

Address Service Requested:  
P.O. Box 2285  
Anniston, AL 36202

# TRACKS<sup>®</sup>

U.S. Postage Paid  
Bulk Rate  
Anniston, AL 36201  
Permit No. 326

Volume 26, Number 20081

Anniston, Alabama

December 20, 2012

## In the spirit of giving...

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

The depot's 2012 Christmas Cheer program delivered 3,660 pounds of gifts and 22 bicycles to Calhoun County's Department of Human Resources office in Anniston Dec. 19.

The three truckloads of gifts were donated by employees throughout the depot property, including tenants and contractors.

Department of Human Resources case workers plan to deliver the wrapped gifts to the 196 sponsored children before Christmas Day.

Christmas Cheer, an annual event, allows work centers to collect money and purchase age-appropriate gifts for these children, who are in the protective custody of DHR.

"It is heartwarming to see the community spirit the depot has," said Doug Heath, DHR director.

Donations for these gifts must fall between \$150 and \$175. Based on those figures, employees of the depot and tenant organizations gave more than \$29,400 in support of DHR children.

"It never ceases to amaze me what the depot brings to the community and what the community brings to the depot," said Col. Brent Bolander, depot commander.

The depot's 29-year history with Christmas Cheer began by helping depot employees with food for the holidays. The program teamed up with DHR in 1997, when they purchased gifts for 58 children. Over the years,

that number has grown dramatically.

"Christmas Cheer at ANAD is an opportunity for employees to show support for our community and to help their neighbors in need. I am always amazed by the generosity of our workforce," said Boyd Scoggins, the installation's Christmas Cheer chairperson.

Christmas Cheer also allows depot employees to sponsor installation families, coworkers who have experienced hardships this year and have financial needs. Installation families are anonymous to contributors — only identified by a number and the family's situation. They have been approved for the program through depot leadership.

This year, the depot sponsored eight installation families, donating \$10,000.

**For more photos of  
Christmas Cheer,  
go to the ANAD website:  
[www.anad.army.mil](http://www.anad.army.mil).**



Photo by Amanda Walker

Fred Shelton, a mechanic for the depot's Directorate of Production, unloads boxes from one of the trucks used to deliver presents to the Calhoun County Department of Human Resources Dec. 19.

Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

Lines of 'elves' pushed, pulled and carried more than 200 boxes of gifts into the conference room at the Calhoun County Department of Human Resources.



# Depot workforce's generosity unparalleled

As the holiday season approaches, I am still amazed at the depth of your commitment and compassion.

This year alone, you entertained over 3,000 visitors and repaired more than 1,200 vehicles, 36,000 weapons, and 1,100 subassemblies. You continued to put the mission first.

Then, you delved into your hearts and gave liberally to charitable organizations through the Combined Federal Campaign. Once again, you exceeded expectations with more than \$330,000.

On yesterday, we traveled to the Department of Human Resources with contributions for approximately 200 chil-

dren in protective custody. And you didn't stop there; your kindness has been extended to eight depot families who are experiencing difficult times.

Team Anniston – your generosity has touched the lives of many people, both near and far. To say thank you seems inadequate.

I sincerely appreciate your persever-



**BOLANDER**

ance and the hours you work in support of our Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen – OUR sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, family and friends. They deserve the very best equipment and weaponry possible and it is no secret that Anniston's reputation is renowned.

During this holiday season, I ask you to remember the men and women, both military and civilian, who stand in harm's way. Around the world, many of them may be without the comfort of home or the company of family and friends. I also ask you to reflect upon the ones who have experienced tragedies as

a result of senseless violence.

Our freedoms are precious, our military who sacrifice to provide them are honorable and we are grateful.

I encourage you to enjoy this holiday season, whether at home or taking to the road. But, make safety a part of all that you do. If you are traveling, get plenty of rest before the trip and, above all, don't drink and drive.

Let's kick the New Year off to a great start with more of the same dedication.

From the Bolander family to yours – we wish each of you the happiest of holidays and a most prosperous New Year!

## DLA Distribution expresses thanks

My deputy Paul McMillan and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for all of the tremendous hard work you have contributed in operational support, safety and lean efficiencies.

Your focus and dedication to quality performance and mission support has been clearly recognized by the entire DLA Distribution chain of command and is very much appreciated!

The holidays are a special time when we can spend time with our family and friends, reflect on the many blessings bestowed upon us and a time to welcome the opportunities that come with each new year.

Please keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers as many are in harm's way this holiday season.

Thanks again for all you do daily in support of the Anniston Army Depot and our DoD Warriors!

May you have a safe and joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year! May the Lord continue to bless you and your families!



**ROUSE**

## Happy holidays from ANCA

The Anniston Chemical Activity has seen many changes in 2012, both in mission and in personnel numbers.

With the completion of our chemical storage and transportation missions, we transitioned to closure of the activity.

We have made great strides in this respect while reducing our numbers to less than half our original personnel strength.

Fortunately, all those who left our rolls were able to either retire or move on to other jobs. As we approach final closure next year, our goal is to successfully transition our remaining workforce to voluntary retirements or new jobs.

Our workforce has been, and continues to be, our number one asset and priority and the main reason for our past and present successes.

The ANCA Family expresses our thanks to those who contributed to our successes over the years and wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



**BROWN**

## ANMC commander praises workforce

The holiday season is a special time and an occasion to spend time with family and friends reflecting on the past year and looking forward to the year to come.

As 2012 draws to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to wish the employees and families of the Anniston Munitions Center and Anniston Army Depot the happiest of holidays.

I am proud to be part of this winning team.

I would also like to express my gratitude for the hard work and dedication ANMC showed this past year in support of joint warfighters around the world. I would especially like to thank you for your dedication to safety, resulting in another year without a lost time injury – great job!

Please keep our deployed employees in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season as well as the thousands of deployed servicemembers and civilians who won't be able to spend this time in the company of friends and family.

Finally, from the ANMC leadership and the Schmitt family, have a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a prosperous New Year!



**SCHMITT**

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of TRACKS are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or Anniston Army Depot. TRACKS is published biweekly using desktop publishing on recycled paper and on the Internet by the Commander, Anniston Army Depot. The editorial office is located in the Abrams Building (7), Room 358, telephone 256-235-6281 (DSN prefix 571) or FAX 256-235-4695. TRACKS invites comments and contributions from its readers. Address e-mail to: usarmy.anad.tacom.list.publicaffairs@mail.mil and mail to: Editor, TRACKS, TAAN-SCO, 7 Frankford

Avenue, Anniston, AL 36201-4199. DEADLINE days are Thursdays preceding date of publication. Circulation: 5,900.

Postmaster: Send address changes to TRACKS, PO Box 2285, Anniston, AL 36202.  
 Commanding Officer..... Col. Brent Bolander  
 Public Affairs Officer..... Clester Burdell  
 Editor..... Jennifer Bacchus  
 Photographer..... Mark Cleghorn

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

Jonathon Vanover, a production machinery mechanic, was named the Directorate of Public Works' safe employee of the quarter for the fourth quarter of 2012.

According to the justification for Vanover's award, he faces tasks requiring him to be in potentially dangerous situations on a daily basis.

It reads: "His spotless safety record is proof that he diligently uses the proper personal protective equipment, follows lockout/tagout procedures and is always aware of his surroundings."

In addition to constantly keeping himself safe, Vanover was recognized for the way he

protects his coworkers. It was noted that, on several occasions, he recognized a need for handrails, guards or safety chains to prevent injuries.

Matt West, the Utilities Division chief for DPW, said Vanover knows and abides by all safety rules and makes sure those around him do as well.

Vanover's daily routine consists of installing or moving equipment, which often involves electrical and mechanical processes.

"I try to stay on my toes and not get complacent," he said. "We work hand-in-hand with the electricians on lockout/tagout for the machinery."

Vanover received a four-hour time-off award as part of his safe employee of the quarter honors.



Photos by Mark Cleghorn

ABOVE: William Bonner, right, and Douglas Blumenshein guide a M1 Abrams hull onto a stand in the disassembly area of the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility Nov. 15. BELOW: A welder works on the hull of a vehicle in the depot's Nichols Industrial Complex.



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

DPW Director Mike Mathews, left, congratulates Jonathon Vanover, a production machinery mechanic, for earning the directorate's safe employee of the quarter award.

**Do you have news for TRACKS?  
Call Public Affairs at Ext. 6281!**

# 4 Community honors veterans with wreath ceremony

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

For the second year in a row, the Fort McClellan Cemetery Wreaths Committee memorialized the Veterans interred at McClellan with a holiday wreath ceremony Dec. 15.

Wreaths Across America, a national event, began in 1992 when the Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine sent their extra wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. Since that time, the company has partnered with groups throughout the U.S. This year, events were held at more than 800 locations, including 30 overseas cemeteries.

Maj. Gen. Gerald Watson (ret.), a former commander of Fort McClellan, spearheaded the wreath-laying event. As he thanked everyone for participating, he remarked on his and the committee's goal to include young people in the event.

Standing ready to place a wreath on each

of the graves were seven Boy Scout troops, six Girl Scout troops, the 4H Green Team and the Young Marines.

Depot Commander Col. Brent Bolander spoke to the large crowd gathered at McClellan for this year's event, thanking them for their support for Soldiers.

"Today, we are surrounded not only by the great heroes who have passed before us, but also those who have served, those who are serving, those who will serve and the families who support them, which is arguably the most difficult mission of all," said Bolander.

He reminded the gathering that each of the 355 headstones represent a family's history, an individual's story and a Veteran's selfless service to their country.

Since the closing of Ft. McClellan in 1999, the depot has performed maintenance duties for the post and POW cemeteries on McClellan.



Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young Marines and members of the 4H Green Team stand at attention after placing wreaths on Veterans' graves at the McClellan cemetery.



Courtesy photo

## State names ANAD Large Employer of the Year

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services selected Anniston Army Depot as the Large Employer of the Year for the installation's efforts to employ those with disabilities. In October, ANAD was awarded the same award by the local Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, which automatically nominated the depot for the state award. Accepting on behalf of the depot were Yvonne Land, Wanda Adams, David Bunt, Rita Dingler, Heather Glover and Maj. Alan Cheek of the Anniston Contracting Office. Jim Carden, Deputy Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and pictured third from left, presented the award.



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

## Second Chance receives used phones

Depot Commander Col. Brent Bolander, right, and Michael Smith, left, of the Directorate of Information Management, presented Susan Shipman, the executive director of Second Chance with 150 cell phones and 40 Blackberries Dec. 13. These phones will enable victims of domestic violence to call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

# Walking through a wonderland of local parades 5

Anniston Army Depot participated in two Christmas parades - Weaver and Oxford.

The Weaver parade was held the morning of Dec. 1 - winding its way on a warm Saturday from the Weaver Elementary School to City Hall.

The Oxford parade looped through downtown the night of Dec. 6.

During both parades, Depot Commander Col. Brent Bolander, his son Austin and Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Marcon rode in the combat vehicle to wave at the crowds while a few depot elves walked beside the Stryker to hand out candy.

Photos by Jennifer Bacchus



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

## Decking the halls for Christmas

Avery Robertson, a depot employee who works in the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility, decorated his home with over 10,000 lights and handmade decorations, including Santa's reindeer and sleigh, penguins and other holiday figures. Robertson himself portrays Santa for the display. Over 600 children have visited Robertson's home to see the display this year.



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

## Oh Christmas tree...

Linda Allen, left, and Dena Gooden decorate the Christmas tree in the lobby of the Small Arms Repair Facility. Every year at this time of year, work sites throughout the installation add a little festive touch in the form of trees, garland and other holiday items.

# 6 Depot civilians look back on first deployment

by Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Marcon

ANAD SGM

It's the holidays and the depot currently has a number of employees deployed, which brings to mind the first time depot civilians were called to overseas duty.

Twenty-two years ago, Iraq invaded Kuwait, setting off one of the largest and fastest deployments of U.S. forces and equipment since the Vietnam War.

Anniston Army Depot also deployed to Southwest Asia, sending more than 300 employees to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, to support and upgrade over 900 M1 tanks with firepower and survivability enhancements.

Recently, I took the opportunity to talk with some of these great Americans about their experiences during the Gulf War.

Larry Phillips was a welder at the time and said "it didn't matter what we were asked to do, we just did it."

It was normal for one welder to use a 35 pound spool of wire in one day attaching additional armor to the combat vehicles. Depot employees were upgrading up to 40 tanks per day.

Phillips said when the time came to issue tanks to Soldiers, "if it didn't move you, there was something wrong with you."

Judy Lewallen told a funny story about her time overseas. 1st Lt. Jonathan Carroll from Gadsden, Ala., a Soldier assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, stopped by the nearby mask facility run by Picatinny Arsenal. As he was asking them for equipment, the folks from Picatinny said he talked funny and that there were some people across the way that "talk like you."

About a week later, Carroll saw Lewallen and said, "Hi, I'm Lt. Carroll and I heard you all talk like me."

Lewallen and others still keep up with Col. Carroll to this day.

Randy Heflin took his final for his bachelor's degree on a Friday and flew out Saturday morning. As he reminisced about his time in Southwest Asia, he quoted Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*.

"It was the best of times; It was the worst of times," he said. To this day, Heflin only drinks black coffee because he could never find cream and sugar. His favorite meals-ready-to-eat were beef stew and chicken ala king.

Heflin put the whole experience in perspective with three words; "I grew up."

Everyone told the story of how Tommy Carlisle spliced into a general's phone line, providing many people the luxury to call back to the states. It didn't last long and, soon, Carlisle was hauled away for questioning and on the verge of getting kicked out of the country.

Everything worked out because, in Carlisle's words, his mom always told him, "It's not a lie if you tell the truth."

Carlisle spent his initial first weeks in Saudi Arabia living out of a cardboard box on the airfield tar-



Courtesy photo

Depot mechanics work on the turret of a M1 Abrams tank in Saudi Arabia in 1991.

mac, watching for tail-numbers of flights that held the depot's critical tools and equipment.

Carlisle's only regret about his time in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War was missing his son's first Christmas.

Jimmy Williams recalled when a man was throwing rocks at the bus, upsetting Johnny Moore, who, at six-feet-nine-inches tall, made the bus stop, got out and sent the guy running. The most significant memory Williams had was when generals Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf came to thank the employees and shook their hands.

Ed "Once a Marine, always a Marine" Morris, recalls the time a Marine Corps lieutenant colonel friend asked him where his weapon was. Morris told him, "We ain't got none, sir." To which the lieutenant colonel replied, "Well, I need people to fight!"

Another memory Morris had was the time a generator went out on a tank and a general said the tank couldn't go on the ship.

Though the general said it couldn't be done, Morris and Carlisle got it fixed and left the general in awe.

Rod Brodeur worked on missile guidance systems, installing an upgraded Gunners Primary Sight.

The most memorable moment Brodeur and many others witnessed was when the first tank was issued to the 1st Cavalry Division.

The division gave the youngest Soldier a bottle of non-alcoholic champagne, which he broke across the

tank's hull, christening it.

Brodeur said it was the most emotional event the whole time they were there and there wasn't a dry eye to be seen.

Many of you may recall the scud attack which injured almost 100 people and killed 28 members of the 14th Quartermaster Detachment on Feb. 25, 1991. Doug Turner remembers the city went black that night, with sirens going off. He said everyone got into their MOPP-4 gear.

Soon, casualties were transported to the unfinished hospital where depot employees were staying. The casualties were literally dropped off at the front of the building.

Turner immediately began administering first aid and, to this day, does not know how a large, black medical duffle bag showed up, providing him with critical medical supplies.

For his actions, Turner was called to the Pentagon and presented the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service medal, which now hangs proudly on his office wall.

What I thought might be a simple 10 minute question-and-answer session turned into a one- or two-hour interview with these great Americans.

It wasn't about them; it was about the importance of the mission, the support to the Soldiers and the satisfaction they received from what they were doing. That is the true heart of Anniston Army Depot.



Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

Depot Commander Col. Brent Bolander, left, and Director of Family and Community Activities Keith Colbert sign the Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Employee and Customer covenants.

## Depot leaders sign FMWR covenant

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

Two documents - one promising to support employees and position them for success, the other committing to provide quality products and services to customers - were signed by Depot Commander Col. Brent Bolander and Keith Colbert, the director of Community and Family Activities, Dec. 6 at the Berman-Varner House.

The Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Employee and Customer covenants have been signed Army-wide since January 2010. This was the second signing for Anniston Army Depot.

"This is a commitment from FMWR to our employees as well as our customers," said Colbert. "It is a recommitment to our employees that we will do what needs to be done to take care of you, so that you can take care of our customers."

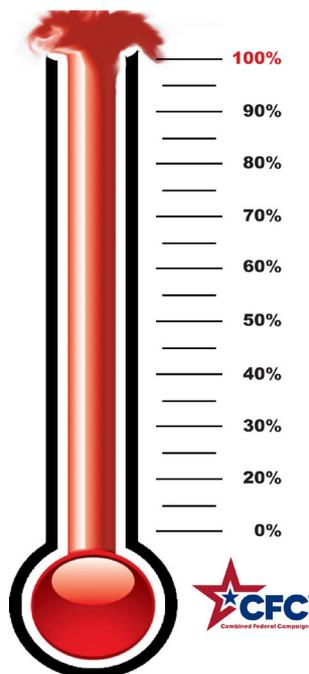
### Nichols Dining Facility

Breakfast 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

For more information, call Ext. 7127.



### ANAD tops CFC goal

The depot's surpassed its 2012 Combined Federal Campaign goal of \$300,000, raising more than \$320,000.



### Choose to Lose 2013

We are excited to announce the start of 2013's "Choose to Lose" weight-loss competition. The competition will begin with an initial weigh-in Jan. 16 and will end with a final weigh-in March 27.

The winning team will receive \$400 and free entry into the 2013 Making Tracks 5K.

This competition will be a great opportunity for those looking to begin an exercise/weight-loss program and for those seeking a little motivation to continue in their current programs.

Anniston Army Depot has several avenues to assist you in your health/fitness goals. You are encouraged to take advantage of the strength and cardiovascular equipment available at the main fitness center (Bldg. 206) in the west area and at the Nichols Cardio Cen-

### 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 serves breakfast each morning from 6:30-9:30.

**Socialize:** 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:** Every Friday night from 8-11:30.

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



Courtesy photo

**Big Bynum Bingo:** Bingo with a \$5,000 progressive jackpot is played every Thursday at 6 p.m. Gayle Sprayberry won the DeSoto Pastime Center's Big Bingo \$5,000 jackpot Nov. 29.

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



ter (Bldg. 422) in the east area.

Entry forms will be available at the Physical Fitness Center, Nichols Cardio Center and other locations throughout the installation. If you would like more information, contact the fitness center at 256-235-6385 and ask for Minnie or Gerrad. Get moving and good luck!

# Happy holidays from Strategic Communications!

## Note:

Due to the holidays, the next issue of TRACKS will be published Jan. 17, 2013.

The next Morning Show will air Jan. 2, 2013.

We'll see you in the new year!

Recipe: Corn Bake

From the Kitchen of: Mark



Ingredients: 1 can corn (drained)  
1 can creamed corn  
1 package Jiffy Corn bread mix  
1 16 oz. sour cream  
1 stick of butter

Directions: Mix ingredients. Bake in deep ceramic dish at 350° for 45 minutes or until center is not "jiggly."



FROM THE KITCHEN OF

Lori

Pumpkin Spice Cake

Ingredients: 1 box Duncan Hines spice cake  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup vegetable oil  
1 16 oz. can of pumpkin pie filling  
1 small container Duncan Hines cream cheese icing

Directions: Mix ingredients well. Pour into a bundt cake pan. Bake at 400° for 35-40 minutes or until it passes the toothpick test.

Icing: Thin container of Duncan Hines cream cheese icing with corn syrup until it drizzles easily. Drizzle over cooled cake. Enjoy

Recipe: Easy Fudge

Ingredients: 1 bag of baking chips (choose the flavor for your fudge)  
1 can of sweetened condensed milk  
1 teaspoon of vanilla

Instructions: Combine ingredients in a medium-sized bowl. Microwave on high for 45 seconds. Mix well by hand. Microwave on high for 30 seconds. Continue to mix and microwave until smooth. Pour into container lined with wax paper or plastic wrap. Chill in refrigerator to set before serving.

From the kitchen of: JENNIFER

From the kitchen of Clester

Recipe: Chickeny Cheese Ball

Ingredients: 3 - 8 oz. packages light cream cheese  
2 - medium cans white meat chicken  
2 - tablespoons light mayonnaise  
2 - tablespoons Worcestershire sauce  
3-4 - dashes garlic salt  
Chopped pecans

Directions: Allow cream cheese to soften. Drain chicken then mix well with cream cheese. Add mayo, Worcestershire sauce and garlic salt. Roll in pecans. Refrigerate before serving. Can be made weeks in advance and frozen.

Recipe: Pecan Tassie

From the Kitchen of: Amanda



### Tart shells

1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened  
3 ounces cream cheese, softened  
1 cup all-purpose flour

### Filling

2 tablespoon butter or margarine, melted  
3/4 cup packed brown sugar  
1 egg  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup pecan halves, finely chopped  
powdered sugar (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°. For tart shells, beat butter and cream cheese until blended. Add flour, mix until a soft dough forms. Shape dough into 1-inch balls and place into ungreased mini-muffin pan. Using flour, press into dough until it rises slightly above rim. For filling, place butter in small batter bowl and microwave on high 30 seconds or until melted. Stir in brown sugar, egg and vanilla. Finely chop pecans using food chopper and add to batter bowl. Mix well. Fill each tart shell with level scoop of filling (do not overfill). Bake 20-25 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. After cooling, sprinkle with powdered sugar, if desired.