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Anniston Army Depot, Alabama

November 18, 2021



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

In an effort to continue face-to-face communication, Anniston Army Depot Commander Col. Eric McCoy addresses the audience during his town hall session Nov. 16.

Town hall focuses on workload, modernization and COVID update

by Clester Burdell

ANAD PAO

“We have the opportunity to innovate within the Organic Industrial Base and set Anniston Army Depot on a course that allows it to endure for the next 80 years,” said Col. Eric McCoy, installation commander, as he addressed the workforce during his second town hall meeting Nov. 16.

He also highlighted some of the discussion that took place last month during the TACOM Commander’s Forum. “The conversation involved people, how we can invest in human capital, and modernization,” he stated. “What do we need in our facilities? What do we need for equipment? What skill sets do we need for our people for the (combat vehicle) systems you see to your left and right? What stays in our Army’s inventory? What are the new things to come and are we prepared for that?”

He then transitioned to discussions that took place with his senior leaders over the last two days at the Strategic Planning Session. “Although we are in times of challenges, I am optimistic about our future. We have the most talented workforce in the OIB and the orientation to learn and instruct our fellow teammates that we can get through this.”

“What I would encourage people to do is to find those things that unite us – whether it is your taste in music, food preference, sports, families,” he said. “When we find that common ground we can stand on, then we can explore the space that we disagree about.”

After recognizing employees with significant length of service awards, the focus shifted to workload.

“Fiscal year 2022’s current state is what we have projected for FY23,” said Todd Dishman, director of production management. “We had a large decrease in FY21, but the projection looks the same. Today, the workload

looks stable but we will have more reliable numbers as we move forward.”

Updates continued on the Civilian Harassment Intervention Program, or CHIP, and appropriate conduct.

“Reference COVID cases, we are trending down both locally and on the depot,” said Phil Trued, the depot’s chief of staff. Supervisors have received guidance on the Employee Notification memo and the Vaccination Attestation form. Additional information will be shared as it is received. The goal is to get out of the mask and return to normal as soon as possible, in accordance with guidance received from our higher headquarters, he said.

The session closed with a question and answer period. Employees expressed concerns or sought clarity relating to the mask mandate, hiring practices, and the incentive awards program. McCoy encouraged employees to seek responses through their chain of command. However, some concerns rise to the level of the open door policy.

Giving thanks

Team Anniston, as we pause next week to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, we have so much to be thankful for. This time of the year causes us to express gratitude for our many blessings, family and friends.

It would be negligent of me if I didn't think about some of the challenges we've faced together, specifically navigating in a pandemic and the reduction in workload. It has been and continues to be our goal to mitigate the impact on those affected.

Our workforce has never lost focus of our mission to equip the warfighter with the best possible combat vehicles, small arms weaponry, artillery and components. Quite often, we were able to rebuild, repair, or remanufacture those needed assets right here in our own facilities. Other times, we've sent our finest teams forward to perform the mission at other location. I am thankful for what you do every day during these unparalleled times.

As we gather around the table, let us not forget the sacrifices of those in uniform and their families. Let us remember their dedication to our nation. It takes quite a commitment, not only to serve, but to serve wherever called.

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with friends and family, have fun and fellowship. Whether you are traveling or opt to relax at home, think health and safety. Refer to the CDC's website for ways to modify the way you hold your normal fellowshiping and traditions. Before hitting the road, get plenty of rest, drive defensively and avoid distractions.

As you make the most of your favorite moments, let us not forget that this may not be a joyful time for everyone. For some, it could mark the beginning of a very stressful period. If you notice potential warning signs of depression or suicidal tendencies, help is available. No one has to go it alone. Remain engaged and look out for each other.

On behalf of the McCoy family and ANAD command group, we wish you a safe and peaceful Thanksgiving holiday. We need each member of this great team back so we can continue with the mission of equipping the warfighter.



Kickoff to holiday gift giving season

by April L. Pugh
ANAD Legal

Black Friday, Cyber Monday, or Small Business Saturday. Any day and every day is the countdown to find the perfect gift for your amazing co-workers. But wait, your list is 40 people long! Not to worry. I've got the perfect advice on how to trim down that shopping list and stay on the right side of the ethics rules.

Federal employees are bound by some ethical rules associated with gifts and employees must be mindful of the rules so as not to violate the Ethical Rules of Conduct. Side benefit: half your list is eliminated – only 20 remain. The general rule is federal employees may not accept gifts offered because of their official positions. Gift rules fall in two categories: gifts from prohibited sources (contractors or potential contractors) and gifts among employees (between supervisors and subordinates). As with most rules there are exceptions. Let's see if any exceptions grow or shrink your list.

Gifts from Prohibited Sources

Federal employees normally may not accept a gift from prohibited sources. Prohibited sources are contractor employees or potential contractors who seek to do business with the government. Exceptions to this general rule include:

Employees may accept gifts (other than cash) not exceeding \$20 from a prohibited source, as long as the total amount of gifts from that source does not exceed \$50 for the year.

Employees may accept gifts, even from a contractor employee, that are based on a bona fide personal relationship (for example, a federal employee may accept a gift from his or her spouse who works for a contractor so long as the personal gift

is actually paid for by the contractor employee rather than the contractor).

Employees may generally attend an open-house or reception and accept any gift of refreshments if it is a widely-attended gathering, and the employee's supervisor determines that it is in the agency's interest that the employee attends.

Employees may accept invitations (even from contractors) that are open to the public, to all Government employees, or to all military personnel.

Employees may accept invitations offered to a group that are not related to government employment (for example, an employee who is a volunteer at a hospital may attend an event for hospital volunteers offered by a company who is also a government contractor).

Refreshments consisting of soft drinks, coffee, pastries, or similar refreshments not constituting a meal may be accepted since they are not considered to be a gift.

Employees may attend events if their attendance is based on outside business or other relationships (for example, if a federal employee's spouse works at BAE Systems, the federal employee may accompany the spouse to the BAE Systems' employee holiday party).

Gifts Among Federal Employees

Gifts between supervisors and subordinates are covered by different rules of ethics. The general rule is that supervisors may not accept gifts from subordinates or federal personnel who receive less pay. Again, there are exceptions to this general rule:

During holidays, which occur on an occasional basis, supervisors may accept gifts (other than cash) valued at \$10 or less from a subordinate.

For special occasions, such as marriage, birth of a child or retirement, employees may give a

supervisor a group gift if the total value of the gift does not exceed \$300. Employees may not solicit more than \$10 per employee to contribute to the group gift and the contributions must be truly voluntary.

Supervisors may accept food and refreshments shared in the office and may share in the expenses of an office party.

If a subordinate is invited to a social event at the supervisor's residence, the subordinate may give the supervisor a hospitality gift of the type and value customarily given on such an occasion (for example, a plate of cookies or a basket of fruit).

If you are a supervisor, you may offer an invitation to subordinates for a party at your residence and accept a personal hospitality gift that is customarily provided for the occasion. If you are a subordinate, there are no restrictions on offering or accepting invitations to a party from your supervisor or a co-worker and giving hospitality gifts that are customary for the occasion.

After all those exceptions, our list is down to just five people. Hooray! But why do these fall within the ethics rules of gift giving? Because, there are no legal restrictions on gifts given between non-supervisory employees or co-workers. But, please don't get carried away and buy the latest X-Box on Cyber Monday. Common sense (and good taste) should always apply! One last bit of advice. Should you receive a gift, you may always decline to accept it and cash may never be given or accepted as a gift.

If you need any clarification of the ethics rules, you can speak with an Ethics Counselor at the Anniston Army Depot Legal Office by calling (256) 235-6518.

TRACKS

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Past, present, and future: where we came from, where we are going



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

During a fireside chat, depot commander Col. McCoy engaged in conversation with former senior leaders, to include (l to r) former deputy to the commander Chuck Gunnels, Col. (R) Brent Bolander, current deputy to the commander Tommy Carlisle, Col. (R) Greg Potts, Col. (R) Joel Warhurst, and former Civilian Executive Assistant Nathan Hill. With a focus on lessons learned, past success stories, the mission and a message to the workforce, the leaders convened in an area close to White Oaks Nov. 3.

Combat Vehicle Repair Facility remains a critical structure

by Clester Burdell

ANAD PAO

As we continue to reflect on some of the key elements that have made Anniston Army Depot a staple over the last 80 years, we'd be remiss if we didn't include the assignment of the maintenance mission for the overhaul and repair of combat vehicles that started in the 1950s.

Critical to that charge was the need for a facility to house the varied activities of rebuilding armaments and ordnance vehicles which were formerly scattered throughout a dozen depot buildings.

Construction of the Maintenance Shop, now known as the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility, concluded in March 1953. The facility cost \$3.25 million to build and the equipment cost was \$1.25 million.

The building was 50 feet high and the structure had three bays, each 850 feet long, two of which were 100 feet wide, and the center bay was 60 feet wide. At that time, production lines stretched from one end to the other, with various contributing operations placed where needed in the complete dismantling, overhaul and reassembling of all types and sizes of Army fighting equipment.

The installation of equipment was complete during the second half of 1953. All combat vehicle rebuild operations, including components such as engines and power trains were then done in this building.

Over the years the building added additional width,



U.S. Army Photo

Construction began in 1951 on a new Maintenance Shop. Completed in March 1953, the 50-foot high building cost approximately \$3,250,000.00 and the estimated equipment cost was \$1,250,000.00. Today, the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility stands as the hub of combat vehicle operations.

making it 260 feet wide, making it the largest building on the installation.

Throughout its 68-year life span, the facility has seen numerous types and variants of combat vehicles.

"Combat vehicles leave here in like new condition," said Steve Pennington, director of production. "The

building has seen major changes over the years, but one thing that hasn't changed is the dedication of employees who work inside this building, which is the size of three football fields. They endure tough conditions to make sure the disassembly and reassembly of combat vehicles

• See Facility, page 5

Depot observes Native American Indian Heritage Month

by Edward Lane

ANAD EEO Office

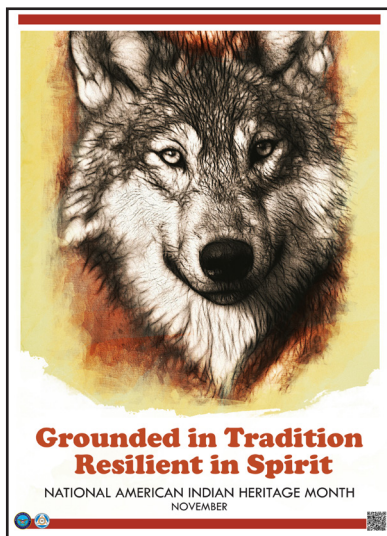
Native American Heritage Month has evolved from its beginnings as a week-long celebration in 1986, when President Reagan proclaimed the week of Nov. 23-30, 1986 as American Indian Week.

During November, Native American Heritage Month is celebrated to honor the remarkable Native Americans who have contributed to improve the character of the nation. This marks a time to rejoice in diverse and rich cultures, histories, and traditions and to appreciate the great contributions of the Native Americans. This observance allows us to spread awareness about tribes and educate people about the various challenges faced by the Native Americans in the past and today. Throughout this month, we commit to our continued support of the remaining Native American tribes and let the world know about their sacrifices.

National Native American Month started off as an effort to get a day of appreciation and acknowledgment for the unique contributions made by the first Americans for

the growth and establishment of the United States. The effort has now resulted in a whole month being celebrated for that purpose.

Dr. Arthur C. Parker was one of the first supporters of having an American Indian Day. He was a Seneca Indian and the director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, New York. He was also the one to convince the Boy Scouts of America to create a day for the Native Americans — the Boy Scouts adopted this observance for three days.



According to the Encyclopedia of Alabama, “Alabama’s indigenous history can be traced back more than 10,000 years, to the Paleoindian Period. Cultural and technological developments brought changes to the societies that inhabited what is now Alabama, with the most visible evidence of those changes being the remarkable earthen mounds built by the Mississippian people throughout the Southeast, in Alabama most notably at Moundville. By the time European fortune hunters and colonialist explorers arrived in the sixteenth century, the Indian groups in the Southeast had coalesced into the cultural groups known from the historic period: The Cherokees, Choctaws, Creeks, and Chickasaws, and smaller groups

such as the Alabama-Coushattas and the Yuchis. As more Europeans and then U.S. settlers flooded into the Southeast, these peoples were subjected to continual assaults on their land, warfare, the spread of non-native diseases, and exploitation of their resources. In the 1830s, the majority of the Native Americans in Alabama were forced from their land to make way for cotton plantations and European American expansion. Today, the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians maintain their traditions on portions of their tribal homelands in the state.”

The depot observed the occasion Nov. 17 with a luncheon at DeSoto Entertainment Center, Bldg. 251. Guest speaker was Aimee Grey, director of the Anniston Museum of Natural History.

SOURCES:

The Encyclopedia of Alabama TM © 2021. Alabama Humanities Alliance. All Rights Reserved. A service of Auburn University Outreach.

Why is November the Native American Month? – [JanetPanic.com](https://www.janetpanic.com)

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH -November 2021 - National Today

American Indians and Alaskan Natives in the American Workforce | U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ([eeoc.gov](https://www.eeoc.gov))

American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2020 ([census.gov](https://www.census.gov))



U.S. Army Photo by Cody Spoon

Aimee Grey and Maryellyn Hawbaker, representatives from the Anniston Museums and Gardens, spoke at the depot's Native American Indian Heritage lunch and learn. Grey and Hawbaker displayed Native American artifacts for attendees to view following the presentation given by Grey. Grey spoke about the impact of the Native American culture in our nation's history.

From Facility article, page 3



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

The Combat Vehicle Repair Facility houses multiple vehicle programs, work stations, overhead cranes, welding bays, machining equipment, offices and break areas. It has become an important facility of the industrial complex.

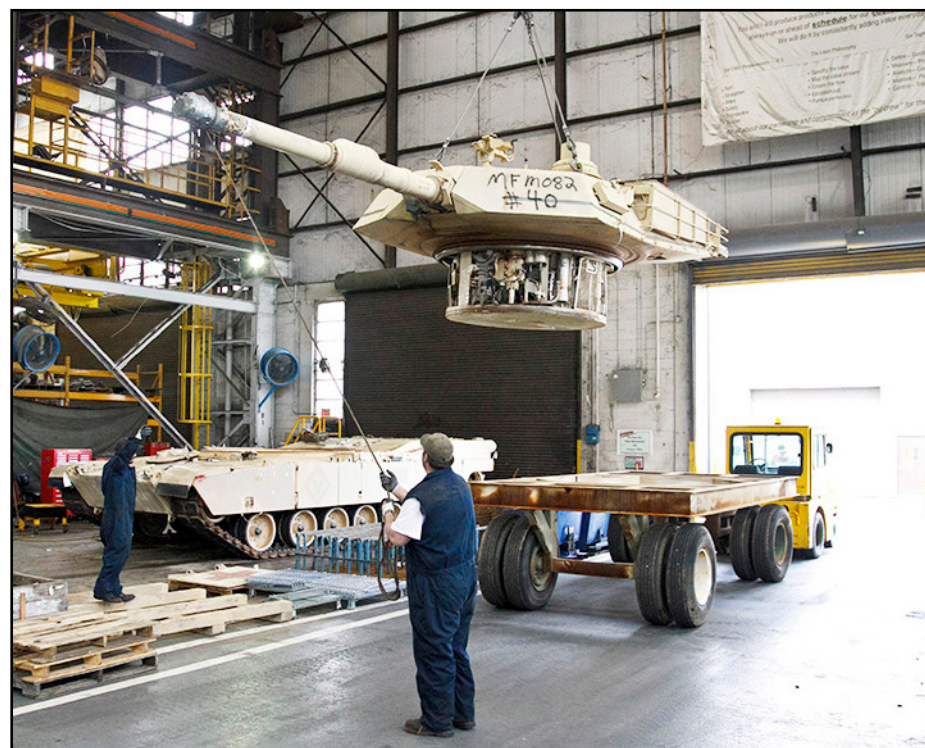
are of the best quality. They realize there is zero room for error. Our equipment has to work right when needed.”

Today, the building houses:

- Seventeen combat vehicle models, including the M1A1/M1A2 Main Battle Tank, ABV- Assault Breacher Vehicle, JAB- Joint Assault Bridge, AVLB- Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge, FAASV- Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle, Paladin, M9ACE- Armored Combat Earthmover, M88A1/M88A2 Recovery Vehicle, M113FOV to include, OSV, M577, MBT, M1064, M1068, and all the Stryker variants.

- There are 391 employees in the building – mechanics, welders, machinists, parts attendants, quality inspectors, and partnership employees who help to ensure we have the parts needed to fulfill the mission.

The building is set up with lines of bays, but there are only two fixed pieces of machinery in the facility. Everything else can be moved to accommodate whatever workload is most pressing and whatever mission is most vital to our Soldiers and Marines.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

The M1A1/M1A2 Abrams Main Battle Tank has become a staple in the Combat Vehicle Repair Facility. Two members of the workforce can be seen moving a turret for re-installation in the hull.

TACOM's depot, arsenal commanders discuss plans

by Scott Wakefield

TACOM PAO

U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command depot and arsenal commander's joined Maj. Gen. Darren Werner, commanding general of TACOM, at Detroit Arsenal, Michigan, to discuss modernization efforts across the enterprise Oct. 26-28. Each commander was given the opportunity to brief during the commander's forum on their organization's specific plans for the future.

Col. Eric McCoy, commander for Anniston Army Depot, stressed Anniston's mission sets with a five, ten, and 15-year break down covering facility upgrades and consolidation, taking care of people, and future requirements for equipment.

“We are looking closely at how we can include academia in our future endeavors, and increase diversity and talent in our workforce in line with Project Inclusion,” said McCoy.

Taking care of people was one of the primary points of discussion between McCoy and Werner which sparked



U.S. Army Photo by Scott Wakefield

Col. Eric McCoy, commander Anniston Army Depot, briefs the depot's modernization plans at the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command's Depot and Arsenal Commanders' Forum at the Detroit Arsenal, Michigan Oct. 27

conversation within the group, specifically with retention of high performing employees.

To this end, Werner encouraged the commanders to use incentives appropriately to reward the organization's top performers and not make it an “everyone gets a trophy” program.

McCoy added he and his leadership team are looking at how they can incorporate automation, robotics and other technologies into Anniston's modernization efforts.

“We are looking at what electric and hybrid repair will look like in the future, and how we keep pace with those changes,” said McCoy.

Werner reminded the commanders that as they plan for the future they should keep an eye on what the Army is doing with these technologies so they aren't wasting resources.

“We want to move into the future,” said Werner. “We have to have the facts lined up so that when we have a vision for the future, it will better enable us to act.”

Political activities - the basics

by Stephen Geisler

ANAD Legal

For employees on the Anniston Army Depot, the Hatch Act restricts Federal employee participation in certain political activities. The general rule is that you **MUST NOT** engage in partisan political activity while on duty (including telework hours), with government furnished equipment, while in uniform, while on government property, or while in a government vehicle.

This **INCLUDES** partisan political messages on clothing, hats, masks, buttons, etc., while on duty or in the workplace; partisan political messages on personal vehicles on the depot (a single, standard sized bumper sticker on a personal vehicle is not prohibited); and partisan political activity on social media (Twitter, Facebook, Reddit, blogs, etc.) while on duty or in the workplace.

Also, you **CANNOT EVER** ask for or receive contributions for a partisan political candidate or be a candidate for public office in a partisan election.

These restrictions **DO NOT** affect your right to vote as you chose or your ability to be a candidate for public office in a nonpartisan election.

Contact an Ethics Advisor at Ext. 6518 if you have any questions about political activities or are unsure of what you can and cannot do.

CFC campaign underway

This year's campaign will be conducted slightly different than years past. Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be doing our usual face to face kickoffs, but will air it on the LAN to be viewed throughout the day.

Donations can still be given electronically at <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov/> welcome, but we will also have paper pledge forms and brochures that will be mailed to the directorate offices soon to be distributed to the divisions. If you choose to donate, please make a copy and submit your form back to the division administrative assistant who will send/bring them to me in Bldg 7.

Incentives will be given for all who donate and can be picked up by the division/directorate level admin at the time of delivery of pledge forms.

For any questions, please contact me at x7031 or email Shynta.g.hudson.civ@mail.mil



On behalf of the Combined Federal Campaign, the ANAD Command Group, and volunteers, **THANK YOU** so much for your generous donations in advance. No amount is too little and every dollar counts towards the livelihood of someone!

Retirement after 85 years of combined federal service



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Woodrow English, a welder leader in the Directorate of Production, retired Nov. 1 with over 45 years of civilian service at Anniston Army Depot. Col. Eric McCoy, depot commander, presented him with his retirement certificate.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Bobby Jackson, a welder in the small arms arena, retired Nov. 1. With 40 years of civilian service at Anniston Army Depot, he received his retirement certificate from Tommy Carlisle, deputy to the commander.

Christmas Cheer program started

from Alfonso Lewis

ANAD DFMWR

Anniston Army Depot's Christmas Cheer program is underway. This year, the depot will provide gifts for children at the Calhoun County Department of Human Resources. These gifts will be distributed to the families by DHR case workers in time to be opened on Christmas.

Here's where your generosity is requested. There are 185 children on the list and employees can give gifts up to \$200.

Christmas Cheer, which begins Nov. 22 and ends Dec. 10, allows depot employees to sponsor children. If your organization, cost center, shop or office would like to sponsor a child (or children), you may drop off the gifts at Bldg. 221 on a date to be determined.

ANAD personnel WILL NOT wrap or box gifts and deliver them to DHR this year. DHR counselors will come to the depot on Dec. 15 and Dec. 16 and select gifts for their children.

DFMWR is in need of ANAD volunteers to accept the toys at Bldg. 221 and sort them. If you would like to volunteer or have additional questions, contact Alfonso Lewis at Ext. 7971 or Kimberly Smoot at Ext. 7046 or at the respective email addresses:

alfonso.l.lewis.civ@mail.mil and kimberly.f.smoot.civ@army.mil



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

On Dec. 10, 2020, members of our workforce assisted the Department of Human Resources in unloading three truck loads of christmas gifts for 200 children during the annual Christmas Cheer Program.

For additional inclement weather information:

- Visit the Inclement Weather web page on the ANAD homepage under Depot Status.
- Check the ANAD Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AnnistonArmyDepot.
- Call the SNOW line at 256-235-SNOW (7669).
- Contact your supervisor.



Verification of Employment

The Employment Verification Tool is available for verification of employment and/or salary information.

All appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund employees should use the Employment Verification Tool via their MyBiz+ account.

Employees are responsible for providing proof of their employment and/or salary information to organizations or persons making the request.

MyBiz+ may be accessed through the Civilian Personnel On-line website at <https://acpol.army.mil/ako/cpolmain>.

If this is your first time accessing your MyBiz+ account, you may have to register your Common Access Card before being able to log in to MyBiz+.

For additional information or assistance with accessing MyBiz+, please contact the CPAC office at Ext. 7860.

Commander speaks to local high school students for Veterans Day



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Col. Eric McCoy was the guest speaker at Oxford High School's Veterans Day program which took place Nov. 10. Before the student body, faculty and staff, community members and the Oxford Fire Department, he shared how the military changed his life and his journey which led to serving as commander of Anniston Army Depot.

Occupational Health and Safety Management System Audit

by Charity Parris

ANAD Safety Office

Anniston Army Depot completed an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 45001 audit for recertification this past summer. The ISO 45001 is an Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS). The auditors for ISO 45001 schedule visits to the Depot about every six months to inspect processes, audits, workplaces and conduct interviews with the work force. The OHSMS contains the following:

Procedures that tell you how to carry out key tasks within the OHSMS such as training, tracking legal requirements, and managing records.

Plans and controls that operate under the OHSMS objectives or how we perform OHSMS audits.

OHSMS records confirm completion of specific OHSMS activities like identifying hazards and risk assessments, how we conduct safety training, or prove management reviews were performed.

It provides definitions and references that provide additional information useful to those reviewing or learning about OHSMS.

As an employee being interviewed by an ISO 45001 auditor, what is important for you to know?

Q - How are hazards identified within your work activities?

A - Hazards are listed on our Cost Centers Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) form. These are reviewed annually and/or when any changes occur.

Q - Are you trained to use the PPE required for your work activities? Who performs the training?

A - Yes, the Safety Supply Store, Safety Specialists, and Supervisors.

Q - Is the Commanding Officer's safety policy posted? Do you know where to find the safety policy?

A - Yes, it is located on the Safety Bulletin Board in our Cost Center.

Q - Is PPE use being enforced in the required areas?

A - Yes, our Supervisor ensures we are wearing the correct PPE to perform our work.

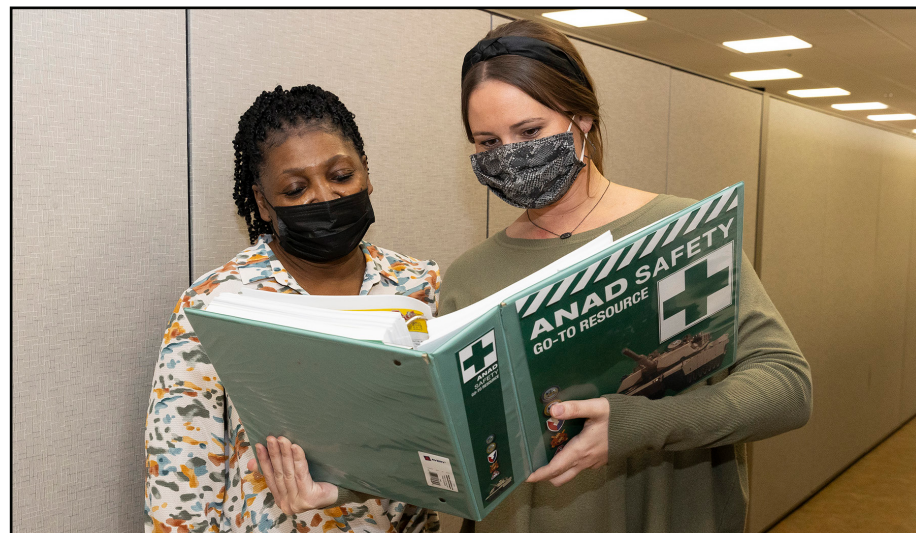
Q - Do you know what to do in an emergency weather/evacuation situation? Where do you Shelter-In-Place?

A - Emergency evacuation plans are posted on the Safety Bulletin Board and shops participate in evacuation drills. Each employee should be familiarized with designated shelter area and how to evacuate in case of an emergency.

Q - What 3 ways do you contribute to safety?

A - JHA review, self-inspections of our work areas, employee teams, leading 6-minute huddles, reporting near -misses, etc.

Being ISO 45001 certified, positions the Depot as a business of industrial leaders and this helps in bringing more work to ANAD. The internal paybacks include increased efficiency and productivity, lower injury and lost time costs, preventing risk and hazards in the workplace, and most of all improves individual safety. The goal is to reduce injuries and ensure each employee goes home at the end of their shift in the same physical condition they came in.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Depot job hazard analyses and safety policies can be accessed by employees at any time. Your supervisor can review analyses and policies with you and refer questions to the safety office.



From the Public Affairs staff,
we wish you and your family a
Happy Thanksgiving!

AMC, USASAC leaders visit depot



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Brig. Gen. Garrick Harmon, right, commanding general, USASAC, toured Anniston Army Depot Nov. 9, 2021. His first stop on the tour was to the Combat Vehicle Assembly/Disassembly Facility.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Col. Bradley Culligan, center, command inspector general, AMC, toured Anniston Army Depot Nov. 8, 2021. His first stop on the tour was to the Power Train Facility.

Depot holds Disability Employment Awareness Lunch and Learn



U.S. Army Photo by Cody Spoon

Daniel Spencer served as the guest speaker during the National Disability Employment Awareness Month lunch and learn hosted by the depot's Equal Employment Opportunity office. Spencer, a business relations coordinator with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services' Vocational Rehabilitation Program, informed the attendees on proper etiquette while interacting with individuals who have disabilities.



U.S. Army Photo by Cody Spoon

Reginald McFadden, the depot's administrative officer, presented Spencer with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Col. Eric McCoy and the command staff.

Holiday shopping safety tips for home, online

from Staff Reports

NCPC.org

The National Crime Prevention Council reminds last-minute holiday shoppers to keep safety in mind as they hunt for those last-minute bargains.

The organization best known for its icon, McGruff the Crime Dog, has tips to help you shop safely while getting those great holiday bargains.

Shopping in Stores

- Do not buy more than you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car.
- Save all receipts. Print and save all confirmations from your online purchases. Start a file folder to keep all receipts together and to help you verify credit card or bank statements as they come in.
- Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as onetime or multi-use disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auction sites.
- Wait until asked before taking out your credit card or checkbook. An enterprising thief would love to shoulder surf to get your account information.
- Tell a security guard or store employee if you see an unattended bag or package. The same applies if you are using mass transit.

Walking to and From Your Car

- Deter pickpockets. Carry your purse close to your body or your wallet inside a coat or front trouser pocket.
- Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.
- Do not leave packages visible in your car windows. Lock them in the trunk or, if possible, take them directly home.



Shopping with Small Children

If you are shopping with children, make a plan in case you are separated from each other. Select a central meeting place and teach them to know they can ask mall personnel or store security employees if they need help.

Shopping Online

- Before surfing the Internet, secure your personal computers by updating your security software. Everyone's computer should have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and anti-spam software, as well as a good firewall installed. Visit www.bytecrime.org for free software downloads.
- Keep your personal information private and your password secure. Do not respond to requests to "verify" your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses will not contact you in this manner.
- Beware of "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
- Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address.
- Shop with companies you know and trust. Check for background information if you plan to buy from a new or unfamiliar company.

To find more useful shopping tips and personal safety information, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's website at ncpc.org.

Army Substance Abuse Program observes 3D, brings awareness during the holidays

by Mathetta Howard

ANAD ASAP

The month of December is designated as National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month. As the holiday season approaches many of us look forward to gatherings and celebrations. It is also a time when some people are more likely to drink beyond their limits than other times of the year and get behind the wheel after using an impairing substance such as alcohol.

According to the United States Department of Transportation, 56% of drivers involved in serious injury and fatal crashes tested positive for at least one drug. An impaired driver may think they feel fine to drive, but someone who is impaired cannot accurately assess their own impairment. It is never safe to operate a vehicle after using an impairing substance.

Here are some safety tips to decrease the risk of having a negative outcome associated with drunk or drugged driving during the holidays:



If you struggle with addiction, abstain from using alcohol or drugs.

Choose a designated driver for your group in advance. Pick a limit for the number of drinks you'll have at a party and stick with it.

Make sure to drink water, other non-alcoholic beverages, and eat food when drinking alcohol.

Don't mix alcohol with other drugs like over-the-counter prescriptions or medications.

Take an Uber, Lyft, taxi or public transportation if you've had too many drinks.

Don't let someone who has been drinking get behind the wheel.

Don't ride in a car with a driver who is impaired.

Always wear your seatbelt, as it's the best protection against impaired drivers.

If you are hosting a party, ensure that guests leave with a sober driver.

We can all do our part to save a life this holiday season!

For more information, contact your local Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator at (256)741-5804. Have a safe holiday season.

notes from around the TRACK



With sadness, we report ANAD has lost two members of the team.

Medley

John R. Medley died Oct. 11, 2021. A material expeditor with the Directorate of Production Management, he had more than two years of civilian service at Anniston Army Depot.

Tuders

Randy E. Tuders died Nov. 14, 2021. A supervisory security guard with the Directorate of Emergency Services, he had ten years of civilian service at Anniston Army Depot.

Morning show reminder

The Morning Show - Every other Wednesday - Live at 7:05 a.m.
Rebroadcast: 10:30 a.m., noon, 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 10:00 p.m., midnight, and 2:00 a.m. Thursday and Friday, of that week, at noon and 2:00 p.m.



**Questions for The Morning Show
or a note for TRACKS?
Call the Public Affairs Office
at Ext. 6281!**

FEHB Open Season

Open Season has begun and if you are having issues logging on to the LTCFEDS website at (<https://www.ltcfeds.com>), you will have to contact LTCFEDS at 1-800-582-3337 and someone will be able to guide you through the process of viewing the site during open season.



To make changes to your benefits, you can either call The Army Benefits Center – Civilian (ABC-C) at 1-877-276-9287 or go to the GRB Platform at <https://www.platform.army.mil> to make changes to your Federal Health Benefits (FEHB).

To make changes to your Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) you will have to go to [Benefeds.com](https://www.benefeds.com) or call 1-877-FEDS (1-877-888-3337).

Cafeteria menu

Nov. 18

Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Pinto Beans
Turnip Greens
Cornbread

Nov. 22

Fried Pork Chop
Potatoes Au Gratin
Butter Beans
Cornbread

Nov. 23

BBQ Chicken Breast
Macaroni & Cheese
Baked Beans
Fried Squash
Yeast Roll

Nov. 24

Chicken or Beef Soft Taco
Spanish Rice
Roasted Black Beans & Corn
Tortilla Salad

Nov. 25

Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 26

Snack Line

Nov. 29

Snack Line

Nov. 30

Country Fried Steak
Loaded Mashed Potatoes
Black Eyed Peas
Collard Greens
Cornbread

Dec. 1

Boneless Chicken Wings
Pasta Salad
French Fries or Onion Rings

Dec. 2

Fried Catfish
Baked Beans
Coleslaw
French Fries
Hush Puppies

Dec. 6

Hamburger Steak
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans
Vegetable Sticks
Yeast Roll

Dec. 7

General Tso's Chicken
Sweet and Sour Pork
Pepper Steak
Fried Rice
Stir Fried Vegetables
Egg Roll

Dec. 8

Chicken or Beef Soft Taco or Tortilla Salad
Spanish Rice
Mexican Corn
Refried Beans

Dec. 9

Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Pinto Beans
Turnip Greens
Cornbread

Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ❗ More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ❗ More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

