

# TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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## NEWS NOTES

### Changes streamline Birthday Note Program

The Public Affairs Office (PAO) will distribute the Commander's Birthday Notes to Tobyhanna Army Depot employees via e-mail starting in April.

A Point Kaizen Event helped streamline the program resulting in 93.10 percent savings. The new process reduces the number and cost of monthly labor hours for PAO and Information Management Directorate, saving more than \$6,000 and \$1,200, respectively. The cost of supplies also dropped from more than \$2,000 to \$138 per month.

The new process takes advantage of a free electronic distribution program that lets Tobyhanna Army Depot create a birthday card that can be sent via e-mail to every depot employee during their birth month. Employee's retrieve and sign for their \$3 coupon at the directorate secretary's office, which improves tracking and financial accountability.

The new Birthday Note Program supports the paperless initiative by reducing all forms of paper and improves the environmental footprint.

### Retirees meet for breakfast

Tobyhanna retirees meet for breakfast at several locations not far from the depot. Former employees gather at the Pioneer Diner in Mount Pocono at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesday of odd months, while others meet at the Perkins on Route 315 and the Honky Tonk in Dunmore every month on the third Thursday. For more information, call Stu Crouse, 840-2453.

### Contact info changes

Internal and external customers can submit depot-related queries to the Ask-Toby Customer Service Desk by sending an e-mail to [usarmy.tyad.usamc.mbx.ask-toby@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.tyad.usamc.mbx.ask-toby@mail.mil). The service desk phone number is X5-TOBY, (DSN) 795-TOBY or toll free 1-877-ASK-TOBY.

The e-mail address for the Technical Library customer service is [usarmy.tyad.usamc.mbx.techlib@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.tyad.usamc.mbx.techlib@mail.mil). Customers can use this address for all official library business. For details, call Jennifer Pilant, X56353.

### Post exchange offers dry cleaning services

Employees can bring their dry cleaning and clothing that needs tailoring to the post exchange. Dry cleaning service includes ties, pants, dresses, dress uniforms, jackets, blouses and shirts. Tailoring services include seam repair, new zipper and elastic installation, hem and waist adjustments, and dress shortening. Scheduled times are Tuesday and Friday noon for drop off and 2 p.m. for pick up. Customers can drop off clothes anytime Tuesday through Saturday during post exchange hours. For details, call (570) 615-7030.

**Tobyhanna honors  
warfighter of the quarter**

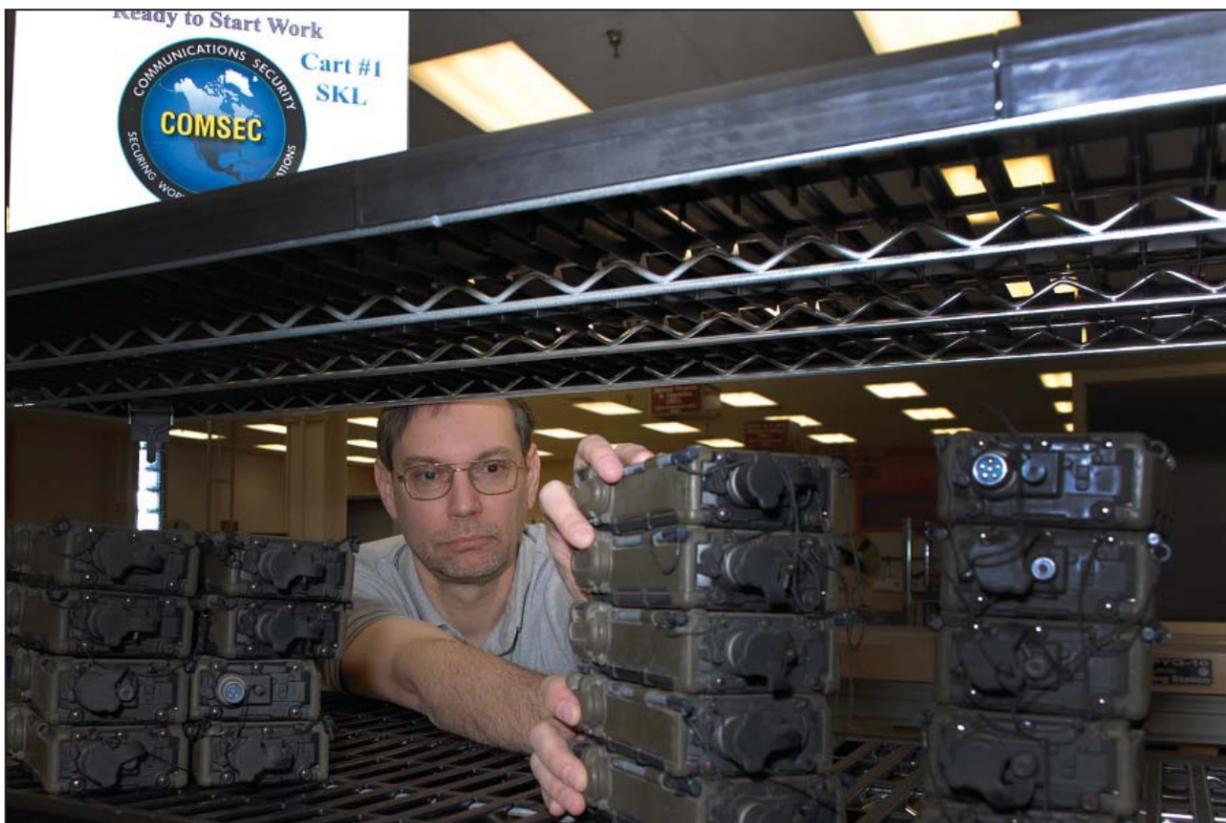
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**Facilities undergo quality of  
life improvements**

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**Around the Depot spotlights,  
employees, mission**

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Stephen Bucklaw, electronics mechanic leader in the Secure Communications Branch, distributes AN/PYQ-10 Simple Key Loader assets to technicians for repair. (Photos by Steve Grzedzinski)

## COMSEC Division earns Shingo visit

by Anthony Ricchiazzi  
Editor

Improved efficiency in a Communications Directorate division has earned the employees there a Shingo Prize evaluation.

Shingo evaluators are scheduled to visit Tobyhanna this spring to determine if process improvements in the Communications Security Division (COMSEC) warrant the international-level recognition a Shingo prize garners. The prize recognizes world-class organizations for creating a culture of continuous improvement through employee-empowerment and effective leadership. This will be the seventh visit by Shingo evaluators, or examiners.

The examiners, from public and private organizations, emphasize a complete assessment of the organization's culture. They focus on determining the degree to which the principles of operational excellence are evident in the behavior of every employee.

COMSEC's mission is to receive, store, maintain accountability, and issue COMSEC and Information Security equipment and materiel. About 160 employees in seven branches perform depot level maintenance of secure communications, and information equipment and sub-assemblies, and secure demilitarization and disposal



Electronics mechanic Shannon Kuhn repairs KY-58 assets for the Secure Communications Branch's COMSEC RESET mission.

capabilities. The COMSEC Division, which comprises 154,980 square feet of shop space, also performs wholesale and retail logistics management efforts for the COMSEC enterprise.

"We began to apply Lean concepts to the COMSEC enterprise in 2004 to create a balanced, streamlined work process, and increase our value and exceptional support to the warfighter," said David Riley, chief of COMSEC's Secure Communications Branch.

See SHINGO on Page 7

## Unlocking your faith

### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

by Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffrey L. Brooks

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

Several years ago someone said to me, "Chaplain, with all that has been happening lately I don't honestly feel like God has been with me these past few days." Have you ever had a time in your life when you felt that way — like you were all alone and God was not with you?



In the book of Isaiah, God said, "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God." (Isaiah 43:2-3)

When I was a little boy my father told me to always make it a point to be sure that I "shut and locked" the door each time I left the house. In the book of Revelations our Heavenly Father tells us to always make it a point to be sure that we "open and unlock" the door of our hearts to him. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any one hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in. (Revelation 3:20)

I don't know what you might be going through today or what you might find yourself facing tomorrow. But what I do know is that I want to encourage you to pause throughout the day and ask God to bless your life.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

## OBITUARY

**George P. Grega** of Stockton died Feb. 11 from injuries received in a motor vehicle accident. He was 46.

The son of Susanne (Zamesky) Grega and the late Andrew Bernard Grega, he was born in Hazleton and resided in Stockton.

Grega was a machinist quality inspector in the Productivity Improvement and Innovation Directorate. He joined the depot in May 2000. Grega earned the Army Superior Unit Award in 2000, cash awards in 2009 and 2011, and several suggestion awards.

Grega is survived, in addition to his mother, by his wife, brother and goddaughter. He was a member of the Parish of SS Cyril and Methodius at the Church of St. Joseph in Hazleton.



Grega



## Multifaceted life full of hard work, dedication

Submitted by Caitlin Best  
Equal Employment Office

It's March, which means it's Women's History Month.

One of the most influential women of the 20th century is Clare Boothe Luce. In addition to being a member of Congress and an ambassador, she worked as a news reporter, a magazine editor and wrote plays.

Clare was born in New York City in 1903. At the age of 20, she married and had a daughter. However, due to her husband's alcohol problem and abuse, their marriage ended after only six years.

Clare soon developed a serious interest in writing and in 1930, she joined the fashion magazine *Vogue* as an editorial assistant. In 1931, she became an associate editor of *Vanity Fair* magazine and wrote reports about social events and famous people in New York. These reports were later published in a book. After three years, she made another career change and left *Vanity Fair* to pursue a career as a playwright.

In 1935, Clare married Henry Luce and her first play, *Abide with Me*, opened on Broadway. The play, which was a somber psychological drama about an abusive husband on a collision course with his terrified wife, was not successful. Her second play, *The Women*, which opened on Broadway in 1936, was a big hit. *The Women* was a satire of the idleness of wealthy wives and divorcees. The play was immensely popular and ran for 657 performances, touring the United States and 18 countries. It was also made into a movie. She followed up *The Women* by writing two more hit plays,

*Kiss the Boys Goodbye* and *Margin of Error*. These two successes confirmed Clare's status as a leading American playwright.

After these successes, Clare changed careers once again and traveled to Europe as a journalist for *Life* magazine. Her observations of Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and England in the midst of the German offensive were published in *Europe* in 1940.

While working for *Life*, she went on a tour through Africa, India, China, and Burma, reporting on what she found. She claimed the travels as firsthand experience with international affairs, and in 1942, she ran for a seat in the United States House of Representatives representing the Fourth Congressional District of Connecticut.

As a Republican, she won the election and received an appointment to the Military Affairs Committee. She consistently spoke on behalf of American troops fighting the war and addressed the issues that concerned them when they eventually returned to civilian life.

Clare's life changed forever on Jan. 11, 1944, as her daughter Ann, a nineteen-year-old senior at Stanford University, was killed in an automobile accident. Overcome with grief, Clare suffered a nervous breakdown. She sought therapy and found solace in religious spiritualism.

Luce recovered enough to run for a second-term in Congress. She remained popular among the voters of Connecticut and was re-elected in late 1944. After serving that two-year term, she did not seek re-election in 1946.

After her House term expired in 1947, Clare wrote a series of articles describing

her conversion to Catholicism, which were published in *McCall's* magazine. She also wrote a screenplay for the film *Come to the Stable*, a drama about two nuns trying to raise money to build a children's hospital. The movie received an Academy Award nomination.

Clare returned to politics to campaign for Dwight Eisenhower when he ran for president in 1952. After Eisenhower won the election, he rewarded her for her support with an appointment as ambassador of Italy, which became effective in March 1953. Her most notable accomplishment was her work helping settle the dispute between Italy and Yugoslavia over the United Nations territorial lines in Trieste. The resolution gave the city of Trieste to Italy and the surrounding territory to Yugoslavia.

For the remainder of her life, she remained relatively active in politics. In 1964, she supported Senator Barry Goldwater as the Republican Party's candidate for president, and would serve as an advisor to three presidents. In 1983, she received the ultimate honor, as President Ronald Reagan awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest honor a president can give to an American citizen.

Sadly, in October 1987, Clare died of a brain tumor after a long battle with cancer. She was 84. She lived a multifaceted life and showed that you can accomplish your goals with hard work and dedication.

Sources — <http://www.biography.com/people/clare-boothe-luce-9388265>; <http://www.ikwdpl.org/wihohio/luce-da.htm>; [http://www.21voa.com/VOA\\_Special\\_English\\_2007/People\\_in\\_America\\_4068.html](http://www.21voa.com/VOA_Special_English_2007/People_in_America_4068.html)

## TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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# Attention to detail helps NCO earn Warfighter of the Quarter award

by Justin Eimers  
Editorial Assistant

A noncommissioned officer's (NCO) keen eye and effective decision making have earned her Tobyhanna Army Depot's Warfighter of the Quarter Award for the second quarter of 2012.

Depot commander Col. Charles C. Gibson and depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer presented Sgt. Stephanie Richards with the award. The Army National Guard Soldier was recognized for her nine years of service, including a deployment to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Richards is assigned to the Intelligence Analyst Section, 55th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, Alpha Company in Scranton.

The quarterly award recognizes military personnel for outstanding service and is designed to strengthen bonds between the Tobyhanna Army Depot work force and the military personnel they support. The ceremony honoring Richards took place before the start of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins game at the Mohegan Sun Arena Feb. 25.

"It is very humbling," said Richards. "I understand that receiving this award is a very prestigious event and I'm very appreciative that my leadership thought of me."

According to her supervisor, 1st. Sgt. Kevin Bittenbender, Richards's courage and wealth of knowledge and experience are just a few of the qualities that make her deserving of the award.

"She has been one of our 'go-to' NCO's because of her tactical and technical expertise," said Bittenbender.

Richards deployed to Iraq from 2008 to 2010 as the senior intelligence analyst. While there, Richards maintained various intelligence databases and worked with other coalition allies and agencies to ensure the information she analyzed was accurate.

Sgt. 1st. Class Iemima Lars, who supervised Richards during her deployment, said that these skills helped senior leaders make timely and accurate decisions on recovery and other time sensitive missions.

While deployed, Richards also prepared intelligence documents while dealing with high levels of stress in a combat zone, an experience that helped reinforce her goals.

"At first, I was a little afraid of deploying. Once things settled down and became more routine, I was excited because I knew the experience would help me in the future," said Richards. "What I didn't expect is how far it would take me."

In addition to being actively involved as an NCO through schooling, company events, military training and active duty missions, Richards finds time to volunteer for the Coaldale Borough as the deputy code enforcement officer, a position she has held for over five years. She also lends her time to the community working as the deputy animal control officer, deputy health inspector and VFW post commander.

Lars commends Richards for her tireless efforts to put others first.

"All of her accomplishments and



From left, depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer and Col. Charles C. Gibson, commander, present the Tobyhanna Army Depot Warfighter of the Quarter Award to Sgt. Stephanie Richards during a ceremony Feb. 25. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

endeavors were done without complaints or concerns for personal benefit," said Lars. "She always places her Soldiers, the Army and the mission above herself and serves as a model to those who take the time to notice her efforts."

Richards is grateful for the opportunities she has been given and the skills she has gained.

"I've acquired many skills through the military. Confidence in public speaking is definitely one of them," she said. "Self-discipline, as well, but I think the most important is teamwork."

Richards remarked that very few jobs or

careers are based on individual performance. The ability to work as a team not only benefits us in the business world, but in our personal relationships as well, she added.

"The people you meet and share experiences with really help in shaping you into the kind of person or Soldier you want to be," she said. "I've gained confidence, self-discipline and have learned how to effectively work as a team member."

Her advice to other warfighters: "No matter how insignificant you think your decisions are, they have the potential to affect every aspect of your life, so choose wisely."



## Kolment claims command-level award

Mechanical Engineer Ronald Kolment recently won the 2011 Army Team C4ISR Employee of the Quarter Award for the fourth quarter in the senior category. Kolment designed a Universal Rain Test Rack, pictured above, that was installed in the Building 9 rain test facility. The system performs water-tight testing of vans, shelters and other equipment as required by the Army and Air Force, including Firefinder and Ground Theater Air Control radars, and electronic shelters and vans. Thanks to its flexible hose and movable nozzles, the new Universal Rain Test Rack is capable of performing all of the existing water-tight testing requirements as long as the equipment can fit in the facility. "Prior to installing the Universal Rain Test Rack, the depot had significant labor costs associated with the transportation, assembly and disassembly of multiple component racks," said Ron Scarnulis, industrial engineer in the Productivity, Improvement and Innovation Directorate's Industrial Modernization Division. "The depot is saving about \$35,000 per year in labor because all of these steps are no longer necessary." Kolment also assists in a Total Productive Maintenance Program that focuses on avoiding costly production stoppages and adverse impact to the mission due to unplanned equipment breakdowns. (Photo by Tony Medici)



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# Quality of life: Barracks, fitness center boast new equipment

by Justin Eimers  
Editorial Assistant

When the MACK Fitness and Wellness Center reopens tomorrow, gym-goers will be greeted with additional basketball courts, a renovated fitness area and state-of-the-art equipment.

The improvements will not only affect the facilities, but also the processes within the center, according to Walter Dorosky, director of the Community Services Directorate.

The MACK is now the central headquarters for the directorate's Community Recreation Division. This gives customers the ability to sign for rental items, book a room in the Tobyhanna Villas, buy an item at the One Stop Shop, or schedule vehicle repairs at the PASS Auto service counter.

The central location is the result of a Lean event to improve customer service, work space and productivity.

"The new basketball courts lets us schedule league games, practices and open play all at the same time," said Dorosky. "The new multi-purpose room, which used to be a racquetball court, is now a venue for birthday parties and meetings, as well as special classes and other activities."

The fitness area has been expanded to 4,200 square feet and fitted with weight training equipment, elliptical machines and 10 flat screen TVs. A large automated white curtain will separate the courtside fitness area from the basketball courts.

In addition to new machines and remodeled areas, the MACK staff are trained to teach patrons how to use the new equipment. Dorosky said the training will help staff members effectively enforce safety and properly conduct fitness programs.

## Legacy of Army medical center lives on in depot facilities

After closing its doors in August, Walter Reed Army Medical Center's legacy will live on at several places around the depot.

Tobyhanna Morale, Welfare and Recreation has acquired almost a half million dollars worth of equipment from the Maryland facility because of the depot's support of the nearby Fisher House. Furniture, computers, TVs, gym equipment and decorative items are just a few of the items MWR has received, with more on the way.

Dorosky and a team from Tobyhanna MWR were able to take advantage of the

lengthy closing process at Walter Reed everytime they delivered a Red Friday donation to the Fisher House.

On a trip to the Fisher House to drop off a donation check — the depot's Red Friday Program has raised \$60,000 since 2007 — an MWR representative said there were televisions and furniture available for pick-up. As more donations checks were delivered to the Fisher House, Dorosky's team returned with more equipment to replace old items at various locations at the depot.

One of the programs at the depot that has benefited from the addition of these items is the Public Works Directorate; the organization in charge of the barracks. Patricia Crawford, assistant housing manager in the directorate, says the Soldiers have responded positively to the increased comfort of the living quarters.

"The Soldiers really appreciate the new mattresses and bigger flat screen TVs as they are here anywhere from two to 15 weeks for

classes," she said. "Our goal is to continue to improve the quality of life for the Soldier and give them all the comforts of home while they are staying at the barracks."

Bedroom furniture and mattresses have been set up in the entire first floor of the barracks, in addition to 32-inch flat-screen televisions and computers. The Landing and Tobyhanna Villas have also been fitted with new furniture and décor.

The majority of the fitness equipment has come from the Naval Support Activity in Bethesda, Md., Tobyhanna MWR was able to bring 80 pieces of cardio and strength equipment to the depot.

Although the closing of Walter Reed medical center marks the end of over

100 years of service to active and retired personnel from all branches of the military, the depot will carry on with a piece of that history.

"Essentially, Walter Reed lives on at the depot," said Dorosky.

And the story isn't finished. Dorosky explained that Fort Gordon, Ga., recently to offered treadmills, carpeting and furniture to the CS Directorate. The items were picked up by Public Works employees recently and will be installed in several locations around the depot.

Future renovations include replacing the carpeting in the MACK multi-purpose room, Tobyhanna Villas and in all Post Restaurant dining rooms.

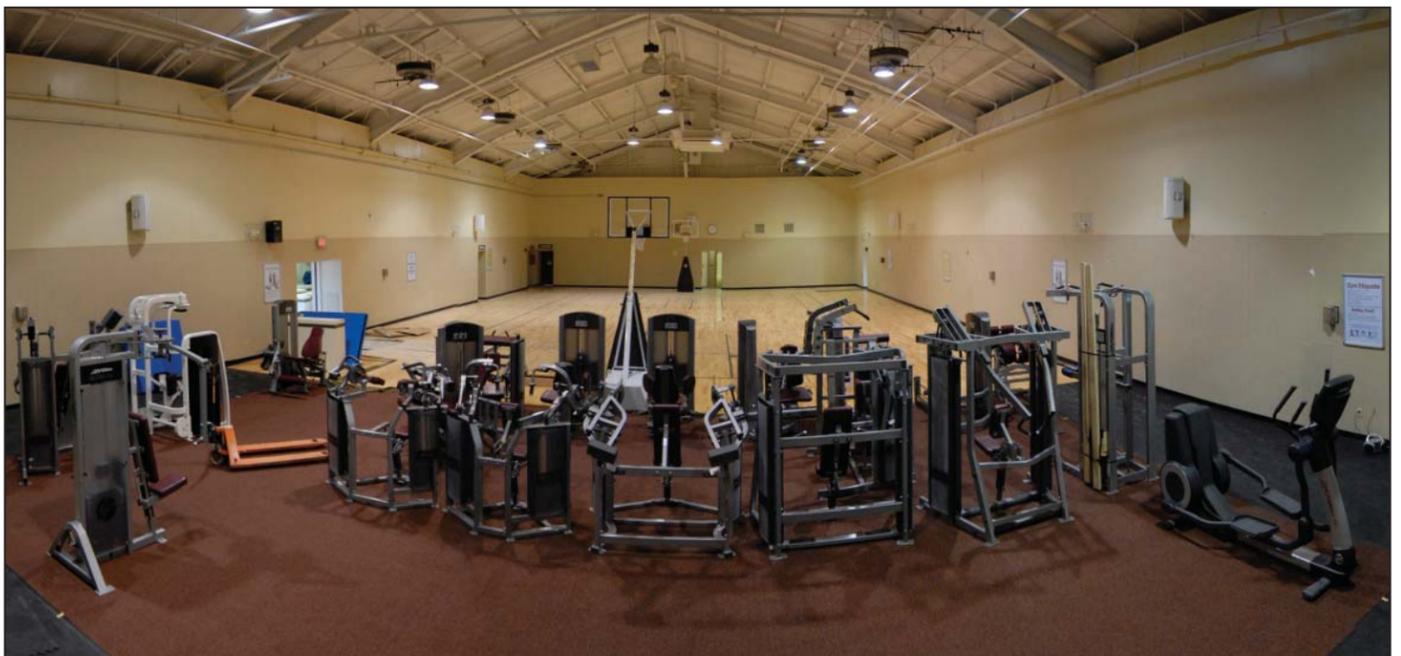
**MACK**  
**FITNESS AND WELLNESS CENTER**  
*New hours of operation*

Monday	5 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday	5 a.m. to 8 p.m.*
Wednesday	5 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday	5 a.m. to 7 p.m.*
Friday	5 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*\*indicates league night*



From left to right, Jason Sabater, Dan Defluri, Jake Giles and Luis Pizarro move a strength machine into position in the new fitness area. (Photos by Steve Grzedzinski)



The main gym floor was shortened by 25 feet to make room for a new fitness area including treadmills, elliptical training machines and exercise bikes.

**HOW ARE WE DOING?**



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EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS

# AROUND THE DEPOT



### Mobile Electric Power Branch Systems Integration and Support Directorate

In the generator area, branch employees assemble and mount various types of generators and trailers. The branch also modifies generators through a testing and overhaul process, helping reduce the risk of failure when put into a field environment.

Photos by Steve Grzedzinski



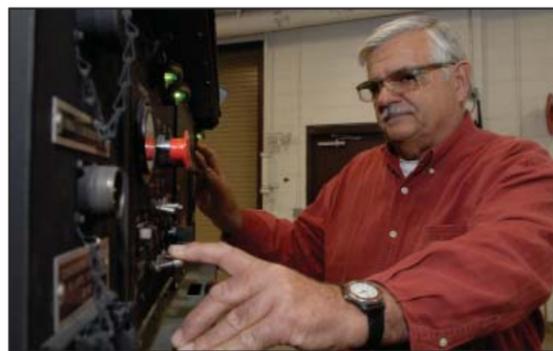
Erich Buehring, general equipment repairer, connects a sling to a generator.



Jason Hearing, generator equipment mechanic, installs a master switch in a 10kw generator for a UAV system.



General Equipment Repairer Erich Buehring and General Equipment Mechanic James Yoder prepare generators for mounting.



General Equipment Mechanic James Shahoney tests a 60kw generator to prevent failure in the field.

### Equipment Specs

On the set assembly line, branch employees Reset and repair over 1,200 sets of equipment, ranging from 10 to 25 items in each set. On average, the branch completes four generators from Unmanned Air Vehicle systems per month. Total overhauls and units tested is nearly 500. The branch also repairs and rebuilds components for the AN/TRC-170, Radio Terminal Set. Future plans include becoming certified to rebuild diesel engines and associated equipment, and processes including the advanced diagnostics of the engine and electrical system.



General Equipment Repairer John Kasczak connects a trailer to a test station to ensure the trailer's lights and brakes are serviceable.



General Equipment Mechanic James Yoder verifies serial numbers for shipment.



Testing and overhaul area.

## CAREER MILESTONE



From left, depot commander Col. Charles C. Gibson, Gerald Hiller John Munley, Carol Tucker, and depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer attend the Length of Service ceremony March 7.

Three Tobyhanna employees were recognized for their years of government service during the Length of Service ceremony March 7.

**Carol Tucker** – 35 years, electrical equipment repairer, System Reset and Overhaul Division, Systems Integration and Support Directorate.

**John Munley** – 35 years, electronics technician, Automated Mission Support Division, Production Engineering Directorate.

**Gerald Hiller** – 30 years, logistics management specialist, Counter Fire/EO Systems

Management Division, Production Management Directorate.

In addition to service certificates and pins, employees with 35 years of service receive an engraved mantel clock. Those with 30 years receive a framed American Flag that includes a photo of the depot signed by their coworkers.

Honorees who attend the Length of Service ceremony also receive a four-hour time-off award. Depot commander Charles C. Gibson and depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer presented the awards.

## VLTP

Thousands of Tobyhanna Army Depot employees have donated more than 60,522 annual leave hours to help 621 people over the past 24 years. The voluntary leave transfer program (VLTP) allows federal employees to donate annual leave to fellow employees who have exhausted their annual and sick leave because of either a personal or family medical emergency. For more information about the VLTP, call Melissa Newman, X55869, or Joseph Heitman, X57324, of the Management Employee Relations Division. There are currently 21 active VLTP cases with eligible employees in need of leave donations.

**Edward J. Baker**, ASRS Division, Production Management Directorate.

**Robert Bamford**, Voice Communications Division, Communications Systems (Comm Sys) Directorate.

**George Bereznak**, Electric Assembly Division, Systems Integration and Support (SIS) Directorate.

**Nicole Brunner**, Industrial Risk Management (IRM) Directorate.

**Reinaldo Delvalle**, Security Division, IRM Directorate

**Julie Hubbard**, Equipment and Supply Division, Public Works Directorate.

**Foster Littles**, Industrial Operations Facilities Division,

SIS Directorate.

**Anthony Marino**, Avionics Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**William McGroarty**, Communications Security Division, Comm Sys Directorate.

**Michael Murray**, Tactical Communications Division, Comm Sys Directorate.

**Donald Ouimet**, Satellite Communications Division, Comm Sys Directorate.

**Amanda Oziemblo**, Avionics Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**John Paszko**, Electronic Services Division, SIS Directorate.

**Michael Pollack**, Avionics

Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**Christy Robinson**, Travel and Transportation Services Division, Resource Management Directorate.

**Steven Smith**, C3 Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**Diane Sosi**, Electronic Services Division, SIS Directorate.

**Elise Spivak**, C3 Division, C3/Avionics Directorate

**Kimberly Trubia**, Purchasing Division, Contracting Directorate.

**Frank Wallick**, Voice Communications Division, Comm Sys Directorate.

**Joseph Yannarella**, C4ISR Division, SIS Directorate.

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## NEW SUPERVISORS

**Bruce Carey** is chief of the Systems Integration and Support (SIS) Directorate's Equipage Branch.

As chief, Carey supervises employees in the Integration and Support Division who are involved in all phases of structural repair and refinishing of shelters. This process includes the initial evaluation and inspection of each shelter before entering the shop.

Prior to his current position, Carey was employed as a sheet metal worker and work leader in the SIS directorate's Structural Repair Branch. His depot career began in 2009.

Carey graduated from Old Forge High School in 1982. He is a member of the Queen of the Apostle Church in Avoca. Some of his hobbies include fishing and bowling.

**Dennis Goodwin** is chief of the Directorate of Information Management's (DOIM) Acquisition Logistics Branch.

Goodwin works as a supervisory information technology specialist and supervises employees in the Strategic Planning and Acquisition



Carey



Goodwin

Management Division. These employees perform contracting officer representative functions, maintain the directorate budget, and manage records, forms and publications.

Goodwin served four years in the U.S. Navy and one and a half years in the Reserves, working as an aviation electronics technician and shop supervisor with Fighter Squadron 84 and Flight Engineer Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron 15. His decorations include a National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Prior to being named chief, Goodwin worked as information technology specialist in DOIM's staff office. He began his depot career in 1983.

Goodwin, a 1970 graduate of Scranton Technical High School, received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Science from Lackawanna College in 1985.

He is a member of the German American Federation at Waldorf Park. Some of his hobbies include golf, billiards and home improvement.

## WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Anthony Davila	Supervisory IT specialist	D/IM
Jose Guevara	Equipment specialist	D/C3/Avionics
Marshall Lawler	Equipment specialist	D/C3/Avionics

## RETIREES

Name	Retirement date	Organization
Dennis Benfer	Feb. 3	D/C3/Avionics
Bonnie Hibbard	Feb. 3	D/Comm Sys
Robert Stanaback	Feb. 6	D/C3/Avionics
Edwin Kern	Feb. 29	D/Comm Sys
Gerald Searfass	Feb. 29	D/Comm Sys
Joseph Siemion	Feb. 29	D/Comm Sys
Maria Walker	Feb. 29	D/BM



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## SHINGO from Page 1

Personnel learn about Lean in a variety of ways. For instance, new employees to the depot are introduced to Lean principles during a week-long, mandatory orientation process. Productivity and performance are evaluated monthly through a balanced scorecard process and annually in performance appraisal reviews.

"We conducted our first Value Stream Analysis (VSA) on the COMSEC Receiving/Assets Verification," Riley said. "This event improved the process by reducing non-value

added steps by 39 percent, manual cycle time by 42 percent, and process flow time by 79 percent."

Highlights of process improvements include:

In April 2008, a VSA was conducted on the repair process for the AN/CYZ-10 Data Transfer Device. As a result of this VSA, process flow time was reduced by 4 percent and manual cycle time was reduced by 16 percent for an FY08 cost savings of \$44,434. Riley noted that his branch conducted a VSA in June 2008 that reduced the component cleaning

process cycle time by 47 percent.

In August 2008, a Rapid Improvement Event conducted in the Receiving and Storage Branch reduced travel distance by 73 percent and reduced manual cycle time by 35 percent.

"We accelerated our Lean efforts in November 2008 and conducted an enterprise level VSA of the COMSEC mission," said Doreen Scott, Secure Telecommunications Branch. "Continuous process improvement implementations include visual management tools like Andon lights and production control boards, point of use parts, standardized tool sets, which decreased our tool storage space by 80 percent, and Work Cells established in the Secure Communications Branch."

In January, COMSEC conducted a second pass VSA to look for more ways to decrease costs and pass that value on to the warfighter.

Reductions achieved from implementing Lean methods in COMSEC have resulted in an average savings of 32 percent in fiscal 2011, and an overall average savings of 31.5 percent since fiscal 2008.

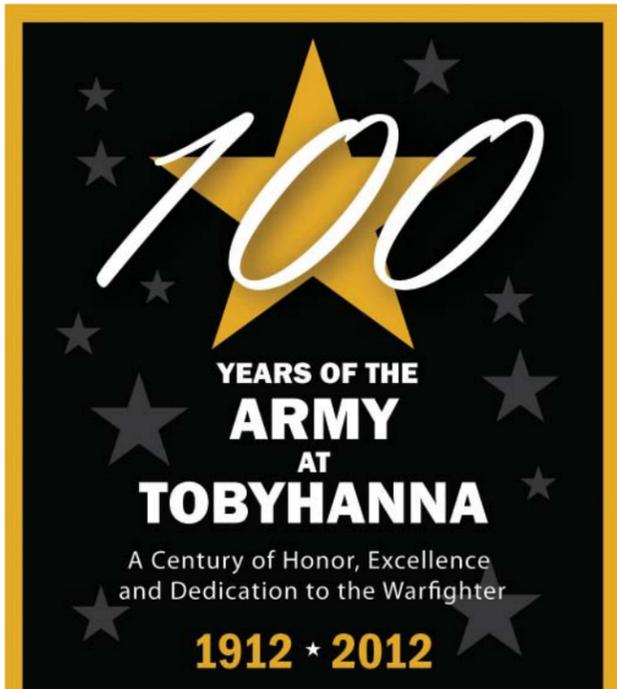
"This savings, coupled with decreased repair cycle times, directly results in warfighters receiving critical COMSEC systems quicker at a reduced cost," Riley said.

"COMSEC technicians are self-certified on the systems they work and perform internal lot sampling according to the American National Standards Institute Standard for Inspections by Attributes," Scott said. "Our quality performance is above the target rate of 98 percent. During fiscal 2011, we averaged a Quality Rating of 99.95 percent."

Tobyhanna earned a Shingo Bronze award for the AN/TPS-75 Air Defense Radar System in 2006, a Gold Medallion for the AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder Radar Antenna Transceiver Group in 2007, Bronze Medallions for the AN/TYQ-23 Tactical Air Operations Module and the AN/ASM-189 Electronic Shop Van in 2008, a Bronze Medallion for the Sidewinder Guidance and Control System in 2010, and a Silver Medallion for the AN/MST-T1 (V) Miniature Multiple Threat Emitter System in 2011.



Justin Toler, material examiner and identifier in the Material Identification Branch, picks a stock order for shipment to the warfighter (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski).



### DID YOU KNOW

- In 1941, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and former Secretary of State Dean Acheson trained here; former President Eisenhower as an Army major and Acheson as a member of the National Guard.
- In the fall of 1944, Tobyhanna Military Reservation became a prisoner-of-war camp. About 200 German prisoners were used to harvest crops in the summer and ice from the frozen lakes in winter. The POW camp was closed in 1945.
- In 1954, when the Red Cross Bloodmobile began to make two visits to the depot yearly, Soldiers and civilians donated a total of 16,000 pints of blood. Tobyhanna's Gallon-Plus Donor Club had 634 members in 1968, and was believed to be the largest of its kind in the nation.
- Over 25,000 area residents flocked to visit the modern warehouses, industrial plant and administration building of the new installation during Tobyhanna's first Armed Forces Day observance in 1955.



### Lights, camera, action

Depot commander Col. Charles C. Gibson, center, and Deputy Commander Frank Zardecki, right, participate in a live broadcast of WVIA's "State of Pennsylvania" call-in talk show on March 1, as part of the local PBS affiliate's series of the same name. This event was in conjunction with a one hour broadcast of "A Century of Service, The Army at Tobyhanna" a documentary marking 100 years of the Army at this location. The show was broadcast live from the depot's new C4ISR Finishing Center (Bldg 30) and featured interviews with Gibson and Zardecki by the show's host, WVIA President and CEO Bill Kelly. The documentary recounts the events and stories that intertwined the U.S. Army's service to our country with Northeastern Pennsylvania's patriotic, hard working region. Both broadcasts are posted on WVIA's website. The State of Pennsylvania broadcast is available at the following link: <http://wviaondemand.org/contusvideo/?vid=111>; and the documentary is available on <http://wviaondemand.org/contusvideo/?vid=116>. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

### A CENTURY OF SERVICE, THE ARMY AT TOBYHANNA

WVIA airs on the following dates:

- March 29 — 8 p.m.
- April 1 — 3 p.m.
- June 4 — 7 p.m.
- June 7 — 8 p.m.
- June 18 — 7 p.m.
- June 17 — 12 p.m.
- June 23 — 9 p.m.

# Army Emergency Relief kicks off annual campaign

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Army Emergency Relief announced the start of its annual AER Campaign, which runs through May 15, with this year's theme of "A Strong Tradition of Soldiers Helping Soldiers."

For the last 70 years, the campaign objectives have remained the same, AER officials said: To create greater awareness of Army Emergency Relief programs and benefits; and to give Soldiers the opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers.

"The primary objective of the annual campaign is to create a greater awareness of how Army Emergency Relief helps Soldiers and their families," said AER's director, retired Lt. Gen. Robert Foley. "By promoting a better understanding of AER benefits, easy access to AER funds and the flexibility which AER officers worldwide exercise in responding to requests for financial assistance, Soldiers and families can receive well-deserved care and consideration in a time of need."

The Tobyhanna Army Depot Community Services Directorate will sponsor events to raise awareness and funds for the local AER campaign, according to Heather Fiedler, Army Community Services Branch chief. Individuals will bag groceries at the commissary on Tuesdays. There will be a hot dog eating contest April 11 and raffle tickets go on sale Thursday at the One Stop Shop. Tobyhanna Army Depot's AER Officer is Linda Kerr, 570-615-6682.

Established in response to insuring there was an agency available that could provide prompt financial assistance

for Soldiers and their families during World War II, AER provides emergency financial assistance in the form of no-interest loans or grants. In addition, AER provides scholarships to children and spouses of active-duty and retired Soldiers as well as financial support to widows and wounded warriors.

In January, AER added four new categories of assistance to include:

- family member dental care
- basic furniture needs
- rental vehicles
- replacement vehicles.

These additions were made to meet the changing needs of today's Soldiers and families, according to AER officials. Based upon feedback from AER officers worldwide, nine new categories have been added in the last two years.

In 2011 Army Emergency Relief provided \$77.5 million in assistance to more than 64,000 Soldiers and their families. Under the streamlined Command Referral Program, company commanders and first sergeants have the authority to approve AER loans for their Soldiers up to \$1,500.

AER assistance is based upon a valid need and is flexible in responding to all types of financial situations, officials said, adding that AER officers work toward "finding a way to say yes."

There is no limit on the amount of assistance that can be provided, and no limit on the number of times a Soldier may make requests for assistance.

Soldiers requiring AER assistance should contact their unit chain of command or go to their local installation AER office.

Soldiers and families not near an Army installation can get AER assistance at an Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard base from the Air Force Aid Society, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance respectively or from the American Red Cross call center at 877-272-7337.

Additional program information is available at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) or in the Army Blue Book application for smart phones.



Photo by Dawn Pandoliano, Fort Hood Sentinel Graphic Designer