

# Falls City Engineer

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District

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Louisville District welcomes Crispino  
as new commander





## Falls City Engineer

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**On the cover:** Col. Eric D. Crispino assumes command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District during a ceremony in Louisville, Kentucky, June 25. (USACE photo by Katie Newton)

# Commander's Comments

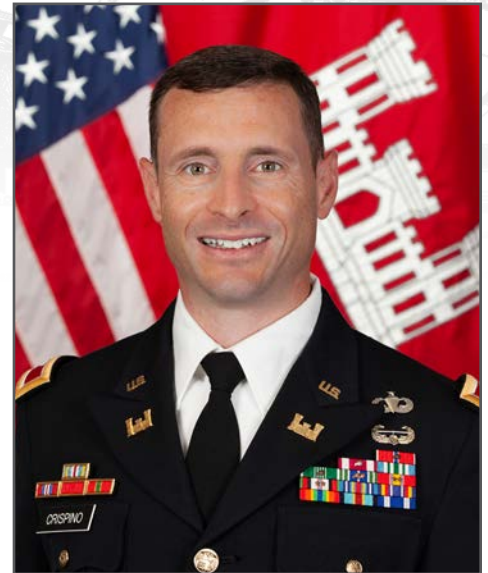
Team Louisville,

It is a true privilege and honor to serve as the 61st commander of the Louisville District and to continue our mission of delivering solutions in support of the region and the nation. I appreciate the warm welcome, and my family and I are proud to call Louisville home. I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks and months as I learn about the full range of diverse activities this district performs each day.

Our nation continues to experience an unprecedented set of challenges. Between COVID-19, social tension and economic disruptions we are living in a time of high stress and uncertainty. With this backdrop we have begun to implement our workforce reintegration plan while simultaneously focusing on end of year execution to bring FY20 to a successful close. Balancing protection of our staff while delivering the program will require a full team effort. In my few short weeks here I have complete confidence that team Louisville can meet this challenge.

The district continued to shine during the last two months. I extend my congratulations to Justin Bennett who won the USACE 2020 Contract Specialist of the Year and to Paul Deatrick who was selected as the USACE 2020 Geospatial Professional of the Year. Furthermore, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services, also known as the VA Canandaigua Hospital team was recognized as the USACE 2020 PDT of the Year for Honor. This team far exceeded expectations in several areas of project delivery and their focus on delivering quality facilities to our stakeholders is a credit to all involved. These are huge accomplishments and reflect the dedication of this skilled and talented workforce.

Please enjoy the May/June issue which spotlights our change-of-command ceremony, the safety precautions in place as our recreational sites reopen, several of our teams and people being recognized for various awards, and much more.



**Col. Eric Crispino**  
Commander and District Engineer  
Louisville District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

We will continue to face challenges in the coming months, but we can and will get through this together. Continue to stay vigilant and disciplined in protecting your health and the health of those you live and work with. COVID-19 is still a threat, and we must avoid complacency to keep each other safe and healthy.

Lastly, as I begin my command I extend my sincerest appreciation to Col. Antoinette Gant for her support during this transition. A true professional, she enriched the lives of everyone in the district. Through her leadership this district has achieved remarkable successes and I look forward to sharing in that tradition of excellence with each of you.

Thank you for all that you do.

Building Strong! Louisville Proud!

Col. Crispino

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# Louisville District welcomes Crispino as new commander

Col. Eric D. Crispino assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District during a ceremony at the McAlpine Locks and Dam in Louisville, Kentucky, June 25, 2020.

Col. Antoinette R. Gant passed the district colors to Col. Crispino symbolizing her relinquishment of command after serving three years as the commander.

Maj. Gen. Robert Whittle Jr., Great Lakes and Ohio River Division commander, served as the presiding official. Whittle spoke of Gant's significant accomplishments as the Louisville District commander and wished her well as she transitions to serve as the commander of the USACE South Pacific Border District.

Prior to the change-of-command ceremony, Whittle awarded Gant with a Legion of Merit, Silver de Fleury and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for her efforts in leading the Louisville District.

"Thank you again Louisville for a job well done," Gant said. "Continue to lead from the front, never becoming complacent, always looking to serve greater than yourself, executing and delivering for the region and our nation as a whole. I've been truly blessed to serve with some of the most innovative, inspiring and hardworking individuals in all of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers."

Crispino arrives to the Louisville District after deploying to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, where he led the Combined Joint Engineer Directorate for Operation Inherent Resolve. He is a native of Southington, Connecticut and was commissioned as a field artillery officer in 1998. He later transitioned to the Engineer Branch. He has served in many command and staff



Col. Eric D. Crispino becomes 61st commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District during a ceremony at the McAlpine Locks and Dam in Louisville, Kentucky, June 25, 2020

Abby Korfhage



The official party, from right to left, Louisville District Deputy District Engineer Linda Murphy, Louisville District Commander Col. Eric Crispino, former Louisville District Commander Col. Antoinette Gant, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Whittle Jr. participates in change-of-command ceremony.

Katie Newton

positions during his military career.

"Maj. Gen. Whittle thank you for your confidence and trust in me to take on this

tremendous responsibility of command in the Army Corps of Engineers," Crispino said during his remarks. "It is evident, I am joining a very special team that leads the way not only in the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, but across all of USACE."

As commander of the Louisville District, Col. Crispino will provide strategic direction, and command and control for the district's \$1 billion workload including civil, military, environmental and Interagency and International Services programs.

"It is a great honor to be your commander," Crispino said. "I look forward to building on the great reputation of the district and advancing this winning culture."

To read Crispino's full bio visit: <https://go.usa.gov/xwAnM>



The Great Lakes and Ohio River Division commander Maj. Gen. Robert Whittle gives remarks at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District Change of Command Ceremony in Louisville, Ky.

Katie Newton



# Col. Gant's farewell message to the Louisville District



To my colleagues of the Louisville District,

It has been an honor to have had the opportunity to serve as your commander over the past three years. The Louisville District is one like no other. It sets the standard for others to emulate. It hasn't always been easy, but it has ALWAYS been exciting and a world of FUN. We have conquered challenges never experienced before in the history of this district. From extended failures of Locks and Dam 52, river levels at its highest in more than five years, to a pandemic that has affected the entire world. And yet, we have found a way to overcome, maintain our means of execution and continued to DELIVER!



As I prepare to say farewell, I again would like to say thank you to EVERYONE. To the teams in the district, up and down the river, on all of our lakes, and at each of our construction and regulatory field offices, you took the time to talk, listen and share with me in so many ways. I know I am a better person because of the time I have spent with you. Thank you for making my time here one I will never forget. I look forward to seeing and hearing as Louisville District continues to be out front leading the way and making a difference as we engineer solutions to the nation's toughest challenges!



I will ALWAYS be LOUISVILLE PROUD!

Signing off,

*Antoinette R. Gant*

col g

Louisville District 60th Commander





# Safety precautions in place as Louisville District reopens rec sites



Signage at Rough River Lake reminds visitors to honor the 6-foot social distance rule.

Katie Newton, public affairs

As many of the Louisville District's recreational areas, such as campgrounds and beaches, continue to reopen in alignment with state guidance, the district has put extra safety precautions in place to protect both visitors, and employees, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the interest of public safety, the district imposed public access restrictions across its 17 lake projects in Indiana,

Kentucky and Ohio March 12. The district has since implemented a phased reopening approach in alignment with CDC recommendations and current state guidance.

"We carefully developed a deliberate reopening plan that would ensure a safe recreational opportunity for visitors while minimizing risk to the public and our USACE personnel," said Tim Fudge, chief, Louisville District Operations Division.

Nearly all recreational facilities, with the exception of larger-capacity picnic shelters, will have reopened for public use by June 29.

Visitors, who are gathering at Corps lakes in record numbers this season, may notice some of the changes in place.

There is signage reminding visitors to safely social distance, increased frequency in cleaning of facilities, and, in some instances, Plexiglas panels have been installed in Corps offices and visitor's centers.

"Safety always comes first," Fudge said. "While some things may look a little different, these are necessary steps. We want to reopen these areas responsibly—in a way that keeps our employees, contractors, volunteers and the recreating public safe, and affords everyone the opportunity to enjoy our diverse lakes and all they have to offer."

USACE reminds all visitors to follow these steps to recreate responsibly: honor the 6-foot social distance rule, stay away from parks and recreation areas if you are sick or have symptoms, keep parks clean by practicing "pack in and pack out" etiquette, and always wear a life jacket when near the water.

## COVID-19 and #ResponsibleRecreation

We all play a part in keeping one another safe. Follow these steps to recreate responsibly:



Separate Yourself  
and Honor the  
6-Foot Social  
Distance Rule  
for Others



Stay Away  
from Parks and  
Recreation Areas if  
You are Sick or Have  
Symptoms



Help Keep  
Your Parks Clean:  
Practice the "Pack  
In and Pack Out"  
Etiquette



Please Wear  
a Life Jacket When  
In, On, or Near  
the Water



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®





# Environmental

## Restoration Advisory Board plays vital role in environmental cleanup

*Shatara Riis, public affairs*

Community members can share information with project managers that may shape decisions for environmental restoration projects.

Comments, questions and recommendations are commonly submitted via email, mail or by telephone; however, a Restoration Advisory Board brings the project team, key stakeholders and everyday citizens of the involved community to the table.

A RAB is a stakeholder group that meets on a regular basis to discuss environmental restoration at a specific property that is either currently or was formerly owned by the Department of Defense, but where DoD oversees the environmental restoration process.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District routinely offers the opportunity for communities to establish a RAB at FUDS sites, such as Rac o Army Airfield, Kincheloe Air Force Base, Waugoshance Point Target, Camp Breckinridge, Camp Ellis or other Corps locations throughout Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

According to Corey Knox, Louisville District project manager, a RAB offers members and the public the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns and discuss ideas with any agency involved in the cleanup.

In this way, the RAB gives members the chance to affect cleanup decisions through



USACE personnel conducts a site visit for Restoration Advisory Board members at a Formerly Used Defense Site, also known as FUDS, in Marion, Ohio.

discussion and to provide input to the installation decision makers.

“The Restoration Advisory Boards become a forum for information exchange and partnership among citizens, the installation or the property owner (as is the case for FUDS), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state agencies,” said Dr. David Brancato, USACE Louisville District risk assessment subject-matter expert. “Most importantly, they offer an opportunity for communities, inclusive of concerned citizens groups and academia, to provide input to the cleanup process, if remedial work is needed.”

FUDS and military installations are parts of their surrounding communities,

and actions that have occurred or take place on these sites in environmental restoration may affect its neighbors.

“RABs are important because they provide a formal venue for community participation in the environmental remediation process. By requiring public co-leadership, RABs encourage the community to take an active role in environmental planning and decision-making,” said Josh Van Bogaert, Engineering Division Reserves Section chief. “(These meetings) increase availability of information and government transparency through dialog, and improve overall community confidence and (joint) ownership in the restoration program.”





# USACE delivers new hangar, fueling system for C-17s at Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station



Marjorie Schurr, USAF

The \$53 million consolidated fuel hydrant system project was turned over to the user June 8 at the Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station.

Katie Newton, public affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District, in partnership with the Baltimore and Pittsburgh districts, has recently completed two world-class projects for Airmen at the Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station located at the Pittsburgh International Airport in Pennsylvania.

Both projects—a two-bay hangar and a consolidated fuel hydrant system, apron, ramp, taxiway, and lighting project—were completed as part of the Pittsburgh Air Force Reserve C-17 Beddown Program, as the Air Force converts missions from an existing C-130 series aircraft mission to a C-17 series aircraft.

“It is an honor to be a part of this

historic beddown mission conversion that is reshaping the future and legacy of the Airmen and civilian staff of the 911th Airlift Wing,” said Greg Ivey, Louisville District project manager.

The \$54 million two-bay corrosion/fuel hangar project was turned over to the user May 28 and the \$53 million consolidated fuel hydrant system, apron, ramp, taxiway and lighting project was turned over to the user June 8.

The approximate 116,000 square feet two-bay hangar facility includes a corrosion control bay; fuel cell maintenance bay; administrative support spaces; tool room; and equipment storage space to allow for maintenance of C-17 aircraft.

The consolidated fuel hydrant system, apron, ramp, taxiway and lighting facility includes a pressurized hydrant fuel system with hydrant outlets; two 2,500 barrel above ground bulk fuel tanks; a 5,000 barrel bulk fuel storage tank; an 1,800 gallons per minute pump house; hydrant hose truck checkout and product recovery system; a transfer pipeline; apron; ramp; taxiway; and high-mast lighting for parking, de-fueling and refueling of C-17 aircraft.

The Louisville District team, who has program and project management oversight, coordinated closely with the Baltimore District for contract administration and Pittsburgh District, which provided construction oversight of both projects.

“The successful milestone delivery of the new hangar and fuel hydrant/apron projects is a testimony to the partnering spirit, dedication and determination of the entire project delivery team that persevered from the day these projects were conceived to the day the first C-17 was defueled and towed through the hangar doors,” Ivey said.

Tim Greene, Air Force Reserve Command project manager, expressed his appreciation to the entire team for reaching these milestones.

“This team has taken and built the largest beddown construction program that the Air Force Reserve has ever had, certainly the largest I’ve ever been involved in. Something in the neighborhood of \$140 million in a bit over two years,” Greene said.



Bryan Branby, USAF

The \$54 million two-bay hangar project was turned over to the user May 28 at the Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station.



## Louisville District awarded Citation Award for Outstanding Collaborative Planning Project



*The U.S. Air Force and the National Guard Bureau have approved the request from the Eisenhower Center, to lease 65 under-used vacant houses on 25-acres of non-excess land located on Selfridge Air National Guard Base that comprises a historic district determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*

### Shatara, public affairs

The Federal Planning Division of the American Planning Association awarded the Louisville District the Citation Award for Outstanding Collaborative Planning Project for its Selfridge Air National Guard Base – Eisenhower Center’s Veteran Care Transition Center Section 106 Report in Michigan.

Each year the FPD honors several outstanding planning projects across the United States during their annual conference. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference wasn’t held this year; however, projects were still recognized.

Projects were submitted to the FPD awards committee for initial recommendations, then submitted to a jury of peers for the award selection. Urban Collaborative nominated the project for an award on behalf of the project sponsor – the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

“This project is significant because of its focus on reuse and revitalization to create a valuable resource for the veteran community,” said Rachel Phillips, Louisville District community planner and project manager. “It helps injured veterans receive treatment in a community setting and provides a safe place for them and their families to live while gaining valuable job skills as they transition out of military services.”

According to Phillips, Section 106 is a method that allows consulting parties and the public to be engaged in the process

of exploring alternatives to avoid, minimize and mitigate adverse effects on historic properties.

USACE contracted with Urban Collaborative, an Architect-Engineer (AE) firm to facilitate stakeholder discussion and to draft the Section 106 Report. The effort

also included a “Way Forward Report,” to identify the remaining steps necessary for the completion of the Section 106 programmatic agreement with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office.

“Because the process involved a diverse set of stakeholders, the biggest challenge was reaching consensus among differing viewpoints, desires and needs,” Phillips said.

The Section 106 project at Selfridge Air National Guard Base was a community partnership between the National Guard Bureau, Michigan Air National Guard, U.S. Air Force, the Eisenhower Center brain injury treatment facility and Zero Day, a Veteran assistance non-profit organization.

“It was great to be involved in a project that has the potential to positively impact veterans and their families. It was equally nice to be recognized for a project that is typically viewed as government regulation rather than a collaborative process,” Phillips said. “This project truly represents a community partnership and what can be accomplished when people come together.”

The project team consisted of Rachel Phillips, Nick Lopez, James Cruz, Kelley Parker and Derek Gray.



*This Section 106 Report is prepared to assist the Secretary of the United States Air Force to consider the effects of its proposed lease of historic property located at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base to the Eisenhower Center, a for profit organization, to develop a Veteran Care Transition Center in Macomb County, Michigan.*



## District student trainees lend helping hand during COVID-19 pandemic

*Abby Korfhage, public affairs*

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, several Louisville District personnel deployed to support construction efforts throughout the states.

Engineering Division co-op's Emily Walter and Ellie Hagan volunteered their free time to wash, assemble and bag face shields, which were provided to medical staff at the University of Louisville Hospital, Norton and Baptists hospitals.

The face shields were also given to local first responders and to front liners in North Carolina and Illinois.

"Hundreds of UofL engineering students have been working in shifts, 16 hours per day, seven days a week to send out about 6,000 face shields each day," said Josh Mudd, Engineering Division Structural section chief. "When the word was spread that supplies were running low, other Louisville District staff including Gary Grunwald, Sean Tucker, Todd Chandler and Marcus Doddridge jumped on the opportunity to donate their personal time and resources by printing the much needed parts with their personal home 3D printers."

University of Louisville Speed School

students received an email at the beginning of April asking for volunteers to help with the effort, according to Walter.

"UofL's Additive Manufacturing Institute of Science and Technology had begun using their 3D printers to fill the gap in medical supplies for local hospitals while larger companies were ramping up large-scale production," Walter said. "They were printing the headbands and bottom reinforcement pieces for clear plastic face shields, and they were requesting help with disinfecting and assembling all these shields. AMIST was also requesting help from individual community members in 3D printing smaller pieces – this is what Gary Grunwald, Sean Tucker, Todd Chandler and Marcus Doddridge helped us with, using their own 3D printers and materials."

In the end, with student's support like that provided by Walter and Hagan, AMIST donated more than 55,000 plastic face shields to front-line medical professionals.

"I was excited to be able to help in any way possible," Hagan said. "My father is a physician, and he has been working on the front lines, so I jumped at the opportunity to help him and other healthcare workers in any way shape or form."

Both women said they were thankful for the opportunity.

"We, as the student volunteers were a small part of the very large effort that went into supplying hospitals with these face shields," Walter said. "For me personally, I was just grateful to be able to do something to help. I have family members who work in hospitals in Cincinnati and really acutely felt the burden of the personal



Courtesy of Ellie Hagan

*Ellie Hagan, Louisville District student trainee, assembles and bags face shields for medical staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.*

protective equipment shortage that they and so many medical professionals have been experiencing. It was amazing to step back after the rush of orders in April and recognize that we were able to be a small part of that tremendous effort to keep as many front-line medical professionals safe as possible."



Courtesy of Emily Walter

*Emily Walter volunteers her time to wash face shields during the COVID-19 pandemic.*



Marcus Doddridge

*Marcus Doddridge, Louisville District risk manager, used his personal 3D printer to print face shield parts at home to help assist in the COVID-19 pandemic.*



# District employee named Geospatial Professional of the Year

Abby Korfhage, public affairs

Paul Deatrick, Louisville District Geographic Information Systems coordinator, was recently announced as the 2020 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Geospatial Professional of the Year.

"Deatrick has demonstrated technical expertise and leadership on district, regional and national level initiatives," said Nancy Blyler, geospatial community of practice lead for USACE.

As the Engineering GIS team lead, Deatrick has served as the geospatial lead for the district's most high profile civil works projects, including two supplemental flood reduction, one dam safety, and four operations master plans projects. Deatrick is also the district's Enterprise Geospatial Engineering System coordinator efficiently managing Louisville District's funding account supporting district-wide geospatial efforts. Regionally, Deatrick serves as a key member of the Ohio River Geospatial team working with and sharing geospatial data and resources for projects throughout the Ohio River Basin. As a member of the

national Site Information Model and Data Management Solution Project Delivery team, he regularly provides senior expertise to resolve program issues and to advise model builders across USACE.

"What an outstanding honor and most deserving for Paul to receive this award," said John Bock, Louisville District Engineering Division chief.

Deatrick regularly mentors new employees and co-led the publication of a career development plan for geographers/GIS professionals in the Louisville District. Deatrick is a long-term member of the Kentucky Area Mapping Professionals and volunteers for activities associated with the Kentucky Waterways Alliance.

"I'm truly humbled that I was selected for this national recognition," Deatrick said. "I also realize that in my position many of my successes are tied to the hard work and talent of my teammates, and without their dedicated professionalism I would not be able to be in the position I am today. I've been so fortunate to have a great team and their support."



Paul Deatrick, Louisville District Geographic Information Systems coordinator, was recently announced as the 2020 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Geospatial Professional of the Year.

USACE

A promotional graphic for the US Army Corps of Engineers Life Jacket Campaign. The background is a blue water texture with bubbles. In the center is a circular life preserver with a red life jacket inside. The text "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" is written in a curve around the top of the preserver, and "PleaseWearIt.com" is written in a curve around the bottom. To the left of the preserver is a photo of a man in a red life jacket holding a fish. To the right is a photo of a man in a red life jacket kayaking. In the bottom left corner is the US Army Corps of Engineers logo. In the bottom right corner is the logo for "THE CORPS'S FOUNDATION" with the text "OFFICIAL NONPROFIT OF AMERICA'S LAKES AND WATERWAYS".