

## Depot builds M1 training tools

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

Anniston Army Depot is the place to go for an M1 Abrams tank in need of overhaul, but, when maintenance is required in the field, the depot's workforce and facilities are thousands of miles away and Soldiers have to know how to get the tank back on its way.

When it comes to repairing the equipment located in the M1's turret, the Soldiers learn using tools built, in part, here on the installation.

In 2009, ANAD partnered with Research Triangle Institute International to overhaul and upgrade 18 turret trainers originally built by a number of defense contractors throughout the 1980s.

Since work began, the requested number has increased to 23 total trainers – 19 of which are being built to specifications matching the M1A2 System Enhancement Package, version 2, while the remaining four are being formed into situational awareness trainers.

"We've had a lot of challenges with this program," said Kevin Martin, a maintenance management specialist with the depot's Directorate of Production Management. "The trainers were built in the 1980s by three different companies and we are now trying to build continuity into the program and make them all the same."

Employees at the depot are accomplishing that continuity by stripping each trainer to its bare metal components, then treating it like a true turret overhaul.

As parts are removed and inspected, those being reused are sent to the depot's various component shops to be cleaned, inspected, repaired or rebuilt, painted and then reinstalled on the trainer.

"We're getting the Soldier what he really needs and that is what we are here for," said Stevie Williamson, supervisor for the depot's Final Acceptance Branch, where disassembly and reassembly of each trainer occurs.

There, three stations assemble each portion of the trainer before they are prepared



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

**Howard Reid, right, and Jason Noell fit floor sections into the lower area of a turret trainer in preparation for assembly.**

for shipment to Orlando, Fla., where RTII completes assembly, adding the equipment needed for training simulations.

"All of the working parts we put on the trainer are code A – just as if they were going into a tank," said Matt Thomas, a mechanic in the depot's Directorate of Production, adding that all items, whether they are operational or not, are placed in the same location in the trainer as they would be on the main battle tank.

This includes the gun tube, which the trainer mechanics refer to as a stubby, because it is far shorter than a real gun tube. To give it realistic characteristics, however, the tube is weighted.

"Once the Soldiers leave training and go into the field, they should see the same thing in a real tank as they did in the trainer," said Martin.



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

**Bill Manning taps and cleans holes in a turret trainer platform, preparing it for inspection, painting and assembly.**

### Inside TRACKS

#### Leaders' corners

The upgrade to Windows 7, Federal Health Benefits Open Season and Disability Awareness Program are discussed in this week's issue.

See articles on page 2.

#### Eulaton Gate changes

Eulaton Gate will be closing at night. Be sure to note the details.

See article on page 3.

#### Community Appreciation Day

Were you at CAD Oct. 4? TRACKS was and we have pictures of all the activities, food and fun.

See pages 4 and 5.

#### CFC update

The 2012 Combined Federal Campaign is well under way. See how close we've gotten to reaching the goal already!

See article on page 6.

#### MWR activities

Looking for something to do? MWR always has activities planned.

See MWR on page 7.

# 2 Windows 7 arrives, 8 already looms

by Randy Heflin  
ANAD DOIM

Many of you are still swimming from the immersion into Enterprise Email.

Now, just as you begin to emerge, you are about to jump into Windows 7.

You, my intrepid computer user, are not alone in your chagrin. Indeed, the Directorate of Information Management team – depleted, beleaguered and tired as we are – must ensure compliance by December.

As many of you know, Enterprise Email generated more than 100 trouble calls a day to the Help Desk.

Your DOIM team worked diligently and very hard to ensure tickets were resolved as quickly as possible.

Now comes Windows 7.

First and foremost, in most folk's minds, whenever a new release like this comes out, the question is asked, "Why?"

Well, the first answer is security.

I have discussed this in the past, but the ever-present hackers of the world are constantly trying to prove their skills and exploit weaknesses in Microsoft software.

Security and driver updates are typically the first items targeted for changes.

Microsoft did implement some user-friendly changes and items in the

Windows 7 operating system, to include the following:

- Multi-touch – This enables the user to utilize touch screen applications. Of course you will have to have a computer screen with touch capabilities, which is not yet available to us.

- Aero Peak – Enables the user to instantly make all open windows transparent.

- New task bar – This is supposedly more user-friendly.

We shall see.

- New Games
- Enhanced Media Center

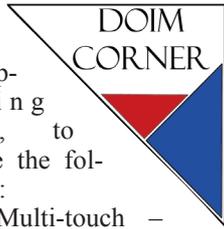
- Netbook Edition – although very scaled back initially

- Enhanced performance – Applications should install more quickly, for instance.

Once again, I ask your patience with DOIM through this implementation.

Most initial reviews for Windows 7 were positive, unlike its predecessor, Vista. Though, the latter service packs of Vista were actually quite good.

I have been using Windows 7 myself for a few months now and it is a bit faster. That is the most noticeable feature so far. About the time I get used to this though – Windows 8!



# Open season coming soon

from Staff Reports  
ANAD CPAC

As autumn gets into full swing, our thoughts turn to seasons – football season, the impending holiday season and, at least for those of us in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, open season.

Open season is the designated time each year for federal employees to make necessary changes to their health insurance policies. Information will be available to all employees during a health fair later this month and we encourage everyone to read over the material carefully to choose the plan that is right for you.

CPAC personnel are available to answer questions, as are the customer service representatives at the Office of Personnel Management.

## Benefits open season

### Appropriated Fund Open Season

The Federal Employee Benefits Open Season is Nov. 12-Dec. 10.

During this time, employees can enroll, change or cancel the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program, Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program and the Federal Employees

Health Benefits Program.

All elections will be effective January 2013. Any appropriated fund employee needing additional information, should contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at Ext. 7860.

### Non-appropriated Fund Open Season

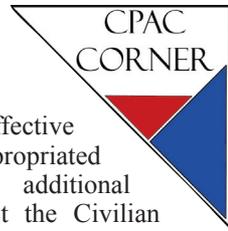
The Non-appropriated Fund Benefits Open Season is Nov. 5-30.

During this time, employees can enroll, change, or cancel the DoD Health Benefit Plan, Family Stand Alone Dental Coverage, Life Insurance Plan, Long Term Care Plan, Flexible Spending Account Program and 401(K) Savings Plan. All elections, other than 401(K), will be effective January 2013.

Any non-appropriated fund employee interested in making an open season benefit change, should contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center NAF Human Resources Specialist at Ext. 4545 for an appointment.

### Health Fair

The Anniston Army Depot Appropriate Fund Health Fair will be held Oct. 24 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 411 and from 1 to 2 p.m. in the DeSoto Pastime Center.



# Disability awareness program announced

by Brenda Montgomery  
ANAD EEO Office

People with disabilities are a diverse group – crossing lines of age, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.

President George H.W. Bush, in 1990, signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into law. The law guarantees equal opportunity for people with disabilities in public accommodations, commercial facilities, employment, transportation, telecommunications and state and local government services.

When many people doubted that individuals with disabilities could participate in society, contribute to the economy or support their families, the ADA asserted they could.

## ANAD Disability Awareness:

**When:** Oct. 25

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Where:** Berman Varner House

**Cost:** \$9

**Speakers:**

Barbara Chess, ANMC

Mark Cleghorn, ANAD

The effort to educate the American public about disability and employment actually began in 1945 when Congress enacted Public Law 176, which declared the first week of October "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." The year 2012 marks the 22nd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Anniston Army Depot's

focus for 2012 is to show how individuals with disabilities are given the opportunities to soar as far as their reach will let them. This year's Disability Awareness Program will enlighten the workforce about individuals with disabilities who are employed at Anniston Army Depot.

If you take a look around ANAD, you may see an employee working in Small Arms in a wheelchair or an amputee in the Directorate of Public Works working as dispatcher. In the Headquarters Building, an employee with hearing impairment makes business cards, another employee is a supervisor and there is a blind employee working in tenant organization. The list goes on and on as to what employees at Anniston are doing.

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# Early authorizations required for air travel

from Staff Reports

Defense Travel Mgmt. Office

Travel authorizations including air travel must be approved and ticketed at least 72 hours in advance of the scheduled flight departure to avoid airline reservations from being cancelled. This is due to a new policy, put into effect Oct. 1, being instituted by the airlines under the FY13 GSA City Pair contract.

Under the new policy, if an Authorizing Official does not approve an authorization within 72 hours of departure, the airline reservation will be cancelled and the traveler will arrive at the airport without a ticket or a reservation in the airline's system.

This applies to all City Pair and non-contract government flights that are either booked through DTS or through a Commercial Travel Office.

Travelers making travel plans within 72 hours of departure must have their authorization approved and tickets issued within 24 hours of creation to avoid cancellation.

If making plans within 24 hours of departure, authorizations must be approved and ticketed at least six hours prior to flight departure time to avoid cancellation.

If airline reservations are cancelled, a traveler will be notified via e-mail or phone by their Commercial Travel Office.

Arriving at the airport without a ticket can impact mission, travel funds and put unnecessary stress on the traveler. If this occurs, travelers are not advised to rebook at the airline counter. Often, counter agents are not familiar with GSA's City Pair Program and may book the traveler on a full priced fare at a much higher cost.

To rebook a flight, travelers

should follow their normal ticketing process. Travelers should take their travel itinerary with them to the airport. If your reservation has been cancelled, the itinerary will provide contact information for your Commercial Travel Office, as well as reservation details to help you rebook.

In the current fiscal environment where it is necessary to be conservative with travel budgets, monitoring the status of travel documents and ensuring travel authorizations are approved, is the best way to avoid unnecessary costs and stress associated with rebooking travel.

## Tips for Travelers:

- *Monitor the status of your travel authorization.* If your trip is approaching and your authorization has not been approved, contact your Authorizing Official immediately. If your AO is unavailable, contact your Defense Travel Administrator.

- *Ensure your DTS profile is current.* Often, travelers forget to update their profile with the Government Travel Charge Card expiration date if they received a new card. Without a current card in your profile, a reservation cannot be purchased.

- *Take your travel itinerary with you to the airport.* If your reservation has been cancelled, the itinerary will provide contact information for your CTO as well as reservation details to help you rebook.

## Tips for Authorizing Officials:

- *Monitor documents awaiting your approval.*

- *Ensure a back-up AO is designated* if you will be on leave or deployed.

For more information about travel authorizations, call the Directorate of Resource Management at Ext. 3032.



Courtesy photo

Col. Jeff Vieira, Director of Defense Logistics Agency Land Operations, presented certificates to (from right) Wilma Nelson and Sherry Young of Anniston Army Depot and Brenda Hester of DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala.

## ANAD, DLA small arms employees earn awards

from Staff Reports

ANAD Public Affairs

Col. Jeff Vieira, Director of Defense Logistics Agency Land Operations, toured small arms operations at Anniston Army Depot Oct. 3.

During the visit, three individuals who have played lead roles in the continued success of the small arms program, particularly as it relates to the DLA mission to support warfighter needs in a timely manner, were recognized by Vieira.

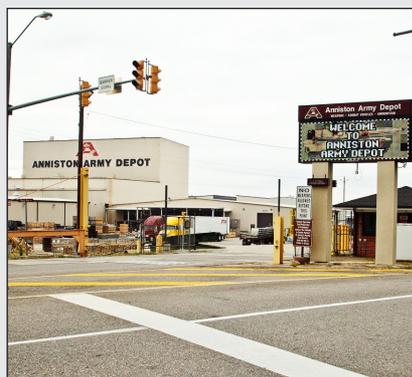
Sherry Young, the maintenance management specialist for the depot's Small Arms Repair Facility and Wilma Nelson, the depot's MRP planner-buyer were recognized for their contributions.

Young and Nelson were honored "for the ongoing successful partnership between the Anniston Small Arms Shop and the DLA Land and Maritime Customer Operations Weapon System Support Manager, Industrial Team, Forecasting, and the Anniston Forward Execution Team," according to the certificate each was presented.

Brenda Hester of DLA Distribution Anniston, Ala., was recognized for her "support to the kitting efforts for the TACOM M2 Machine Gun Mandatory Repair Parts Kit, which will be used to supply DLA parts to the Anniston Army Depot Small Arms Shop."

The three employees were nominated by Anne Tarrant, the program manager for small arms at DLA Land and Maritime.

## Eulaton Gate changes



Eulaton Gate will close nightly at 7 p.m. beginning Oct. 22.

The gate's new hours are as follows:

- **Nightly** - closed from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m.
- **Weekends** - closed at 7 p.m. Saturday and reopened at 5 a.m. Monday
- **Holidays** - closed on all holidays.

Please note that the depot's main gate, located on Victory Drive, will be open 24 hours a day to allow access to the installation.

For more information on this change, contact the Directorate of Emergency Services at Ext. 7595.

# ANAD COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DAY



**BINGO**



**DEPOT LEADERS**

Community Appreciation Day...the name says so much and describes just what the event was all about - celebrating the depot community.

Col. Brent Bolander, the depot's commander, and Keith Colbert, director of community and family activities, started the afternoon off by detailing all the fun activities to be enjoyed throughout the installation's Morale, Welfare and Recreation area.

There was plenty of food for everyone - ranging from pizza and hamburgers to cupcakes, ice cream and egg rolls.

Then, the games began. Cars, trucks and motorcycles were judged; weights were lifted; horseshoes thrown; supervisors dunked in tanks of water; and weaving through it all were the sounds of music and laughter.

The small crowd present for the opening ceremony quickly grew, filling the bleachers and all available tables by the time of the prize drawings at the end of the day.

If you attended Community Appreciation Day Oct. 4, DCFA wants your input to make next year's event even better.

Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8MMGT29> to fill out a survey.



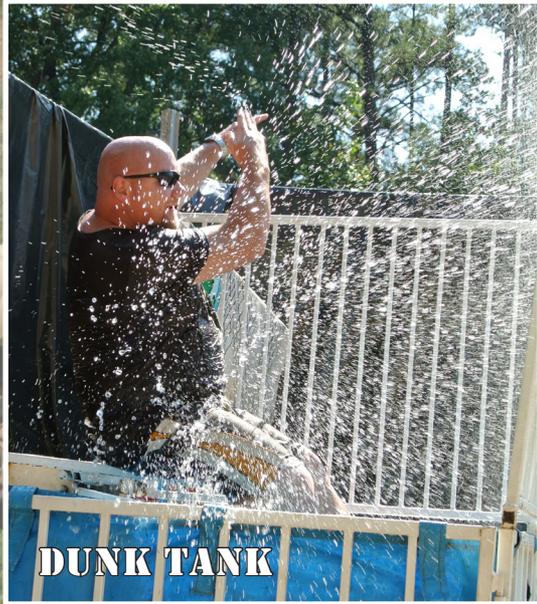
**FOOD**



**PHOTOS BY:  
JENNIFER BACCHUS  
CLESTER BURDELL  
MARK CLEGHORN**



**LINE DANCING**



## CAD AT DGRC

At Hill Air Force Base in Utah, another component of Anniston Army Depot also celebrated Community Appreciation Day Oct. 4.

The Defense Non-tactical Generator and Rail Equipment Center, better known as DGRC, was visited by Depot Sergeant Major Jeffrey

Marcon, Director of Production Jeff Simmons and Boyd Scoggins, the employee assistance program coordinator, last week.

They led the organization through their Safety Stand Down and Suicide Prevention training then enjoyed Community Appreciation Day there, complete with a potluck lunch, fellowship and prizes.





## Morning Show Rebroadcasts

Watch The Morning Show! It airs live each Wednesday at 7:05 a.m. on Local Area Network channel 21.

If you are unable to catch the live broadcast, there are two ways you can tune in. Computer users can view it on IPTV or it can be seen on LAN channel 21 during these rebroadcast times:

Wednesday: 10:30 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m. and midnight (Wed. night/Thurs. morning)

Thursday/Friday/Monday: noon and 11 p.m.

Watch for this upcoming show:

- Oct. 17: Susan Shipman of Second Chance will speak to the workforce about Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



## DPW service order changes

The depot's Directorate of Public Works has transitioned from the Integrated Facilities System to the General Fund Enterprise Business System. As a result of this move, the IFS Service Order Web is no longer functional.

If you have facilities problems to report, please call Ext. 6317.

## AKO e-mail changes

Army Knowledge Online will begin deleting AKO mailboxes later this month.

As mailboxes are deleted, AKO will set each individual's AKO forwarding address to their Enterprise E-mail address. Once this is done, it will not be possible to edit the forwarding address.

AKO will also delete all messages currently stored in the inbox or in folders on AKO.

AKO e-mail addresses (user@us.army.mil) will not be deleted or deactivated. The address will be maintained and messages sent to that address will automatically be forwarded to each user's Enterprise E-mail address.

For more information about these AKO changes, visit the AKO Enterprise E-mail transition page at [www.us.army.mil/suite/page/675388](http://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/675388).



## CFC pledges rolling in

from Staff Reports, PAO

Abused children, cancer patients, students in need of a safe place to study after school and millions of other nameless, faceless people in need are helped through the Combined Federal Campaign each year.

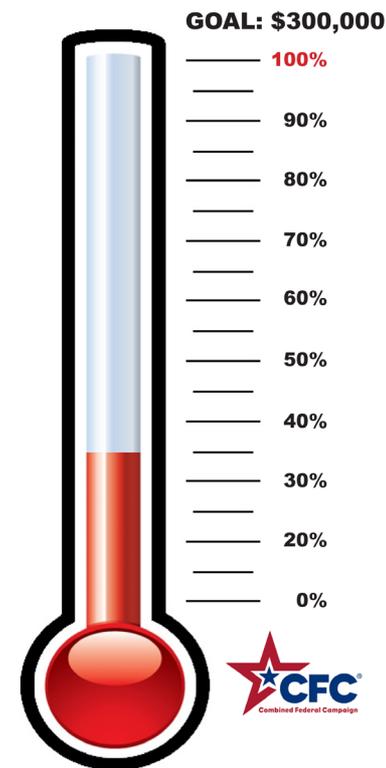
At Anniston Army Depot, CFC key-people and coordinators put a face and a name on each donation through tours of local charities and testimonials from employees whose lives or hearts were touched by a CFC organization.

The tours give donors a close look at where the money will be spent in each organization and kickoff events throughout the installation provide an opportunity for keypeople to answer employee questions about CFC.

The depot's goal is \$300,000 and the installation's CFC committee hopes to achieve the goal by the end of October.

Already, employees have pledged more than a third of the goal - \$106,304 as of last week.

The last day to turn in forms is Dec. 15, but early return of the forms ensures timely distribution of funds to the various CFC-approved agencies.



## POW artifacts

Anyone with knowledge of German or Italian artifacts related to prisoners of war at Fort McClellan from 1943-1946 is asked to call Klaus Duncan at 256-782-2991.

## WAC Band performance

The Women's Army Corps Band will perform Oct. 19 at the WAC Memorial Chapel, located at the Fort McClellan National Guard Training Center.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and admission is free. Visitors should enter the training center via Galloway Gate.



October is  
Energy Awareness Month!



What ways are you  
being "green?"

Report Suspicious Activity or Behavior

iWATCH  
ARMY

iREPORT

i KEEP US SAFE

See Something

Say Something

## Exceptional family members with special needs

“Special Needs” is an umbrella underneath which a staggering array of diagnoses can be wedged. Children with special needs may have mild learning disabilities or profound mental retardation; food allergies or terminal illness; developmental delays that catch up quickly or remain entrenched; occasional panic attacks or serious psychiatric problems. The designation is useful for getting needed services, setting appropriate goals, and gaining understanding for a child and stressed family.

“Special needs” are commonly defined by what a

child can't do -- by milestones unmet, foods banned, activities avoided, experiences denied. These minuses hit families hard, and may make “special needs” seem like a tragic designation. Some parents will mourn their child's lost potential, and many conditions become more troubling with time. Other families may find that their child's challenges make triumphs sweeter, and that weaknesses are often accompanied by amazing strengths.

Although every special-needs child is different and every family is unique, there are some common concerns that link parents of challenged kids, includ-

ing getting appropriate care and accommodations; promoting acceptance in the extended family, school and community; planning for an uncertain future; and adjusting routines and expectations. Parents of children with special needs are often more flexible, compassionate and resilient than other parents. They have to be to ensure the success of their special needs child.

Please contact Anniston Army Depot's Exceptional Family Member Program Manager at 256-235-7971 for more information on EFMP enrollment procedures for Soldiers and family members with special needs.

## AFTB workshops

The Army Family Team Building Program is offering the following workshops at no cost:

### Effective Leadership

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Deadline to register: COB

Oct. 15

### Relationship Building

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Deadline to register: COB

Oct. 18

### Team Building Workshop

Date: Nov. 15

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Deadline to register: COB

Nov. 9

### Stress Management

Date: Dec. 13

Time: 5-8 p.m.

Deadline to register: COB

Dec. 7

All classes will be held in the Army Community Service Building (221)

For more information or to register for a class, call Ext. 7231 or send e-mail to [amanda.c.mullinax.civ@mail.mil](mailto:amanda.c.mullinax.civ@mail.mil).

## Bass Fishing Tournament

There will be a bass fishing tournament Oct. 27. The cost is \$70 per boat and boats will be launched from Coosa Marina on Lake Neely Henry. For more information, contact MWR at Ext. 6768.



## Army Volunteer Corps

Volunteers don't get paid for their work; not because it's worthless, but because it's priceless.

Anniston Army Depot is a great place to become part of a dynamic volunteer corps.

Volunteers give their time to improve and enhance the quality of life. The benefits of volunteering are many.

If you volunteered for the AER Golf Tournament, 5K Run or other events, you are already part of the Army Volunteer Corps.

ANAD has many events and opportunities just waiting for you. Join a winning team!

Contact Amanda Mullinax at 256-235-7231 or stop by the ACS Center (Bldg. 221) to find out how you can become part of the ACS/Army Volunteer Corps.

## West Station Diner

The West Station Diner is open for breakfast from 6:30 a.m.-9:15 a.m. and for lunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:10 p.m.

The diner has burgers, hot dogs, salads and sandwiches on the menu. For more information, call Ext. 6586.

## Nichols Dining Facility

Breakfast is served from 8-9:30 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Nichols Dining Facility on the east side of ANAD.

The dining facility offers a salad bar, chicken wings, chicken tenders, chicken sandwiches, hamburgers and French fries daily in addition to a daily special.

To find out the daily special, please call the menu line at Ext. 6368

The Nichols Dining Facility will be closed on off-Fridays until further notice.

For more information, call Ext. 7127.

## Anniston Gifts &

Sandwiches, salads and so much more are available at Anniston Gifts &, the shop located in the depot's Headquarters Building.

Stop in for jewelry, clothing adorned with the depot logo or one of the variety of other products today.

## Yoga

Yoga classes are held each Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Physical Fitness Center.

Cost is \$6.25 per class. For more information, call 256-235-6385.



## Basketball

Anniston Army Depot's MWR Adult Basketball League is open to military personnel, Department of Defense civilians, contractors and family members ages 16 and up.

The basketball season begins Nov. 5 and games will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays.

For more information or to sign up your team, contact the depot's Physical Fitness Center at 256-235-6385.

## DeSoto Pastime Center

**Lunch:** DeSoto Pastime Kitchen invites you to come out for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There is something different for the special each Wednesday. For to-go orders, call 256-235-7160.

**Breakfast:** DPC now serves breakfast each morning from 6:30-9:30.

**Food truck:** The Pastime Center has a food truck that services the West area. If you are in need of this service, call the West Station at Ext. 6586 or the DeSoto Pastime Center at Ext. 7160.

**Socialize:** Come out and enjoy the great atmosphere that DPC has to offer. Monday and Tuesday evenings from 3:30-8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 3:30-10:30 p.m. and Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

**Karaoke:** Come to the DPC for karaoke every Friday night from 8-11:30.

**Spaghetti Night:** Join the DPC for Spaghetti Night every off-Friday from 6:30-8.

**Big Bynum Bingo:** Bingo with a \$5,000 progressive jackpot is played every Thursday at 6 p.m.

**Electronic Bingo:** Bingo is played daily starting at 3:30 p.m.

For more information on events please contact the DeSoto Pastime Center at 256-235-7160.

# Active Shooter

## When an Active Shooter is in Your Vicinity

### 1. Evacuate

- Evacuate if shooter is at your location
- Have an escape route & plan in mind
- Do not stop to render aid to victims
- Escape in direction away from shooter
- Leave your belongings

**Call 911 When Safe To Do So**

### 2. Hide

- Hide in area out of shooter's view
- Lock exterior and interior doors
- Stay low to ground
- Block entry to hiding place with heavy furniture or equipment



### 3. Take Action

- Use as last resort & only when your life is in imminent danger
- Act with physical aggression & throw items at active shooter
- Attempt to incapacitate active shooter

### When Police Arrive

- Immediately raise hands & spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward police
- Remain calm & follow instructions
- Avoid screaming or yelling
- Do not ask police for help and proceed in the direction they are entering if told to leave

### Report to 911

- Location of active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooter
- Number of potential victims
- Number & type of weapons being used

**Phone #: 256-235-6222**

**For emergency assistance:  
Call 911 & ask for ANAD Security Forces**



**ISO**  
9001:2000  
14001:2004  
18001:2007