



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Vol. 32 Issue 8
August 2011

www.hnd.usace.army.mil

Huntsville Center

Bulletin

On page ...

5 *Huntsville
Center deputy
commander
on board*

6 *Distinguished
civilian
recognized*

7 *De Fleury
Medal
awarded*

8 *Center
volunteer
works GIS in
Missouri*

10 *Public Health
Service
Officer
assigned to
Center*

11 *History
Wall follows
Center's
changes over
time*



Photo by William S. Farrow

Acting Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Merdith W.B. “Bo” Temple meets with Leadership Development Program participants before a mission update at Huntsville Center July 7. Temple was in Alabama to observe Corps efforts in debris removal.

Acting Chief of Engineers visits Center

By Jennifer Sabourin
Public Affairs Office

While touring north Alabama July 7, U.S.

Army Corps of Engineers acting chief of engineers, Maj. Gen. Merdith W.B. “Bo” Temple got a first-hand look at the damaged communities affected by the April 27 tornadoes and to review the Corps’ actions in the aftermath.

While in north Alabama, he also took time to visit the U.S. Army

Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, review directorate briefings and receive project updates and meet with the Corps future, as more than more than 15 Leadership Development Program members geared for the event.

During the briefing, Temple was brought up-to-speed regarding Huntsville Center’s developing work with energy initiatives.

Stan Lee, Chief

of Energy Division, presented a majority of the briefing concerning the Center’s work relating to energy saving and finding energy alternatives.

Following Lee’s briefing, Rick Suever, Director of the Business Management Office, spoke about the strategic plans during FY 11-15. Suever also discussed what the vision of the Center is into the years 2020 and beyond.

Mike Hubbard,

See **TEMPLE** on page 5

Commander's thoughts

Team,
We were all saddened to learn of Judy Storie's passing. Judy was a part of our team for many years and most recently served as a procurement technician for Center Contracting's Business Operations Branch. She will be greatly missed.

Maj. Gen. Merdith W.B. "Bo" Temple, acting USACE Commanding General, recently visited Alabama to get a look at the storm recovery operations and while here, he stopped by the Center to meet with us and receive a brief on our status and initiatives.

When we have a chance to host the Chief, it's an opportune time to fill him in on our great work. General Temple said he remains interested in our work and the direction we are taking with our programs.

We recently named our latest distinguished civilian, Mike Rogers. He held several positions while serving here for more than 30 years. His leadership influence as the former Deputy for Programs and Technical Management is still evident today. We also awarded the Bronze De Fleury Medal to Ron Brown. Ron began his career as a combat engineer serving in Vietnam.

Later, he began working for the Corps, and stayed with us for 39 years. He's very deserving of the award and I couldn't be prouder to have presented it to him.

I hope you've had a chance to take some time off during the summer. I was able to spend some time with my family visiting Yellowstone National Park, but as you read this I'm attending the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Senior Summer Leader Conference in New Orleans.

The conference is an annual meeting of senior leaders exchanging lessons learned, sharing best practices and developing strategies and plans designed to help synchronize efforts on our critical challenges. This is an important conference because it improves leadership insight and stresses the importance of our communication efforts – both internal and external.

I'd also like everyone to join me in welcoming our new Deputy Commander, Lt. Col. William Burruss. He comes to us from the 555th Engineer Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash. He's been busy getting to know the Center since he reported July 18. He's a welcome addition to the leadership team. I urge all of you



Col. Nello L. Tortora

to make him feel at home.

I would also like to take a moment to thank those who have volunteered to support relief efforts in the wake of natural disasters.

This support is critical to the Corps and our Nation. We also have a Housing Planning and Response Team preparing for their turn to deploy as a unit, and there is still a demand for our expertise in Iraq and Afghanistan

School begins soon, and I know many of you with school-aged children will be busy getting back into the routine of a new school year. The coming months will be very challenging for us as we try to achieve another historic year.

We are on track to award approximately \$1.5 billion in new projects for our Nation. I know that together as a team we will accomplish our mission and exceed customer expectations. Thanks for everything you are doing to make HNC a great organization.

Hails and farewells

Welcome: Shawn Willie Abel Fuller, Pam Gillum, Center Contracting Directorate; Jeniece Prince, Resource Management Directorate; Kacey Tyra, Emily Frith, Larry Baca, Jamie Stockton, Engineering Directorate; Mark Bachelor, Installation Support and Programs Management

Farewell: Tiffany Davis, Monique Nixon, Engineering Directorate; James Swick, Management Review



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

The Huntsville Center Bulletin is printed by digital copier as an official publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the U.S. Army. Inquiries can be addressed to Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Attn: CEHNC-PA, P.O. Box 1600, Huntsville, AL 35807-4301. Phone: DSN 760-1692 or commercial 256-895-1693. The Bulletin is also online at www.hnd.usace.army.mil. The Huntsville Center Facebook page is located at <http://bit.ly/HNCfbPage>. The Twitter page is located at <http://twitter.com/CEHNC>. Circulation: 600.

BULLETIN

Commander..... Col. Nello Tortora
Chief, Public Affairs..... Debra Valine
Editor..... William S. Farrow



Printed on recycled paper
30 percent post-consumer

The *Bulletin* asks:

“What “nuggets” did you take from your meeting with the acting Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Temple?”



“The ‘nugget’ that I took away from the session with Maj. Gen. Temple was that confidence is one of the most important traits of a good leader. More specifically, he talked about the type confidence that only comes with experience and a cool head. This information will help me as I advance in my career. I also liked that General Temple stressed the importance of a good leader taking the time to mentor others. The fact that he took the time out of his busy schedule to have a session with our LDP group emphasized how important this is to him. I want to master these same skills as a leader.”

Adam Humphrey
Center Contracting Directorate



“I took away lots of descriptive ‘nuggets’ from Maj. Gen. Temple about how to be a good leader. He gave our group this information in the form of wise sayings he received from those who helped to mold him into the leader he is today. For example, he reminded us that leaders are not born, they are made. I especially liked it when he shared with us advice his mother gave him early on in his life about getting along with others. She said, ‘You don’t have to like everyone but you do have to be polite.’ When asked if he aspired to be a general when he joined the Army, he said he didn’t aspire to be a general, but was happy at (the rank of) major — he always did the best work he could do with the task he was assigned, and the rest just fell into place. I liked his humorous and insightful approach to teaching us basic leadership skills. I will definitely remember these things.

Blaine Guidry
Engineering Directorate



The Civilian Education System Leader Development Program is a progressive and sequential leader development program that provides enhanced educational opportunities for Army Civilians throughout their careers. Find out more information about the program online at:

<http://www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/academic/ces/>

Employee Spotlight:

Krysta Zurowski

**By Jo Anita Miley
Public Affairs Office**

Where do you work and what is your job title?

I work in the Engineering Directorate as an interior design specialist on the furniture team.

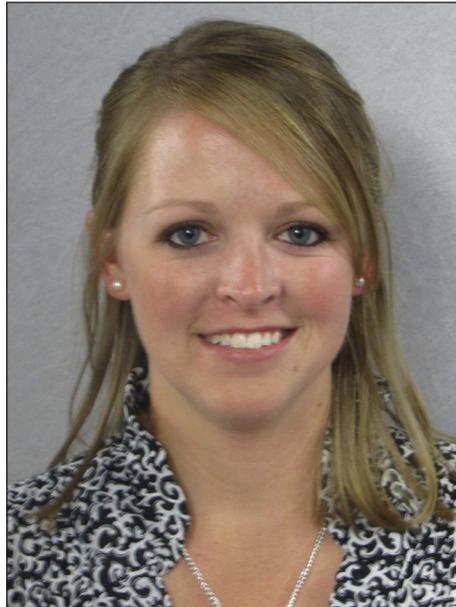
How long have you worked for the Corps?

I have worked for the Corps as a government employee for a year. Prior to that, I worked as a contractor supporting Huntsville Center for two years, giving me a total of three years with Corps of Engineers.

In your own words, what is your job? What do you do?

I receive furniture packages a District's interior designer or architectural and engineering firm have chosen for the installation. I then create a generic furniture description that I send to vendors for bid.

Once I receive the bids, I evaluate them and decide which offer provides the best quality product most closely meeting our customer's requirement.



Zurowski

Review the Campaign Plan goals and objectives. Which one(s) apply to you?

My branch supports Goal 3 and Goal 4 of the USACE Campaign Plan: Building effective, innovative, sustainable solutions and recruit and retain strong teams. More specifically,

Goal 3 applies because part of our process requires the furniture we procure to be sustainable. We require the majority of our furniture to contain recycled material and/or

also to be recyclable at the end of its lifespan.

Goal 4 also applies because we have the largest team of interior designers in the Corps. We've worked very hard over the last couple of years to expand our knowledge of furniture so we can deliver high-quality solutions to our customers.

How do you see your job making a difference and contributing to the Corps' success?

The products we (furniture team) procure affect our customer's well-being in a positive way.

It feels great to provide them with quality goods that allow them to focus on their jobs in comfortable environments.

Any special moments or memories about your job you'd like to share?

Every fiscal year-end has its special moments.

The best moment for me each year is when Center Contracting Directorate awards the final contract, and we've met the Sept. 30 deadline.

The **Employee Spotlight** is intended to let our Center employees shine for positively impacting our organization through mission achievements. Employees are nominated on a monthly basis, and are also featured on the Huntsville Center web site monthly, and the Headquarters, Corps of Engineers web site on a rotating basis. If you'd like to nominate someone within your office for this recognition, please contact Jo Anita Miley, Public Affairs Office, at 256-895-1585, or e-mail JoAnita.Miley@usace.army.mil.

Center's newest deputy experienced, ready

By William S. Farrow
Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center's newest deputy commander is Lt. Col. William Burruss, who assumed the position July 15.

He came to the Center from Fort Lewis, Wash., where he had been assigned to the 555th Engineer Brigade from 2008 -2011. While with the "Triple Nickel" he initially deployed to Iraq as the brigade's chief of construction, later serving as the brigade budget officer.

After receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the United States Military Academy, he served with the 37th Engineer Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., the 84th Engineer Company, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and served as an engineer platoon observer/controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La. Other assignments include combat operations analyst for the

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Analysis Center and combat training center analyst for the Center for Army Lessons Learned at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

After his Leavenworth assignment, he deployed to Camp Red Cloud, Republic of Korea, to serve as the Assistant Division Engineer for 2nd Infantry Division.

Burruss' previous assignments with the Corps of Engineers include deputy commander for Memphis and Vicksburg Districts.

Burruss also holds a Master of Science Degree in Operations Research from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga., and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Missouri.



Burruss

Burruss said his family is glad to be in the South again because the people are nice here and his family enjoys the slower pace traditionally associated with living in the South.

He said Huntsville Center has a great reputation throughout the Corps and the Army.

"The Center appears to have a very complex and challenging mission, as well as a diverse pool of talented employees to get the job done. Everyone I've met has been friendly and excited about their job," he said.

Burruss said since the Center is global in operations, he believes there are greater challenges associated with his new position.

"Our missions (and employees) are literally spread across the globe, which requires extra focus on internal and external relationships."

TEMPLE

continued from page 1

Director of Ordnance and Explosives, then briefed Temple on OE's continued efforts in locating and properly disposing of ordnances found all over the world and especially in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Concluding the briefing, Dan Heinzelman, Director of Resource Management, gave an overview of HNC's response following the April tornadoes.

Huntsville Center commander Col. Nello Tortora, said anytime the chief of engineers visit the Center, it's a great opportunity to expose him to the great work Huntsville Center people are doing.

"It's always a good opportunity to brief Maj. Gen. Temple on what Huntsville Center is doing, but it's even better to inform him of the programs we see the Center focusing on in the future, especially our work with energy initiatives," Col. Tortora said.

At the close of the director's briefings, Temple took

time for a question and answer period among current Huntsville Center Leadership Development programs. The participants mainly asked Temple questions concerning leadership.

Temple said communicating effectively and having confidence in your abilities is what he found to be important leadership traits.

"A successful leader is one that can create a vision, communicate that vision, follow-up and not waste people's time," Maj. Gen. Temple said.

Jean Allen, a project manager in Ordnance and Explosives Directorate, also in level 3 of her LDP, said she appreciated the points Temple made.

"He explained that all decisions made must be value-based decisions, and it's hard to punch holes in value-based decisions," she said. "I also appreciated what he said about surrounding ourselves with those who are strong, to balance the things in which we are not strong."

Huntsville Center recognizes past employee

By Jo Anita Miley
Public Affairs Office

Mike Rogers was named the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employee during an awards ceremony at the Center July 8.

The gallery identifies, recognizes and honors civilian employees distinguished for their service to the Center, the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Army.

Rogers served as the former Deputy for Programs and Technical Management for Huntsville Center from 2001 – 2004, during a time of unprecedented growth and involvement in national defense programs.

He provided the senior leadership for the Missile Defense Deployments at Fort Greely, Alaska during this time-frame as well as the construction of the finalization of the construction and operations as several of the Chemical Weapon Destruction Facilities.

Rogers other accomplishments contributed to national defense, ridding the world of weapons of mass destruction, and environmental restoration and remediation throughout the U.S.

“He was the leader that enabled the installation support Directorate to evolve into the organization it is today,” said Col. Nello Tortora,



Photo by Pam Scott

Huntsville Center commander Col. Nello Tortora presents Mike Rogers with the Distinguished Civilian award July 8. Rogers, who served as the former Deputy for Programs and Technical Management for Huntsville Center from 2001 – 2004, is recognized for his service to Huntsville Center, the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Army.

Huntsville Center commander.

“His outstanding technical competency, professional leadership and excellent management working within the Center during his career made paramount contributions as an expert in Program Management, evolving into a highly respected expert within the DoD, Army and private industry.

His careful mentorship and leadership yielded a unique multi-talented organization that is second to none in the DoD in areas such as Chemical Demilitarization, Ordnance Remediation, Environmental Remediation, Range Design, Explosive Effects

and Analysis and National Missile Defense.”

Rogers earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee, is a registered professional engineer in Tennessee and Alabama, and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers of which he is a Fellow.

Rogers began his career in 1973 as a civil engineering technician with the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tenn.

His career with the federal government began in 1982 as a civil engineer with USACE in Tennessee.

Brown lands de Fleury for 41 years of service

By William S. Farrow
Public Affairs Office

Ronald Brown was recognized for 41 years of outstanding service as an Army Engineer with a presentation of the Army Engineer Association's (AEA) Bronze de Fleury Medal in a ceremony July 8 at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center.

As a Vietnam veteran, Brown first served two years as an Army Engineer Officer before beginning a 39 year career as a Civil Engineer with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. As the chief of the Site Development Branch of the Engineering Directorate,

Brown's team pioneered cutting-edge procedures for computerized design that have become the standard for government and industry. He developed a team that has become the subject matter experts for design of military training ranges all over the world.

He has also led several technically expert teams in support of major programs such as National Missile Defense, Chemical Demilitarization and Centers of Standardization.

In addition to Mr. Brown's strong engineering management capabilities, he has been key to the Center's Architect-Engineering contracting functions.

Brown's detailed knowledge of procurement processes and procedures has played an important role in our ability to successfully team with industry on nationally important projects.

The award is named for a French Engineer Francois Louis Tessedre de Fleury who volunteered to serve as an engineer with the American



Photo by Pam Scott

Ron Brown received the Army Engineering Association's Bronze De Fleury Medal for his more than 40 years of service to the nation.

Army in its fight for independence from Britain.

As the Corps of Engineers implemented the U.S. Army Regimental System, the senior engineer leadership sought a method for the Corps to honor those individuals who have provided significant contributions to Army Engineering.

The Army Regimental System was developed to emphasize the history, customs and traditions of the Corps; so Maj. Gen. Daniel R. Schroeder, then-Commanding General of Fort Leonard Wood and Engineer School Commandant, wanted an award that would tie in with the beginnings of the nation and the Army Corps of Engineers.

The Engineer Regiment adopted

the de Fleury Medal as an award because of the values demonstrated by the man for whom it was struck, values of special meaning to Engineer Soldiers. It is understood that the de Fleury Medal was the first Congressional Medal struck, if not the first medal authorized.

Presentation of the de Fleury Medal, to those individuals meeting established criteria began in 1989. Soldiers and Civilians, active and retired, from enlisted Soldiers to generals to the Chief of Staff of the French Army proudly wear the de Fleury Medal.

The de Fleury award program is administered by the AEA for the Corps. The medal dies are controlled by the U.S. Mint which is responsible for striking the medals.

Center volunteer assists in Joplin recovery

By William S. Farrow
Public Affairs Office

The nearly mile-wide tornado touched down May 22 and blasted a six mile wide path through the city of Joplin, Mo.

Forty one days later, with a workload increasing, Huntsville Center's Teresa Silence, a Geographic Information System specialist joined the Joplin Recovery Field Office where she is on the GIS Cadre merging cartography, statistical analysis, and database technology to assist with virtually all aspects of recovery.

Silence is a scientist specializing in capturing, storing, manipulating, analyzing, managing and presenting all types of geographically referenced data for a variety of needs within the Corps.

After FEMA set up operations after the devastating tornado, it tasked the Corps with the removal of debris in the rights of way and properties for which Rights of Entry were obtained.

More than a month later, the original GIS team there needed replacing. That's when Silence and Nick Laskowski, a GIS specialist from Galveston district, showed up to help

The second week in July, two weeks after Silence and Laskowski arrived, Joplin declared properties with substantial debris, but no ROE, as public health nuisances and the Corps' workload increased as contractors began working on removing debris from those properties as well.

Currently the Corps is fluctuating between 1450 and 1470 ROE/PHN properties they are responsible for

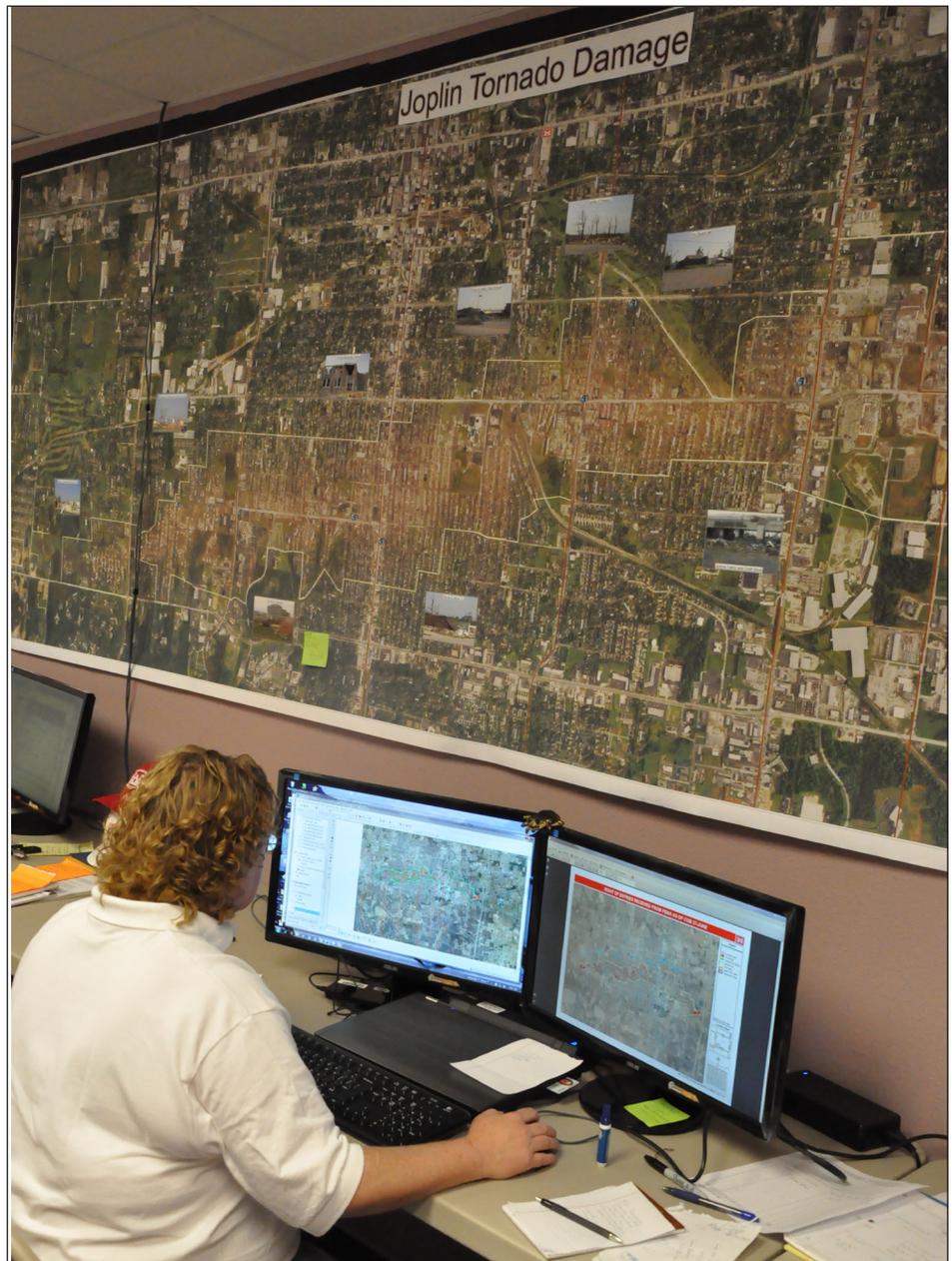


Photo by Chris Gardner

Teresa Silence, deployed to Joplin Mo., since July 3, tracks the progress of the ongoing recovery efforts there using Geographic Information System applications at the Joplin Recovery Field Office.

clearing.

Silence said one of the GIS team's most important tasks is making ROE status map books for the field crews. Each night when the USACE quality assurance teams come back, they reconcile which ROEs are complete and which are not.

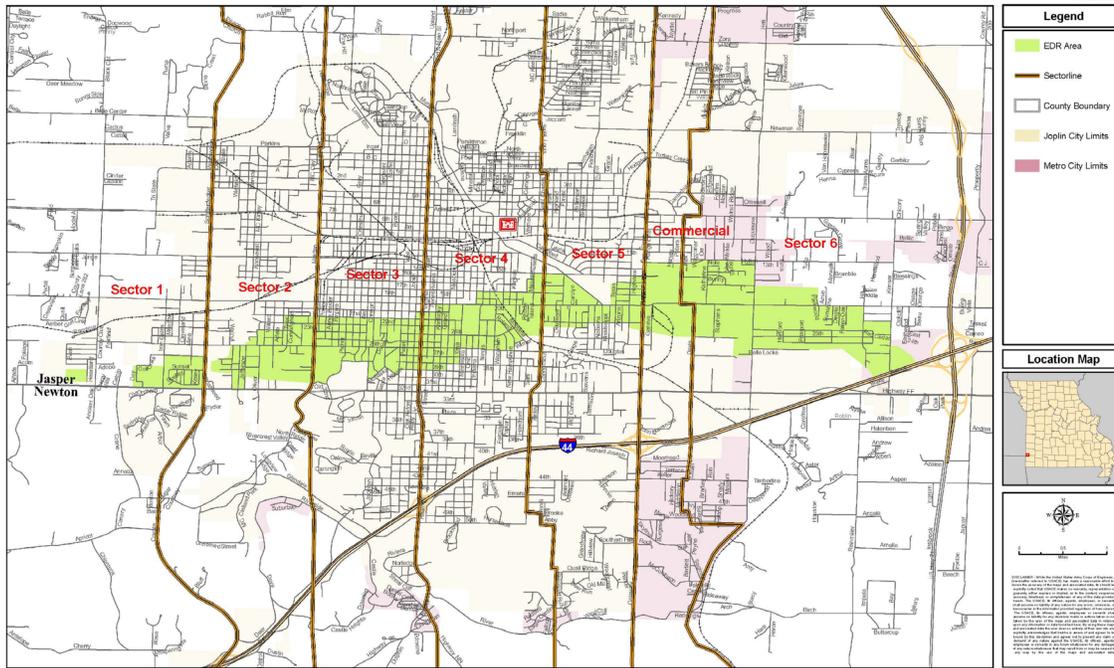
Silence said the GIS team usually doesn't get the revised information

until 7:30-8 p.m. and the field crews need the map books by 6:30 a.m. the next morning to help QA with the debris removal, which led to some late nights for the GIS teams.

"I was working late to get maps printed and books put together," but as of Monday (July 25), they changed my duty hours to 9 a.m. -

See **JOPLIN** on page 11

EXPEDITED DEBRIS REMOVAL AREA AND SECTORS



While deployed to Joplin, Mo., Huntsville Center's Teresa Silence creates maps similar to this June 16 map which indicates areas marked for expedition debris clearance. Silence is deployed to Joplin while The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is managing debris removal as part of the federal tornado recovery effort.

JOPLIN

continued from page 8

9:30 p.m. so I wouldn't be working 14 hour days.

In addition to updating the ROE status map books, the GIS staff also serves as an informal quality assurance to check for data from the different departments.

"We get data and mapping requests from the debris team, QA team, QA supervisor, real estate, critical infrastructure as well as field personnel, so we have a holistic picture of the data and will notify the departments of any discrepancies," Silence said.

For instance, she said if the status data from the debris team has a ROE that real estate has marked as cancelled, they'll let the other teams know so they can coordinate better.

Silence said they also make wall maps that depict clean up progress for meetings and presentations.

"We also update the sweep maps—the maps that help communicate progress within the RFO as well as to FEMA and the city of Joplin—

to track which ROWs have been cleared," she said.

Silence said there are other GIS personnel there helping with other team operations.

"The temporary housing team has their own GIS person, and our team provides support to the critical infrastructure team too," she said.

The critical infrastructure team determines alternate locations and the set up of temporary fire houses, schools and related facilities.

"We create and update detailed maps that show where temporary buildings and storm shelters will be located so the critical infrastructure team can communicate with local officials. We also provide analysis and maps for identification of potential disposal sites," she said.

As an example, Silence explained that a field was being looked at as a potential disposal site, but there was a requirement that the site had to be 200 yards from any inhabited structure, so she located the houses in the site and created 200 yard

buffers on the exhibit map to show exactly where debris could be dropped.

She said the GIS teams also makes general navigation maps for the field crews—a tool vital to recovery operations since the tornado that ripped through the region was so devastating it's often difficult for workers to even navigate the area the tornado cleared because landmarks and streets signs are missing.

"Many of the field staff have taken the time to come in and thank us for the maps we make. Part way through my tour, Nick and I took our ROE status maps and navigation maps into the field and tried to navigate with them. We then understood then why the field staff is so appreciative of the maps.

We also noted some improvements that would make the maps easier to read for the field personnel," she said.

Silence's deployment to Joplin ends Aug. 1.

Public Health Service Officer assigned to Center is Corps' first

By James Campbell
Public Affairs Office

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers serve the nation, often on the front lines in the fight against poor health conditions or during an emergency response.

Now one of their engineers works here.

Lt. Brandon Groh recently began his three-year tour with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville working as a project manager in the Medical Repair and Renewal Program of the Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate.

He is one of more than 6,500 uniformed professionals who deliver public health promotion and disease prevention programs and work to advance public health science, but he's the only one who's come to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under a 2008 Memorandum of Agreement.

"For many years the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has collaborated with the US Army Corps of Engineers and the other military services during national emergency response and humanitarian missions," said Rear Adm. Sven E. Rodenbeck, U.S. Public Health Service Chief Engineer.

"I believe that the assignment of a PHS Officer with USACE will help to increase our joint effectiveness in protecting, promoting and advancing the health and safety of our Nation."

The MRR Program where Groh is working during his time here

offers customers efficient methods for design and execution of all types of medical facility repairs, renovations, conversions, alterations, additions and construction projects.

In a typical year, the team works on more than 100 projects valued at more than \$500 million, said Crystal Bennett Echols, MRR and Operation and Maintenance Engineering Enhancement branch chief.

"The size and the scope of what I do here is different," said Groh. "I was able to hit the ground running, but the projects are more complex, with a larger scope and budget."

Prior to his assignment to Huntsville Center, Groh worked to provide medical engineering services to the Indian Health Service, the federal health program for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Groh said he would normally be providing nearly all the project management and engineering services to multiple health clinics spread across rural Arizona, Nevada and Utah.

He said the transition to managing projects that involve several facilities on population-dense military installations with the MRR team was a fast one, but it would help broaden his horizons.



Photo by James Campbell

Lt. Brandon Groh

These types of joint assignments allow for an increased transfer of knowledge and a better understanding of our respective organizations; which will lead to more effective operations in the future, Rodenbeck said.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to be the first organization to participate in this USACE/Public Health Service support agreement," said Wesley Turner, Medical Division director.

"He brings another government organization's perspective and ideas. We expect to learn from him while he learns from us."



Find out more about the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps online at: <http://www.usphs.gov/>

Keep up with the USPHSCC news and events on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/USPHS>



Photo by William S. Farrow

Huntsville Center commander Col. Nello Tortora, right, shows the history wall to acting Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. “Bo” Temple during Temple’s visit here July 7. Located on the second floor near the command section, the wall depicts how the Center’s programs evolved for more than 40 years as national and military priorities changed.

Wall transformed, relates Center’s missions visually

By William S. Farrow
Public Affairs Office

What was just an empty canvas months ago is now a highly visual, museum-quality look at the historical time-line of Huntsville Center’s missions.

James Campbell, Huntsville Center Public Affairs Office, was assigned to come up with a visual way to recognize Center history. The prevailing idea was a timeline that followed the Center’s evolution from a group of engineers developing rocket launch facilities to the diverse organization it is now.

Campbell said the project was the idea of Col. Nello Tortora, Huntsville Center commander, who wanted a way to recognize our shared history.

“The Commander wanted us to be proud of our history here, and have some sort of exhibit like some

of the Districts,” Campbell said. Tortora came to Huntsville Center from New York District, which has a long history since beginning its work in the 1800s.

On the second floor of Huntsville Center headquarters, in a hallway leading to the Center’s command section, an empty wall was selected to take a viewer through historical highlights.

Campbell said originally he wanted to get historic pictures framed and hung along the wall—an in house project that would have been finished in 2010. However, Tortora said he wanted something more visual and permanent.

That’s when Campbell was given the go-ahead to work with Center Contracting, Shirley Burke-Mitchell and Donna Ragucci, to write a scope of work and put the job out for bid.

After the prospective vendors

came in and were presented with requirements and ideas, they went back to their drawing boards to design the display. The selection board then picked the company with the best design and best value, along with the other contract selection criteria. From that competition, a local company, Media Fusion Inc., of Huntsville, received the contract.

“The difficult part was finding high quality photos—even just representative images for some of our work was difficult to find,” Campbell said.

“It’s modular, semi-portable, and we can add to it. It gets us from 1967 into this decade, and it can be relocated and expanded if the unit moves,” Campbell said. “I hope people who see this think about the contributions of the everyone who worked here and their own contribution to history now.”

Ethics Corner

Hatch Act covers politically charged activity

**By Chris Paden
Office of Counsel**

With all that is happening on Capitol Hill lately, now might be a good time to review what is appropriate speech and conduct here at the Huntsville Center concerning our elected officials.

As government employees, we have to be cautious with our political activity. In fact, there is a law that states that Federal employees are prohibited from some political activities altogether. The law is the Hatch Act.

Passed in 1939, the Hatch Act restricts the political activity of executive branch employees of the federal government. All civilian employees in the executive branch of the federal government, except the President and the Vice President, are covered by the provisions of the Hatch Act. The military has their own regulation that governs military members and places the same restriction on them as the Hatch Act on civilian employees.

The Hatch Act limits certain political activities of federal employees both on-and off-duty. Violations of the Hatch Act may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal.

The term "political activity" means doing something in active support of or opposition to a political party, a candidate for partisan political office or a partisan political group.

Examples of political activity that would violate the Hatch Act if done while on duty or using government property include: circulating a candidate's nominating petition within your office; using your office computer after work to produce a brochure in support of a candidate's campaign; sending e-mail invitations to campaign events to friends within the agency; and using the Center's internet connection to forward e-mail messages received from a partisan campaign or someone supporting a partisan candidate. Also prohibited would be wearing a campaign button at the Center.

Permissible political activity under the Hatch Act would include voting for the candidates of your choice; expressing opinions about candidates and issues and assisting in voter registration drives. You can wear a campaign button on your private time.

You may also be a volunteer in someone's campaign and distribute flyers for them so long as you do not do it on government time or present yourself as a Government employee.

By no means are the lists above complete. The general rule of thumb is that you are prohibited while on duty or in uniform to represent yourself in a partisan way or be involved in political activities. While not in uniform, not on government time and not in your workplace, you may exercise your right to engage in the political process as much as any other private citizen.

Should you have any questions, please come by and see me or call me at 256-895-1103.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE
P.O. BOX 1600
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35807-4301**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED