



Left, Mary Ellen Boandl checks the serial numbers of turbo engines to identify them for disposal. Boandl, DLA property disposal clerk, was named the 2014 Volunteer of the Year runner-up for her work in helping organize local motorcycle charity rides. Right, Paula Butts travels to HIS School/Dayspring Children's Village in Maanhaarand, South Africa for three weeks each year to teach children and lead evening devotions. Her efforts there and at the depot with Operation Santa Claus earned her the 2014 Volunteer of the Year award.

Home or away

Volunteers are cornerstone of strong organization

by Justin Eimers
Assistant Editor

Tobyhanna Army Depot named the 2014 Volunteer of the Year during its annual volunteer recognition ceremony on April 17. In addition to the top honor, several individual groups were recognized with gold, silver and bronze awards. Depot commander Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter was on hand to congratulate the winners and award certificates of appreciation.

One of Tobyhanna's most extensive volunteer-organized events is Operation Santa Claus (OSC), a program that distributes a variety of items, from toys and electronics to

food and personal care items, to brighten the holiday season for residents and clients of many regional agencies. Paula Butts, financial analyst in the Community Services Division, plays an integral role each year in the orchestration and success of OSC, an effort that earned her the 2014 Volunteer of the Year award.

Walter Dorosky, Community Services Division chief, says most people probably know Butts as the person you sign in with at the event, but her behind-the-scenes role drives OSC throughout the year.

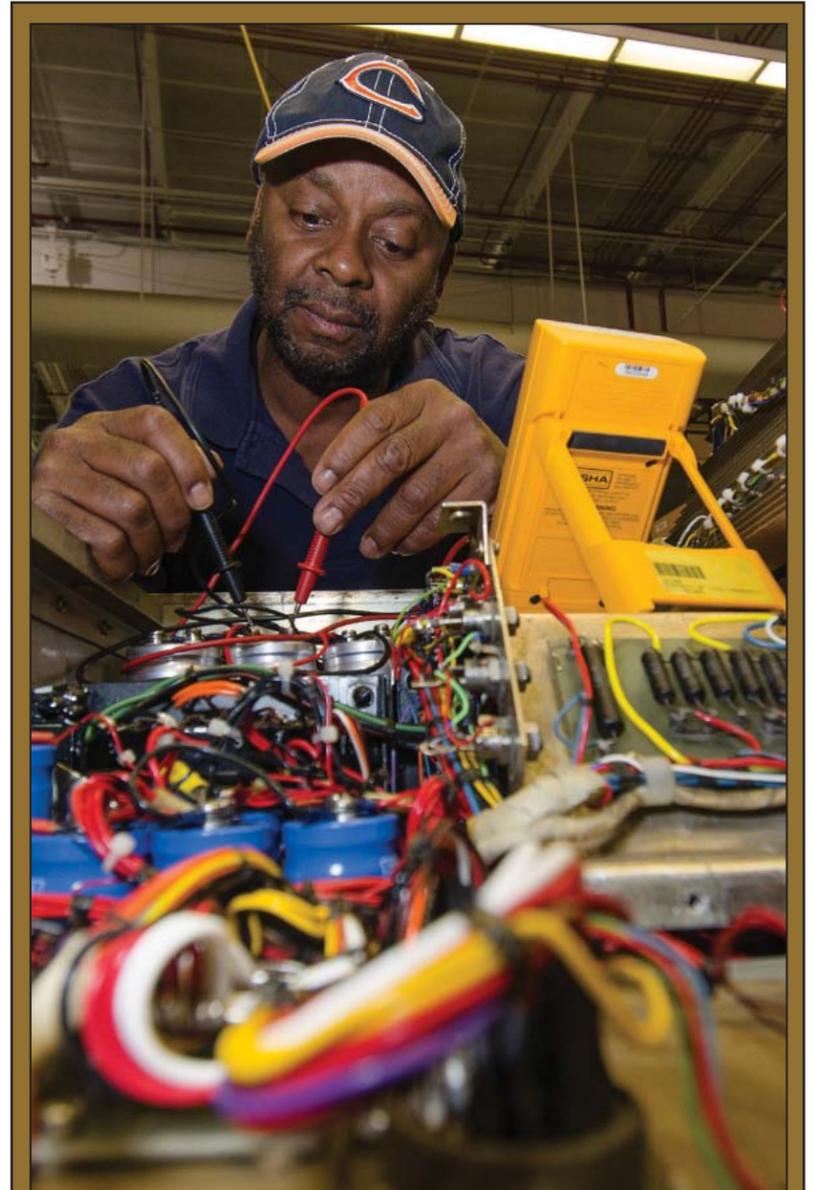
"For the last 15 years she has been a part of the core team of Operation Santa Claus that operates year round," he

said. "She makes deliveries for OSC after work, during regular days off and on weekends, and her dedication has been shown by the program's success in providing to those in need."

In addition to her role with OSC, Butts lends a helping hand to several local, regional and international volunteer programs including Toys-for-Tots of Monroe County, Vacation Bible School and the HIS School/Dayspring Children's Village in Maanhaarand, South Africa.

"Paula is a dedicated volunteer constantly assisting those in need. She quietly but deliberately goes about her volunteering every day of the year," said Dorosky.

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Down to the wire

Electronics Mechanic Helper Wayne Jefferson checks capacitors in a multi-voltage power supply used in the AN/MPN-14K Landing Control Central. The AN/MPN-14K is a deployable air traffic control radar used by air traffic controllers to identify, sequence, and separate participating aircraft, provide final approach guidance through air defense corridors and zones, and coordinate aircraft identification with local air defense units at assigned airports and air bases. Tobyhanna Army Depot supports, repairs and overhauls line replaceable units and AN/MPN-14K systems for the Air National Guard, and provides Emergency Depot Level Repair for systems in the field. Tobyhanna is in the process of re-sheltering the AN/MPN-14K fleet as part of the overhaul process. About 50 employees support this mission. (Photo by Steve Grzezdinski)

LOGSA employee hopes actions raise awareness, increase participation

by Jacqueline Boucher
Editor

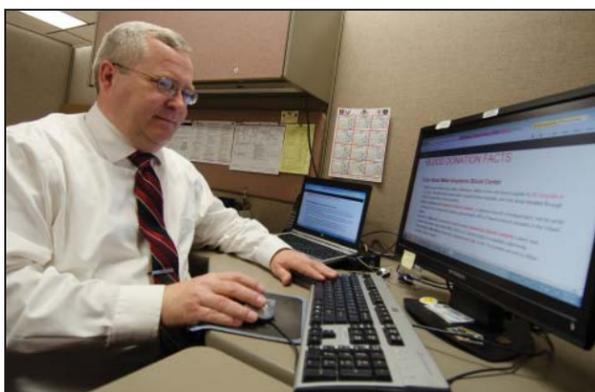
A Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA) packaging specialist recently received a Commander's Award for Public Service for frequently giving the gift of life.

John Fitzpatrick hopes his actions will raise awareness and encourage others to consider donating bone marrow, platelets and blood. At first, it was family values, then military service, that fueled his determination to help others in need.

"My dad taught me about selfless service," Fitzpatrick said. "My time in the Army reinforced the drive to serve others. One of my favorite lines from the Prayer of St. Francis is 'In giving to all men that we receive.'"

The American Red Cross reports that every two seconds, someone in the United States requires blood. According to Fitzpatrick, he's donated 35 gallons of blood and has been coordinating blood drives at his parish since 2007.

"I've never felt the deep personal connection as I did when I donated bone marrow," he said. "It was an incredible experience." It was that connection that helped him



John Fitzpatrick earns accolades for donating blood, platelets and bone marrow to help those in need. (Photo by Steve Grzezdinski)

overcome any fears of the procedure.

"As a member of our LOGSA Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center (PSCC) Team we are extremely proud of John's humanitarian contributions," said Claire Nidoh, PSCC Packaging and Transportation Division chief. "Not only is John an exemplary Department of the Army employee, he is truly an inspiration for his dedication and

commitment to the community and helping others in need."

At work, Fitzpatrick spends his days assessing packaging capabilities and offering technical assistance to personnel working in LOGSA's geographically separated units in the continental United States or overseas. As the deputy chair for the Army Packaging Policy Work Group he also helps draft policy and regulations that govern how the packaging community operates.

Years of experience and routine visits to Logistics Readiness Centers and Army depots have served as inspiration for packaging-related articles, which Fitzpatrick regularly submits for publication.

"LOGSA makes sure the employees at the different locations are armed with a list of resources and recommendations that can help improve packaging operations," Fitzpatrick said, explaining that he also conducts on-site packaging workshops.

Fitzpatrick believes everyone can make a difference regardless of position or grade.

"There are so many people and organizations in need," he said. "You just need to find the ones that touch your heart — then take that leap of faith."