Blind crew chief talks tools for success at ANAD

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD Public Affairs

Jay Blake, the only blind crew chief in auto racing, spoke to the Anniston Army Depot workforce Oct. 13 during the annual Disability Employment Awareness luncheon.

A crowd of about 170 turned out for the event, which was held at the Berman Varner House.

A choral and instrumental ensemble from the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind performed several songs during the event, assisted by interpreters from the school.

Blake lost his senses of sight, taste and smell following an industrial accident in 1997.

May 22, 1997, according to Blake, was just like any other Thursday. He went to work at a transportation company not realizing he wouldn’t return home that night.

He was working on a tire when it exploded in his face. He was rushed to a hospital in Boston.

“Three and a half weeks later, I walked out of the hospital,” said Blake. “My entire world had changed forever.”

Blake said he quickly realized he still had a passion for being a mechanic and began to teach himself how to work on cars without his sight.

This led him to the five tools he shared with the workforce, which Blake said everyone should have in their life’s toolbox.

Blake said he learned he needed a positive attitude.

“Every day you wake up, we have

ANAD recognized for maintenance excellence

from Staff Reports

ANAD Public Affairs

On Sept. 13, Lt. Gen. Larry Wyche, Army Materiel Command’s deputy commanding general, presented Anniston Army Depot with the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence, depot category, for fiscal year 2015.

This was the second time in the last three years ANAD has received the award.

The honor recognizes the installation’s dedication to providing quality products to America’s warfighters while reducing costs through process improvements and technological advancements.

For 2015, the award centered on the Total InteGrated Engine Revitalization, or TIGER, program. TIGER provides improved reliability and durability of the AGT1500 engine, which is used in the M1 Abrams tank.

“The TIGER program is the product of a close relationship, nurtured and developed for more than 10 years,” said ANAD Commander Col. Martine Kidd. “Unquestionably, the TIGER initiative has assisted our commanders to employ the most effective ground force in the world and the professional and patriotic workforce at ANAD remains committed to supporting our warfighters through this and any means possible.”

The concept which became the TIGER program was proposed in 2003. In 2005, the program was formally chartered under an enterprise agreement with Product Director Main Battle Tank, Tank Automotive Command.

Since then, ANAD and Honeywell have

Leonard Farrar performs electron beam welding using a Sciaky welding machine in the Turbine Engine Shop. The shop was recently honored with a maintenance excellence award for the work performed on engines in the Total InteGrated Engine Revitalization, or TIGER program.

• See AWARD, page 4

Jay Blake, who was blinded in an industrial accident and is now the only blind crew chief in the world of auto racing, spoke at ANAD’s Oct. 13 luncheon.

two choices - it’s really that simple - it can be a good day or a bad day,” he said.

He found a positive attitude energized him and those around him and made other people want to be around him.

To achieve all his dreams, he also needed to learn.

Education became an important tool for Blake as he learned to operate in his new, sightless world.

• See BLAKE, page 4
Understand chemical hazards for work areas, keep eyewashes clean

by Lance Pilgrim

ANAD Safety Office

We are all responsible for safety, especially our own safety.

If you work with chemicals that have the potential to harm your eyes, you should ask yourself a few questions:

- Do the chemicals I work with pose a hazard to me if I accidently get some in my eyes?
- Know what chemicals that you are working with and what the effects of an accidental exposure would be.

The best way to find this information is to consult your cost center’s Safety Data Sheets. These documents will tell you, among other things, first aid measures recommended in the event of exposure.

- What do I do if I get exposed?
- Familiarize yourself with the location of the closest emergency eye wash.
- Ensure you know how to turn on the eye wash and how to keep your eyes open, so you can get the maximum benefit of the water flushing out your eyes.
- Is the eyewash in my work area kept in a clean, functional state? Will it work if needed?
- Your cost center’s assigned safety monitor is usually the person tasked with inspecting and maintaining the emergency eye wash station. An inspection log, which is usually kept nearby in a document protector, should be signed weekly as proof of the inspection.

- How do I get to the emergency eye wash station if I can’t see?
- Ensure you know exactly where the eye wash station is located and how to get there.
- When you actually need to use the eye wash, there is a good chance you won’t be able to see where you are going or how to get there. You may have to rely on someone to guide you.
- In a worst case scenario, if you are working alone, you might have to get there on your own. That’s why the area around the path to the eyewash should be kept clear at all times.

You should be able to reach the eye wash station within 10 seconds.
- Do I after I’ve rinsed my eyes?
- Most of the time, and depending on the chemical you were exposed to, the emergency eye wash provides just the initial element of first aid. Your eyes will probably need to be checked and possibly treated by medical personnel.
- Emergency eyewash and shower stations are a vital tool in safeguarding possible long term damage to your eyes and eyeprotection in the event of chemical exposure, but they are only a tool.
- Without the proper training, they are not as effective. If the work you do exposes you to the risk of chemical exposure to your eyes, be sure you have been trained and are confident in the use of emergency eyewash stations.
- If you have any questions, or for an evaluation of your work area, contact your supervisor or the Safety Office at Ext. 7541.

The path to all eye wash stations must be kept clear of debris and eye wash stations should be cleaned weekly.

Cybersecurity vital to the Army

from Randy Heflin

ANAD DOIM

The month of October is officially recognized as Cyber Security Awareness Month.

While this month is a heightened alert for cybersecurity, as you know, we must practice good cybersecurity awareness year round.

Department of Defense networks, particularly Army networks, are facing more cyber-attacks than any other networks worldwide.

Army networks are probed millions of times daily. These probes constantly look for holes in our networks. Our Cyber Security Division does an excellent job in patching these holes and vulnerabilities.

Hackers, however, are relentless.

In 2015, the U.S. Army’s website, www.army.mil, was taken offline after it was compromised by hackers who took over and used it to post their own messages. This was done by a group called the Syrian Electronic Army.

In another incident, a $12 billion mobile internet network the U.S. Army uses in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa was found to have significant cybersecurity vulnerabilities in combat testing.

Today, there are over 30,000 business websites infected with some type of malware. When Target was hacked, over 70 million people had their identification compromised; that included mine.

And don’t get me started on social media hacks and the damage they have caused.

If Mark Zuckerberg’s Facebook account can be hacked, it is disturbing for me to find people who believe their accounts are safe.

I could go on and on and the statistics on hacking are simply mind boggling.

Recently, the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command’s Cybersecurity Division sent out a list of links and tips to assist in securing social media accounts.

Periodically, and sometimes without notice, social media providers remove or revise their profile and security settings.

The links below point to documentation on how to secure social media applications (such as Social Networking, LinkedIn, Google+ and Twitter) to protect you and your family from threat actors who review social media information to perpetrate identity theft, extortion, spear phishing or otherwise cause digital, personal or financial harm.


Google+: http://www.cid.army.mil/assets/docs/2can/CCPFGooglePlus.pdf

LinkedIn: http://www.cid.army.mil/assets/docs/2can/CCPFLinkedIn.pdf

Twitter: http://www.cid.army.mil/assets/docs/2can/CPFFTwitter.pdf

Facebook settings are currently under review and an updated flyer will be published at a later date.

Remember, Cybersecurity awareness should be a year-round practice at work and home.

If you have additional questions regarding cybersecurity at Anniston Army Depot, contact usarmy.anad.tacom.list.dom-iateam@mail.mil.
Know the importance of weather definitions

from Staff Reports
NOAA.gov

Blizzard Warning: Issued when winds of 35 mph or greater are combined with blowing and drifting snow with visibilities of a quarter mile or less.

Winter Storm Warning: Issued when a combination of hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring. Winter Storm Warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

Winter Storm Watch: Issued 12-48 hours in advance of the onset of severe winter conditions. The watch may or may not be upgraded to a winter storm warning, depending on how the weather system moves or how it is developing.

Wind Chill Warning: Issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be hazardous to life within several minutes of exposure.

Wind Chill Advisory: Issued for a wind chill situation that could cause significant inconveniences, but do not meet warning criteria. Criteria for issuing wind-chill warnings and advisories are set locally.

How many inches of snow equals one inch of rain?

On average, thirteen inches of snow equals one inch of rain in the U.S., although this ratio can vary from two inches for sleet to nearly 50 inches for very dry, powdery snow under certain conditions.

For more winter weather information from NOAA see the National Severe Storms Laboratory site at http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/.

For information on how to protect yourself before, during, and after a winter storm see the “How to Prepare for a Winter Storm” article at Ready.Gov.

from Staff Reports
NOAA.gov

Tornadoes: A tornado is a violently rotating column of air extending from the base of a thunderstorm down to the ground.

Tornadoes are capable of completely destroying well-made structures, uprooting trees and hurling objects through the air like deadly missiles.

Tornadoes can occur at any time of day or night and at any time of the year.

Although tornadoes are most common in the Central Plains and southeastern United States, they have been reported in all 50 states.

Severe Thunderstorms: A thunderstorm is considered severe if it produces hail at least one inch in diameter or has wind gusts of at least 58 miles per hour.

Every thunderstorm produces lightning, which kills more people some years than tornadoes or hurricanes.

Heavy rain from thunderstorms can cause flash flooding.

High winds can damage homes and blow down trees and utility poles, causing widespread power outages.

Every year people are killed or seriously injured because they didn't hear or ignored severe thunderstorms warnings.

Lightning and flood threats

While much of the focus during severe weather is on tornadoes, wind and hail, there are actually more deaths caused each year by flooding and lightning, which are also commonly associated with severe weather.

If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be in danger from lightning. If thunder roars, go indoors! Don’t wait for rain. Lightning can strike out of a clear blue sky.

ANAD employees notified through Facebook, website, local media outlets during inclement weather

from Staff Reports
ANAD Depot Operations

Employees of Anniston Army Depot should tune into local news outlets or other means of gathering information in the event of an emergency on the installation.

Throughout the year, one of the most likely threats to the installation comes in the form of inclement weather.

Inclément weather conditions warrant a change in the depot’s operational status.

In the event of hazardous weather conditions, tune in to local area media for changes.

Radio Stations:
WCKA – AM 810/94.3 FM, WDNG – AM 1450, WGRW – 90.7 FM, WTDR – 92.7 and WVOK – 97.9 FM;

TV Stations:

Newspapers:
The Anniston Star will also post information on their website at www.anniston-star.com.

At Hoc notifications:
All employees with computer access are reminded to register in the AtHoc Mass Warning and Notification System.

Proper registration includes logging onto the system and verifying your personal information, contact information, work e-mail address and home and work addresses.

For questions or if you need registration assistance, contact Don Evans at Ext. 4769 or the ANAD EOC at Ext. 4500.

For additional weather information:

• Check the ANAD Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/AnnistonArmyDepot.
• Call the SNOW line at 256-235-SNOW (7669).

GAP payout announced

Anniston Army Depot exceeded revenue goals by $95,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 and met many other critical metrics, ensuring qualifications for a Group Award Program payout. Therefore, Col. Martine Kidd, depot commander, approved a GAP payout of $1,329 for those members of the workforce who qualify.

For qualifications, see the Sept. 22 issue of TRACKS.
“It’s all about having an open mind and being willing to learn,” he told the crowd, adding that education also gives each individual the ability to pass on knowledge.

He found he needed to have a passion and a purpose in life to work toward. For him, that passion was the same one he had as a child - wanting to work on a race car.

In 1999, he established Follow A Dream, a non-profit organization which displays the power of positive thinking through racing in the National Hot Rod Association. To achieve that dream, it took a lot of self-determination.

“There is only one person who can stoop you and that’s you,” Blake said. “You can do whatever you put your mind to, as long as you are determined to do it.”

Blake acknowledged that achieving dreams often means learning from failures, but reminded the audience that failures should be learning experiences, not the end.

He also learned to rely on others and that, sometimes, success comes when you work as a team.

“I realized, walking into my garage one morning, successful people don’t do it alone,” said Blake. “When we come together as a team, nothing is more powerful.”

He stressed that a team relies upon the strengths and unique abilities of each member.

“Believe in yourself, think positively and remember, do not let your fear stop you. Let your dreams drive you,” said Blake.
Fire safety more important during dry weather

from Staff Reports

ANAD Fire Prevention Office

Alabama Governor Robert Bentley issued a Drought Emergency Declaration, or what is known as a “No Burn Order,” on Oct. 12 for the state of Alabama due to the lack of rain and low humidity.

A drought map for the northern half of the state can be seen on the right, showing how dry the area is.

The order will remain in place until otherwise notified by the Alabama State Forester.

The Alabama Forestry Commission has also issued a fire alert for the counties not currently under the order.

The Commission stated there have been 341 wildfires, which burned over 41,000 acres during the week prior to the No Burn Order.

Anniston Army Depot is not immune to these types of fires as there was a grass fire in the Restricted Area the second weekend of October.

The depot’s Fire and Emergency Services Division encourages everyone to be aware of these conditions, both at home and here on the depot.

Be aware of the “No Burn Order,” which means no outside burning of any kind.

Those who smoke will need to be extra careful of how cigarette butts are disposed of while outside.

While on depot, please smoke in designated areas and dispose of the butts in an approved cigarette receptacle.

Be careful of what processes are used outside, especially in grassy and wooded areas.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Alabama

Intensity:

- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

National Drought Mitigation Center - as of Oct. 11, 2016

Soldier purchases pistol used in battle

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD Public Affairs

On Feb. 20, 2012, Capt. Michael Trost and his unit were on a combat patrol in Southeast Afghanistan, assisting the Afghan police and providing a security detail for civil affairs.

He had just raised his hand when shots were fired.

“The first shot was fired at me and came about a foot from my face, hitting my hand,” said Trost. “It knocked off my first finger and thumb.

Trost was shot multiple times before he could be evacuated, all the while unable to return fire because he couldn’t bring his rifle into firing position with his left hand and his pistol had a large hole in it.

Following the fire fight, the individual firing on the soldiers was apprehended and Trost was taken for medical care.

Four months later, while continuing to recuperate, his fellow soldiers brought his damaged pistol to him, so he could see it.

Upon viewing the damage done to the weapon, Trost realized he was lucky to have lived through the event.

“It was a miracle I didn’t get more damage from the machine gun,” he said.

He asked to keep the 9mm Beretta pistol as a memory of the events of that day and how close he came to death.

But, even when one wants to purchase a non-serviceable weapon from the military, there is a process.

Trost was able to prove his sentimental attachment to the pistol and, after the request forms and supporting documents worked their way through the system, he received it Oct. 4.

In the meantime, the weapon had to make a stop at Anniston Army Depot.

Once the Army determined the weapon was unserviceable and could be sold for sentimental reasons to Trost, they had to ensure there was no way the weapon could be repaired and made usable again.

For that, they turned to their small arms experts.

ANAD was contacted and asked if the small arms repairers were capable of performing a cosmetic demilitarization on a 9mm pistol.

According to Courtney Hammett, a maintenance management specialist for the depot, a cosmetic demilitarization is a process where the moveable parts of a weapon are welded in place and the weapon is made to be unable to fire, while the outward appearance of the weapon, in this case the large bullet hole in its grip, remains intact.

Hammett said the installation had never performed such work on a 9mm, although they had performed similar work on 1911 pistols.

“We did no refinishing to the weapon whatsoever. He wanted it as much in its current shape as possible,” said Hammett.

ANAD employees removed the firing pin and spring, then welded the barrel and hammer to the slide before welding a metal slug into the barrel.

Hammett credited the fact the gun has the same outward appearance as when it arrived on the installation to the welders who worked on it.

“We have some extremely good welders here,” he said.

Trost plans to mount the weapon on the wall of his home in Tennessee.
SHARP encourages respect

by Tim Rolfe
ANAD ACS

The primary goal of the Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention program is to create an environment where all soldiers, family members and civilian employees are treated with dignity and respect.

SHARP aims to eliminate sexual harassment and assault from within the ranks and reinforces the Army’s core values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

All reports of sexual harassment and assault will be taken seriously, victims’ privacy will be protected, offenders will be held accountable and bystanders are encouraged to intervene to prevent these behaviors before they occur.

There are several different forms of sexual harassment, including verbal, nonverbal and physical contact.

This type of harassment is considered to be a form of gender discrimination.

Reporting sexual harassment behaviors at the lowest level is critical in preventing future occurrences and these reports may resolve a situation which could escalate to the level of a sexual assault.

Early reporting reduces the impacts and devastating effects on the individuals involved, units and work sections, the community at large and even the overall mission.

Sexual assault is defined as rape, sodomy or attempts to commit these acts.

Sexual assault typically involves some level of physical force, verbal and physical threats, and, in some cases, an abuse of authority.

The victim of sexual assault does not, or cannot, consent.

Sexual assault occurs without respect to gender, spousal relation or age.

If you have been the victim of a sexual assault, it is critical to seek medical treatment immediately and to preserve evidence.

When a sexual harassment or assault case is reported, supervisors must utilize the Internal Report Form and Supervisor Checklist to ensure proper reporting procedures are followed.

These forms can be found on the Intranet under Regulations & Policies/Commander’s Policies. Scroll down until you see Policy #16. Review these forms and follow all required reporting procedures accordingly.

For more information regarding sexual harassment/assault prevention and response or to report an incident, contact the SHARP Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 256-624-8510.

U.S. Military observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month each October

by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department is observing National Domestic Violence Awareness Month by reminding the military community about resources and programs to help in preventing or stopping domestic violence.

President Barack Obama issued a National Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation Oct. 1, emphasizing the U.S. government’s commitment to reducing its prevalence, supporting victims and bringing offenders to justice.

Domestic violence is a national problem that cuts across socioeconomic, age, gender, ethnic, racial and cultural lines.

The FBI reports people are more likely to be assaulted in their own homes by someone they know and trust than on the street by a stranger. Typically, the injuries are more devastating.

But domestic violence isn’t always physical, officials emphasized. It can be more subtle: emotional, psychological or economic. Regardless of its form, it hurts individuals, ruins families and weakens communities.

The military faces the same challenges as society at large, particularly in light of the high operational tempo and the strain it puts on servicemembers as well as their families.

The Defense Department has added muscle to its programs addressing all these issues, including domestic violence. This month, it’s stepping up its outreach to remind the military community about programs in place to prevent domestic violence and to ensure people know where to turn if they experience or witness it.

Installation family support centers offer a wide variety of programs and classes for military members and their families, and Military OneSource and Military Homefront provide online access to information and resources, officials noted.

In addition, the family advocacy program is responsible for addressing violence in military families through prevention, early identification, intervention, victim support and treatment for abusers.

The program’s staff members work with commanders, military law enforcement personnel, medical staff and family center staff and chaplains, as well as civilian agencies, to provide a coordinated response to domestic abuse.

To protect those who might otherwise not file a report, the family advocacy program allows people to submit a “restricted report,” officials explained, to report domestic abuse by a servicemember without initiating a law enforcement or command notification or investigation.

Officials call information the most important tool in stopping domestic violence before it begins, and emphasize that everyone can play a part in preventing or ending it.
notes from around the TRACK

BICE
With sadness, we report ANAD has lost a member of the team.
Louella M. Bice, died Oct. 13.
A budget technician with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, she had more than 25 years of civilian service at Anniston Army Depot.

Open season begins Nov. 14
The 2016 Federal Benefits Open Season for Appropriated Fund employees will run from Nov. 14 to Dec. 12. During this time, employees will be able to enroll in a new plan, change their current plan or cancel their plan without evidence of insurability or a qualifying life event for the Federal Employees Health Benefits, Flexible Spending Accounts and Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program.
Changes made to employee benefits during this open season will take effect Jan. 8, 2017.
If you have questions, contact Kelly Smith-O’Hara at Ext. 5219 or 7860.

$175,000 goal set for ANAD CFC
Anniston Army Depot’s annual Combined Federal Campaign has begun. The depot’s goal for is $175,000.
These funds assist non-profit organizations in our local community as well as throughout the nation and globally.
This year, CFC is asking federal employees to “Show Some Love” as they donate to their favorite charitable organizations locally, nationally and internationally.
If you are unsure who your work area’s key person is or would like additional information about the Combined Federal Campaign, contact Shyntax Gray at Ext. 5493 or Karena Goedde at Ext. 7283.

Tune in to The Morning Show
The Morning Show airs live every other Wednesday at 7:05 a.m. on Local Area Network channel 21.
If you have a topic or content you would like to see on The Morning Show, contact the Public Affairs Office at Ext. 6281.
If you are unable to catch the live broadcast, there are two ways you can tune in.
Computer users may view the show on IPTV. It may also be seen on LAN channel 21 during these rebroadcast times:
Wednesday: 10:30 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 10 p.m., midnight and 2 a.m. (Wed. night/Thurs. morning)
Thursday/Friday: noon and 10 p.m.

Watch these next shows:
Oct. 26: The Morning Show staff takes A Closer Look at safety footwear and eye glasses and the processes needed to get them on the installation.
Also on the show will be an update on the Combined Federal Campaign.

Nov. 9: Marchale Burton from the Alabama Cooperative Extension System will discuss healthy eating for the holidays and Michael Burke, deputy to the commander, will make an announcement.

Nov. 16: Some reminders about vehicle safety will be the focus on this show.

Anniston Army Depot Veterans Day Ceremony
Nov. 3 - 10 a.m.
The bus schedule for the event will be available in e-mail and on the LAN.

Did you or a co-worker serve in U.S. military?
Public Affairs is looking for veterans to profile in an upcoming issue of TRACKS.

Bingo date change
Effective Oct. 11, Bingo at the DeSoto Pastime Center officially moved to Tuesdays (in lieu of Thursdays).
The start time remains 6 p.m.
If you have questions, contact Lynda Tolbert at 256-235-7160.

Depot video filming
Kudzu Productions, a videography company contracted to produce a video highlighting the capabilities of Anniston Army Depot, will be on the installation filming Oct. 31-Nov. 4.
The depot Public Affairs Office will escort the camera crew throughout filming, which will predominantly occur in the Nichols Industrial Complex.
Be aware, filming may involve the use of drones.

Jeannette Baxter
Anniston Army Depot

Choose your cause and SHOW SOME LOVE today.

Anniston Army Depot
Combined Federal Campaign
Goal: $175,000

Call PAO at Ext. 6281!
MAKE OPSEC A PRIORITY

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THE ENEMY MAY STRIKE