



CONSTELLATION

A publication of the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
Volume 30, Number 2 February 2004

In this issue

page 3
Maryland Food Bank, Harvest for the Hungry program

page 4
Hair to charity

page 5
Safety First

page 8 & 9
Employees help orphanages

Corps dredging project scrapes history from the harbor floor

*Story and photos by Mary Beth Thompson
Public Affairs Office*

Cannonballs that appear to be relics of the War of 1812's famous Battle of Baltimore were among more than 1,300 ordnance items culled from debris removed from Baltimore Harbor during 2003 dredging operations. In all, about 40 items were found.

The largest and most distinctive cannonball weighs 318 pounds and is 15 inches in diameter. All of the cannonballs are from the Civil War and earlier, said George Follett, the project's ordnance and explosives safety specialist.

"They go from 1-inch grapeshot to a 15-inch cannonball," Follett said. The list of historic ordnance in-

cludes: 4-inch Hotchkiss solid shots, Schenkl projectiles, grapeshots from 4 ounces to 2 pounds, and cannonballs from 1 inch to 15 inches in diameter and 1 pound to 318 pounds in weight. Six Schenkl projectiles that contained gunpowder were destroyed.

Dredging projects typically remove sediment that has filled in an existing channel. During dredging operations, pieces of timber, tires, concrete blocks and other debris are brought up from the harbor floor. This refuse is loaded on debris barges, sorted and disposed.

In 2002 and 2003, Baltimore District deepened and widened certain channels and anchorages for its Baltimore Harbor Anchorages and Channels project, which meant delving into territory previously undis-

turbed. "That presented an un-



George Follett (left), ordnance and explosives safety specialist, and Claire O'Neill, project manager, talk with Dave Bibo of the Maryland Port Administration about the historic ordnance items recovered from Baltimore Harbor during 2003 dredging operations while on a site visit to Hart-Miller Island Aug. 26, 2003.

(Continued on p. 6)



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

[http://
www.nab.usace.army.mil](http://www.nab.usace.army.mil)

Constellation is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1 and published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Md. 21203-1715. Telephone: (410) 962-2809; fax: (410) 962-3660. It is printed on recyclable paper; press run 1,750. All manuscripts submitted are subject to editing and rewriting. Material from this publication may be reproduced without permission. Views/opinions are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

District Engineer
Col. Robert J. Davis, Jr.

Public Affairs Chief
Lucy Lather

Contributors:
Doug Garman
Mary Beth Thompson
Marshall Hudson
Angela Moore
Chanel S. Weaver
Chris Augsburger

IMO photographers:
Tex Jobe
Susanne Bledsoe

Presidential trivia for Presidents Day

- Abraham Lincoln said:
"Do not worry. Eat three square meals a day; say your prayers; be courteous to your creditors; keep your digestion good; exercise; go slow and easy. Maybe there are other things your special case requires to make you happy, but, my friend, these I reckon will give you a good life."

- Between 1825 and 1829, John Quincy Adams' morning constitutional consisted of swimming nude in the Potomac River.

- John Tyler was the father of 15 children, the last of whom was born

when he was 70 years old.

- Ronald Reagan is said to have saved 77 lives as a lifeguard in Dixon, Ill., but it seems that some of them were young girls who just wanted his attention.

- Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the Fourth of July, 1826, exactly 50 years after the Declaration of Independence.

- When he was 18 years

old, Andrew Jackson married Eliza McCardle, age 16. She taught him to read and write. After that, he was mayor of the town, governor of Tennessee, and president of the United States.

- Just before he took office in 1828, Andrew Jackson's wife died. Jackson thought rumors by lawyer Charles Dickinson broke her heart. He challenged Dickinson to a duel and killed him.

- William Howard Taft was the heaviest president at 335 pounds. James Madison was the lightest at 100 pounds. Abraham Lincoln was the tallest at 6 feet, 4 inches.



Washington creates the Order of the Purple Heart

In August, it will be 219 years since George Washington created one of the most revered military awards, the Purple Heart.

He created the Order of the Purple Heart during the American Revolution as a decoration to recognize merit in enlisted men and noncommissioned officers.

As commander of the Continental Army, Washington regularly rewarded valor and merit by granting battlefield commissions or advances in rank.

But the Continental Congress ordered him to stop because there was not enough money to pay either soldiers or officers.

So he created the Order of the Purple Heart. According to his written orders, the award was to be "the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk edged with narrow lace or binding."

The name and regiment of recipients so certified were to be enrolled in a Book of Merit. It was the first award made available to the common soldier.

After the revolution, Washington's orders and the Book of Merit were lost. His orders didn't surface again until early 1932, during a search for his papers in connection with the bicentennial of his birth. The Book of Merit was never found.

The Purple Heart was reinstated Feb. 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday. The medal is now made of metal instead of cloth and includes a bust of Washington in the center.

The medal is awarded to members of the armed forces for combat-related wounds or injuries.

Receiving it are the nation's heroes who found themselves in harm's way and were injured on behalf of the American people.

It is evidence of a patriot willing to pay the price of liberty in the brunt of battle. Those who have received the Purple Heart deserve the continuing praise and respect of all Americans.

Harvest for the Hungry drive benefits thousands

story and photo by
Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

As Valentine's Day approaches, many people are excited about what gifts they will receive. Some will get a bouquet of roses, while others will taste some of the world's finest chocolate.

Many couples will dine at some of the most elegant restaurants this season, but there are thousands of people in Maryland who will not have food to eat this month.

Baltimore District is doing its part in helping to feed hungry Marylanders. Last December, the District kicked off its annual *Harvest for the Hungry* campaign, a food drive that benefits the Maryland Food Bank. The drive is expected to end in late March, and District employees have already donated hundreds of non-perish-

able items to the Maryland Food Bank.

While many District employees realize they are helping the community by donating food, they may not understand the full impact of their donations. Officials at the Maryland Food Bank say that such drives as Baltimore District's *Harvest for the Hungry* Campaign really make a difference for Maryland's hungry population.

"For every 5 pounds of donated food, the Maryland Food Bank is able to provide a family of four with one meal," said Barbara Craig, volunteer coordinator at the Maryland Food Bank.

Although the food bank appreciates each donation it receives, feeding the hungry is a process that does not end with sending in a donation, according to Craig.

"Volunteers are still needed to sort and package the food at our warehouses in Baltimore and Salisbury," said Craig.

On the second Saturday and third Wednesday of each month, the Maryland Food Bank uses volunteers to sort the food it receives.

Other volunteers work in the

mail room to send out letters to potential donors. After the food is sorted, it is packaged and distributed to over 900 soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency shelters throughout the Maryland region. A few examples of the organizations served by the Maryland Food Bank are House of Ruth, Our Daily Bread and the South Baltimore Homeless Shelter.

"These providers feed over 45,000 Marylanders each week," said Craig.

Many of the volunteers at the Maryland Food Bank say they are rewarded when they have the opportunity to help the needy.

"There is a sense of satisfaction in knowing that you are helping to fight hunger," said Pat Ourednik, a Maryland Food Bank volunteer.

According to Craig, the volunteers at the food bank are a diverse group.

"Some of our volunteers are first-time juvenile offenders who are fulfilling their community service requirement."

Craig said that it is these offenders who have the greatest impact on her.

"A lot of them are not excited when they first arrive here, but they usually enjoy themselves when they see how much their volunteer work benefits others," said Craig.

Maryland Food Bank personnel said they are always looking for volunteers.

District employees should visit www.mdfoodbank.org if they are interested in volunteering at the food bank.



Maryland Food Bank volunteers package food for distribution to soup kitchens, food pantries and emergency shelters throughout the region.

District employees donate hair to local charity

story and photos by
Chanel S. Weaver
Public Affairs Office

There is truth to the statement that one person's trash is another person's treasure, according to Alice Parks-Culp, who works in Baltimore District as a procurement analyst.

Three years ago, she went to her stylist for a haircut. Initially, she planned to discard the unwanted hair, but her stylist offered her another alternative.

She told Parks-Culp about *Locks of Love*, an organization that provides hair to children who suffer from medical hair loss. Parks-Culp decided to donate 12 inches of her hair to the organization, and she said she has not stopped reaping the benefits of her action.

"After I donated the hair, I received a thank-you card from *Locks of Love*," said Parks-Culp. "I saw the 'before and after' pictures of children who benefit from the hair donations, and it made me feel good to help out those who are not fortunate enough to grow their own hair."

Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children. Most of the children who are helped by *Locks of Love* have lost their hair due to a medical condition called alopecia areata, a skin disease that causes hair loss on the scalp and other areas of the body. The disease has no known cause or cure.

Parks-Culp is not the only District employee who donates her hair to *Locks of Love*.

Samantha Rosen, a 17-year-

old clerk in the Human Resources Office, also donated her hair to the charity. Rosen said that a personal experience prompted her to support the charity.

"My best friend passed away from cancer some time ago," said Rosen, who is a senior at Kenwood High School. "I thought that I would be keeping her memory alive by giving back to other children."

Rosen donated 10 inches of her hair to *Locks of Love* last month, and Parks-Culp cut her hair and sent 13 inches last December.

Both Rosen and Parks-Culp said that they hope other District employees will follow their example and donate some of their hair to *Locks of Love*.

"I recommend that all people try donating their hair once," said Parks-Culp. "It's not hard to do. Sure, your hair will be short for a while, but you can grow it back, while others cannot."

This realization keeps Parks-Culp motivated. She has already decided to donate her hair again when it grows back in a few years.

Parks-Culp says that she has learned to be generous from watching her mother.

"My mother has always set an example for me," said Parks-Culp. "She has never been a



Alice Parks-Culp holds her hair for the last time. She donated it to children who suffer from medical hair loss.



Samantha Rosen models her hair before and after she donated some of it to *Locks of Love* last month. There are 11 guidelines for hair donation. Two specific guidelines state the hair must be a minimum of 10 inches long and cannot be bleached.

selfish person—and I learned to give from her example."

Like Parks-Culp, Rosen attributes her charitable efforts to her mother's teaching."

"My mother taught me to always care for others," said Rosen.

If you are interested in donating your hair to children who are suffering from medical hair loss, visit <http://www.locksoflove.org> for official hair donation guidelines.

Familiar tools aren't as simple as they seem

Tools are a part of everyone's workday. With common hand tools, familiarity can cause problems. Using simple tools is not as simple as it seems.

Before you pick up the first screwdriver at hand, ask yourself if the blade is the right shape and the right size.

Your choice can make a difference in whether the task is most easily done. More important, it can make a difference in whether or not you come away from the job with a gash or an abrasion.

Screwdrivers come in many blade shapes and sizes. Don't use a flathead screwdriver if you need a Phillips head. Don't use one with a blade that's smaller than the screw head.

Get the right one instead of

the one that is handy to grab. There is something else to check



before using a screwdriver. Look at it to see if it's worn. Blades that are rounded at the ends could slip and jam into your hand. If the handle is damaged, find another one.

The National Safety Council reminds us that tools, such as chippers and saws, come with manufacturer-provided guards. Don't remove them. Check the manufacturer's instructions before using them.

Tool use involves simple common sense. You wouldn't use a huge hammer to pound in a tack, for example.

But you could be tempted to do it just because the big hammer is at hand. That would be a bad choice, and your fingers could tell you so for days to come.

A look back at messages from Corps Officials

The Corps of Engineers has a rich safety history and culture that is admired worldwide.

In 1933, the Corps established its first formal safety organization to help the chief of engineers arrest the terrible trend in work-related fatalities (the highest in the federal government at the time).

Capt. Lucius Clay, who later oversaw the Berlin airlift, was the first official Corps of Engineers safety manager.

"From the financial viewpoint," he said in 1933, "it's well worthwhile to decrease our compensation cost, and from the humane viewpoint, it is doubly worthwhile to save our employees' lives and prevent

them being turned back to their families, human wrecks."

From that humble beginning to the time we were called upon to design and build the facilities and infrastructure for the Manhattan Project, the Corps reversed that terrible trend.

In 1944 the National Safety Council recognized the Corps with an award for the lowest lost-time accident rate experienced by any U.S. organization, federal or private.

"Accident prevention is an important activity in the work of the Corps of Engineers," said then Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Eugene Reybold.

"It is logical that accident prevention activities have eco-

nomical value. This is the only realistic criteria on which they can be permanently developed.

"This evaluation involves three basic elements—does it improve efficiency; does it increase production; and does it reduce the cost of operations?"

"We must remember that traditions of safety success are not maintained nor enhanced by an activity that is permitted to become static.

"Safety objectives are part of those of the entire organization. They should constitute a perpetual challenge—a challenge which recognizes one success as just another stepping stone to greater achievement," said Reybold.

The Battle of Baltimore

In 1814, after their victory in Washington, D.C., the British fleet attacked Fort McHenry. They intended to get past the fort's guns to capture the prosperous city of Baltimore.

The battle ended after 25 hours of intense British bombardment. The dawn saw a huge U.S. flag still waving over the fort as the British ships sailed away.

From a U.S. truce ship in the harbor that morning, Francis Scott Key was so moved to see the colors flying that he penned the poem, *The Star Spangled Banner*. The verse was later set to music and eventually became the national anthem.

"We know there were 1,500 bombs and rockets fired during the battle, and we know that 400 or so landed, and a certain number burst in the air, as the song says. Where are the rest?" said Susan Langley, Maryland State underwater archeologist. "They're probably in the harbor."

Follett sought opinions from Les Jensen, curator of arms and armor at the West Point Museum, and Scott Sheads, a National Park Service historian at Fort McHenry, about a cannonball that was found early in the sorting process. The cannonball was a solid shot that measured 5 3/8 inches in diameter and weighed about 20 pounds.

"Given where the round was found, it is likely either to be a round fired by the British during the War of 1812 or one from Fort McHenry," Jensen said after the initial assessment.

Sheads said that the cannonball's dimensions and appearance fit that of an 18-pounder, which were used and fired during the battle by American shore batteries.



George Follett, ordnance and explosives safety specialist, displays a 15-inch, 318-pound cannonball recovered from Baltimore Harbor during 2003 dredging operations while on a site visit to Hart-Miller Island in August 2003. The site visit acquainted certain state officials with the historic items that were being recovered.

Cannonballs found in Baltimore Harbor

(continued from cover)

usual opportunity," said Claire O'Neill, project manager.

"In 2002, we dredged areas in the harbor that had not been dredged before, and we discovered several ordnance items that turned out to be from the World War II era," O'Neill said.

"We expected and were prepared for ordnance finds again in 2003."

The project team developed a safety plan to address the potential hazard of finding ordnance in the 2003 debris.

Eight barge-loads of debris were taken to Hart-Miller Island, and safety zones were established for their unloading and sorting.

The safety plan worked as expected, protecting boaters, watermen and the public from

potential danger. What was surprising about the 2003 dredging debris was the large number of historic ordnance items that were also recovered.

"Normally, the cannonballs that we get are random finds," said Howard Wellman, lead conservator of the Maryland Archeological Conservation Laboratory.

"Unless you're excavating a full-fledged ship wreck, you don't find this kind of quantity."

State history officials are also excited by the variety of items discovered, Wellman said.

"It's a real cross-section of sizes and types," he said.

The 2003 dredging operations included areas off Fort McHenry, a national park that is a Baltimore landmark because of the War of 1812.

“It most likely came from Lazaretto Battery, which mounted three such cannon, or from one of the American gunboats in the channel,” Sheads said. “Of course, no one will ever know for sure.”

Conserving the finds

The cannonballs, along with additional items of historic interest, were turned over to Wellman in three increments—two in October and one in January. He is cleaning and preserving them at the state lab in St. Leonard, Md.

Wellman started the conservation process by putting the items in a holding solution of sodium hydroxide.

“That stops normal oxidation, and it also starts washing out any soluble chloride salts from the seawater, because it’s the chloride that tears the iron apart,” Wellman said. “That’s what causes the destructive kind of rust.”

The next step is hands-on cleaning, using air scribes, chisel and picks to remove the deposits. When the surfaces are clean, Wellman expects to put the cannonballs through electrolytic reduction to remove other chlorides that may be trapped in the metal matrix.

“Objects like these can take anywhere from six months to a year, depending on the environment they came from,” Wellman said. “It’s all relative depending on the condition of the object



Susan Langley, state underwater archeologist with the Maryland Historical Trust, looks over several non-ordnance historic items that were recovered from the dredged debris sorted at Hart-Miller Island.

and where it was found. They were deep in the sediments, so it may be relatively fast.”

Exhibiting to the public

When Wellman is satisfied that the salts are out, the items will receive protective coatings. Then, they will be turned over to Langley, who works at the State Historical Trust.

The State of Maryland owns the items, and the trust is responsible for their storage and display. Langley will consider requests for showing the cannonballs. She has heard from or expects to hear from the Maryland Port Administration, the new visitor center at the Inner Harbor and Fort McHenry, among others.

“We like to see them back out where people can see them,” Langley said. “We like them to be back into the environment they



Rick Whitten (right), Baltimore District ordnance and explosives safety specialist, hands a cannonball retrieved from Baltimore Harbor dredging operations to Howard Wellman (left), lead conservator with the Maryland Archeological Conservation Lab.



Photo by Mike Lay, Human Factors Applications, Inc. A 44-pound cannonball is recovered from the debris dredged from Baltimore Harbor during 2003 dredging operations.

came from or as close as possible.”

It is unlikely Baltimore Harbor will give up another treasure trove of historic ordnance this year or in the coming years, Corps officials said. The Baltimore Harbor Channels and Anchorages project is complete. There are no other projects planned that include dredging previously undredged sites.

Corps employees support Afghan orphanages

by Christopher Augsburg
Public Affairs Office

Several months ago, when Jim Sherman stopped at a traffic circle in downtown Kabul, a family came to the vehicle and began begging. At first, he thought little of the scene.

"This happens all the time," he said.

But when the youngest daughter came to his window, gesturing with her hands that she wanted some food, he saw a familiar face.

"She was the same age as my daughter, 6 years old, and looked a lot like her," he said. "That image haunted me."

The sight of the little girl's face moved him so much that he decided to do something.

"I guess the reason I was driven was that I knew I couldn't find this one girl in all

of Kabul, but I needed to make a difference to other children's lives. I asked my co-workers for donations and invited others to come help."

They responded.

Thousands of Afghan children live in two main orphanages in a ruined western sector of Kabul. Victims of war, products of poor families and children of single mothers, they struggle at the feet of a withered economy in a nation of political instability.

Many of their families survived 23 years of war, and thus, do not fit the standard definition of an orphan. In fact, almost half of these children come from families who have at least one parent but can't support their children, according to research conducted by the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Mohammad Ghuas Bahiri, the deputy minister of labor and

social affairs in the Afghan transitional government, acknowledged the extreme financial strain of the families of his nation.

"They are forced to separate (from their families) because of economic reasons," said Bahiri, during a June 2002 interview. Since then, the number of children enrolled in the two main orphanages, Allahuddin and Thahieya Maskan, exploded to over 4,200, according to Bahiri.

The orphanages, which struggled to provide food and clothing while under Taliban control, have reached their capacity and now have to turn away children, according to many published reports.

In response to these conditions, witnessed first-hand by Sherman and other Corps employees serving in Afghanistan as part of a Field Force Engineering team, Sherman saw an opportunity to help.

Sherman, a Portland District employee, spearheaded a relief effort to supply the orphanages with food, clothes and toys, and formed a committee that collected contributions from everywhere.

The Afghan Area Office staff



Capt. Eric Ferron passes out donated items to Afghan children.



Children wait in line to receive gifts.



Scores of children, all ages, wait in line for gifts.

donated over \$1,000; Corps employees contributed items collected from home, while other Corps districts collected a thousand pairs of children's gloves from a church. Detroit District alone sent 16 boxes of donations over a two-week period.

Several Baltimore District employees were among the committee members who helped Sherman organize this effort, including Jodie Beauchamp from Planning and Billie Leigh from Resource Management.

"We did this on our own time and with our own resources," said Beauchamp.

On New Year's Day, Sherman's efforts had a resounding and residual effect on those who participated in this effort.

"It was obvious from the sores, scabs and scars some of the children carry on their bodies that they have not always had the best care nor lived under optimal conditions," said Andrea Duff-Arnold from Detroit District. She, along with 11 other members and soldiers from the Corps, spent the first day of 2004 delivering food, clothes and toys to the children of the Allahuddin Orphanage.

"A couple of the people who attended started to tear up

when they saw the wounds on the kids," she said.

Many children had bare feet, made all the more disturbing by the fact that the build-

ings had little heat, according to the delivery team.

Corps employees did not make the trip alone. Always mindful of the constant threat to safety, the committee recruited three military personnel to accompany the group during the trip to the orphanages.

"This was one of the few days off that they have, and they were more than eager to help us get to the orphanage," said Beauchamp.

Sherman's mission became, at once, a low point and a high point for those who saw the orphanages for the first time with their own eyes.

"To see the need and the smiles of the children reminded me of my purpose here, which is simply to help the people of Afghanistan," said Brett Call from Rock Island District.

According to Leigh, children came from their rooms and hallways in droves and formed lines where the team had set up distribution tables.

"The youngest came first, and each successive line was a little taller than the previous line," said Leigh. "After a short period, I was somewhat overwhelmed with emotion and had to go outside to clear my mind."

Team member Duff-Arnold said that she chose not to view

this as a sad moment.

"I was more focused on the joy we were bringing the children. Their eyes lit up when they saw the toys," she said.

The members of the delivery team said they plan to keep Sherman's cause alive and make more trips to the orphanages. Leigh and Beauchamp said the team's goal is to develop a lasting program.

"I will stay involved with the committee to get something in place that will last," said Leigh.

Sherman said he will always think about that one little girl on the street and wonder. But thanks to his Corps team, maybe she no longer will be a starving child on the street.

You, too, can help

Baltimore District employees who contributed to the cause included: Jodie Beauchamp, Billie Leigh, Ron Maj, Tim Mathews, Brian Walls, DelRay Wylie, Mitch Burns, Jeff May, Jim Mack, Adrian Devillasee, Joe Lease, Pat Sampsel, Dale Duncan, Brad Funt, Dawn Pisarski, and Marybeth Walker.

To donate toys and school supplies, mail directly to:

**Jodie Beauchamp
USACE-AAO
TAC HOUSE
APO, AE 09356**

Sherry Call has established a collection fund called "Operation Warm the Children."

To make a monetary contribution, mail to:

**Operation Warm
the Children
C/O Sherry Call
236 Westside Drive
Knoxville, IA 50138**

Local TV anchor keynote speaker at District MLK ceremony

A visionary, a reverend and a student of religion that connected with all colors of the world—these were the words that keynote speaker Rod Daniels used to describe Martin Luther King, Jr. at Baltimore District's annual celebration of the historic civil rights leader's birthday Jan. 7.

Daniels related his experience as a participant in the civil rights movement while a student at William Patterson University. His desire to take part in the movement began, he said, at a time when he felt indebted to other civil rights leaders who had provided new opportunities for him and others.

"I felt that it was my time to step to the plate," said Daniels.

At the age of 18, Daniels volunteered to take part in the South Carolina Leadership Conference, where he became the personal chauffeur for famous civil rights leaders such as Wyatt T. Walker, Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Rev. Jesse Jackson. Then, during a planned protest of the A&P stores, police arrested

Daniels, along with 43 other protestors, including Abernathy, Jackson and Walker.

He described his fear of what would happen to him after he and the other activists were placed in a small paddy wagon designed for 12, and then taken to three jails, each smaller than the last. He said that horrible thoughts raced through his mind, wondering if the driver of the paddy wagon would drive it into the Hudson River.

He would eventually be released under his own recognition, but realized that while he went through a tremendous traumatic experience, he felt that it paled in comparison to the continued sacrifices of the great leaders from whom he had learned so much.

"It's simple. It's about treating each and every one the way you want to be treated," he said.

For him, the civil rights era was about equality, and the fact that King did not speak just to African-Americans, but to people of all colors. King's vi-



Rod Daniels

sion, he said, gave everyone something very special.

"From a mountain of despair came a rock of hope," said Daniels at the conclusion of his speech.

Representatives of Senators Paul Sarbanes and Barbara Mikulski and Rep. Dutch Ruppersburger spoke briefly, and the *Voices of Harmony* offered several musical numbers at the ceremony.

Haysbert to speak at Black History Month program at Convention Center

Former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Maryland Raymond Haysbert will speak at Baltimore District's Black History Month program Feb. 18.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. at the Baltimore convention Center.

The theme for this year's observance is *Brown vs. Board of Education...50th Anniversary*.

Haysbert was president of the Parks Sausage Company, the first black-owned company to go public.

After a heart attack in 1994, Haysbert gave up the presidency, but remained at Park as chief executive officer.

Today he is still active in encouraging black-owned businesses and is president of a family-owned catering business.

Corps Workshop, Feb. 19

The 8th Annual Corps of Engineers Workshop will be Feb. 19 at the Baltimore Renaissance Harbor-place Hotel from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The workshop registration fee of \$80 includes a buffet lunch.

Make out checks to:

8th Annual USACE Workshop & Luncheon and mail to:

Ms. Pamela Caraway, USACE
ATTN: CECW-BW (BEYAC)
c/o The Kingman Building
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22351-3860

District to launch P2 in late March

During the past year Baltimore District employees have met in small groups to discuss and learn about the business concept known as Project Management Business Process, or PMBP.

What they have been learning is that a central part of the PMBP process is the use of project delivery teams, or PDTs, to manage and execute the District's many projects and programs.

To help PDT members succeed in meeting these missions, a new automated information system tool, commonly referred to as P2, will be launched in late March.

The P2 system provides standardized tools, such as project templates, schedule templates, budgets, resource-forecasting and other built-in management tools that will help project managers and team leaders effectively manage their projects.

P2 will interface with CEFMS, RMS and several other Corps automated information

systems, or AIS tools, according to Brian Delgrosso, Baltimore District's PMBP AIS project manager.

"P2 will replace PRISM, ABS, GI Database, CWAS, PROMIS, PPDS and CEMRS Data Modeling systems," said Delgrosso. P2 will create work items in CEFMS and track expenditures. Initially, all project management activities will be managed in P2 except for revolving fund activities. Eventually, these items, too, will be managed in P2.

"The value of P2 is that it will standardize project management, provide one location for all project data and improve the ability to share resources among Corps Districts," said Delgrosso.

P2 users have already begun preparing for P2 by completing PMBP courses 1 through 6. Hands-on P2 training will begin in mid-March. Managers and others should be using P2 by late April. To learn more about P2, go to <https://pmbp.usace.army.mil>. For information on the District's local business processes, go to <https://155.78.60.13/mapper.shell.shell.html>.

Alt and F4 kill window-filling pop-up ads

It's aggravating when you're working on the Internet and a pop-up ad suddenly fills your window. Many fill it so completely you can't drag the ad around to get it out of the way.

According to Dr. Bombay, technical advisor for the *Indianapolis Star*, the code that launches the ad removes all normal toolbars and buttons so you can't get rid of it. What do you do then?

You can kill the active browser window by pressing Alt and the F4 key.

Bombay says you really need a pop-up blocker on your home computer to keep ads from showing up in the first place. The Google toolbar performs that task very well, and it's free. The toolbar combines a search bar, form-completion tool, and the pop-up blocker. To install it, go to <http://www.toolbar.google.com>.

News you can use

Chocolate

The love for chocolate has ancient roots. Some say Montezuma, ruler of the Aztecs, drank many cups of chocolate every day. (He thought it would give him greater sex appeal.) And Casanova, the great lover, was a firm believer in the aphrodisiac powers of chocolate.

It was Richard Cadbury who introduced the Valentine's Day box in 1886. His chocolate was hidden in a heart-shaped box.

Manufacturers will sell more than 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate this year.

The good news about the abundance of chocolate is that doctors say it's a heart-healthy food...the dark chocolate type is anyway.

If your favorite is milk chocolate, it won't help your heart, but it will taste great.

Working late?

Call **410-244-8778** for a Downtown Safety Guide Escort to get you to your car or bus stop.

The service is available through March.



Feb. 14 -- Valentine's Day