



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

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Winter Carnival Royalty visit St. Paul District



Princess Clare Friedmann (left), staffing clerk in Human Resources, made an official visit to her office in January as part of the St. Paul Winter Carnival Royalty. She was accompanied by Carnival Royalty Lisa Lang and Gil Thoele. During the visit, the Carnival Royalty paid tribute to Friedmann's co-workers. As Princess of the South Wind, she has made nearly 400 appearances as far away as Memphis, Tennessee, and Austin, Texas.

Civilian General Schedule

The 1992 pay schedules became effective January 12. Contact Vicky Demo in Human Resources at extension 490 with any questions you have about the schedules.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GS 1	\$11478	\$11861	\$12242	\$12623	\$13006	\$13230	\$13606	\$13986	\$14003	\$14356
2	12905	13212	13640	14003	14157	14573	14989	15405	15821	16237
3	14082	14551	15020	15489	15958	16427	16896	17365	17834	18303
4	15808	16335	16862	17389	17916	18443	18970	19497	20024	20551
5	17686	18276	18866	19456	20046	20636	21226	21816	22406	22996
6	19713	20370	21027	21684	22341	22998	23655	24312	24969	25626
7	21906	22636	23366	24096	24826	25556	26286	27016	27746	28476
8	24262	25071	25880	26689	27498	28307	29116	29925	30734	31543
9	26798	27691	28584	29477	30370	31263	32156	33049	33942	34835
10	29511	30495	31479	32463	33447	34431	35415	36399	37383	38367
11	32423	33504	34585	35666	36747	37828	38909	39990	41071	42152
12	38861	40156	41451	42746	44041	45336	46631	47926	49221	50516
13	46210	47750	49290	50830	52370	53910	55450	56990	58530	60070
14	54607	56427	58247	60067	61887	63707	65527	67347	69167	70987
15	64233	66374	68515	70656	72797	74938	77079	79220	81361	83502

Special Salary Rates and Coverage

Table Number 414: for general engineers, landscape architects, mechanical engineers, safety engineers, architects, civil engineers, and environmental engineers

Grade	Step 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	22996	23586	24176	24766	25356	25946	26536	27126	27716	28306
7	28476	29206	29936	30666	31396	32126	32856	33586	34316	35046
9	34835	35728	36621	37514	38407	39300	40193	41086	41979	42872
11	36747	37828	38909	39990	41071	42152	43233	44314	45395	46476
12	40156	41451	42746	44041	45336	46631	47926	49221	50516	51811

Table Number 125: for clerk stenographers, data transcribers, typists, secretaries, clerk typists, and stenographers

Grade	Step 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	14573	14989	15405	15821	16237	16653	17069	17485	17901	18317
3	15958	16427	16896	17365	17834	18303	18772	19241	19710	20179
4	17389	17916	18443	18970	19497	20024	20551	21078	21605	22132
5	18866	19456	20046	20636	21226	21816	22406	22996	23586	24176

New Chief of Contracts Makes Cold Choices

Peter Verstegen, Public Affairs Office

"I want the cold weather. I'm here by choice," said Audrey Tilden, the new chief of Contracts.

Why would someone leave a secure job in balmy Camden, Arkansas and transfer to an area which breaks known records for snow on Halloween and Thanksgiving? A place where everyone wears warm, heavy coats for half the year?

Well, the operative word here is coats. Heavy coats. Audrey Tilden trains and shows registered collies. She owns seven, and shows four. Tilden expects the Minnesota cold to help her collies develop the thick sheen necessary to win big, prestigious shows, like the World Series of dog shows, Westminster, which occurs at Madison Square Garden each February.

In 1987 and 1988, she and her collies won show championships in Texas. Show dogs are judged, in part, by standards of height, length of muzzle, and, of course, their coats.

And when Tilden speaks about the benefits of Minnesota's weather, you'll hear an accent -- a distinctly British accent. Specifically, Liverpool. Her career in contracts began in 1961 at a U.S. air base in England, where she worked as a civil servant within the British Air Ministry. She later worked as a buyer for five U.S. air bases in England.

Tilden's first job as a naturalized American was to administer contracts



Audrey Tilden, the new chief of Contracts, came to the St. Paul District from Camden Arkansas, where she was branch chief for Contract Operations at the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

for subsistence items in Florida. She also has worked at Federal agencies in Mississippi, California, Texas, and Arkansas, where she was branch chief of Contract Operations at the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

It will be in Minnesota where her avocation with show dogs meets her vocation in contracts. Audrey Tilden has a contract with herself to collar the Best of Show at Westminster.

High water from dam safeguards island's ecology

Ray Nelson, Resource Manager

Editor's note: The Pine River, a tributary of the Mississippi, was once a creek connecting Cross Lake with the Whitefish Chain of Lakes. Located 160 miles northwest of St. Paul, the Pine River Dam is part of the Whitefish lakes. The chain offers 119 miles of shoreline, slightly less than Minnesota's largest lake, Red Lake, with 123 miles of shoreline.

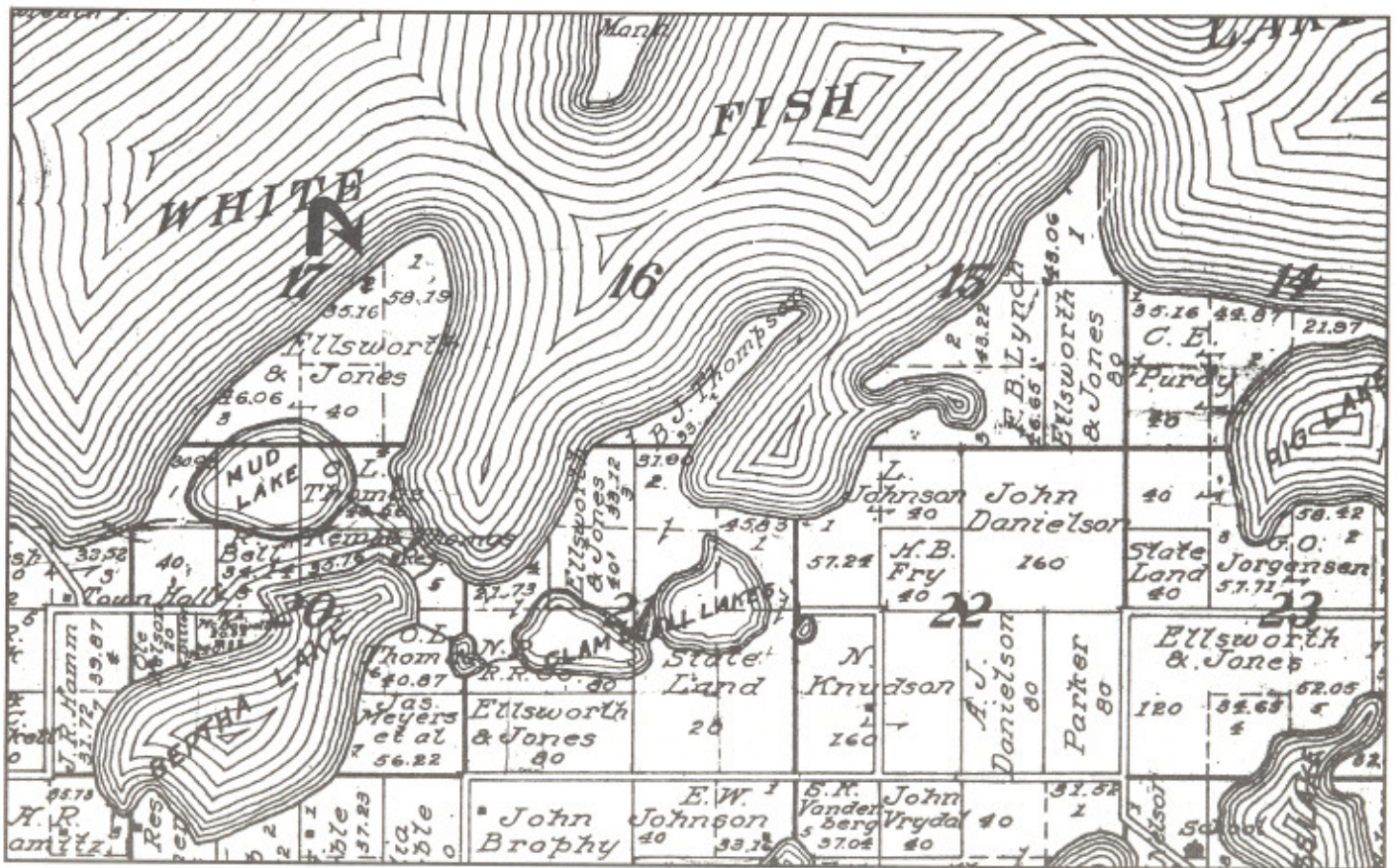
When the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began to construct six Mississippi River headwaters dams in 1884, its goal was to improve navigation through low flow augmentation. Yet, 106 years later, the resulting high water levels created with the completion of one of the projects, the Pine River Dam, has also helped to protect a unique parcel of land for present and future generations.

The 13 northern Crow Wing County lakes comprising the Whitefish chain were isolated natural lakes before the

Pine River Dam was built at the outlet of the Cross Lake in 1886. The dam raised lake water levels by 11 feet and created connecting channels among the lakes.

Higher lake levels flooded lower terrain, causing some existing islands to disappear and creating a series of new islands in a variety of sizes and shapes.

One island in particular, known locally as Big Island, has captured the attention of the media and the public.



The arrow and number 17 (above) identify what was a peninsula prior to 1886. After the Pine River Dam was built, higher lake levels flooded lower terrain, creating a series of new islands in a variety of sizes and shapes. Big Island, map to right, was created from the above land.

Big Island has evolved to its present condition by escaping the effects of lumbering and forest fires prevalent in the area around the turn of the century. Higher water levels created when the Pine River Dam was finished in 1886 helped to protect the Big Island's 106-year-old forest from destruction.

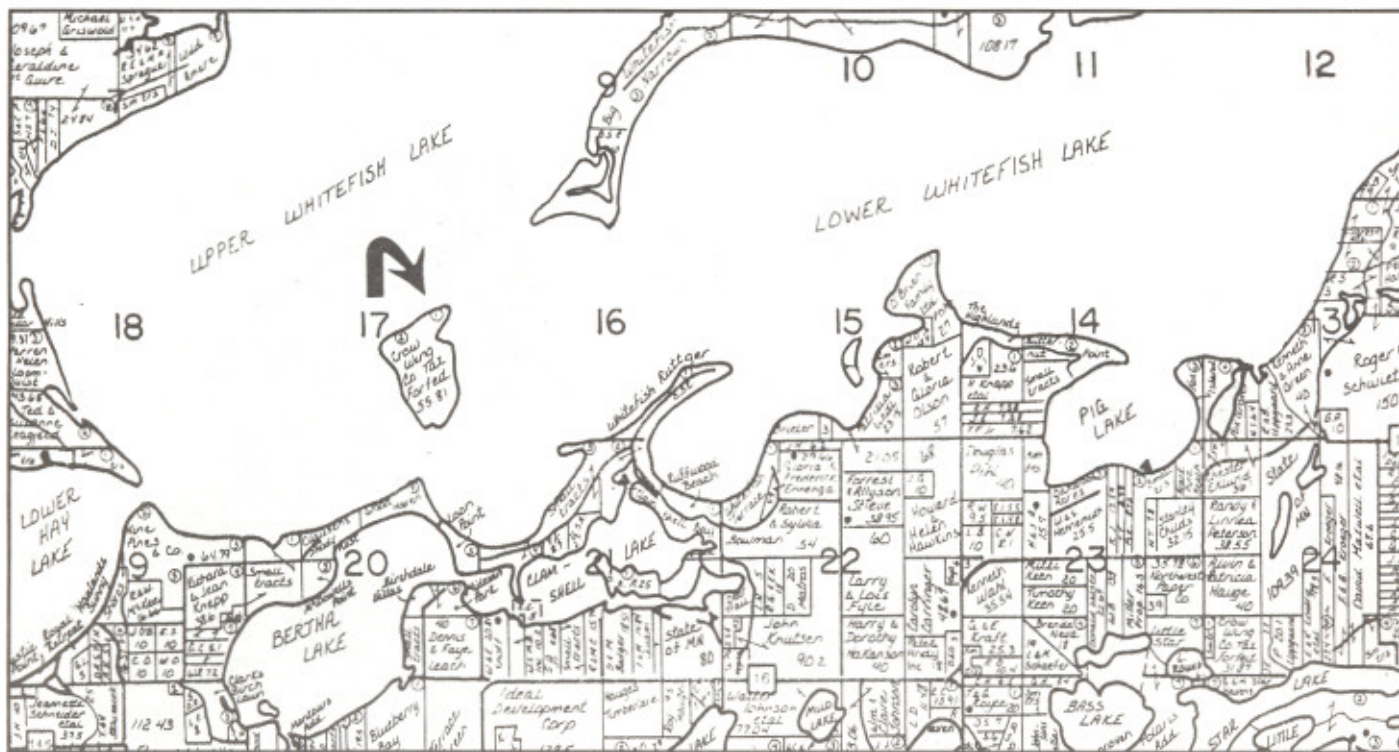
The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) called this 56-acre island a "rare ecological jewel," because its unusual plant community is unique to this part of the state. The plant community contains 150-year-old maple and basswood trees and a variety of other plant and animal species distinctive to old-growth mixed hardwood forests. The DNR, with support from many local residents, has proposed to designate Big Island as a Scientific and Natural Area to protect the unique habitat.

Before impoundment, the area was an arrowhead-shaped peninsula jutting into Whitefish Lake with a small 60-acre lake at the base of the peninsula. This lake was known as either Mud or Portage Lake. A very old plat map shows a trail around Portage Lake to access the tip of the peninsula. When the Pine River Dam raised lake levels 11 feet, Whitefish Lake overflowed the eastern and western banks of Portage Lake, uniting the two lakes. This created an island originally named Indian Garden, known today as Big Island.

The island is currently Crow Wing County tax-forfeited land. The DNR has requested jurisdiction to manage the land as a Scientific and Natural Area and use it as a scientific benchmark to assess commercial forests.

Big Island has received substantial pressure from primitive camping over the past 20 years. Neither water nor sanitary facilities are available. The island habitat is extremely vulnerable to damage from campers who have cleared camp sites, built camp fires, and gathered wood. If designated as a Scientific and Natural Area, camping and open camp fires would be banned. Yet, day use activities such as swimming along the sandy beaches, hiking and picnicking would be allowed.

County commissioners, DNR personnel, township residents, and Whitefish Lake property owners continue to search for ways to resolve future management issues to protect the island's valuable old-growth mixed hardwood forest from destruction.



Big Island (the arrow and number 17 above) has evolved to its present condition by escaping the effects of lumbering and forest fires prevalent in the area around the turn of the century. Higher water levels created when the Pine River Dam was finished in 1886 helped to protect the Big Island's old-growth mixed hardwood forest.

Lock out crime with these safety tips

Pat Simons, Public Affairs Office

With the high number of crimes reported in the media, you, your family or friends may have wondered how to avoid becoming a victim—an item on the news. Here are some precautions and safety tips you can follow to decrease your chances of becoming another crime statistic.

Property crimes -- burglary, larceny, auto theft and theft from yards -- occur with the greatest frequency and are most likely to happen when you are asleep or away. In 1990, property crime in Minnesota increased by four percent and amounted to 94 percent of all crime.

You can prevent household property crimes from occurring by making sure that your house is safe from easy access. All doors—especially main entry doors—should be equipped with one-inch dead-bolt locks.

Special locks are recommended for sliding glass doors. Place a block of wood or broomstick in the tracks. Also consider mounting a "Charley bar" which folds down from the side and prevents the door from being forced open. Use similar precautions for windows and garage doors.

Instead of a chain guard on your front door, install a wide-angle peephole in the door to identify persons at the door. Ask to see their identification and use the telephone to verify the ID before opening the door. When a repairman visits, set aside time to have a neighbor in for coffee or have someone call at that time. If someone at the door asks to use the phone, never open the door but ask for the number so that you can make the call for them.

Make sure that valuables and commonly stolen items are marked with a personal Permanent Identification Number (PIN). Contact your local police or sheriff's department for information on Operation Identification programs. Also, put stickers in prominent outside places that announce your membership in Operation Identification. Keep a list of valuables along with their photos in a safe deposit box so if a burglary does take place, a separate inventory will improve your chance of property recovery.

While away on vacation take these extra precautions. Ask the post office to hold your mail and stop delivery of the paper. Use a timer to turn on your lights and a radio so the house looks occupied. Have a friend come in occasionally to open and close draperies. In some communities,

local law enforcement will heighten the surveillance in your area.

While property crimes are affecting the majority of individuals, personal vulnerability and lack of security causes the most fear for individuals. Studies show that the majority of violent crimes—assault, rape and murder—are committed by relatives or acquaintances as the result of a dispute. Very few are committed by strangers. Yet even in the event of a personal crime you can still have some control of situations rather than being controlled by them.

When walking alone, stay on busy well-lighted streets and walk close to the curb. Avoid night trips if possible. Carry a whistle that can be blown in a threatening situation. Remember that a scream often deters an attacker. Check the back seat of a car before entering and lock all doors while driving. If you're being followed, pull into the closest lighted business area or into a police or fire station and blow your horn.



If car trouble occurs, raise the hood and turn on emergency flashers. Lock your door and stay there. When people stop, send them for help but stay in your car. In cases of threatening, harassing or obscene phone calls, keep a whistle nearby to blow loudly into the speaker. Women should not use first names in the telephone listings, but instead use initials. Report unwanted and unlawful calls to the police and to the telephone company.

Avoid carrying large amounts of money and use direct deposit for paychecks, social security and retirement checks. Keep purses close to your body or wallets in a front pocket.

Keep house keys separate from other keys so that they can not be copied and identified with an address.

Even if you use all the precautions, there still may come a time when you cannot protect your property. In that case, give up your money or valuables. Fighting for them risks injury or loss of life.

In the case of a confrontation with an attacker, try to stay calm. Evaluate the situation and look for a way to escape. Take a good look and memorize the features of your attacker. If fighting back, don't hesitate to mark the attacker with bites, scratches or kicks.

Marks can be helpful to locate and convict an offender. As soon as possible call the police and write down everything you remember about the assailant.

Realize that others are also aware of crime and wish to deter it. Look for Neighborhood Watch signs and organize block action so that neighbors can be a part of keeping crime out of streets.

You, your family and friends needn't become victims or future crime statistics. Use the knowledge of what you can do to protect your property or yourself before a crime can happen.



Sign Language is Part of Brown Bag Lunch

LTC Mike Mahoney (upper right) talks to a group of district employees during a recent Brown Bag Lunch. Sitting next to the deputy commander is a sign language interpreter who signed the discussion for hearing-impaired employees. This was the first time an interpreter provided signing at a Brown Bag Lunch. Mahoney periodically holds informal Brown Bag Lunches with employees to discuss district activities and to answer questions. The Equal Employment Opportunity Office arranged for the contract interpreter to attend the meeting.

News and Notes

Moving Around

New employees in Planning Division's Economic and Social Analysis Section include **John Fisher**, **Greg Johnson**, and **Linda Wiley**, landscape architects; new to Logistics Management are **Luann Bartuah**, travel clerk, **Tony Reynero**, stock clerk, **Jim Schwecke**, property disposal officer-maintenance officer, and **Andrew Tyler**, entry clerk; new to Engineering Division's Geotechnical Hydraulics Branch is **Doug Crum**, civil engineer.

Planning Division has announced a number of temporary assignments: **Dave Berwick** is acting as chief, Environmental Resources Branch; **John Anfinson** is acting chief of Cultural Resources Section, Environmental Resources Branch; **Jody Rooney**, formerly acting chief of Environmental Resources Branch, has left for temporary assignment to the Chief's office to work on the Endangered Species Committee.

National Engineers Week: February 16-22



Jim Ruyak, Headwaters project manager, left in January for his second 90-day TDY to Kuwait.

Good-bye

Norma Malinowski, Construction Operations Natural Resource Management Section, has taken a job with the Forest Service in Ely, Minnesota. February 21 is her last day with the St. Paul District.

Lockmaster **James Weyant**, Lock and Dam 6 at Trempealeau, Wisconsin, retires in March.

Hurdle Barriers to Success

"Success is being comfortable with who you are," said Lakewood Community College's Mary Lou O'Phelan. Sixteen persons gathered, some with brown bag lunches, to hear O'Phelan's presentation on "Overcoming Barriers to Success," January 21, sponsored by the Federal Women's Program.

"Success starts with small, incremental steps," said O'Phelan, "and with a positive mental attitude." She recommended that small steps to success begin with networking, stress management, and a "Professional Crazy Index," a checklist that measures 10 personal and professional behaviors.

"First, establish a goal for yourself, and believe in your ability to achieve it," O'Phelan said. What follows requires perseverance and a personal willingness to "pay the price it takes to achieve your goal." O'Phelan described how the lack of personal initiative, self discipline, creative vision, organized thinking, keeping focused, budgeting time and money, and enthusiasm can act as barriers to success.

The Federal Women's Program provides leadership and assistance to the St. Paul District work force, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or age.

Obituary

Retiree **Ann J. Vadich**, West St. Paul, died January 20. She had worked in the Finance and Accounting Division.

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YEARS
1866-1991



Crosscurrents

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