



# HIGH MACH

Serving the World's Premier Flight Simulation Test Complex



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## AEDC test teams prepped F-35 for first external weapons release

By Deidre Ortiz  
ATA Public Affairs

Testing in the aerodynamic wind tunnels at AEDC helped prepare the Navy variant of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter for its first external weapons release.

During a flight completed by the F-35 Patuxent River Integrated Task Force in September, four 500-pound Guided Bomb Unit-12 laser-guided inert bombs were successfully released from the pylons on wings of an F-35C at a Navy test range in Maryland during test runs.

According to ATA senior engineer David Anderson, the first F-35 weapon integration tests were conducted at AEDC.

Anderson added that the GBU-12 has specifically been tested on six weapon separation or Captive Trajectory Support tests at AEDC.

"These tests were conducted from the Conventional Take-Off & Landing, Short Take-Off Vertical Landing and Carrier Variant aircraft variants and obtained separation characteristics of the GBU-12, and various other weapons, from the weapon's bay internal carriage and external wing positions," he said.

Based on Anderson's calculations, it's estimated that the 1/15-th scale Lockheed Martin F-35 model has been tested in 4T for more than 3,300 user occupancy hours at a cost exceeding \$12 million.

"I am very proud of the work that we accomplished on the F-35 Program in the Tunnel 4T at AEDC. The individual tests were long and complex, and in most cases, required the unique capabilities and expertise available only here at



Initial weapon integration testing for the F-35 was conducted at AEDC. Pictured here are multiple exposures of a Guided Bomb Unit-31 Joint Direct Attack Munition, separating from the F-35 Lightning II aircraft in the four-foot transonic wind tunnel during testing at AEDC in 2007. (U.S. Air Force photo/Rick Goodfriend)

See F-35, page 5

## AFMC to transition to new pay system

By Stacey Geiger  
Air Force Materiel Command  
Public Affairs

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – Some 13,000 Air Force Materiel Command non-bargaining unit civilian employees will transition to the Acquisition Workforce Personnel Demonstration Project (AcqDemo) pay system in June 2016, according to AFMC officials.

"This is a win-win for both employees and managers. It will support employee personal and professional growth, and for supervisors, it will give them more control and flexibility

See AFMC, page 5

## Revolutionary Change: Col. Todaro announces protest to TOS contract award



Col. Rodney Todaro

AEDC Commander, Col. Rodney Todaro provided an update on AEDC's Source Selection efforts to the entire workforce via email on Dec. 7. Additionally, messages and other information can be found online at [www.arnold.af.mil/transition](http://www.arnold.af.mil/transition).

Team AEDC,

On November 16th, I announced the award of the Test Operations and Sustainment contract to National Aerospace Solutions. Although we planned to have NAS begin transition soon afterward, we received a separate protest to the Court of Federal Claims related to this award.

See CHANGE, page 2

## Angel Tree supporters receive gifts



AEDC volunteer Autumn Standley, left, and AEDC Air Force Sergeants Association member Tech. Sgt. Rodney Clemmons are pictured organizing gifts donated by AEDC team members for the Angel Tree Drive at AEDC Dec. 14. The drive was sponsored by the AEDC AFSA and the collected items are provided to children in need in Bedford, Coffee, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, Perry and Wayne counties. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

Air Force Sergeants Association member Senior Master Sgt. Charles Hoyt assembles a bicycle at AEDC, Dec. 14, for one of the children listed with the Angel Tree Drive. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)



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## HIGH MACH

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An Air Force Test Center  
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### Core Values

- Integrity first
- Service before self
- Excellence in all we do



### Vision

"ATA will be a trusted partner in delivering best value warfighter support and assert stewardship to AEDC"

### Core Values

- Be accountable for our own actions
- Ensure the safety of individuals and equipment
- Demonstrate the highest integrity and ethical standards
- Communicate clearly and openly
- Deliver professional and technical excellence
- Nurture, enable and treat people fairly
- Align with customer goals and objectives
- Use disciplined and innovative processes
- Continually improve in all that we do

# Commander Todaro expresses gratefulness in holiday message to Team AEDC

**By Col. Rodney Todaro**  
Arnold Air Force Base  
Commander

Team AEDC,

As we approach the end of another calendar year, the holidays are upon us. I want to take this opportunity to say I could not be more proud or more grateful for the remarkable things you have done this past year. Whether it is being the foundation of success for our nation's most critical test programs or the exceptional customer service we receive from our support organizations from



**Col. Rodney Todaro**

medical to finance, personnel and services, each one of you has performed with utmost excellence, an outstanding team in every possible aspect. You truly prove each day that Arnold

Engineering and Development Complex is a world class organization.

Now with the magic of the season upon us, I hope that each of you will take time to use some well-earned leave, be with friends and family, and use this time to recharge, relax and rejuvenate yourself. This has been a busy year. We have made great progress towards full operational capability of the Combined Test Force and the contractor transitions have gone well all thanks to your amazing efforts.

I encourage you to take time this holiday season

to reflect on how very fortunate each of us truly is. We live in one of the most prosperous nations on earth protected by the greatest Air Force our world has ever known. We have much for which to be thankful.

If you are feeling lonely or overwhelmed, remember your wingman. Be there for one another to help make this holiday season truly joyful and memorable. Your thoughtful intervention may help change the course of someone's life. Many of our employees have access to an Employee Assistance Program, which provides

professional, emergency counseling 24/7. You can also find help through our Employee Resource Guide, <http://www.arnold.af.mil/employeeresourceguide.asp>, which is accessible from your networked computer desktop using the "Helping Agencies" icon. Do not hesitate to use this resource or help someone else to start that conversation.

In closing, let me wish each one of you and your family, the happiest of the holiday season. Be safe!

Respectfully,  
Rod Todaro

## African-American Heritage Committee members host Remembrance Walk, tribute to MLK Jr.

**By Fred Rone**  
AEDC African-American Heritage Committee

The AEDC African-American Heritage Committee will host the third annual Remembrance Walk to celebrate the vision and dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The AEDC AAHC will hold the Remembrance Walk Jan. 14, 2016, in front of the Complex Administration and Engineering building at noon.

Dr. King, a man of great faith and intelligence, believed that for equality to be achieved and maintained, barriers must be removed allowing unhindered access to all who seek its presence.



**AEDC team members participate in the annual Remembrance Walk at Arnold Air Force Base Jan. 19. The AEDC African American Heritage Committee hosted the walk celebrating the sacrifices of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The event was also partly an acknowledgment of King's birthday which is recognized on Jan. 19. The theme for the event was "Remember! Celebrate! Act! ... A Day On, Not A Day Off", which focuses on community service to all individuals. (U.S. Air Force photo/Rick Goodfriend)**

## Tommy got a toy drone for Christmas, what's next?

**By Luana Shafer**

The presents have been opened and the wrapping paper placed in the recycling bin. Tommy is anxious to get outside and fly the new "Invader 700" drone, complete with a 10 times zoom digital camera that sends immediate videos to your new iPad. Wow, you can't wait to get out there with him and fly this thing. We can get to the instructions and safety rules later. Let's go flying!

Whoa speed racer! It's probably a good idea to take some time to go over the capabilities of your new aircraft, look at some safety aspects of your operations, and understand the responsibilities you have just assumed. But this is a toy, right? Wrong. The Federal Aviation Administration has stated that unmanned aircraft systems are aircraft, not toys.

The Consumer Electronics Association believes 2015 will be a defining year for the drone, with sales expected to approach 700,000 this year. The industry must be selling all of those drones as FAA statistics show a surge in "close call with drone" reports by pilots of manned aircraft: nearly 700 incidents so far this year, roughly triple the amount recorded in 2014. Also, the military prefers to call drones "small unmanned aircraft"

since they do not just wander around aimlessly, but are controlled by an individual who follows (or is expected to follow) FAA established rules.

Maybe we should review some of these rules before the big day approaches, as you are probably now asking yourself, "Rules? What rules? Do they apply to me? What is my liability?" The FAA has partnered with industry organizations, such as the Academy of Model Aeronautics and American Model Association, to mirror the rules established by the FAA for the remote controlled (R/C) modelers. In fact, a local R/C club is a great resource to explore.

### General rules

- Small unmanned aircraft must give way to all manned aviation activities: airplanes, gliders, parachutists, hang gliders, the Goodyear blimp, etc. If it flies or glides, it has the right of way.
- The operator must remain within visual line of sight of the small unmanned aircraft. You can't control or remain clear of other aircraft when you can't see your own small unmanned aircraft.
- Small unmanned aircraft may not operate over any persons not directly involved in the operation.

### The A, B, Cs to start

The FAA divides the national airspace above us into categories: A, B, C, D, E and G.

- Class A is 18,000 feet and above sea level and you must be communicating with the FAA to operate up there. So just remember, Class A is "above" where small unmanned aircraft should fly.
- Class B/C/D is the airspace around airports and requires two-way communications with the airport's tower, so small unmanned aircraft need to steer clear of these areas. Just remember not to fly within 5 nautical miles of an open airport/airfield/heliport, military or civilian.
- Class G airspace exists around uncontrolled airports (no two-way communications), but small unmanned aircraft must still remain clear by the 5 nautical miles.

And then there is special use airspace (SUA) and military training routes (MTRs). SUA includes prohibited areas (like the White House), restricted areas (like military testing ranges), and military operating areas, which is where the military has hazardous or high-speed operations that will get you noticed very quickly.

See **DRONE**, page 8

### CHANGE from page 1

The judge has scheduled a hearing on Feb. 2, and is expected to render a decision by the middle of February 2016.

Once the judge renders a decision, we will evaluate our options to establish an appropriate timeline for the TOS transition effort.

While we face this uncertainty, I ask that you continue to address each task with patience, perseverance, and a positive attitude. More importantly, remain safe through the upcoming holidays. We need each and every one of you next year in order to successfully accomplish the largest workload in recent AEDC history.

Our workforce is our most cherished resource. I am humbled to serve our great nation with you.

Respectfully,  
Rodney F. Todaro,  
Col, USAF  
Commander, AEDC

## Smoking Policy

1. The following revised AEDC smoking policy is effective immediately. Smoking is permitted solely in designated areas identified by a plastic "smoke genie." This receptacle is for the sole purpose of cigarette butt disposal. If there is no receptacle, smoking is not permitted in that area. It is the responsibility of all smokers to clean up the area surrounding the receptacles for any cigarette butts on the ground. Smoking in government-owned vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles at any time. Smoking areas will be held to the absolute minimum and will be located in low traffic, low visibility areas away from points of building ingress/egress and air intakes. A map of all authorized smoking areas is available on the Team AEDC SharePoint site. Smoking near a facility in an area not designated on the map is prohibited and any smoking receptacles located in areas not shown on the map will be removed. All "smoking permitted" and "no smoking" signs will be removed unless specifically required by OSHA.

The fact a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they may take. Breaks should be taken in accordance with the company/agency personnel policies that apply to all employees.

Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, is prohibited in any area, at times when official business is being conducted with government clients, test customers, outside visitors and dignitaries, and where official business is being conducted including conference rooms, auditorium settings, business meetings, or in any other area where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit use. Containers of tobacco waste product, including sealed containers, must not be left unattended or disposed of in trash receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet. Due to the nature, appearance, and safety concerns of electronic cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"), the use of said products will abide by the same rules for tobacco products stated above and governed by AFI 40-102, *Tobacco Use in the Air Force*.

2. Supervisors at every level will ensure this policy is followed. Disciplinary action is appropriate for repeated violations.

3. Updates to this policy will be made in the future to further align with Air Force guidelines.

4. This policy remains effective until rescinded. (This policy is dated December 20, 2013)

## Action Line

### Team AEDC

I believe in free and open communications with our Team AEDC employees, and that's why we have the Action Line available. People can use the Action Line to clear up rumors, ask questions, suggest ideas on improvements, enter complaints or get other issues off their chests. They can access the Action Line in one of two ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, and by calling 454-6000.

Although the Action Line is always available, the best and fastest way to get things resolved is by using your chain of command or by contacting the organization directly involved. I encourage everyone to go that route first, then if the situation isn't made right, give us a chance.

Col. Rodney Todaro  
AEDC Commander

# Personnel receive recognition at ATA Annual Awards Banquet

By Raquel March  
ATA Public Affairs

ATA leadership recently held an annual awards banquet where personnel were recognized for exceptional achievements in AEDC mission support, engineering, customer service, technical support, quality leadership, safety and security.

**The award recipients for the ATA Team Member of the Year Award are:**

Melody Gilliam – Administrative and Professional Support; Performance Management Department; a Normandy resident

David Beale – Innovation Leadership; Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Tullahoma resident

Jonathan Seely – Program Manager of the Year; Test Assets and Support Department; a Tullahoma resident

James Pickett – Craftsperson of the Year; Test Assets and Support Department; a Winchester resident

**The award recipients for the Annual ATA Technical Award are:**



ATA recognized personnel during the 2015 ATA Annual Awards Banquet at the Arnold Lakeside Center Dec. 3, for their exceptional performance. ATA Deputy General Manager Jeff Haars (far left) and ATA General Manager Steve Pearson (far right) are pictured with the award winners, left to right, Brent Petry, Jonathan Seely, David Beale, Melody Gilliam, Joseph Sheeley, Carol Cox, Artie Smith, Cherise Dockrey, James Pickett, Billy Plattenburg and Crehton Caldwell. Award winner Terry Hayes isn't pictured. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

**Joseph Sheeley – Engineer of the Year; Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Tullahoma resident**

**Terry Hayes – Technical Excellence in Engineering; Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Winchester resident**

**Brent Petry – Operations and System Engineer; Information Technology and Systems Department; a Winchester resident**

**The award recipient for the Annual Quality Leadership Award is:**

Artie Smith – Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Manchester resident

**The award recipient for the Annual Internal Customer Service Excellence Award is:**

Cherise Dockrey – Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Tullahoma resident

**The award recipient for the Annual Safety Leadership Award is:**

Crehton Caldwell – Mission Support Department; a Flintville resident

**The award recipient for the Annual Security Leadership Award is:**

Billy Plattenburg – Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Winchester resident

**The award recipient for the Annual Safety Leadership Award is:**

Crehton Caldwell – Mission Support Department; a Flintville resident

**The award recipient for the Annual Security Leadership Award is:**

Billy Plattenburg – Integrated Test and Evaluation Department; a Winchester resident



Terry Hayes  
Technical Excellence in Engineering Award

# Mission trip puts into perspective all that's taken for granted

By Deidre Ortiz  
ATA Public Affairs

The Christmas season is a time for giving and many people take this as an opportunity to provide for the less fortunate.

Tommy Northcott, section manager of the AEDC Electric Utility System, recently went on a mission trip to Freetown, Sierra Leone, in Africa and was moved by the fact that while the people he met there aren't wealthy in terms of material possessions, they were some of the kindest and most content individuals.

"The response in Africa is completely different than what you will receive anywhere else because they have nothing material-wise but are some of the happiest people I have ever met," he said.

This was the second time Northcott has been to Freetown as part of a program known as Disciple Makers Multiplied or DM2. Northcott serves as the DM2 regional ministry director for Sierra Leone.

The mission of DM2 is to develop a core group of doctrinally sound leaders who teach others who are willing to then repeat the process. Organized through local churches, DM2 serves within the United States and across the globe. At the end of the weeklong studies, attendees receive a certificate and a reference book and take the curriculum they learned back to their home city.

According to Northcott, many who attend the conference in Freetown wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it, so the classes are free.

"The conference center, lodging and food is paid for, all they have to do is set up travel there."

In addition to teaching for the conference, Northcott spoke at churches, broadcasted a sermon on the local radio and helped lead a men's group.



ATA Section Manager Tommy Northcott (second from right, back row) is pictured with the group that attended the Disciple Makers Multiplied conference in Freetown last month. Northcott, a teacher at the conference, is planning to make another mission trip in May. (Courtesy photo)

Northcott said he learns as much or more as those he instructs during these trips.

"I feel like I gain more out of it because you really have to know the scripture in order to teach it," he said. "It's a very unique opportunity and I'm very appreciative. It's great to see the gospel go out around the world."

Northcott added being part of a mission trip to another country, such as Sierra Leone, is very different than one in the United States, because the simple luxuries most people take for granted here aren't available.

"We had to run the generator for the PowerPoint and there's no air conditioning," he said. "Trips to a third world country definitely puts into perspective how much we take for granted here."

With this recent trip being at the end of the rainy season, Northcott said one day it got down to 79 degrees Fahrenheit in Freetown, which was a drop from what the temperature had been.

"Some of the attendees were cold that day and wore beanies," he said, laughing.

Northcott is planning to go back in May, and

he's grateful to his family for letting him continue these trips.

"I thank my wife and four kids for allowing me to spend my vacation time going to help people on a different continent when I could be at Disney World with them," he said. "It's very selfless on their part."

He added that his family has never been on one of these trips, but he would like for his wife and kids to go with him in the future.

"My hope is that someday we'll go do this as a family when the kids get older."

Between visits to Sierra Leone, Northcott and

his fellow church members at Pleroma Bible Church also spend time collecting food, clothing and other basic necessities to send there and other mission areas.

While not everyone is called to go on mission trips, Northcott said it's important, especially during the holidays for ev-

eryone to remember the less fortunate and help in whatever way they can, whether financially or by volunteering and collecting donations.

"We all have the resources to give," he said.

If interested in getting involved or for more information about DM2, visit [dm2usa.org](http://dm2usa.org).



At the end of the weeklong studies, attendees of the Disciple Makers Multiplied conference receive a certificate and a reference book and take the curriculum they learned back to their home city. Pictured here is ATA Section Manager Tommy Northcott handing out a certificate to one of his students at the end of the conference. (Courtesy photo)

# AEDC Christmas Social



(Photos by Holly Fowler and Emily Howell)



## First Place

AEDC Financial Management and Comptroller Division

## AEDC Services 'Deck the Doors' contest winners announced



## Second Place

Air Force Research Laboratory  
High Speed Experimentation  
Branch



## Third Place

AEDC Staff Judge Advocacy/Le-  
gal Office

# FIRST® LEGO® League Regional Qualifying Tournament held at Tullahoma High School



The Regional Qualifying Tournament for the FIRST® LEGO® League of Middle Tennessee was held Dec. 5 at Tullahoma High School. Twenty-five teams across the region attended and 15 of them will go on to compete at the Regional FLL Tournament in February at Tennessee Tech University. College Street Elementary students Cole Fowler and Natalee Putman watch their robot perform its programmed tasks. The students' coach Capt. Chance Johnson (back left), AEDC Commander Col. Rodney Todaro (back center), and AEDC STEM Educational Outreach Specialist Jere Matty (back right), look on as the competition judges take notes. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

## AEDC Commander speaks at AIAA meeting



The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Tennessee Section held a luncheon meeting Nov. 18 at the Arnold Lakeside Center. The guest speaker for the event was AEDC Commander Col. Rodney Todaro. Todaro, pictured, spoke to the group regarding the impact that AEDC has on the community, touching on the strides that the AEDC Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Program has made in getting area youth excited about careers in these fields. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Holly Fowler)

## AFMC from page 1

thereby enhancing management of the AFMC workforce," said Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, AFMC Commander. "AcqDemo is designed to improve agility and effectiveness by allowing greater flexibilities with personnel processes and functions."

AcqDemo will cover mainly non-bargaining, supervisory and professional series employees. The command will continue to explore expanding it to all AFMC civilians.

Under AcqDemo, employees will no longer carry their GS designation and numbered grade. Instead, they will be placed in one of three broadbands, or "pay bands," comparable to their current grade and salary. Any pay increases or performance awards will be based on each employee's contribution toward achieving their organization's mission.

"AcqDemo is an opportunity to improve the civilian personnel system to better accomplish the AFMC mission," said Ted

Singer, AFMC AcqDemo Team Lead. "AcqDemo will allow greater supervisory control over personnel processes and at the same time expand the opportunities available to employees through a more responsive and flexible personnel system. This project not only provides a system that retains, recognizes and rewards employees for their contribution but also supports their personal and professional growth."

The National Defense Authorization Act allowed the Department of Defense to conduct a personnel demonstration project with its civilian acquisition workforce and AcqDemo was implemented in 1999. Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., has been a participant since its inception. The command will be implementing AcqDemo within the small workforce of both bargaining and non-bargaining employees at Arnold AFB, Tenn., in an effort to demonstrate its

effectiveness. Additionally, there will be some bargaining unit employees at several Air Force Installation Contracting Agency locations.

To implement, all affected employees and their supervisors will first receive AcqDemo training beginning in January 2016; dates and locations

will be announced.

For additional information on AcqDemo, go to:

Air Force Portal AcqDemo Homepage (CAC enabled) <https://goo.gl/ZOeKo5>.

Or, Department of Defense Civilian Acquisition Workforce Personnel Demonstration Project: <http://acqdemo.hci.mil/>

By Deidre Ortiz

ATA Public Affairs

The FIRST® LEGO® League of Middle Tennessee, sponsored by the AEDC Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Program, held its Regional Qualifying Tournament Dec. 5 at Tullahoma High School.

Hundreds of people gathered to watch and join in the qualifying tournament, an event officially sanctioned by FLL and backed by the Tullahoma Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers.

AEDC sponsored 21 of the FLL teams that attended this year's qualifying tournament. Six Junior FLL teams, and the FIRST® Tech Challenge Team Sharp, also sponsored by AEDC, were present at the tournament and had the opportunity to demonstrate their projects and robots.

Results from this tournament determined the teams that will be advancing to the next level, the regional tournament to be held at Tennessee Tech University in February.

The advancing teams are:

- The Climbing Fish of Shelbyville
- Robotic Tigers, Thomas Magnet School of Shelbyville
- BrickCrafters of Murfreesboro
- Legend of Legos, Central Middle School of Murfreesboro
- Lego Legion, East Middle School of Tullahoma
- Brick Dynasty, Murfreesboro
- Knight Robotics, Riverside Christian Academy of Fayetteville
- Robo Raiders, Coffee County Middle School of Manchester
- Lego Warriors, Woodland Elementary of Bradyville
- Legotronics, Harris Middle School of Shelbyville
- Rossman Universal Robots, North Middle School of Winchester
- New Union Rebels, New Union Elementary of Manchester
- Algood Techies, Algood Middle School of Algood
- South Middle School, South Middle School of Cowan
- REL Lego Lions, Robert E. Lee Elementary of Tullahoma

## F-35 from page 1

AEDC. I believe that the accuracy of the predicted release trajectory." Last November, the Navy successfully landed F-35Cs on an aircraft carrier, off the coast of San Diego, Calif. The service expects to declare initial operational capability in 2018.

According to a statement from the aircraft's joint program office, the recent flight "confirmed

# AFMC promotes sober driving during the holiday season

By HQ Air Force Materiel Command Health and Wellness Team

**WRIGHT-PATERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – The holiday season is a time of year when people gather with friends, colleagues and family to enjoy time together and celebrate. Often these social events include alcohol. A driver's license mixed with a few alcoholic beverages can be dangerous. No one intends for alcohol-impaired driving accidents to happen, but they do.

"Every single injury and death caused by drunk driving is totally preventable by not driving under the influence," states Steve Callon, AFMC Drug Demand Reduction Manager. "Plan ahead to have a

designated sober driver that will drive everyone in your group home safely at the end of the night."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 10,000 people were killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes in 2013. An average of one alcohol-impaired-driving fatality occurred every 52 minutes during 2013.

The NHTSA offers the following tips to stay safe and drive sober:

- Designate a sober driver before the party begins; plan a way to get home safely at the end of the night.

- Be responsible. If someone you know is drinking, do not let that person get behind the wheel.

- If you see some-

one driving impaired, contact law enforcement when it is safe to do so. It is your business. Getting drunk drivers off the road saves lives.

- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as drunk driving. Designate a sober friend to walk you home.

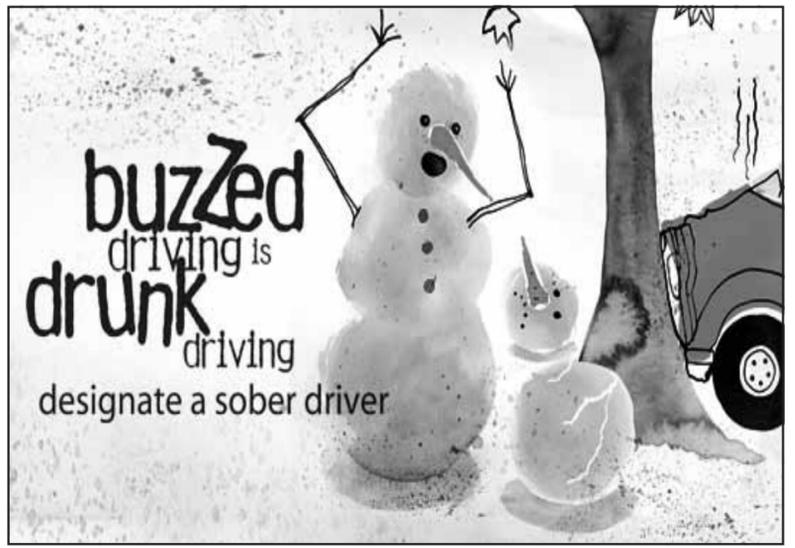
- If you have been drinking, there is always another way to get home safely. You can call a taxi, phone a sober friend or family member, or call your local free ride program.

Did you know? The worst days of the year for drunk driving are:

- New Year's Eve/New Year's Day

- The Fourth of July

- St. Patrick's Day
- Thanksgiving



Eve/Thanksgiving Day

Airmen Against Drunk Driving was formed to eliminate DUIs/DWIs on Air Force bases and in surrounding communities. The goal of AADD is to safely return all military members and Department

of Defense civilians to a residence if they are unable to drive themselves. Individuals that choose to drink should plan ahead for a designated sober driver or ride home. But if the plan fails, call AADD. Bases vary on program hours

of operation and service area. For Air Force Materiel Command AADD contact information, visit [AFMCwellness.com](http://AFMCwellness.com). For quick reference, add your installation's AADD number to your list of cell phone contacts.

## Gone but not forgotten: Wreaths honor those who gave all



A volunteer carries a wreath to a headstone in Arlington National Cemetery, Va., on Dec. 12, for Wreaths Across America Day, an event to honor veterans during the holidays. (U.S. Air Force photo/Sean Kimmons)

By Sean Kimmons

Air Force News Service

**ARLINGTON, Va.** (AFNS) – Once Susan Zerbe learned that a CH-47 Chinook helicopter had been shot down in Afghanistan, killing all 30 U.S. troops on board, she knew her son was one of them.

"I heard it on the news that morning and I just knew he was on there," she said of her son, Tech. Sgt. Daniel Lee Zerbe.

Hours later, her premonition came true when military officers knocked on the door to inform her that Daniel was on that helicopter, as he and others traveled to help Army Rangers in a fierce battle against insurgents.

"It was a horrible feeling," she recalled of the Aug. 6, 2011, incident. "Your heart just sinks."

Zerbe and her family laid a wreath on Daniel's headstone Dec. 12 during Wreaths Across America Day at Arlington National Cemetery.

The event drew roughly 50,000 family members of fallen troops and volunteers who placed more than 240,000 wreaths on the white marble headstones that line the cemetery to symbolize their respect for those who gave all.

"All of these people don't get to come home for Christmas," Zerbe said. "It's our way to honor and remember what they did for all of us."

But the wreaths, which were also placed at more than 1,000 locations across the country, were

not just for decoration.

"We're not here to decorate graves," Karen Worcester, co-founder of the nonprofit Wreaths Across America, told a crowd at Arlington. "We're here so you can ... remember not their deaths but their lives."

### Memories

Emily Johnson traveled from Wisconsin to rekindle memories of her older brother, Army 1st Lt. David Andrew Johnson, who was killed by an improvised explosive device while on a dismounted patrol in Afghanistan in 2012.

"I wanted to spend the holidays with my brother," she said. "It was always a really special time for him."

Emily, 20, sat on a blanket in front of David's headstone as she reminisced about her 24-year-old brother and his "goofy smile."

"I don't get to see him that often so I'll probably be here all day," she said.

"I wish he was at home but at the same time it's a big honor for him to be here."

Nearby, Bob and Pat O'Kane-Trombley recalled memories of their son, Capt. Thomas Gramith, an F-15E Strike Eagle weapons systems officer who died along with the pilot when their aircraft crashed in Afghanistan.

They said he was "everybody's big brother" who had a selfless, humble attitude that even earned him a humanitarian of the year award at Seymour Air Force Base, North Caro-

lina.

"He really did a lot of community service that others noted, but he never talked about it," Bob said.

The loss of Thomas in 2009 hit the family hard, they said, especially since the 27-year-old Airman had 9-month-old twin daughters at the time.

"We got the knock on the front door and the minute I looked out of a small window on the door, I could see the gleaming silver cross," Pat said of the insignia of the chaplain who would tell them the tragic news.

"That was the day when everything came crashing down," Bob added.

Thomas and his pilot, Capt. Mark R. McDowell, 26, were only two young men of countless others who died defending the country. None of them should ever be forgotten, Bob said.

"If we fail to remember them," he said, "we will lose everything we have."

### Fundraising

To honor the fallen, fundraising efforts amassed about 910,000 wreaths that were placed on headstones across the country on Dec. 12. One of the largest fundraising groups was the Civil Air Patrol, which helped bring in about one-third of the wreaths.

"They solicited wreath donations for over 1,000 sites," CAP Col. Dan Leclair, a retired Air Force master sergeant, said of the thousands of volunteers from the Air Force civilian auxiliary. "We're very privileged to do this."

The annual event started in 1992 with 5,000 wreaths. For the first time last year, volunteers had enough wreaths for every headstone at Arlington.

"We did this and then the American people with their American spirit got under us and lifted us up," Worcester said.

But placing wreaths was just one mission that volunteers were asked to do when recognizing those buried in Arlington.

"Please read the name out loud," Worcester said of the headstones. "Because we do die twice: when we stop breathing and the last time when a human being mentions our name out loud."



# Remember safety when using the fireplace this winter

By Arnold Fire and Emergency Services

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities has caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. More than one-third of Americans use fireplaces, wood stoves and other fuel-fired appliances as primary heat source in their homes.

Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the fire risks when heating with

wood and solid fuels.

Heating fires account for 36 percent of residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes.

All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently. You can prevent the loss of life and property resulting from heating fires by being able to identify potential hazards and following the safety tips listed below.

## Keep Fireplaces and Wood Stoves Clean

- Have chimneys and wood stoves inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.

- Always use a metal mesh screen with fireplaces. Leave glass doors open while burning a fire.

## Safely Burn Fuels

- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.

- Use only seasoned hardwood. Soft, moist wood accelerates creosote buildup.

- Build small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.

- Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris in your fireplace or wood stove.

- When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace on an adequate supporting grate.

## Protect the Outside of Your Home

- Stack firewood outdoors at least 30 feet away from your home.

- Keep the roof clear of

leaves, pine needles and other debris.

- Cover the chimney with a mesh screen spark arrester.

- Remove branches hanging above the chimney, flues or vents.

## Protect the Inside of Your Home

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.

- Provide proper vent-

ing systems for all heating equipment.

- Extend all vent pipes at least three feet above the roof.

Whether you heat your home with electricity, gas, kerosene, wood or other solid fuel, it's important to keep flammables at least three feet from the heat sources. Have systems professionally inspected before the heating season begins. Correct any discrepancies before using the system.

## This day in espionage history

By AEDC Industrial Security

**Dec. 21, 1988 – James Hall III** arrested for selling Top Secret intelligence data to East Germany

**Dec. 22, 1978 – William Kampiles** sentenced to 40 years in prison

**Dec. 27, 2001 – Antonio Guerrero** sentenced to life in prison for conspiracy to commit espionage

- ❖ Member of the Cuban Red Wasp Network spy ring in south Florida

- ❖ Recruited by the Cuban Intelligence Service

- ❖ Tasked to collect visual intelligence

- ❖ Never had a clearance, but worked doing maintenance and construction at Naval Base

- ❖ Dec. 27, 2001 sentenced to life in prison for conspiracy to commit espionage and for acting as an unregistered agent of a foreign government

### Type of Employment When Espionage Began

- ❖ 49 percent were uniformed military

- ❖ 18 percent were government civilians

- ❖ 24 percent were government contractors

- ❖ 9 percent had already left government service of their job was unrelated to their spying

### Indicators of Security Risks

- ❖ Alcohol Abuse

- ❖ Drug Abuse

- ❖ Spending inconsistent with known income level

- ❖ Foreign interests

## Making a special delivery



Master Sgt. James Key loads the toys collected as part of the Toys for Tots drive held at AEDC through an effort headed by the Air Force Sergeants Association. Several toys were donated, and on the last day of the drive, Dec. 14, Key took the donations to the drop-off location at Tullahoma Fire Department. (U.S. Air Force photo/Holly Fowler)

## DRONE from page 2

MTRs are “highways” in the sky where the military flies very low and very fast, so it’s smart to stay away from them. You can check with the local base operations or airfield manager for information on such activities.

### Know before you go

So, where can you fly?

A good source of information is your local R/C club. They’ve studied the rules and scouted the local area for the best locations to fly your small unmanned aircraft.

If you prefer to go it alone, have fun but do it safely. But words of caution before you launch the Invader 700 on its maiden

flight. If you become the latest close call and you’re not following the rules, you stand not only to lose your \$1,000 aircraft, but you may be subject to an FAA fine of up to \$27,500 for the most egregious violation.

### Military installations

Many military instal-

lations have an airport, airfield, or heliport that requires the 5-mile rule, but for national security reasons small unmanned aircraft flights are not authorized on or over military installations unless authorized by the installation commander. Contact base operations, an airfield manager or a security man-

ager to ascertain safe base operating areas and other limitations.

Additionally, rethink using Tommy’s unmanned aircraft to provide security on your next bivouac. The military cannot operate privately owned small unmanned aircraft during routine business duties. So, Merry Christmas,

Tommy, and we hope you have a great time with your small unmanned aircraft – but do so smartly, safely and within regulations.

*Editor’s note: Luana Shafer is a freelance author, editor and recent graduate of George Mason University. She is the daughter of a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel.*

# ARNOLD AFB COMMISSARY

## Commissary Express Line

Your Commissary ... It's worth the trip!

*Commissary gift cards are easy to buy and easy to share - no matter where*



It's not too late to give the gift of groceries this season. That's because Commissary Gift Cards can be ordered online and mailed directly to the recipient. You can order as many cards as you like; however, shipping and handling fees apply for Internet orders. You can also purchase Commissary Gift Cards in the store.

### HOLIDAY HOURS

**Dec. 21-26**  
 Mon. - Closed; Tue.-Wed. - 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Thur. - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Fri. - CLOSED  
 Sat. - 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Dec. 28-Jan. 2**  
 Mon. - Closed; Tue.-Wed. 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Thur. - 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.; Fri. - CLOSED  
 Sat. - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

<b>Patrick S. Jourdan</b> Store Director Patrick.Jourdan@deca.mil (931) 454-3546 DSN: 340-3546	<b>STORE HOURS</b> Sun. - Closed Mon. - Closed Tue. - 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Wed. - 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Thu. - 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Fri. - 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sat - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Other important numbers (931) 454- plus ext. DSN: 340- plus ext.											
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>Dept.</b></td> <td><b>Ext.</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Customer Service</td> <td>5921</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asst. Store Dir.</td> <td>3546</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grocery</td> <td>5921</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Produce/Meat</td> <td>5923</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>7710</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Dept.</b>	<b>Ext.</b>	Customer Service	5921	Asst. Store Dir.	3546	Grocery	5921	Produce/Meat	5923	Secretary	7710
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# AEDC Children's Christmas Party



(Photos by Emily Howell)

## AEDC Woman's Club members celebrate the holidays and announce January meeting



The AEDC Woman's Club members display toy donations for Toys for Tots at the Arnold Lakeside Center Dec. 1. Pictured left to right is Jane Ricci, Shirley Clark, Kate Canady, Violet Nauseef, Barb McGuire, Karen Todaro, Tullahoma Fire Department Capt. Jeff Smith and Jan Hoyt. (Courtesy photo)

Center to accept a box of donations for Toys for Tots. The ladies also contributed to Toys for Tots via table donations, which raised an additional \$225. Table donations for January will be given to Fischer House in Murfreesboro.

The next meeting of the AEDCWC is Jan. 5, 2016, at the Lakeside Center.

The January meeting is open to the public and provides the opportunity to meet the AEDCWC members and become a member. You don't need to have military connections or be involved with Arnold Air Force Base to visit and become a member.

For information about the AEDCWC call 455-3569.

The social hour of the meeting starts at 9:30 a.m., with the business meeting and program beginning at 10 a.m.

Reservations and cancellations for the meeting must be made no later than noon, Dec. 29. Make reservations or cancellations by calling 393-2552 or 931-636-4152.

*Disclaimer: This is a private organization which is not part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status.*

**By Barbara McGuire**  
AEDC Woman's Club

The December meeting of the AEDC Woman's Club featured the Tullahoma High School AristoCATS singing many favorite Christmas songs while members of the club sang along with them.

Many wonderful items were on display in the Christmas Boutique and the ladies had fun bidding on them through a silent auction. The boutique was a huge success and raised money for the group's Scholarship Foundation.

Capt. Jeff Smith of the Tullahoma Fire Department was at the Lakeside

# Support service members this holiday season with gift cards

By **Conner Hammett**

Army & Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs

**DALLAS** – Any person can send a little holiday cheer to military service members this year by purchasing a Soldier, Airman, Sailor or Marine an Exchange gift card.

Service members can use Exchange gift cards to purchase snacks, electronics, books, clothing or even jewelry at any Army, Air Force, Navy or Marine Corps exchange.

“Purchasing an Army & Air Force Exchange Service gift card

for service members is a great way to remind our military that they are valued by those they serve to protect,” said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Sean Applegate, the Exchange’s senior enlisted advisor. “It only takes a minute, and while it’s a small token of appreciation, rest assured it makes a big impact for those who work to protect American freedoms.”

While only authorized military shoppers can redeem Exchange gift cards, anyone can send one by calling 800-527-2345 or visiting [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com) and clicking “Purchase Gift and Phone Cards” at

the bottom of the page.

From there, Exchange gift cards, ranging in values from \$10 to \$500, can be addressed to a specific Soldier, Airman, Sailor or Marine or sent to “any service member” through the Fisher House Foundation, Air Force Aid Society, Warrior and Family Support Center or Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. The gift cards can be redeemed at Exchanges in all 50 states and more than 30 countries. eGift cards can also be purchased and emailed directly to an authorized recipient for online redemption at [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).



**EXCHANGE**  
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

**January**

**Arnold AFB SERVICES**  
Combat Support & Community Service

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

*Happy New Year!* 2016

ALC – Arnold Lakeside Center, 454-3350  
Café – Café 100, A&E, 454-5885  
ODR/IIT – Outdoor Recreation, 454-6084  
RRRP – Recycling, 454-6068  
Marketing/Sponsorship – 454-3128  
Barber Shop – 454-6987

GC – Arnold Golf Course, 454-GOLF  
MG – Mulligan’s Grill, GC, 454-FOOD  
FC – Fitness Center, 454-6440  
WI – Wingo Inn, lodging, 454-3051  
Resource Management – 454-7425  
Admin – 454-7779

**Hot Food Line coming to Café 100 this month!**

<p>3</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p><b>Add a bowl of soup to any purchase all month for only \$2</b></p> <p><i>Café 100 Celebrates National Soup Month</i></p> <p>no additional toppings</p>		<p><b>FC New Year Fitness Orientation &amp; Fitness Assessment all month</b></p> <p>First 10 signed up get tracking journal</p>		<p><b>Services Holiday Hours</b></p> <p><b>ALC/GLC</b> Dec 20-30 Jan 1-6 Closed</p> <p><b>Café 100</b> Dec 21 Dec 22-23 Dec 24-25 Dec 28-30 Dec 31-Jan 1 7-11:30am 7am-12:30pm Closed 7am-12:30pm Closed</p> <p><b>Fitness Center</b> * no classes Dec 24 Dec 25 Dec 26-31 8am-1pm* Closed 8am-4pm*</p> <p><b>Golf Course</b> ** last cartout by 12pm Dec 21 Dec 24 Dec 25 Closed 12-3pm 8:30am-2pm** Closed</p> <p><b>Mulligan's Grill</b> Dec 21 Dec 25 Closed Closed</p> <p><b>Outdoor Rec</b> Dec 24 Dec 25 Dec 31 Jan 1 10am-12pm Closed 10am-12pm Closed</p>		<p><b>Arnold Golf Course Winter Special</b></p> <p><b>Dollar-a-Hole</b> now – 31 Mar</p> <p>9 holes/\$9 18 holes/\$18</p> <p>454-GOLF (4653)</p> <p>good 7 days a week ~ cart fee extra Open to the public</p>	
<p><b>Outdoor Photography Contest</b></p> <p>Inspire Your Heart with Art</p> <p>Enter by Jan 31 Open to all ages</p> <p>Outdoor pictures that inspire outdoor participation</p> <p>Email to <a href="mailto:judith.humberd@us.af.mil">judith.humberd@us.af.mil</a> or submit pictures to Outdoor Recreation</p> <p>Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup></p> <p>454-6084</p>		<p><b>Discounted Tickets</b></p> <p>available through <b>Outdoor Rec</b></p> <p>Call 454-6084 for ticket availability and special offers</p>		<p><b>ALC Membership Breakfast Buffet</b></p> <p>6-9am</p> <p><b>FREE for members</b></p> <p>\$6.95 non \$4 age 10 and under</p>		<p><b>ALC Dining Room</b></p> <p>Thu 5-8pm Fri 5-9pm Sat 5-9pm</p>	
<p><b>Café 100</b></p> <p>In honor of Bittersweet Chocolate Day (Jan 10)</p> <p>Espresso Mocha Special: Grande Café Mocha \$3 or Grande White Chocolate Mocha \$3.25</p>		<p>Movie: Ant Man</p>		<p>Movie: Hotel Transylvania 2</p>		<p>Movie: Goosebumps</p>	
<p><b>Café 100 Closed</b></p>		<p><b>ALC Membership Breakfast Buffet</b></p> <p>6-9am</p> <p><b>FREE for members</b></p> <p>\$6.95 non \$4 age 10 and under</p>		<p><b>ALC Brushes &amp; Bottles</b></p> <p>\$25 GLC 6pm</p> <p>Sign up by Jan 15</p>		<p><b>Café 100</b></p> <p>National Corn Chip Day</p> <p>Frito Chili Pie for \$2</p> <p>No additional toppings</p>	
<p><b>ALC Last Friday Trivia 6:30pm</b></p>		<p><b>Come watch the Big Game at the ALC Feb 7 opening at 3:30pm Finger Food Buffet \$9 member \$10 non</b></p>					

