



# Fort **BLISS**



**GARRISON COMMAND NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2013**



# DAYLEY'S UPDATE

This last month was a great one for the Garrison and Team Bliss.

To begin with, we cut the ribbon on our new Department of Emergency Services complex at East Fort Bliss. It is the first such all-inclusive facility for any large installation in the Army and is, again, the standard all other installations hope to obtain.

Our Team Bliss DES is one of the finest examples of multi-agency cooperation. This past month, they joined with the FBI in a multi-agency "active shooter" training scenario. This large scale training is not a rare occurrence for our emergency management agencies as they are constantly and consistently working to provide our community with the very best services to be found anywhere in the Army.

This last month also saw Fort Bliss' involvement with the Special Olympics. We had volunteers from all parts of Team Bliss come out to support these athletes and their events. In this newsletter you will be able to see some of our youngest volunteers, from the Milam Youth Activity Center lending their time to the effort.

Team Bliss is blessed with a population of motivated and talented individuals who, time and again, come out to donate their efforts to the betterment of our wonderful community. The placement of a restored UH-1F Iroquois Vietnam-era helicopter placed, in memoriam, in front of the Warrior Transition Battalion is a great example of this giving spirit. Pulled from the dust of White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, it took the care and attention of nearly 50 individuals to restore it to its rightful glory. April was a great month for Team Bliss, and May is promising to be even better.



Col. Brant V. Dayley  
Fort Bliss Garrison Commander

## FBI Active Shooter Training



In February 2013, the FBI was tasked by the Attorney General to assist in the investigation of violent acts and shootings occurring in a place of public use and in the investigation of mass killings and attempted mass killings at the request of law enforcement officials.

As part of a nation-wide White House driven initiative to facilitate "active shooter" training across the country, the FBI Headquarters, El Paso Division hosted an interagency Mass casualty Table Top Exercise centered around a "active shooter" event and facilitated by the FBI's Critical Incident Response Group.

The exercise focused on complex/multi-scene management; media management; interagency response, de-confliction and competing jurisdictions, and victim, witness and information management. Prior to the exercise was a presentation by the Aurora, Colorado Police Department and FBI Denver regarding the "Mass Casualty Active Shooter" incident at the Century 16 Multiplex Theater last July.

Attending in support of this training event, along with the leadership of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies was MG Dana Pittard, Commanding General Fort Bliss, COL Brant Dayley, Garrison Commander and the leadership of the Directorate of Emergency Services. The next phase of this training will be hosted by the FBI at the newly opened Directorate of Emergency Services building located on East Bliss.



(Right) Steve Edmonds, deputy director of Emergency Services; Sgt. Maj. Barnes, Fort Bliss Garrison command sergeant major; Col. Brant V. Dayley, Fort Bliss Garrison commander; Lt. Col. Richard J. Ball, director of Emergency Services; and Chief Butler gather to cut the ribbon outside the new DES facility at a ceremony held Monday. The facility is located at Bldg. 20709 at the corner of Sergeant Major Boulevard and Anzio Way at East Fort Bliss.

## DES building complete

On 15 April 2013, Fort Bliss cut the ribbon commemorating the official opening of the new Directorate of Emergency Services facility located at 20709 Sergeant Major Blvd on East Fort Bliss. The ceremony was attended by key members of the installation as well as key members of the El Paso Emergency Services Community.

The groundbreaking for this facility was on 26 October 2010 and, now completed, encompasses over fifty two thousand square feet. This facility is the first of its kind built within IMCOM that consolidates Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Physical Security in a single facility providing “one stop shopping” for the Team Bliss community.

This facility has been as been deemed the Army standard for all future DES facilities built on large Army installations. Additionally, part of the new DES is a two-company fire station which supports East Fort Bliss and also houses, through partnership with William Beaumont Army Medical Center, a forward deployed an Emergency Medical Services unit.

Lastly, it is a state-of-the-art consolidated dispatch facility that, through partnership with El Paso E-911, will become a Public Safety Answering Point further enhancing support to the installation while also providing a tertiary capability to El Paso E-911 to support the city should they lose their ability to operate at their primary and secondary locations.

The construction of this new facility along with the partnerships with WBAMC and El Paso County E-911 translates into increased customer service for not only the members of Team Bliss but the Team El Paso Community as a whole.





## Myac youth assist Special Olympics

Milam Youth Activity Center youth assisted in setting up for a Special Olympics Aquatics meet. Youth helped time all races and presented medals to the winning athletes. MYAC youth felt honored to be the ones to present them with their medals. MYAC 4H Community Club members always go above and beyond to give back to their community even if it means getting up early on a Saturday.





# Old war bird's final resting place, WTB

Gilbert Telles Jr.  
Garrison Public Affairs

An old war bird finds new life as a beacon of inspiration for men and women recuperating from the scars of war. Wounded Warriors, past and present attended the dedication ceremony close to a year ago. Emotions were evident at the ceremony, especially from Vietnam era veterans who well remember the distinctive whoop, whoop, sound of its rotors, meaning that relief was coming. As a medical evacuation platform during the war, it helped save countless lives by facilitating and expediting the evacuation of those injured at the battle front to life saving medical treatment.

Chief Warrant Officers 2 Dennis Wayman and Clint Lopez and Hector Hernandez, all from the Warrior Transition Battalion, saw the project from start to finish at various stages of acquisition, transportation and restoration of the "Huey."

Wayman's contribution was in the acquisition and research of obtaining the transfer of the Huey to Fort Bliss and the WTB as a permanent display at the Headquarters building. "It's probably the most popular aircraft in the Army inventory," said Wayman. "It's certainly my favorite and it's also the (most) widely used MedEvac aircraft since the Blackhawk."

Lopez's involvement with the restoration project was in the details of getting the decals right for the authen-

ticity of the display. This was accomplished with connections he has with Soldiers from his home station in Albuquerque, N.M., who acquired the decals from a company in California.

One person that all three can agree on implicitly is their admiration for Angel Gonzalez. Gonzalez at that time was a 16-year-old Americas High School student and Navy Junior ROTC cadet, who found out about the project and was moved to help in commemoration to

both his grandfathers' service. His paternal grandfather served in the Army during WWII and his maternal grandfather served in the Army during the Korean War.

Gonzalez enlisted the help of his brother Raul to donate space and access to tools to work on the restoration at his transmission shop. This act was instrumental in getting the project going, without the proper site and tools, the restoration would have been next to impossible to do.

It is almost a year since the project was completed, and as Hector Hernandez stated "I'm always looking for ways to make the display better."

His next step is in putting bricks around the display with the names of people that family or friends want to honor for their service. If you would like to purchase a brick contact Mr. Hector Hernandez for information at [hector.a.hernandez1.civ@mail.mil](mailto:hector.a.hernandez1.civ@mail.mil), or call 838-4861.



The restored UH-1F Iroquois with medical evacuation emblems sits at its new location in front of the Warrior Transition Battalion Headquarters building. It took over three months to restore the aircraft and over 50 people and countless man hours of hard work and dedication, all to honor our wounded warriors, past, present, and future.



# GARRISON PROJECTS

WORKING TO MAKE FORT BLISS YOUR ARMY HOME

## **PLANTING 20,000 TREES ACROSS FORT BLISS:**

Through the cooperation of the Department of Public Works and Balfour Beatty Communities, Team Bliss has already planted 10,622 trees. We will continue to plant trees throughout 2013 in pursuit of the 20,000 tree goal. Drip line irrigation is scheduled to be added this year to ensure the young trees have the best chance to thrive possible.

## **SKATE PARK:**

Team Bliss is constructing a skateboarding park in the 212th Fires Brigade footprint. The park will reuse the site of the temporary Blackhawk Shoppette and uses the money Fort Bliss received from the Team Bliss recycling revenues.

## **WALKING/JOGGING PATH LIGHTS:**

Street lighting will be installed along the West Bliss parade field route to illuminate the areas where the path crosses vehicular roads.

## **BICYCLE PATH NETWORK:**

A network of bicycle paths is being developed to connect West and East Fort Bliss. The network will use as many existing roads as possible.

## **LIBRARY ROOM REPURPOSING:**

A room in Building 2 will be repurposed into a multi-purpose room for things like meetings, crafts and spillover library space. The project was downsized and is now a self-help project. Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation will partner with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers to paint and carpet the space and make it programmable.

## **ASIST TRAINING:**

Since receiving the mission to initiate 100% of incoming personnel in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, the The Fort Bliss Wellness Fusion Campus has trained 2760 incoming personnel. The installation now has the ability to conduct six inprocessing workshops simultaneously.

