire expertise, share people and obtain input to our products through independent technical reviews. All this has improved our products and helped our people become more knowledgeable to better accomplish the Corps mission.” 



Lawrence Mazzola
Chief, Military Programs
New York District

“In Programs, Plans and Policy Management Division, we’ve always used regionalization informally. It’s not at all unusual for New York District to call on Norfolk or Baltimore Districts, for

example, for contracting assistance using a design-build contract, or to draw on the expertise in other districts to ensure customers’ needs are met. We’ve done it unconsciously, but not to a great extent.

Today that is changing with the regionalization of districts and divisions as Regional Business Centers under the Corps’ 2012 reorganization. For years, districts had other ways of thinking. People were always concerned over the workload. We need to say, “It’s one Corps”, and not, “It’s a different district.” Once that happens – once you realize that it’s one large team – you get it. You can’t think the old way. Case in point:

Experts from Europe and Norfolk Districts recently teamed to prepare a request for proposals for bids on the Explosive Research and Development Loading Facility at Picatinny Arsenal, located within New York District boundaries. This teamwork helped to ensure the proposal was done right and on time for an important customer. North Atlantic and Europe regionalization allowed us to better use the resources from other districts.” 

Certification: a career enhancing tool

by Michael Nelson

Realty Services Field Office

What is a Project Management Professional, or PMP? What is the value added by obtaining the PMP certification? And is it worth it to get it?

There are over 90,000 certified PMPs worldwide, according to Michael A. Price of the Project Management Institute, or PMI. About 70,000 of these PMPs actively provide services in 120 countries. According to recent projections, about 30,000 persons will receive their PMP certification in the next year. Many companies are requiring PMP credentials for individual advancement or for employment. The Corps of Engineers has adopted the PMI business processes in the Project Management Business Plan.

PMI stands as a global leader in the field of project management. PMI also sponsors a project management certification program. It is well known that PMI certification involves a rigorous, examination-based process that represents the highest caliber in professional standards. Therefore, PMI's professional certification is universally accepted and recognized.

To be eligible for the PMP certification, one must meet specific education (four-year degree) and experience requirements (4500 hours of PM experience) and agree to adhere to a code of professional conduct. The final step in becoming a PMP is passing a multiple-choice examination designed to objectively assess and measure one's project management knowledge.

John H. Cable, director of the Project Management Program at University of Maryland, College Park provided the following insight into the importance of obtaining the PMP:

•Generally, professions benefit if standards are set and professional certification is used to identify those individuals who have achieved and maintained that level of proficiency.

•Studying and preparing for the PMP exam forces one to think about and focus on the fundamentals in a way that is quite useful. It gives a framework to what one learns in the field and many times the "a ha" light comes on.

•As organizations recognize the need to peg career development not only to experience but also to education and certification, the PMP will

become even more widely sought along with continuing education in the field of project management.

•Finally, earning the PMP makes one more marketable, yielding increased earning power, and improved job mobility and security. Some studies show that — in the right economy — the PMP adds \$10,000-20,000 to your income. This is because a PMP-certified person probably has a background and skill level that is higher than his or her non-certified peers.

The Army Corps of Engineers prides itself on its professionalism and is in the planning stages of having a tiered approach for project management positions. There will be three levels and, in order to reach the maximum level, the PMP certification would be required. According to James Jones, chief of the Programs and Project Management Division, Baltimore District has more certified PMPs than any other Corps district and is leading the charge in the training of its employees to obtain the PMP certification. Join the team!

—Second in a series of articles from the Project Management Service Center.



Visit www.pmi.org for more information on the PMP certification and PM Body of Knowledge.

Women break new ground in rebuilding Iraq

by Christopher Augsburger
Public Affairs Office

Over the last several months, the Iraq Projects and Contracting Office, or PCO, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hosted three conferences for woman-owned businesses that outline procedures to follow to win contracts for projects aimed at rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure.

"This is a huge culture shift for most businesses in Iraq," said Shirley Wilson, deputy director of the Contracting Office for the Gulf Region Division of the Corps.

"Not only are women breaking new ground, but they are doing it in an environment where working for the Iraqi Interim Government and the multinational forces could get them killed because of insurgent violence," she said.

"When my friends ask me why I am doing this, I ask them, 'If you do not do it, and you do not do it, and I do not do it, then who will?' I believe in what I am doing, and I want to help my country," said Biekhal F. al Khalifa, a young civil engineer with one of 53 women-owned businesses attending a November conference in Baghdad.

The Corps and PCO recruited approximately 80 women-owned businesses to attend three conferences in Baghdad, Basrah and Kirkut.

To qualify as a woman-owned business at least 51 percent of the company must be owned by one or more women; or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock must be owned by one or more women.

While most contracts are open



(Photo courtesy Water Sector, Projects & Contracting Office)

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and Water Sector of the Projects & Contracting Office hosted a bidding seminar in Kirkuk for women-owned businesses. Nearly 80 businesses were represented at two other seminars in Baghdad and Basra.

to bidding by woman-owned businesses, the goal of the conference was to encourage bidding on contracts under the Simplified Acquisition Process that has projects under \$1 million.

These smaller contracts present a unique opportunity for women-owned businesses in Iraq because the capital needs are not so insurmountable, according to Eileen Padberg, of PCO's water sector.

"Women everywhere face the same general obstacles as (Iraqi women). There are no set asides for the program, and we can't guarantee them a contract, but we can help them understand the process," Wilson said.

In addition to financial concerns for a fledgling firm, breaking into a traditionally male-dominated arena is a huge culture shift for Iraqi women.

"The women in Iraq are not used to competing with men, and they are not likely to show up at bidding conferences that are occasionally

conducted by the Corps of Engineers or by design-build contractors because they feel uncomfortable walking into a bidding seminar that is full of men," Padberg said.

Women make up 62 percent of the population and represent a tremendous intellectual and human-resource pool.

"It is imperative to grow this resource by providing opportunities for women to develop new businesses and participate in the growth of Iraq's economy," Padberg added.

Although it is too early to know if any of the women from the three seminars have gotten awards yet, two contracts were let from the Baghdad seminar – one for \$500,000 and one for \$570,000. The \$500,000 contract was cancelled, but is scheduled to be rebid, according to Padberg.

(Information from portaliraq.com was used with permission)

Corps clears path for Arlington's future

by Katherine Welton
Engineering Division

When design began in 1998 for a new storm drain outfall to accommodate 40 acres of future burial space at Arlington National Cemetery, no one thought it would be easy.

There are no existing outfalls that can handle the required capacity of storm water drainage, and a storm water management pond within the cemetery was not an option.

After careful review of all the possible options, the only feasible outfall outlet was the Boundary Channel, a tributary of the Potomac River. But traversing the land between the two areas presented challenges. The planned storm drain alignment crosses State Route 110, the at-grade Washington D.C. Metro tracks, a high-voltage electrical duct bank, an off-ramp from the George Washington Memorial Parkway leading to the Pentagon and protected land owned by the National Park Service.

The solution: micro-tunneling. Originally developed in Japan in the 1970's, micro-tunneling is the use of a remote controlled, laser-guided boring machine to cut through the soil and install pipeline in a single continuous effort, with surface disturbance only detected at the beginning and end of the project area.

Micro-tunneling is most often used in areas where the utility must bypass heavily populated areas,



(Photo courtesy of Arlington National Cemetery)

Micro-tunneling will increase the number of burial spaces for deceased military personnel at Arlington National Cemetery.



(Photo by Roy Randow, Huxted Tunneling)

The cutting head of the tunneling machine at Arlington National Cemetery is prepared for launch.

roadways or historically and environmentally sensitive areas. As there is no ground surface disturbance, settlement is typically less than one sixteenth of an inch. Accuracy of the alignment is also impressive —most tunnels deviate less than one quarter inch of the length of the tunnel, but can be adjusted at any time to correct the deviation.

This type of project is a rarity for the Baltimore District, and one of only a handful that the Corps of Engineers has completed, primarily due to the cost associated with the construction and the availability of other options with most projects.

While the process of micro-tunneling is relatively quick, the Arlington National Cemetery project is requiring more construction time than originally anticipated.

A significant amount of reinforced concrete rubble — most likely remains from the construction of the Washington D.C. Metro or fill used to stabilize the banks of Boundary Channel — was found at the downstream launch area of the tunnel. However, once the launch area is cleared and equipment is properly placed, the micro-tunneling is expected to take less than two weeks, with an additional four weeks needed to trench the outfall to the boundary channel.

The entire tunnel is expected to be completed by mid-March and will allow for the next phase of cemetery development at Arlington National Cemetery.

Retiree enjoys helping local home-owners

by Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

Nearly seven years have passed since John O'Hagan, former chief of Operations Division retired, but his passion for helping and mentoring others has not subsided.

Shortly after he retired from the Corps, he joined the Ignatian Lay Volunteer Corps, a national organization of retired individuals who volunteer in their local community. Today, O'Hagan works at St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center in Baltimore, helping to negotiate a repayment plan for people who fall behind in their mortgage payments, so that they can afford to stay in their homes.

O'Hagan, 67, said he enjoys making a difference.

"I've been very fortunate in my life, and I believe in giving back," he said.

Those District employees who knew O'Hagan said he has always displayed a deep concern for the welfare of others.

"John created an enthusiastic and challenging work environment where people clearly knew that not only was their professional work important to him but also that Mr. O'Hagan was keenly interested in their personal well-being and that of their families," said Stan Snarski, deputy chief of Operations Division.

Randy Winemiller, chief of the Realty Services

Field Office, agreed.

"John ran a first rate organization and was a good leader, mentor and friend," said Winemiller.

Last summer, he visited a few of the District's field projects just to see recent project improvements and visit with the employees.

O'Hagan joined the Corps in 1958 after graduating from Johns Hopkins University and Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. He became chief of Operations Division in 1971 and worked in this capacity for over 25 years. Although O'Hagan no longer works in Baltimore District, he said he misses the people he worked with on a daily basis.

"I think the Baltimore District is the best district in the country," said O'Hagan.

Just as O'Hagan misses the Corps, District employees said they miss his loyalty to the Corps and its missions.

"John O'Hagan, more than any other fellow civil servant I know, embraces the true essence of leadership," said Jerry Rifkin, assistant chief of Contracting Division.

Bill Nicholson, assistant chief of the Resource Management Office, said he misses O'Hagan's sound advice.

"Many of us could go to him for advice on how to handle a situation," said Nicholson.

This selfless attitude is part of the reason O'Hagan is now a member of the District's Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees.

O'Hagan has one favorite pastime activity — discussing current events. According to Snarski, O'Hagan always had plenty to say on the long trips to visit District projects.

"John would start talking the moment you left the parking garage and engage you in the most interesting, non-stop discussion on the state of the world, politics, religion, sports, science, medicine or any other topic of the day," said Snarski.

O'Hagan enjoys discussing current events because he enjoys being a part of history as it unfolds.

"I'm only 67, and I witnessed Vatican II, the civil rights movement, the women's rights movement, advances in technology and human interface changes," said O'Hagan. "It's been an interesting life."



(Photo by Chanel S. Weaver, Public Affairs)

John O'Hagan meets with one of his clients at St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center in Baltimore.

Looking good and playing it safe

By John Houvener
 Safety & Occupational
 Health Office

Television awards shows, like the Academy Awards (Oscars) are known for critiquing clothes that are to die for. However, a walk on the red carpet is a long way away from a walk on the job site. The fact is that the clothes you wear on the job can affect your safety.

Hey, Nice Pants: Let's start with pant length. If your pants are too long they can lead to accidents like tripping yourself or catching a heel when coming down a ladder.

Tie breaker: Many construction workers don't wear ties. A construction site is a dangerous place with lots of moving machinery. A tie poses a potential danger because when you move, it can move independently and away from your body and catch in machinery if you aren't careful.

The same risk applies to long sleeves. If your sleeves are long keep them buttoned at the wrist and don't roll them up or leave them loose. Also, always keep your shirt tucked in and your



belt tight.

Sensible shoes: Having the right tool for the job is just as important as the shoes you wear to the job. Sneakers on a construction worker makes as much sense as sandals on a fireman. Make sure the shoes are in good condition and are well suited for the job.

Good leather work boots with rubber soles and steel toes are best on a construction site. In many cases, steel toed boots are a requirement. In cold weather, rubber boots should be worn with woolen inner boots or heavy woolen socks. Never work in wet boots or shoes.

Always keep your clothes clean. Dusty and greasy clothes can cause skin irritations, and, if they are soaked with oil and grease, they can catch fire from a spark or a cigarette.

Out cold: Clothes do not create heat; they retain the heat your body creates. For keeping warm, wool is one of the best fabrics to wear because it absorbs perspiration and helps retain body heat. If the conditions are really cold, add a layer of clothing. Two layers of lightweight wool are warmer than one very heavy layer.

The same applies to gloves; wool gloves are warmer than leather or cotton gloves. In cold weather, if you need leather gloves for protection, wear wool-lined leather or wool gloves inside the leather ones.



Safety may not always be fashionable, but when armed with the awareness of these simple rules, it may be lifesaving.

Don't just 'dress for success,' dress for safety success and leave the clothes to die for on the red carpet.



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Women's History Month

March is National Women's History Month, and this year, Baltimore District will be distributing ribbons to highlight the significant contributions women have made to history.

Attached to each ribbon is a fact drawing attention to one woman's contribution(s) to women's history.

The **purple** ribbons epitomize women from all walks of life and the **red** ribbons symbolize the Corps' participation in the observance of Women's History Month. During the month of March,

the District's Equal Employment Opportunity Office and Resource Management Office encourages District personnel to wear these ribbons in observance of National Women's History Month.

Each Wednesday, District employees should exchange their ribbons with someone in the District to learn new facts, teach others and take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments and achievements women have made throughout history.

On March 31, each department should come together for 15 minutes to share what they have learned regarding women and their part in history.

For more information on the District's women's history observance contact one of the following members of the Ribbon Committee: Lorie Moses, Cyndi Geppi, Cassandra Anderson, Ayesha Bonnette, Vicky Brooks, Renee Rice or Audrey Laden.



Longtime USACE employee retires



(Photo by F.T. Eyre, USACE Headquarters)

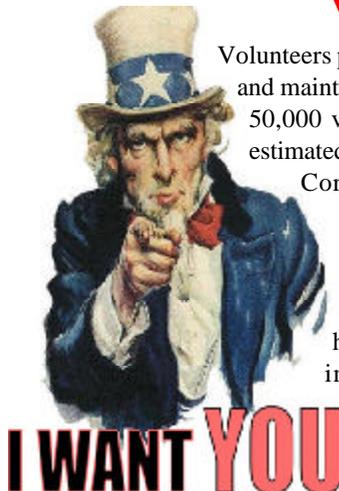
Tony Leketa, a member of the Federal Government's Senior Executive Service and longtime U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employee, retired Feb. 4. A luncheon ceremony was held in his honor at the Fort McNair Officers Club in Washington D.C. Leketa, a former Baltimore District employee and North Atlantic Division Regional Integration team leader, was honored for his many years of service by Commander and Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, among others, at the luncheon. Leketa (center) is pictured with (from left to right) Frank Finch, retired colonel and former Baltimore District Engineer (DE); Rick Capka, retired brigadier general and former Baltimore DE; Randy Inouye, retired colonel and former Baltimore DE; Ann Haught, Baltimore District executive secretary; Brig. Gen. Bruce Berwick, former Baltimore DE and current commander of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division; Chuck Fiala, retired colonel and former Baltimore DE; and Col. Bob Davis, current Baltimore DE.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers play an important role in protecting the natural resources and maintaining recreational facilities at Corps projects. Annually, 50,000 volunteers contribute 1 million hours of work with an estimated value of \$18.7 million. Volunteers are friends that the

Corps couldn't do without. Corps projects offer many volunteer opportunities in recreation and natural resources management. Volunteers can serve as park and campground hosts, staff visitor centers, conduct programs, clean shorelines, restore fish and wildlife habitat, maintain park trails and facilities. For more information please visit the website at <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.html> or call Greg Mollenkopf, your Baltimore

District volunteer coordinator, at 410-962-6017.





Resident engineer wins construction management award

by Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

Will Hettchen, Construction Division, is the recipient of the 2004 North Atlantic Division Construction Management Excellence award. Hettchen received the award for his oversight and support to the District of Columbia Schools Program Office on a number of challenging projects, including the \$72 million renovation of McKinley Technology High School.

“Mr. Hettchen’s construction management skills and contract administration, coupled with his exceptional team building and leadership skills as Resident Engineer contributed in a significant manner to the success of this challenging project,” said his nominees. “He has proven himself to be an exceptional performer, a true credit to the US Army Corps of Engineers, and a worthy recipient of the award.”

Ninth annual Corps workshop emphasizes diversity



(Photo by Chanel S. Weaver, Public Affairs Office)

Pamela Caraway, a program analyst from Corps Headquarters, and Andrea Bias-Streat, of Baltimore District, were two of the many attendees at the 9th Annual USACE workshop Feb. 17. Baltimore District employees Col. Robert J. Davis, Jim Jones, George Lea, Marie Johnson and Michael Coleman also attended the event. The workshop, which brought together representatives from Corps districts across the nation, was held at the Harbor Court Hotel in downtown Baltimore. The theme of this year’s conference was “Diversity: A Mission Imperative” and emphasized the need for attracting and maintaining diverse talent within the Corps of Engineers. An afternoon seminar also provided attendees with information on how to discover and build their strengths.

News you can use

Harvest for the Hungry Update

Baltimore District has collected 1,381 canned goods and raised more than \$1,800 for the 2005 Harvest for the Hungry campaign.

The canned goods and cash donations will benefit the Maryland Food Bank.

The campaign runs through March 31.

For additional information, contact Stephanie Roth, HR, at 410-962-2087.

Speakers Bureau

Four District employees led the way in meeting the requests for school science fair judges this year.

Mitch Burns, Dale **Duncan** and **Maryam Khan**, of Engineering Division, and **Karen Reed**, of Real Estate, judged the Middle River Middle School Science Fair Feb. 22.

Donating blood has health benefits

Giving blood is not just good for the those who receive it. Donating blood has benefits for those who give it too.

According to the Central Florida Blood Bank, donors routinely receive a mini health check for blood pressure, cholesterol, temperature, pulse, and iron levels.

The agency reports that men who give blood three times a year reduce their risk of heart attack.

Other studies they report show that donating blood can reduce the risk of certain types of cancer.





Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

Official Business

BALTIMORE NEWSMAKERS

Welcome to ...

Joyce Conant, PA; David Bilger, OP; and Robert Spanburgh, Steven Sawyer and Douglas Greene, WA.

Farewell to ...

George Lea, CO; Pat Huber, SB; Bryan Frey, EN; Chris Hallam, EN, who is deploying to Kuwait; Clifton Hearne, Kenneth Lucas and Reginald Richards, WA; and Kathy Deboskie and Sarah Brull, OC.

Congratulations to ...

John Rogalski, CO, on the birth of his daughter; Carlin LaBar, OC, on her graduation from the University of Baltimore, School of Law; and Doug Schuler, Rawn Shea, and Karen Szymanik, RE, on their recent promotions.

Get Well Wishes to ...

Robert Powers, WA; and Jerry Mijares, EN.

Thank you from ...

Henry Urban, CT, for the many expressions of sympathy on the passing of his wife, Rose; and Judy Bemis, HQUSACE, and family for the expressions of sympathy on the passing of her mother; and Randy Sitton, CO, for the many expressions of sympathy on the passing of his parents.

Transfers ...

Valerie Pence, WA to RM; Debbie Cousler, RM to EN; Theresa Gomes, RM to NAD; and Rod McCracken, OC to Europe District.

Sympathy to ...

Larry Young, EN, on the death of his father; the family of Nelson R. Hofert, former District employee, in his passing; Frank Bizzoco, RSFO, on the death of his father; Jim, OC, and Judy Bemis, HQUSACE, on the death of Judy's mother; Nancy Hammond, EN, on the passing of her father; Dennis Powers, EN, on the death of his mother; Pat Frankenberger, EN, on the death of her brother; and Gloria Richardson, RE, on the death of her mother.

