

KBE VENTURES

A JOINT VENTURE OF
KBE BUILDING CORPORATION &
DERITA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

ARMED FORCES
RESERVE CENTER
MIDDLETOWN, CT



AGC CT

2012 BUILD CT AWARDS

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT/GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

NEW LARGE CONSTRUCTION (>\$20M.)

APPLICATION – 2012 Build CT Awards

Project Name Armed Forces Reserve Center
Address 375 Smith Street
City Middletown **State** CT **Zip** 06457
Date of Completion July 2011

Project Type (check one):

<u> X </u>	CM/GC New Large Construction (>\$20 m.)
<u> </u>	CM/GC New Small Construction (<\$20 m.)
<u> </u>	CM/GC New Mid-Size Construction (\$5 m. to \$20 m.)
<u> </u>	CM/GC Large Renovation (>\$20 m.)
<u> </u>	CM/GC Mid-Size Renovation (\$5 m. to \$20 m.)
<u> </u>	CM/GC Small Renovation (<\$5 m.)
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Electrical
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Mechanical
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Concrete (Co-sponsored by CRMCA and CCPC)
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Interiors (Drywall, ceilings, flooring, wall coverings)
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Exteriors (Exterior walls, roofing, building envelopes)
<u> </u>	Specialty Contracting: Sitework/Landscape
<u> </u>	Other Specialty Construction (Other construction not included in above categories)



Applicant

Firm name KBE Ventures, a Joint Venture of KBE Building Corporation and DeRita Construction Company, Inc.
Contact name Jonelle Lawhorn
Phone 860.284.7431 **Email** jlawhorn@kbebuilding.com

Please List Project Participants (owner, designer, subcontractors, major suppliers etc.) Use additional pages if needed

Owner

Firm name U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Address 600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place, Room 821
City Louisville **State** KY **Zip** 40202
Contact name Diane McCartin, PMP
Phone 502.315.6853 **Email** diane.e.mccartin@usace.army.mil

Designer/Architect

Firm name Kleinfelder
Address 215 First Street, Suite 320
City Cambridge **State** MA **Zip** 02142
Contact name Robert Brandon
Phone 617.498.4702 **Email** rbrandon@kleinfelder.com

Other

Firm name _____
Address _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____
Contact name _____
Phone _____ **Email** _____

Signature of Contractor _____

1 | JUDGING CRITERIA NARRATIVE

Project Overview: KBE Ventures, A Joint Venture of KBE Building Corporation and DeRita Construction Company Inc. was the Design-Builder and Constructor for the new \$54.4 million Armed Forces Reserve Company. The design team was led by Kleinfelder of Cambridge MA and Rocky Hill, CT, as Architect and Civil Engineer, with DiBlasi Associates, Structural Engineer, ART Engineering, Electrical Engineer and Architectural Engineering, Mechanical/Plumbing Engineer.

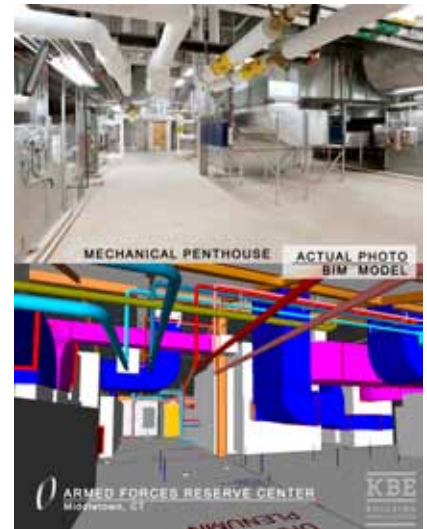
The fast-tracked project called for a 164,000 sf Training Facility with administrative, educational, assembly, library, learning center, vault, weapons simulator, and physical fitness areas for four Army Reserve units and six Connecticut Army National Guard units. The center also includes a 36,000 sf Vehicle Maintenance Shop, and a 4,000 sf Unheated Storage facility. Set on a 42-acre park, the facility includes parking areas, walkways, and access roads. Approximately 100 personnel are expected to use the campus. The facility is able to serve more than 850 Army Reservists and National Guardsmen, if needed. The project is on track to received LEED Gold Certification.



The new Armed Forces Reserve Center in Middletown provides a state-of-the-art training center for the Connecticut Army Reserve and Army National Guard.

A. STATE-OF-THE-ART-ADVANCEMENT

- KBEV managed an Integrated BIM delivery process for this Design-Build project. The entire team - KBEV as Construction Manager, the Architect, MEP Engineers, Structural Engineer, and other design team members - worked collaboratively on the design documents using BIM's 3-D technology and performed and managed clash detection utilizing NavisWorks Manager.
- This 3-D Spatial coordination during design and construction helped identify and resolve issues prior to construction. Clash detection is a process where 3D models of the new and existing building (architecture, mechanical and structural) are compared in virtual environment to identify and resolve "clashes" reducing rework, RFIs and change orders, which help the team maintain the demanding project schedule.
- Implemented BIM 4-D Scheduling, where the 3D models were combined with project schedules to create simulated time lapse videos of the project (4D models). These models illustrated how the entire construction process would progress from site work through the phased completion of the three facilities on site.
- As part of final close-out, KBEV has provided the Owner with a 3-D As-Built Model that incorporates all field changes, and includes O&M, Specs, and Warranty information to be used by facility management for building operations, maintenance, analysis, and future work.



The KBE Ventures implemented an integrated BIM process that was instrumental in ensuring quality control and keeping pace with the accelerated project schedule.

B. EXCELLENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

This fast-tracked project had several major challenges. Our competitive Design-Build submission was accepted by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the fall of 2009, and Notice to Proceed with final design services and construction was issued in November 2009. Construction was slated to begin in March 2011, but was pushed to June 2011, with construction starting in April 2010. This project faced a modification /extension issued by USACE

to accommodate delays in obtaining Section 404 Permit. KBE Ventures team completed and turned over the building on June 30, 2011.

As part of the KBEV team's competitive submission for this design-build solicitation, the team spent weeks exploring different design scenarios that would meet and potentially enhance the USACE core building program. The final submission offered some significant enhancements. The relationships and adjacencies between the three buildings were maintained per the RFP as well as the required anti-terrorism setback requirements. The RFP plans were kept intact for the Vehicle Maintenance Facility and the Unheated Storage building, as these are highly functional and fit well on the long narrow site. However, the KBEV team significantly modified and enhanced the shape and arrangement of the Training Building to create a more compact building footprint. The RFP had called for a two-story training facility. KBEV proposed a four-story building nestled into the site with a footprint of 60,199 sf, a reduction of more than 19% from the RFP required footprint of 74,385 sf. This, in turn, resulted in a significant reduction in the impact of the building on grading requirements, stormwater drainage and adjacent wetlands.

The 4-story building is gently "tucked" into the slope with stair and elevator access to all floors, and provides at-grade access to both of the lower stories - a key benefit for the end-users. This design solution enabled the location of all major Storage areas, including the Army Reserve's Field Equipment Storage, the National Guard Unit Storage, the Army Reserve Unit Storage and the Arms Vault with at-grade access and optimum relationship to the Staging and Loading facilities, a significant and welcomed change from the original program.

A Service elevator was provided as a no-cost Betterment to optimize access from the Field Equipment Storage area to the Staging and Loading facilities. Another improvement was the location of the Physical Readiness gym to provide for direct outdoor access. Functional adjacencies within the building are maintained and in many cases enhanced. By developing the RFP concept plan into a taller and more efficient volume, the KBEV team created a visually striking building that is easily seen from both the southbound and northbound lanes of Interstate 91. This provides an iconic and proud image for the Army Reserve and National Guard. At the same time, the 3rd and 4th floor users will have exceptional views of the Connecticut hills in all directions.

C. PROJECT TEAM EFFECTIVENESS

KBE Ventures assembled a strong team of design professionals to work together in creating the solution. Nearly all of the firms had worked together in some capacity in the past, but this was the first time all had come together. The intensive meetings and planning sessions for the competitive submission quickly made it clear that this was the right team for the job. The collaboration and coordination between KBEV's Preconstruction team and Kleinfelder/SEA and the other design professionals was exceptional, even though half the team was in Connecticut and the other half in Massachusetts. The constant push-pull between design ideas and construction realities, program needs and hard cost data was often spirited, but never contentious. This working camaraderie followed the project into the field, with strong support from the design team to help resolve any issues that arose as the construction progressed.

The KBEV team interacted daily with the USACE field team, also located full time on-site in a trailer adjacent to the KBEV trailer. This immediacy of communication was instrumental in addressing the many questions and issues that arose out of the normal course of construction.

A formal Partnering program was also initiated on this project, providing a further venue for conflict and problem resolution. The program engaged the USACE, the design-build team and key trade contractors.

Safety: Federal projects mandate exacting requirements for project staffing and staff credentials, and the Armed Forces Reserve Center project was no different. The USACE requires a full-time, dedicated Site Safety & Health Officer and a Certified Safety Professional - both positions requiring specialized OSHA training and certifications. These two KBE staff members were tasked with overseeing all safety protocols for the project, including: mandatory badging of all staff, mandatory half-day safety orientation for all trade contract employees prior to starting work on site, a requirement that all

trade contractors provided a “competent person” full time on site, as needed for their respective area of work, as well as daily review of all areas of work, and enforcement of all safety requirements.

Quality Control: The focus on project quality control was equally as stringent. KBEV established a three-member Quality Control Team at the start of the design phases. The team included a Design Quality Control Manager (DCQC) from Kleinfelder/SEA and a dedicated, 100% on-site Construction Quality Control Manager (CQC) from KBE, and a Quality Control Manager-Sitework from DeRita Construction. This team was responsible for developing and implementing the Project Specific Quality Control Plan, based on USACE QC requirements.

KBE’s CQC was already certified through the USACE Certified Construction Quality Control program prior to the start of construction. Kleinfelder’s DCQC brought more than 30 years of architectural practice to his role, and DeRita’s Quality Control Manager was a highly experienced site contractor. This team reported directly to USACE and to KBEV’s senior project leadership, and had full authority to stop work at any time to address quality issues.

The Quality Control Team was further supported by specialists in key disciplines, including architectural, structural, MEP, telecommunications, and security. These specialists were on-site to oversee installation of major building systems.

D. INNOVATION IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES, MATERIALS, DESIGN

Although the USACE building program called for mandatory LEED Silver Certification, the project is on track to achieve LEED Gold through a self-certification program that mirrors the US Green Building Council’s criteria.

Among the many sustainability features are:

- The four-story Training Center building includes a 10,000 sf green roof to reduce storm water run off and heat island effect – the first in the nation-wide Reserve program
- A 205-panel photovoltaic array that produces approximately 3.6% of the building’s power and reduces annual carbon dioxide output by 120-145 pounds in the first year - the equivalent of planting 3.14 acres of trees or reducing automobile driving by 47,735 miles per year. A domestic hot water system for the Training Center that is generated by a solar thermal system, with solar collectors installed on the roof.
- Low-impact, state-of-the-art stormwater management system that includes grassed swales and bio-retention basins, and exceeds federal requirements for water quality and quantity control.



The 10,000 sf green roof on the Training Center is the first in the nation-wide Reserve Center program.

E. EXCELLENCE IN CLIENT SERVICES

As described throughout this narrative, the KBEV team clearly demonstrated its commitment to meeting the exacting requirements and needs of the Corps and the ultimate users of the facility. This was evidenced from the very start, when the team developed a design solution that fundamentally improved the building program, through to the on-time completion of the project - an achievement few thought possible, given the challenges facing the project, a delay in securing the 404 Permit for work in the wetlands, and the exceptional snowfalls of the 2010-2011 winter.



The exceptional snowfalls of the 2010-2011 winter posed yet another challenge to the fast-tracked project schedule.

F. CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

- The new facility was dedicated in December 2011 as the Major General Mauricen Rose Armed Forces Reserve Center in honor of the Middletown native who distinguished himself in both World

WarI and World War II, serving his country for nearly 30 years before being killed in action at the age of 45. He was Commander of the 3rd Armored “Spearhead” Division, which was the first Allied ground force to invade Germany, the first to capture a German town, the first to breach the infamous Siegfried line.

- The ultimate selection of Cucia Park in Middletown for the new Armed Forces Reserve Center came about following extensive research by the US Army Corps into potential locations - as well as extensive outreach to the community. The government worked diligently to connect with Middletown residents and engage their feedback on the various sites under consideration, knowing the potential impact a development of this size could have on the community. The Corps’ decision to purchase and protect a 52-acre adjacent wetlands mitigation site was hailed as “ a dream come true” by members of the Middletown Mayor’s Advisory panel who worked with the Army in the reserve center site. The wetlands mitigation site is protected in perpetuity from development to offset the loss of 1.6 acres of wetlands impacted by the new Reserve Center.
- Construction of the reserve center also provided work opportunities to many Connecticut small businesses. As the matrix below illustrates, the KBEV team conducted extensive outreach into the local and Small Business community and experienced significant success in helping USACE meet its subcontracting goals and provide local work opportunities.

Armed Forces Reserve Center Middletown CT				USACE Project No. W912R-10-C-004		
Project Value	\$54,228,299		Goal %	Goal Amount	Actual* %	Actual Amount*
		SB	70.00%	\$26,668.81	53.50%	\$20,121,194.00
** KBEV opened the bidding process to all local and SB and worked with CTAP, a government agency that works to assists contractors reach all SDB to provide bidding opportunities. We received a number of proposals from HUBZONE contractors, however, it became evident that each of these firms were brokers who planned to subcontract the work associated with their respective bid packages. The use of such brokers is in direct conflict with the FARS that define the HUBZONE participation and with the Ethics plan that was submitted on this project.		SDB	6.20%	\$ 2,363,096.00	8.20%	\$ 3,083,968.00
		WOSB	7.00%	\$ 2,666,883.00	13.40%	\$ 4,874,724.00
		VOB	3.00%	\$ 1,626,848.97	2.00%	\$ 735,614.00
		SDV	0.90%	\$ 342,884.00	0.50%	\$ 177,415.00
		HUBZONE	9.80%	\$ 5,314,373.00**	0 %**	\$ 0.00 **

G. MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF A DIFFICULT JOB

- The design/build team faced several challenges during the design phase, not the least of which was the fast-track schedule. For example, DiBlasi Associates, Structural Engineers, began structural design work in December 2009 and completed the documents in time for the bid issuance in early 2010. In addition to the extremely ambitious schedule, the structural design included a number of special features that respond to Anti-Terrorism / Force-Protection measures and Progressive Collapse resistance.
- Because the site included wetlands, the Environmental Protection Agency required a Section 404 permit. This delayed the start of construction by nearly six weeks, further adding to what was already a very tight schedule..
- The 18-month construction schedule - that included just 14 months to complete 203,000 sf of construction and the sitework - was more aggressive than most people thought could be achieved. As Diane McCartin, USACE Project Manager says, “Few people familiar with this project believed it would be completed on time and within budget, but a quality project was delivered on time and within budget... KBE Ventures established an excellent on-site team that employed efficient management of construction as evidenced by completing the \$54M project in 14 months. They managed their sub-contractors efficiently to reduce down-time to meet the demanding schedule.”



The massive sitework component of the project called for the removal of 500,000+ cy of soils, with dramatic grade changes.

c. Indicate any special obstacles you overcame in completing the project and describe any difficulties or extenuating circumstances encountered in completing the project.

- The Reserve Center site posed a significant environmental challenge, as the site contained habitat suitable for the endangered Eastern Box Turtle. KBEV implemented a “Turtle Management Plan”, described later in this narrative, to protect the turtles.
- The winter of 2010-2011 saw record snowfalls - each posing yet another challenge to an already tight schedule.
- The biggest challenge, however, was the enormous sitework component that had to be completed before building construction could begin. More than 500,000 cy of soils needed to be removed, as well as cuts and fills of up to 48 feet, and the construction of 1800 lf of retaining walls along the wetlands. At the height of the site construction phase, trucks hauling materials were leaving the site every two minutes, removing between 800 and 1000 cy each day.
- This project represented KBE’s first major federal construction project - and an introduction to the complexities of working within Department of Defense requirements and USACE protocols. That our team was able to navigate these complexities and still outperform expectations is testament to the expertise and dedication of the entire team, the trade contract workforce, and the close involvement of the contracting agency, USACE, throughout the process.

H. SENSITIVITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE SURROUNDINGS

KBEV implemented a “Turtle Management Plan” to train workers in identifying and handling any Eastern Box Turtles encountered during construction, as the site contained habitat suitable for this endangered species. Prior to starting work on site, every tradeworker participated in a day-long training session that addressed safety, quality expectations, and “turtle” identification and handling protocols. Workers were trained to spot signs of migrating turtles, and to stop work whenever turtles were found on site, and to allow the turtles to continue their progress toward the adjacent, protected wetlands.



2 | SUMMARY

WHY THIS PROJECT IS SPECIAL AND WHY IT QUALIFIES FOR AN AWARD:

A. STATE-OF-THE-ART-ADVANCEMENT

- KBE Ventures' use of an integrated BIM process was instrumental in speeding the project design, reducing field change orders, and supporting the accelerated schedule.

B. EXCELLENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- The KBE Ventures's Design-Build team developed a comprehensive design and construction solution that significantly enhanced the original building program and met the fast-track schedule.

C. PROJECT TEAM EFFECTIVENESS

- The entire design-build team - owner, constructor, design team, trade contractors, and vendors - worked collaboratively to bring to life an exceptional design, constructed under tough winter conditions and a massive sitework challenge. KBEV provided in-depth, mandatory safety and quality control training to all trade contract employees prior to the start of their work on-site.

D. INNOVATION IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES, MATERIALS, DESIGN

- While the original US Army Corps of Engineers' program mandates LEED Silver equivalency, the project is on track for LEED Gold, and features the first "green" roof in the reserve center building program, as well as photovoltaic arrays, solar panels, and landscape features that reduce the facility's environmental impact.

E. EXCELLENCE IN CLIENT SERVICES

- The team's commitment to meeting the Owner's needs was demonstrated from the very start, with the development of an outstanding design solution that was brought to life through a collaborative construction effort focused on quality control and safety throughout. The team met the 14-month construction schedule, despite a six-week permitting delay and a record winter snowfall.

F. CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

- The US Army Corps of Engineers worked diligently to engage the Middletown community in the site selection process, and kept the community actively informed throughout its site search. The Corps worked closely with the Mayor's Advisory Council and hosted public meetings to gain community input. The result has been a positive community response to the new facility, as well as the creation of local construction work opportunities.

G. MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF A DIFFICULT JOB

- The team successfully overcame numerous challenges - a 14-month construction schedule in which to building more than 203,000 sf of specialized facilities in three buildings, the removal of more than 500,000 cy of soil, record snowfalls, the need to protect an endangered species, and a 6-week environmental permitting delay.

H. SENSITIVITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE SURROUNDINGS

- In addition to protecting the endangered Eastern Box Turtle throughout the construction, the project's sustainability measures described earlier will provide a significant benefit to the environment.



The 42-acre site adjacent to Interstate 91 included steep slopes and wetlands. The massive sitework effort included the removal of more than 500,000 cy of earthwork and the construction of 1880 lf of 25+ foot high retaining walls along the wetlands. At the height of construction, trucks hauling materials were leaving the site every two minutes.

3 | PHOTOGRAPHY



The new Armed Forces Reserve Center in Middletown, CT features a 164,000 sf structural steel-and-masonry-clad Training Center, a 36,000 sf Vehicle Maintenance Facility, and a 4,000 sf Field Equipment Storage Facility.



The Training Center features a 10,000 sf green roof, the first in the nation-wide Reserve Center construction program. The roof helps reduce the heat-island effect and stormwater runoff. The 205-panel photovoltaic array produces approximately 3.6% of the Training Center's energy, and reduces its annual carbon monoxide output by 120-145 pounds - the equivalent of reducing automobile driving by 48,735 miles per year.



The main Assembly Room in the Training Center is a two-story, window-lit space that will host a variety of functions, from cafeteria to lecture hall and performance center.



Inside the Vehicle Maintenance Facility, two massive cranes - 15-tons and 12.5 tons respectively - extend the width of the building.

4 | OPTIONAL SUBMISSIONS

High-Profile Feature: Armed Forces Reserve Center

Teamwork Essential When Serving Those Who Serve Our Nation

KBE Ventures Leads Design/Build Team for New Armed Forces Reserve Center

Middletown, CT - How do you design and build a facility to meet the demands of our modern military? You take a page from their playbook: work hard, work together, and keep your eyes focused on the mission. For the project's design-build team - KBE Ventures (KBE Building Corporation and DeRita Construction), S E A Consultants, DiBlasi Associates, Architectural Engineers, Art Engineering, and the many local, union, and non-union trade contractors - teamwork is precisely the prescription they are using to build the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Middletown.

"The KBE Ventures design-build team has thus far demonstrated true teamwork in moving this project forward on our behalf," said Diane E. McCartin, project manager, US Army Corps of Engineers-Louisville District's Chief - East Section Reserve Support Team.

The fast-tracked project calls for a 164,000sf Training Facility with administrative, educational, assembly, library, learning center, vault, weapons simulator, and physical fitness areas for four Army Reserve units and six Connecticut Army National Guard units. The center will also include a 36,000sf vehicle maintenance shop, and a 4,000sf unheated storage facility. Set on a 42-acre park, the facility will also include parking areas, walkways, and access roads. Approximately 100 personnel are expected to use the campus. The



Rendering courtesy of S E A Consultants.

The new Training Center at the Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center will feature a green roof to help reduce the heat island effect - part of the project's overall focus on sustainable design and construction.

facility is able to serve more than 850 Army Reservists and National Guardsmen, if needed.

KBE Ventures, a joint venture of KBE Building Corporation and DeRita Construction Company, is the design-builder and prime contractor for the center. Headquartered in Farmington, KBE Building Corporation is drawing on its numerous design-build successes over the last decade to manage this 19-month design and construction project. Field construction began in April 2010 with extensive excavation of the hilly site, including some cuts as deep as 40 feet. The expertise of joint venture partner DeRita Construction, a Middletown-based site contractor, has been instrumental in managing this time-critical portion of the work.

Led by S E A Consultants, the

design team has translated the myriad needs of the Army Reserve and the CT National Guard into this striking new facility set on a steeply sloping site adjacent to Interstate-91. Under the management of the US Army Corps of Engineers-Louisville District, the design incorporates the following unique features:

- US Green Building Council LEED Silver standards reduce energy use by 30% and water consumption by 50% - and the project has the potential to achieve LEED Gold.

- Renewable energy design includes photovoltaic panels and solar hot-water panels to reduce the facility's carbon footprint

- Water conserving, low-impact design (LID) features including grass swales and disconnected paved areas to increase

water infiltration

- The Training Center building will include a green roof to reduce heat island effect - the first in the nationwide Reserve program.

Continued on page 30

The Design-Build Team for the Armed Forces Reserve Center

- KBE Ventures, a joint venture of KBE Building Corporation and DeRita Construction Corporation: design-builder, prime contractor, and site contractor:

- S E A Consultants: design team leader, architect: interior designer, and civil engineer

- DiBlasi Associates: structural engineer

- Architectural Engineers Inc.: mechanical engineer

- ART Engineering: electrical engineer

- Briery Associates: geotechnical engineer

The on-site construction team, led by KBE Ventures, currently includes more than two dozen local, union, and non-union trade contractors. Additional trade contractors will join the team as work progresses.



October 25, 2011

Mr. Simon Etzel, Executive Vice President
KBE Ventures
P. O. Box 4052
Farmington, CT 06034-4052

Dear Simon:

It was a personal and professional pleasure to team with you and KBE Building Corporation on the new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Middletown, Connecticut. The result is an exceptional facility that has earned the commendations of our clients - the Army Reserve and the Connecticut National Guard, as well as the contracting agency, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District.

While KBE and Kleinfelder have worked together on previous projects, the Middletown AFRC represents our first Design-Build effort together. Our interaction throughout the competitive proposal phases set the stage for what proved to be a highly collaborative and creative partnership upon selection by the Army Corps of Engineers. Together, we were able to offer the Corps a significantly enhanced facility within the budget threshold. One of these enhancements was providing grade access to two different levels of the new Training Center, thereby, optimizing grade access to all major storage, food service and large assembly spaces. The green roof on the new Training Center is the first in the national Reserve Center program, and the project is on track to achieve LEED Gold – another enhancement our team was able to achieve beyond the base program requirements of LEED Silver.

KBE's style of open, forthright communication was refreshingly direct and positive, and was instrumental in working through the many challenges and details of the project. We were impressed with your team's ability to manage the complexities of the construction as well as the Government's extensive requirements for Quality Control, Safety, and project reporting.

KBE showed itself to be a true Design-Build Team leader. From your hands-on involvement as Principal-In-Charge to the daily tasks managed by your excellent Preconstruction team - Project Executive Jim Culkin and Preconstruction Manager Tom Hardin, BIM Specialist Jacek Stachowiak, MEP Specialist Rich Peterson, and Site Specialist Dale Cote - everyone provided consistent expertise in their respective disciplines. Your in-house BIM capabilities enhanced communication and coordination with the design team during the design phase and greatly assisted in the construction coordination effort – including an accelerated shop drawing process.

During Construction, Project Manager David Heavener led a very strong on-site team comprised of Superintendent Robert Smedley, Quality Control Officer Glenn Swanson, Site Safety & Health Officer Mark Livolsi, Assistant PM Marco D'Occhio, and Project Engineer/LEED Specialist Chris Toussaint. Through their focused efforts, the \$54 million facility, comprised of three separate structures totaling 203,000 sf, was constructed in just 14 months including the removal of over 500,000 cy of earth and while experiencing one of the severest winters in the last century.

Mr. Simon Etzel, Executive Vice President
KBE Ventures
October 25, 2011
Page 2



Thank you for the opportunity to work with KBE on the very challenging AFRC Middletown project, and we look forward to future opportunities together.

Very truly yours,

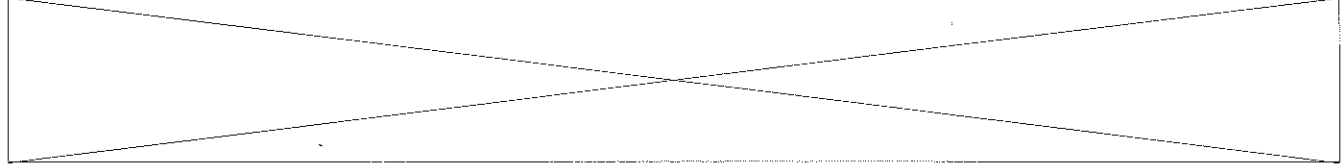
KLEINFELDER

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RM Brandon".

Robert M. Brandon, AIA
Principal-In-Charge

THE MIDDLETOWN PRESS

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[News](#)

WITH VIDEO: Army plans to preserve land on Boardman Lane as open space

Published: Thursday, April 22, 2010

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By HANNAH VAHL, Press Staff

MIDDLETOWN — Residents and politicians once battled to keep the U.S. Army out of environmentally-sensitive land on Boardman Lane, a place the Army had considered as a possible site to build a new reserve forces training center.



Now the Army, which last year selected Cucia Park as its preferred site for a three-story, 164,000-square-foot primary training facility, has a different plan for Boardman Lane, and it's one that residents who had once fought its control of the site are cheering. The Army has an option to purchase 52 acres of the land for \$1.2 million and preserve it for open space in perpetuity.

As a condition of obtaining the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetlands permit to build on Cucia Park, which would require filling about 1.6 acres of wetland, the Army will be mitigating parts of the 52-acre parcel.

Those measures will include improving the habitat quality in riparian zones near the two brooks that run through the property and regulating mowing on the lower field to better protect the habitat of the eastern box turtle, which

has been identified as a state species of concern.

The permit, obtained March 26, requires that the Army monitor the site for 10 years.

Army representatives including project manager Diane McCartin and Pedro Wasmer, the managing partner of Middleboardman Associates, which owns the property, announced their plans to members of the Westfield Residents Association Monday evening.

"I'm thrilled. I think everyone in the association is thrilled," said Westfield Residents Association Vice-Chairman Stephen Devoto. "We wanted to preserve Boardman Lane by keeping the Army out, and now we're ending up preserving the Boardman Lane site by bringing the Army in."

Wasmer said the national homebuilding company Toll Brothers Inc. had expressed interest in the site three years ago, and while the city had originally been reluctant to allow a zone change from industrial to residential, that opposition had recently softened. He said Toll Brothers made an offer on the property and was planning to build about 70 homes there, but Wasmer decided to accept the Army's offer instead.

"They were disappointed when I made the decision to go ahead with the Army's proposal, but it made sense to me. It made everyone happy," he said.

Wasmer also said he plans to sell 4.6 acres of land on which Timberlost Farm sits to the current tenant, Debbie Turrell, as soon as the land is subdivided as part of the sale to the Army. Turrell has been using the entire 88-acre property for her farm, which currently includes four horses, three donkeys, six goats, a peacock and a 40-pound tortoise, as well as 38 other animals.

"I'm so happy," said Turrell about being able to save her farm, which includes an historic colonial house in which city founding father Noah Bacon once lived.

She did, however, express regret that her animals will no longer be able to roam the entire property, saying that she has been able to look out the window while washing dishes and see her horses "running free like Mustangs in Texas."

The Army should get the title to the 52 acres of land in September, after surveying and other work is performed, Wasmer said. McCartin said the Army would prefer not to retain the title and had worked with the Middlesex Land Trust to see if it could be donated to them but ran into legal issues.

She said it would take a change in federal law for the Army to have the authority to convey the land, and members of the Westfield Residents Association seemed happy to help by lobbying their Congressional representatives. Association Chairwoman Arline Rich said she planned to have a draft letter to U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-3, ready by the next WRA meeting.

McCartin said construction has started at Cucia Park on the Armed Forces Reserve Center, with contractor KBE Ventures, a partnership between KBE Building Corp. and local company DeRita Construction Co., clearing and excavating the site.

The 42-acre site is expected to house approximately 100 full-time employees during the week and includes a training facility, maintenance shop and storage building. It should be completed by September 2011. No live ammunition rounds will be fired at the center, McCartin said.

Hannah Vahl can be reached by e-mail at hwahl@middletownpress.com.

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THE MIDDLETOWN EYE

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010

Army Unveils Training Facility, Plan to Protect Boardman Lane From Development

Boardman Lane Land to be Preserved by the Army

Pedro Wasmer, representing the group which owns 88 acres on Boardman Lane in Westfield, announced at the Westfield Residents Association quarterly meeting that he had reached an agreement to sell the majority of his land to the Army Corps of Engineers. He said that he wanted to subdivide the land into a 4.6 acre parcel which would include the historic farm and a 52 acre parcel which the Army would purchase, "We are very pleased to keep the land pristine." The sales price for the 52 acres is \$1.4M. The remaining acreage is all unbuildable wetlands, except for a 1.6 acre parcel on Boardman Lane, and "less than 8" acres which are not accessible except through the neighboring property owned by Yellow Freight, Wasmer said they have no plans for the remaining land.



Diane McCartin, lead planner for the Armed Forces Reserve Center to be built at Cucia Park, said that the Army has held several working meetings with the Middlesex Land Trust, to transfer ownership of the 52 acres to the Land Trust, "The Army does not prefer to own it in perpetuity." She praised the Land Trust as a local land

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preservation organization, however, she said that there were federal laws which complicated the possible transfer of land. She was unsure what the long-term ownership of the land would be. McCartin said that under any circumstances the land would have permanent protection from development, written into the deed.

Dennis Lowry, wetlands specialist at the Corps of Engineers, explained that the 52 acres was being preserved to replace the function of 1.6 acres of wetlands to be destroyed at Cucia Park when the Armed Forces Reserve Center is built. He highlighted the efforts they would be undertaking to improve habitat for the Eastern Box Turtle, which include tight regulations on the time of mowing and the height of the blades on the mower. He also said there was a plan for removal of invasive species, and plantings of native trees such as pin oaks and cottonwoods.

The assembled WRA members applauded the outcome for the Boardman Lane land, and



thanked Wasmer and McCartin for making it possible. Also in attendance was Council member Ron Klattenberg; speaking for the Mayor's Advisory Panel, which worked to steer the Army towards Cucia Park, Klattenberg said, "This is a dream come true."

The Armed Forces Center Plans

Jim Culkin, of KBE Building Corporation, presented the site plan and schematic of the \$51.5M Armed Forces Reserve Center at the former Cucia Park. The complex will include a main building of 160,000 square feet, a storage building of 34,000 square feet, and a large parking lot.

Culkin highlighted the environmental features of the site plan and building, which is being built to achieve a "Silver" under the LEED process of certifying environmentally responsible construction. Storm water run-off will be handled by a series of bioretention

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THIS WEEK: MEETINGS & EVENTS

Redevelopment Agency
Tues, Apr 20 - 5:30PM - Rm 208
Agenda

City Budget Hearing
Tues, Apr 20 - 6PM - Council Chambers
*Planning Dept.
*Water and Sewer Dept.
*Personnel Dept.

Board of Education
Tues, Apr 20 - 7PM - Middletown High

Citizen's Advisory Committee
Wed, Apr. 21 - 5PM - Room 208
Agenda

Common Council, Special Meeting
Wed, Apr 21 - 6:30PM - Council Chambers
Agenda

City Budget Hearing
Wed, Apr 21 - 7PM - Council Chambers
*Russell Library
*Public Works Dept.
*Health Dept.

Coverage of Recent Municipal Meetings:

- Conservation Comm.
- Redevelopment Agency
- Design Review & Pres.
- Econ. Devel. Comm.

basins, galleys below parking structures, and gentle slopes of vegetation to reduce erosion caused by water run-off from the adjacent I91. The building will have a solar water heater, solar power panels, a 'green roof' covered in low-maintenance plants, and be constructed partially with recycled materials.

McCartin said that the site plan would not be reviewed by the City's Inland Wetlands or Planning and Zoning Commission, but sighed that the review done by the Corps of Engineers environmental division and the EPA was extraordinarily thorough.

The ceremonial ground-breaking for the facility will take place on June 10th, although preliminary site work is beginning this week. Occupancy of the facility must take place by September of 2011, according to Federal Law.



Disclosure: I am vice-chair of the WRA, and played an active role in the efforts to influence the Army's site selection process.

POSTED BY FISHMUSCLE (STEPHEN H. DEVOTO) AT 5:00 AM
LABELS: ARMY BASE, WRA

o COMMENTS:

Post a Comment

Planning and Zoning
Finance & Govt Ops
Inland Wetlands
Board of Education
Common Council

If you are interested in writing about these or any other Middletown events, please drop an email to mieyee@gmail.com.



WESU JIVE AT FIVE

Click on the WESU logo to hear a daily update, *Monday through Friday*, of cultural events in Middletown, and in nearby communities. And, find out what you can hear tonight on WESU, 88.1 FM.

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EYE ON THE AIR ARCHIVES

Eye on the Air, April 9

Hosts: Ed McKeon, Richard Kamins.

Guests: Jazz pianist and composer

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Noah Baerman, and Editor of the
Middletown Press Victoria
Sundqvist.

Eye on the Air, April 2

Host: Ed McKeon. Guests: Tony
Pioppi developer of the proposed
Arawana Golf Club in Maromas, and
Dic Wheeler, director of ArtFarm.

Eye on the Air, February 12

Host: Ed McKeon
Guests: Discussing the Kleen Energy
explosion and the effects on
Middletown, Mayor Sebastian
Giuliano, plant neighbor Earle
Roberts and Deputy Fire Marshall Al
Santostefano.

Eye on the Air, February 5

Host: Ed McKeon
Guests: Middletown Recycling
Coordinator Kim O'Rourke, and
filmmaker Orson Robbins-Pianka.

Eye on the Air Archives

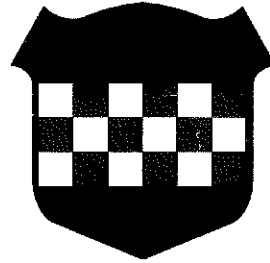
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**A COMMUNITY NEWSBLOG
WRITTEN BY COMMUNITY
MEMBERS**

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MIDDLELINKS

CT News Junkie

Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center



Ground Breaking Ceremony

June 11, 2010
11 a.m.

375 Smith Street
Middletown, CT 06457

Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center Sequence of Events

Welcome and Introduction of Guests	Col. Audrey Lewis <i>99th Regional Support Command</i>
Arrival of Official Party*	
National Anthem*	94th Army Band
Invocation*	Chap. (Col.) Kevin Cavanaugh <i>Connecticut National Guard</i>
Remarks	Maj. Gen. William Monk III <i>Commanding General, 99th Regional Support Command</i> U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman <i>U.S. Senator for Connecticut</i> U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro <i>Representing the Third District of Connecticut</i> Governor M. Jodi Rell <i>Governor of Connecticut</i> Mayor Sebastian Giuliano <i>Mayor of Middletown</i>
Ground Breaking	Honored Guests
Playing of the <i>Army Song</i> *	94th Army Band
Benediction*	Chap. (Col.) Kevin Cavanaugh
Departure of Official Party*	
Conclusion of the Ceremony	Col. Audrey Lewis

* Please stand

Major General William Monk III Commanding General, 99th RSC

Major General William Monk III presently serves as the Commanding General, 99th Regional Support Command headquartered at Fort Dix, NJ. His command is responsible to provide administrative, logistical, and facilities management support for more than 46,000 Army Reserve Soldiers in 439 units, 328 reserve centers and 33 maintenance facilities located in the 13 states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.



MG Monk's 34-year Army career has spanned the full spectrum of operational and staff assignments, and he has commanded at all levels from platoon to division and beyond. Upon his graduation from the US Military Academy at West Point, NY in 1976, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Army's Field Artillery. His first assignment was with the 2nd Battalion, 42nd Field Artillery (Lance) in Germany where his service culminated with duty as a firing battery commander. Upon his return to the United States, MG Monk joined the 1st Battalion, 27th Field Artillery (8 inch) in Fort Carson, Co., with further service in battery command and battalion staff positions.

In 1982, MG Monk began his career in the U.S. Army Reserve with the 78th Division, where his key assignments included Commander of the 2nd Battalion, 309th Regiment (FE); and Commander of the 1st Simulation Exercise Group, 1st Brigade (BCST), 78th Division (EX). In 2002, he was selected as the Assistant Division Commander for Support, 98th Division (Institutional Training) headquartered in Rochester, NY.

In 2003, MG Monk was selected for promotion to brigadier general and the dual assignment of Commander, 1st Brigade (BCST) and Assistant Division Commander of the 78th Division (TS). In May 2006, he assumed the responsibilities of Division Commander for the 78th Division (TS). On Sept. 16, 2006, MG Monk was promoted to the rank of major general and assigned to his current position of Commanding General of the 99th Regional Support Command.

MG Monk is a graduate of the US Army War College (USAWC), Carlisle Barracks, PA, and an honor graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS. He also earned a Masters of Business Administration degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ, and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the USAWC.

MG Monk has received numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit Medal and Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman U.S. Senator for Connecticut

Now in his fourth term representing Connecticut in the United States Senate, Joe Lieberman has earned a national reputation as a thoughtful, principled, and effective legislator.

He is perhaps best known as the Democratic candidate for Vice President in 2000. More than that, he is a national leader who works across party lines to find common ground, who speaks his conscience, and who gets things done for Connecticut and the country.

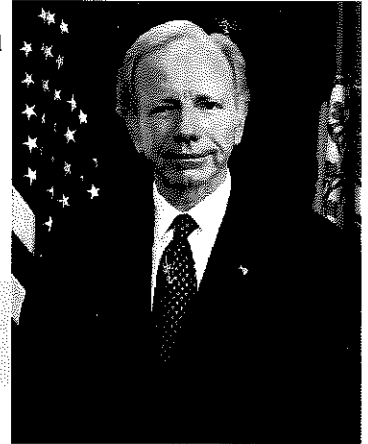
Senator Lieberman is one of Congress's most influential voices on security issues. He was the Senate's leading champion of legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security to better protect the nation from terrorist attacks, and has been at the forefront of efforts not only to increase our investment in defense, but to transform our armed forces to better meet the threats of the 21st Century.

Senator Lieberman believes in economic policies that spark business growth, encourage innovation, open the doors of opportunity for all, expand markets for American products, and keep the government's budget books in balance. He is also a champion for the ordinary investor and consumer, and is a strong advocate for investing in our public schools, empowering parents, and challenging all students to meet higher academic standards. He seeks to give all Americans, regardless of income, the chance to go to college and develop the skills they need to succeed in our global information economy.

Senator Lieberman is Chairman and former Ranking Member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which is responsible for oversight of the Department of Homeland Security and assuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the Federal Government. In addition, he is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Airland and sits on the Personnel and Seapower Subcommittees; and the Small Business Committee.

Senator Lieberman was born in Stamford, Connecticut, on February 24, 1942, and attended public schools there. He received his bachelor's degree from Yale College in 1964 and his law degree from Yale Law School in 1967. He was elected to the Connecticut State Senate in 1970 and served there for ten years, including the last six as Majority Leader. In 1980, he returned to private legal practice for two years, and from 1983 through 1988, he served as Connecticut's 21st Attorney General. He was first elected to the United States Senate in 1988.

Senator Lieberman lives in Stamford and Washington with his wife Hadassah. Together they are the proud parents of four children, four granddaughters, and two grandsons.



U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro Third District of Connecticut

Since coming to Congress, Rosa has built a reputation for constituent services and hard work. She has been recognized many times over as one of the House of Representative's top "Workhorses" by Washingtonian magazine, and has been called a "hero for the working families."



To really know Rosa, you have to know her family. Her father, Ted, came to America when he was 13, speaking no English. Rosa's mother, Luisa, was raised by Rosa's grandmother, who was widowed with six children in 1918, and supported the family by running a pastry shop, Canestri's, in New Haven's Wooster Square. From early on, Rosa's parents stressed the importance of hard work, compassion for others, and getting a quality education.

After learning these early values at home, Rosa attended the Academy of Our Lady of Mercy in Milford. Although she has degrees from Marymount College and Columbia University, her real education came from her father, Ted, an old-school civil servant, who made it his business to know every family he represented. To him, politics was about helping people.

Soon after college, Rosa followed her parents' footsteps into public service. In 1990, she was elected to Congress and has since become one of the hardest working members. She has helped improve schools, bring tax relief to middle-class families, protect employee pensions, and encourage job creation in Connecticut. Just like the lessons she learned when she was young, for Rosa, politics will always be about helping people.

Rosa is currently serving her tenth term as a United States Congresswoman for Connecticut's 3rd Congressional District. She currently serves in the leadership of the Democratic Caucus. She has served as co-chair of the House Steering and Policy Committee since 2002 and currently chairs the Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee in the 110th Congress, where she has the oversight over the nation's food safety system and ensuring that federal agencies such as the FDA and USDA prioritize science and the public interest.

Congresswoman DeLauro is known throughout Connecticut as a strong and unyielding champion for women and working families. Along with her efforts to improve food safety and child nutrition on the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, she has led the fight in Congress to achieve full pay equity for women and to ensure that all workers have access to paid sick days.

Congresswoman DeLauro is known as a plain-spoken, forthright advocate for people, an honest broker on policy who is willing to lead with all parties on matters of domestic and social policy.

Governor M. Jodi Rell Governor of Connecticut

On Jan. 3, 2007, Governor M. Jodi Rell was sworn in for her own term as Governor of the State of Connecticut. She is the state's 87th Governor and the first-ever woman Republican Governor of Connecticut.

Governor Rell has held elected office in Connecticut for more than two decades. She holds the state's highest office after serving as the 105th Lieutenant Governor for over nine years. Governor Rell also represented the 107th House District of Brookfield in the state House of Representatives, where she held key leadership posts, including Deputy House Minority Leader and Assistant House Minority Leader.

During the 2007 legislative session, Governor Rell enacted her historic Charter Oak Health Plan to bring affordable healthcare coverage to thousands of uninsured adults. The Charter Oak Health Plan officially launched on July 1, 2008.

Governor Rell also led "Team Connecticut" in saving the Groton/New London Submarine Base from closure and preserving its 31,000 jobs statewide. A similar statewide, bipartisan effort headed by the Governor and others also blocked the proposed Broadwater liquefied natural gas platform for Long Island Sound.

In her first two years in office, Governor Rell helped break the state's transportation gridlock with her historic investments in the state's railways, busways, highways and ports. She also championed legislation to invest \$100 million in stem cell research in Connecticut.

In 2008, the American Medical Association recognized Governor Rell as an "Outstanding Governor" when they presented her with the prestigious Dr. Nathan Davis Award. She was also recently recognized by the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges for her commitment to education.

Over the past several years, Governor Rell has served on various local, state and national organizations. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut and the Candlewood Lions Club. She was previously active in the National Conference of Lieutenant Governors and served as President of the National Order of Women Legislators (NOWLS).

Governor Rell attended Old Dominion University and Western Connecticut State University. She received honorary doctor of law degrees from the University of Hartford in 2001 and the University of New Haven in 2004 and an honorary doctor of humane letters from the University of Bridgeport in 2010.



Mayor Sebastian Giuliano

Mayor of Middletown

Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano has been mayor of the City of Middletown since 2005. After attending the United States Military Academy at West Point from 1971 to 1973, he graduated Boston College in 1975 and received his juris doctorate from The Catholic University of America in 1978.

After graduating, he opened the Law Office of Sebastian N. Giuliano, which provided law services for more than 20 years. From 2001, Mayor Giuliano opened Giuliano and Scalora in Middletown with fellow attorney Sebastian Scalora.

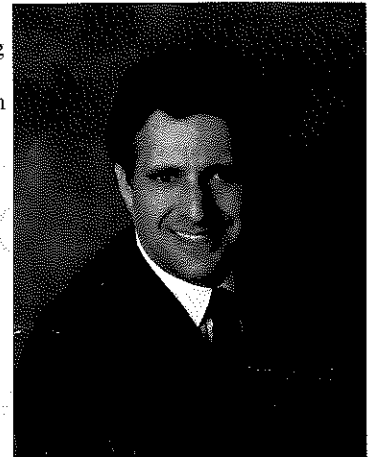
Mayor Giuliano's professional law career began Oct. 4, 1978, when he was admitted to all Courts of the State of Connecticut. He was subsequently admitted to the U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut in December 1978, to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in October 1987, and to the U.S. Supreme Court in November 1987.

He was appointed Hearing Officer for the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities by Connecticut's governor in 1997. His professional memberships include the Connecticut Bar Association and the Guild of Catholic Lawyers, Diocese of Norwich.

Middletown is the hub of Middlesex County, located on the Connecticut River with easy access to major highways, airports, railroads and other modes of transportation. The city's 42 square miles include rural, suburban and urban settings, an historic downtown and large city-owned parks and open spaces.

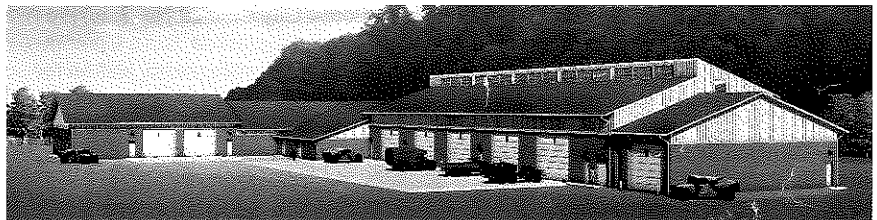
Mayor Giuliano has been very active in the Middletown and Middlesex County communities, serving as a member of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, on the Middletown 350th Anniversary Committee in 2001, as the Xavier High School Alumni Association director from 1991 to 1996, as vice president of the St. Sebastian School Board from 1989 to 2001, on the St. Sebastian Pastor's Advisor Committee from 1999 to 2001, as president of the Kiwanis Club of Middletown from 2007 to 2008, as past director and vice president of the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center of Central Connecticut, as Advocate for the Knights of Columbus – Forest City Council No. 3, on the Long Hill Estate Authority, as vice chair of the Middletown Republican Town Committee, as co-chair of the Middlesex County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, and on the Mount Saint John's School Board of Directors.

Mayor Giuliano has been married to wife Paula for 30 years. They have three children: Nicholas, Paul and Francesca.



Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center Facility Overview

- Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with approximately 168,000 square feet, vehicle maintenance shop with approximately 36,000 square feet, and unheated storage building with approximately 4,000 square feet
- Total project of \$54 million was awarded to KBE Ventures, a joint venture between KBE Building Corporation from Framington, Conn., and DeRita Construction Co. from Middletown, Conn.
- The Armed Forces Reserve Center and organizational maintenance facility in Middletown, Conn., replaces the Army Reserve Centers located in Middletown, New Haven and Milford, as well as Connecticut National Guard armories in Manchester and Newington
- It is estimated that 700 Army Reserve and Connecticut National Guard personnel will utilize the new complex on rotating schedules
- The new complex incorporates all the Reserve's latest training and administration requirements while using an array of sustainability concepts
- This AFRC is part of construction undertaken as a direct result of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations made in 2005
- Complex is scheduled to be home to Soldiers from the Army Reserve's 2200th Military Intelligence Detachment, 439th Quartermaster Company, 395th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 344th Military Police Company and 617th Quartermaster Detachment, as well as the Connecticut National Guard's 143rd Area Support Group, 118th Medical Battalion, 141st Medical Company, Bravo and Delta Companies, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry, and the Statewide Human Resources Office.



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News

Dignitaries attend ribbon cutting for Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose Armed Forces Reserve Center in Middletown

Monday, December 12, 2011 4:07 PM EST

By JIM SALEMI
Press Staff

MIDDLETOWN — Local, state, U.S., and military dignitaries were on hand for a ribbon cutting Saturday evening to mark the opening of the new Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose Armed Forces Reserve Center.

The new center was named for Middletown-born Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose, regarded as WWII's "greatest forgotten hero" by some biographers and historians because he was killed in action just before the war ended, and the news of the war ending diverted attention from his death.

The reserve center was built to consolidate five reserve and guard centers in Manchester, Middletown, New Haven, Milford and Newington, as part of the 2005 amendment to the 1990 Base Realignment and Closure Act. The act mandated the closure of 47 bases--most of which are in the northeast--and the opening of 27 new bases, Maj. Gen. William D. Razz Waff, commanding general of the 99th regional support command, said during his remarks at the dedication ceremony.

"The statistics (on the size of the facility) are impressive. But it's more than brick-and-mortar. It is an investment in the future for soldiers and future soldiers," he said, before encouraging soldiers stationed there to "do Rose a favor and look at his plaque and memorabilia.

"Rose was a great role model for us," Waff said. "Remember, you walk in his footsteps."

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro included the language naming the facility for Rose in the 2005 defense authorization bill.

DeLauro was one of the congressional delegates on hand to cut the ribbon, along with Sen. Richard Blumenthal and Frank Rowe, senior congressional aide to Sen. Joe Lieberman. Waff, along with Rev. Walter Sitt, a 3rd Armor Division veteran who served under Rose in WWII, participated in the cutting of the ribbon as well as an unveiling of a plaque that will be hung at the reserve center. State Rep. Matt Lesser, U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney and a delegation of local leaders, including Mayor Dan Drew and members of the common council also attended the ceremony.

"I'm so pleased to have this facility named for a local hero, Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose," DeLauro said. Then she said to soldiers, "I salute you as I salute him. We can never say thank you enough," she said.

"Maj. Gen. Rose gave his life for his community. It's fitting we honor a Middletown hero," she said.

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal singled out the Connecticut National Guard.

"When you call out the National Guard, you call out America. When you call out the Connecticut National Guard, you call out the best in America," Blumenthal said.

Rev. Sitt cited a report on an interview with Rose by retired 60 Minutes correspondent Andy Rooney, when he was covering WWII:

"He was a leader down where they fight. Not all great generals were recognized. Maurice Rose was a great one and had a good reputation among the people who knew what was going on, but his name was not in the headlines as Patton's so often was. Rose led from the front of his armored division."

The reverend also read a copy of a telegram Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower sent to Rose's widow three days after Rose was killed:

"My admiration, respect, and affection for your late husband were so profound that I feel compelled to send you some word of sympathy in your tragic loss ... He was not only one of our bravest and best but was a leader who inspired his men to speedy accomplishment of tasks that to a lesser man would have appeared almost impossible. He was out in front of his Division leading it in one of his famous actions when he met his death ..."

Three other WWII veterans who served with the 3rd Armored Division under Rose were also on hand to witness the dedication of the building named for their former commander: Russ Eick of Durham, Don Rizzo of Rocky Hill, Allen Knisley of Farmington.

The \$54.2-million reserve center building is approximately 164,000 square feet with a 35,853 square-foot maintenance shop and a 3,984 square-foot storage building.

An estimate 100 full-time service personnel will work at the new facility, and serve up to 700 personnel on a rotating basis.

The new facility will be used for classroom training, including simulated weapons training and vehicle maintenance. No live ammunition will be used at the training facility.

The training center will replace the Army reserve centers in Middletown, New Haven and Milford, as well as the Connecticut National Guard armories in Manchester and Newington.

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