



CONSTELLATION

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Safety pays big dividends at Detrick

by Marshall Hudson
Public Affairs Office

When they started excavating a pit believed to be causing ground water contamination last November, the Baltimore District team working on the Area B-11 removal action project at Fort Detrick, Md., knew that safety had to be paramount.

The innovative engineering and intensive focus on mitigating potential hazards paid off when the pit, an old dumpsite originally believed to contain mixed industrial chemicals and medical waste, proved to contain live biological materials as well.

"There have been very few projects where both chemical and biological hazards have been encountered," said Project Manager Tom Meyer. "The standard operating procedures developed for this site have set a standard for future sites where both are present."

The most unique safety feature of this \$20 million project, the freeze wall system, was in place before the project changed from a chemical site to a biological and chemical site.

The freeze wall works by pumping a very cold salt water solution through pipes that have been dug under and around the pit.

The water freezes six to eight feet of earth, turning it into a solid and impenetrable barrier that will prevent any contents of the pit from leeching out through the soil.

Freeze walls are frequently used on projects

such as trench construction, but this is the first time this technology has ever been used on an environmental restoration project.

This past January the team discovered syringes, other medical waste and vials with unknown contents. It turned out that the vials contained live bacteria and the project manager initiated a safety shutdown and review.

While the project was shut down awaiting test results, the team upgraded their safety precautions in the event

(Continued on p. 3)



The containment structure air filtration system that is being used at Fort Detrick, Md.
(Courtesy U.S. Army COE)



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

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Commander's Comment

FY02 ends with a 'bang'

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

First of all, I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for a super job in executing fiscal year 2002. It was fantastic! The largest placement of military projects in Baltimore's history. And our civil and environment program was outstanding as well. Here are the details:

We projected a total budget of \$760 million, but by close of business Sept. 30, we had expenditures of \$831 million, a whopping increase of \$70 million.

Looking first at the civil works program, we had a record \$177 million in expenditures, and featured the continuation of two big projects — Poplar Island and Wyoming Valley.

The O&M General Program finished at \$47.3 million and we dredged Tolchester, Herring Bay-Rockhold Creek and the Potomac at Mt. Vernon. We started dredging the Baltimore Harbor Anchorages and still managed to return funds to assist other districts in need.

We hosted over 2 million visitors at our multipurpose lakes, issued nearly 4,000 permits and resolved over

180 enforcement actions. In the Continuing Authorities Program, we finished the year "green" with \$7.7 million in expenditures for approximately 70 projects, a 100 percent increase from last year.

The Civil Support for Others was finished at \$265 million, with over \$190 million in support of the D.C. Schools Program. And our performance continues to attract other federal agencies with new projects.

The entire military program is over \$355 million and reflects the execution of an unusually large MILCON plus-up and an influx of post 9/11 support.

We awarded 23 of 25 military projects in the military construction program with a total dollar value of approximately \$214 million.

These projects include several extremely complex and high dollar value projects at Aberdeen Proving Ground and Fort Belvoir, and several anti-terrorism projects at Fort Detrick. In a period of a little over four months, we completed an RFP and awarded a contract for the \$25 million renovation of Building 14 at Walter Reed and concurrently awarded the first Design/Build MATOC (multiple award task order contract) in NAD.

Behind the scenes, we continue to support the classified community and are actively involved in facility planning in support of our nation's homeland security and intelligence agencies. In FY02 alone, we expended over \$100 million in support of this important task and expect more of the same in FY03.

And, we've been moving rapidly forward on the planning and design competition for the Pentagon Memorial, a good news story for the Department of Defense, the nation and the Corps of Engineers.

Our environmental program continues to be challenging, with Spring Valley, Lauderick Creek and Site B-11 at Fort Detrick leading in technical difficulty, public involvement and program size. But again we exceeded all program goals in our FY02 execution while building public confidence in our ability to complete a job.

Once again, I applaud each and every one of you for your efforts over the last year and realize that the coming fiscal year holds the challenge of completing many of the projects we just awarded. I am confident that once again, the "best in the Corps" will deliver.

Essays.

Safety, number one priority at Detrick (continued from cover)

biological pathogens were discovered.

The test results identified the bacteria as non-pathogenic, but with the system upgrades in place, the team was ready in the event pathogenic materials were found.

“It’s still a project to protect the groundwater from contamination, but the process of removing the contaminants has become much more complicated,” said R. Clint Kneten, construction representative. “The job took on a new dimension, but the extremely elaborate safety precautions already in place minimized the disruption.”

The team enhanced the activated carbon air filtration system, which was already a complex and unique system designed to capture all chemical particles.

The system now also includes pre-filters and several high efficiency particulate air filters, or

HEPA filters, the best industrial filters on the market.

This system captures and contains microscopic particles of any kind before releasing the air to the outside.

An onsite laboratory, which is connected to the containment structure, was added to conduct hazardous material categorization and biological monitoring. The monitoring system was also upgraded so it could detect radiological, biological and viral substances, in addition to any chemicals present.

Other safety precautions that were already in place include the dome-like containment structure that ensures no particles are released into the air without being filtered; around-the-clock security at the site; video monitoring; and weather monitoring. Protections for the workers include blast shields and bomb suits

to protect them in the event that unstable chemicals react to the air or each other.

The workers also wear level-A protective suits when conducting excavation and soil processing activities. This clothing always remains on the site, and each worker goes through a full decontamination process every time he leaves the structure.

Workers can only be in the level-A suits for four hours at a time, and it can take more than an hour to conduct notifications and the safety checks to get workers started for a shift. It takes another 45 minutes at the end of a shift for the decontamination process.

All the soil removed from the ground is manually inspected for foreign objects. It is then sifted, grated, shredded and put into air sealed containers for disposal. The soil is also

treated with a bleach solution during several steps in the process.

All these protocols are time consuming and add to the cost of the project, but these safety measures

proved priceless in April when the team found several vials that contained live biological pathogens—*klebsiella pneumoniae*, *staphylococcus avieus* and *brucella melitensis*, and *yersinia pseudotuberculosis*.

All of the pathogens found to date have been safely excavated and disposed of by incineration.

The project is a partnership of Fort Detrick, Baltimore District and several other Army, federal and state agencies. There have been others that have been brought in for consultation as well.

“I feel safe working here,” said Kneten. “It is dangerous, but we have extraordinary safety protocols in place that achieve a very high level of safety. I’m confident that those of us working here and the members of the nearby community are not in danger.”

The pit is the first of four to be excavated at site B-11. The team will finish the first pit around January 2003. The three remaining pits, which will be excavated simultaneously, will be completed in 2004 if funding is authorized and received in FY2003.



A drum is safely moved with the drum grapppler attachment for a backhoe. (Courtesy U.S. Army COE)

Jury chooses finalists in Pentagon Memorial Competition

by Mary Beth Thompson
Public Affairs Office

The Pentagon Memorial Competition jury met in Washington, D.C., Sept. 30 to Oct. 2 to cull six finalists from 1,126 entries that met the competition requirements for Stage One.

The finalists are: No. 1276 from Shane Williamson of Toronto, Ontario; No. 1717 from Julie Beckman and Keith Kaseman of New York, N.Y.; No. 2248 from Jean Koepfel and Tom Kowalski of Brooklyn, N.Y.; No. 2857 from Mason Wickham and Edwin Zawadski of Brooklyn, N.Y.; No. 4099 from Jacky Bowring of Caterbury, New Zealand, and Peter England, Richard Weller and Vladimir Sitta of Australia; and No. 4163 from Michael Meredith of Clifton Park, N.Y.

Jurors, who will also judge the six finalists in Stage Two, represent three key constituencies: the family members of those who died as a result of the 9-11 Pentagon attack, the military community and the artistic community.

After a site visit and swearing in at the Pentagon, the jury convened at the National Building Museum, where they selected as chair Terry Riley, architecture and design chief curator of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Other jurors are former Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, family member Wendy Chamberlain, artist Sheila Levrant de Bretteville, landscape architect Walter Hood, former Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, landscape architect Roger Martin, artist Mary Miss, architect Gregg

Pasquerelli, former Joint Chiefs Chair Hugh Shelton's wife Carolyn Shelton, and architecture dean Karen Van Lengen. Family member Jim Laychak served as alternate and participated in the discussions.

Most began the first day in business suits, making their way individually through eight rooms and galleries and looking at each of the 30" x 40" entry boards. By afternoon, the jackets were off and the sleeves rolled up.

Pensively, thoughtfully, with notebooks and pens in hand, they studied the entry boards, which carried only registration numbers

sponded by describing what elements appealed to them. They reduced the quantity in half. A second similar round of examination reduced the group to 45 by the end of the day.

The second day began with each juror individually studying the 45 boards that were now displayed. Once again, they stood before each board, moved close and then stood back as they carefully read the text and considered the memorial idea presented.

By afternoon, the jury had come together as a group again and reduced the boards under consideration to 26.

The jury talked water, slopes, stone, berms, benches and use of names as they thrashed out pros and cons. Then there were 10.

The third day's task was both simple and complex: choose the finalists from the 10. They jury aimed for five with one alternate in accordance with the competition program, which

called for "approximately five finalists." That mission proved daunting when the jury had reduced the number to six and were working on which would be the alternate.

After Chamberlain spoke about the families' wishes, and Laychak read the family statement from the competition program, and with the blessing of Defense Department personnel, they selected all six as finalists and no alternate.

Project Manager Carol Anderson-Austra notified the finalists by phone, and the Defense Department announced them at the Pentagon Oct. 17. The remaining six competitors are now developing their ideas for Stage Two.



The jurors debate the merits of the entries in an effort to choose the finalists.
(Photo by F.T. Eyre, USACE)

on the reverse as identification. They weighed, judged and evaluated, based on the competition criteria and their personal expertise and perspectives.

Each juror also spent time reading the comments by family members and loved ones of those who died in the 9-11 attack on the Pentagon. The families had been invited to a private exhibit of the entries the evening before the jury met and were asked to write their thoughts.

By mid-afternoon, the jury members had selected about 10 percent of the boards to evaluate as a group.

"Who would like to speak to this one?" Riley asked. Jurors re-

Andrew Carter — he lived life to the fullest

Some of the adjectives and phrases co-workers used to describe Andrew Carter are “doer,” “wonderful attitude,” “positive,” “extremely well liked,” and on and on and on.

Carter’s sudden death Sept. 20 shocked his friends because they said he seemed so young because of his zest for life, optimism and enthusiasm.

After graduating cum laude in engineering from Loyola College, he served in the U.S. Army before joining the Corps of Engineers through the Junior Engineer Training Program as a civil engineer.

Those early years he worked in Baltimore District’s Construction Division as an engineer, then moved to the Emergency Management Branch in 1994 where he was a disaster manager.

He worked a number of emergency operations, primarily at headquarters and Europe District during the Kosovo base-building program Baltimore District began.

“Andy was about doing the right thing, always,” said Gilbert Dent, Emergency Management chief. “He demonstrated such a high level of professionalism

and dedication to duty by responding to emergency calls at all hours of the day and night. Without regard for his own inconvenience, he always put the mission first.”

Two years ago Carter transferred to the Corps’ D.C. Schools Program on a 120-day detail, which turned into a permanent job as a resident engineer.

There, he and his team managed the construction projects that dealt with interior renovations, window replacement, roof replacements and interior painting.

These were sensitive projects that were tied to the successful school openings. But these projects were only part of his work because he simultaneously managed many other active projects with sometimes unrealistic budgets and schedules.

“Andy always remained above the fray and the chaos,” said David Morrow, local government program manager at the D.C. Schools Program. “He continued directing the work to a successful end without ever losing his cool or sense of humor.

“And what really amazed me about him was his attitude,” Morrow continued. “He did



Andrew Carter

amazing things again and again without fanfare or hoopla, making difficult jobs seem easy and impossible jobs seem routine.”

His “day” job was only part of his life. He had such a high level of community consciousness and was always ready and willing to help anyone. He continuously encouraged young people to strive for the best, and served as a mentor to many. He worked with a young men’s ministry for substance abusers, trying to turn the lives of these young men around. He was committed to his church, and had served as a deacon for the past four years with his wife, Ellois. Carter had one son, Andrew III.

Day to honor those who serve the nation

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns of World War I were silenced. In 1926 Congress declared Nov. 11 as Armistice Day.

After World War II and Korea added veterans deserving of recognition, Congress changed Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954. Though the date was changed over the years, in 1978 it was returned to Nov. 11.

To help realize the meaning of

the day, the VFW explains the five “Ws” as follows:

Who: Honor all who serve or served in the armed forces. Veterans Day is for remembering the contributions of living veterans.

What: It is the individual and collective sacrifices made at the request of the nation that should be remembered and honored.

Where: Though plaques and monuments are spread across the land, paying homage to veterans

can take place in every private home.

When: Many remember veterans every day. But as a nation, they are honored together Nov. 11.

Why: Millions of Americans’ lives were forever altered because they wore the uniform and protected the freedoms and rights most citizens take for granted today.

Veterans Day is the way of keeping the faith.

Corps studies ways to reclaim marshlands

by Doug Garman
Public Affairs Office

It is the largest stretch of unbroken marsh on the Chesapeake Bay and a sanctuary to hundreds of species, but the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in Dorchester County, Md., is rapidly losing its land to the tune of 150 to 400 acres per year.

Scientists now estimate that in the last half century Blackwater has lost 8,000 acres of marsh habitat, making it one of the epicenters of marsh loss in the Chesapeake Bay.

Experts attribute the losses to the rise in sea level, altered hydrology, increased salinity and damage from non-native species, most notably nutria—a South American rodent introduced in

Maryland in the 1940s and possessing similar physical characteristics to a large muskrat.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, caretakers of the refuge, Blackwater's growing population of nutria is detrimental because nutria eat the roots of marsh plants.

Once destroyed by the nutria, the underlying mud layer of the marsh begins to erode and the tidal marshes become vulnerable to salt water intrusion.

Wildlife managers estimate that between 30,000 and 50,000 nutria are in Blackwater, and their impact on the marshes can be seen in many areas.

To date, it's estimated that over six square miles of marsh have been lost to open water because of nutria, and 53 percent of the re-

maining marsh has suffered significant damage and will probably be lost without preventive action.

"When you look at an aerial photograph of the refuge taken in the 1940s and compare it with one taken today, you can clearly see that the discreet ponds and channels that once existed within the marsh system are today filled in by sediment from eroding historic marshlands," said Steve Kopecky, Corps project manager for the Blackwater project. "The marshes are now open water."

To learn about ways to stop the erosion and restore damaged areas, the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Maryland's Department of Natural Resources have joined forces to conduct a comprehensive study

and demonstration project that may offer some solutions.

As part of the study, scientists are evaluating various marshland restoration techniques and components on a 20-acre demonstration site within Blackwater's 23,000 acres of wetlands, woodlands and croplands.

Within the demonstration area, hay bales were placed around four test cells, which border the edges of existing marsh.

Adjacent ponds and channels with built-up sand and silt were dredged and sprayed in thin layers into the cells to rebuild the marshes from as much as 2 feet to just a few inches deep.

"Because these areas are so shallow, traditional forms of



Blackwater Wildlife Refuge is home to the endangered Delmarva Fox Squirrel. (Courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife)



Adult nutria average 24 inches long and weigh about 15 pounds and have an insatiable appetite for marsh plants. (Courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife)

dredging and material placement will not work," said Kopecky.

"By using the thin-layer spraying technique, a relatively new approach to rebuilding marshlands, we are able to create marshes with differing elevations and study what works best for Blackwater," he added.

"Achieving the correct elevation of a marsh is crucial to its long-term survivability."

In addition to monitoring the effectiveness of the thin-layer spraying over the next several years, experts will also study and assess the preferred times of the year to plant vegetation, the differing planting techniques and the overall health of these restored marshlands.

The data collected from the demonstration project will assist the various agencies in determining a larger-scale restoration effort.

Any restoration beyond the demonstration effort will depend on the outcome of the final feasibility study to be completed in 2004 and the availability of future funding. The \$1 million feasibility study to include the



This recent view of the Blackwater Refuge shows the erosion of large tracks of marshland, which have today been replaced by open water. It's estimated that over the last 50 years as much as six square miles of marsh habitat have been lost. A major cause of this is traced to the nutria, which eat the roots of marsh plants, exposing the underlying mud layer to salt water intrusion and wave actions.

(Courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife)



The Corps is spraying thin layers of dredged material to restore marshes as part of a demonstration project at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Md. (USACE photo)

demonstration project is being cost-shared between the Corps and Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Concurrent to this study, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is conducting a four-year, \$1.75 million program to eradicate nutria. Since the spring of 2002, a 12-member team has been trapping and killing them.

"Halting erosion at Blackwater is important for many reasons," said Steve Pugh, a Corps

ecologist supporting the study of the refuge.

"This area still accounts for about one-third of the tidal wetlands in the state. It also provides habitat for thousands of migratory waterfowl, as well as other animals, such as the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel, 250 species of birds and the largest concentration of bald eagles in the eastern portion of the country north of Florida."

The experts agree that stopping erosion at

Blackwater would improve the health of nearby Fishing Bay, the largest nursery for larvae blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay, and improve water quality in Tangier Sound, an important sea grass area.

"What we have learned so far is that the issue isn't whether we can restore a marsh," said Kopecky. "It now becomes a question of logistics and how cost effective it can be."

Quitting made easier with help

You know that in order to do a job right, you have to have the right tools. The American Lung Association says there are excellent tools for smokers who want to quit today. One-third of smokers try to quit each year, but few take advantage of these effective tools.

Counseling helps smokers identify cues that trigger cravings. It shows how to

anticipate cues and rehearse coping strategies. For example, those who smoke after a meal could sidestep cravings by beginning an activity that is unrelated to smoking and eating.

Nicotine replacements can also help.

- The nicotine patch provides a dose of nicotine for 16 to 24 hours.
- Nicotine gum increases blood nicotine within 20 minutes, and lasts two hours.

- Nicotine nasal spray or inhalers are prescription products that increase blood nicotine within a few minutes, but can irritate the nose, throat and mouth.

Bupropion, sold as Zyban and Wellbutrin, is available by prescription. You start it one to two weeks before cessation. But doctors reporting in *The New England Journal*

of Medicine find that combining these products with nicotine replacement therapy does not improve success rates.

Doctors at the Mayo Clinic say these behavior changes may help you stay smoke free:

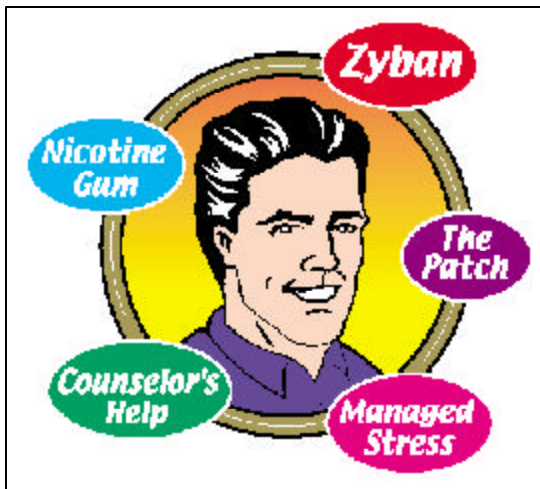
1. **Manage stress.** Learn alternative effective ways to manage stress, and you are more likely to remain smoke-free.

2. **Avoid triggers** such as visiting on the phone or drinking alcohol.

3. **Make your home smoke-free.** If others in the home smoke, try to designate certain areas for smoking.

Why not try it for a day? As the American Cancer Society says, if you quit for a day, you could quit forever.

Join the thousands of smokers who will quit Nov. 19 when the American Cancer Society sponsors the 25th Great American Smokeout.



Guard your immunity

People speak of boosting immunity as if it were like building big muscles. But it's much more complicated. Asking how to boost immunity is about the same as asking how you can stay well. These are some of the factors involved.

- **Sleep:** While a chronic sleep debt is unhealthy, losing sleep for a few nights won't necessarily make you ill.

The number of immune

cells rises and falls naturally in healthy people, say doctors quoted in the UC Berkeley *Wellness Letter*.

- **Diet:** No specific food will boost immunity in healthy people on an adequate diet.

The immune system needs protein, fatty acids, vitamins and minerals. Very poorly nourished people have immune dysfunction. They get sick more easily.

- **Exercise:** Moderate exercise such as walking

seems to improve immune function. But high-intensity or prolonged endurance exercise can temporarily depress parts of the immune system.

- **Smoking:** One reason smokers are at risk for respiratory diseases may be that smoking suppresses immune cells.

- **Emotions:** Immune cells and nerve cells interact. What goes on in the brain can suppress or enhance immunity.

Volunteers, key to success of work at lakes

by Tom Folkers
Park Ranger
Tioga, Hammond &
Cowanesque Lakes

One thing that makes the United States great is the willingness of its citizens to freely give of themselves for the common good of the country. This year's National Public Lands Day event at Cowanesque Lake Sept. 28 showcased many such volunteers.

One of those was Jack Powers, whose volunteer service for his country began when he joined the Marines in 1942 to fight in the Pacific. For his wife, Gladys Powers, and her friend, Stella Ayers, volunteerism reaches back almost as far into their own pasts.

For the past 10 years, these three members of the Tioga Fire Company Auxiliary have taken part in an annual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' volunteer event at the end of the summer recreation season at the Tioga, Hammond and Cowanesque Lakes Project.

Of the 130 volunteers, there were also Boy Scouts from a local troop, members of Pennsylvania's Keystone Trail Association on a weekend trail

work outing as well as a variety of others, from preschool to octogenarian, drawn at large from surrounding communities.

Since 1990, an annual volunteer day has been held at these Corps lakes. In 1998, this annual event was aligned with the Congressionally mandated National Public Lands Day, or NPLD, program.

This year's event was one of more than 500 across America involving people in a day of hard work to enhance public lands and learn more about their importance.

Cowanesque Lake volunteers worked with Corps employees on a variety of public land improvements valued at \$4,017 for 780 hours of work.

Improvements included trail maintenance and brushing on new and pre-existing sections of the Moccasin Trail on the north and west shores of the lake; trail bridge construction and repairs on the Moccasin Trail; bench construction and Blue Bird nesting box maintenance along the trail; handicapped fishing pier construction; trail parking lot construction; and brushing and signing of an entirely new trail along the



Volunteers work on a park bench at this year's event. (USACE photo)



Dam operator Gary Miller (left) directs volunteers with construction of a handicapped fishing pier. (USACE photo)

lakes' south shore.

In addition to those who gave their time, energy and talent to NPLD, a number of local businesses provided supplies and materials for the day's activities.

These included food and drink for three meals for all volunteers and door prizes. One lucky volunteer rode away with a new mountain bike won at the local NPLD event.

"Today's activities may not have hap-

pened without community participation," said Tioga, Hammond, and Cowanesque Lakes Operations Manager Peppino J. "Pep" Persio. "This project really offered an opportunity for people of all ages to get involved.

"All these volunteers should be very proud of the improvements they've made. Their efforts will provide enjoyment to those who use this trail for many years to come."

Combined Federal Campaign 2002 under way

This Year's Goal is \$86,000.

Only you can make a difference. "United We Give *Together We Share*" is the theme of the 2002 Combined Federal Campaign that began Oct. 15.

The CFC campaign's goal this year is about helping you find a personal reason to contribute. Donations to charities conducting research in areas such as cancer, AIDS, heart-related

illnesses, etc., may help you find comfort and celebrate the memory of a friend or loved one you hold dear, while helping your community.

For the first time, the Corps of Engineers is recognizing donations that are made in memory of a friend or loved one.

Some employees choose to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate, handicapped

or crisis victims, for example. Others base their decisions on environmental protection or the protection of human rights.

Baltimore District absorbs all administrative labor cost during this event to ensure that 100 percent of your contribution goes directly from you to the CFC campaign and then to your selected charity.

Make a difference this year.

Gallery of Distinguished Employees nominations due this month

Nominations for the Gallery of Distinguished Employees are due Nov. 27, according to Jim Eberhardt, Resource Management chief and Gallery Committee chairman.

Any employee may send a submission, but Eberhardt stressed that candidates must be retired or deceased employees from any organizational level.

"The Gallery seeks to commemorate those who

have made particularly distinguished contributions to the District, regardless of their grade or position," said Eberhardt.

Since the 1970s, based on employees' suggestions, people have been inducted into the Gallery, ranging from administrative workers and field personnel to supervisors and division chiefs.

The gallery nominees selected will be honored at the District's annual awards ceremony next year.

NPL Day at Anacostia

National and local partners hosted approximately 400 volunteers at three locations on the Anacostia River Sept. 28 for the ninth annual National Public Lands Day.

Volunteers cleared brush and debris on Kingman Island, built a trail and removed trash from the marsh areas at Kenilworth Gardens and planted trees.

The purpose of NPLD is to join people together to improve the nation's public lands, build awareness and educate the public on natural resources and public land, and to build public and private sector relationships in the stewardship of public land.

Annual District Holiday Party

Friday, Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Marriott Hotel
Grand Ballroom

\$20/person

**Lunch includes choice of
Grilled Chicken Citron**

or

Sliced Sirloin of Beef

Entertainment by DJ "Roy"

Games and door prizes

See your POC or call Kathy Lechert, 410-962-7907; Joe Neil, 410-962-5611; or Derek Mason, 410-962-1896 to reserve your ticket by Nov. 25.



Area office devoid of accidents in '02

The District commander recognized the Capital Area Office, located at Fort Belvoir, Va., for completing FY02 with **no recordable contractor or government accidents.**

This extraordinary accomplishment took place in a year that 132 employees of this con-

struction area office oversaw a variety of projects on which contractors logged over 600,000 manhours.

Area Engineer Paul Parsonneault and his entire staff worked hard to achieve this result and were commended for their accomplishment.

Angel Tree Program to begin

The 2002 Angel Tree Program runs from Nov. 12 through Dec. 6. Sponsored by the Salvation



Army, the program provides gifts for needy children all over the United States.

The Baltimore regional office provides gifts for children in Howard, northern Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties, and Baltimore city. Last year Baltimore District contributed gifts for approximately 200 children.

For more information, call Susan Jones, Real Estate Division, at ext. 4675.

Colonel signs MAFPE agreement

In a ceremony Sept. 25, Baltimore District's Col. Charles J. Fiala, Jr., signed a partnership agreement with other key federal agencies known as the Mid-Atlantic Federal Partners for the Environment, or MAFPE, to support the principles of "smart growth."

The agreement calls for support of redevelopment plans slated for brownfields and underused waterfront sites, including the Carroll-Camden Industrial Renewal Area and Harbor Point.

The goals of the agreement include enhancing urban environmental amenities that com-

pliment redevelopment projects and a stream restoration project on the Jones Falls, as well as encouraging green design and sustainable development.

The MAFPE was formed in 1999 to provide a coordinated interagency approach in addressing environmental concerns associated with unmanaged growth. Then, 16 federal agencies committed to work collectively with state and local governments, non-governmental organizations, developers and the public with the objective of revitalization and development that is both environmentally sensitive and economically sound.

Courteous employee of the month

Gary Schilling, Programs and Project Management, Environmental Branch, has been named



Gary Schilling

courteous employee of the month for November.

"Gary is the consummate professional, always ready to listen and provide help if at all possible. Gary will go out of his way to greet people, and his ever present smile makes everyone feel at ease.

"His easy-going attitude and genuine interest in people are a real asset in all of his interpersonal activities.

"Gary is a project manager for our Formerly Used defense Sites projects at Spring Valley, Camp Simms and Catholic University in the Washington, D.C., area.

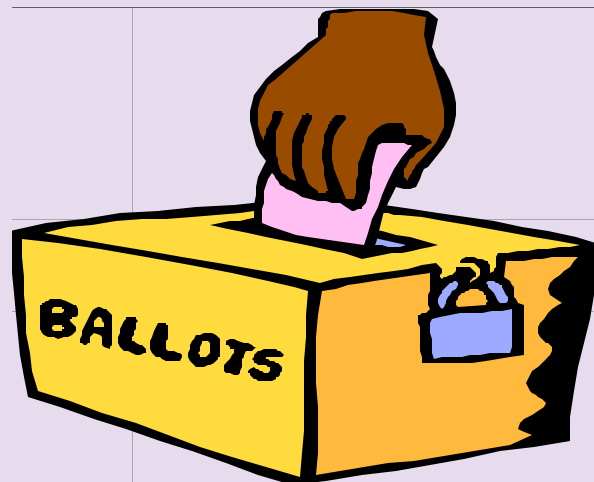
"His duties require interaction with team members throughout Baltimore District, other Corps offices, regulators and the local community.

"Gary formerly worked in HTRW Branch in Engineering Division, but left Baltimore District in 1997 to work for the Army in Texas. He returned to the District in February of this year."

*Gerald M. Pollis, Chief
Environmental Management Branch
PPMD*



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Baltimore, MD 21203-1715
Official Business



Vote Nov. 5