

Fort Bliss honors volunteers with ceremony

MELISSA HOUSE

Monitor Staff

They logged more than 1,000 hours last year, and for their efforts, the 142 volunteers were recognized at the Fort Bliss Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at the Centennial Club Friday as part of National Volunteer Week.

This year marks the 34th celebration of the spirit of service in America. In the annual Presidential Proclamation, President George W. Bush said America's volunteers "demonstrate that the strength of our nation lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. During National Volunteer Week, we recognize all those who have touched the lives of others with their kindness and who have made our country a better place by helping their fellow Americans."

The guest speaker for the ceremony was Texas First Lady Anita Perry, who said she was honored to help recognize the post's volunteers.

"You have all made an impact on the life of another person, no matter the size of the task," Perry said. "As Aesop said – no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. I know you don't volunteer to be reorganized. But it is our duty to recognize your acts of kindness as the beneficiaries of the unselfish commitment you have made. With endless generosity, you contribute to our state, our nation and the Army through your service."

Texas itself, she said, is defined by volunteers – the ones who volunteered in 1835 to fight for independence under Gen. Sam Houston and those who helped the Army carry out its fight.

"Throughout history, volunteers have played a fundamental role in the lives of Soldiers and their families," Perry said. "Without them, Texas would be a very different place. Your tremendous contributions create an even better place to live, work and



MELISSA HOUSE

Texas First Lady Anita Perry addresses the guests at the Fort Bliss Volunteer Recognition ceremony at the Centennial Club Friday.

raise your family."

Tephania Hopper, the post's Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator, said post wide, more than 2,000 individuals and groups volunteered more than 50,000 hours. At the going hourly rate of \$18.77, that translated into more than \$1 million. Units and agencies nominated their top volunteers for Helping Hand Service Awards, Outstanding Youth Volunteer and Volunteer of the Year Awards.

"We recognize them for their commitment and dedication of time and talent," Hopper said. "Without their support, many programs of post would not exist or would be very limited."

Volunteers of the Year

- Sandra Walsch, Allied Liaison
- Celia Avery, ADA Test Command
- Marie Doyle, Garrison Command
- Michael Boldon, USASMA
- Cindy Barrington, WBAMC
- Glenda Beever, 4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division
- Sonja Dahmer, 6th ADA Brigade
- Dina Whitehouse, 11th ADA Brigade
- Kristen Daly, 31th ADA Brigade
- Lusica Hankins, 32nd AAMDC
- Kayla Stalmark, 76th Military Police Battalion
- Francis Torres, 108th ADA Brigade
- William Davenport, 470th Military Intelligence Brigade
- Paul Parks, ADA Museum
- Gilberte McLaughlin, American Red Cross, WBAMC
- Linda Levings, Army Community Service
- Jerry Batts, Child and Youth Services
- Jeannine Brasel, Girl Scouts
- Patricia Murray, NCO Wives Club
- Angela King, Officer and Civilian Spouse Association
- Nancy Scaratino, Old Fort Bliss
- Marilyn Christman, Religious Activities
- Irene Hendley, Society of Military Widows
- Jeffrey Harvey, USO
- Cody Logsdon, Venture Crew
- Jeffrey Kurka, Partner in Education Soldier of the Year

Smile!

COMPLETE FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Walter L. Tippin, D.D.S.

Member Of: American Dental Association
Texas Dental Association
El Paso Dental Society
Academy of General Dentistry
Academy of GP Orthodontics
El Paso del Norte Study Club



**United Concordia
Companies, Inc.™**

855-4200

3021 TRAWOOD

GEORGE DIETER & TRAWOOD



- NEW PATIENTS WELCOME
- CHILDREN • ADULTS & SENIOR CITIZENS
- DIGITAL XRAYS
- NITROUS OXIDE (LAUGHING GAS)
- CREDIT TERMS
AVAILABLE/INSURANCE ACCEPTED
- CONVENIENT HOURS
- MEDICAID ACCEPTED FOR AGES 1-20 ONLY
- C.H.I.P.S. WELCOME
- INTRAORAL CAMERA TECHNOLOGY
- COSMETIC DENTISTRY

EMERGENCIES ACCEPTED