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LOUISVILLE DISTRICT



***Fort Campbell project
going for gold***
page 4

***Feather Creek project
right as rain***
page 3



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On the cover: The new Sustainment Brigade Administration Facility at Fort Campbell was designed with the latest sustainability features.



**Please conserve:
Think before you print.**

Commander's Comments

Team,

As the year draws to a close, I want to begin by thanking you for your hard work and dedication. Even with the uncertainty brought on by sequestration and the government shutdown, the Louisville District has maintained its commitment to excellence. Despite these two major distractions, 2013 was a huge year for us by all measures.

The district set three shells at Olmsted (with another two ready to go), turned over 15 Army Reserve Centers, dealt with flooding along the Wabash River, and earned LEED Gold for four buildings.

Ben Robertson from Engineering Division was presented the Value Engineering Excellence Award by USACE Headquarters for developing an integrated approach to value engineering as well as a Value Program Management Plan for the Army Reserve Construction Program.

Also, in 2013, the Louisville District was first among the Corps of Engineers districts in contract obligations to Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses with more than \$77 million obligated. These are only a few of the many examples I could mention of how you have excelled as individuals and as a district in the past year. I look forward to seeing what heights we reach in 2014.

With a federal budget being seriously considered for the first time in years, and with the Olmsted authorized funding limit problem behind us, I suspect that this next year will be less turbulent for us than the last ... But we'll be prepared for whatever comes.



Col. Luke T. Leonard
Commander and District Engineer
Louisville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Finally, I wish each of you Happy Holidays. Make the most of time with your family and friends and be safe as you travel the roads as the winter weather arrived early this year. Let us all remember our friends serving overseas in our thoughts and prayers, this season and always.

Building strong!

Luke

Contents

Feather Creek project right as rain	3
Fort Campbell project going for gold	4
Savanna Army Depot gets green light for environmental cleanup	5
Small business program receives top honors	6
Civil works project team earns regional award	6
Long-serving team members share closer look at lives of distinction	7
Thanksgiving work keeps Olmsted dam construction on schedule	8

Feather Creek project right as rain

Carol Labashosky, public affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Feather Creek, Clinton, Ind., Flood Risk Management Project is complete. Amy Babey, Louisville District plan formulation section chief, calls the project the “trifecta of partnerships.” A concerted effort from stakeholders, the local sponsor and local and federal government brought all the pieces together for the residents of Clinton.

This project had been ongoing since the 1980s. History revealed devastating headwater flooding in the area.

“The most recent significant flood occurred in 1985, but damages to structures along Feather Creek occurred following a two-year flood event,” said Babey. After a federal interest determination that the recommended plan met the intent for projects under Section 205 of the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) for Small Flood Control Projects, the Corps proceeded with the design and construction of the channel-widening project. The Feather Creek channel was widened for a distance of approximately 3,300 linear feet from the North Street Bridge to the railroad bridge. The project also includes a flood warning system and an evacuation plan.

But the project was not without its challenges. Between 2002 and 2012, fiscal constraints and issues with real estate acquisition delayed the project. Even so, the project was able to remain active. Federal funds were allocated in June 2011 which allowed the completion of the survey of the existing channel alignment and initiation of hydraulics and hydrology evaluation of survey data. However, all federal CAP funds nationwide not associated with a construction contract were revoked from projects at the end of fiscal year 2011, delaying the project once again.

In 2012, Corps Louisville District Commander Col. Luke Leonard and his staff attended a public meeting in Clinton at the request of residents and the congressional delegation representing the Clinton area. The meeting allowed residents to voice their concerns over flooding in the area. Residents displayed photos of the flood waters in their homes and spoke about rapidly rising waters during a flood creating life-threatening scenarios. One resident even said that row boats had been used for



Nick Bibelhauser

The Feather Creek channel was widened as part of a flood risk management project.

rescues during flooding. These descriptions did not fall on deaf ears, according to Babey.

Within a few months of the public meeting, the Corps secured the Federal funding for the project, which was 75 percent of the total cost. The City of Clinton funded the remaining 25 percent—no easy task, considering the size of the community. Officials in the City of Clinton worked hard despite national budget issues and were able to reach out for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (IOCRA).

Kathleen Weissenberger, director of the Grant Services Division for IOCRA, commented, “The Feather Creek improvements are critical to the health, safety and quality of life for Clinton residents. When city leadership and residents brought this vital project to the forefront, we were pleased to utilize our CDBG-Disaster Recovery funds to partner with the city and the Army Corps of Engineers to address the severe flooding problems.”

Once the construction contract was awarded in September 2012, the channel-widening project commenced in earnest. In the spring of 2013, during construction, heavy rains fell at the project site, inundating the Feather Creek channel. But even with only 30 percent of the project complete, the reduced flooding and improvements to the channel were already making a difference in Clinton.

Clinton Mayor Jack Gilfoy said, “I have talked to the people that live in the Feather Creek area, and twice this past

summer they stated that they would have had water in their yards and in their homes if this project had not been completed....It has improved the appearance, health and safety of the community overall.

“If it was not for the funding from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs, this project would not have turned into a reality. Not only has this project improved the quality of life for the City but it will stimulate the economy in the long run.”

Another issue associated with the channel-widening involved potential impacts to the stability of a home adjacent to a retaining wall being constructed along the Feather Creek channel. The project was modified to underpin portions of the home and to construct a fence to alleviate safety concerns along the retaining wall.

To mitigate for impacts to the riparian corridor along Feather Creek, the project also included tree planting in areas along the channel corridor.

Open communication with the local sponsor, congressional interests and residents allowed the Feather Creek project to stay on course even with the fiscal delays. The importance of public meetings in Clinton could not be stressed enough, said Babey. The Corps was transparent and straight forward with residents, businesses and other stakeholders, emphasizing that slow and steady wins the race.

The Corps’ message? The Corps would complete the project and provide flood damage reduction benefits.

And it did.

Designed with sustainability in mind

Fort Campbell project going for gold

Katie Newton, public affairs

A new sustainability pilot project—the Fort Campbell Sustainment Brigade Administration Facility—is finishing up and is on track for the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification thanks to the project design team's plan to incorporate green features.

The 30,900 square foot facility, which will house the Sustainment Brigade Defense Finance (DFAS) to process military pay actions, boasts many sustainability features. It includes a Photovoltaic Panel system, Geothermal HVAC, rainwater harvesting system and will reduce energy consumption by 50 percent.

"It's been a big success from design, construction, the customer's and the user's perspective," said Derek Henry, Louisville District project engineer/architect.

Although Fort Campbell has LEED certified projects, this is the first of its kind for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District's in-house design team.

"The intent of the pilot project was to establish a regional baseline solution for design elements and design processes most suitable for sustainable design at Fort Campbell with the idea that the elements and processes utilized for this design could be replicated on future projects at Fort Campbell," said Henry.

The project design team worked to ensure that no green feature was overlooked for this \$12 million project. The team focused on several areas in the planning phase including:

- Storm water management: Through the use of pervious pavement, bioretention and rainwater harvesting, all storm water is retained onsite for infiltration.
- Geothermal HVAC heat pump system: Using the earth as a heat source in the winter and a heat sink in the summer, this design takes advantage of the moderate temperatures in the ground to boost efficiency and reduce the operational costs of heating and cooling systems.
- Solar hot water: The solar hot water heating system is used to save energy on domestic hot water heating. Energy



The new Sustainment Brigade Administration Facility at Fort Campbell was designed with the latest sustainability features.

collected from rooftop solar collectors will be used to heat 30 percent of the facility's domestic hot water.

- Rainwater harvesting system: Rainwater will be used for flushing water closets and urinals with potable water back up. This resulted in a 41 percent reduction in potable water use.
- Lighting design strategy: Pendant direct/indirect lighting provides more uniform lighting levels throughout the spaces and provides brighter ambient light with fewer fixtures. Lighting controls in the outer zones of the building are equipped with daylighting sensors and dimmable fixtures to take advantage of free energy and high quality light provided by the sun.
- Building orientation: The building features a passive solar design to maximize solar interior light and is positioned with primary occupied spaces along the southern exposure.
- Building envelope – insulated concrete forms (ICF): ICF were utilized for their thermal and building envelope qualities, creating an energy efficient exterior wall system.
- Photovoltaic panel array with localized micro inverters: On-site renewable energy generation was implemented to lower the overall energy consumption of the facility. Energy generated is put back into the grid rather than supporting the facility demand.

All of these features help to meet the LEED criteria for gold certification, which is expected in January 2014.

"Achieving LEED gold is a significant accomplishment for Louisville District in-house design and our partners demonstrating our capabilities in sustainable design and construction," said Henry. "A true atmosphere of partnership and trust between engineering, construction, Fort Campbell Department of Public Works, and the contractor was critical to the project's success. No single entity would have been successful without all parties being successful."

Project design team

Derek Henry - Project Engineer/Architect
Isaiah Weilbaker - Civil Engineer
Josh Mudd - Structural Engineer
Vu Nguyen - Mechanical Engineer
Beau Gaddie - Electrical Engineer
Todd Chandler - Electrical Engineer/
Lighting Design
Jessica O'Bryan - Interior Designer
Justin Roosa - Geotechnical Engineer
Ron Holmberg - Stormwater Design
Luke Cooper - Cost Engineer
Jessica Charles - Construction Project Engineer
Nora Hawk - Project Manager
Alex Herrera - Project Managers

Installation Restoration Program

Savanna Army Depot sites get green light for environmental cleanup



The CF Plant Melt and Pour Facility site was deemed No Further Action at Savanna Army Depot in Savanna, Ill.

Katie Newton, public affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been working at the Savanna Army Depot (SVDA), a 13,062-acre Army Installation in Savanna, Ill., to conduct Installation Restoration Program (IRP) environmental activities since the early 1990s.

Recently, ten environmental sites reached a milestone when a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed for those sites allowing cleanup work to begin on four of them, and six were deemed No Further Action (NFA) sites.

"It's another step closer to being able to transfer additional property to either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA)," said Dick Kennard, Louisville District Army Corps of Engineers geologist.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been conducting the assessment and remediation of site-related contamination as required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and the preparation for transferring ownership of land parcels to other government entities or the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA).

SVDA was placed on the National Priorities List and as a result, CERCLA

IRP activities have been ongoing at the installation since the early 1990s. Activities at the Installation included the intermittent handling, processing and storage of munitions, explosives and industrial chemicals since operations began in 1917 until the termination of the facility's mission in 1995. In 2000, SVDA officially closed under BRAC and all industrial activities ceased.

As part of the BRAC closure process an installation-wide Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) was conducted that identified areas where storage, release or disposal of hazardous substances or petroleum products or their derivatives may have occurred. The survey identified areas that required further evaluation. The Corps has been working to assess those sites across the property.

The ten sites in the signed ROD include:

- Liquid Propellant Burn Area
- Former Group I Load Line (CF Plant) Melt and Pour Facility
- Pole Storage Area
- Contaminated Waste Processor
- Former Coal Storage Area
- Open Drum Storage Area
- Ammonium Nitrate Crystallization (CN Plant) Boiler Building with Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)
- CF Plant Drilling and Boosting

Building

- Group III Load Line (CL plant) Compressor Building
- CF Plant Generator Building.

Only four of these ten sites require remedial action including the Pole Storage Area, the Former Coal Storage Area, the Open Drum Storage and the CN Plant Boiler Building with USTs.

The recommended remedial alternative for those sites includes soil excavation with offsite disposal to allow unrestricted future use of the land. "This helps prevent exposure to any chemicals of concern," said Kennard.

The sites that require remedial action will be contracted out in the spring of 2014 and work will be executed in the fall of 2014.

The remaining six sites were NFA sites, where no action is needed and the land is ready to be transferred to another entity. Additionally, three more NFA sites were identified and those will be documented in a NFA ROD to be officially signed in 2014.

"There will still be approximately 55 sites that will require some type of additional remedial investigation, remedial action and/or remediation in place," said Kennard. "But finding resolutions for these 13 sites is a big step in the right direction."



The Former Coal Storage Area at Savanna Army Depot is one of the sites that will require further remedial action.

Small business program receives top honors



Col. Luke Leonard, Jacque Gee, and Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, commander, USACE, attended the SAME Small Business Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

In November 2013, Col. Luke Leonard, Louisville District commander, Denise Bush, chief of contracting, and Jacque Gee, deputy for small business, attended the Society of American Military Engi-

neers 2013 Small Business Conference in Kansas City, Mo.

At the conference, Leonard accepted two awards on behalf of the Louisville District. The first award recognized the Louisville District for being first among U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) districts in contract obligations to Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB) with more than \$77 million in contract obligations for fiscal year 2013.

The second award was presented for awarding 11.8 percent of contract dollars to SDVOSBs in fiscal year 2013, placing the district in eighth place overall among USACE districts.

In fiscal year 2013, the Louisville District obligated more than \$652 million in contracts with more than \$292 million awarded to the small business community. Of that \$292 million, the Louisville District awarded more than 11.8 percent to

the SDVOSB community, exceeding the district goal of 4 percent for that socio-economic category.

"The Louisville District is committed and dedicated to not only the success of the SDVOSB program, but the success of the overall Small Business Program as demonstrated by the more than \$292 million that were awarded to small business concerns in fiscal year 2013," said Gee. "I'm personally committed to ensuring we achieve all of our small business goals in fiscal year 2014."

The Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-183) established a procurement program to provide procuring agencies with the authority to set acquisitions aside for exclusive competition among SDVOSB concerns.

Civil works project team earns regional award



Carol Labashosky, public affairs

The district received a big pat on the back in the form of a letter of appreciation and award for an Ohio civil works project. Kwest L.L.C. was the prime contractor on Louisville District's Holes Creek, Ohio, Flood Damage Reduction Project in West Carrollton, and the company generated the award submission.

The Kwest Group recently won an "Excellence in Construction" award from

the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Northern Ohio Chapter. The award was based on project uniqueness, quality, safety, teamwork and significance of the project to the local community. The team is now eligible to win a national-level award. The Board of Directors for the ABC Northern Ohio Chapter also chose the Holes Creek Project as their Project of the Year and to receive their Chairman's Cup Award.

The citation noted the teamwork

between Kwest, USACE, and the sponsor, Miami Conservancy District. The Holes Creek Civil Works project manager Barry Schueler accepted the Excellence in Construction Award.

"I would like to express my appreciation to the USACE project team members who worked on this contract," said Schueler. They are Chris Hesse, Arnold "Randy" Randolph and Renato Leonardi from construction division; Ken Lamkin, Isaiah Weilbaker, Nick Beckmann, Nick Turpen and Bill Dorsch from engineering division; and Jason Meyer from real estate.



How well do you know your partners?

Long-serving team members share closer look at lives of distinction



Cathy Priest, Olmsted Division business manager, in the Olmsted Office.

Jon Fleshman, Olmsted Division

Cathy Priest is the business manager for the Corps of Engineer's Olmsted Division and only one of three team members whose Olmsted work history predates the construction of the resident office.

"On June 26, 1993, I started on the

Olmsted project, working out of a building at Lock and Dam 53," she recalls. "I had to go down to the powerhouse to use their copier. There were snakes on the steps. It was kind of a bare bones operation."

Priest arrived on the Illinois scene from the Seattle District's Spokane Area Office. On top of her 28 years with the Corps of

Engineers, the Hardinsburg, Ky., native spent eight with the Army at Fort Knox. In 1975 Priest says she came into government service as a clerk typist for a combat training company handling recruits. Then she served all officers at the fort's Armor School before moving to Knox's regional Reserve Officer Training Command.

"At Fort Knox I took the civil service exam and got a typing certificate," Priest says. "Most of what I know came from on-the-job training. I taught myself to use my first computer, and at the ROTC Region office I was in charge of the word processing center. During the summer I worked for a one-star (general) for the ROTC camp, and there were literally thousands of cadets through there."

"You name it, I do it," is how she describes her job now.

That means tracking time and attendance, approving and certifying all travel orders, travel vouchers and purchase requests, managing the division's operating budget, making sure there's funding for labor for the dam and other contracts – "all the administrative stuff. I've probably done every job in the office," including reviewing written and negotiated modifi-

Continued on page 8

Jon Fleshman, Olmsted Division

Though **Richard Hamilton** joined the Olmsted Dam team in 2005 as the concrete batch plant superintendent, his time at the project includes his stint as the batch plant manager for the lock construction between 1996 and 1999.

The Vicksburg, Miss., native says he's been around the stuff since he started work in '71 at his dad's ready-mix concrete construction plant while he was still in high school. In 1976 Hamilton joined the operating engineers union in Mississippi and 10 years later he "went salary" and has been on the management side of concrete ever since.

Craft workers on the construction site may recognize him just as easily as one of the original members of Olmsted Dam's volunteer first responders team as they would the batch plant super. What may be less well known is Hamilton's off-duty



Rich Hamilton at the Olmsted visitors' overlook with the youngest members of his family: (left to right) Ricky, Robert, Erica and Dalton.

Continued on page 8

Priest - Continued from page 7

cations, closing out contracts, processing pay estimates and training new engineers on contract administration.

"As a supervisor, the thing I respect and appreciate most about Cathy is that she gets the job done," says Olmsted resident engineer Brad Bradley. "More often than not, it gets done the Cathy way - but it always gets done."

She is the mother of two college graduates - one with a master's of civil engineering from the University of Kentucky and the other a second-year law student at Valparaiso in Indiana. As a summer hire one year her engineer son worked at the Olmsted project. Priest raised both

her children in Paducah, Ky., where she continues to live.

"Off-duty my focus has been on my kids," says Priest. "My daughter did a lot of sports - track, soccer, basketball and cross country. She went to state in the sixth grade for track and cross country. She was my sports child and my son was academic. He was the class president for three years in high school, was the outstanding junior and senior in UK's civil engineering department, made the dean's list and graduated summa cum laude."

Nowadays she'll tell you it's her cat Oreo that gets a lot of her attention after hours. Go to her colleague at the neighbor-

ing work station for the rest of the story.

"Her favorite drink is 'Bite of the Iguanas' - and she loves those," reveals Michelle Sellers, the administrative assistant at the Olmsted Resident office. "And she knows how to find great sales at the mall, and is always giving me advice on how to get the most for my dollar buying great stuff."

Over the years Priest has seen a lot of people come and go on the project, and then come back again. Like the new Olmsted Division chief, Mike Braden.

"I knew 'Mikie' when he worked here as an intern. We car-pooled together. That's why I've stayed."

Hamilton - Continued from page 7

vocation and association with an organization called CASA, "court appointed special advocates" for children."

The official website describes CASA as "a network of community-based programs that recruit, train and support citizen-volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in courtrooms and communities." It goes on to explain that the volunteer advocates are empowered by the courts and "offer judges the critical information they need

to ensure each child's rights and needs are being attended while in foster care."

Hamilton explains he's an officer of the court for Williamson County, Ill., and the judge assigns him to cases to do advocacy work for juveniles in the court system.

"It always reminds me of how blessed I am when I see others that aren't," says Hamilton about his work as a special advocate for children.

Though his children from a previous marriage are in their 30s and have

long since flown the nest, he and his wife Robyn have four at home ranging in age from 7 to 13, including three children who they adopted after first caring for them as foster children. He says all his younger kids have hard hats and safety vests they wear when they come to the public visitors' overlook for one of their dad's frequent project updates.

Hamilton's answer to what he does in his spare time is simple: "When somebody asks what my hobby is, I say 'parenting.'"

Thanksgiving work keeps Olmsted Dam construction on schedule

Jon Fleshman, Olmsted Division

More than 250 engineers and craft workers postponed their Thanksgiving dinners with friends and families so workers on the Olmsted Locks and Dam could take advantage of favorable conditions on the Ohio River.

"We take full advantage of every day the river cooperates," said Mike Braden, chief of the Olmsted Division, Louisville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "Everyone on this project understands its importance to the nation and is committed to delivering it on schedule. You witness it in the actions of our craft workers, superintendents and engineers who set the bar Thanksgiving week succeeding in extremely difficult conditions. I couldn't be more fortunate than to be a part of this organization and associated with such selfless service."

The tainter-gate portion of the moveable dam being built between Illinois and Kentucky comprises concrete and steel shells cast onshore, transported to their place in the river, lowered below the



Still attached to the catamaran barge by the tubular lifting frame, Sill Shell No. 6 is lowered into place beneath the Ohio River Thanksgiving Day.

surface and then filled with concrete. The dam shells can weigh up to 3,700 tons each.

"Working on this holiday has allowed us to achieve the last of our milestones for the year, allowing us to now focus on

our stretch goal of setting two more shells before the river rises again," explained Mick Awbrey, deputy chief of the Olmsted Division.