

# TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

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MAY 15, 2012

## NEWS NOTES

### Ticket sales benefit AER

Tickets for the Army Emergency Relief Raffle are on sale at the One Stop Shop through today. All proceeds benefit the Army Emergency Relief Organization, which provides emergency financial assistance to Soldiers and their families.

### Depot plans open house

Tobyhanna will host an open house from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 23. The day-long celebration will be highlighted by the U. S. Army Golden Knights elite parachute demonstration team, which is scheduled to jump at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

The day's activities include a tour of the mission area, military equipment and vehicle displays, Humvee rides, and a variety of food and beverage stands. For those who enjoy running, there will also be a 5K run starting at 8:30 a.m.

There will also be a special Warfighter of the Quarter presentation and the Landing will offer a luncheon buffet. The National Steamtown Historic Site will run a train excursion to the depot and a special parade through the community is planned to conclude the event.

Gates will open at 8 a.m.

For more information, call the Public Affairs Office at 570- 615-7308.

### ACS schedules parenting sessions

Tobyhanna's new Parent Support Program will host several parenting sessions May 30. The sessions titled "Loving the Toddler You Have" will be held from 11:30 a.m. to noon, noon to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 to 1 p.m. in the Keystone Room.

An additional session will be held in the chapel from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Childcare is available for the chapel session only.

To register call Army Community Services at 5-8374 or send an e-mail to sonya13@ptd.net. The deadline to RSVP is May 29. There will be a total of 9 parenting sessions scheduled during the coming months.

### Council plans memorial ceremony

The Tobyhanna Veterans Council will conduct its annual Memorial Day ceremony at noon May 24 in front of Building 11. The guest speaker is depot commander Col. Charles C. Gibson.

### Red Cross conducts blood drive

The next American Red Cross Blood Drive will be May 25. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call X57091.

See NOTES on Page 4

## New GPS upgrade mission begins

by Anthony Ricchiuzzi  
Editor

A new mission for Tobyhanna began in April with the arrival of advanced global positioning system receivers.

Technicians have begun the test and upgrade of more than 1,000 AN/PSN-13(A) Defense Advanced Global

Positioning Systems Receivers (DAGR). The secure receivers are handheld and give Soldiers their position, which they can check against maps in the receiver. The receivers are also used by the Air Force and Navy.

"We're working on Army systems," said Jim Kessell, chief of the Navigation Systems Branch. "We were given

the workload by CECOM due to our experience with the MAGRS and Doppler systems. It's a pilot program for us, so if our customers are satisfied with our work, it will lead to supporting more than 300,000 of these systems."

MAGR stands for Miniature Airborne Global Positioning Systems Receiver, which Tobyhanna has been supporting since the 1990s.

The Doppler, supported here since the 1980s, is the AN/ASN-128 Doppler Navigation System.

Three technicians test and inspect the DAGRs, then upgrade the software.

"We've had no surprises or difficulties with them so far," said Electronics Mechanic Sam Smolley. "If they pass inspection, we upgrade the software, synchronize them with the GPS satellite and put them in stock.

"If they have problems, like broken parts or nonfunctioning circuit cards, we send them back to the OEM (original equipment manufacturer) for warranty repair."

Smolley noted that most of the problems are physical, such as broken screens or buttons from hard use in the field.

The software upgrade is accomplished using a laptop computer and the process is similar to software patches for a personal computer.

After the upgrade, the cryptographic key that makes the DAGR secure is tested to make sure it works with the software, said Chester Schultz, electronics mechanic leader.

Once a DAGR is completed, and if it is not sent back to the OEM, it is placed in stock here and sent to the field as needed.

"We provide complete repair for the MAGRs and Dopplers, and we're confident we could provide a best value program with complete support for the DAGRs as well," Kessell said. "We took this current program from a thought to a fully-funded program in about a month.



Electronics Worker Mike Pollack removes the main battery cover to begin testing an AN/PSN-13(A) Defense Advanced Global Positioning Systems Receiver (DAGR). Tobyhanna technicians are testing and upgrading more than 1,000 DAGRs for the Army. The system is also used by the Air Force and Navy. (Photo by Steve Grzezdinski)

3 excel, earn quarterly award

Page 3

Local organization names  
citizen of the year

Page 4

Around the Depot spotlights,  
employees, mission

Page 5

## THANKS

On behalf of the DLA Distribution Tobyhanna Family Support Group, I would personally like to say "thank you" to everyone who came out in support of our benefit cookout for team member Tom "Griff" Griffin on April 25.

The DLA family, along with our friends at Tobyhanna Army Depot, showed what caring is all about. There was a common purpose — to aid a fellow depot employee — and we all stood tall, one by one and side by side, to show our support.

The efforts of the DLA Distribution Tobyhanna Family Support Group could not have been a success without you and your support.

**James J. Lombardo**  
President, DLA Distribution Tobyhanna  
Family Support Group

My family and I wish to thank everyone who sent sympathy cards, and extended condolences and prayers following my wife's passing. The kindness and compassion shown by the Tobyhanna family was a comfort to us. Though it is bittersweet, I leave knowing that I will always have people whom I can call friends. Thank you all.

Sincerely,  
**John MacCartney and family**

My family and I would like to express a heartfelt thank you for your prayers, flowers, and kind generosity that helped us get through this very difficult time. My sister, Linda, would have been totally overwhelmed with all of the support that you have given us.

Thank you,  
**Tom and Diane Styer**

## OBITUARY

**Daryl Derenick** died April 17. He was 51.

Derenick was a sheet metal mechanic helper in the Systems Integration and Support Directorate. He began his depot career in April 2009.

Prior to his depot career, Derenick worked for Sparrow Brothers, Sun Buick and Altec.

Born in Taylor and raised in Dupont, he is a son of the late George and Eleanor Francis Derenick and was a 1979 graduate of Pittston Area High School. He resided in Moosic.

Derenick is survived by his wife, a daughter, son, sister, two brothers, and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. A brother and sister preceded him in death.

He enjoyed activities with his family, hunting, fishing, working in his yard and taking care of his cat.

He was a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church and a member of Fish On, a fishing club. He was a sports enthusiast and enjoyed watching Eagles and Yankees games.



Derenick

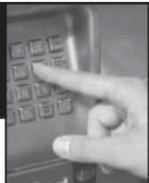
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## Prodigy pushes musical boundaries

Submitted by **Caitlin Best**  
Equal Employment Office

It's May again, and that means it is Asian-Pacific American Heritage month.

Born in 1955, cellist Yo-Yo Ma was a musical prodigy. At the young age of 5, he gave his first recital. At the age of 9, he performed at Carnegie Hall.

Yo-Yo Ma played in the Marlboro Festival Orchestra where he met and fell in love with Jill Hornor. Later when they told their families of the engagement, Jill's family was happy. Ma's family was very upset because they wanted him to marry a Chinese woman. Ma's relationship with his parents became strained, and they did not speak for years.

Things changed when Ma and Jill had children, and gave their kids Chinese and English names. Gradually, the grandchildren helped bring Ma and his parents back together.

Throughout his career Yo-Yo Ma has mastered classical music, but has also been determined to make his music accessible to those not usually drawn to traditional music halls. By combining cello with jazz, folk, vocal and many other musical forms, Yo-Yo Ma has continuously pushed the boundaries of classical music and integrated genres of music previously regarded as distinct. He has been called "the best of East and West" as well as "a remarkable combination of the extraordinary and the ordinary." In addition to being a talented performer, Ma is known for connecting

with fans personally by shaking hands, posing for photographs and interacting casually with his admirers and fellow musicians.

Yo-Yo Ma has participated in many projects and collaborations. He has worked on movies such as "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." Ma founded the Silk Road Project, an organization for the arts that explored cultural traditions along the Silk Road, an ancient trading route that linked China with the West. Soon thereafter he established the Silk Road Ensemble, which released their first album in 2002. A prolific musician, Ma has recorded more than 75 albums and received more than 15 Grammy Awards. In 2010, he began an appointment as the first-ever creative consultant for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Ma's dedication to the craft and his own ability to learn aided him to be where he is today. He shows great determination, has a go-getter attitude when it comes to perfecting his art and wants to be able to show the world different emotions through his music.

### Sources:

[http://books.google.com/books?id=KTjpP0j7DxQC&pg=PA44&pg=PA44&dq=yo-yo+ma+discrimination&source=bl&ots=I03rizAam5&ig=b24zl6Ejh\\_vYv39jUnbkD7Fty0&hl=en&ei=zqjaTdjIA83pgQf2ldxX&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CCOQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=yo-yo%20ma%20discrimination&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=KTjpP0j7DxQC&pg=PA44&pg=PA44&dq=yo-yo+ma+discrimination&source=bl&ots=I03rizAam5&ig=b24zl6Ejh_vYv39jUnbkD7Fty0&hl=en&ei=zqjaTdjIA83pgQf2ldxX&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CCOQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=yo-yo%20ma%20discrimination&f=false)  
<http://www.biography.com/articles/Yo-Yo-Ma-9390099>  
<http://www.biography.com/classroom/bio-month-yo-yo-ma.jsp>

## TOBYHANNA REPORTER

The *Tobyhanna Reporter* is an authorized, biweekly publication for members of the Department of Defense.

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**TEAM TOBYHANNA**  
EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS

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Left, Robert Kinsey, electronics mechanic leader, provides Sidewinder repair expertise to an employee. Above, Neil Kresge sets up field cameras to capture wildlife photos for an ongoing Natural Resource survey. This survey will ensure that the depot's natural resource program is managed to provide biological diversity and ensure Tobyhanna's stewardship to the natural resources of the Pocono region. (Photos by Tony Medici)

## Trio earns Employee of the Quarter awards for first quarter

by Justin Eimers  
Editorial Assistant

An environmental protection specialist and two electronics mechanics have been named the depot Employees of the Quarter.

Neil Kresge was honored for the Junior category while Robert Kinsey Jr. and John Herr tied for the senior category award as Tobyhanna's 2012 Employees of the Quarter for the first quarter.

Kresge has worked in the Industrial Risk Management Directorate's Environmental Management Division for four years. As an environmental protection specialist, he manages Tobyhanna's Natural Resource, Cultural Resource and Pest Management programs. This duty involves the coordination of all of the depot's pest management services and contracts, preservation of historical areas and the management of all natural areas, wildlife, vegetation and wetlands around the depot.

"All of these programs have extensive legal and regulatory procedures that must be followed which ensures I stay busy each day," said Kresge. "It's easy to push yourself to keep working harder when your job is at the intersection of your hobbies, education and experience."

Division Chief Nathan Edwards says Kresge is known to tackle as many tasks as needed.

"Neil can always be counted on to assume additional responsibilities for the good of the environmental division and the depot. He is a consummate professional that sets the standard in the division with his strong work ethic and dedication to the mission," said Edwards.

Kresge recognizes the importance of working as part of a team and attributes his success to the support he has received at the depot.

"I am most proud that I'm able to contribute to Tobyhanna's excellent environmental reputation and execute programs that enhance the area's natural and cultural resources," he said. "It's definitely a team effort and I have received great support from coworkers and supervisors all along the way. I'm honored to be recognized for my job performance."

Kinsey works in the Command, Control and Computers/Avionics Directorate's Sidewinder Missiles Branch and has been a depot employee for more than seven years. As an electronics mechanic leader, he assigns work,

manages scheduling concerns, coordinates engineering and production management support, and offers Sidewinder repair expertise, duties that have given him a long list of skills.

"I've acquired a great deal from working at Tobyhanna. I've learned everything from communication skills to how to be resourceful, and the power of attitude and outlook," said Kinsey. "Every day is an opportunity to better myself in all aspects of my job."

Russell Strausser, Sidewinder Missile Branch chief, notes that these skills set Kinsey apart from the rest.

"His work ethic is among the best I've ever seen in the branch, directorate or the whole depot," said Strausser. "Since implementing the use of tracking systems, Robert has helped the branch reduce the man-hour standard for repair of the Sidewinder by more than 15 percent and the repair cycle time by nearly 40 percent."

Kinsey is appreciative of being named an Employee of the Quarter, but says the real honor comes simply with supporting the warfighter and our country.

"I take great pride in working for the Department of Defense. Not many people can say they directly support our warfighters each day," he said. "I'm proud to be part of a shop that has won the respect of its peers through hard work and an open mind to new ideas."

Herr works in the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate's Air Defense Radar Components Branch. He has been a depot employee since 2004. As an electronics mechanic, he works with AN/TPS-59 and AN/TPS-63 Marine radar systems, two new systems brought to the depot through a recent Base Realignment and Closure. Herr performs first article inspections on these systems and verifies testing procedures to ensure they meet original manufacture specifications.

Branch Chief Ronald Ewing says Herr's attitude and work ethic are a few of the qualities that make him deserving of the award.

"John always displays a 'can-do' attitude no matter what obstacles he must overcome to perform his duties," said Ewing. "He has been the driving force behind establishing the AN/TPS-59/63 components area by ensuring all needed test equipment is available and calibrated, alternate test procedures are established and that the component's personnel are fully trained."

Ewing also added that Herr is a source of expertise and



Electronics Mechanic John Herr performs alignments and adjustments on the AN/TPS-63 High Voltage Deck.

guidance and that he is relied on heavily by the cost center as a role model on the production floor.

Herr is thankful to be named an Employee of the Quarter and to have the opportunity to support Warfighters on a daily basis.

"The gratitude of my peers is the best gift that I could receive," said Herr. "But I'm most proud of giving the Warfighter a chance to do their job thanks to tools and equipment that I work on here at the depot."

# Phishing for personal information growing threat

by Nick Pollarine  
Information Assurance Office

Have you received an e-mail from someone you do not know at work or at home? Did you answer it or click on the link or document attached to it?

If you did, you may have given an online identity thief your personal information without realizing it. One wrong click of the mouse can give an online thief your credit card numbers, password, account data or other personal information. This is known as “phishing,” and it is on the rise.

Thieves send millions of fraudulent e-mails requesting your personal information with links to fake websites that look like your bank or credit card company. These sites can also download programs that can continue to steal your personal information and in some cases, open your computer to being taken over by a “cracker” to attack other computers.

How can you protect yourself from phishing? If you think you have received a phishing message, delete the e-mail and do not click on any links in the message. While at work you accidentally answer a phishing message or click on the link in the message, report it to the Information Management Directorate Service Desk, X56677.

If you or a member of your family responded from your home computer, take the following actions:

1. Change the password and personal identification numbers (PINs) on all of your online accounts that you think could be compromised.
2. Place a fraud alert on your credit reports. Check with your bank or financial advisor if you are not sure how to do this.
3. Contact the bank or the online merchant directly. Do not follow the link in the fraudulent e-mail.
4. If you know of any accounts that were accessed or

opened fraudulently, close those accounts immediately.

5. Routinely review your bank and credit card statements (i.e. monthly) for unexplained charges or inquires that you did not initiate.

Remember — phishing thieves copy company’s official logos to use in their attempt to steal your information. If you get an e-mail saying you need to verify your account, update your account for regular account maintenance or failure to update your records will result in account suspension, more than likely it is a phishing attempt. Call the company via the phone number you have on hand, and not the one listed in the e-mail, to verify if they sent the suspect e-mail.

You can protect yourself from identity thieves by being aware of who is sending e-mail to you. If you have any questions about how to protect yourself at work or at home regarding Information Technology security threats, contact the Information Assurance Office at X59392 or charles.n.pollarine.civ@mail.mil

## Historic open house provides many volunteer opportunities

Tobyhanna Army Depot will host an “Open House” June 23, as part of a year-long celebration and observance of the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the Army at Tobyhanna in 1912. This is our first open house in more than a decade and we expect a large turnout. It is a great opportunity for families, friends and neighbors to learn more about the depot’s history of service, current missions and regional economic impact.

Many employees have asked how they can help make the open house a success. Please review the attached Volunteer Request Form and select the activities you’re interested in supporting. Every effort will be made to match individual’s with their preferred options. Volunteers will receive specially-designed golf shirts so that they are easily recognized by visitors during the open house. Please make sure to specify a shirt size on the form.

For more information, call Depot Anniversary Committee members Michele Yeager, X58821, or Maryann Fagan, X58978.

### VOLUNTEER REQUEST FORM FOR TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT OPEN HOUSE, JUNE 23

I hereby express interest in volunteering my services in support of Tobyhanna Army Depot’s 2012 open house activities. I understand that I will be in a non-pay status for four hours on the day of the event. I further understand that every effort will be made to assign me to one of the three categories I have chosen, but that it may be necessary to assign me where needed, as needed.

EMPLOYEE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTORATE: \_\_\_\_\_ EXTENSION: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED SHIFT:  7:30-11:30 a.m.  11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORIES (Please indicate first, second and third preferences by ranking 1, 2 and 3 next to your three selections).

Military Equipment Display Guide _____	Humvee Ride Coordinator _____
Helicopter Exhibits Guide _____	Information Booth _____
Tour Guide _____	Civilian Retiree Escort _____
Security Assistant _____	Dignitary Escort _____
Parking Lot Attendant _____	Item Distribution _____
Golf Cart Drivers _____	Ushers _____

SHIRT SIZE (Choose One):  Small  Medium  Large  X-Large  
 2X  3X  4X  5X

I also hereby understand that, if selected for volunteer service, the Depot Anniversary Committee will (1) contact me to sign a DD Form 2793, Volunteer Agreement Form; (2) provide me a uniformed shirt to be worn during my volunteer shift; and (3) keep me informed of complete details and guidance regarding my assignment.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* COMPLETE AND RETURN TO MAIL STOP 5112 \*\***



### Citizen of the Year Award recognizes CO contributions

Tobyhanna Army Depot Commander Col. Charles C. Gibson addresses the local community leadership after receiving the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. Gibson’s dynamic leadership created a successful partnership between Tobyhanna Army Depot and the local community. His involvement in the community, school and youth activities, along with representing the Army at numerous local activities, led to his recognition. (Photo by Ed Mickley)

### NOTES from Page 1

#### 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 on Wednesdays and the Honky Tonk in Dunmore every month on the third Thursday.

For details, call Stu Crouse, 840-2453.

#### Dry cleaning services available

The One Stop Shop is a drop point for employees who use the dry cleaning and tailoring services at the post exchange.

Items can be dropped off during regular business hours. Scheduled times at the exchange 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 more information, call X57030.

#### One Stop Shop sells trip tickets

Spend the day shopping in New York City on June 30. The cost is \$20. A bus will depart the Tobyhanna Army Depot parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and leave the city at 7 p.m. Visit the One Stop Shop for payment and reservations. Payment is due at the time of reservation. This trip is sponsored by the Civilian Welfare Council. For more information, call 5-8851.

Tickets for a two-day trip to Washington D.C., are on sale. A bus will depart Wegman’s parking lot in Wilkes Barre at 6 a.m. Oct. 6 and return Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. Visit the One Stop Shop for details and pricing.

The Civilian Welfare Council will sponsor a trip to Radio City Music Hall, in New York City, Nov. 10 for individual’s who want to see the Christmas Spectacular. The seats are on the first floor, orchestra section. A bus will depart Tobyhanna’s parking lot at 6:30 a.m. and leave New York at 6:15 p.m. Showtime is 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$75 per person.

**EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS**

**AROUND THE DEPOT**

**Facilities Maintenance Division**  
Public Works Directorate

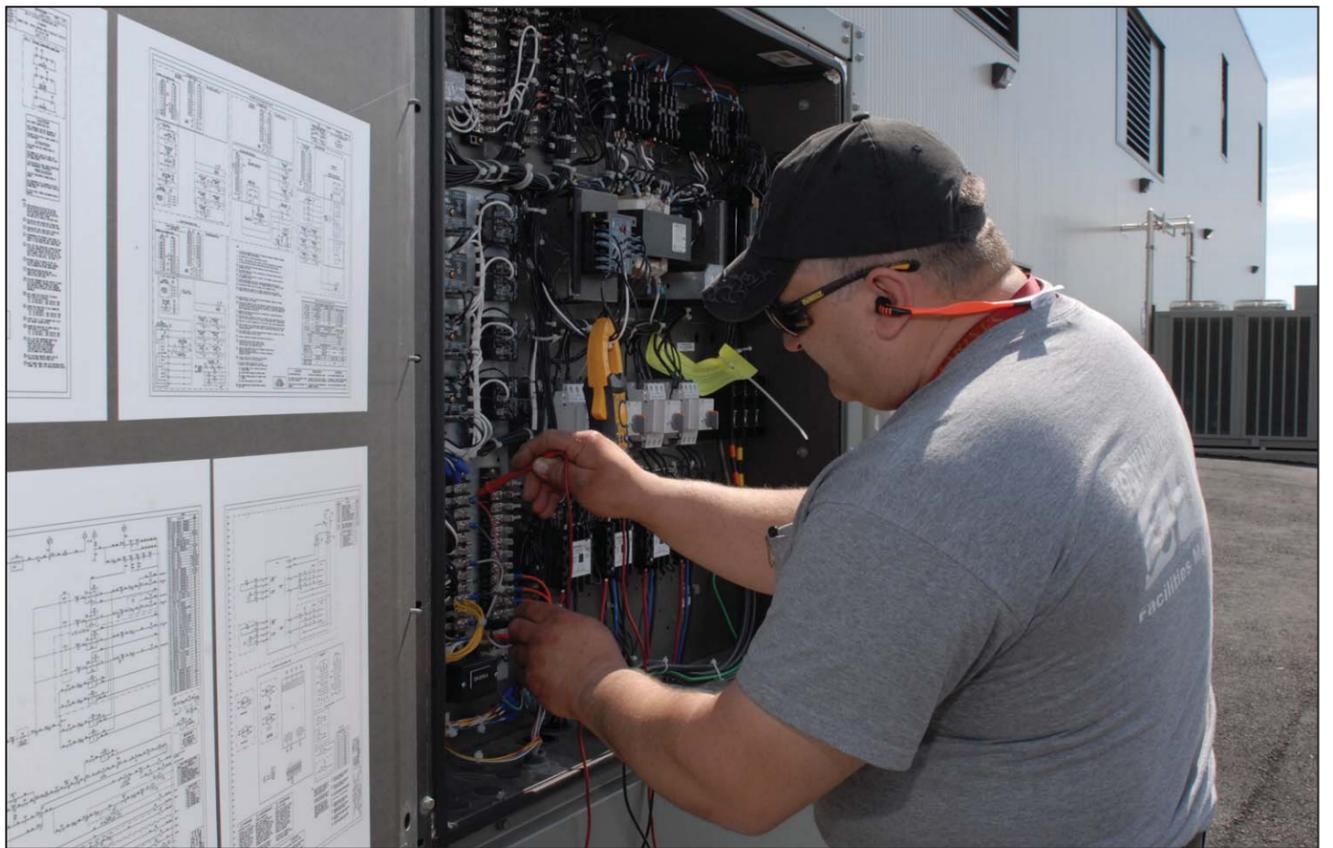
The division's employees repair, maintain, inspect and install utility systems, depot heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration, compressed air, voltage generators and their related control and subsystems. Personnel are responsible for depot-wide internal and external electrical distribution systems for each building. The organization includes leaders, air conditioning mechanics, pipefitter, welder, electricians, maintenance mechanics and summer hires.



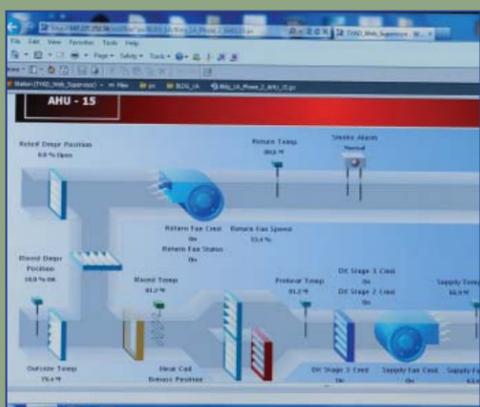
From right, Air Conditioning Mechanics Mark Michalik and Frank Randazzo, and intern Luke Morahan review control data in Building 1A using Direct Digital Control computers.



Randazzo, left, and Morahan weigh in a refrigerant charge on a condensing unit.



Michalik performs preventive maintenance diagnostics on a heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system.



**Equipment Specs**

Division employees completed more than 7,900 Maintenance Service Orders in fiscal 2011. Technicians are responsible for about 1,500 pieces of equipment such as air compressors and handlers, condensing units, boilers, sprinkler pits, electrical substations, exhaust fans, chillers, air conditioners, plus split systems and package units. Personnel respond to priority and preventive maintenance work requests for every facility on the installation.

Photos by Tony Medici



Electrician Lenny Pesta tightens clamps holding 2-inch conduit in Building 30 that he installed for data and communication wire.



Above, Maintenance Worker Pete Savage repairs a trap assembly located in a Building 19 bathroom. Left, Pesta installs knockouts in a junction box that will be used for data and communication wire in Building 30.



## NEW SUPERVISORS

**David Jones** is chief of the Systems Integration and Support Directorate's Electrical Overhaul Branch.

Jones supervises more than 30 people who provide overhaul support to various system Reset missions including AN/MST-T1 (a) Multiple Threat Emitter System, Firefinder, Power Distribution Boxes, Satellite Communications and Communications Security shelters.

During his 22 years in the Air Force Jones attended the final Bob Hope USO Tour, met Colin Powell on Crete post Gulf War and was a point of contact for the post 9/11 MTV concert at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal and Achievement Medal.

Prior to coming to Tobyhanna, Jones worked for an Alaskan Native Corporation. He began his depot career in March.

Jones is a 1977 graduate of Wyoming Valley West High School. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Maryland in 2004 and is a full-time graduate student.

His hobbies include home improvement projects, gardening and landscaping, and supporting his children's high school sports teams.

**Brian Regan** is chief of the Productivity Improvement and Innovation Directorate's Process Improvement Division.

Regan supervises more than 20 people. He is responsible for Lean event planning and facilitation,



**Jones**



**Regan**

including Value Stream Analysis, Rapid Improvement and Problem Solving events. The division is responsible for standard work development and continuous process improvement education and training on the depot.

Regan served on active duty in the Air Force for five years.

During his career he worked as the F-22 Raptor production manager at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB), Ohio. At Holloman AFB, he was a weapons systems test manager in the 846th Test Squadron. For the past six years, Regan has been assigned to the Air National Guard's 112th Air Operations Squadron in State College as an Operational Assessment Analyst. He's also deployed Qatar and Afghanistan.

His decorations include the Commendation Medal, Achievement Medal, Outstanding Unit Award, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service medals, Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold border, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Prior to being named chief, Regan worked as an industrial engineer in the Process Improvement Division. He began his depot career in 2010.

Regan is a 1996 graduate of Bishop O'Reilly High School. He received a Bachelor's Degree in engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 2001 and a Master's Degree from Wright State University in 2004. His hobbies include fishing, skiing and golfing.

## CAREER MILESTONE



**From left, depot commander Col. Charles C. Gibson, Christopher Sefchik, Mark Follmer, Michael Frantz, Christopher Smith, Kevin Wilkinson, and depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer attend the Length of Service ceremony held April 25.**

Five Tobyhanna employees were recognized for their years of government service during the Length of Service ceremony April 25.

**Kevin Wilkinson** — 35 years, electronics worker, Electronic Assembly Division, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment.

**Christopher Smith** — 35 years, electronics technician, Communications Security Division, Communications Systems Directorate.

**Michael Frantz** — 35 years, electronics mechanic leader, Command, Control and Computer (C3) Systems Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**Mark Follmer** — 35 years, electronics mechanic, Avionics Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

**Christopher Sefchik** — 30 years, electronics mechanic, Command, Control and Computer Systems Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.

In addition to service certificates and pins, employees with 35 years 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 Col. Charles Gibson and Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer presented the awards.

# Army to open previously closed jobs, units to women

by Rob McIlvaine  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army announced that it will conduct a six-month assessment of an exception to the Direct Ground Combat Assignment Rule (DGCAR) for female Soldiers.

Under the DGCAR, six military occupational specialties, or MOSs, were previously closed to women because they were normally co-located with direct combat units.

The Army's removal of "co-location" from its policy opens to women the six specialties in 80 units, down to the battalion level, said Brig. Gen. Barrye Price, director of Human Resources Policy, Army G-1.

"With the removal of co-location, a little over 13,000 billets will open for women to compete for assignment. And women now for the first time will be allowed to assess into these six specialties," Price said.

"So we'll have to actually now recruit women for these specialties, which they have not in the past," he said.

Under the exception to policy, Price said 10 officer specialties and more enlisted positions will also open to women in nine brigade combat teams across the Army.

"We're going to look to execute this exception to policy at one brigade at Fort Carson, Colo.; three brigades at Fort Hood, Texas; one brigade at Fort Knox, Ky.; one brigade at Fort Drum, N.Y.; one brigade at Fort Campbell, Ky.; and two brigade combat teams in Hawaii," Price said.

Within each of those brigades, Price continued, the Army already has women serving at the brigade headquarters level. But within those nine brigades are 37 battalions in which women have not served before.

"This war, more than any, has shaped and

## ARMY WOMEN SERVING

In the early 1990s, Lt. Gen. Claudia Kennedy became the first three-star woman in the Army. She retired in 2000 after 31 years of military service.

At present, the Army has one woman four-star, Ann E. Dunwoody, which is the first of any service in the nation. She assumed the duties as the commanding general of Army Materiel Command on Nov. 14, 2008.

The Army has four female three-stars:

- Lt. Gen. Patricia D. Horoho, who assumed command of the Army Medical Command on Dec. 5, 2011, and was sworn in as the 43rd Army surgeon general on Dec. 7, 2011
- Lt. Gen. Kathleen M. Gainey, is the director for Logistics, J4, the Joint Staff
- Lt. Gen. Mary A. Legere, assumed the duties of deputy chief of staff, G-2 on April 12
- Lt. Gen. Susan S. Lawrence, who became the Army chief information officer, G-6 on March 2, 2011

Brig. Gen. Laura Richardson will be assigned as the assistant division commander of the 1st Cavalry Division," Price said.

Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, commanding general of Army Sustainment Command, has been nominated for a third star, and to be the deputy commanding general of Army Materiel Command.

The senior officer in seven Army branches is a woman:

- Quartermaster is Gen. Ann Dunwoody
- Transportation is Lt. Gen. Kathy Gainey
- Medical is Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho
- Nurse Corps is Maj. Gen. Jimmie O. Keenan
- Adjutant General Corps is Maj. Gen. Gina S. Farrisee
- Military Intelligence is Maj. Gen. Mary Legere
- Signal is Lt. Gen. Susan Lawrence

informed our views on opening the aperture for women, based on what they're actually doing, what they've achieved," Price said.

"Our nation and historically the roles that we've seen women playing and performing, and I think that really 11 years of persistent conflict has really shaped our views, not just internally to the DOD, but also societal views, as what more pronounced role women may play," he said.

The exception to DGCAR opens select positions to women in direct combat units at the battalion level in a number of military occupational specialties, totaling about 755 Army positions across nine brigade combat teams. On May 14, company grade-officers

in the ranks of second lieutenant through captain and noncommissioned officers in the grades of sergeant to sergeant first class will be receiving orders and will report for duty.

The Department of Defense's intent to implement the exception to policy was first announced in the DOD Women in the Services Restrictions Review released in February. The Army will assess the impact of this exception to policy over a six-month period, Price said, and provide a joint-service report with the assessment period results and corresponding recommendations to the secretary of Defense in November. The Army intends to begin executing those recommendations shortly thereafter, he said.

"This has been a great growth experience for our nation at large," Price said.

Right now, women comprise about 17 percent of the Army, Price said.

Price said the exception to policy will have 36 percent of the positions open to women in the 37 battalions affected.

"It's actually a little more than twice the proportion of women in the Army," Price said.

Over the next six months, he said the Army will look at duty performance, not just of the women, but of the entire organizations.

"We'll assess training and occupational injury rates, we'll assess cohesion and morale, both unit and individual readiness, and we'll assess recruiting and retention rates, but that will be over time.

He said the assessment will affect the next steps the Army makes. He said the Army might go back to Congress and ask for greater authorities to open all of the brigade combat teams to women in certain specialties.

Price said he knows the first person who will be assigned from the top of this system to this exception to policy will be a female chaplain who's going to one of these battalions where she would not have had the opportunity to serve, prior to this.

"Our women are certainly looking forward to it, and they've certainly earned the right on the battlefield," Price said.

"Opening these positions provides a greater pool of qualified Soldiers from which our Army will draw, which maximizes our military capabilities and reduces operational tempo for those deployed.

"Policy is often informed by practice and the evolving nature of modern warfare, and that the outstanding service of our modern Soldiers demonstrates this is the right thing to do for our Soldiers, our all-volunteer Army, and for our nation," Price said.

## WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
David Bergner	Equipment specialist	D/ISR
Jeremy Brown	Equipment specialist	D/ISR
Ramon Escareno	Equipment specialist	D/C3/Avionics
Stephen Gallik	Firefighter	D/IRM
Skylar Grandberry	Equipment specialist	D/ISR
William Hittner	Electronics mechanic	D/SIS
Rhett Mattox	Heavy mobile equipment mechanic	D/PW
Derek Monk	Electronics digital computer mechanic	D/C3/Avionics
Howard Shavers	Equipment specialist	D/ISR
Arthur Shukaitis	Mechanical engineer	D/PII
Rose Wallace	Logistics management specialist	D/C3/Avionics

## RETIREES

Name	Retirement date	Organization
Judy Kushmeder	Apr. 5	D/PII
Richard Sincavage	Apr. 6	D/ISR
Daniel Shea	Apr. 30	D/ISR
Deborah Shea	Apr. 30	D/PM
James Strohl	Apr. 30	D/Comm Sys
William Freeman	Apr. 30	TMDE



## Visitors tour PSCC

The Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA) Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center (PSCC) hosted representatives from Germany's Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing in April. Gudula Schwan, chief, Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing Division, Marcel Neitsch, a scientist with the Dangerous Goods Packaging Section Quality Assurance and Information Management and Dr. Thomas Goedecke, chief, Materials Research and Testing Division joined their U.S. counterparts from the Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for a tour of PSCC's Packaging Materials Testing Facility followed by a discussion of packaging testing regulations. (U.S. Army photo)



# Gettin' Muddy with the girls!



**T**hirteen Tobyhanna Army Depot women braved steep hills, tall obstacles, overcast skies, wide creeks and mud, lots of mud, to join 8,000 other participants in the annual Dirty Girl Mud Run (DGMR) held at Live Nation's Toyota Pavilion May 5.

Team names like Mudalicious, Dirty Dozen, Jugs, Treasure Chests, Muddy Margari-ta-tas, KuKu TuTu, Dirty Skirtz, and Girls Gone Dirty certainly do not conjure up images of a 5K benefit run for charity. Bright white smiles sparkled against a backdrop of grimy, messy faces, and what was once brightly colored t-shirts now covered in, yep, you guessed it, mud, lots of mud.

"The most challenging part for me was the wall," said Heather Fiedler, admitting that she's afraid of heights. "The best part of the race was slinging mud at my best friend," Fiedler said. "[She] and I will definitely be doing this race again and

hope our girls will join us in the years to come."

The DGMR is a female-only adventure that covered a lot of terrain, everything from steep rocky hills to muddy creeks, obstacle walls, rope nets, 15-foot tubes, and ditches.

"We had a blast," said Katlin Edmunds. "It was an excellent opportunity to get a tough group of girls together to support breast cancer awareness."

As one person mentioned, it's one part mud, one part cancer awareness and one part estrogen celebration. And celebrate they did.

"More mud," shouted one girl from Northampton. "We want more mud!"

Plans for next year's event are already underway, according to Edmunds. She said jumping in the mud pits and making mud angels were the highlights of her day.

"Our team had so much fun, we're already organizing a team for next year."



**Clockwise from top, Amanda Totten gears up for the big race. The annual Dirty Girl Mud Run draws 8,000 participants. Larissa Motko races toward the finish line. Amy Pocius and Totten celebrate their victory as they cross the finish line. Heather Fiedler navigates one of three mud tunnel obstacles. Jessica Toepfer, left, and Melissa Vaccaro reach the top of the rope wall. Motko makes her way up the rope wall. Katlin Edmunds, Ashley Wood and Motko wait in line to rinse off after the big run. Sonya Walls, left, and Fiedler, inset, push through the mud pit halfway through the race. Edmunds celebrates after crossing the finish line.**

Photos by Linda Cohen and Ed Mickley