

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

TRACKS

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**Depot set to complete
Poland mission**

CYS School Age before and after care



“Child and Youth Services School Age is offering before care to all Oxford City Schools, now including Coldwater Elementary School. The bus departs the CYS center for morning pickup at 6:45 a.m. However, there is no after school pick-up at Coldwater. This service is offered throughout the year at no additional cost for before and after school patrons during school breaks in the fall, winter, and spring, and during inclement weather and school delays. There is an additional cost for before care patrons for early release days if care is needed. Of special note, CYS will host a Spring Camp, March 18-22, and costs will be based on total family income.

For more information on the CYS care program or its upcoming spring camp, call Parent Central at (256) 235-6273.”

Base supply store to host vendors day

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

The AbilityOne Base Supply Store will host a customer appreciation and vendor show day, Wednesday, April 10, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

According to Charissa Archield, store manager, vendors will be showcasing their products and handing out giveaways.

At noon, lunch and refreshments will also be served, she added.

All government purchase card holders are invited.

Rebecca Magouirk, store clerk, said, this year, the store will host representatives from Uline, Staples, Hewlett-Packard, Lighthouse for the Blind, Dean, King-Signs, and Bottom Line.



TRACKS

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Depot set to complete support to Poland

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

Anniston Army Depot is set to wrap up the Poland contract that called for more than 100 M1A1 Abrams tank rebuilds.

The M1A1 is a third-generation American main battle tank named for Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Jr., who served as the Army chief of staff from 1972 until his death in 1974.

According to Reggie Henry, division chief, vehicle non-gun division, the project came in on time and under budget. Refurbishment of last tank is slated to roll out next month.

He explained that not only did this contract

support our allies, the increase in workload over the past year has kept his employees working and able to maintain their skill sets refurbishing the tanks.

“One can become rusty if too much time elapses between doing a specialty job,” he said.

Bobby Easterwood, heavy equipment mechanic lead, attributes the accomplishment of this monumental task through sacrifice and teamwork.

Many of his teammates sacrificed their

leave and worked many overtime hours to ensure the tanks would be refurbished and delivered on time, he said.

Victor Nunez, vehicle planning branch chief, added that the depot really came together as a team and mitigated all their differences to work on this project.

“Teamwork is the number one reason this project has gone so well,” said Ashton Cohill, program manager. “Everyone from the commander on down to the mechanics worked off the same sheet of music.”



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Aaron Rooser, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic at Anniston Army Depot, is installing cables inside the M1A1 drivers compartment destined for Poland.

Mentorship, Pathways programs help students achieve success

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer



U.S. Army Photos by Mark Cleghorn

The Anniston Army Depot leadership team met with Anniston City school leaders for open discussion regarding the depot's mentorship and Pathways programs.

Senior leaders met with the superintendent of Anniston City schools for an open and candid discussion on the depot's mentorship and Pathways programs.

Representatives from the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command joined leaders from Anniston Army Depot to meet with D. Ray Hill, Ph.D., to see how they can work together to "jumpstart" students' educational success and employment.

The depot's mentorship program provides professional career development and emotional support to students through interpersonal engagement, enhancing academics, social and emotional growth through meaningful guidance.

"A spark is all you need to jump," Hill said. "Start success."

Pathways is a high school internship program that allows students to earn a salary, while attending school, and helps the depot by maintaining a skilled and knowledgeable workforce.

Students that apply for the one-year program are not required to have any experience. However, experience in a trade is a plus.

While enrolled in the program, students attend classes for half a day and then train the other half at the depot's Pathways career professional training facility.

Following graduation from high school, the students continue their studies at a technical college. They become eligible for non-competitive full-time employment at the depot once they earn their certification.

For more information about either of these programs, contact the depot operations office at (256) 240-3273.



Dr. Ray Hill, center, superintendent of Anniston City Schools, talks with Col. Craig Daniel, depot commander, and Abby Quinn, deputy to the commander.

SHARP Denim Day supports awareness, prevention

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Anniston Army Depot will host a number of activities, drawing attention to the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program throughout the month.

According to Wendy Suttles-Walker, depot operations and SHARP manager, one event that stands out and should draw everyone's attention is Denim Day.

April 24, is Denim Day, marking the 25th year of this international observance.

Why is wearing denim supposed to help support the awareness and prevention of sexual assault? It started in the early 1990s in Italy when a rape case was brought to court. In the case of a young woman that was raped, and during the attack, her jeans were removed. In 1992, the defendant was convicted of rape and jailed.

The defendant appealed the sentence, citing that because the woman wore tight jeans, she would have had to help take them off, and the act of removing them made the rape

consensual. The Italian High Court agreed and overturned the conviction, leading to mass protests of what became known as the "jeans alibi."

The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans demonstrating their solidarity with the victim.

"People all over the world were outraged, and wearing jeans became an international symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes and myths surrounding sexual assault," Suttles-Walker said.

In 1999, Peace over Violence adopted Denim Day in collaboration with these protests to raise awareness of myths about clothing and consent.

ANAD's and SAAM's events and activities this month include:

Posters and flyers will be distributed in April, with the theme: "One victim is too many."

The depot leadership also encourages

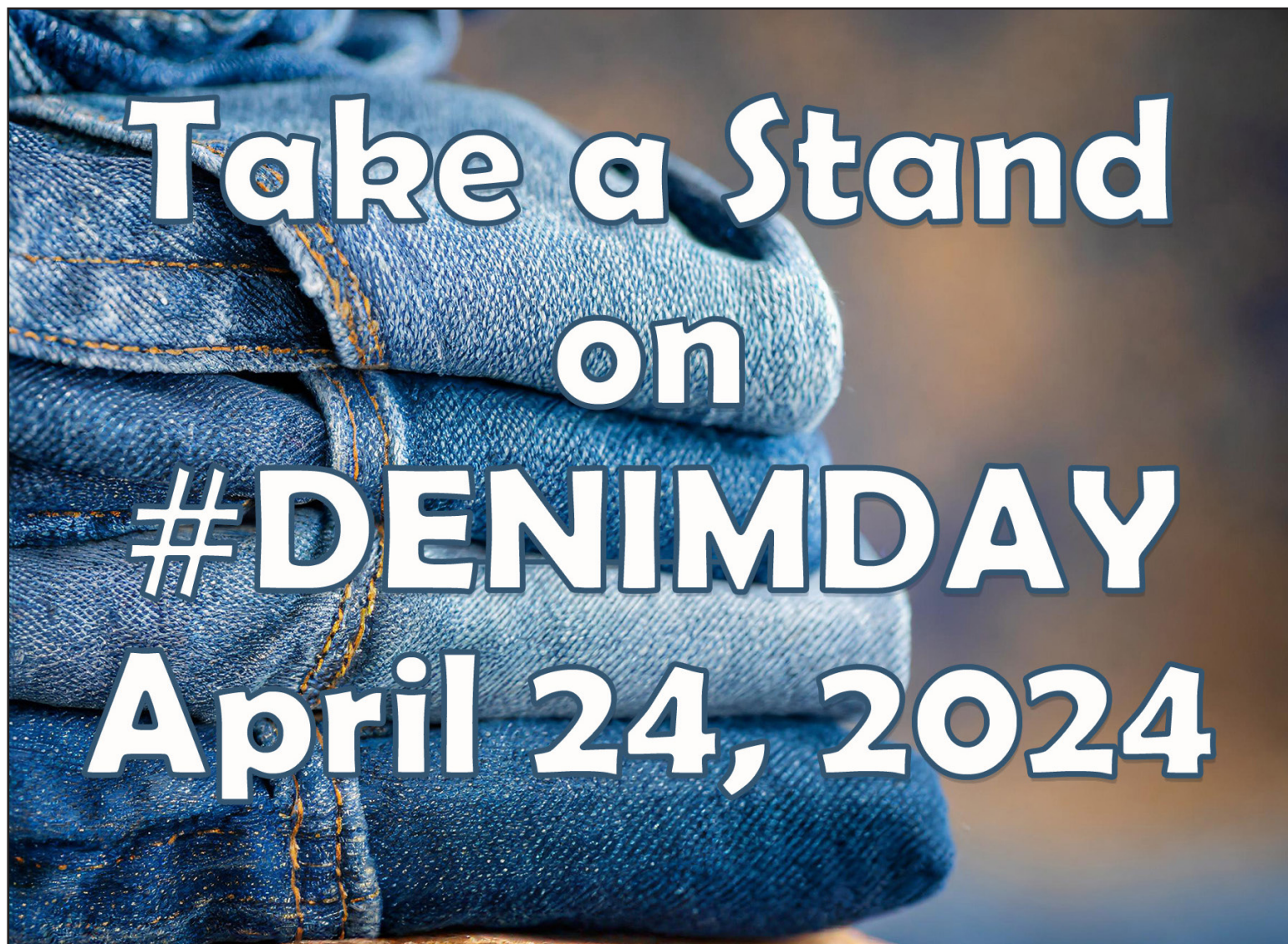
participation in the 30-day Sexual Assault Awareness Month Challenge.

On April 3, the Morning Show will feature a discussion with a special guest from 2nd Chance, Inc., a nonprofit United Way agency that offers emergency shelter and support services for victims of domestic violence within Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne, Etowah, Randolph and Talladega counties.

Every Wednesday throughout the month, SHARP promotional items will be distributed from 11:30 to 12:30 in the dining facilities.

On April 24, depot employees are encouraged to participate in Denim Day and participate in a "Journey for Hope Walk 2k" during lunch from noon until 1 p.m. Participants will be afforded an extra 30 minutes for lunch. The walk will begin and end at building 7.

On April 25, the depot will host a lunch-and-learn discussion in building B251 from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.



Modernizing to enhance depot operations, production

By ED WEDGE | Staff writer

In keeping with the Army's and Army Materiel Command's top three focus areas: people, modernization and readiness, Anniston Army Depot upgraded its machining system from the aging Gilbert system to the Soraluce multitasking machine.

This five-axis computer numeric control system is capable of simultaneously machining two M1A1 Abrams tank hulls (placed front-to-back) on both sides. It consists of two independent heads, each with their own controls, that can machine two different jobs with two different operators, or control both sides from the main tower with one operator.

"The Soraluce machine was built to order in Spain and installed to fit the (depot's) current floor and pit design. The mounts and anchors were welded to existing tie-down points," said Billy Thomas, machine tool supervisor. "This is the only 2-headed Soraluce machine currently operating in the world."

This new machine has a larger capacity than its predecessor, "we have already run a Stryker and an Abrams tank through this machine," Thomas said.

Brandon Woods, machine tool operator, favors the newer system because of the "computer system and Renishaw alignment upgrades."

The Soraluce Machining Center has dual five axis heads that allow the operator to machine multiple parts at the same time, increasing our capacity and accuracy, said Steve Pennington, production supervisor. "This new machining center is an important part of our modernization process and is needed to keep us competitive for future workload."

Mike Rogers, division chief, agrees.

"We'll be able to work multiple tasks at the same time," he said. "This will greatly improve production and help tremendously."



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

The five-axis Soraluce multitasking machine enables operators to machine multiple parts simultaneously, increasing the depot's production capacity and accuracy.

Depot team stood ready to support unit



U.S. Army Photo by Davide Dalla Massara

An M1A1 Abrams tank is offloaded from the cargo vessel, Leroy A. Mendonca, at the port of Alexandroupolis, Greece, March 12. Anniston Army Depot's mechanics played a significant role in helping to prepare the unit for deployment, ensuring the unit's successful deployment to the European theater.

Ensuring a strong, combat-ready military, several members of the Anniston Army Depot dropped their holiday plans to travel to Fort Carson, Colorado, to help the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team prepare for deployment.

Part of the 4th Infantry Division, the 3rd ABCT had been identified for a nine-month rotation to train closely with European allies to defend against threats to the shared security of the region.

Though given only short notice, the depot team immediately responded and was directly responsible for increasing the unit's operational readiness from 57 % to over 80 %, thus ensuring the unit's successful deployment.

This achievement ensured the unit's arrival and preparation for onward movement through the port of Alexandroupolis, Greece, on March 12, then into the European theater.

There, the unit will reinforce and assure NATO allies and partners

while deterring aggression in the region. This deployment followed the unit's participation in a full-scale maneuver and live-fire exercise at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California.

Col. Brian D. Gilbert, brigade commander, noted at the time, that the dedication and resiliency of its Soldiers, along with the steadfast support of their families and the local community, has enabled the unit to remain a lethal and ready force.

"Armored brigades deployed to Europe work alongside NATO allies and partners to conduct bilateral and multinational training exercises," he said. "The 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson deploys forces throughout the world in support of contingency operations that enable U.S. national security."

Members of the depot ensuring the unit's successful deployment were awarded certificates of achievement by Col. Craig A. Daniel during the commander's town hall, March 15.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Awardees include (from left to right): Detrick Brown; Ryan Chandler; Chris Chatman; Jerry Clements; Col. Craig Daniel, depot commander; Scott Prestridge; Demond McGee; Michelle Gamble; and, Ethan Overholtzer. Not pictured are Travis Allison, Nicholas Cobb, Christopher Hammond, Randall Owen and Marc Williams.

Employee Spotlight

KELLEY DOYLE - PROGRAM ANALYST



By CHRISTIAN PETTUS | Staff writer

Kelley Doyle has been a member of the Anniston Army Depot workforce for seven years, but prior to that she served full time with the Alabama Air National Guard for 27 years.

A program analyst, Doyle enjoys getting to learn how the depot processes tanks and how everything ties together even if the processes are separated by buildings.

Doyle likes sharing stories of her time in the service, and the fact that she got to serve alongside one of her heroes, Gen. Colin Powell whom she said was an incredible leader during Operation Desert Storm.

Growing up, the veteran guardsman never envisioned joining the military. She had always seen herself as a math teacher, a desire that

probably explains her joy of learning and teaching.

When the program analyst isn't working at the depot, she makes crafts, all kinds of crafts, from sewing to woodworking, including some minor remodeling of houses and shops.

Yet despite a busy life and work schedule, she said if she could do anything for a day, she would spend it with her son, Nick, and her grandkids.

As we concluded our discussion, she left me with a some pieces of advice. The first being "leave it better than you found it," and the second, "be the someone you needed as a child."

Thank you, Kelley Doyle for your dedication and service to this country, both in the military and as a federal employee.