



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Nashville District

# DistrictDigest

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Relevant-Ready-Responsive-Reliable

May 2006



**Youngsters' Safety  
is Center Stage**

*See Page 7*

# Contents

Commander's Corner .....	3
April Employee of the Month .....	3
DoD Forging Ahead with NSPS .....	4
EAGLE Class of 2006 Spreads Their Wings .....	4
Nashville Joins Neighborhood Watch Program .....	5
Readiness Update .....	5
New Stamp Sparks Postmasters to Action .....	6
Martins Fork Hosts Spring Cleanup April 8 .....	6
Dale Hollow Lake Awarded BoatUS Grant .....	7
Old Hickory Celebrates Earth Day .....	7
Boating Smart Means Getting a Vessel Safety Check .....	8
Laurel County Again Captures Cleanup Cup .....	8
Take a Youngster Fishing to Make Their Day .....	9
The Corps Crowd .....	10
Daughters and Sons Come to Work For a Day .....	11
Just to Be on the Safe Side - <i>Lightning Danger</i> .....	12

## Defense Printing Service to End May 31

The Document Automation & Production Service (DAPS), Nashville Plant, will close effective May 31. The Nashville District will continue their relationship with DAPS by forwarding work to the DAPS Plant at Ft. Campbell. The printing of necessary work will also be accomplished by continuing to forward printing requests to the Government Printing Office (GPO).

Contact Yvonne Hamilton, 615-736-5640, if you have questions. More will be forthcoming on the topic when procedures are established.

A farewell reception will be held for Mike McGhee on June 2 at 1 p.m. in Room A640.

### SAME Hosts Workshop

The Annual SAME Nashville Post Professional Development Workshop will be held August 16 at the Tennessee Engineering Center. The workshop will focus on building and re-building for the future. Check the website [www.SAMENashvillepost.org](http://www.SAMENashvillepost.org) for more information or contact Carol Warren, at 615-736-5601.



photo by Ranger Tommy Mason

## On the Cover

Ranger Steven Gregory fits life jackets on Meagan Mason, (center) and her brother Brian, children of Ranger Tommy Mason, from the Life Jacket Loaner Board at Old Hickory Lake's Laguardo Recreation Area. The Loaner Board is situated between the beach and boat ramp so jackets can be easily seen by visitors to either activity. Jackets are available for visitors to the Recreation area as a way to help reduce drownings and make visits to the Lake more enjoyable for all. Three District Lakes now have such a program and two others will soon join them. See page 7 for complete details.

## District Digest

### Commander

Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt

### Chief of Public Affairs

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### Editor

Dave Treadway

### Special Contributors

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The District Digest is printed monthly and is a Command Information publication of the Nashville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Articles, photographs, and other contributions are welcomed and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to all material submitted for publication.

Story ideas and articles may be submitted to P.O. Box 1070, Nashville, TN 37202-1070. Details may be obtained from the editor at (615) 736-7163.

Written material may also be sent electronically to the editor at the following e-mail addresses: [david.s.treadway@usace.army.mil](mailto:david.s.treadway@usace.army.mil)

Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District's homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.

# Commander's Corner

Nashville District continues its high tempo with our water management service to the region. I would like to provide an update on a number of key initiatives. First, thank you to all who participated in the recent USACE Inspector General's survey. We expect to receive the results in a few weeks and when we do, I will share a summary with the District. I will also provide any District strategy that is necessary in response to these survey results. I am looking forward to addressing all issues presented in this survey, as I believe that this type of feedback from our employees is so important.

## Communication

We continue to wait on the results of the IMO A-76 study. I am convinced that the reason for the very seemingly frustrating wait is a result of higher headquarters checking that all procedures were strictly followed to ensure that the process was fair and consistent. While we wait for the announcement of a government or contractor award for our IMO services, we are working with our IMO personnel on placement in other jobs within the District. I am committed to allowing IMO personnel the first opportunity at any District openings and it is my goal to provide all IMO personnel who wish to stay with the District an opportunity to do so.

Our problem with Identify Theft among District employees has not gone away. I highly encourage all employees to check their credit report and to seriously consider placing a fraud alert on their account. You can visit [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or telephone the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-ID-THEFT for further information on how to perform these actions. The District has initiated a number of Privacy Act training programs to ensure that all personnel know the proper procedures to safeguard privileged information. This problem continues to be serious and I cannot over emphasize the need for all employees to check their credit

ratings and the importance of safeguarding information protected by the Privacy Act.

We have a dewatering operation in progress at Wilson Lock that is going very well. I recently visited the project and was impressed with the professionalism of all employees and everyone's focus on safety. Keep up the good work! Upon completion of this large maintenance project, the District will undertake another dewatering operation at Barkley Lock later in the summer.

I would like to close with a word on safety and the importance of situational awareness and personal responsibility.

The person who is most concerned about your safety is yourself. When you come to work each day, there should be more to starting your job than just routinely turning on a machine or beginning a particular operation.

First, look at your surroundings and think about how the environment or planned activities may affect your



personal safety. What shape is the area in? Are there any slippery spots on the floor? Are there any tripping hazards around? What is the condition of your PPE? Are your safety glasses old and worn; are the soles on your safety shoes worn down and needing to be replaced? Many times, it is those "little hazards" that can cause a serious injury.

Take time to check your safety equipment and your surroundings. 🏠

**Remember –  
Safety, because you are important!**

## April Employee of the Month

Tom Cayce, deputy chief, Plans Programs Project Management Division/chief Project Delivery Branch, was named Employee of the Month for April.

During the past few months, Cayce oversaw the development of briefing materials for District representatives visiting the House and Senate, assisted the Commander by providing backup information



Tom Cayce

during the briefings for 27 members of the House and Senate, and provided follow-up information when such was requested by those elected officials.

He played a key role in the development of a new format used in a briefing of the staff of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee. All of these activities are critical components of the District's assistance to the FY07 appropriations process which ultimately funds projects studied or constructed by the District.

Senior leaders select the employee of the Month from the many excellent employees identified by the District's chain of command. Selected individuals personify the seven Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. 🏠

# DoD Forging Ahead with NSPS

Approximately 11,000 Department of Defense (DoD) employees were converted from the old civil service system to the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) on April 30 as part of NSPS Spiral 1.1. While this inaugural implementation of NSPS did not include any USACE organizations or employees, all USACE offices will eventually implement NSPS. Indeed, this recent milestone serves as a reminder that despite past postponements, NSPS implementation has begun.

NSPS will change the way civilian jobs are graded and classified (a shift to Pay Bands); the way the employee and manager performance objectives are set, managed and rewarded (Pay for Performance); and the way DoD hires, promotes and adjusts its workforce size (Staffing Flexibilities). The goal of these changes is to enable DoD organizations to hire more quickly, offer competitive

salaries and compensate and reward employees based on performance and contribution to mission accomplishment.

## Process

NSPS performance expectations are designed to support and align with the DoD and Department of the Army missions, strategic goals, organizational objectives and annual performance plans. These missions and goals cascade down to the organization and become the basis for individual performance expectations. NSPS is being implemented in 'spirals,' each containing a number of DoD organizations. In the Army, NSPS Spiral 1.1 was implemented in CONUS-based Civilian Human Resource Agency (CHRA) organizations. CHRA managers, supervisors, and employees received extensive training prior to the implementation on the basics of NSPS.

This includes performance management, setting clear performance expectations, as well as evaluating and providing feedback to employees. All DoD organizations including USACE will be provided the same extensive training prior to implementation.

USACE is scheduled to begin implementing NSPS in October 2007.

These are just a few aspects of NSPS. Employees may visit the USACE NSPS website, <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/cepa/nsps/nsps.htm> for more complete information. NSPS represents a major change for all DoD Civilian employees and their managers, but new challenges require DoD to have a personnel system that allows the agency to recruit, retain and reward the best workforce possible.

Employees may complete an NSPS 101 on-line training course at: <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

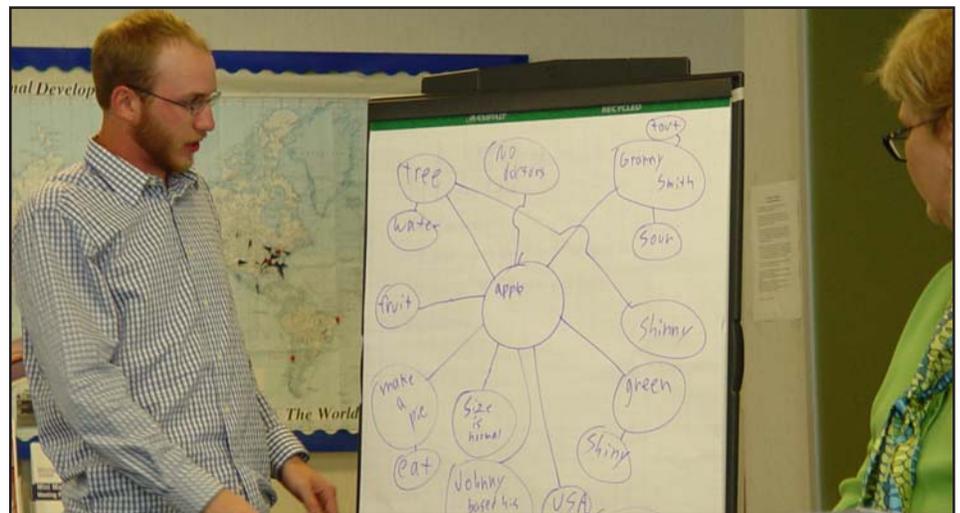
## EAGLE Class of 2006 Spreads Their Wings

by Sherry Phillips

The 2006 EAGLE Class (Employees Achieving Greatness and Leadership Excellence) kicked off their education with an orientation May 2 at Belmont University.

Todd Duncan, Acting Deputy District Engineer, welcomed participants to the experience, along with Belmont's Mary Fink. Bill Barnes, chief, Real Estate, also offered words of encouragement and urged members to take advantage of all the program had to offer.

During a two-day orientation, Fink led the students in various teambuilding exercises, both indoor and outdoor, in which the class was divided into four teams. After a hard fight with Tim Dawson, Corey Richardson led his team to victory in the first installment of the 'Wacky Olympics' by winning the hula hoop contest. Other events in the 'Wacky Olympics' will be staged throughout the year. The class experienced a Hawaiian Luau in the Belmont cafeteria for lunch. The 16 students identified personal goals,



Cory Richardson explains what his team discussed.

discussed plans for self-development, and took the Myers-Briggs personality test.

Members discussed class projects that will be undertaken during the year and selected those most worthy of their efforts. The 2006 EAGLEs will take part in one of two external projects: tornado clean-up after a severe weather event or, in the event such cleanup is not required, assistance with building a Habitat for Humanity home.

They elected to take part in one internal project at Center Hill where they will clean up a campsite and perform necessary trail work.

EAGLE provides participants an excellent opportunity to learn about themselves and others in the workforce with whom they have occasion to interact.

Chip Hall will serve as 2006 program coordinator and Kathy Canaday will assist.

# Nashville Joins Neighborhood Watch Program

by Dave Treadway

Nashville, along with the other Great Lakes and Ohio River Districts, has joined "Corps Watch", a nationwide crime-watch deterrence program to protect Corps of Engineers property.

Each year, millions of dollars are lost due to property damage from vandalism, larceny, arson and environmental and cultural degradation. This program is designed to heighten public awareness of the seriousness of the impacts of crime within or around dams, lakes, locks, recreation areas and other Corps of Engineers facilities.

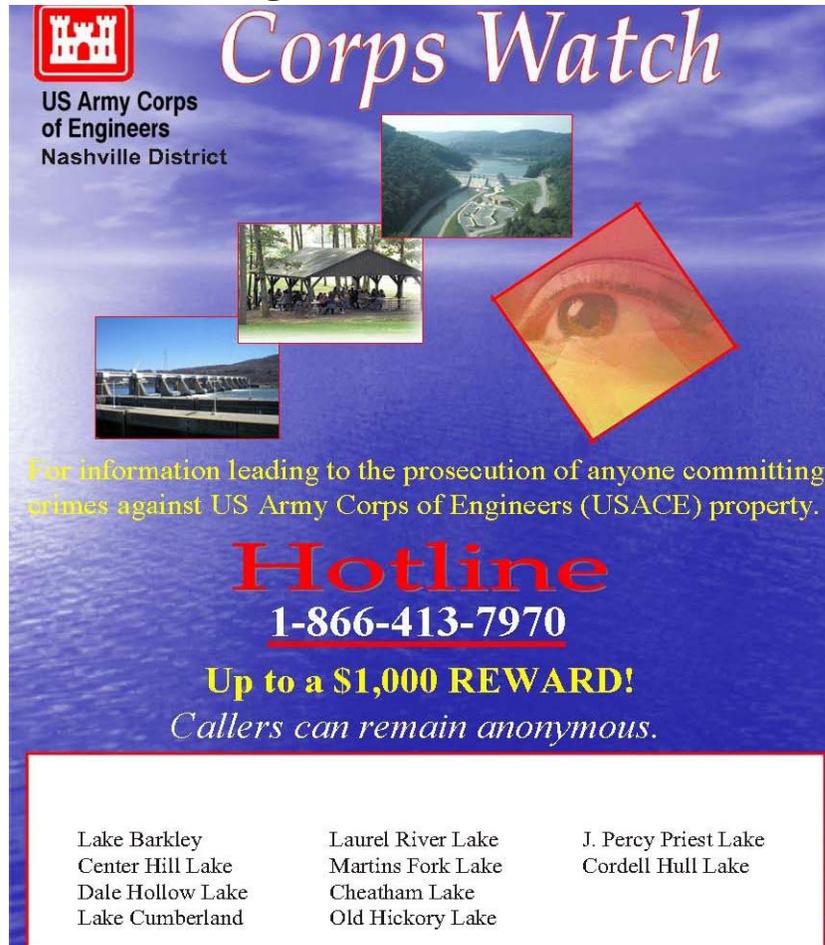
Those facilities include all Corps property in the Cumberland River Basin.

Pittsburgh, now the National Operations Center for the *Corps Watch* program, reported a

reduction in criminal activity at its 16 flood control projects and 23 locks and dams during the past two years, while serving as the program's pilot test site.

The *Corps Watch* initiative is modeled after successful programs developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, Bonneville Power Administration and other crime-watch programs. Authorized by Section 205 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 and the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535), national funding is available to issue rewards of up to \$1,000 to individuals for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of offenders, as well as to develop a marketing plan and procure publicity materials including brochures and billboards.

*Corps Watch* uses a 24-hour toll-free hotline that assures the identity of the caller is protected and the proper authorities are notified. Anyone who observes, or has knowledge of, theft, vandalism, or any other threat or



**US Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District**

## Corps Watch

For information leading to the prosecution of anyone committing crimes against US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) property.

### Hotline

**1-866-413-7970**

**Up to a \$1,000 REWARD!**

*Callers can remain anonymous.*

Lake Barkley	Laurel River Lake	J. Percy Priest Lake
Center Hill Lake	Martins Fork Lake	Cordell Hull Lake
Dale Hollow Lake	Cheatham Lake	
Lake Cumberland	Old Hickory Lake	

suspicious activity against Corps property need only dial 1(866)413-7970 to report that information.

While it's impossible to say how many crimes have been prevented just by the establishment of the program and placement of posters, Stephen Davidson, the Pittsburgh program administrator, said 30 calls have been taken under the Pittsburgh program, five cases have been solved, and rewards have been paid to three individuals.

"Fines levied and property recovered have amounted to about \$10,000," said Davidson.

## Readiness Update

by Jared Gartman,  
Readiness Branch

**Deployed Personnel:** Civil Emergencies: 7 GWOT: 6 Total Deployed: 13

John Baird ended his 60-day temporary assignment in Readiness Branch as the acting emergency operations specialist in early April. He did a great job learning how to juggle many top priority tasks. His primary duty was to become the District deployment manager and the primary point of contact for all Nashville District deployments. He was able to keep the commander and staff informed of deployments. He was involved with the Inspection of Completed Works Program and revisions to the New Madrid Earthquake Response Plan. He has

come to appreciate what it takes to get someone 'Out-the-door' for deployment.

Congratulations to Anita Jarrett! Please congratulate her for being selected as the acting emergency operations specialist for a 120-day temporary assignment. Jarrett is a statistical assistant in the Navigation Branch and will be temporarily assigned to Readiness. Her primary duties will be to become the District deployment manager and the primary point of contact for all deployments.

First Sergeant (1SG) Charles (Chuck) Szostecki is another temporary addition to the Readiness Branch. He is from Nashville and is assigned to Readiness while rehabilitating from surgery as a result of injuries in Iraq. Readiness is fortunate to have him working with us. Please introduce yourself to him when you get a chance.

*Readiness, it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle.*

# New Stamp Sparks Postmasters to Action

by Jeronica Spurlock, U.S. Postal Service

Each year local Postmasters look for ways to make a difference in their community. Employees from many of the local offices join forces in support of a worthwhile cause.

In past years, Postmasters raised money for the Red Cross, increased awareness of Family Violence and staged a blood drive.

On April 8, Postmasters in eastern Kentucky participated in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakeshore cleanup at Martins Fork Lake.

The introduction of a new stamp sparked their involvement. The Postal Service recently issued the Crops of Americas definitive stamps. This stamp booklet includes five designs depicting America's crops. The crops depicted in the stamps – corn, chili peppers, beans, squash, and sunflowers – have been cultivated in the Americas for centuries.

As a part of this year's cleanup, the Postmasters planted a mixture of clover and sunflower seeds in an area around Martins Fork Lake. This will serve as wildlife food plots and add to the lake's scenic beauty. They also planted flowers around the recreation area.

"As a Postmaster, you are expected to be involved in your community. This is a way we can serve our customers outside the office," said Carolyn Smith, the postmaster in Cranks, Ky. As a part of their efforts, the Postal Service also gave away a framed book of the Crops of Americas stamps at a drawing for the cleanup volunteers. Chris

Cupp of Loyall, Ky., was the winner of the framed book.

Participating Post Offices included Ages, Brookside, Bledsoe, Cawood, Cranks, Closplint, Coldiron, Dayhoit, Dewitt, Eolia, Grays Knob, Harlan, Holmes Mill, Hulén, Kenvir, Lejunior, Loyall, Lynch, Mary Alice, Partridge, Pathfork, Putney, and Totz.

*(Jeronica is a former resource office assistant at Martins Fork)*

**Three postmasters (right) scatter a sunflower/clover mix provided by the National Wild Turkey Federation on an area in the Smith Recreation Area.**



## Martins Fork Hosts Spring Cleanup April 8

by Judy Dalton

Spring Cleanup at Martins Fork Lake was scheduled well in advance of thunderstorms and tornadoes that arrived April 7 in Tennessee and Kentucky and dumped nearly three inches of rain on the region.

But even that never dampened the spirits of volunteers the next day. The 2006 Spring Clean-up went off as scheduled April 8.

At 8:30 a.m. volunteers began arriving at the lake, ready to get out and make a difference at the picturesque reservoir. By 9 a.m. 68 volunteers were ready to get down to business. The volunteers and lake staff worked until noon, after which they were treated to a lunch of hot dogs with all the trimmings, along with free tee shirts. Volunteers were responsible for collecting a total of 118 bags of trash - including tree limbs that had fallen in the

two flower boxes and seeding two wildlife food plots.

Groups that participated in the Clean-up were Cub Scout Pack 531 from Cawood, Cub Scout Pack 149 from Harlan, Boy Scout Troop 1178 from Baxter, and the Harlan County Postmasters. Other volunteers included local residents and family members of the lake staff.

Local sponsors who helped make the event successful by providing food, drinks, tee shirts, garbage bags and other necessary supplies included: Don's Supersaver, Roddy Trucking, Dixie Fuel Company, Mountain Supply, Extreme Designs, Village Center, Kentucky Mine Supply, Lakeway Market, and Mountain Supply.



**Volunteers plant flowers at the entrance to the Lake Front Shelter in the Smith Recreation Area April 8.**

# Dale Hollow Lake Awarded BoatUS Grant

by Dave Treadway

Dale Hollow Lake has been awarded equipment and materials from the BoatUS Foundation to establish a Life Jacket Loaner Program at two locations: Lillydale and Obey River Campgrounds.

During the past 12 months five people have drowned at Dale Hollow. Some of those may have survived had they been wearing a life jacket.

"We chose Obey River," said Ranger Sondra Carmen, "because it is the busiest area and easily accessed. We selected Lillydale because it is centrally located on the lake. The package from BoatUS will contain a kit with various size life jackets for a no-cost loan to the general public. The kit will also contain a logbook to track information and material to post and promote the program. We plan to distribute the life jackets to visitors out of the Park Attendant stations."

Carmen said Park Attendants will help educate visitors on the need for and the availability of life jackets and account for items issued.

The local wildlife officer for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, as an indirect partner, will tell the boating public about the program during routine water safety stops. Corps Park Rangers will make jackets available while on patrol. Dale Hollow Lake hosted 3.4 million visitors last year. Lillydale accounted for 109,087 of those.

Obey River Park is the largest and most popular recreation site on Dale Hollow and within walking distance of Sunset Marina, a multi-service

concessionaire. Obey River hosted 300,662 visitors last year.

Lake Cumberland and Old Hickory Lake already have life jacket loaner programs in place while Cheatham and J. Percy Priest are also planning to initiate them there. Two

drowning victims at Lake Cumberland, three at Old Hickory, and three at Cheatham were not wearing a life jacket. Life jackets may have saved their lives.

The BoatUS Foundation first launched its Loaner Program for

Kids in 1997. There are now more than 350 loaner sites nationwide.

One of the program's goals is to educate boaters on the significance of wearing the appropriate size and type of life jacket.

## Lake Hosts Elementary School Children

# Old Hickory Celebrates Earth Day

by Conservation Biologist  
Kenny Claywell

More than 150 elementary school students celebrated Earth Day in April with Rangers from the Old Hickory Lake Resource Manager's Office and came away with a better appreciation for the environment.

The fourth-grade students from Walton Ferry and DuPont Elementary Schools also left the area a more beautiful place at the end of the day.

Park Ranger Charles Leath and Conservation Biologist Kenny Claywell presented a program on Native Planting and Plant Care, then gave students the opportunity to be a part of creating their own flower garden filled with native perennials. Students learned about the importance of planting only native species and the problems associated with introducing exotic/invasive plants. Although maybe not accomplished gardeners at the end of the day, students did learn how to properly plant, mulch and care for a variety of flowering plants.

Blaine Hyle, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services, and Park Rangers Steven Gregory and Gary Conley thrilled the youngsters with a program on



**Park Ranger Charles Leath assists students with the planting of a Native Perennial Flower Garden.**

local wildlife and problems which are sometimes caused by wildlife living in close proximity to people.

A raccoon in a wire box trap was a prime attraction and served to demonstrate how biologists can easily trap and relocate animals that have become a nuisance or a danger to humans.

Park Rangers Tasha Alexander and Crystal Tingle gave students a unique perspective on problems experienced by migrating birds. "Migration Challenge" allowed students to pretend they were migrating birds. As students went from

station to station they were presented with challenges such as being caught by a biologist for banding and study, flying into a building or becoming entangled in power lines.

Some students found out along the 'migration' route that they were victims of predators, so their trip stopped and they had to stand on the sideline and watch other 'migrating friends' have their nesting areas destroyed and replaced with development. Others fell victim to diseases while still others found themselves targets of pranksters equipped with BB Guns. 🐼

# Boating Smart Means Getting a Vessel Safety Check

by Wayne Spivak and Robert Daraio -  
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

**S**afe boats save lives. For recreational boaters, operating any size or type craft safely should be an all-important part of the boating experience. Three things can help make it so. Outfitting everyone onboard with a life jacket, completion of a boating safety course by the operator, and getting an annual Vessel Safety Check of your boat are three things that will help you boat smart.

A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is a *free* courtesy boat check to verify the presence and condition of specific safety equipment required by Federal, state and local regulations. A Vessel Examiner is a certified member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and/or the U.S. Power Squadrons, who is trained to conduct such a check. He or she will perform the VSC on your boat, discuss the purpose

## Coast Guard Seeks Authority to Require Boater Education

The U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety has asked Congress to grant the agency authority to require recreational boaters to meet some sort of standard for operational proficiency. Such a provision would allow the Coast Guard to issue regulations that adopt and enforce a state standard in an area of concurrent jurisdiction and apply a federal standard where no state standard exists. The proposal would give the agency broad authority; the details of which would be worked out through regulations if Congress passes the proposed bill.

and value of required and optional marine safety equipment, answer any boating-related safety questions, and make recommendations that will help make you a safer boater. In addition to boating safety education, some important new

Homeland Security rules for boaters are discussed.

“A VSC is a public service intended to serve as prevention through education. It is also intended to help recreational boaters gain a respect for the boating environment,” said Peter Urgola, Department Chief of Vessel Examination for the Auxiliary. “What the boater will receive is a copy of the safety check and basic evaluation so that he or she can learn about safety equipment, safety precautions, and follow some of the suggestions for a safe outing.”

How do you obtain and schedule a local Vessel Safety Check in your area? Go to [www.vesselsafetycheck.org](http://www.vesselsafetycheck.org) to contact a Vessel Examiner directly. Simply click the “I Want A VSC” button.

Wearing lifejackets, taking a boating safety course, boating sober, and getting an annual Vessel Safety Check are important points that will make you a safer boater and a more confident skipper. 

## Laurel County Again Captures ‘Clean-up Cup’

by Park Ranger David Robinson

**L**aurel County, Kentucky, captured the ‘Clean-up Cup’ for the fifth consecutive year at the 2006 Laurel River Lake Cleanup held April 22.

This year’s event produced what could only be called a terrific outcome, with 509 volunteers participating to collect 8,629 pounds of trash and 14 discarded automobile tires.

Residents of Laurel and Whitley counties compete each year for the coveted ‘Clean-up Cup’, awarded to the county that produces the most volunteers.

Laurel County successfully defended last year’s Cup by drawing 321 volunteers concerned with the cleanliness of one of Nashville’s most scenic reservoirs. Laurel County Judge Executive Lawrence Kuhl was on hand to accept the trophy.

Prior to Laurel County’s current winning streak, Whitley County won the cup for two straight years. Whitley County boasted 144 on the lake this year, Knox County produced 32, and Johnson County

sent 12 volunteers from a telephone company who prepared lunch for all participants. The number of volunteers this year easily surpassed the 2005 total of 394.

Volunteers hitched rides on several boats which shuttled participants to sections of the shoreline where trash had accumulated. Vans were also used to transport volunteers to some of the lake’s shoreline which was accessible by roads to be cleaned. The “Catch of the Day”, the title given the most unusual piece of trash collected, was a manhole cover. The Clean-up at Laurel Lake is not all work. Organizers and volunteers also know how to play. The day’s work ends with volunteers enjoying a well-deserved free lunch and a variety of door prizes donated by

area businesses interested in the aesthetic value of the Lake. Each volunteer also collected a custom-made T-shirt proclaiming them ‘Clean-up Participants’.

The annual Clean-up is organized by the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Laurel and Whitley Counties, PRIDE, London-Laurel County Tourism Commission and a host of individuals that included concerned citizens and business owners in the Whitley and Laurel County area. 



Volunteers gather near the shoreline of Laurel River Lake to board one of the craft that ferried them to debris ‘hot spots’.

# Take a Youngster Fishing to Make Their Day

by Dave Treadway

**A** number of District Lake Projects are planning free fishing events during May and June for young anglers.

**Lake Cumberland** will again stage their annual "Catch a Rainbow" event June 3 behind the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery.

Jointly organized by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the newly formed Friends of the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery, planners expect more than the 1,400 youngsters who showed up last year to descend upon the area from all over the region. The Raptor Club from Southwestern High School will display wildlife being rehabilitated for return to natural habitats. Several large boats will be on display by area vendors. Nearly 20 corporate sponsors provide all types of prizes for youngsters, including sleeping bags, rods and reels. Bicycles and trophies will be awarded to the winners in each of five age categories.

The event will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include a free lunch for all. Call Ranger Marshall Jennings at (606)679-6337 for more information.

The **Lake Barkley** staff will partner with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife and the city of Cadiz to put on the annual lake kids fishing day event June 3. The event draws about 250 children each year.

This year the event will be held at Cadiz Park. The format will continue to be tournament style fishing from 9 to 11 a.m. The children will compete in four age brackets for prizes in three different categories; big fish, most fish and smallest fish. Prizes will include cash, bicycles, and various toys donated by local sponsors. Lunch will be provided for both children and parents. All children will receive goody bags that include t-shirts, coupons, and other items so no one will go home empty handed. Corps Rangers will also use this opportunity to distribute water safety information to all participants.

This event is a model for teamwork with the Corps of Engineers working closely



**A youngster's first fish is sure to bring a big smile to his face. When you make it possible, you become his hero.**

with both the city and state. The Corps provides Rangers to assist at the event and to make water safety presentations, items for goody bags, and event planning throughout the year. The state stocks the pond in the park with fish a few days prior to the event to ensure there is plenty for children to catch. The state also provides a few tagged fish worth cash if anyone lands one of them! The city organizes the event and does much of the legwork for receiving donations from area businesses and garners community support in the form of volunteers. It all comes together to provide children a safe opportunity to experience the joy of fishing.

**Dale Hollow's Kids Fishing Rodeo** is scheduled for June 10 at the Dale Hollow Fish Hatchery from 8 a.m. until noon. All children 15 and under are welcome. Last year 250 children and approximately 500 adults supported the event. Door prizes from area businesses will be given to participants. Each child receives a packet that contains coloring books, crayons, and other educational materials. In the past some of the large display fish (greater than 5 pounds) were released into the stream for the kids to try and catch. The same is

planned for this event. For more information, call Mark Willis, Bobby Bartlett, or Jamie Summers at 931-243-3136.

**Cheatham Lake** will stage their 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Bustin' Rodeo June 10 from 7:30 until 10:30 a.m. The event will be hosted jointly by American Bass Anglers (ABA), Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), and the Corps of Engineers. The event will be held at the pond located near the entrance of Lock A Campground. Rangers are expecting up to 300 participants this year, depending on the weather. Last year the Lake hosted 217. Fishermen must be 15 years of age or younger to enter.

ABA plans to provide door prizes for entrants and other prizes for category winners. They also plan to set up their tournament trailer with scales to verify the weight of each catch.

TWRA plans to provide the food for lunch and more door prizes. Last year the agency provided 426 pounds of stocked fish in the pond and they may do the same this year.

Purity Dairies have already committed to provide drinks for the event.

First, Second and Third Place Winners will be recognized in three different age groups, 0-5, 6-10, and 11-15. Madison Trophies will donate trophies with which winners will be recognized.

**Old Hickory Lake** will host children aged 15 and under on June 17 on a part of Drakes Creek netted off from the main body of water and stocked with catfish from a local vendor.

Steve Crandell with Hendersonville Metro Parks Department is organizing the event which will be open to the public. Various local businesses will provide giveaways for participants and supply items for lunch. Prizes will be awarded to winners in three age categories. Ranger Charlie Leath is planning for approximately 300 fisher-men and -ladies.

**J. Percy Priest** will host two events. An educational event will be held June 2 at the Hermitage Community Center and the fishing event will be held June 7 at Cook Recreation Area. Call Ranger John Baird at 889-1975 for more information. 

# The Corps Crowd

## Congratulations to ...

... Barney Davis who has been selected as the new Chief of Engineering and Construction Division.

...Cory Richardson, electrical worker at Nickajack Lock, and Tiahra King who were married March 17 at Mountain View Baptist Church in Jasper, Tenn.

...Alyson Hayeland, student aide at Old Hickory Power, and daughter of Mary Hayeland, office assistant at Cheatham Power, who left the Corps to pursue a fulfilling job in her field of training.

...Jamie Holt, an electrician at Barkley Power Plant, who recently passed his Senior Exam.

...Melissa Cartwright, Information Management Section, who has accepted a promotion in Seckenheim (Heidelberg) Germany.

...David W. Claussen, EEO specialist in the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, who successfully completed Officer Training School in Knoxville, Tenn.



**David Claussen**

Claussen endured six grueling weeks

of training prior to graduating on April 21 with the commission of second lieutenant. District Engineer LTC Steven Roemhildt helped pin on his bars during the ceremonies.

...Rosa L. Jones, administrative assistant in Contracting Division, whose daughter Tracye received a Master of Science Degree in public service management May 6 at Cumberland University. Special thanks to Glenn Johnson at J. Percy Priest, who is one of Tracye's mentors.

...David M. McAreavey, senior electrician at Cordell Hull Power Plant, who retired on April 30.

...Hope Hamilton, Donelson Christian Academy, who was the recipient of the Stones River Woman's Club 2006 Presidential Freedom



**Hope Hamilton**

Scholarship in recognition of outstanding leadership in service to her community.

She was proudly presented this award by Pat Boatman, wife of retiree Howard Boatman, who has contributed significantly to the Academy. Hope, daughter of Henry and Yvonne Hamilton, will attend Samford University this fall.

## Welcome to ...

...Park Ranger Stacy Bilbrey who just arrived at Cordell Hull from J. Percy Priest. Everyone at J. Percy Priest wishes Bilbrey well at his new assignment.

...Kim Moore, formerly of the Huntington District, most recently from Bureau of Prisons, to the Upper Cumberland Real Estate Project Office.

## Farewell to ...

...Robert Franklin, Internal Review, who left April 2 to go to pre-deployment training in Virginia - then on to Iraq - to the green zone - to be the civilian auditor for two months.

## Baby Brigade to ...

...Charlotte & Monte Wells, Wolf Creek Power Plant electrician trainee, upon the birth of their third child, Ethan Monte, who was born April 13 and weighed 7 pounds, 7 3/4 ounces.

...Paul Weaver, electrical worker at Chickamauga Lock, and his wife Shellie's first child, Mason Paul, who was born April 29 and weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces, and measured 20.25 inches.



**Mason Paul**

...Becky and Jason Foust, geologist for Kentucky Lock, on the arrival of daughter Lily who was born April 20. Lily was 18 1/2 inches long and weighed 6 pounds and 5 ounces.

...Gerald(Jerry) Lee, Engineering Construction Division, and wife



**Lily Foust**

Stephanie, upon the birth of son John William, who was born Jan. 29 and weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 22 inches.

Grandparents are Linda Lee, Cordell Hull Power, and retiree R. Gerald Lee. Mike Lee is the proud uncle.



**John William**

## Sympathy to ...

...Tony Foster, senior electrician at Wolf Creek Power Plant, whose father, Lendon Foster, passed away April 1 in Russell Springs, Ky.

...the family of Jeanette Mandigo who retired from the Corps of Engineers after 34 years of service in the Office of Administrative Services. She was buried April 17.

...Roy Rector, lock and dam operator at Watts Bar, whose mother, Ethel Rector, passed away April 30.

...John Baird, ranger at J. Percy Priest, whose grandmother, Mable Baird, passed away May 6.

Thank you...

...from the Bennett Family for all the cards and prayers we received over the past month...It means so much to our family that everyone has thought about us during this difficult time... *Stacy and Bill Bennett*

## Upcoming Events

Program dates have been established for Special Emphasis Programs Committee events for 2006. So that management and employees are aware of each event, and perhaps schedule around these important activities, this list will be updated in subsequent issues as more planning finalizes details. May/June/August events are:

May 23 - Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month program (**Room A-655**)

June 20-23 - Annual Career Enhancement Workshops

August 22 - Women's Equality Day program

# Daughters and Sons Come to Work For a Day

by Jessica Rudy, Western Kentucky Area Office

Three Western Kentucky Area Office family members got a first-hand look at how their parents contribute to the mission of the Nashville District as they joined 6.4 million boys and 10.1 million girls across the nation April 27 in 'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day'.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers take part in the observance each year. Jamie McAllister, son of Jaye McAllister, Barkley Resource maintenance mechanic, Dalton Nelson, stepson of Heath Dunigan, Barkley hydropower operator and Danielle Ramero, stepdaughter of Nick Tower, Barkley Resource civil engineering technician, learned about the business lines of navigation, hydropower and recreation.

The trio began the morning with a tour of Barkley Power Plant. Heath Dunigan made a presentation at the powerhouse and demonstrated to the students how electricity is generated through the plant. They were able to view a turbine, generator, transformer, and the control room.

The students then traveled to Kentucky Lock where Lock and Dam Operator Donald Berryman gave the students a tour of the navigation functions so critical to the movement of commerce on the nation's waterways. Berryman took the students into the control room during a lockage and instructed them on how and when to open and close the lock doors, how and why the horn is blown, and allowed them to listen as he responded to radio traffic. Some considered the locking through exercise the highlight of their day.

Resource Manager Mike Looney escorted the students to Canal

## People

Campground where they viewed one of Lake Barkley's premier recreation areas. Students learned how the recreation program adds nearly \$60 million to the local economy as millions of visitors take advantage of boating, fishing,

hiking and other benefits offered by Lake Barkley. The group discussed how the Western Kentucky Area team works together to meet the needs and expectations of various customers.

The final tour of the day was at Lake Barkley Visitor Center. Students viewed educational and wildlife exhibits. This

was followed by lunch for both students and their parents at the Resource Office Pavilion. Each student walked away with educational games and literature about locks and power plants.

The experience permitted the three students to draw practical connections between the Corps of Engineers' missions at Western Kentucky, their schoolwork and their future in the workplace. Perhaps the most important aspect of the day was viewing the everyday environment in which their parents work.

'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day' showed the students the value of their education, and gave them the opportunity to envision their future.



Danielle Ramero, (from left) Dalton Nelson, and Jamie McAllister get a first-hand look at moving a barge through Kentucky Lock April 27 during 'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day'.



Old Hickory Lake Ranger Tasha Alexander (left) has her photo taken with Jada Wallace, daughter of Cheryl Wallace, Resource Management. Alexander explained the importance of water safety to the 10 sons and daughters of District employees who each had a chance to 'Take a Photo with a Ranger'. Others attending were: Jamie Rader, son of Sharon Rader; Kevonta Black, son of Janelle Dickens; Claire Heffelman, daughter of Lauren Heffelman; Alexander (Alec) Szostecki, son of First Sergeant Charles Szostecki; Rebecca Baldrige, daughter of David Baldrige; Makayla Claussen, daughter of David Claussen; Braelyn Bertrand, daughter of Patrice Bertrand; and Elley Lawson, daughter of Melody Lawson.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

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## *Just To Be On The Safe Side . . . Lightning Danger*

by John Tibbels

**S**pring weather produces storms and lightning. Lightning is the underrated killer. During the last 30 years, lightning killed an average of 73 people per year in the United States. This is more than the average of 68 deaths per year caused by tornadoes and the 16 deaths per year caused by hurricanes.

During a thunderstorm, each flash of cloud-to-ground lightning is a potential killer. Although some victims are struck directly by the lightning bolt, many victims are struck as the current moves in and along the ground.

Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain area in a thunderstorm. That's about the distance you can hear thunder. **If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe shelter immediately!**

Use the 30-30 rule. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear the thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles of you and is dangerous. You should seek shelter. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter. Don't be fooled by sunshine or blue sky! Inside homes, people must also avoid activities which put their lives at risk from a possible lightning strike. People should

stay away from windows and doors and avoid contact with anything that conducts electricity.

If a person is struck by lightning, medical care may be needed immediately to save the person's life. Cardiac arrest and irregularities, burns, and nerve damage are common in cases where people have been struck by lightning.

However, with proper treatment, including CPR if necessary, most victims survive a lightning strike.

In closing, when thunderstorms threaten, get to a safe place, stay longer than you think you need to stay, stay away from windows and doors, and avoid contact with anything that conducts electricity.



photo courtesy of Vicki Goostree

**The hailstones above were collected from the Hamptons subdivision in Gallatin, Tenn., following the tornado that struck that community in early April. Vickie Goostree collected them from her lawn about 30 minutes after the "attack".**