

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

# TRACKS

VOL. 36, NO. 8  
APRIL 25, 2024



**MACHINE  
SHOP**  
Inspects, repairs  
and readies tanks  
for warfighters



# Depot to recognize Law Day 2024: Voices of Democracy

By AUNDREA M. SNYDER | LEGAL OFFICE

Law Day is recognized nationally every year on May 1. According to the American Bar Association, a voluntary association of lawyers and law students, the purpose of Law Day is to celebrate the rule of law in society. This year, the ABA selected the theme, “Voices of Democracy.”

Each year, several local attorneys recognize Law Day by volunteering their time to speak to K-12 students in their classroom or virtually. In 2023, over 100 lawyers, judges, and law professors from across the state volunteered to participate.

During these presentations, younger students can question the speaker about the practice of law, how and why the speaker became an attorney, and any other questions about the legal profession. Older students may also watch a short video about the year’s theme. Presentations last approximately 45 minutes.

Teachers can request an attorney to visit their classrooms by completing a form at [www.alabar.org/lawday](http://www.alabar.org/lawday). The deadline to submit the form is April 12.

In addition to classroom presentations, the Alabama governor customarily signs a Law Day proclamation addressing the theme and how it plays a role in the life of citizens. City councils and county commissions often sign similar proclamations.

For more information regarding Law Day, including previous



themes, videos, and materials, visit the ABA website:

[www.americanbar.org/groups/public\\_education/law-day/](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/law-day/).



## Base Supply Store celebrates Customer Appreciation Day

Vendors from as far away as Texas were on hand to celebrate customer appreciation, April 10 at the Anniston Army Depot’s Base Supply Store.

Among the vendors participating were: 3M, Staples and HP as well as several branch representatives from the Lighthouse for the Blind of Texas.

As part of their appreciation, the organizations provided informative displays and free product samples to depot customers.

## TRACKS

**TRACKS** is an official Army news magazine authorized for members of the Department of Defense. Its content is not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the

Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Anniston Army Depot Public Affairs.

The editorial office is located in the Abrams Building, Room 128, telephone (256) 235-6281.

The **TRACKS** editorial staff invites comments and contributions from its readers. Email correspondence to: [usarmy.anad.tacom.list.publicaffairs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.anad.tacom.list.publicaffairs@army.mil) or mail

to: Editor, TRACKS, Attn: TAAN-PAO, 7 Frankford Avenue, Anniston, AL 36201-4199.

**Commanding Officer** - Col. Craig Daniel

**Deputy to the Commander** - Abby Quinn

**Administrative Officer** - Reginald B. McFadden

**Chief, Public Affairs/Editor** - David San Miguel

**Staff writers** - Ed Wedge

[facebook.com/AnnistonArmyDepot](https://facebook.com/AnnistonArmyDepot)

[youtube.com/annistonarmydepot](https://youtube.com/annistonarmydepot)

[twitter.com/ANAD\\_PAO](https://twitter.com/ANAD_PAO)

[linkedin.com/company/anniston-army-depot](https://linkedin.com/company/anniston-army-depot)







Col. Craig Daniel, commander, poses with depot volunteers.



Janet Pernell

## Volunteers celebrated for supporting depot events

Anniston Army Depot joins the nation in celebrating its volunteers for their contribution to various events and activities throughout the year.

Held annual on the third week of April, National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 as an opportunity to recognize and thank volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voices to make a difference in their communities.

Held this year on April 21-27, Col. Craig Daniel, commander,

paused to recognize and host a luncheon for depot employees who selflessly volunteered their services.

Awardees included: Michael Allen, Irvin Barclay, Tony Butler, Jacques Calloway, John Crawford, Tanquella Fegans, Daniel Flynn, Jureka Johnson, Jacqueline Judkins, Carshena Kirksey, Hilda McClellan, Shayla Millwood, Raymond Smith, Kimberly Smoot, Brena Tyner, Wendy Suttles-Walker, and Janet Pernell who was also recognized as the depot's top volunteer of the year.

## Depot employees remember their mothers

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

For Lakesia Douthitt, secretary, directorate of strategic plans, "Mother's Day is a joyous occasion, a time to celebrate all mothers' sacrifices."

"A mother's love and wisdom are unparalleled," she said. "No matter how old we get, our mothers remain our guiding lights."

"Balancing motherhood and work are a challenge, but I do it with a heart full of gratitude," Douthitt said. "My priority is my son, and I strive to provide and prepare him for life."

Terry Willingham, recreation assistant, family and morale, welfare and recreation, adds that "Mom is the center of our family. She's 93-years-old and still cooking every Sunday - and everybody is welcome and invited. We never know who's going to show up."

"The best gift you can give your mother is time; spending time with her, showing up, and being part of her life is the greatest gift," she said.

For Travis Cochran, mechanic, FMWR, Mother's Day holds a special place in his heart.

"Her love and sacrifices have shaped me," he said. "The role of motherhood has evolved, but its essence remains the same—unconditional love and unwavering support."

He added that his most treasured memory of Mother's Day was surprising her with a new Cadillac.

"It was a small token of my gratitude for all she's done," he said. A mother herself, Michelle Alverson, says "it's not easy."

"A lot has been put on mothers working at home and having a job outside the house," she said. "Still, the best gifts I have ever received on Mother's Day are homemade gifts from my children."

"It's always important to me to have the children come first," she said. "All I want as a mother is to have my kids help me without being asked. LOL."





# Machine shop ensures tanks are inspected, repaired

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

Jeff Waldrop oversees the inspection shop. He uses magnaflux magnetic particle inspection testing equipment along with dry magnetic particle testing that will identify a crack in the structure of the M1A1 Abrams tank.

When a crack has been identified, Waldrop marks it for the welding shop, which will then grind out and repair the piece.



Following this initial inspection, the hull is moved to the body shop where panels can be replaced just as quickly as a car panel at an auto body shop. When a panel shows signs of damage, it must be removed from the tank where a new one is then cut to size and clamped in place to be welded.

Billy Thomas runs the machine shop. He's responsible to confirm that all the holes in the entire tank hull and turret have been cleanly



U.S. Army Photos by Ed Wedge

Casey Hall points to a crack that will need to be repaired.

tapped. They run a tap into each hole to ensure the threads are clean to accept new bolts. Once all the holes are tapped, they are plugged so they are not damaged when the tank hull goes to be sandblasted.

If the machine shop identifies any cracks, they have welders on site with welding carts that can wire stick or aluminum weld all parts on the hull.

When the machine shop finishes the tank hull and turret, they are washed and sandblasted before going to the paint shop on their way to the assembly line at the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility.

# Dedicated firefighter retires after 34 years of service

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

Retiring after a combined 34 years of service as a fire fighter and paramedic, 21 years of which were at Anniston Army Depot, Troy Seeger completes an illustrious career.

He began his career, volunteering for the Jacksonville emergency medical services for three years, and then another 10 working for Jacksonville as a career employee.

Capt. Carey Parker, firefighter paramedic, said “he will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.”

Seeger says his fondest memory working here came one day when a fellow firefighter was playing with a cattle prod and accidentally prodded the fire chief with it.

Anniston Army Depot salutes Troy Seeger for his dedicated service. Congratulations and well wishes on your retirement.



# Hazardous communications

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

Protecting yourself at work is always important, especially if you work with hazardous chemicals.

Hazard communication, sometimes referred to as HAZCOM, is a critical element to the environmental, safety, and health programs at Anniston Army Depot.

ANAD Regulation 385-5 Hazardous Communications and the ANAD Red Book -Hazardous Waste, Emergency Response, and Environmental Guidance outline hazardous communication regulatory guidelines, responsibilities, safety data sheets, and labeling requirements.

## Labels and other Forms of Warning

OSHA's hazardous communication standard aligns with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of classifications and labelling of all hazardous chemicals.

Proper labeling ensures that workers have the necessary safe handling and use of hazardous chemicals information to avoid injury and illness related to exposures. Labels must be legible and pertain to required information. Labels are also required for each secondary container such as spray or squeeze bottles filled with hazardous chemicals. These containers must also be clearly marked to identify its contents.

Labels must contain the following information:

- Product identifier – that identifies the hazardous chemical, including the chemical name, code number or batch number. The product identifier must be the same for the label and safety data sheet.
- Signal word. Indicates the hazard level. “Danger” is used for more severe hazards and “Warning” is used for less severe hazards.
- Hazard statement. This describes the nature of the chemical hazard(s), including the degree of hazard. Hazard statements are specific to the hazard classification categories.
- Precautionary statement that describes recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent exposure to the hazard. The four precautionary statements are: prevention, response, storage, and disposal.
- Manufacturer Information, including the name, address and telephone number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, or other responsible party.
- Pictogram(s) are symbol(s) that represent distinct hazards. The pictogram on the label is determined by the chemical hazard classification.

An example of a GHS label:

**product identifier** AMMONIA

**signal word** DANGER

**hazard statement** TOXIC IF INGESTED

**precautionary statements** Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Keep container tightly closed when not in use. Keep away from heat, sparks and open flames - may explode when exposed to high heat. Use in an open area that is well-ventilated. Breathing in ammonia is irritating and corrosive. Wear protective gloves and safety goggles to prevent burns and irritation.

**supplier information** ABC Chemicals - 123 Main Street - Cincinnati, OH - www.abchem.com - 800-733-5252

See Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for further details regarding safe use of this product.

Example of blank GHS label used at ANAD:

Observe Circled Pictogram(s) ONLY

Product Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_

Signal Word: \_\_\_\_\_

Hazard Statements: \_\_\_\_\_

Precautionary Statements: \_\_\_\_\_

## Safety Data Sheets

The Hazard Communication Standard requires chemical manufacturers, distributors, and importers to provide a safety data sheet for each chemical listing product hazards. Employees working with hazardous materials must be properly trained and instructed on the hazards, protective measures, storage and first aid requirements associated with the material. The SDS must be in a uniform format and must be readily accessible to employees. Each cost center at ANAD must maintain a binder that contains a chemical index, a data sheet for each hazardous chemical used in the cost center, and an SDS training record. This book must be readily accessible to employees and must be reviewed annually and updated as needed when chemicals change in the cost center. Employees are to be trained annually in the month of July on the SDS's for their cost center. The uniform format for each SDS is as follows:

- Section 1 – Identification
- Section 2 – Hazard(s) Identification
- Section 3 – Composition/Information on Ingredients
- Section 4 – First-aid Measures
- Section 5 – Fire-fighting Measures
- Section 6 – Accidental Release Measures
- Section 7 – Handling and Storage
- Section 8 – Exposure Controls/Personal Protection
- Section 9 – Physical and Chemical Properties
- Section 10 – Stability and Reactivity
- Section 11 – Toxicological Information
- Section 12 – Ecological Information\*
- Section 13 – Disposal Considerations\*
- Section 14 – Transport Information\*
- Section 15 – Regulatory Information\*
- Section 16 – Other Information

(\*These sections are optional and may or may not be included in the SDS depending on the manufacturer.)

A SDS repository is located on the safety office intranet page. Each SDS loaded in the repository has been reviewed and approved by industrial hygiene, the fire department, the directorate of risk management, and the safety office. Copies of any SDS can also be obtained from the K-yard or by contacting the safety office.

For more information regarding hazardous communication regulatory compliance, contact the safety office at (256) 235-7541.



# Earth Day - Sustain the mission, secure the future

By STAFF REPORTS

Earth Day is an annual event occurring on April 22 that raises awareness about environmental issues and celebrates our planet. In 1970, U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson helped launch the first Earth Day.

When he was elected to the senate in 1962, Nelson called for a comprehensive, nationwide program to save the natural resources of America. During this time, there were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect the environment.

At his direction, the senator's staff helped organize a grassroots movement on April 22, 1970, that sponsored environmental teach-ins on college campuses nationwide. This first Earth Day was celebrated by 20 million Americans during demonstrations that occurred in several U.S. cities.

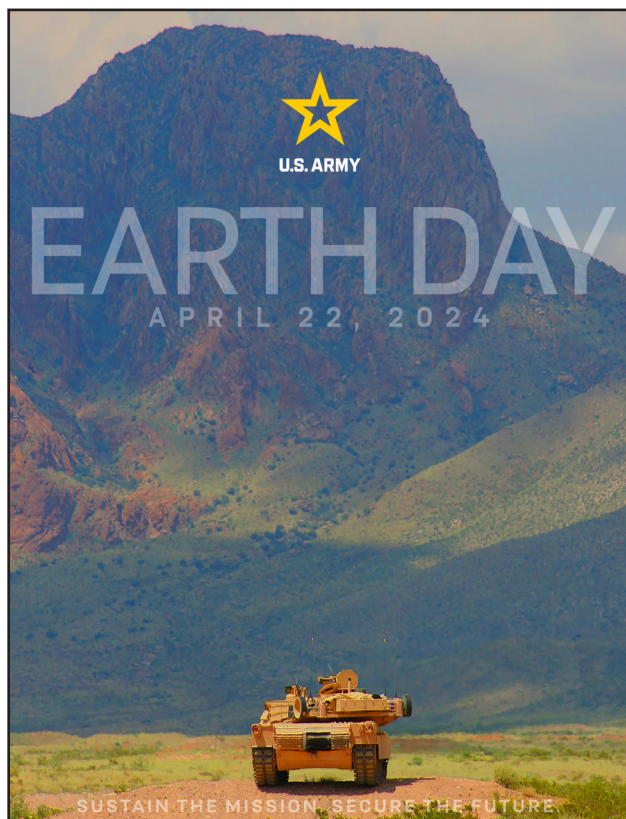
The event helped increase public support for the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency to address environmental issues, which was authorized by Congress in December of 1970.

The EPA is credited with inspiring various environmental legislation in the 1970s, including the Clean Water Act (1972) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (1976).

In 1990, Earth Day went beyond the nation's borders, with 200 million people in 141 countries participating in the event.

In 2009, the United Nations General Assembly formally recognized April 22 as International Mother Earth Day.

The Army's theme for 2024 Earth Day is "Sustain the mission. Secure the future."



Today, the nation continues to celebrate Earth Day as a way to raise public awareness that neglecting the environment has disastrous consequences that can affect our lives and the lives of future generations. During this event, citizens are encouraged to celebrate by participating in Earth Day activities, projects and campaigns to promote, protect or restore the environment.

This Earth Day, commit yourself to service in your community. There are many ways you can serve, such as planting trees, participating in a community cleanup event, planting a pollinator garden to support butterflies and bees and committing to reduce your plastic consumption.

Make the day a family event by instilling environmental values in your children, spending the day outdoors, enjoying the environment and making family memories by using some of these ideas:

- Plant a family vegetable garden
- Plan your own family clean up event: choose a park, school, stream or creek near your home.
- Plan a nature scavenger hunt by making

a list of animals, plants or objects to take pictures of outdoors.

The official Earth Day website ([www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org)) has additional information of planned events and suggestions for Earth Day activities.

The 2024 worldwide Earth Day theme is "Planet vs. Plastics". Many years ago, the Sen. Nelson was one man with an idea and desire to protect our environment. His idea became an investment in our planet and has grown far beyond his initial goal, created a worldwide movement and established his legacy. As you and your family celebrate Earth Day this year, remember the impact that one individual can make by choosing to invest in our planet.



## Making Tracks 5K

Anniston Army Depot's annual race, the Making Tracks 5K, is scheduled for May 11 at 8 a.m.

Run, walk or jog the route from the depot's Physical Fitness Center through the gate near Capron Field, down Roosevelt, then turn around on Lake View Road and return to the Physical Fitness Center.

This course can be handled by individuals with any level of activity, yet is challenging, with its final inclines for those who enjoy pushing themselves.

Awards will be presented to the top three finishers overall as well as the top three male and female finishers in each age group.

Registration forms are available at Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation locations on the installation.

Pre-registration ends May 2.

For more information on the race, call (256) 235-6385.



# Staying safe: grilling, chilling this summer

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

First and foremost, let's have a fun, safe summer.

A 23-year employee of Anniston Army Depot, fire Capt. Nathan Harper, advises individuals to think before considering grilling indoors or near any building structures.

As the grilling season approaches, Harper encourages everyone to perform preventative service on their gas grills, check for any propane leaks and ensure that burners are working correctly.

- Only grill outside and away from structures
- Ensure the grill rests on a flat and level, non-combustible surface, i.e., concrete or dirt and not on a wooden deck.
- Check hose connections for gas leaks!
- A clean grill
- Never leave grills unattended
- Wear appropriate clothing
- Have a fire extinguisher or water hose readily available!

"Be careful around anyone cooking, either inside or out," the fire chief added. "Stay at least five feet away and clear of the area, especially if you're not actively involved in the cooking process. Always assume that everything is hot.

If camping, build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs, and anything that can burn, he said. Chimneys, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pits should be used outdoors and at least 10 feet away from any building structure or anything that can catch fire, i.e., houses, deck railings, eaves and overhanging branches from trees, and shrubs.

"Use propane, charcoal, and wood pellet barbecue grills outdoors only," Harper said. "Indoor use can cause a fire or carbon monoxide



U.S. Army Photo by ED WEDGE

**Fire Capt. Nathan Harper demonstrates the proper way to clean a grill before its first use.**



poisoning. Do not store or use a grill on a porch or balcony.

"If you have an outdoor fire or burn pit, ensure there are no combustibles within a 10-foot radius and at least 30 feet away from any structures," he said, "and always check your weather for high winds. Be ready and able to contain the fire."

Harper also offers additional tips regarding the use of public grills, such as those found at parks or campgrounds.

"Make sure that you thoroughly clean the grill surface before use," he said. "The grill has been exposed to wildlife and may have harmful bacteria."

The fire chief also reminds individuals that this is the time of year for fireworks and holiday celebrations, i.e., the Army birthday, Armed Forces Day and the Fourth of July.

"Make sure fireworks comply with local and state laws," he said. "Observe safe practices and don't approach fireworks after they're lit. Sometimes there is a delay before the explosion.

"The sparkler alternative for children is glow sticks," Harper adds. "They're made of plastic; they last longer and will not burn. So be careful."

Sparklers can achieve temperatures approaching 1,200° and may cause second and third-degree burns.

Another alternative for fireworks is to host an outdoor movie night.

"String up a sheet over the clothesline and project your movie onto the sheet," he said. "And if you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.

"Always think safety," Harper said. "The goal is to go all the way through the season without any injuries."

# Employee Spotlight



## Edward Watson

Anniston Army Depot salutes and congratulates Edward Watson, transmission drive gear division chief.

A 22 year employee at the depot, Watson manages all the operations, repair, and overhaul of transmissions and final drives for ground combat vehicles. His shop oversees the overhaul

process, disassembly, inspection, rebuilding, and testing of all transmissions and final drives.

Watson lives by the motto, “be receptive of others’ opinions.”



## Joseph Cash

Anniston Army Depot recognizes and congratulates Joseph Cash, reciprocating drive train division chief, responsible for disassembling, cleaning and inspecting all the V8 and V6 diesel motors on depot.

He’s worked at the depot for 16 years, “keeping the ship on course.”

His goal for the year is “for his shop to build the most reliable engine the military has ever seen.”



## Michael Epps

A 25-year employee at Anniston Army Depot, Michael Epps is responsible for manufacturing, machining, and welding of parts for all equipment, including the M1A1 Abrams tank and Stryker armored fighting vehicle.

The depot recognizes his dedication and service as

chief, manufacturing division.

This year, Epps’ goal includes meeting all production and safety requirements, improve morale, and create a teamwork environment.

The best advice he’s ever received, he adds, “was to never make a decision in a bubble. “I always look for team input.

“I always pray about major decisions I must make.”



## Adam Harvey

Anniston Army Depot extends its gratitude to Jason “Adam” Harvey, cleaning, finishing, and painting division chief.

He’s been a part of the depot’s workforce for 23 years.

His shop is responsible for the cleaning, finishing, and

painting of parts for all equipment, including the M1A1 Abrams tank and the Stryker armored fighting vehicle on the depot.

Harvey expressed that there are “a lot of moving parts in his new division.”

Taking the advice from other division chiefs, he is learning all he can about his new position, adding that his intent is to make this the “best division on the depot.”

He advises new hires “not to worry about what others are doing, just focus on and do your job.”