

Group raises money to help cancer patients

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

A group of employees and family members from Defense Distribution Center headquarters recently raised more than \$1,200 for Hearts-N-Hands, a charity organization that helps terminally ill cancer patients.

Laura Blubaugh, who worked in the DDC Distribution Re-engineering office, read about another group that was doing a hike for charity and it piqued her interest. An avid hiker, she decided to organize a hike with fellow co-workers to raise money for the charity.

Deciding which charity to support was the next step.

Blubaugh researched several larger charities, but "... things were not coming together." Then a co-worker told her about Heart-N-Hands.

"Having lost a sister five years ago to cancer, I was more than happy to select



Employees from Defense Distribution Center headquarters recently hiked a stretch of the Appalachian Trail with family members to raise money for Hearts-N-Hands, a charity that helps terminally ill cancer patients. Pictured above, from left to right, are Ed Gallagher, Dee DeLorenzo, Josh Dodson, Laura Blubaugh, Robert Dodson, Lisa Miller, Emily Blubaugh, Stephanie Pasenelli, Mike Pasenelli and Guillermo Rivera.

Hearts-N-Hands for the charity hike," Blubaugh said.

She then chose Aug. 4 as the day for the hike because it was her sister's birthday.

That day, Blubaugh, along with co-workers and family members, hit the Appalachian Trail and hiked 8.4 miles and raised \$1,272 to help people with cancer.

DDC celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 27 with a ceremony at the Susquehanna Club at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa.

The ceremony, which included speakers and a performance by a local Spanish dance company, recognized the contributions Hispanic Americans have made to our society.

Angel Garcia, the keynote speaker, is a Pennsylvania State Trooper and was appointed by Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell in 2006 to serve on the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs.

During his comments, Garcia told the audience about something that happened to him when he was 14. He was on his

way to his best friend's house when he noticed two Pennsylvania State Troopers trying to talk to his friend's mother. The troopers didn't speak Spanish and the woman didn't speak English, so communication was difficult. When Garcia got closer the troopers asked if he could speak Spanish and when he said he did, they asked him to interpret for them.

At 14, Garcia had to tell the woman that her son, and Garcia's best friend, was dead.

"That's when I made it my goal to become a State Trooper," Garcia said.

Ten-year-old Jessica Crist, of Danzente Dance Company, dances the Zapateado during the Defense Distribution Center's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration Sept. 27.

