

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

Permit No. 30
Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Tobyhanna, PA 18466

VOL. 62, No. 1

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PA.

(WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL)

FEBRUARY 8, 2017



Roberto Duperon, air conditioner repairman in the C4ISR Directorate's Central Reset Section, makes repairs to the auxillary power unit on a medium Trailer Mounted Support System. (Photo by Justin Eimers)

Reset facility enables command post precision

by Justin Eimers
Assistant Editor

A team of 14 personnel at Tobyhanna's Field Logistics Support Division Central Reset Section in Texas, has provided various critical repairs for Standardized Integrated Command Post Systems and equipment for more than a decade, just one part of the depot's Fort Hood FLS mission.

The section was set up in 2006 when Communications-Electronics Command established a maintenance plan for equipment returning from the field during 90-day Soldier rebuild time. It is comprised of two administrative employees and 12 technicians equipped with 3G welding, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, and automotive service excellence certifications. Technicians receive five

different command post systems from the field including medium and large Trailer Mounted Support Systems and transit cases, and return them to like-new condition through various processes.

A recent mission required Reset on five medium TMSS that were fielded to the 405th Army Field Support Brigade in Eyselshoven, Netherlands. A larger effort is underway to provide TMSS Reset for various III Corps units in order to maintain systems and eliminate the need for last minute repairs. Agreements with III Corps Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, and the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Brigade total \$1.2 million for Reset of 24 TMSS — 18 medium, 6 large — which are scheduled to be completed in April.

Maintenance Technician Tony Montoya said the section

is driven by the all-hands effort and team spirit of its employees.

"We're all ex-military and are a bunch of maintenance guys by trade so if there's a way to fix it or make it meet standards, we will find a way to do it," he said.

Upon arrival, equipment goes through Reset from start to finish over the course of a standard allocation of 120 days — 195 hours for a medium TMSS, 309 hours for large — which is set regardless of the condition of the equipment. Work Supervisor John Hurd said the adaptability of the employees continually improves processes while saving time and money.

"Our guys are able to do a lot of custom fabrication

See RESET on Page 7

Talk therapy helps reduce emotional stress

Page 2

Employees earn quarterly awards

Page 3

Tradition big part of flag etiquette

Page 7

NEWS NOTES

Photo studio moves to The Landing

The Installation Services Directorate's Information Management Division photo studio will be located in the Founders Room at The Landing during the multi-million dollar modernization of Tobyhanna's administration building. To make an appointment call, X57205.

Depot delay, closure notices available

Public announcements regarding depot closings or starting time delays will be recorded on a toll free information hotline and provided to local television stations WYOU, WBRE and WNEP. Employees are encouraged to tune in to these media outlets or call 1-800-429-4496 to hear the recorded announcement. Announcements will also be posted to the depot's Facebook page and Twitter as early as possible. However, the primary sources of information are the toll free number and local television stations.

Scholarship forms available

Army Emergency Relief offers a scholarship to eligible dependent children and military spouses. Scholarship applications are accepted until April 1. Instructions and applications are available on the AER website, www.aerhq.org. AER maintains two scholarship programs – MG James Ursano Scholarship Program and the Spouse Education Assistance Program. Both scholarships provide financial assistance for students who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree. For more information, call X56682.

Spend the day in New York City

Tickets for two day trips to New York City — April 22 and June 17 — are available at the One Stop Shop for \$27 each. Transportation will leave the depot parking lot at 7 a.m. and depart the city at 6:30 p.m.

People traveling in April can attend the International Car Show at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center; tickets sold separately.

For reservations and payment, call X58851. Payment is due at the time of reservation. The trip is sponsored by the Civilian Welfare Fund.

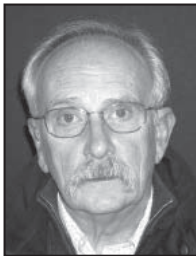
OBITUARIES



Janus



Williams



Ward

Charles Janus died Dec. 14. He worked as an electronics worker in the C4ISR Directorate's Vehicle Radio Section. His depot career began in May 2008.

Janus was a resident of Jefferson Township.

Richard Williams, 43, died Nov. 13. He was the chief of the Continuous Process Improvement Directorate's Quality Control Division. His depot career began in February 2004.

Williams was the son of Richard and Charlotte Williams. He graduated from Lake-Lehman High School in 1991. He served in the Marine Corps as a crew chief on the CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter.

He was a resident of Harveys Lake.

Thomas Ward, 69, died Oct. 30. He worked in the System Integration and Support Directorate's C4ISR Division. His depot career began in November 2005.

Ward was a resident of Weatherly.



Soldier's dedication to duty earns quarterly award

Sgt. 1st Class Casey Mack, center left, was named Tobyhanna's Warfighter of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2017. As a recruiter assigned to the Wilkes Barre Army Recruiting Center, Mack was recognized for his dedication to the job. He earned the respect and confidence of the local community by developing a strong relationship with parents and local leaders, according to Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Ezman, center leader. The quarterly award honors regional members of the Armed Forces and strengthens the bond between the depot work force and the warfighters they support, according to depot Sgt. Maj. Paul Watson. To be selected as the Tobyhanna Warfighter of the Quarter service members must accomplish their daily duty above and beyond that of their peers, make significant contributions to their unit mission accomplishment, be devoted to their military, contribute to the surrounding local communities, be a good role model and mentor, and live the Army's Values. "Mack was selected because of his dedication to his unit and mission accomplishment. He established himself as a role model, mentoring and coaching youth in several organizations. He is definitely a Soldier to emulate," Watson said. Maj. Gen. Bruce Crawford, CECOM commander, presented the award during a recent visit to Tobyhanna. (Photo by Jim Lentz)

Talk therapy gives people tools to deal with destructive emotions

by Heather Fiedler
Employee Services Center

Our society is witness to how individuals express fear, hatred or scorn on social media sites, the national or local news and at home. It is well known and understood that acts of violence are related to destructive emotions. According to the Buddhist culture, there are three poisons: hatred, craving, and delusion.

Hatred is a strong word, often eliciting an equally strong response from others. The most destructive form of this emotion is self-hatred. When one hates or loathes themselves, it is felt by others in the form of a lack of compassion or misery toward others. Having compassion for oneself is the greatest gift you could give another. When you allow and acknowledge the mistakes you have made, you are more apt to feel generous toward others.

French writer and Buddhist monk Matthieu Ricard noted that with destructive emotions, there will always be a gap

between the way things appear to be and the way things actually are. When this gap is present, it is important that individuals are able to accurately identify how they feel.

I am grateful for how many individuals trust and talk with me about their feelings. Several are able to articulate and access their genuine feelings. Some, however, are not able to access nor express their genuine emotions. This is where psychotherapy can be helpful.

Talking about how you feel, or talking about how you don't know how you feel can set you on the path to identifying emotions, particularly the destructive ones, and then making changes.

Feelings are automatic, behavior(s) are not. Therapy does not attempt to change how one feels. It does offer a different frame of reference or perspective that could influence how someone behaves.

If you, or someone you know is struggling with destructive emotions, please call Employee Services Center, X58873.

Well done!

"Paul Luketich did an outstanding job working with a National Guard division to make their warfighter exercise a successful training event. His knowledge and expertise on Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System is unmatched.

He worked tirelessly with unit personnel and was their artillery expert during the exercise. Always a pleasure to have Paul supporting our exercises because of his skills.

Luketich is an information technology specialist in the C4ISR Directorate's Field Logistics Support Division."

Maj. Boyd Brooks
Fort Indiantown Gap

TOBYHANNA REPORTER

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

Contents of the Tobyhanna Reporter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

The 4,800 copies are printed by a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. government, under exclusive written contract with Tobyhanna

Army Depot. The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted for publication.

News may be submitted to the Tobyhanna Reporter, Tobyhanna Army Depot, 11 Hap Arnold

Boulevard, Tobyhanna, Pa., 18466-5076 (Internal Mail Stop 5076), Telephone (570) 615-8073 or DISN 795-8073.

The Tobyhanna Reporter staff can be reached by electronic mail.

Commander, Col. Gregory D. Peterson
Public Affairs Officer, Edwin J. Mickley
Editor, Jacqueline R. Boucher
Assistant Editor, Justin W. Eimers
Photographer, Jim Lentz



PRINTED ON PARTIALLY RECYCLED PAPER.
PLEASE RECYCLE AS OFFICE QUALITY PAPER.

Rapid response, expertise provide training, mission-capable communications equipment

by Justin Eimers
Assistant Editor

Tobyhanna's Joint C4ISR support stretches across the globe and can be required in a moment's notice, recently demonstrated by a rapid response effort to install a Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System Installation Kit in more than 60 Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck A4 vehicles for the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

A team of five depot technicians was called upon by Roger Moore, Communications-Electronics Command 25ID Trail Boss, to remove old SINCGARS communications kits and install new ones into the HEMTT A4 platforms, which were delivered to the unit without the kits. According to Moore, Tobyhanna was selected for the two-week mission for its subject matter expertise and ability to provide over-the-shoulder training to 25IS Soldiers.

"None of the vehicles were properly equipped, leaving units to purchase kits and install them themselves. A quick and efficient turnaround was needed and Tobyhanna personnel were selected to assist as subject

matter experts while training the Soldiers for future requirements," said Moore.

Master Sgt. Susanne Bargainear said the training provided more than simply proper installation techniques and procedures.

"The Tobyhanna team left the 25ID with an organic sustainment capability to install, operate and maintain mobile [command and control] systems in expeditionary vehicles," she said. Bargainear was the non-commissioned officer that was in charge of the fielding of the HEMTT A4s.

With a short suspense date for the mission kick-off, Tobyhanna Field Support Project Management submitted necessary paperwork and coordinated with the CECOM Integrated Logistics Support Center for the creation of a commander's order. The order provided Tobyhanna authority to begin the mission, prior to receiving the direct funds, as the unit worked through the funding process.

Depot technicians completed the mission ahead of schedule and were able to assist the unit with equipment inventory.

"This provided much-needed quality training for our Soldiers and provided commanders mission-ready load handling systems in a timely manner," said Bargainear.



Clockwise from top left: Rueben Cowell, logistics management specialist in the C4ISR Directorate's West Software Support Section, instructs a Soldier on the de-install and reinstall of the Joint Capabilities Release - Logistics System. A Soldier from the 25th Infantry Brigade Combat Team installs an AS-3900 Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio Systems antenna assembly on a Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck A4. A team of five depot technicians fitted 53 HEMTT A4 vehicles with SINCGARS. (U.S. Army photos)

Hard work pays off for depot employees, supervisors

by Jacqueline Boucher
Editor

Exemplary leadership and a can-do attitude are hallmarks of four individuals who repeatedly exceed expectations.

Nicholas Caprioli and Randall Brown were selected Tobyhanna Army Depot's Supervisors of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2017. Joan Hardenstine and Kevin Berry claimed the employee of the quarter honors for the same period.

Coworker comments submitted via the quarterly peer recognition program 'surprised and humbled' each of the award winners.

"I'm not successful solely on my efforts, but because of the support and hard work of so many other members of Team Tobyhanna," said Caprioli, who earned the award based on his work as the Production Management Directorate's Business Development Division chief and strategic initiatives officer. He recently assumed the role of the directorate's deputy director. "The abilities and drive of the team, at the division and depot level, encourage me to perform to a higher standard."

Caprioli said the best part of his job was the time he got to spend with Soldiers, hearing stories of how equipment from Tobyhanna helped make their job easier and safer.

Depot leaders commended his dedication to duty and building Tobyhanna's future workload.

"Nick led his team through a period of change and was able to successfully exceed his metrics," said Will Ramey, then deputy



From left, Nicholas Caprioli, Joan Hardenstine and Kevin Berry earned quarterly awards for their leadership, dedication and exceptional performance. (Photo by Jim Lentz)

director for Production Management. "They embraced a new project management methodology and improved how projects transitioned from division to directorate level." The team is credited with achieving multiple Depot Source of Repair decisions across the joint force, including a newly developed endeavor with the Robotics Logistics Support Center.

Caprioli believes life is a continuous process of learning and improving.

"We need to be in a constant state of evolution and know that each and every day is an opportunity to grow," he said.

The Business Development Division is responsible for developing, managing, coordinating and executing Tobyhanna's marketing plan. Personnel also coordinate

business development initiatives with the private sector through Public-to-Private Partnerships.

Brown, who recently accepted a position at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey, was also applauded for his leadership style.

While serving as the Resource Management Directorate's Personnel Management Division chief, he applied years of experience to manage all facets of the division and consistently looked for ways to streamline processes.

Division personnel remarked that he consistently put the welfare of the organization ahead of everything else and was always coming up with ways to improve effectiveness. Brown is credited with improvements to the division that include

implementing a new process to streamline the way orders and vouchers are received, shortening the processing time. He was influential in restructuring personnel out processing procedures, significantly reducing the time it takes to clear the depot.

Brown was also a key player in the development of Tobyhanna's Leadership Program, according to James Antonelli, Resource Management Directorate director.

"He is always ready to help and provide guidance when needed," Antonelli said. "His dedication to duty and building Tobyhanna's future should be commended."

Hardenstine and Berry share a willingness to take on roles with an eagerness to support the depot whenever necessary.

Coworkers agree Hardenstine is a dedicated member of Team Tobyhanna. The secretary is known for taking on various additional duties to keep the Business Development Division running smoothly.

"Her work is of the highest caliber," said Caprioli, former division chief. "She is a critical support mechanism for the entire team, ensuring that everyone is aware of where they need to be and when they need to be there."

Leaders and peers praised her ability to provide critical support to special events. She played a significant role during last year's Industry Day and Secretary of Defense co-sponsored Technology Showcase; most notably, seeing to the needs of hundreds of guests attending or participating in the events.

See AWARDS on Page 4

Come out fighting: The first African-American tankers in combat

by Elizabeth Collins
Soldiers

The explosion was massive, far larger than the men of the 761st Tank Battalion were expecting when they responded to a German attack in the Rhineland town of Silz, Germany.

The rounds from their M4 Sherman tanks had struck an ammunition dump in the town, and the tankers watched with a combination of sympathy and satisfaction as the houses, which had also been used to store munitions, exploded one-by-one until the town became a raging inferno. Leaving Silz in ashes, like so many other towns along the Siegfried Line, they continued to push toward the Rhine River in March 1945.

In assigning the 761st Tank Battalion to lead Task Force Rhine with elements of the 103rd Infantry Division, Army leaders hadn't chosen just any tank battalion. The 761st was the first of its kind, the first African-American tank unit to go into combat. By that March, the tankers were steely and battle-hardened, but even before they had landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy, France, Oct. 10, 1944, they were some of the best-trained tankers in the Army, thanks to two years spent at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, and Camp Hood, Texas.

"They trained for almost two years at a time when armor crewmen were getting as little as three months of training because of

the pressures of the war. Because they were African Americans, the Army didn't quite know what to do with them," said former Sgt. Wayne D. Robinson, the historian for the 761st Tank Battalion association, and a former armor crewman in the Massachusetts National Guard, noting that the tankers experienced a lot of racism in their rural, Southern training grounds.

In fact, 2nd Lt. Jackie Robinson's famous bus incident and subsequent court martial took place while he was attached to the 761st. There were also hard-to-substantiate reports of executed Soldiers and shots fired at the train taking them from Louisiana to Texas.

"Not only is the 761st the first of its time in terms of experience," Robinson added, "when you compare the record of the 761st to other separate tank battalions, they're better ... when you look at certain objective criteria like the number of enemy killed or captured, materiel captured, that kind of thing."

When the 761st finally got to France, the tankers encountered a few individuals who may have had trouble with their darker skin, but for the most part, Soldiers were worried about their missions and about staying alive, not skin color. Many infantry Soldiers didn't even know that the tankers running with them were black, said Robinson.

"They are not obsessed with race," said Gina DiNicolo, a former Marine officer and author of "The Black Panthers: A Story of

Race, War, and Courage." "They're running into some problems, some challenges. But for the most part, they're with their unit, and it clicks. ... What is the thing foremost on their minds? They want to kill Hitler. ... It got to the point in combat where the units were interacting like everyone was the same. These guys became one of the guys."

Army leaders were certainly happy to see the men. Third Army's Gen. George Patton addressed the tankers himself, saying, "I would never have asked for you if you weren't good. I don't care what color you are so long as you go up there and kill those Kraut sons of bitches. Everyone has their eyes on you and is expecting great things from you. Most of all, your race is looking forward to you. Don't let them down, and, damn you, don't let me down."

With those words ringing in their ears — "You had to respect the man," said 761st veteran Staff Sgt. Floyd Dade Jr. -- the tankers rolled into battle, coming under heavy fire in Vic-sur-Seille, France, Nov. 8, 1944. The men fought hard, but it was still a terrifying and disorienting experience, especially when rain turned the roads to muddy rivers that made it nearly impossible to maneuver.

"The inside of a tank is a helluva place to be, when red hot, white hot steel fragments are ricocheting around, and just can't go anywhere else but the inside of that tank," described Pfc. Trezzvant W. Anderson in "Come out Fighting: The epic tale of the

761st Tank Battalion." An Army journalist, Anderson was actually attached to the 761st in the months after the war. "God, how those things would tear the insides out of a man."

Dade remembered laughing with some infantry Soldiers, not realizing how serious the situation was until the rounds started coming in. "The tank would rock when something hit it, and we didn't know what happened," he continued. "We just battled like hell. ... We looked and noticed that our .50-caliber gun was gone. And where it hit it, the shell — armor piercing — they cut it off like you had a torch, you know, a welding torch. They were just that powerful. ... Then I was looking for my friends. I said, 'Where's so and so?' They said, 'No man. They got it a long time ago. They didn't get too far.'"

The men also faced a German roadblock that would have meant almost certain death. Without waiting for orders, Staff Sgt. Ruben Rivers of Able Company climbed out of his lead tank carrying a large cable. Dodging bullets, he fastened the cable to the tree in the road, and then returned to his tank to clear the road, allowing the Soldiers to proceed. "Then we got into town and we chased them out and they went to the next one," said Dade, who was in the same company.

Barely a week later, Rivers, who had already been nominated for one Silver Star,

See TANKERS on Page 8

AWARDS from Page 3

Hardenstine is the division's last line of defense when it comes to ensuring documents are accurate and error free, according to Caprioli, adding that she seamlessly manages short suspense requests.

It was a textbook transition from employee to work leader for Berry. Since assuming the C4ISR Directorate's Flight Control and Navigation Systems Section role, his improvements have not gone unnoticed by leadership.

"Kevin's high level of professionalism is evident from the way he interacts with others," said Chester Schultz, section chief. "He is always willing to invest the time and effort necessary to meet the shop goals."

Berry's responsibilities include managing workload in the shop, assigning work to personnel and performing daily timekeeping duties. His strong work ethic was instrumental in implementing significant changes to how the shop managed timekeeping records, which led to improved on-time performance.

Schultz also considers Berry to be an excellent problem solver who turns to his team to help forge solutions.

"I believe it's important to treat others as you want to be treated," Berry said, adding that he is thankful for the opportunities and successes during his 11-year depot career. "Life is short, make the most of every day."



By dawn's early light

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Tobyhanna's POW/MIA monument dedication. The site took seven years to plan and build and was officially opened during a ceremony on May 12, 2007. A check for \$1,500 was presented to the Tobyhanna Veterans Council in 2001 to launch a fundraising campaign for the monument. Delays and other obstacles prevented the memorial from going forward, pushing the completion and ceremony back several times. Les Sharp, POW/MIA committee chairman at the time of the dedication, offered remarks indicative of the monument's significance. "People ask why this is important. It's important because this country sent men into harm's way and made a promise that they would be returned ... it's a promise we're determined to keep." (Photo by Steve Grzedzinski)



Left, Jeff Case, packaging specialist in the Logistics Support Activity Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center, conducts a drop test to determine if the package meets packaging performance requirements. Above, Electronics Engineer Clinton Holder aligns an optical stack used in testing the M2A2 Aiming Circle. Holder works in the Production Engineering Directorate's Avionics and Sensors Engineering Branch. (Photos by Jim Lentz)

Teamwork, keen eyes drive success of Safety Areas of the Year

by Justin Eimers
Assistant Editor

Depot and tenant organization safety programs recently competed for the 2016 Safety Area of the Year Awards.

Three directorates and one tenant agency were recognized for their contributions to Tobyhanna's safety mission. The Systems Integration and Support (SIS) Directorate's Structural Repair and System Prep branches earned first place in the Heavy Industrial Area; the C4ISR Directorate's Information Systems Support Section claimed the Medium/Light Industrial Area; the Production Engineering Directorate's Avionics and Sensors Engineering Branch took top honors in the Administrative Area, and the Logistics Support Activity Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center (LOGSA PSCC) earned the Tenant Activity Award.

The annual awards acknowledge cost centers that have outstanding safety programs and individuals whose performances have best supported the depot's safety mission. Each of the four safety programs boast similar attributes, while embracing a team attitude to encourage safe practices in their respective area.

Daily inspections of the work area and posting of Safety Star Point bulletins were mentioned in all of the nomination packages. The same goes for seeking out and reporting hazards using well established methods. Each organization also uses regular meetings to keep personnel informed, reinforcing the depot's objective of safety first.

John Mayatte, LOGSA PSCC chief, said the center's safety success has been dependent on focusing on the big picture.

"Our employees are actively involved in every aspect of

our safety program," he said. "Whether in our testing lab or out in the field, they set the example by wearing personal protective equipment and adhering to all safety procedures." Employees have also been vigilant in identifying potential safety hazards and submitting near-miss reports, performing preventative maintenance and equipment inspections, conducting quarterly safety inspections and participating in regular safety meetings.

Though LOGSA PSCC is a small depot activity, safety remains a central focus for the employees and is ingrained into the organization's culture.

"Our employees are the cornerstone of our safety program," said Mayatte. "We value and act on their input and ensure they receive proper safety training. A safe work environment means that our employees can focus on their primary mission to support Army readiness."

According to the nomination package for the Avionics and Sensors Engineering Branch, employees in the area have used a similar philosophy to mitigate potential injury. Branch Chief Jim Scrobola said the most significant risk is from slips, trips and falls, and occasional clutter in work areas. Employees use 6S procedures to straighten and then sustain the area, and supervisors perform walk-arounds to spot clutter and address any issues on the spot.

"The consciousness of safety and concern for their fellow workers motivate branch personnel to ensure that processes and products are safe," said Scrobola. One example of this was identifying the improper orientation of a posted evacuation plan, potentially saving time and lives in the event of an emergency.

Housed in a 77,000 square-foot facility, the Structural Repair and System Prep branches are home to various processes that inherently present safety risks. A proactive

approach by supervisors ensures all employees wear proper PPE while performing tasks and leading by example while on the shop floor maintains a safe work environment.

All employees in these two branches receive yearly physicals and a variety of safety training to stay up-to-speed on tasks ranging from respiratory, HAZMAT, overhead crane, high reach, pallet jack, and STAR4D (Spray Technique Analysis and Research for Defense) blast and painting. Start-up meetings each morning keep employees abreast of assignments and safety reminders.

"The easiest way to increase safety is to say something about an existing or potential problem as soon as you see it," said Howie Slinger, chief of the System Prep Branch. "We use our Safety Star Points to look for safety issues and perform weekly eyewash inspections. It's an honor to be named a Safety Area of the Year when you consider the heavily industrial nature of the many things going on in our building at one time."

Each area recognized as a Safety Area of the Year utilizes a wide range of resources to keep their safety record clean. For the Information Systems Support Branch, that record has been spotless for 2,717 days, or more than seven years without an injury, reportable or recordable incident. Branch Chief Dennis Redding said that an open line of communication between employees and their supervision plays a vital role in continuing the streak.

"The entire cost center takes great pride in its safety record and knowing that we have ensured the safety of our coworkers during this period," he said, adding that employee reporting has led to fixes in inadequate lighting, water spills from a leaky roof, blocked pathways and tripping hazards from cracked flooring.

THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN (TSP) MONTHLY RATES CHART IS ON THE INTERNET

www.tsp.gov/index.html

To check out how retirement investments are doing, click on the following links:
Returns, Share Prices & Fund Sheets, Current Returns, Monthly Returns, and Individual TSP Funds

CAREER MILESTONE



Shaffer



Rusinko



Wolfe



Brace



Woehrle

Five Tobyhanna Army Depot employees were recognized for their years of government service during the Length of Service ceremonies on Oct. 26 and Nov. 30.

Robert Woehrle — 35 years, electronic integrated systems mechanic, C4 Division, C4ISR Directorate.

Randal Brace — 30 years, electronics technician, C4 Division, C4ISR Directorate.

Janice Shaffer — 30 years, chief, Staffing Advisory Services Division, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

Linda Rusinko — 30 years, management

analyst, C4 Program Management Division, Production Management Directorate.

George Wolfe — 30 years, lead computer engineer, Mission Support Division, Production Engineering Directorate.

In addition to service certificates and pins, employees with 35 years receive an engraved mantle clock. Those with 30 years receive a framed American flag that includes a photo of the depot.

Depot commander Col. Gregory Peterson and depot Sgt. Maj. Paul Watson presented the awards.

NEW DIVISION CHIEF

Tom Petsoki is the chief of the Systems Integration and Support Directorate's Fabrication and Assembly Division. As chief, he supervises employees who perform tool and die fabrication, rubber mold injection, metal, plastic and foam machining and fabrication, sheet metal fabrication including laser, punch press, sheer and brake, welding fabrication and assembly, component and system assembly and kitting.



Petsoki

Prior to his current position, Petsoki was chief of the Public Works Directorate's General Support and Zone Maintenance Branch at West Point, N.Y.

He served three years on active duty in the Army with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and 10 years assigned to the Pennsylvania National Guard's 109th Infantry Regiment in Honesdale.

Petsoki is a 1991 graduate of Honesdale High School. He is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge 218 and enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and traveling with family.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Editor's Note: The Community Bulletin provides an avenue for depot and tenant employees to advertise van or car pools, and for-sale items.

Money making items such as rentals and personal business will not be accepted. Information must be submitted via e-mail to jacqueline.r.boucher.civ@mail.mil, or written items can be mailed to the Public Affairs Office, mail stop 5076. Submissions must include a name and telephone extension. Only home

phone numbers will be published in the Trading Post section.

Voluntary submission of items constitutes individual's consent to publish personal information in all versions of the *Tobyhanna Reporter*. Ads will be published in four consecutive newspapers. It is the customer's responsibility to update or renew items listed in the Community Bulletin.

For information, call Jacqueline Boucher, X58073.



CAR/VAN POOLS

Whitehall, Belfast, Windgap: 2 openings, van, contact Mark, X58944 or X57184.

Jessup: 2 openings, nonsmoking, Jessup Park N Ride, contact Mel, X59178.

Jim Thorpe/Albrightsville: 1 opening, nonsmoking, contact Brian, X55049.

Nanticoke/Hanover Twp: 1 opening, leaves



TRADING POST

Tractor Supply at 5:35 a.m., nonsmoking, contact Ed, X55464.

NEW DIRECTOR



Balmforth

Paul Balmforth is director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. As chief he supervises employees who perform civilian human resources functions including recruitment and placement, training and development, labor and management-employee relations, and classification and position management.

Prior to his current position, Balmforth was assistant chief of human resources management services at the Dayton Veterans Administration Medical Center. He began his depot career in November.

Balmforth served on active-duty in the Army for 32 years in several leadership roles: brigade command sergeant major at Fort Carson, Colorado, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington, battalion command sergeant major at JBLM, operations sergeant major at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Task Force 1 Sergeant Major at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with

one oak leaf cluster (OLC); Meritorious Service Medal with six OLCs, Army Commendation Medal with two OLCs, Army Achievement Medal with four OLCs, Humanitarian Service Medal, NATO Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three campaign stars, Iraq Campaign Medal with three campaign stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Valorous Unit Award with one OLC, Navy Unit Commendation Award, Army Superior Unit Award with two OLCs, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Drill Sergeant Badge.

Balmforth is a 1978 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School, Burke, Virginia. He received a bachelor's degree in 2014 from Excelsior College in Albany, New York.

He is a member of the Association of the United States Army, Society for Human Resource Management and Sigma Beta Delta.

He enjoys spending time with family, hunting, fishing and gardening.

NEW SUPERVISORS

Paula Mesaris is chief of the Installation Services Directorate's Environmental Branch. As chief she supervises employees who administer and document the depot's environmental programs.

Prior to her current position, Mesaris was an occupational health and safety specialist. She began her depot career in September 2006.

Mesaris is a 1984 graduate of Seton Catholic High School, Pittston. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems from Marywood University in 1988. She is a member of the Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Duryea Women's Society, Chataqua Club and supports Tobyhanna's annual Operation Santa Claus event. Mesaris enjoys attending her son's sporting events while a student at King's College, doing crafts, assembling puzzles, and caring for her cats.

William Chaikowsky is chief of the Production Engineering Directorate's Systems Test Branch. As chief he supervises employees who deliver software support in partnership with the Software



Mesaris



Chaikowsky

Engineering Center, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. Personnel execute continuous testing, quality and configuration management for the monthly production of Information Assurance Vulnerability Alert packages. Prior to his current position Chaikowsky worked in the Software Sustainment Branch.

He served on active duty in the Air Force for eight years and in the reserves for 18 years. Chaikowsky retired as a major. After earning the rank of master sergeant, he was commissioned through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program.

Chaikowsky is a 1984 graduate of Liberty High School in Bethlehem. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Science and Technology in 2001 from Thomas Edison State University, New Jersey.

He is a member of Assumption of the Blessed Mary Catholic Church and the Reserve Officers Association. He enjoys spending time with family, being a high school band 'roadie', and restoring damaged musical instruments with his son.

TOBYHANNA CUSTOMER

SATISFACTION SURVEY

www.tobyhanna.army.mil

Click on the customer service link to rate depot support, services





Traditions show respect for flag

Military ceremonies and the playing of the National Anthem provide opportunities for all personnel to pay respect to the flag, preserve traditions and stimulate esprit de corps.

Depot ceremonies include the daily observance of Reveille and Retreat at 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. respectively.

When the first note of Reveille or Retreat sounds, military members and civilians, when outdoors, should stop their activities and face the flag. If the flag is not visible, face the direction of the music.

Military members in uniform will come to attention and execute a hand salute at the start of Reveille. Everyone not in uniform will stand at attention with their right hand over their heart. Veterans have the option of saluting or placing their hand over their heart.

Men out of uniform will remove and hold their hats with their right hand while placing the hand over their heart. Once the music stops, resume normal movement.

When Retreat sounds, military members in uniform will come to the position of parade rest. As the first note of "To the Colors" sounds, all personnel will come to attention, render a salute or place a hand over the heart until the music stops. "To the Colors" is the ceremonial music which follows Retreat.

Follow the same procedures any time the

national anthem is played.

All vehicle movement must stop. Drivers will turn off the ignition if the vehicle makes loud noises, exit and execute proper courtesy to the flag as described. Security will control the movement of traffic during these ceremonies.

Other flag protocol procedures:

- Never use the flag as a decoration; use bunting.

- During a parade, salute the flag when it is six paces from you, and hold it until the flag has passed six paces beyond.

- When carrying the flag, hold it at a slight angle from your body, or carry it with one hand and rest it on your right shoulder.

- When displaying the flag outdoors on a building, hang it on a staff or rope over the sidewalk with the stars away from the building.

- To display the flag in a window, hang it vertically with the stars to the left of anyone looking at it from the street.

- To display the flag in a hall or lobby, hang it vertically across the main entrance with the stars to the left of anyone coming through the door.

- Hang the flag above any other flags on the same pole.

- The flag at half-staff is a sign of mourning. Raise the flag to the top of the pole then lower it to the halfway point. Before lowering the flag, raise it to the top again at the end of the day.

WELCOME TO THE DEPOT

Name	Title	Organization
Floyd Chappel	Electronics mechanic	D/C4ISR
Suzanne Clark	Secretary	D/PE
Taylor Davalos	Technical equipment illustrator	D/PE
Stephen Dupak	Electronics worker	D/C4ISR
Mark Gajkowski	Rubber products fabricator/repairer	D/SIS
Ryan Gallagher	Materials handler	D/PM
Rebecca Heil	Secretary	D/IS
Aaron Hoskins	Electronics engineer	D/PE
Timothy Knabel	Mechanical engineer	D/PE
Randy Lauer	Electronics engineer	D/PE
Joseph MacDonald	Equipment specialist	D/C4ISR
Radiah Moore	IT specialist	D/C4ISR
William O'Mullan	Electronics engineer	D/PE
Debra Orner	Administrative support assistant	CPAC
Juan Rocha	Training administrator	D/RM
Donald Stevens	Equipment specialist	D/C4ISR
Zaim Velarde	IT specialist	D/C4ISR
James Yoder	General equipment mechanic leader	D/SIS

RETIREES

Name	Retirement date	Organization
Roy Strauss	Oct. 3	D/C4ISR
Carl Harshbarger	Oct. 31	D/C4ISR
Elmer Hovan	Nov. 30	D/C4ISR
Michael McGinty	Nov. 30	D/C4ISR
Ronnie Albrecht	Nov. 30	D/C4ISR
Reuben Cowell	Nov. 30	D/C4ISR
Victor Langston	Nov. 30	D/C4ISR
Douglas French	Dec. 30	D/C4ISR
Collette Gneuhs	Dec. 31	D/CPI
Cynthia Chang	Dec. 31	D/PM
Robert Passetti	Dec. 31	D/IS
Ray Watkins	Dec. 31	D/IS
James Romaniello	Dec. 31	D/C4ISR
Lawrence Culbert	Dec. 31	D/C4ISR
Howard Smith	Dec. 31	D/SIS
John Parada	Jan. 31	D/C4ISR

RESET from Page 1

"Our guys are able to do a lot of custom fabrication work and build parts according to the technical drawing," he said, adding that most trailers can be taken care of in three to five days if they are in decent shape, but can take up to two weeks if they are badly damaged. Parts are also ordered straight from the Defense Logistics Agency to

cut down turnaround time. A quality assurance inspection ensures each item is reviewed prior to being sent back out.

Typically the section is funded for 30 days at a time due to the uncertainty of upcoming Reset requirements. However, more than \$11 million of equipment is due in for repair which will carry operations through May.

Hurd said the section has seen a decline in Reset requirements in recent years and is shifting a focus towards sustainability while continuing to enable readiness.

"Our mission is and will always be supporting the Warfighter to the best of our abilities by providing high-quality products in a timely manner."

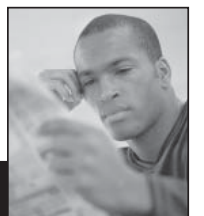


Section personnel repaired five medium TMSS last month that were fielded to the 405th Army Field Support Brigade in Egelshoven, Netherlands. (Photo by Justin Eimers)

Read the TOBYHANNA REPORTER

on the depot's Internet site. Current and archived issues of the monthly publication can be viewed at

[HTTP://WWW.TOBYHANNA.ARMY.MIL/LEFTNAV/REPORTER/REPORTER.HTML](http://www.tobyhanna.army.mil/leftnav/reporter/reporter.html)





Tobyhanna pays tribute to Gold Star Families

Tobyhanna Army Depot's Survivor Outreach Services Program honored local Gold Star Families and paid tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country during a gazebo dedication ceremony. The event, which included an invocation by Father Michael Kloton and the singing of the National Anthem, opened the new structure to show support for 228 Gold Star Family survivors in 15 counties across two states. Depot commander Col. Gregory Peterson spoke at the dedication and recognized the families in attendance and all they have done for their communities and their country. "First and foremost I want to personally extend to you my sincerest condolences for your loss. Your dedicated service to our Armed Forces and to this nation is greatly appreciated," he said. Peterson also reflected on the depot's history and the effort of personnel both inside and outside the gates to support Soldiers. "This gazebo will remind us that we need to keep our servicemen and women in our hearts and minds. Wherever and whenever they have served and have fallen, they have written a new chapter of courage, a new chapter of devotion and a new chapter of duty. It also stands to remind us to honor the sacrifices of military family members." (Photos by Jim Lentz)



ICE

INTERACTIVE CUSTOMER
EVALUATION

PUT YOUR
THOUGHTS ON ICE

PROVIDE FEEDBACK
ABOUT TOBYHANNA PRODUCTS
AND SERVICES

- Rate internal support
- Share recognition
- Provide constructive criticism
- Offer suggestions for improvements
- Be anonymous or request response

<http://ice.disa.mil>

TANKERS from Page 4

was left with a deep, bloody leg wound from his knee to his hip when his tank hit a land mine during the unit's Nov. 15 to 19 assault on Guebling, France, according to Dade. Rivers reluctantly let his fellow Soldiers bandage his leg before climbing into another tank, refusing further medical aid throughout the night and into the next morning when he radioed his commander that he could see the enemy.

"I was about 25 yards from him in my tank," remembered Dade. "As we were battling, Sergeant Rivers got hit. When the Germans opened up on us, we were fighting each other like hell. [The company commander] told Rivers, 'We are outnumbered. There are five tanks out there. Back out.' He said, 'No, I see them. I'm going to engage them.'"

Passing within 200 yards of the Germans, Rivers opened fire, helping cover Able Company's withdrawal. "So the next shot came in on this turret, just took his head off," killing Rivers and another tanker, Dade continued. Rivers received another Silver Star, and then in 1997, after a long campaign by his company commander, one of the few white officers in the 761st, Rivers belatedly received the Medal of Honor.

Another trap awaited the 761st the second day of combat, Nov. 9, only it didn't end as well. This time the men of Charlie Company ran into a massive tank ditch near Morville, France. The trench, wrote Anderson, extended "from the woods at the edge of the high ground, down to a road leading through the area, in open country." It was heavily mined and within range of a column of German pillboxes. Charlie Company lost seven tanks almost immediately, and as men tried to crawl to safety, German Soldiers easily picked them off.

"It was cold, it was raining and alternately snowing," wrote Anderson. Fragmentation shells were exploding everywhere, so that wicked little pieces would fly about and

cut into your flesh, searing, burning, tearing into your very innards. ... It was hell that day at Morville."

Platoon leader 2nd Lt. Kenneth W. Coleman lined the men up and trailed them as he laid fire to help cover their escape. 1st Sgt. Samuel Turley stayed behind, rushing toward the enemy and standing in the open as he took out enemy machine gun nests in a "classic, almost John Wayne type of thing," according to DiNicolo, until he was nearly cut in two. Coleman too was killed, as were 12 other tankers. American forces took the town the next day.

Coleman and Turley both received posthumous Silver Stars, although DiNicolo has documentation showing that Turley was actually nominated for a Medal of Honor. She believes that when the case was re-examined in the 1990s, there were no longer enough documents or witnesses to support awarding the nation's highest award for valor. "His action to me is clearly a Medal of Honor action," she said. "I can't imagine that he [believed] he would survive that doing what he did."

Unbeknownst to most of the men, their beloved battalion commander, Lt. Col. Paul Bates, was wounded that night -- possibly by friendly fire, according to one report -- and evacuated to a hospital. He wouldn't return until February. At a time when many white officers saw a black unit as a career death knell, Bates had seen the 761st as just the opposite and had worked hard to gain command of the tankers. He treated them fairly and stood up for them in the face of discrimination and racism. Bates trained them and trained them and trained them some more, so when the untested men first faced the Germans, they were ready.

"The first two days of combat could have put any unit out for the duration of the war," said DiNicolo, noting that today, Charlie Company at the very least would have been immediately pulled off the line, but that they were back on

mission the next day. "These guys were so well trained, they did not fall apart."

One more Medal of Honor nomination came out of that intense, bloody November, this one for Sgt. Warren G.H. Crecy. Crecy had become known as the "baddest man in the 761st" after he had fought through enemy positions until his tank was destroyed, Nov. 10. According to reports, he used a .30-caliber machine gun to eliminate the enemy position that had destroyed his tank, as well as two German forward observers. Later, he attempted to free his new tank from the mud while under heavy fire, using the tank's .50-caliber gun to hold off the enemy, "pouring his rain of death pellets into German bodies," according to Anderson. Crecy never received the Medal of Honor, but he did earn a battlefield commission and eventually retired as a major.

During 183 days of continuous combat, the 761st fought all over northern and central Europe, from the Battle of the Bulge at Tillet, France, to the Battle of the Rhine, eventually making it all the way to Austria. The Army awarded the unit with four campaign ribbons: Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. In addition, the men received 11 Silver Stars, 69 Bronze Stars and about 300 Purple Hearts. In 1978, the 761st received a coveted Presidential Unit Citation. The cost was high, however, with 36 men killed in action, 22 in November alone. They died defending a segregated country, Robinson said, noting that the Army began desegregating shortly after the war.

"We didn't have equal rights," said Dade, explaining that he went home to Texas to face the same prejudice as before the war. "All odds — democracy was against us. I was just fighting for my country."

Editor's note: Spelling and punctuation are original to Anderson. Quotes from Dade, who passed away in 2006, come from an oral history he recorded with the Urban School of San Francisco in 2004 and 2006.