

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

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OCTOBER 23, 2012

NEWS NOTES

Clinic provides free flu shots

The Health Clinic will administer free flu shots from 1 to 3 p.m. tomorrow, Oct. 29, 30, and Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28 on a walk-in basis. Third shift employees get shots between 7 to 7:30 a.m. Employees must obtain supervisory approval before visiting the clinic. For details, call X57225.

Location, time change for monthly meeting

The American Federation of Government Employees Local 1647 will hold its monthly union meeting at 5 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Springbrook Fire Hall on Route 502. If you have any questions, call the union office at X57789.

Career Day open to public

Tobyhanna's Army Community Services Branch Employment Readiness Program will host a Career Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Scranton Armed Forces Reserve Center. The event will feature "how to" sessions, guest speakers and free employment resources. For more information, call X58887 or X58374.

Council plans prayer breakfast

The Tobyhanna Veterans Council Veterans Day Prayer Breakfast will be at 7:15 a.m. Nov. 8 in the main cafeteria. Cost is \$5.50. Tickets are available at directorate offices or the Public Affairs Office. The serving line will open at 6:40 a.m.

Local entertainment tickets on sale

The One Stop Shop is selling tickets for several upcoming events at the Mohegan Sun Arena.

- The Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus is scheduled to perform at 7 p.m. Nov. 2, \$12.50.
- The Trans-Siberian Orchestra is scheduled to perform at 3 p.m. Nov. 25, \$35.50.
- WWE Raw and Smackdown Supershow is coming to Wilkes-Barre Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m., \$18.
- Penguins regular season ice hockey tickets are on sale for \$18. Special game tickets for the Dec. 1 teddy bear toss cost \$10 to \$16. Tickets to the Dec. 14 teddy bear toss sell for \$12 to \$15.

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. Tickets cost \$17 and are available at the One Stop Shop.

Holiday hours set

The depot will be closed on the following dates during the holidays: Nov. 12, 22 and 23; Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.



Production Controller Mark Entwistle discusses mapping out the process of delivering items from Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to depot shops for repair and testing with (left to right) U.S. Military Academy Cadets Aaron Jacobson, Zachary Fabi and Andrew Theising. The senior cadets will spend a portion of their last two semesters working with Tobyhanna Army Depot and DLA to improve delivery time of assets via the application of Lean techniques. (Photo by Tony Medici)

West Point cadets help 'Lean' equipment delivery

by Anthony Ricchiuzzi
Editor

Five U.S. Military Academy (West Point) cadets are working a dual purpose project to improve equipment flow here.

The cadets, all seniors, are applying what they have learned about Lean Six Sigma to assist Tobyhanna Army Depot and the Defense Logistics Agency Distribution-Tobyhanna (DLA) to improve delivery time of assets from DLA to depot repair shops.

They are also fulfilling a course requirement and earning U.S. Army Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification.

"Their goal is to help the depot shorten delivery time and reduce variability in delivery time," said Col. Donna Korycinski, a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt candidate in West Point's Department of Systems Engineering. "They will spend two full semesters on this project, which is the

Senior Integrative Experience, part of the Systems Engineering Department's Capstone Course."

Korycinski said they are in the process of mapping out the delivery process. She said that the project involves several steps: define the problem; stakeholder analysis, or who wants what; mapping out the process; measure the process to see where it is now; and use all the Lean tools the cadets have learned to make recommendations for improvement.

Production Controller Mark Entwistle complimented the cadets, noting that they knew immediately to listen to input from DLA and Tobyhanna.

"Just being part of the process and seeing how they handle themselves and take all aspects and input from all involved, gives me a positive outlook on continuing this effort with them and coming to a successful outcome to improve this process," he said. "Even though we're only in the early stages of the project, I believe that Tobyhanna and DLA will see some significant

changes once the project has been completed."

Site Manager Ted Nelson, DLA Distribution Tobyhanna, said the cadets are extremely focused and committed.

"They are asking probing questions about the process, which means they are not just 'checking a block' to complete a classroom assignment," he said.

"I have communicated the importance and focus of inventory management as all of the cadets upon graduation and assignment may be given an extra responsibility as a supply officer when they arrive at their permanent duty station," he said.

"We'll be here at least twice per month, plus we'll be communicating by phone and e-mail with employees," said Cadet Benjamin Gutz. "It's a great opportunity for us to earn our (Lean Six Sigma) Green Belts.

"Depot and DLA employees have been very helpful," he added. "When I'm commissioned, I will want their support."

**National Disability Awareness
Month**

Page 2

**Workers prep construction
site for modern facilities**

Page 3

**Around the Depot spotlights
depot personnel, mission**

Page 5

PROCLAMATION

Memorandum For Tobyhanna Army Depot Community

Subject: Domestic Violence Prevention Month — October 2012

1. Don't turn your back on domestic violence!
2. Substantiated cases of domestic violence in the Army are increasing. It is important to realize that many causes and conditions contribute to

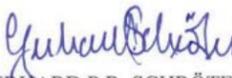


All of us can help prevent domestic violence. So here is how you can make a difference in someone else's life:

- Prepare — by recognizing and solving problems early
- Prevent — by reducing risks and seeking help
- Protect — by taking personal responsibility and reporting abuse

domestic violence, and it takes more than the usual effort to reduce the risk. We should never assume that someone is solving the problem for us.

3. Everyone in the Army community needs to know that whether you are an offender, a victim or a bystander, you have the power to act and make a difference. The Army Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is here to help and assist you.
4. Ask yourself: If I see these things in other people's lives, what can I do to help?
5. Contact the FAP manager, 570-615-7509. He is here to help.
6. Team Tobyhanna — Excellence in Electronics!


 GERARD P.R. SCHRÖTER
 Colonel, Logistics Corps
 Commanding

Disabled reporter lives life without limitations

by Caitlin Best
 Equal Employment Opportunity Office

Reporter John Hockenberry has proved that people with disabilities can live a life without limitations. He doesn't let his wheelchair hold him back from going where the action is and getting the story out to the public. His persistence has shown the world what people with disabilities can do.

Born in Ohio, Hockenberry grew up in upstate New York. He attended the University of Chicago as a freshman until a car accident left him paralyzed from his mid-chest down. He later transferred to the University of Oregon. While there, Hockenberry began working as a correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR). His big break came in 1980 for his on-scene coverage of the eruption of Mount St. Helens.

He later moved onto MSNBC, where he was responsible for two major shows: Hockenberry, a smart news interview show, which was broadcast live from the war in Kosovo in 1999, and Edgewise, a mixture of raw documentary filmmaking and interviews.

The use of a wheelchair never diminished Hockenberry's ability to travel to different countries and do on-site reporting. For example, he was one of the first Western journalists to report from Kurdish refugee camps in Northern Iraq and Southern Turkey. Additionally, during the first Gulf War he

reported from Israel, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Iran.

Hockenberry also spent two years in Jerusalem reporting on the Palestinian uprising. With tape recorder in hand, he mingled with Palestinian refugees on the Gaza Strip. As Israeli troops approached with their weapons drawn, Hockenberry suddenly found he was all alone. Fortunately, he said, "they didn't shoot." There was another time when he was trying to catch up with rival news reporters as they raced to a press conference on the tarmac and he rolled right through a security checkpoint. "The guards all started screaming," he recalled, "and the headlights and sirens went on." Hockenberry wisely decided to brake.

All kidding aside, his mobility in difficult conditions made him something of a legend not only among reporters in Israel, but among the growing legion of the Palestinian wounded and disabled who saw in Hockenberry an inspirational figure. His friend and former NPR colleague Michael Sullivan said at the time, "Johnny does whatever Johnny wants to do whenever he wants to do it."

On the home-front, his efforts led to the installation of wheelchair lift at a theater. Earlier he had purchased a ticket to a Broadway show and was assured someone would assist him to his seat. However, when he arrived, he was told he wouldn't be able to see

See **DISABILITY** on Page 7

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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The *Tobyhanna Reporter* staff can be reached by electronic mail using the following addresses:

anthony.j.ricchiuzzi.civ@mail.mil
 jacqueline.r.boucher.civ@mail.mil
 justin.weimers.civ@mail.mil

Commander, Col. Gerhard P. R. Schröter
Public Affairs Officer, Edwin J. Mickley
Editor, Anthony J. Ricchiuzzi
Assistant Editor, Jacqueline R. Boucher
Editorial Assistant, Justin W. Eimers
Photographers, Anthony S. Medici,
 Steve Grzezdinski



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TEAM TOBYHANNA

EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS®

Stay connected, live life on full, chaplain says

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
 by Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffrey L. Brooks

One day when driving back from Scranton, my car's red "check engine" light came on. It was quickly followed by other lights on the dashboard.



Have you ever noticed how life's frustrations and problems always happen at the worst possible time?

The mechanic pointed to my engine and said the source of my problem was

a disconnected hose. After showing me the hose, he told me I should check my engine from time to time and be sure that everything stays well connected.

As long as everything stays connected, I won't have to worry about my engine lights coming on anymore.

What my mechanic said is similar to what I notice whenever I let myself get "disconnected from God."

As long as I stay connected to God, I don't have to worry about my emotional engine light coming on. I don't have to worry about burning up a lot of emotional energy worrying about life's frustrations, and feeling like I am running on empty.

I want to challenge everyone to make it a point to live their lives on "full."

Take time throughout the day to pause and ask God to surround you with his presence and bless your life. Ask God to lift you up and fill your life, your personal gas tank as it were, with his very best fuel, his love.

One of my favorite Bible passages is 1 Peter 5:6-7. It says, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." God has our best interests always in mind, and he will make a difference in our lives if we will let him.

Hatch Act outlines participation in political activities

by Ashley Cheesman
 Legal Office

As the general election draws nears, it's important for government employees to be aware of the laws governing participation in political activities.

A federal law known as the Hatch Act prohibits military and civilian employees from engaging in partisan political activities on federal property. Upon entering Tobyhanna Army Depot or other duty location, or while on duty time, employees cannot:

- campaign for or against a candidate,
- post a picture of a candidate in your work area,
- wear a campaign button or send an e-mail about a candidate using a government computer,
- become a candidate for a partisan office (this means a contest involving Democratic, Republican, Green, Libertarian, etc. parties),

- campaign for a candidate using your official position as depot employees,
- solicit or accept campaign donations, or
- use your position as a government employee to interfere with or affect the result of an election.

Employees can engage in most activities when using a personal computer when off-duty or away from Tobyhanna Army Depot:

- participating in political organization activities,
- attending and participating in conventions,
- participating in certain fundraising activities,
- registering to vote and voting

The Hatch Act is complicated, many exceptions exist and the penalties are severe. Do not try to interpret it yourself.

For details regarding the Hatch Act, call the Tobyhanna Army Depot Legal Office, 570-615-7210 for advice before engaging in politics.



In order to improve force protection and traffic flow, the Scranton Gate will undergo a significant renovation. The new gate facilities will also improve safety, customer service and work environment for security personnel.

Major renovations underway at Scranton gate

by Jacqueline Boucher
Assistant Editor

Improvements to Tobyhanna Army Depot continue to strengthen the installation's infrastructure and increase the quality of life for people who live and work here.

In the coming months, employees and visitors entering the depot will see modern facilities emerge, and enhanced safety and security initiatives put in place. The five-phase Scranton access gate project started earlier this year when workers began preparing for the construction of a new visitor's control center (VCC) and entry control point.

The gate, located near the intersection of Route 611 and Interstate 380, will be replaced with a multi-lane, multi-gate entrance featuring a canopy, guard booths and gatehouse.

The project is designed to help expedite traffic flow in and out of the depot. The new gate will incorporate a number of force protection and anti-terrorism systems and devices new to Tobyhanna. In addition, the VCC will allow the security division to provide more streamlined processing of visitors.

Phases one and two, which include all prep work on Hap Arnold Boulevard and Cpl. Damato Street, are scheduled for completion by the end of this year.

"Several of the historical displays have been moved so we can widen the road between the gate and Squire Street," said Chris Sheerer, civil engineer and liaison for the multi-million dollar project. "Other prep work includes installing a water main that will extend from Gibbs Street past the waste water treatment plant and across to the new visitor center."

Sheerer points out that a lot of the prep work will be

accomplished over the weekend and cause little to no disruption to traffic entering or exiting through the Scranton gate.

The gate will remain open throughout the process allowing security personnel to perform security checks, truck inspections and monitor traffic. The construction project will have little impact on personnel using the gate until Phase 3 starts in the spring.

"Around that time, people will see more paving, demolition work, and changes to the in- and out-bound traffic flow," Sheerer said. "Traffic signs will be posted to help drivers navigate the active construction site."

The guard booths and gate house structures, and entrance canopy will begin to take shape during Phase 4. The final phase of the project will focus on constructing the visitor center.

Tobyhanna and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) joined forces to ensure contract requirements are met.

"With the transfer of the contracting officer's representative (COR) authority to the USACE, a partnership was created capitalizing on Tobyhanna's historical knowledge of the project and the USACE contract management practices," said Larry Piazza, USACE project engineer. "This partnership enhances the working relationship between the two agencies and addresses project requirements. This arrangement is working very well and several benefits have already been realized."

The benefits to the partnership have been a timely response to submittals and requests for information submitted by the contractor, according to Piazza, adding that this allows for the construction to progress. The open communication helps Tobyhanna know the daily status of the project, he added.

249th Engineer Battalion provides critical support for depot electrical networks

by Justin Eimers
Editorial Assistant

Seventeen Soldiers from the 1/Bravo 249th Prime Power Engineer Battalion (EN BN), Fort Bragg, N.C., recently spent two weeks at Tobyhanna performing preventative electrical maintenance and testing.

During their time here, the Soldiers worked closely with depot employees to test transformers and circuit breakers, and identify any potential problem areas in the depot's electrical infrastructure.

The Public Works (PW) Directorate has worked with the battalion's "Black Lions" since 1999. This effort has focused on conducting preventative maintenance on the depot's distribution network to minimize future problems.

"The work the 249th has done with us has a big impact on being able to keep this place running without interruption," said Electrical Engineer Joseph Merli, Engineering Division.

"Having a proactive rather than a reactive strategy is another effective tool in minimizing risk," added Electrician Mike Gallagher, Facilities Maintenance Division.

Additional support provided by the 249th battalion included low-voltage circuit tracing, substation maintenance and installation, interior wiring, and collecting and analyzing transformer oil samples.

As a result of the work performed by the Soldiers, eight faults were identified in various areas including overheated insulators, along with corrosion and loose connectors on electrical lines. The support provided by the Prime Power team saved the depot an estimated \$143,000. Since 2007, Soldiers from the 249th battalion have helped the depot save about \$3 million.

Merli says the engineer battalion provides support for more than just maintenance and safety; it also opens the door for future visits from other units.

"Ideally, we'd like to have this unit come back to Tobyhanna every six months to help maintain our network," said Merli. "But there's also the opportunity for other units to train here too. Tobyhanna provides a unique experience and hands-on learning that isn't offered anywhere else."

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jose Olivieri, power systems technician and battalion team leader identified the value of coming to Tobyhanna and performing work here.

"The Soldiers gained valuable technical knowledge using a variety of testing equipment on a wide range of electrical infrastructure," Olivieri said. "We are already coordinating future missions with Tobyhanna."

The 249th EN BN has worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide emergency relief during Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Isaac. They have also supported several electrical emergency and sustainment missions worldwide from stations in Fort Bragg, N.C. Fort Belvoir, Va., and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.



Think fast, get out quickly

Firefighter Keith DiPatri talks to children at the Child Development Center about fire safety as part of Tobyhanna Army Depot's Fire Prevention Week activities Oct. 7-13. During fire prevention week, attention is focused on promoting fire safety and prevention, and the importance of practicing fire safety all year long. This year's theme was "Have Two Ways Out!" to encourage families across the country to prioritize fire escape planning and practice. (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)

New system lets people search, apply for Army job vacancies

by **Jacqueline Boucher**
Assistant Editor

Earlier this year, people looking for federal employment were introduced to a new online process that streamlines their search for Army job vacancies.

Tobyhanna Army Depot made the switch from Resumix to USA Staffing, launching the single hiring process and tools already in use by all Department of Defense components. Job hunters can now access vacancy announcements via the USA Jobs website — www.usajobs.gov.

Job seekers can create and store an application package within USA Jobs, which includes a resume and supporting documentation, according to officials at the Civilian Human Resources Agency (CHRA), Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) — Tobyhanna, who oversee the hiring process here.

“USA Jobs and USA Staffing are two different systems that work in conjunction with each other,” said Rebekkah Morgenweck, CPAC human resources specialist leader. USA Staffing is the Office of Personnel Management’s automated hiring tool used by federal agencies and USA Jobs is where an applicant goes to apply for a job.

“Applicants don’t need to be concerned with USA Staffing,” Morgenweck said. “It’s a recruitment tool used by human resource specialists to create vacancies, for recruitment and to track applications, etc.”

To access the USA Jobs site users must create two accounts — a personal account and an application manager account. There are step-by-step instructions available on Tobyhanna’s Internet and intranet sites.

Michelle Brown advises people to set aside plenty of time to complete the USA Jobs application package. She

HELPFUL HINTS

Review the Job Announcement
Read the “How to Apply” section carefully
Print a copy for your records

Create a USA Jobs and application manager account
Become familiar with the system to search for jobs
Explore system functions

Assessment questionnaires
Understand how to complete the questionnaire
Understand how to upload/submit documentation

Checking your application status
Check it before and after the closing dates
Review the notifications from HR

also recommends applicants take the time to gather all their pertinent documents, work history and other information prior to starting the process. Brown is a human resources assistant for CPAC and responds to calls to Tobyhanna’s Job Information Center, 570-615-7292.

“I like the new system,” Brown said. “If you’re new to the system, be patient. If you have any questions give me a call.”

Morgenweck and Brown both agree that the resume builder in USA Jobs is an “excellent” tool. However, applicants don’t have to use it to create their resume. Resumes can be uploaded in any format as long as they contain the following information: position title, beginning and ending dates, hours per week, and a clear description of duties and level of experience for each position held.

“This system requires much more information than Resumix,” Brown said. “However, once you’re done,

everything will be at your fingertips whenever you want to apply for a job.” Furthermore, applicants can save up to five resumes; each tailored for a specific job opportunity.

Individual e-mail addresses provided during the USA Jobs account setup process are used to keep people informed of the status of their application.

Everything needed to apply for a federal position is listed on the job announcements posted on USA Jobs, according to Morgenweck. For instance, the announcement will list the knowledge, skills and abilities questions, assessment questionnaires, as well as the type of experience an applicant needs to demonstrate on the resume.

“Just read the announcement thoroughly and take your time completing the necessary requirements,” she said.

Applicants can search job opportunities using the “job search” function on the USA Jobs web site. For Tobyhanna vacancies, select PA or PA-Tobyhanna using the location tab. Brown mentioned that typing Tobyhanna Army Depot in the “what” section will also bring up a list of vacancy announcements.

Application packages flow into USA Staffing once the “apply online” link is clicked. From there HR specialists track thousands of applications, checking eligibility and qualifications. The system can decipher minimally qualified applicants from best qualified applicants by how well each applicant responds to the questions, Morgenweck explained.

“One of the first things we need to do is determine a cutoff score based on several variables,” Morgenweck said. “We want to refer the best qualified applicants to managers, and USA Staffing allows us to do that. With the volume of applications Tobyhanna receives, USA Staffing is the perfect tool to issue high quality referrals in minimal timeframes that are in alignment with the Presidential Reform Act for Hiring.”



Rocha assumes post as new senior enlisted leader

Distinguished guests and visitors watched as Sgt. Maj. Juan Rocha, left, assumed the role of depot sergeant major of Tobyhanna Army Depot during a Change of Responsibility Ceremony Oct. 4. The passing of the noncommissioned officer’s (NCO) sword from Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter symbolizes the delegation of authority and entrusts Rocha with the responsibility and care of the depot. “I look forward to serving with you [Schröter] and the rest of the Tobyhanna Team,” Rocha said. “I am 100 percent committed to enhancing the proficiency of the depot, improving the quality of life for the Soldiers, families and the work force, and continuing to build relationships in the community.” The change of responsibility is a simple traditional event that is rich with symbolism and heritage. The War Department in 1840 adopted the unique NCO sword. It is a completely functional weapon, not intended for display, but rather for hard and dedicated use. While no longer part of the Army’s inventory, American sergeants wore it for over 70 years. (Photo by Tony Medici)



Special event helps support CFC drive

There will be a Combined Federal Campaign spaghetti dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. The cost is \$6 per ticket.

Tickets for the event will be on sale from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays at regular CFC collection points.

The collection point on Tuesdays and Wednesdays is Building 1A near the ATM machine. On Thursdays, it’s outside Café 4.

For more information, call Jennifer Caldero, X55655.

EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONICS

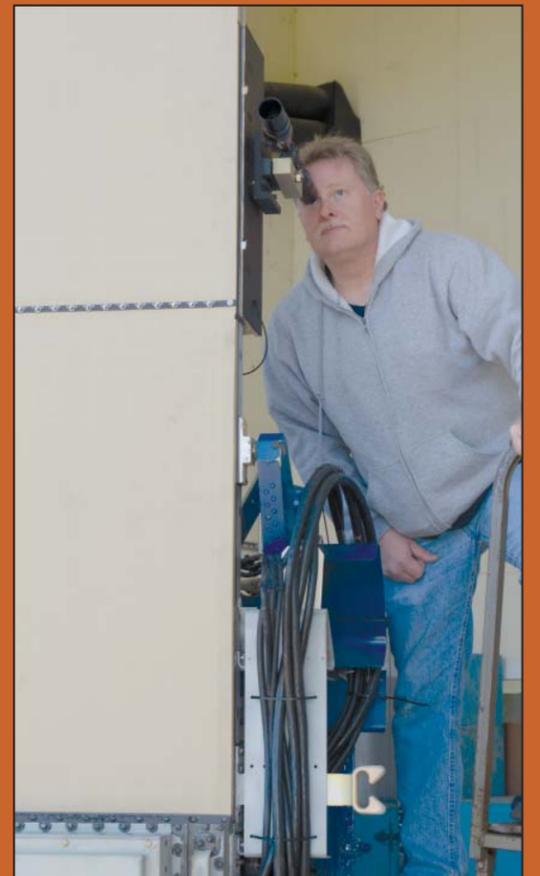
AROUND THE DEPOT



John Kasse, electronics integrated systems mechanic, uses a certified Maintenance Support System to perform system calibration and verification on an AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder radar system.



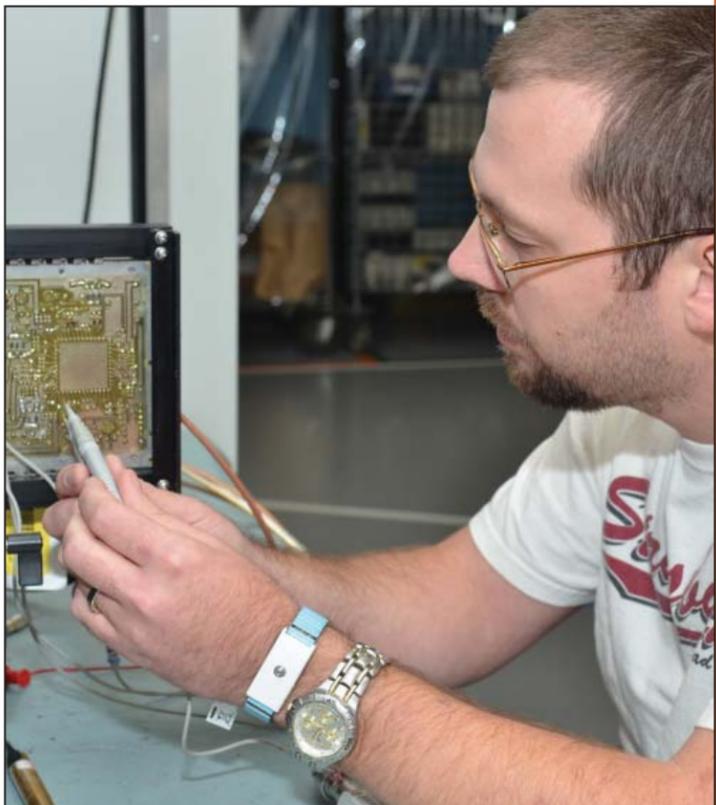
Left to right, Electronics Technicians Chris Snyder and Nathan Everett test circuit cards for the AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder radar using automated test equipment.



Kasse performs a bore sight alignment on an AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder radar system antenna at the Tower Track Facility.



Electronics Mechanic Justin Stangl attaches test cables to an inverter regulator prior to performing a high voltage test. The regulators are used in the AN/TPQ-36 Receiver Exciter.



Timothy Stephens, electronics mechanic, uses the new Scalable Architecture for Standard Instrumentation (SASI-II) test equipment to probe a circuit card.



Electronics Mechanic Vince Veina aligns a spectrum analyzer to test an electronic frequency converter.



Jeff Borger, electronics worker, troubleshoots an ethernet switch from a AN/TPQ-36 Firefinder radar using a modular optical test platform.

Counter Fire Components Branch

Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Directorate

Branch employees perform overhaul, repair, modification and testing of electronic components associated with the AN/TPQ-36 and AN/TPQ-37 Firefinder Radar systems, and the AN/TPQ-46 Firefinder Radar System used by the Marine Corps. The Firefinder Radar System is a weapon-locating radar. Employees perform diagnostic troubleshooting and performance testing on Firefinder antennas using two state-of-the-art Near Field Probe Test facilities, and conduct far field accuracy/calibration testing on the radar systems using the Tower Track Test Facility.

Photos by Tony Medici



NEW SUPERVISORS

Julian Anderson is chief of the Field Logistics Support Directorate's (FLSD) East Command Post Systems and Integration Technical Support Branch.



Anderson

As chief, he supervises operations in FLSD's East Europe Division, including the implementation of new system hardware and software, developing local operating procedures and monitoring the ongoing operation of the network process. Prior to his current position, Anderson worked in FLSD with the Air Defense Air Space Management Cell. He began his depot career in 2006.

Anderson served on active duty in the Air Force for four years and 16 years in the reserves. During his career he worked as an electronic equipment specialist at Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas. His awards and decorations include a Superior Civilian Service Award, NATO Award, Special Act Award, Global War on Terrorism Medal and three monetary awards from the Department of Justice for superior performance.

Anderson is a 1983 graduate of Vanden High School in Suisun City, Calif. He received a degree in electronics systems technology from Solano Community College and the University of North Carolina in 2005.

He is a member of the International Association of Electronic/Electrical Inspectors and Big Brothers Association. His hobbies include swimming, playing basketball, collecting art and restoring classic cars.

Lt. Matthew Bucknavage is a supervisory police officer in the Industrial Risk Management Directorate.



Bucknavage

His oversees security protocol, including scheduling and training. He began his depot career in 2003. Prior to his current position, Bucknavage was a police sergeant.

He is a 1990 graduate of Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre. Bucknavage received a degree from Mansfield University in 1997 and attended Act 120 Police Academy through Lackawanna Junior College. He also attended the ALLERT Active Shooter/Quick Response training through the University of Texas in 2008.

His hobbies include spending time outdoors and operating the SunFlower Sprouts Learning Center in Harvey's Lake.

CAREER MILESTONE



From left, Brian Wert, depot commander Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter and Rosemarie Gesell attend the Length of Service ceremony held Sept. 26.

Two Tobyhanna employees were recognized for their years of government service during the Length of Service ceremony Sept. 26.

Rosemarie Gesell — 35 years, management assistant, Operations Management and Analysis Division, Production Management Directorate.

Brian Wert — 30 years, information technology specialist, Customer Support Division, Information Management Directorate.

In addition to service certificates and pins, employees with 35 years receive an engraved mantel clock and individuals 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. Gerhard P.R. Schröter presented the awards.

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Diane Best	Secretary	D/PM
Megan Maguire	Secretary	D/C3/Avionics
Kerry Taylor	Equipment specialist	D/ISR
Edward Cebula	Electronics mechanic	D/C3/Avionics
Rodney Drake	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/FLS
Anthony Hayes	Equipment specialist, electronics	D/ISR
Richard Kilgore	Program support assistant	D/FLS

RETIREES

Name	Retirement date	Organization
Robert Mullen	Sept. 1	D/SIS
Richard Yerke	Sept. 16	D/ISR
Marcel Calarco	Sept. 30	D/ISR
Gerard Coggins	Sept. 30	D/SIS
William Jackson	Sept. 30	D/PM
William Lucke	Sept. 30	D/PM
James McLain	Sept. 30	D/Comm Sys
Faye Pearson	Sept. 30	D/Comm Sys
Linda Pikulski	Sept. 30	Contracting
Josephine Russin	Sept. 30	D/Comm Sys
Phillip Woods	Sept. 30	D/Comm Sys
Stewart Gassner	Oct. 1	D/C3 Avionics
Scott Sergass	Oct. 1	D/PW
Albert Sienkiewicz	Oct. 1	D/ISR
Joyce Bednar	Oct. 3	Contracting
Robert Kearney	Oct. 3	D/PII
Nicholas Brigante	Oct. 5	D/C3 Avionics
Connie Kyle	Oct. 5	D/C3 Avionics
Eugene Garofoli	Oct. 6	D/ISR

VLTP

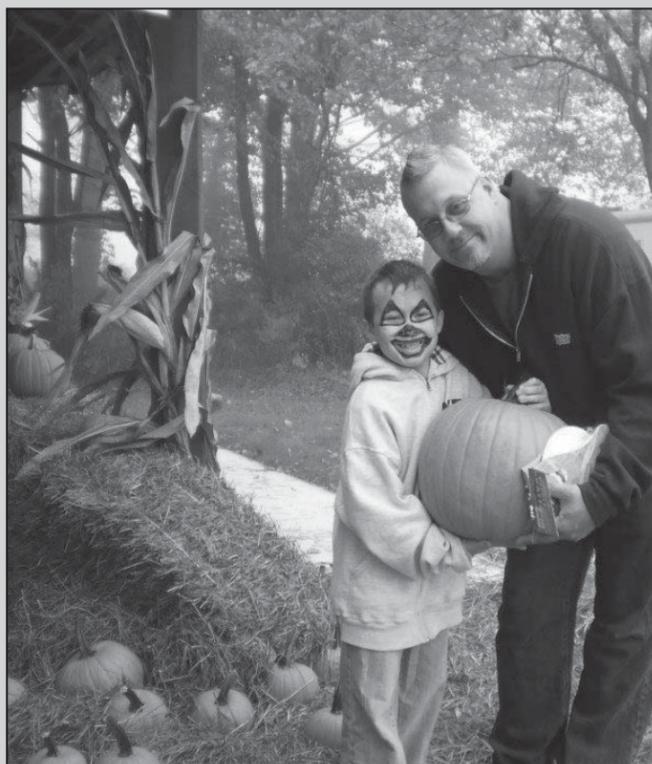
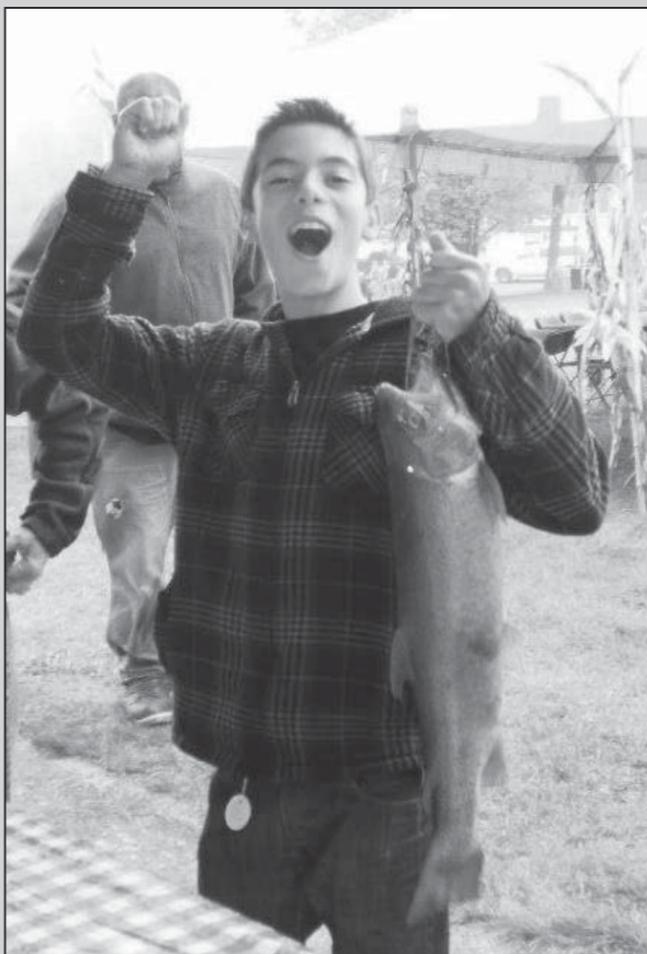
Thousands of Tobyhanna Army Depot employees have donated more than 62,693 annual leave hours to help 656 people over the past 24 years. The voluntary leave transfer program (VLTP) allows federal employees to donate annual leave to fellow employees who have exhausted annual and sick leave because of either a personal or family medical emergency. The 2012 leave year ends Jan. 12, and the last day to schedule use or lose annual leave is Dec. 1. For more information about the VLTP, call Rose Reppert, X55202, or Melissa Newman, X55869, of the Management Employee Relations Division. There are 24 active VLTP cases with eligible employees in need of leave donations.

Kristen Bagasevich, Materiel Management Division, Production Management (PM) Directorate.
Edward J. Baker, ASRS Division, PM Directorate.
Robert Bamford, Voice Communications Division, Communications Systems (Comm Sys) Directorate.
Reinaldo Delvalle, Security Division, Industrial Risk Management (IRM) Directorate
Thomas Grabousky, Security Division, IRM Directorate.
Bee Hang, Counter Fire Division, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Directorate.
John Hessling, Counter Fire Division, ISR Directorate.
Susan Hughes, Electronic Assembly Division, SIS Directorate.
Leo Jenness, Pacific Region, Field Logistics Support Directorate.
William Kimbell, Technical Development Division, Business Management Directorate.
David Lutz, C3 Avionics Management Division, PM Directorate.
Melissa MacDowell, Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems Division, ISR Directorate.
Anthony Marino, Avionics Division, C3/

Avionics Directorate.
William McGroarty, Communications Security Division, Comm Sys Directorate.
Robert McPhillips, Communications Management Division, PM Directorate.
Marisol Morales, Electronic Assembly Division, SIS Directorate.
Michael Murray, Tactical Communications Division, Comm Sys Directorate.
Jennifer Osborne, Signal Intelligence/Electronic Warfare Division, SIS Directorate.
John Paszko, Electronic Services Division, SIS Directorate.
Christy Robinson, Travel and Transportation Services Division, Resource Management Directorate.
Robert Smith, West Division, Field Logistics Support Directorate.
Diane Sosi, Electronic Services Division, SIS Directorate.
Elise Spivak, C3 Division, C3/Avionics Directorate.
Richard Thomas, Manufacturing and Assembly Division, SIS Directorate.
Frank Wallick, Voice Communications Division, Comm Sys Directorate.

Derby day!

Tobyhanna's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Program held its 16th Annual Kids and Adult Fishing Derby Sept. 22. The event was free and open to the public and featured carnival games, a craft tent, face painting, Humvee rides, a pumpkin patch, and fishing. Darrick Hernandez, below, claimed first place in the Kids Derby, ages 12-15 category. (U.S. Army photos)



FISHING DERBY WINNERS:

Ages 2-7 all were winners		
Ages 8-11		
1st place, Nathaniel Smale	1 lb. 11 oz.	17 in.
2nd place, Alyssa Smale	1 lb. 6 oz.	15.5 in.
3rd place, Ron Yanochik	1 lb. 6 oz.	11.75 in.
Ages 12-15		
1st place, Darrick Hernandez	5 lbs	23 in.
2nd place, Ashley Hann	1 lb. 8 oz.	14.5 in.
3rd place, Trever Wilkenson	1 lb. 7 oz.	15 in.
Adult		
1st place, Ed Halstead	1 lb. 9 oz.	17 in.
2nd place, Leigh Ross	1 lb. 6 oz.	16 in.
3rd place Mitchell Klein	1 lb. 6 oz.	15 in.

DISABILITY from Page 2

the show. After an argument and the filing of a lawsuit, the case was settled and the theater installed the lift.

In his long and distinguished career, Hockenberry worked as a correspondent for Dateline. His work included an intimate portrait of a schizophrenic young adult, an investigative piece that traced Internet swindlers in an international web, and the only interview with the brother of two of the 9/11 suicide hijackers. Other prominent pieces included an hour-long documentary on the tragedy of the medically uninsured, and an investigation into employment and housing discrimination against people with disabilities.

Over the years, he also wrote books about his own experiences, such as "A River Out Of Eden" and "Moving Violations: War Zones, Wheelchairs and Declarations of Independence." He also wrote for The New York Times, The New Yorker, The Columbia Journalism Review, Details, Wired and The Washington Post.

His dedication to journalism and reporting paid off with four Emmy Awards, three Peabody Awards, an Edward R. Murrow Award and a Casey Medal.

Sources:

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Employees earn awards recognizing achievement, commitment

Caitlin Best was one of three award recipients at the Association for the Blind's annual dinner last month. Best, an equal employment opportunity assistant, received the Arline Philips Achievement Award, named for the founder of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Association for the Blind. The annual award is presented to a blind or visually impaired person whose lifestyle and independence sets an example for others.



Best

Best was born with Retinopathy of Prematurity, a potentially blinding eye disorder that affects premature infants. After a series of operations for the removal of cataracts, retinal detachments and glaucoma, she lost most of her sight. Even though there are moments she wonders how things could be different, Best hasn't let anything slow her down.

"There are times when I obviously get depressed, but I try not to get upset," she said. "I always try to be optimistic."

Best received a guide dog from the Association for the Blind in 2011 after her vision worsened. Teka, a black Labrador, has allowed Best to remain independent and perform her duties at the depot. Best is thankful for the support she's received throughout her life and has begun trying to return the favor.

"I started to really get into advocating for the blind and speaking about guide dogs," she said. Best also said she is grateful her job at the depot gives her the opportunity to help disabled workers the same way she was helped.

by **Justin Eimers**
Editorial Assistant

Tamara Kappel, equal employment opportunity (EEO) specialist, received national recognition for her contributions to national defense. She received the national diversity award from the Hispanic Engineers National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC) at Disney's Coronado Spring Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fla., for her successful school outreach, mentoring and awareness programs for the depot.



Kappel

Kappel was selected in July by the HENAAC Selection Committee which is comprised of representatives from industry, government, military and academic institutions.

"I am fortunate that I have a career that allows me to make a difference," said Kappel, "and to be able to spread the message that our differences are not a drawback, but instead can actually make our country stronger."

Kappel's accomplishments include spearheading active outreach to the Hispanic community among the school districts of Monroe, Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties in northeastern Pennsylvania. Along with coordinating speaking engagements, subject matter experts and depot tours, her Shadow program allows students of diverse cultures to follow, or shadow, depot employees and experience the various trades and opportunities available within the depot. In addition, she has also expressed her creativity through the design, editing and publishing of employee bulletins that clarify Equal Employment law, making it understandable to a broader audience.

"In my 20 years of working in the EEO field, I have never seen an EEO specialist who possesses all the various skills, characteristics and traits like Tamara does," said John Sutkowski, Tobyhanna's EEO manager. "She is a role model not only due to her work ethic and dedication, but also because she is a person of deep honesty and integrity."

Kappel said she is extremely honored to have been recognized for her efforts. "Every day, I go to work and do the best job I can," she said. "I don't really expect anything in return, especially not a prestigious award such as the Santiago Rodriguez Diversity Award."



Kresge

Neil Kresge, an environmental protection specialist, has been named the CECOM Employee of the Quarter in the Junior category for the second 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. His assistance in implementing these programs at the depot earned him Tobyhanna's Employee of the Quarter Award in the Junior category for the first quarter, but his motivation to perform responsibilities outside his work area helped him win the CECOM award.

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 who sets the standard in the division with his strong work ethic and dedication to the mission, Edwards said."

Edwards noted Kresge handles the responsibilities and workload of a senior program manager even though he is only a junior program manager in the division.

"He was instrumental in the funding justification and request that led to \$350,000 in Army Materiel Command funding for an update to the Integrated Cultural Resources Plan," said Edwards. The natural resource survey helps ensure the success of future construction at the depot.

Kresge also provided project management for a first-of-its-kind Environmental Site Assessment for a future depot land purchase.

"This work had him involved directly with the depot legal team and Army Public Health Command in the gathering of data and for all project coordination," said Edwards.

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

"I am most proud that I'm able to contribute to Tobyhanna's excellent environmental reputation," he said. "It's definitely a team effort and I have received great support from coworkers and supervisors. It's nice to be recognized for my job performance by CECOM. When others take notice of the work that you're doing, it helps reinforce and drive your productivity."

A training instructor and a management analyst have been named the depot Employees of the Quarter.

Robert Jones was honored for the junior category while **Kathryn DeBenedetto** was honored for the senior category award as Tobyhanna's 2012 Employees of the Quarter for the third quarter.

Jones has worked in the Field Logistics Support Directorate's Readiness Training Division for one year and has been employed at Tobyhanna for five years.

As a training instructor, Jones completes courses for New Equipment Training (NET) and travels worldwide to train Soldiers. He also develops lesson plans, coordinates logistic needs, and interprets and maintains training materials.

"Part of my responsibilities as a training instructor includes attending military schooling on new systems, providing detailed trip reports, shipping materials to the training site and then setting up each classroom," said Jones. "These duties provide a really gratifying experience because not only do I learn the material myself, but I get to pass that knowledge on to the warfighter."

Division Chief Deron Haught says Jones is a perfect example of how hard work pays off.

"Robert is the epitome of a team-oriented employee who consistently places the needs of his organization and the warfighter ahead of his own," said Haught. "He constantly seeks out opportunities to assist fellow team members and he carries himself professionally, even when faced with a difficult situation."

Jones appreciates the recognition and the award, but says his coworkers and supervisors deserve just as much credit.

"Receiving this award is a great confidence booster for me," said Jones. "But I wouldn't have been able to get to where I am today without the constant help and support of my coworkers and supervisors. Not only am I proud to know that I

am doing a good job, but also that I work with such good people and for such a great installation."



DeBenedetto

DeBenedetto works in the Production Management Directorate's Commodity Workload Branch and has been a depot employee for more than two years. As a management analyst, she has served a vital role in providing accurate data for the depot's Logistics Modernization Program (LMP). Her efforts have resulted in the reduction of more than 100,000 hours of false demand in LMP.

Branch Chief Martin Nealon says DeBenedetto's work has produced immediate benefits including avoiding unnecessary overtime, reduction in slipped schedules, increased customer satisfaction and reduced costs.

"Kathryn has taken on a leadership role both inside and outside of the branch and the directorate during the LMP system cleanup effort," said Nealon. "Her knowledge, can-do attitude and willingness to help out wherever she is needed have been integral parts in educating management analysts, production controllers and shop supervisors."

DeBenedetto has carried out her day-to-day responsibilities while assuming additional duties during temporary assignments. No matter how much work she is faced with, she says her job makes her proud and provides a sense of accomplishment.

"I welcome additional work because it gives me the opportunity to learn more about areas outside of what I do on a normal day," she said. "As long as I maintain this attitude, I feel as though I can be successful in whatever I do."

DeBenedetto says being honored as an Employee of the Quarter is an achievement that is a result of not only her own dedication, but that of her coworkers as well.

"To be recognized by my peers and supervisors is a phenomenal accomplishment, but I wouldn't have been able to make such an impact without their support and guidance," she said.



Jones