



U.S. Army
Army Corps of Engineers

District Tides

NORFOLK DISTRICT

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Destruction!**

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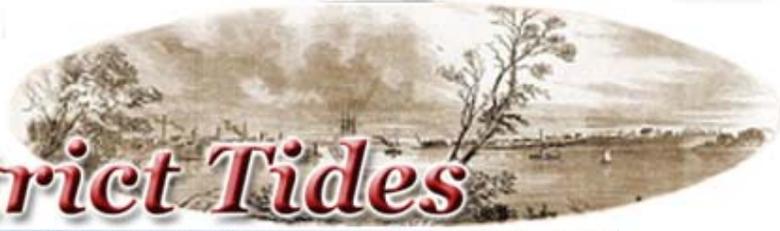
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The Armed Forces Recruiting Station in Suffolk, Va. is devastated by an area tornado. (Photo by Patrick Bloodgood)



District Tides

Commander's Corner

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is an amazing organization that has stood the test of time since the declaration of our nation. When our nation needed sappers to execute seize operations in Yorktown and breaching operations on the front lines in Iraq, the Corps was there. When our nation needed expertise to expand westward and open navigation channels, the Corps was there. When our nation assisted foreign governments in their development, the Corps was there. When our nation had a critical requirement to move forward on flood damage reduction projects, ecological restoration projects and executing our nation's environmental policies, the Corps was there.

What generated these successes over the past centuries, up through today, is the simple fact that people and families are the heart, soul, brains and essence of all that we are and do as a public engineering organization. We are blessed to have such an incredible team to execute the Corps' diverse mission that stretches around the world.

Within our own backyard, we are blessed with an extremely challenging program that our nation has once again challenged us to deliver. I am pleased to report that we are delivering across all of our eight Lines of Operations. We are accomplishing this historical workload by remaining close to the front lines and serving our customers through innovation, empowerment and hard work. Our organization is staying true to our vision, our values and our customer base. We never lose site of delivering quality products as evident by our top USACE survey results in Military Construction and Civil Works. We achieved these results because each of our employees embraced the "Good to Great" approach in all we do.

I fully recognize that this is not possible without our workforce's unwavering drive for excellence. Much like a potter's wheel that rotates smoothly from the observer's point of reference, it's underneath that the potter's foot is exerting significant pumping action in order to deliver the final product. Each and every day,

our workforce is working difficult actions to keep the wheel turning smoothly toward delivery.

The remaining months of this fiscal year will prove very challenging. These include: Lt. Col. Michael R. Darrow stepping forward, like many of you have, to serve our country at war in Iraq; Jim Thomasson and Tracy Hughes working full time at Fort Belvoir to deliver the "right" hospital to our wounded heroes; awarding all our remaining FY 08 military and civil works projects; tracking several pending permit actions that will warrant significant attention; fully transitioning to a national information-technology management model; completing all hiring actions and mentoring our young interns; intensely applying sound project management practices in all our projects under construction; and of course we must smartly close out the fiscal year.

While executing our basic "block and tackle" mission set, we must find time to stimulate personal and professional growth, look for opportunities for development, reward/recognize excellence, and continue to move forward on our vision action items, particularly in the quality of life categories. I fully recognize that words are merely hot air until put into action. We have put into action your ideas and will continue to look for opportunities for more action across the three vision categories.

I want to commend our Real Estate Branch and Technical Services Division for their proactive response in times of emergency. In one instance, our team placed an armed forces recruiting station staff back into operation (within 72 hours) after a tornado destroyed their office. In the second instance, our team reacted and assessed the damage of the North Landing Bridge and within 48-hours had it back into full operation. This is the "Good to Great" attitude that the chief of engineers expects from us all. We should all be confident that as we enter into hurricane season our readiness posture is at its highest.

Let us not forget those who are serving on the front lines of freedom. Keep them all in your thoughts and prayers that they may return home safely. In your travels at home and at work, plan your activities well in advance, keeping safety uppermost in your minds. I also need your assistance to ensure the NAD Quarterly Safety Recognition award remains in the Norfolk District each and every quarter!



Col. Dionysios Anninos

Virginia highway marker honors District engineer

Story by Jerry Rogers

On a picturesque spring day, May 14, at the fabled **Jamestown Settlement** near historic Williamsburg, Va., community members gathered to reflect upon and honor a former Norfolk District Engineer, Col. Samuel H. Yonge, who forever will be linked with Jamestown's illustrious history.

The American Society of Civil Engineers (Norfolk Branch), who championed Yonge's place in history, joined members of Norfolk District, the Virginia Department of Historical Resources and the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, to unveil the Samuel H. Yonge Virginia Highway Marker.

The historic marker takes its place alongside other famous Virginia historical markers, such as Pocahontas and the First Africans in English America, at the intersection of Jamestown Road, within sight of the Jamestown Settlement museum.

From 1900-1903, Col. Samuel H Yonge, an Army

Corps engineering officer and noted archaeologist, designed and managed construction of the present-day concrete seawall/revetment. His enduring work halted the rapid erosion and loss of the most historic part of Jamestown Island – the fortress. If it were not for Yonge's stone and concrete bulwark, that has withstood the erosive waters of the James River for over a century, significant portions of the historic site would be lost today.



Former Norfolk District engineer Samuel H. Yonge. (Photo courtesy of ASCE)

Yonge's other noteworthy career accomplishments and endeavors included:

- Dredging of James River from Norfolk to Richmond
- Government engineer on the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge and the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, Assistant Engineer
- Authored: *The Site of Old "James Towne," 1607-1698*

- Noted Archaeologist
- Aided in locating the foundations of the Country House, the Ludwell House, and the third and fourth statehouses at James Towne.

Born in Savannah, Ga., in 1843, Yonge was educated at Washington College and the University of Virginia. Toward the latter part of his career, he provided consulting services to Colonial

Williamsburg and, during World War I, he served in the U.S. Intelligence Service. Yonge retired in Edenton, N.C., and upon his death in 1935, was buried at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond.

Yonge, a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, in a letter to the editor of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on Aug. 26, 1930, responds to an article titled "Jamestown Island Faces Destruction by Current":

The seawall at Jamestown Island, Va., was constructed between 1900 and 1903, in accordance with a special design prepared by the undersigned, with funds appropriated by the Federal Congress. It replaced a wall constructed prior to 1900 which

failed of its purpose within one year of its construction. During the 27 to 30 years since the present structure was placed it has successfully withstood the action of the waves and other destructive elements and has completely protected the upper end of the island so that it has not suffered any loss of area whatever...



(l-r) Ann Berry, APVA, Fritz Mueller, Virginia Historian, Barry Forbes, ASCE and Randolph Turner, Department of Historic Resources unveil the Samuel H. Yonge Virginia Highway Marker. (Photo by Jerry Rogers)



Colonel Samuel H. Yonge spearheaded the design and construction of a seawall/revetment that halted the rapid erosion and loss into the James River of the most historic part of Jamestown Island. This photo shows the present-day seawall at Jamestown Island. (Photo by Jerry Rogers)

Norfolk District captures CG's Quarterly Safety Award

Norfolk District recently received the Army Corps of Engineers Commanding General's Safety Award for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 08.

The district was evaluated in areas that included organizational involvement, work site analysis, hazard prevention and control, safety and health training, accident prevention and safety initiatives.

District Safety Officer, Oscar Harts, noted the importance of the award and encouraged District employees to remain vigilant throughout the summer months and year.

In an effort to promote increased safety awareness, the Fourth Annual Safety and Health Week is underway through June 13.

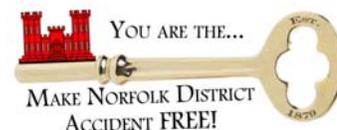
Throughout Safety and Health Week, Norfolk District team members will have the opportunity to show off their safety and health knowledge and win prizes.

The events scheduled throughout Safety and Health Week encourage Norfolk District team members to act responsibly when it comes to personal safety, work safety and their health.

The kickoff campaign includes an aggressive driving presentation by a local American Automobile Association (AAA) representative. Representatives from various health organizations such as Ghent Chiropractic, Sentara Health Care, Curves and Beach Eye Care will also participate in the Health Fair. During the fair, district team

members can check for diabetes, blood pressure and cholesterol screening. A First Aid and CPR class will give Norfolk District team members the confidence to respond in an emergency life-saving situation.

Equipped with the knowledge and tools offered during Health and Safety Week, Norfolk District will continue to make its overall environment safe.



RCI team receives USACE Team Achievement Award

Story by Patrick Bloodgood

Since 2002, the Norfolk District has provided real estate support to the entire Army Residential Communities Initiative (RCI). In that six-year period the RCI Project Delivery Team (PDT) has delivered 81,396 homes, over 36 installations. The fevered pace of the program hit its peak over the past three years as the PDT handled 22 projects totaling an estimated 65,000 homes.

With that amount of work and effort, there was little surprise that the PDT would receive accolades, which came in a big way when they received a Team Achievement Award from the Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp, at the Real Estate Symposium in Nashville, Tenn., March 17-21.

"This award means those five years of hard work by the RCI team, so that Soldiers and their families can have quality homes, has been recognized," said Realty Specialist Kathleen Germano.

In his official nomination letter, Norfolk District Commander, Col. Dionysios Anninos, wrote, "The best indicator of the RCI program's success is the hundreds of letters the program receives

from uniformed service members and their families thanking us for placing them in high quality safe housing with amenities equal to those available in off-post housing."

Currently, the team continues to work tirelessly to bring properties to closing. According to the most recent numbers that Germano has, the team has at least seven more projects to go before they can transition into the asset management phase of the overall program. However, according to Germano, new projects continue to be added to the plans, while those 28 projects which have already transitioned are now in the management phase.

"I don't see it ending in the next five years, it is something that will

be around for a while," said Germano.



Norfolk District Real Estate team members are awarded for the success of the Army Residential Communities Initiative. Team members are pictured with Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp. (Photo courtesy of Bill Mysliwiec)

District Tides is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of Army Regulation 360-1. It is published online quarterly for the employees of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District as well as circulated via print to approximately 130 different stakeholders, customers, partners and elected officials. Editorial views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers or the Department of the Army. Inquiries, comments and submissions can be sent to, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, 803 Front Street, Norfolk, Va. 23510 or by e-mail to patrick.j.bloodgood@usace.army.mil. To reach the staff by phone (757) 201-7606.

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Quality housing for Soldiers, family members

Norfolk District Real Estate at forefront of Army's privatization initiatives

The Residential Communities Initiative or RCI effort has been underway since 2002, when the four pilot projects at Fort Carson, Colo., Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Lewis, Wash., and Fort Meade, Md., became the first Army privatization projects. The Norfolk District has provided real estate support since that time, delivering 81,396 homes at 28 projects, over 36 installations. It is estimated that another two projects, Fort Jackson, S.C., and The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, will be added to the portfolio Aug. 1, which will privatize an additional 1,684 housing units.

The RCI program is now in its asset management phase which is a governmental requirement for the Army Corps of Engineers to oversee its ground lease portfolio. The RCI portfolio is comparable to our nation's largest publicly traded residential companies, with only two companies being larger. The portfolio will produce \$12.5 billion in development in the first 10 years, with an annual portfolio income of \$1.5 billion. The program is designated to monitor the health of the RCI portfolio and solve problems before they occur or grow. The RCI realty specialists visit each of their projects annually to perform a Ground Lease Compliance Inspection to verify compliance of the project with their ground lease and its requirements. A report is generated after the annual visit and provided to the RCI project for its use.

The only remaining installations to be privatized are Fort Jackson, West Point, Fort Sill, Okla., Forts Wainwright/Greely, Alaska, Fort Huachuca/Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., and Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The Norfolk District Real Estate team continues to be tasked with follow-up actions after closing, as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure legislation and the resulting re-alignment of Soldiers. Fort Irwin, Calif., Fort Carson, Fort Lewis, Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Drum, N.Y., Fort Stewart, Ga., and Fort Bliss, Texas, are targeted to get additional funding through FY 2011 for Phase II

development at existing RCI projects, based on the Grow the Army and Army Transformation initiatives.

Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH)

The U.S. Army has also initiated a new program to privatize housing for single senior Soldiers, where single officers and noncommissioned officers from staff sergeant and up will be eligible to lease apartments built on the installation. The Army's commercial partners under RCI are providing this service for unaccompanied Soldiers.

The program began with five pilots: at Fort Irwin, where 200 apartments are being built to replace inadequate apartments. The construction will be completed in October, and will be part of the

Town Center's amenities. Fort Drum has been transferred with a plan to build 192 one and two-bedroom apartments. Fort Bragg closed on Dec. 20, 2007, with an approved plan by Congress to build an apartment complex called Randolph Pointe for single or unaccompanied Senior NCOs and Officers (E6 and above) by the RCI partner on the installation. Opening in early 2009, Randolph Pointe will feature 312 spacious one and two-bedroom units. Fort Bliss is



Randolph Pointe Unaccompanied Personnel Housing on Fort Bragg will include washers and dryers, walk-in closets and private bathrooms, among other amenities. (Image courtesy of Randolph Pointe)

expected to close later in 2008. By the end of 2009, the Army expects to have some 1,400 one- and two-bedroom apartments available under the UPH program.

Currently, the UPH Privatization Program is a pilot project, similar to how RCI began in the mid-1990s. Any further expansion of the program will require an assessment of its initial success and further approval of the Army.

Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL)

One of the Army's newest efforts in privatization is the Privatization of Army Lodging, or PAL. The PAL program is authorized by the Military Housing Privatization Initiative legislation that is also the basis for RCI and UPH privatization, and is led by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Privatization and Partnerships.) The goal of PAL is to eliminate substandard Army lodging by 2014 using private sector capital and best practices to overcome a revitalization backlog and to construct additional rooms. The program will be

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Close calls, quick reaction by Norfolk District in the midst of powerful storm

Story and photos by Patrick Bloodgood

April 28 will forever be engrained in the minds of the Norfolk District, Army Corps of Engineers personnel who live and work throughout the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. That afternoon a powerful band of thunderstorms hit the region, spawning a handful of tornadoes, one of which caused mass property damage in the city of Suffolk. This same tornado weaved a ragged path, randomly skipping over neighborhoods while slamming others, even causing minor damage to some of the buildings at the District's Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area.

Minor damage was not the fate of the Armed Forces Recruiting Station in Suffolk. The building, leased through the District's Real Estate Office, was completely destroyed by the tornado. All that was left was a desk with a phone sitting atop; everything else was literally blown away. The tornado did deposit a new item, adding to the building's now empty property inventory: a red vehicle in the office space where prospective recruits and recruiters once stood.

"The minute we got out there and I saw it, I knew everything was gone," revealed Allan Bevins, district real estate specialist in charge of lease accounts. "I'm just amazed that nobody died in the event."

During the tornadoes, Navy, Marines, and Army representatives were in the building. Fortunately, no staff or visiting citizens were injured. After the storm, the military service personnel assisted other victims of the storm.

Just 30 minutes after taking stock of the devastation, Bevins and colleague, Real Estate Specialist Faye Alston, began the process to secure a new home for the recruiting team. Within 72 hours, Bevins and Alston handed the keys to a new leased office to the recruiters.

"That's our job. We are responsible for their facility. When they needed us the most we needed to come through for them, and we did," said Bevins.

The recruiters will operate out of their new home off Holland Road in Suffolk, until the centrally located Freedom Plaza is rebuilt.

Craney Island takes a hit, too

Fortunately, the District's Craney Island staff had departed before the storm hit. The facility sustained minor damage with some trees toppled, a few windows broken, and slight damage sustained to the roofs of the

project office and old administrative buildings. One nearby homeowner had his carport deposited onto the facility access road.

Personal accounts

Norfolk District's Utility System Repair Operator, Albert Gates, said he gained a whole new respect for the power of Mother Nature. Gates was watching the fury of the tornado unfold with his wife and fellow district employee, Barbara Gates, in her hospital room at Sentara Obici Hospital in Suffolk.

"I was standing in my wife's hospital room watching it from the window like an idiot," recalled Gates. "We watched it hit Route 258, then strike the area that the recruiting office was in, and then as it started coming toward us. While it was wiping out the shopping center you could see huge pieces of sheet metal spiraling up in the air. I closed the blinds, got away from the window, and yelled twister!"

Gates, like Bevins, thought it was a miracle that nobody was killed in the wake of such a powerful storm.

District Regulatory Specialist Katie Damico had a close encounter with the storm as well. According to Damico, she was home with her son when she heard the ominous freight train sound.

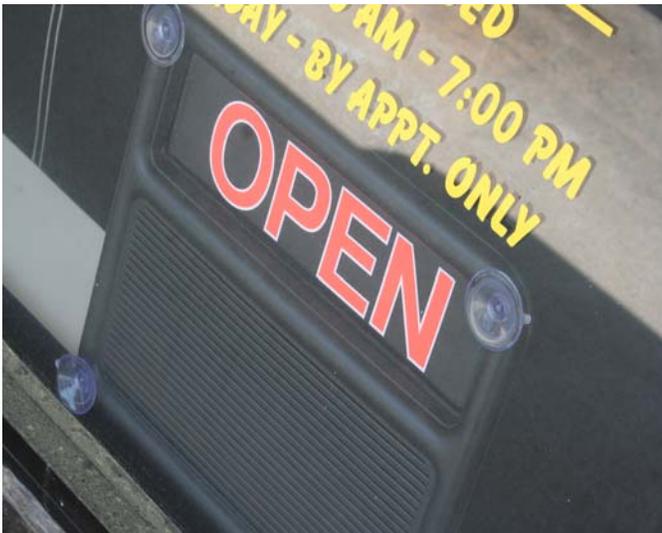
"I was in my kitchen when I heard the sound, looked out my window, and saw spinning debris," said Damico. "I grabbed my son, a flashlight, some pillows and I told him, 'we are going to play with the flashlight in the bathroom.'"



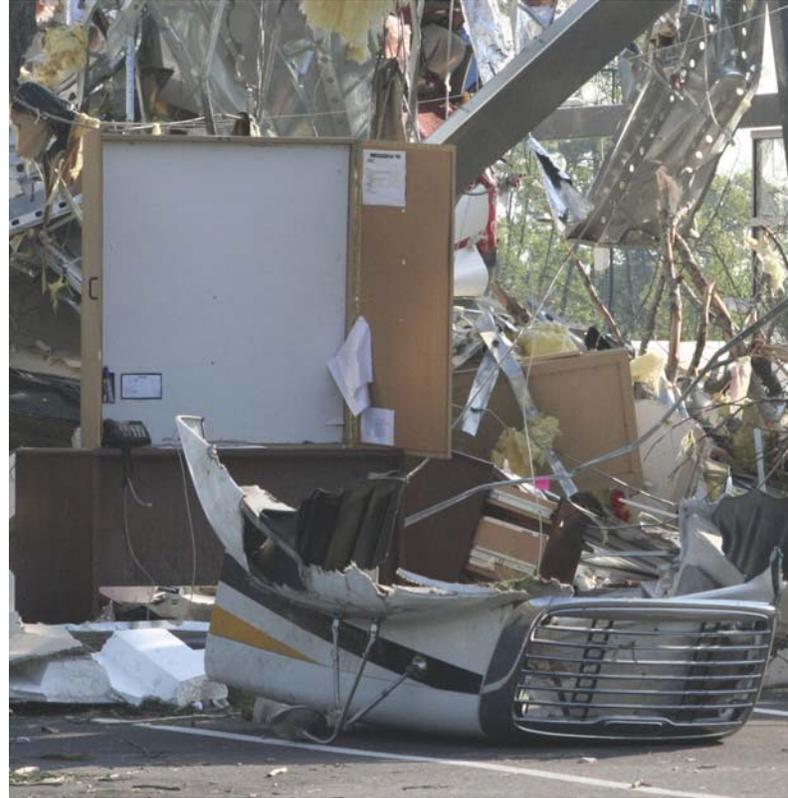
The Armed Forces Recruiting Station, used by Army, Navy, and Marine Corps recruiters, is completely destroyed by a tornado that touched down in Suffolk, Virginia.

Throughout the category F-3 tornado, Damico remained calm. I think I was calm because I didn't fully realize how bad the tornado was, said Damico. "I could see some damage, but it wasn't until a few days later when I saw the devastation a few blocks over that it really hit me."

In the aftermath of the storm, Suffolk and Commonwealth of Virginia officials are reviewing their emergency response procedures to make improvements that will aid them in reducing future loss of life and property.



Immediately following the devastation to the Suffolk recruiting office, the Norfolk District Real Estate team located a new property and negotiated a lease within 72 hours.

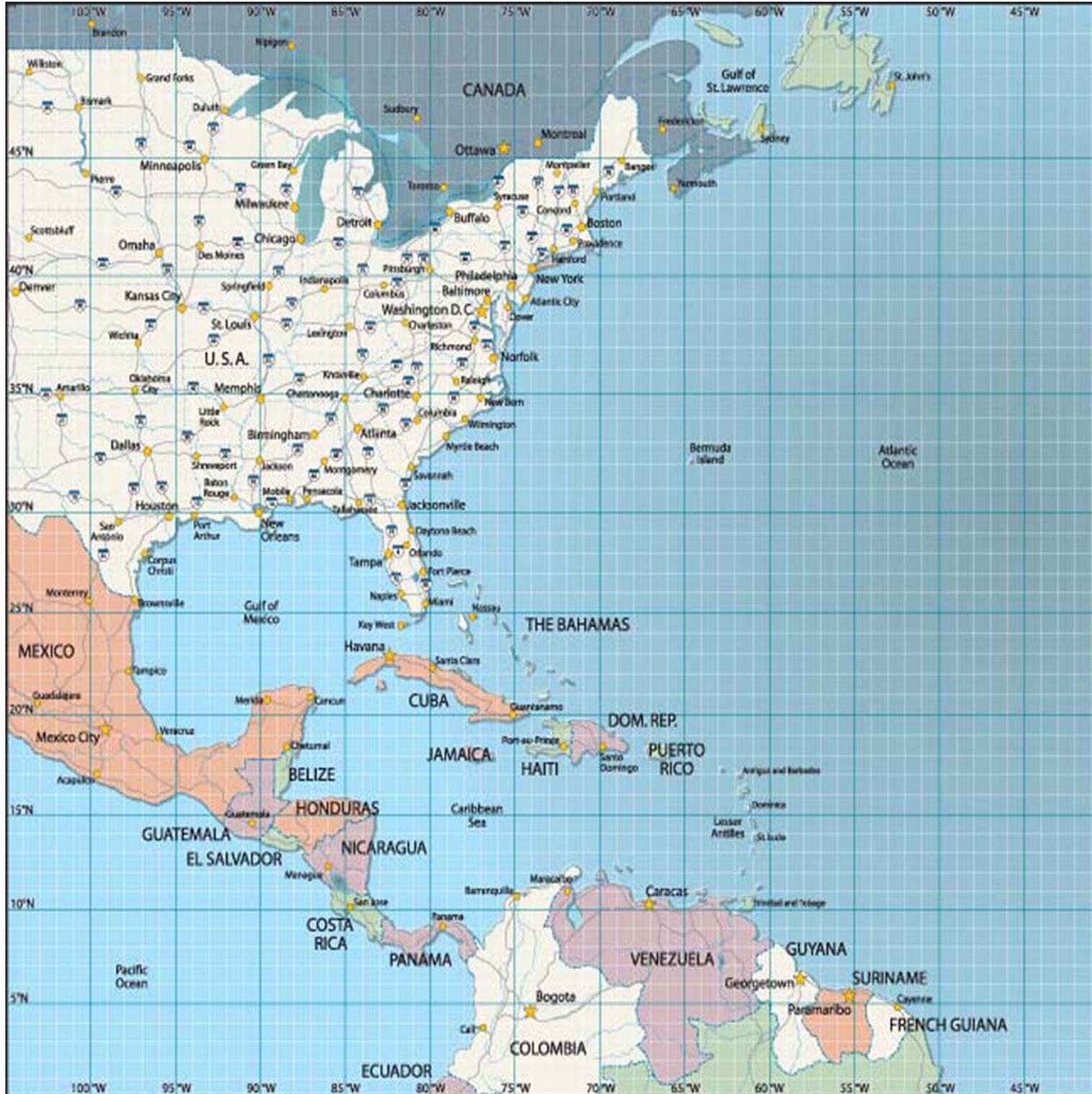


The Suffolk building that housed Armed Forces Recruiters was completely destroyed. After the storm, the only things left standing were a desk with a phone sitting atop.



Norfolk District Real Estate team members secured a temporary location to reduce the disruption of the Armed Forces recruiting mission.

2008 Hurricane



Tracking Chart



Scientists predict 4 major hurricanes

A noted hurricane researcher is predicting eight hurricanes will form in the Atlantic this year, and says four of them will be major.

The June 3 forecast by William Gray and his team of researchers at Colorado State University calls for a very active season, with 15 named storms, including tropical storm Arthur, which formed May 31.

Gray, a former Colorado State University climatologist, pioneered the seasonal predictions in 1984. His team's revised outlook called for the same number of hurricanes as their April forecast.

Last month, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecast 12 to 16 named storms, including six to nine hurricanes. Warmer water temperatures in the Atlantic and low sea level pressure contributed to the prediction of a busy season.

"Conditions in the tropical Atlantic look quite favorable for an active hurricane season," said Phil Klotzbach, lead author of the university's forecast.

Last June, the team predicted 17 named storms, including nine hurricanes, five of them major. The year produced 14 named storms, including six hurricanes, two of them major.

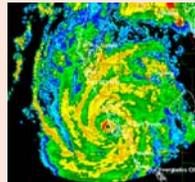
The forecasters used a new statistical model this year, which they say has shown considerable improvement over the previous model.

The team said there is a 69 percent chance that at least one major hurricane will make landfall somewhere on the U.S. coastline, compared to the long-term average probability of 52 percent.

The Atlantic hurricane season began June 1 and runs through Nov. 30.

(Source: *TIME Magazine*)

2008 Storm Names

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---------|
| Arthur |  | Laura |
| Bertha | | Marco |
| Cristobal | | Nana |
| Dolly | | Omar |
| Edouard | | Paloma |
| Fay | | Rene |
| Gustav | | Sally |
| Hanna | | Teddy |
| Ike | | Vicky |
| Josephine | | Wilfred |
| Kyle | | |



North Atlantic Division deploys full resources in response to multiple national threats

Story and photos by Jerry Rogers

May 1 was a horrible day for thousands of emergency responders. Some media reporters even dubbed it “The May Day Attack.”

The day began with the Mid-Atlantic bracing for the inevitable landfall of Hurricane Zoe, a category 3 killer packing approximate sustained winds of 135 mph and an expected storm surge of up to 18 feet. According to the National Weather Service, Hurricane Zoe was barreling down on the North Carolina-Virginia coast with its next forecasted stop: Washington, D.C.

Meantime, national media reports of a terrorist attack involving Weapons of Mass Destruction were unfolding in Seattle. And, in rural Umatilla, Ore., a report of an accidental release of a dangerous chemical agent at the Umatilla Chemical Storage Depot caused terrified residents to flee their homes, and prompted the immediate mobilization of the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Agency.

Later that afternoon, with Hurricane Zoe’s projected path toward the National Capital Region a near certainty, area emergency

Emergency Management Chief, Carmine Leone, said “the exercise allowed the division to activate and test the full spectrum of emergency response operations of its five U.S. districts – New England, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Norfolk.” These national exercises serve a critical need in helping the division track its effectiveness to respond to a multi-state, multi-regional disaster event, added Leone.

The three combined exercises of NLE 2-08 consisted of:

- FEMA National Continuity of Program Eagle Horizon 2008 exercise, which trained FEMA staff to conduct federal government essential functions, and manage the emergency from dispersed locations;
- FEMA’s Disaster Operations Hurricane Preparedness exercise, which tested the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ capability to provide direct support during the execution of FEMA-assigned missions and;
- U.S. Northern Command’s Ardent Sentry 08 exercise, which trained its staff in Homeland Security and Homeland Defense procedures, specifically in response to a terrorist Weapons of Mass Destruction threat/attack, and with special emphasis on Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

Headquartered in Philadelphia, FEMA Region III spearheaded the Disaster Operations Hurricane Preparedness phase of the exercise, with North Atlantic Division directed to execute the Mid-Atlantic region exercise scenario. The division activated and tested the continuity and communications capability of its five districts’ Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), as well as activated each district’s emergency operations centers. New England District executed FEMA mission assignments for National Water; New York was responsible for Temporary Housing; Philadelphia for Temporary Power; and Baltimore handled Debris Removal. Norfolk District provided Combined Commodities (water and ice) to affected areas, due to its location and greater susceptibility to hurricanes.

Norfolk District also activated its 30-plus member Recovery Field Office-Advance (RFO-A) team and deployed to Richmond, Va.

If this were an actual disaster, the Norfolk district commander, after consulting with his crisis management team, would decide whether to deploy the RFO-A team to its designated site. The RFO-A would then become a redundant district, capable of executing all district functions independent of the parent headquarters in Norfolk. The team, commanded by the deputy district commander, would also execute FEMA pre- and post-declaration missions, such as the prepositioning of commodities before the hurricane made landfall, and the procurement and distribution of these and additional commodities post-landfall. The team could also be called upon to execute division and



NAO exercise player Teresa Murphy ensures every RFO-A team member is in-processed and accounted for.

responders suddenly received breaking news of an imminent terrorist attack. This prompted the federal government to invoke national emergency continuity operations.

These multi-threat disasters were unleashed across our nation May 1-8 by the National Exercise Program, the nation’s overarching homeland security exercise program, to test the federal government’s response to multiple and multi-faceted threats. National Level Exercise 2-08 consisted of the merging of three regional exercises which allowed federal and state officials from various venues throughout Canada and the United States to test a wide range of emergency response capabilities.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ North Atlantic Division was eager to test its regional capability, said one division player. NAD

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The May Day Attack

Continued from Page 10

Headquarters, USACE follow-on missions as well as support to military installations.

Baltimore District also supported the Joint Task Force-National Capital Region. While working with the Washington Aqueduct team, Baltimore tested the communications capability of NetMeeting, a commercially-available Microsoft video and audio conferencing product. It paid huge dividends, providing the district with increased communications with exercise partners. "It makes sense to take advantage of being able to pass both voice and data," said Lt. Col. John Osborn, Baltimore District deputy commander. "This worked extremely well and is something we plan to expand to all of our field sites."

FEMA Region III also deployed the division's Emergency Response Team-Advance (ERT-A) to Virginia's Emergency Operations Center that included a cell to manage the infrastructure and public works mission assignments routinely assigned to USACE.

The National Response Plan, developed through the efforts of 27 departments and agencies, describes the basic footprint by which the federal government will mobilize resources and conduct activities to assist states in coping with the consequences of significant disasters.

Within the Plan, FEMA and USACE work in tandem to plan, prepare and respond under Emergency Support Function #3, Public Works and Engineering. ESF #3 provides lifesaving or life-protecting assistance to augment efforts of the affected state(s) and local response efforts following a major or catastrophic disaster. Public works and engineering support includes technical advice and evaluations; engineering services; construction management and inspection; emergency contracting of temporary roofing and housing, commodities and debris removal; provision of emergency power; emergency repair of wastewater and solid waste facilities; and real estate support.

The exercise provided the ERT-A an opportunity to integrate and test some of the new ESF #3 mission assignment processes



RFO-A member Chuck Sanders sets up a BGAN satellite broadband internet and telephone connection.

and mission tools, said Michael Ganley, ESF #3 and ERT-A team leader.

One of the improved tools Ganley's team tested was public access to the Public Works and Engineering mission models produced by Louisville District. "Those models provided us the ability to recommend adjustments to FEMA, as the disaster event unfolded, on various pre-scripted mission assignments, such as providing water and ice or temporary roofing and housing," said Ganley. In this way, he continued, "we can better quantify the amount of services actually needed and save valuable time in our response and mission planning. By sharing that information with our FEMA partners, we can better communicate and eliminate much of the guess work associated with providing life-protecting services."

During the post-exercise after-action review, exercise players stressed that these and similar type exercises continue to remain a funding priority if the division is to sustain its emergency response expertise.

NAD Deputy Commander, Col. Christopher J. Larsen, agreed. "I will continue to fight for the necessary resources to conduct these exercises," said Larsen, adding, "You've made me a believer."

Larsen was clearly pleased with the division's overall performance in NLE 2-08. "This exercise has truly demonstrated that our regional response to multi-threat events is tracking well," said Larsen. "I congratulate all of you. Your camaraderie and professionalism was clearly evident these last few days."

Sending perhaps a word of encouragement to our courageous and dedicated emergency responders, and to our government, many exercise players stated that they hoped we never experience a May Day Attack. If we do, they quickly added, we've learned valuable lessons from 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, and now NLE 2-08. And it's shown.

[See page 12 for information on ACE-IT's involvement in the National Level Exercise 2-08.]



ESF #3 Team Leader Mike Ganley coordinates exercise operations with FEMA Region III staff.

Corps' new IM/IT provider tested during national exercise



ACE-IT team keeps Recovery Field Office-Advance IM-IT applications running smoothly.

Story and photo by Jerry Rogers

During National Level Exercise 2-08, the Norfolk District Recovery Field Office-Advance team tested and evaluated a wide range of critical communications capabilities. All Corps eyes would soon be on USACE's new national Information Management/Information Technology service provider, ACE-IT (Army Corps of Engineers-Information Technology). This exercise marked the first time ACE-IT assets deployed in direct support of a USACE district.

ACE-IT Enterprise Emergency Response

According to ACE-IT officials, its Enterprise Emergency Response Team is only a small part of a much larger plan. ACE-IT developed the EERT to respond to and meet the needs of USACE when disaster strikes. Currently there are 10 team members who use a variety of IM/IT skills to plan and execute the disaster response efforts to support USACE.

In March, Norfolk District sent ACE-IT its exercise requirements. EERT took those requirements and developed an IM/IT support

plan, working closely with the district Emergency Management Office.

"Our four-member team arrived in Richmond, Va., and the district's RFO-A site on the evening of May 4," explained EERT Leader David Wright. "Hours later the RFO-A was wired for 30 users and the required phone lines were patched in. We connected to the Wide Area Network using both the hotel Digital Subscriber Line and a Very Small Aperture Terminal satellite system, part of an equipment cache being developed by the EERT.

"As the RFO-A team arrived the morning of May 5, the EERT connected users to the network and assisted them with USACE commonly used desktop applications. Users connected to the network using a Virtual Private Network connection. This

configuration presented some initial printer capability problems, but with the help of USACE's Enterprise Infrastructure Services, we built a VPN pipe straight to CEEIS using CISCO Systems, Inc. security devices. This allowed everyone printing capability, lowered our VPN overhead, and improved our bandwidth usage," said Wright.

On May 8, the exercise shifted to the Norfolk District COOP site, located at the Army Reserve Center, Suffolk, Va. Again the EERT installed temporary wiring, set up a VSAT to connect to the WAN via satellite, and tested a Comcast Broadband connection to support district requirements.

"This was a rewarding experience for the EERT and we are grateful to Norfolk District for the opportunity to participate in this exercise," said Wright. "The lessons we learned will enable our team to better respond to real events. We know that when USACE is called to serve the nation during times of crisis, our job is to enable the Corps family to succeed in their missions. When we do this, we also succeed."

Norfolk District prepares for network refresh

Over the next several months, Norfolk District will turn in much of its current IT equipment for new USACE-approved replacements. Between June and August, designated IT equipment will be refreshed. One segment of the District's IT Refresh will occur June 16-20. During this period, ACE-IT will replace some equipment in the computer room and closets. This is one in a series of important steps that will ultimately

enable ACE-IT to better control and maintain our network and computers. Follow-on refreshes include replacing blackberries and cell phones July 14 and replacing desktop and laptop computers Aug. 11-22. More information relating to the IT Refresh will be provided in the days and weeks ahead. In the meantime, call Melinda Worrell, ACE-IT Customer Relations Manager, at 201-7780 or Deborah

Kennedy, Regional Information Officer, at 201-7644, for more details.



Norfolk District Real Estate Team

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accomplished in three phased groups, with each group including 11 to 17 installations. The first group, Group A, will consist of 4,567 rooms at the following installations:

- Fort Hood, Texas
- Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
- Fort Myer, Va.
- Fort Polk, La.
- Fort Riley, Kan.
- Fort Rucker, Ala.
- Fort Sam Houston, Texas
- Fort Shafter/Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii
- Fort Sill, Okla.
- Redstone Arsenal, Ala.
- Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz.

The selected developer, Actus Lend Lease (Actus), is partnering with Intercontinental Hotel Group (IHG) to accomplish the PAL program. Over the past year Actus has worked with IHG and the Army to prepare a lodging development and management plan that maps the long-term vision for privatized lodging at the 11 sites. One of the most significant changes this partnership brings to the Army is the branding of new and existing facilities. All new hotels constructed will be Staybridge Suites; most existing lodges will be branded as Holiday Inn Express hotels; and the limited number of historic hotels will be addressed as specialty hotels in The Historic Collection. Each hotel brand will establish consistency with its private sector counterparts, including room configuration, service standards and amenities while responding to the specific installation's mission, geography and traveler profile. Some of the key items are complimentary breakfasts; business, fitness



The Army RCI program was created as part of the 1996 Defense Authorization Act. The legislation provided alternative authorities for construction and improvement of military housing. (Image courtesy of Randolph Pointe)

and laundry facilities; and the Pets Are Welcome (PAWs) program.

As with housing and UPH privatization, the Norfolk District is responsible for all components of real estate in the privatization transaction, including completion of surveys, coordination of the title requirements and negotiation of the lease terms. A 50-year lease will provide the legal structure for the PAL program, with the lessee responsible for operations, management, new construction and demolition of lodging. A lease compliance program will monitor annual performance and fees earned by the lessee. The Army will continue to be involved in the lessee's development plans for each site, reviewing the lessee's plan for each installation every three years throughout the life of the lease.

The NAO Real Estate team continues to work closely with HQUSACE, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army (Privatization and Partnerships) and the deputy assistant secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing) to implement this program. Since the beginning of June, the Army has worked with the lessee to negotiate the terms of the lease, with a goal of signing the lease and closing the deal in October.

Norfolk District RCI Real Estate team members wrote this article. Members include Dillard Horton, Kathleen Germano, Lee Bevins, Phillip Hakey and Todd Waldman. Caroline McCown contributed the PAL portion.



Through RCI, the Army provides developers with a long-term interest in both land and family housing assets for redevelopment. The initiative is creating communities on Army installations to provide military personnel with quality housing comparable to civilian communities. (Image courtesy of Randolph Pointe)



Taking a day to clean the bay!

Chesapeake Bay gets spruced up

Story and photos by Brittany Brown

For the past 20 years, tons of trash have been removed from local waters and shorelines during the region-wide clean-up effort known as Clean the Bay Day. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation manages the annual project, which involves thousands of Virginians working to remove tons of debris from local beaches, shorelines and waterways. For the first time in the 20-year event, Clean the Bay Day has expanded beyond Hampton Roads to include eastern Virginia, Richmond, and northern Virginia. It also featured an electronics waste recycling event at Old Dominion University in Norfolk.

District employees were among other volunteers June 7 who participated in the region-wide effort to clean up dangerous and unsightly litter from backyards, parks, rivers and canals. Volunteers from Norfolk District, alongside Chesapeake Bay Foundation volunteers, braved brutal heat with the temperature soaring above 100 degrees to clean Craney Island shorelines. Like scavengers, the cleanup crews collected cups, cans, fast food containers, tires, carpet remnants, rusted metal objects and an assortment of building materials from the shorelines. In addition to the volunteers who cleaned up Craney Island shorelines, members of the District's operations team provided vessel support to pick up and discard debris from other clean-up sites where Hampton Roads citizens, non-profit organizations and area businesses volunteered their time.



Norfolk District Commander, Col. Dionysios Anninos, moves one of the many tires collected during the Clean the Bay Day effort.



Craney Island employee Wilroy Pretlow makes continuous trips to collect the black trash bags full of litter that lined the 2,500-acre confined dredge material disposal site.

The Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area is a 2,500-acre confined dredged material disposal site located on the north side of Portsmouth, Va. Plans for the site were developed in the early 1940s to provide a long-term disposal area for material dredged from the channels and ports in the Hampton Roads area. Craney Island was supposed to have been filled to its 100 million cubic yard capacity by 1978, but today it holds 236 million cubic yards of dredged material, with room for at least an additional 100 million cubic yards, due to technological advancements that will continue to engineer a longer life for the dredged material site.

The three hours Norfolk District participants volunteered was not only a way to serve the community, but also a way to improve the environment of an active Army Corps facility.

If history is any indicator, there may continue to be thousands of cigarette butts, water bottles and plastic bags to be picked up each year along the 415 miles of Chesapeake Bay shorelines and waterways, but the long-term future of a healthy Chesapeake Bay and its wildlife depends on all of us "cleaning up our acts" each and every day.

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Norfolk District civil engineer Betty Gray Waring braves the 101 degree temperature during the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's 20th Annual Clean the Bay Day.



Throughout the Clean the Bay Day event, volunteers maintained a data sheet identifying the items that were collected. More than 5,000 volunteers picked 114,400 pounds of litter from 195 sites. Items found at Craney Island include cigarette butts, swim noodles, plastic bottles, fast food containers, tires, bikini tops, rusted metal objects and various building materials.



Armed with disposable gloves and plenty of black trash bags, Norfolk District volunteers collect litter and debris that might otherwise make its way into the Chesapeake Bay. Keith Lockwood and other PDT members solicited nearly two dozen volunteers to donate three hours of their time for the clean-up effort.



As a recreational facility, Craney Island is frequented by fishermen and bird watchers from the Virginia Beach Audubon Society. The clean-up efforts benefit the wildlife that call Craney Island home, such as the endangered and protected least terns.



Exploring innovative technology at Craney Island

Story by Dejuan Price

A joint project by the Virginia Port Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Craney Island Eastward Expansion will extend the useful life of Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area (CIDMMA) and provide land for a new state-owned marine terminal. Located along the south bank of the James River, CIDMMA is operated by the Corps.

For the last 50 years, the federally-owned facility has played an important role in the Hampton Roads maritime industry by accepting dredged material from military, industrial, and private dredging projects throughout the region.

The Craney Island Eastward Expansion aims to extend the life of CIDMMA well beyond 2025. Therefore, each phase of the project's engineering and design effort requires engineers to explore solutions and design alternatives that will provide this extended capacity and accommodate the future construction of a marine terminal.

There are many beneficial uses for dredged material, including engineering applications for projects like the Craney Island Eastward Expansion. The construction method for the project consists of building perimeter dikes to create a new

cell on the east side of the existing facility. Large quantities of fill material will be required in the expansion area during this "fill" phase of construction. The interior of the expansion area will be filled with dredged material resulting from area dredging projects. This material will be conveyed from within existing CIDMMA to the new east cell, providing the foundation for marine terminal construction.

By using material within CIDMMA to create the fill, additional capacity is made available within CIDMMA for expanded dredged material capacity. However, getting this material from within the island to the new eastern cell presents unique challenges and opportunities to the engineering program.

Accordingly, engineers are now studying alternatives to efficiently move material from within the existing CIDMMA cells to the new expansion cell. The study will explore alternative materials-handling equipment systems and methods, such as automated conveying technology.

Currently, all material movement at CIDMMA is accomplished by mobile equipment, such as excavators and haul trucks. While mobile methods offer flexibility, they often limit production rates and other efficiencies, as they require increased manpower, fuel, and equipment.

In contrast, material transportation by use of conveying technologies and materials placement by automated systems enhance efficiencies and increase productivity.

Hampton Roads residents might be familiar with conveyance technologies, as they are present in many coal and industrial plants in the region. The mining and processing industries, which constantly handle and transport bulk material have developed and implemented such conveyance technologies to increase efficiencies and production rates. As shown in the figure above, bulk material handling is often required to transport industrial and agricultural materials, such as grain, coal and ores.

To meet the Craney Island Eastward Expansion project schedule, the selected design alternative must convey between 20,000 - 30,000 cubic yards of material daily. All alternatives considered within this study will be aligned to meet the project's 8-year construction schedule, which is slated to begin in 2009, to allow opening of the marine terminal by 2017.

Dejuan Price is a Moffatt & Nichol representative who serves as Technical Communication Manager for the Craney Island Connection newsletter.



Typical field conveyors such as the one pictured here are more efficient than the use of mobile equipment such as excavators or haul trucks. Conveyance technologies are used in many coal and industrial plants throughout Hampton Roads.



Engineers studying alternatives to efficiently move material from within the existing Craney Island cells to the new expansion cell find value in the use of field conveyors. The photo above shows rocks moving along a typical field conveyor.



Tides' spotlight on district employees

Here's looking at you kid!



Holding down the fort

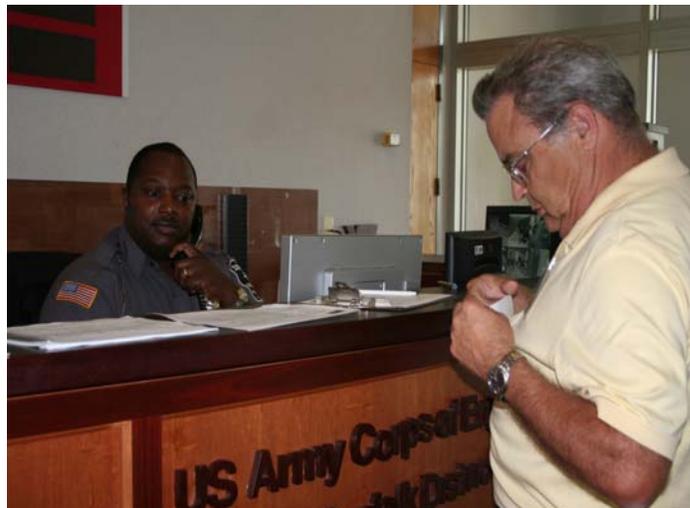
Story and photos by Brittany Brown

The first face that greets Waterfield Building guests or Fort Norfolk visitors is a Norfolk District security officer. The team of security personnel holds down the fort as they greet district employees, welcome visitors and serve as deterrents to the commission of criminal and/or dangerous acts on Corps property.

Alongside other security personnel, Norfolk District Security Officer Gerod Stukes works hard to provide a safe and secure environment for district employees, customers and other visitors. As the security officer on duty during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., a majority of Norfolk District team members interact with Stukes on a regular basis. It is not unusual to receive an email from Stukes alerting the district about a pending storm so that they have ample time to close their vehicle's sunroof and any open car windows. Officer Stukes also communicates effectively with the district to alert car owners who leave their lights on, people who drop their cell phone on the sidewalk or people who lost earrings. When a pair of eyeglasses is misplaced, the value of Stukes' emails for retrieval is inexplicable for the person who cannot leave the district or drive home without them.

Stukes has been working for the district for four years as a security officer. Before coming to Norfolk District, he was a security officer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Norfolk, Va. In his seven years in the security field, Stukes says the highlight of his job is having the opportunity to interact with people and to hear the stories of those who are as dedicated to their job as he is.

The close proximity of the security desk and multi-purpose room allows Stukes to enjoy the various Norfolk District-sponsored community programs. Stukes says, "The programs here are really interesting. I have yet to see a program that I did not enjoy, whether it be Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, Black History Month or Women's History Month. It is evident that the individuals who



Charles Pate applies his temporary visitor badge while Security Officer Gerod Stukes calls Norfolk District biologist Craig Jones to inform him of his visitor's arrival.

plan the programs excel at incorporating diverse programs to meet everyone's needs. It truly reflects the diversity of the Corps and I like that."

Stukes, a resident of Chesapeake, Va., is actively involved in the community. He has been coaching youth sports, including football, basketball and soccer, for four years. This gives him the opportunity to spend quality time with his four sons doing something they love while also giving back to the community. Stukes values the importance of having a close-knit, well grounded family, which also includes his two daughters.

In his leisure time, Stukes enjoys attending church-related activities. He serves as associate pastor at Fairwood Agape Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Va. Last May, he graduated from Angelos Bible College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biblical Studies. Stukes also holds two Associates degrees: Christian Counseling and Pastoral Ministering. Stukes plans to continue his educational studies and pursue a Master's program in Divinity next January. His long-term goal is to start a new church in Chesterfield County.



As an integral part of controlling access and building security, Officer Stukes continuously monitors the Fort for any suspicious activity.

Other Norfolk District Security personnel include:
 Richard Black
 Derrick Lee
 Christopher Humphrey
 Frederick Ramsey
 Eric Thibodeaux
 Kristofer Torres