

# TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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OCTOBER 2, 2012

## NEWS NOTES

### Barber Shop posts hours, costs

The Tobyhanna Post Exchange Barber Shop is under new management.

The shop will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursdays, noon to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the first and third Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Men's and military-style haircuts will cost \$9.49, women's haircuts, \$14 and children's haircuts, \$10.

For more information, call Betty Jean Kowalski, X57695.

### Restaurant hosts Thanksgiving celebration

The annual Thanksgiving lunch buffet will be held Nov. 13-15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing.

Cost is \$17 per person and tickets are now available at the One Stop Shop, X58851. Reservations will only be made at time of ticket purchase.

No reservations will be made without payment. Submit one name only per group for reserved seating. Employees purchasing at separate times for the same group must know whose name is on the reservation to ensure that groups are seated together.

## Eye-opening mission gives shape to unknown

by Anthony Ricchiazzi  
Editor

Well-trained and skilled depot employees maintain and support the military's vast array of electro-optics/night vision (EO/NV) systems here and around the globe.

Technicians overhaul, repair, modify, test and install EO/NV systems for all branches of the service and foreign military service (FMS) customers.

Tobyhanna's capability extends beyond night vision devices and scopes to include support of systems such as driver viewers, laser range finders and Target Acquisition Systems, Bradley Fighting Vehicle Targeting Systems, forward looking infrared (FLIR) and infrared sensors, according to Joseph Fantanarosa, chief of the Electro Optic/Night Vision Division.

Tobyhanna also maintains and Resets the Vehicle Optics Sensor System (VOSS). The gyrocam VOSS is a remotely controlled, gyro-stabilized, multi-mission surveillance system that can acquire and track targets in bright light, low light, or no light conditions to locate improvised explosive devices (IEDs), snipers and other threats at greater stand-off distances. Targets can be viewed using a color camera, night vision camera, or an infrared camera, all contained in the same unit.

"We'll be supporting the VOSS I Reset and are currently providing maintenance to VOSS I and II systems for training facilities at 12 locations," said Mark Warner, electronics mechanic leader in the Systems Integration and Support (SIS) Directorate's Tank Thermal/Common Modules Branch. "All systems will be maintained or Reset to fill mission capable status requirements."

Technicians also provide Reset capability for one of the latest systems to be repaired by Tobyhanna — the AN/TAS-8 Long Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System (LRAS3). Depot engineers and technicians are developing a complete overhaul and



Electronics Mechanic Fred Hawkins adjusts an AN/TAS-4 Thermal Site scanner. The scanner provides night vision capability for the Tube-launched Optically-tracked Wire-guided missile. (Photo by Anthony Medici)

test facility for the LRAS3 and its components.

"Starting in January, this facility will include complex optical test stations, a full line-of-sight laser range with multiple targets at near and far locations, an environmental stress screening system and various other test and repair equipment," said Mark Viola, chief of the C4ISR Maintenance Engineering Division, Production

Engineering Directorate.

"Night vision and imaging systems expertise has enabled Tobyhanna to support the Army's slogan 'We Own the Night,'" said Frank Zardecki, deputy commander. "Tobyhanna has been repairing electro-optics and night vision equipment since the 1990s, so there are literally hundreds of years of combined experience on the shop floor

See EO/NV on Pages 4, 5



### Tobyhanna pays tribute to POW/MIA

Tobyhanna Army Depot observed the Veterans Council's 11th Annual POW/MIA (Prisoner of War/Missing in Action) Recognition Day on Sept. 21. About 100 people attended the ceremony, which was held at the POW/MIA Memorial near The Landing. Honored guests were two former prisoners of war: Bernard Miller, World War II veteran and Thomas Gaylets, Korean War veteran. The guest speaker was Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter, commander, Tobyhanna Army Depot. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

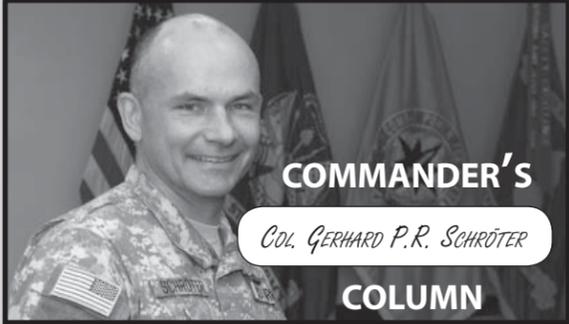
### High-level workshop focuses on water conservation

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### Brooklyn Marines train at Tobyhanna

Page 7

# Everyone is a Soldier in fight against suicide



**COMMANDER'S**  
COL. GERHARD P.R. SCHRÖTER  
**COLUMN**

September was the Army's suicide awareness and prevention month. On Sept. 27, the entire Army stood down to combat this enemy by focusing on the theme, "a healthy force is a ready force."

Over the past year, we received training and information about suicide and how each of us can help in the fight to prevent it — in ourselves, in our families and in our neighbors. Reducing suicide's casualties is a shared responsibility and a team effort.

To confront the problem, the Army expanded its services and programs so that all Soldiers, Civilians and Family members have easier access to help.

I'd like to recognize and thank Eva Granville, our

employee assistance program manager (see her article on Page 8), as well as Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffrey Brooks for taking on this challenge and putting together our suicide awareness and prevention campaign. Even though we have their expertise and compassion; each of us is a Soldier in this fight. Review the information, become familiar with simple tools like the "ACE" intervention card. Keep one handy, in your pocket or by your phone.

I challenge each of you with this: "No matter what kinds of frustrations you might find yourself facing in life, promise yourself that you will never give up on yourself or your dreams." And, if you see someone who needs help, remember what is on the "ACE" card: Ask, Care, Escort — you can make a life-saving difference.

Thank you again for all you do and for the difference you make for one another, our families, our region and our nation.



## KEEP YOUR ACE HANDY

### Ask your family

- Have the courage to ask the questions, but stay calm.
- Ask the questions directly: Are you thinking of killing yourself?

### Care for your family member

- Calmly control the situation; do not use force; be safe.
- Actively listen to show understanding and produce relief.
- Remove any means that could be used for self-injury.

### Escort your family member

- Never leave your family member alone.
- Escort to chain of command, chaplain, behavioral health professional or primary care provider.
- Call the Military Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255 (TALK). Press "1" for the Military Crisis Line. Or go to [phc.amedd.army.mil](http://phc.amedd.army.mil).

# Water conservation takes center stage at Tobyhanna

by Anthony Ricchiazzi  
Editor

Army representatives, including the Honorable Katherine Hammack, Army Assistant Secretary, met here Sept 18-19 to discuss successes, challenges and plans for significantly improved water conservation.



Hammack, who heads the Army Secretary's office of Installations, Energy and Environment, opened the Army Net Zero Workshop [via teleconference] by congratulating Tobyhanna for earning the 2012 Federal Energy and Water Management Award (Project Category) for a water leak detection program.

"This is the right time to assess the Army's progress in implementing water conservation programs," she said. The Net Zero water goal is for installations to achieve a 50 percent reduction in water use by 2010.

Collaboration is critical to success in this effort, she said, adding that water conservation is now tied to energy security. The Army now knows that less water use equates to less energy use.

"For the first time, water security is being specifically addressed by the Army as part of the Army Campaign Plan," she said. That plan is part of the Army Modernization Plan.

Hammack said the emphasis on water conservation is timely due to current drought conditions in several states

throughout America, noting that 1,000 counties in 26 states were declared drought disaster areas, some states have experienced drought followed by flooding and that many Army installations are located in drought areas.

Because this is new for the Army, most of the metrics are new and must be developed further. Hammack listed three candidate metrics for which the Army has data.

- Percentage of covered facilities that completed water evaluations. This has risen from four percent in fiscal 2010 to 34 percent in 2012.
- Percentage of water meters installed and providing data. Hammack said that very few have been installed and that the goal is to have meters installed at Army posts where feasible by the end of fiscal 2016.
- Percentage reduction in potable water intensity (gallons of water per square foot of building space). Potable water is water fit for human consumption. The goal is to reduce water intensity by 2 percent per year from a 2007 baseline to achieve an overall 26 percent total reduction (Net Zero Water installations seek a 50 percent water reduction). Hammack said that goal has been exceeded in fiscal 2011 with a total reduction of 10.3 percent, down from about 16 percent in fiscal 2010 due to Soldiers returning from deployment.

There is increased focus to use every drop of water wisely, she said, especially in light of climate change. "The Army needs to identify best practices and implement them," she added.

The workshop continued with presentations by representatives of forts Carson (Colo.), Bliss (Texas) Buchanan (Puerto Rico) and Riley (Kansas), Camp Rilea (Ore.) and Aberdeen Proving Ground (Md.) on what is

being done to reduce water usage, challenges they face and advice to meet those challenges.

Vince Guthrie, Fort Carson's environmental program manager, noted that Fort Carson is in a semi-arid region and that water usage has increased due to Soldiers returning from deployment, and increased construction and irrigation.

"We want to reclaim water from our sewage treatment plant and balance that with our potable water use, and of course reduce our water use," he said. "To get there, we are going to have to expand our use of reclaimed water for irrigation."

Fort Carson installed a "weather smart" irrigation system with metering, replaced 16 vehicle wash racks with a facility that recycles water, reclaimed water through a sewage treatment plant and installed a leak detection system.

"We've repaired 13 leaks...that [equaled] 20 million gallons per year, or two percent of our total water use," he said.

Guthrie said that near future plans include equipment that will yield a 300 million gallon usage reduction and a 20 percent irrigation reduction.

Jim Arnold, Camp Rilea's environmental restoration manager, said that although Rilea's Net Zero program is a cornerstone of a water management conservation plan being developed now, Rilea has already taken steps to improve water usage.

"Over the years, we've been doing assessment studies to identify where our high water uses were and began to address that by implementing leak detection and replacing aging fixtures with more efficient ones," he said.

See NET ZERO on Page 8

## TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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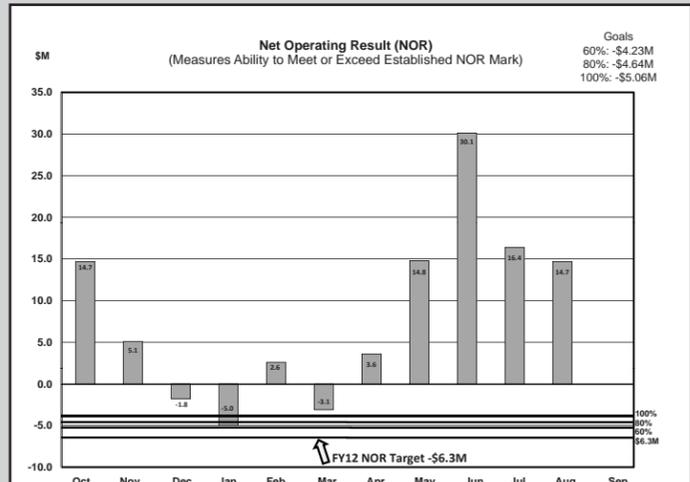
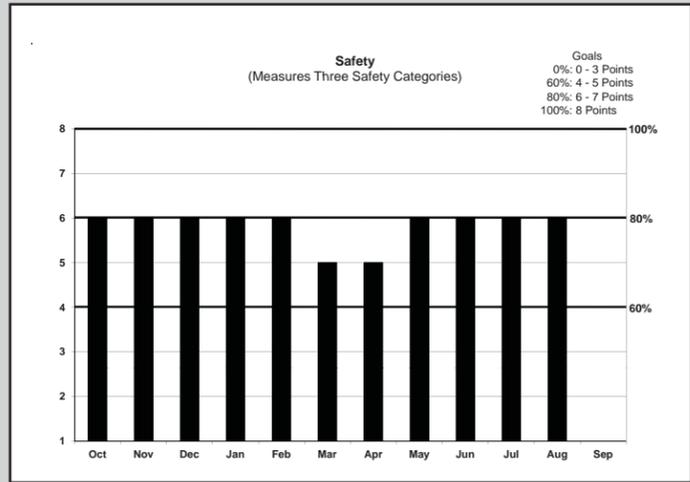
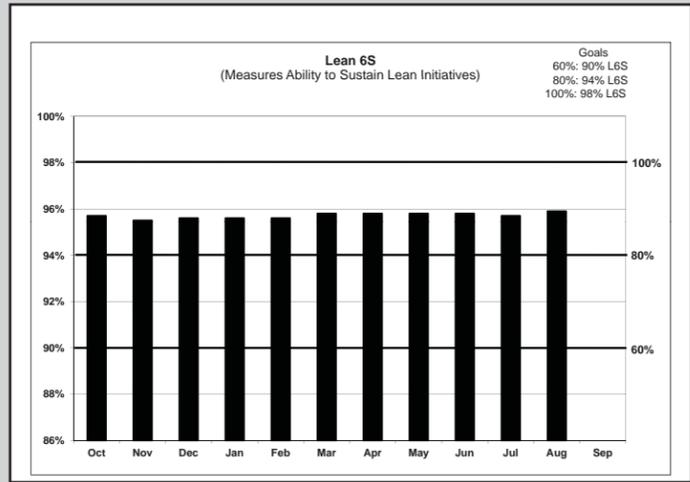
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TEAM  
TOBYHANNA

EXCELLENCE IN  
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### DEPOT PERFORMANCE IN KEY AREAS

The employee payout award is based on performance in four areas rather than just the depot's financial performance as defined by the annual Net Operating Result (NOR). The final award amount will be determined by the cumulative status in each of the four areas at the end of the fiscal year while working within the limits of the fiscal 2010 spending cap. These charts illustrate the percentage of payout earned in each of the four categories. The projected payout as of August will be \$1,400.



Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer was a driving force behind programs such as the Warfighter of the Quarter, which was established to strengthen the ties between warfighters and the Tobyhanna work force. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

## Tour of duty puts things in perspective

by Jacqueline Boucher  
Assistant Editor

Most people can learn how to do a job well. Others step into a role knowing it's what they were made to do. For a rare few, success is measured by the impact their work has on the people they come in contact with every day.

For more than three years, the work force at Tobyhanna Army Depot has had the rare privilege to work alongside a man who has always had their best interests at heart. As Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer prepares to retire after serving 32 years in the Army, he will be remembered for his style, unique brand of leadership and sage wisdom.

Spencer will turn over the reigns as depot sergeant major to Sgt. Maj. Juan Rocha during a Change of Responsibility Ceremony Oct. 4 at 10 a.m. in front of Tobyhanna's Administration Building.

As sergeant major, his responsibilities included overseeing mission requirements and quality of life issues here and in the local community. Spencer advised the commander on all matters relating to Soldiers, the civilian work force and their family members. In addition, he served as the voice of the warfighters who used depot-repaired equipment once it arrived on the battlefield.

According to Spencer, one of his greatest career achievements was having the opportunity to work with some of the "most competent and professional" individuals in the Department of Defense.

"Serving as Tobyhanna Army Depot's senior enlisted advisor has made me a better Soldier and a better man," Spencer said. "It's been an honor serving with all of you. Every day I'm inspired by your unparalleled work, service and support to the service members and their families."

Spencer and his wife, Lindy, have decided to stay in the area for a while following his retirement. Growing

up in Georgia, their intent is to eventually move south to be closer to family, possibly settling in Huntsville, Ala. For now, they remain committed to Team Tobyhanna and their volunteer efforts here and in the local community.

"There's something great going on at Tobyhanna Army Depot," Spencer said. "It's more a feeling than something tangible, but I'd like to stick around and be a part of it."

Transitioning into the role of depot sergeant major was a welcome challenge for Spencer. It took some time for him to find the right niche for his considerable skills as a career Army noncommissioned officer and combat Soldier. He arrived here in June 2009 following an assignment in the Netherlands. Before that he served in several leadership positions at overseas and stateside locations, including Camp Zama, Japan, and Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Early on, Spencer worked as a communications and electronics radio repairer. Later he served as an instructor teaching Soldiers attending military occupational specialty school and then spent two years as a drill sergeant teaching new recruits how to be Soldiers.

"Most of my challenges were up front," Spencer said. "I had to insert myself in every aspect of what the enterprise does in order to understand the goals, objectives and mission of this organization. The senior leadership and work force taught me a lot that first year," he said, remembering how everyone gave him an idea of exactly what needed to be done. "Once I got my feet under me, it was easy to use my leadership and interpersonal skills, plus all my training to take on the responsibilities of this job."

The sergeant major is a firm believer of giving 100 percent to every job or task he's assigned. Looking back, Spencer feels he has accomplished everything he set out to do. When asked, he discussed several things such as the role he played in helping Tobyhanna

See SPENCER on Page 6

## NEW DIVISION CHIEF

**Garth Shull** is chief of the Engineering Division, Public Works Directorate (DPW).

As chief, Shull supervises engineers who construct, alter, maintain and repair depot facilities and utility infrastructure. Employees in the division complete work order requests for large projects that directly support organizational mission units and public works functions. Shull also helps provide technical assistance for these projects.

Prior to his current position, he worked as a general engineer in the Operation and Maintenance Branch of the Installation Management Command in Fort Eustis, Va. He also worked as the DPW



**Shull**

Engineering Design Branch Chief at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Shull has been a part of several noteworthy projects including the rehabilitation of the U.S. Marine Corps War (Iwo Jima) Memorial, Robert E. Lee's Arlington House and the Clara Barton House. He began his depot career in April 2012.

Shull is a 1984 graduate of Mt. Empire High School in Pine Valley, Calif. He received a degree in civil engineering from San Diego State University in 1991.

His hobbies include hiking, cycling, studying history and spending time with his family.

## NEW SUPERVISOR

**Edwina Best** is chief of the COMSEC (Communications Security) Equipment Processing Branch, Communications Systems Directorate.

Best supervises employees who are responsible for packing and shipping repaired equipment.

Prior to her current position, she worked as a material handler supervisor at the 99th Regional Support Center at Fort Indiantown Gap.

She began her depot career in June.

Best served on active duty in the Army for over seven years and 19 years in the Army Reserves. During this time, she served as a hospital food service specialist at Fort Campbell, Ky.; non-morse signal interceptor in Berlin, Germany; and supply sergeant in Northfield, N.J. She is currently a first



**Best**

sergeant with the 338th Medical Brigade, in Horsham, Pa.

Her awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster (OLC), Army Achievement Medal with one bronze OLC, Army Superior Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Award with one bronze OLC, Army of Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze OLC, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with a mobilization device and the Army Service Ribbon.

Best is a 1981 graduate of Woodstown High School in Woodstown, N.J.

She works with the Fredericksburg Fire Company as an emergency medical technician. Her hobbies include bowling, fishing and hiking.



**Sgt. Maj. Kelvin and Lindy Spencer**

### SPENCER from Page 3

achieve the Aerospace Standard (AS) 9100 and AS9110 certification, being a champion of Lean and an advocate of process-based leadership. There's no mistaking the pride in Spencer's voice when he spoke about his relationship with the members of Team Tobyhanna.

"The most rewarding part of being a sergeant major at Tobyhanna was having the opportunity to go out and meet and talk to each employee," he said. "It was easy to become personally and professionally attached to everyone whether at work or in the local community."

Spencer also mentioned that his tour of duty at Tobyhanna Army Depot helped put things into perspective.

"I have a newfound appreciation for what Department of the Army civilian workers do every day," he said. "It's easy for us Soldiers to forget there is another part of the Army. You are warfighters in every sense of the word. Tobyhanna has some of the most genuine, patriotic people I've ever had the privilege to work beside."



Electronics Mechanic Helen Raykhel of the Communication Systems Directorate's SINGARS Branch teaches Lance Cpls. Joshua Nunez and Josh Wimberly how to test a Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System with a test set.

## Brooklyn Marine unit trains at Tobyhanna; First visit provides unparalleled experience

by Justin Eimers  
Editorial Assistant

U.S. Marines from the 6th Communications Battalion Maintenance Mechanics and Technicians of Marine Forces Reserve, Brooklyn, N.Y., made their first trip here in August for a two-week annual training rotation.

During the visit, Marines worked alongside Tobyhanna employees to learn and gain valuable experience on the equipment they typically see in the field.

The training offered at the depot is one thing the Marines said set Tobyhanna apart from other installations.

"The range of technical training depot staff provided allowed for a more in-depth understanding and exploration of the equipment which, in turn, provided increased retention and preparedness going forward," said Sgt. Gary Butt.

Gy. Sgt. Jeffrey Fisher said the Marines who received Military Occupational

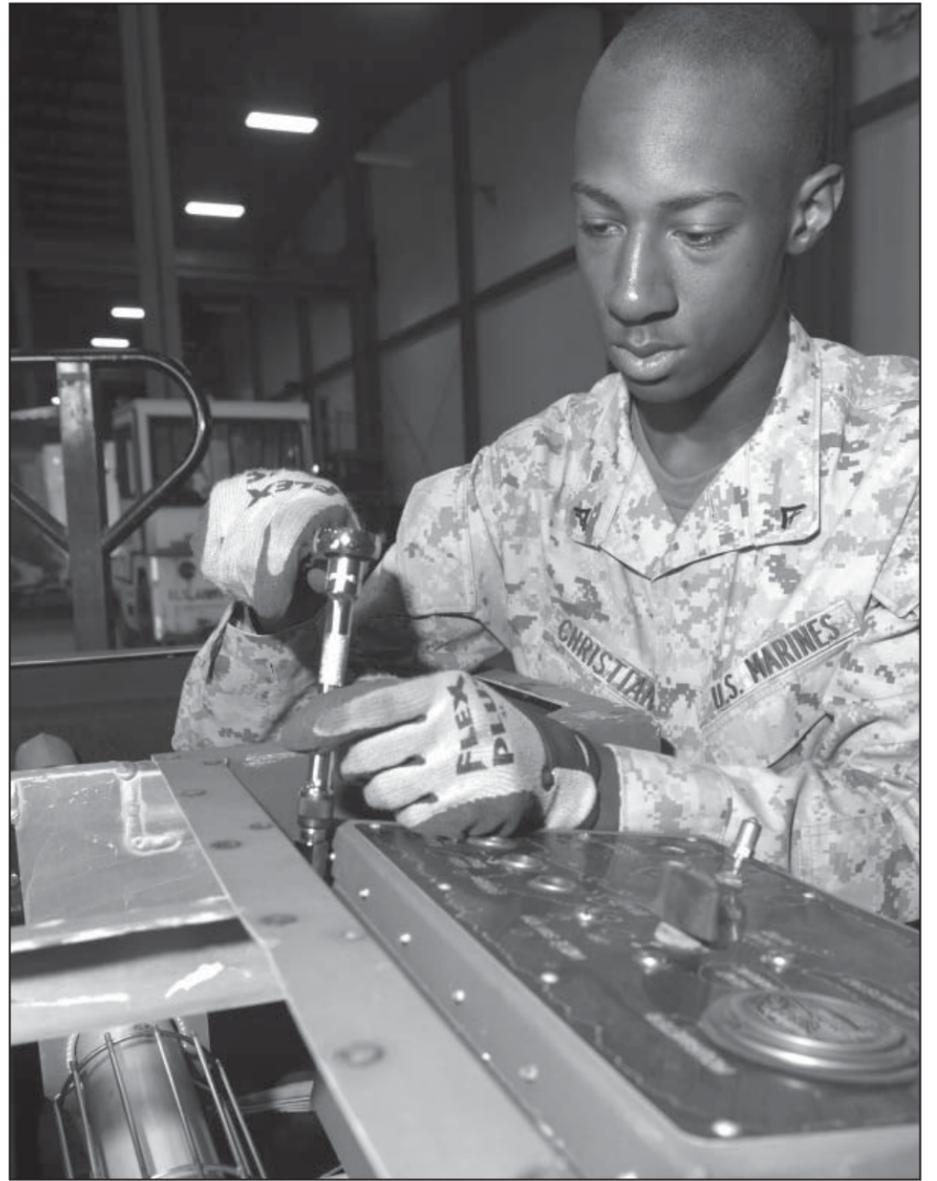
Specialties (MOS) training at the depot were given an opportunity they would not normally receive.

"The Marines reported gaining knowledge of systems and maintenance experience not found at our unit's organizational maintenance level," said Fisher. "These higher level skills contribute to a comprehensive understanding of systems, components and repairs; information that could be critical during deployment."

Marines from the Brooklyn unit worked in various specialty fields during their training, including communications electronics maintenance, electrical engineering, generator maintenance, ground radio repair, and telephone system/computer repair.

Another aspect of the two-week training the Marines found valuable and unique to the depot was the amount of time spent working hands-on with equipment.

"The most helpful part of the training



Lance Cpl. Kent Christian disassembles a heater unit for demilitarization. Christian is an automotive mechanic training with the Defense Logistics Agency during his unit's annual two-week training. (Photos by Steve Grzezdinski)

was being able to spend so much time working directly with the equipment involved with our MOS," said Lance Cpl. Michael Rattien. "This training taught me more in two weeks than I thought I could learn in six weeks."

Fisher remarked that Tobyhanna provides a welcoming environment for Marines and Soldiers to learn, train and gain experience

while preparing for deployment.

"We greatly appreciate the professionalism and attentive interpersonal communication from the Tobyhanna staff and civilian work force," he said. "When our Marines deploy, they'll take with them increased MOS skills thanks to what they learned and experienced at Tobyhanna."



## Depot golf tournament supports local groups

Despite a drenching rain and thick fog, more than 120 current and retired depot employees, active-duty and retired military members participated in the 15th Annual Tobyhanna Army Depot Commander's Cup Golf Tournament at Pocono Manor's West Course. The event sold raffle tickets for various prizes and held a 50/50 drawing with proceeds benefitting several local programs including Operation Santa Claus. Awards were also given out to individuals with the longest drives and for the closest to the pin. Above, depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer, left, presents the Commander's Cup trophy to the winning team of Jim Gordon, Joe Carnevale, John Langan and Norm John. (Photo by Mike Carrera)

## Voting assistance available at Tobyhanna

by Ashley Cheesman  
Voting Assistance Officer

Nov. 6 is a very important date to remember. That's the date of the general election when you have the opportunity to vote for a candidate as the president of the United States.

All U.S. citizens are encouraged to vote by going to a polling place or by absentee ballot.

Anyone who might be deploying, whether military or civilian, should take the necessary steps to ensure their vote

will be counted in the election.

U.S. citizens are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, which refers to citizens residing outside the United States and their right to vote by absentee ballot.

Individuals must request an absentee ballot from their state of legal residence by completing and mailing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to the local county election office or visit <http://www.fvap.gov>.

Those people who do not receive a state absentee ballot by today, can complete the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to cast their vote. Every state has different guidelines when completing the FPCA or FWAB.

Don't wait until it's too late, take the necessary steps to ensure your vote will be counted.

If anyone needs assistance with their absentee ballot or has questions about voting, contact me, 570-615-7210 or [ashley.e.lasoski.civ@mail.mil](mailto:ashley.e.lasoski.civ@mail.mil).

**NET ZERO from Page 2**

Arnold noted that reclaimed water is now used for equipment wash racks, which has lowered the demand on Rilea's aquifer. A 'water balance' plan has been finalized with a NetZero roadmap scheduled for completion by October.

Energy Management Specialist Devon Rust, representing Aberdeen Proving Ground, said her post presents a special situation. The installation sits on two peninsulas adjacent to a river and the Chesapeake Bay, and has intense water and energy needs coupled by high security.

"As opposed to having barracks, wash racks and showers, I've got laboratories, cold rooms and test ranges...that make the research, development, test and evaluation mission extraordinarily hard to work with," she said. "But we're moving in the right direction."

However, water consumption levels have been steady and there has been little need

for irrigation due to high water levels. She said actions taken since January include reuse of treated wastewater for plants, a demonstration of lead detecting devices with vendors and prioritizing leak repairs during the summer drought.

Planned programs for fiscal 2013 include upgrades to wastewater treatment plants. Rust advised the attendees to look carefully at payback analysis ensuring investments to save and treat water are worth the cost.

Tom Wildoner of Tobyhanna's Environmental Management Division said that the largest users of water here are the boiler system, sewage treatment plant and the Army Materiel Command Packaging Lab, a tenant activity whose packaging testing includes rain and humidity tests.

Personnel also found that 60 percent of water use was accounted for. To improve this, water meters were installed in key areas.

An Acoustic Leak Detection System installed two years ago has already saved millions of gallons of potable water. The



**Environmental Specialist Tom Wildoner explains how the acoustic leak detection system works to detect leaks in the water distribution system. This system earned Tobyhanna Army Depot the 2012 Federal Energy and Water Management Award, and is being considered for implementation by other Net Zero pilot installations. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)**

system is a network of underground sensors strategically placed within the depot's water distribution system. When used in conjunction with upgraded water pressure monitoring sensors, Wildoner said it has proven effective in helping to find and repair leaks.

The system earned the 2012 Federal Energy and Water Management Award (Project Category).

Attendees noted that awareness of the Net Zero Program among installation personnel needs to increase and have begun publicizing the effort.

**Program focuses on suicide prevention**

by Eva Granville  
Army Substance Abuse Program Manager

The Army Suicide Prevention Program focuses on minimizing suicidal behavior by training Soldiers, leaders, Department of the Army civilians and family members to recognize signs of suicidal behavior, intervention strategies and how to refer individuals for care.

Last week, depot commander Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter participated in a suicide prevention and awareness announcement for all depot employees. Plus, a number of public awareness announcements aired over PAVIS, the intranet and Tobyhanna's website.

Upcoming activities include "You make a difference — Pass it on!" event. The event is a way of showing a sense of hope and belonging that can grow and sustain us through tough times.

In addition, the counseling center and the chaplain's office will be distributing blue ribbons with the saying "Who I am makes a difference." The purpose of the blue ribbons is to let three people in your life know that they make a difference to you. Ask them to pass it on by honoring three people in their lives.

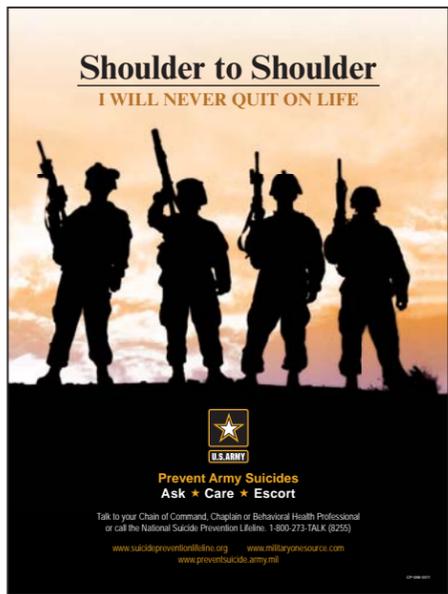
To see an example of the blue ribbons, go to [www.blueribbonmovie.com](http://www.blueribbonmovie.com). Ribbons will be available at the counseling center located in Building 11.

In order to sustain the strength and readiness of the depot and to promote the health of the Tobyhanna family, we ask everyone to take time to pick up and read some of the literature and resources that will be provided in each of the three cafeterias.

A link has been established on the Army suicide prevention website to facilitate the Health Promotion, Risk Reduction,

Suicide Prevention Program and Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness resources training. Public service announcements from senior leaders are disseminated throughout the Army to support Army leaders.

The loss of any member of the Army family is a tragedy regardless of the reason and can have a profound impact on overall readiness. Through leadership, education, and respect for each other, we can reduce or eliminate the stigma associated with suicide and help-seeking behaviors. The Army employs a holistic, multi-disciplinary approach to suicide prevention that includes health promotion and risk reduction. Ensuring prompt access to quality health care is an essential component to the Army's approach to suicide prevention.



**Annual chili contest kicks off CFC fund drive**

Clockwise from top, depot Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer (left) and Sgt. Maj. Juan Rocha sample a cup of chili during the first shift Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Chili Contest Sept. 19. Equipment Cleaner Brian Reynolds and Paint Supervisor Marc Ostroski serve their Pre Wash Chili during the 3rd shift chili contest Sept. 20. Hundreds of employees turned out for both the first and third shift events. Winners of the first shift contest were: Best Chili, first place, C3AV6P and second place, Big Bucks Chili. Best Decorated, first place, Big Bucks Chili; second place, Chilligans Island. Winners of the third shift contest were: Best Chili, first place, Fat Ten's Chili a.k.a. Lazy Fives Chili; second place, Millie's BOOM BOOM Chili. Best Decorated, first place, Uli nioi pu'ulu Chili; second place, Team AM/FM Chili. The chili contests kicked-off the depot's annual CFC fund drive which runs through Nov. 11. This year's slogan, "You can change someone's tomorrow, today," was submitted by Jackie Vass, Production Management Directorate. The CFC key persons will distribute and collect pledge forms within their directorate. Last year's contributions raised more than \$250,000 and the 2012 campaign aims to reach \$260,000. For more information, contact CFC chairpersons Beverly Foster, X56920 or [beverly.l.foster4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:beverly.l.foster4.civ@mail.mil), or Jen Caldero, X56554 or [jennifer.a.caldero.civ@mail.mil](mailto:jennifer.a.caldero.civ@mail.mil). (Photos by Tony Medici and Kelly Schröter)



EO/NV from Page 1

and in our engineering department. It's this depth of experience that provides a solid base to take on new challenges."

The depot boasts a comprehensive mix of test equipment and facilities to handle a variety of EO/NV workload. However, senior leaders recognize that the work force is its strongest asset so they consistently invest in training, development, and facilities increasing the depot's capability edge.

Additionally, as advocates of continuous improvement, employees frequently use lean tools such as process planning events to streamline operations and shop layout.

"The growth of EO/NV is due to our exceptional work force that can handle just about any challenge," said Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter, depot commander. "With that foundation, we also have the flexibility in our facility to rearrange workspace and personnel to increase our capacity."

On the shop floor, technicians have dedicated and flexible test equipment at their disposal that allows accurate repair and overhaul of the systems. Tobyhanna also maintains a considerable number of specialized test equipment and test beds that are system-specific.

And, to keep customer costs down, the in-house engineering staff is always looking for opportunities to re-host testing on the more flexible and cost effective Automated Test Systems (ATS) platforms, according to Viola. "These ATS can be programmed to test components from any number of different EO/NV systems," he said.

"Tobyhanna has the highest concentration of highly skilled and well-trained high-tech electronics mechanics supported by one of the most robust engineering staffs in the Defense Department industrial base providing Tobyhanna the capability to adapt and support new electro optics and night vision systems," Schröter said.

The shop also maintains a ball grid array solder flow station, a new way of soldering components to a circuit board. Connections are under the component rather than protruding out of the component. There is an x-ray inspection station for very precise replacement of components and screen for adequate solder flow. Cryogenics cooler test and charging stations are used to charge coolers with helium gas and measure the performance of the rebuilt coolers.

"There are class 10K, 100K and 300K clean-rooms on hand for working dust-sensitive components and conducting optical bench testing," Fantanarosa said. "The clean rooms house modular universal laser equipment, automatic laser instrumentation measurement systems, laser optical bench, boresight collimator and other precision testing and repair equipment. The shop also maintains a full service EO calibration lab." The boresight collimator uses electronic, optical and mechanical components to produce two parallel beams of energy which are used to align the night sight to the optical sight.

Outdoor test capabilities include a 500 meter laser test range. All laser systems are operationally checked at the Laser Range Test Facility for proper functionality and accuracy. Preparations for LRAS3 will add another 500 meter, and 1.5 and 7.5 kilometer ranges.

"Tobyhanna's engineering team is dedicated, innovative and extremely knowledgeable, and backed by experienced technicians who understand the different systems," Zardecki said. "Together they develop effective solutions that streamline repair methods, decrease turn-around time, improve quality and reduce cost."

Viola explained that customers regularly come to Tobyhanna looking for repair services, but lack crucial technical data. Using a number of different techniques, employees here are able to develop new repair and overhaul capabilities.

"For

Mark Coviello, chief of the Wide Band Components Branch, Communications Systems Directorate. "Units returning from the fight send their equipment to post installation maintenance sites to support their Reset requirements. CEER-T technicians are on site at those installations to support quicker turnaround of equipment than if the equipment is sent to Tobyhanna."

Tobyhanna sends CEER-T technicians to Reset night vision goggles on site at places such as Fort Bragg, N.C., and Joint Base Lewis McChord, Wash. This process speeds return of the assets to the warfighter and trims packaging, handling and transportation costs for the customer.

Personnel from Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance's Image Optics/Laser Branch began the CEER-T program in November 2007. Since then, the highly trained and skilled technicians have repaired over

equipment manufacturer and the program manager to refinish and establish functional test requirements for the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS II). Tobyhanna has technicians trained with test stations and special tooling in place to repair the mainframe and right side assemblies' electronics. CECOM Headquarters provided training to Tobyhanna technicians on the CROWS II heads-up display.

Tobyhanna also works with Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., to manufacture an at-platform diagnostic test capability for the CROWS II M153 Protector weapon system. Tobyhanna completed the final layout for the mechanical and electrical design, provided a total drawing package and delivered the first article prototypes.

"In-house shops manufactured the test boxes and internal circuit boards, incorporated the test boxes into transit cases and manufactured the test box interface cables," said Michael Verrastro, chief of the depot's Bradley Fighting Vehicle

Branch. "Once accepted by the customer, there is potential to build another 6,000 kits."

In addition, Tobyhanna is responsible for the sustainment of the guidance and control systems in Air Force and Navy Sidewinder infrared, heat seeking missiles.

Near term, Tobyhanna is supporting sophisticated systems such as the Base Expeditionary Targeting and Surveillance System - Combined (BETSS-C) in the field and aggressively pursuing other gimbel (ball mounted, continuous swivel capability)/multi sensor systems, plus unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) sensor payloads. A core depot assessment is under way at Tobyhanna for the AN/AAS-53 Common Sensor Payload. Additional airborne reconnaissance workload is also being explored via

Program Manager Aerial Reconnaissance, Exploitation and Sensors.

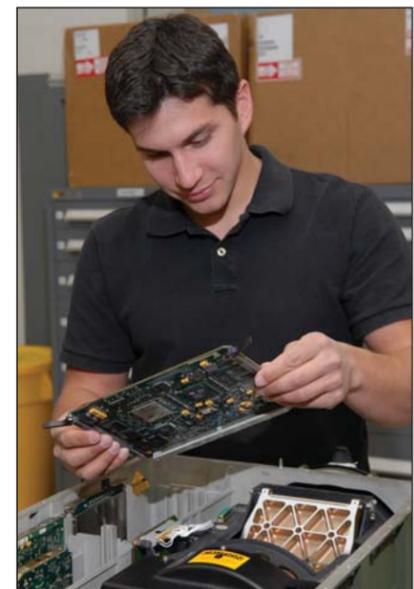
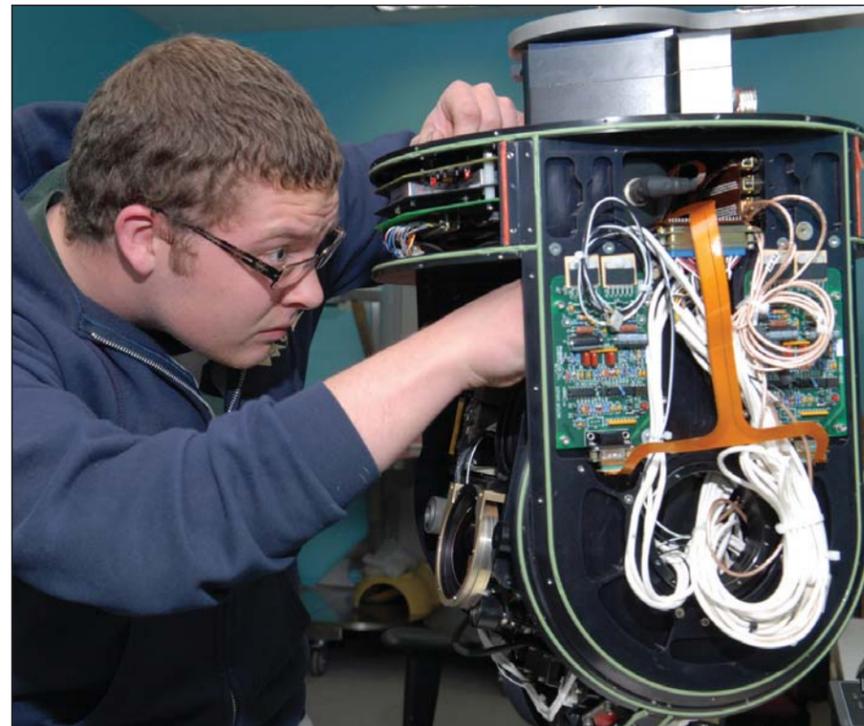
"Tobyhanna will always adapt to support new electro optics and night vision systems," Schröter said. "The men and women of our armed forces can count on Tobyhanna for superior service worldwide to help keep them one step ahead of our adversaries."



(Top) from left to right, Electronics Worker Daniel Taylor performs a preliminary internal laser alignment of the Ground Vehicle Laser Locator Designator (GVLLD) system using a Telescope Focus Test Station. The GVLLD provides targeting for laser guided bombs, missiles or precision munitions. Bernard Wilson, electronics mechanic tests an AN/VAS-5A Driver Vision Enhancer, which helps vehicle operators see in the dark or during periods of degraded visibility. George Stuffick (center), shows Thomas Chernasky the proper way to purge a PCS-14 Night Vision Goggle using a nitrogen purge station. Purging eliminates contaminants and moisture from the night vision device and refills the system with dry nitrogen air. James Bamert, electronics mechanic, tests and aligns a Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS).



(Bottom) right to left, Eric Wilcom, electronics worker, reassembles a AN/VSQ-6A Vehicle Optic Sensor System equipped with color, night vision and infrared cameras. He works in the Electro-Optic/Night Vision Division. Engineering Technician Jordan Brandes inspects a circuit card assembly for a Long-Range Scout Surveillance System during the repair process



Photos by Tony Medici

example, we have in-house capabilities to develop test programs using automatic test equipment," Viola said. "Technicians can also build system mockups and develop bench tests to provide organic repair capabilities, plus modify existing test platforms to gain capability."

Communications Electronics Evaluation Repair Team (CEER-T) members test and repair night vision systems and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio Systems (SINGARS) at stateside and overseas locations. Teams range from three to eight people.

"The CEER-T program was developed to have reliable operational equipment available for our warfighters to train with when they return from deployment and return them to fully mission capable status prior to future deployments," said

253,000 night vision goggles. They completed over 100 CEER-T missions at 29 separate unit home stations, in U.S. and overseas locations, Resetting the assets to 10/20, plus special technical inspection and repair (STIR) standards.

"The 10/20 standard assures that a system is mission capable, which may only require that components are repaired and tested," Fantanarosa said. "STIR means that a system is brought to mission capable status by installing and testing new components at Tobyhanna."

Assets that have been tested and repaired via CEER-T include the AN/PVS-7A, AN/PVS-7B, AN/PVS-7D and AN/PVS-14 Night Vision goggles.

Most recently, Tobyhanna partnered with the original