



# HIGH MACH

Serving the World's Premier Flight Simulation Test Complex



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## AEDC removed from consideration for EPA list

### Arnold AFB first proposed for National Priorities List in 1994

By Patrick Ary  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has decided to remove Arnold Engineering Development Complex from consideration for the agency's National Priorities List.

Effective March 15 the EPA removed Arnold AFB from consideration for the list, which is a compilation of hazardous waste sites that are eligible for cleanup financed by the federal Superfund program.

The complex was first proposed in 1994, when the EPA scored AEDC through its Hazard Ranking System, said Denny Timmons, AEDC's Installation Restoration Program Manager of the civil

engineering branch's asset management section.

At the time, AEDC, along with state officials, provided thousands of pages of additional information supporting the argument why it shouldn't be listed. For the past 18 years the Arnold AFB environmental staff has aggressively and proactively pursued investigation and cleanup of former disposal sites.

In the early 2000s, AEDC met EPA's key metrics for human exposure and groundwater control, Timmons said. Major projects, such as installing a system to extract methane gas from the Coffee County landfill, constructing the Northwest Plume and the Airfield Road Groundwater Extraction System, and extracting 165,000 pounds of perchloroethylene from groundwater near AEDC's Model Shop during the 2010-2011 thermal remediation project have since been completed.

It wasn't until last year that EPA reviewed the complex's case at the request of officials from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), which had pushed before for the complex to be removed from consideration. In its action to withdraw AEDC from the proposed list, EPA recognized the sustained efforts by Arnold, stating "Cleanup is progressing successfully, the migration of contaminated groundwater is under control and measures have been taken that are protective of human health."

TDEC has overseen cleanup efforts at the complex on the EPA's behalf since 2001.

With the complex's removal from consideration for the NPL, Timmons said the state will continue with its oversight on remaining restoration program efforts.

As far as ongoing major projects, all large investigations and cleanups under

the base Installation Restoration Program are complete, according to Timmons.

"When you look at it, we went from 114 sites that were identified in the early 1980's down to where now we're actively remediating nine sites," he said. "Five of those are pump and treat systems that extract the groundwater and treat the contaminants."

"You can try and achieve accelerated site closure at a site, which is what we have done here at Arnold, but because of the above and below ground utility infrastructure, we can only clean up to a certain point," Timmons continued. "Once we reach that point, and because it is within the industrial area, we place that site under long-term management and monitor it."

Some affected areas are located near – or even under – facilities where

See EPA, page 4

## Organizing donations



Dr. Ralph Jones, ATA Technology and Analysis Branch manager and volunteer from the Manchester Good Samaritan, and AEDC's Patty Stiggins, a Junior Force Council Feds Feed Families food drive coordinator, organize donations. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

## Junior Force Council spearheads annual food drive

By Philip Lorenz III  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

The AEDC Junior Force Council (JFC) recently concluded the 4th annual Feds Feed Families (FFF) food drive. It was the second year the JFC has held the drive on base.

The FFF food drive is an initiative of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America

Act, signed into law April 21, 2009.

Patty Stiggins, an AEDC turbine test project manager and JFC FFF coordinator, said, "The fourth annual campaign started June 1 and ended Aug. 31. The Good Samaritans have been extremely thankful for all the donations from AEDC."

Carrie Reinholtz, AEDC's technology project manager in the test technology

branch, is a JFC member and the organization's former president.

Stiggins and Reinholtz agree that the team work between AEDC's participants and local Good Samaritan groups made this year's FFF food drive a worthwhile effort.

2nd Lt. Carl Tegtmeier, an AEDC

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## Wolfenbarger sets the stage at commander's call

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio – Air Force Materiel Command commander Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger laid out her expectations and the command's priorities in a Commander's Call here August 20.

In expressing her dedication to AFMC, the general said she expected the workforce to be as committed to the mission as she is and emphasized the importance of teamwork to that mission.

"In our Air Force, it truly is all about teamwork," she said. "So I would ask you to be a good teammate as well as doing the best you can individually at your job. We have a responsibility to make our institution – our system – better so that the people who come along with us or after us can benefit from improvements to the way we accomplish our mission."

Wolfenbarger also emphasized the mission in relation to AFMC's restructure.

"Our mission does not change, even with this reorganization," the general said. "I firmly believe the reorganization will allow us to accomplish that mission even more efficiently and effectively. Moving ahead we will focus on seven AFMC priorities, and the first five align to our new 5-Center construct."

- Nuclear – Continue to strengthen AFMC's support in the nuclear enterprise.
- Technology – Advance today's and tomorrow's combat capabilities through leading-edge technology.
- Life Cycle Management – Acquire and manage war-winning capabilities "cradle-to-grave."

See AFMC, page 4

## AEDC employee honored with Navy Superior Civilian Award for Valor

By Patrick Ary  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

There were dozens of people gathered to see Kirk Rutland honored in a ceremony at AEDC Aug. 23.

Everyone knew why they were there but Rutland himself.

"The folks here did a real good job keeping it under wraps," Rutland said. "I wasn't expecting anything like this."

Rutland, a Navy employee and technical director of the Test Systems Sustainment Division at AEDC, received the Navy's Superior Civilian Award for Valor for his heroism after a vehicle wreck June 17 in Manchester.

Rutland was cutting grass on the day the wreck happened near his home. An SUV traveling on Gowen Road left the

road, hit a tree and rolled back onto the pavement. The woman driving the vehicle was able to get out, but her 8-year-old son was pinned inside as the vehicle's engine caught on fire.

Rutland and a passerby hurried to help. "There wasn't any hesitation about what we should do," Rutland said.

The passerby, Jason Little, worked to free the child while Rutland used a fire extinguisher to keep the flames at bay. Not long after they freed the boy and were getting away from the vehicle, there was a popping sound and it was soon engulfed in flames. The SUV was destroyed, but thanks to Rutland and Little, the boy escaped with only scratches and burns.

Then Rutland went to work the next day

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Kirk Rutland, left, receives the U.S. Navy Superior Civilian Award for Valor from Naval Air Systems Command division head for power plant and propulsion Thomas Weiss in a ceremony Aug. 23. Rutland received the award for rushing to help rescue a boy from a burning car in June. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)

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**HIGH MACH**

**Arnold Engineering Development Complex**  
An Air Force Materiel Command Test Complex

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**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

**Knowing you're part of a greater plan is important**

By Paul Firman

*Air Force Negotiation Center of Excellence*

**MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala.** – When it comes to saving a life, seldom is it something you can plan.

You might witness a car crash and spring into action. Most would probably do what they could to help.

However, what if you could actually be part of a plan to save a life?

I retired from the Air Force nearly three years ago. The retirement ended an almost 23-year career full of outstanding memories and experiences. The opportunity to serve one's country for almost a quarter century was an honor and privilege.

I was proud to be able continue as a civil servant and now work as a member

of the Air Force Negotiation Center of Excellence at Maxwell.

One day, my office phone rang, much the same as any day. It didn't take long to figure out this was different, when I heard, "Hello Sergeant Firman. This is a coordinator with the [Department of Defense] Marrow Donor Program."

I thought, "This couldn't be good." The coordinator said, "You may be a match for a 26-year-old man with acute myelogenous leukemia who is in need of a stem cell transplant."

Then came the blow ... "Are you still willing to donate?" she asked.

Wait a minute, I thought, she doesn't know I'm re-

tired. I was much younger when I registered. They must have the wrong person. People sign up for this stuff all the time, but come on, no one ever really gets a phone call – right?

Before I could catch myself, I said, "I'm still willing," although I hung on to the word that I "may" be a match.

After some testing and examinations, the donor representative called back and said I was a match. The patient's transplant center asked me to consider a donation of peripheral blood stem cells.

Peripheral what?

I paused a moment. This was not a brother, a sister, or a close relative. I didn't even know this person and for privacy reasons, all they could tell me was the

recipient was a man from Italy.

They gave me an option to back out, but I knew I couldn't.

It didn't take long to learn what a peripheral donation meant. The patient's doctor can ask for a specific type of donation – either bone marrow or an experimental process called a peripheral blood stem cell donation, PBSC. Both your marrow and blood contain these important cells but, in order to be able to donate using PBSC, the cells need to be moved out of the bone marrow and into the bloodstream.

I would need to have an experimental drug injected into my body. I wasn't overly enthusiastic, but when I learned the patient's chance of a

successful transplant can be tied to the donation method selected, it was a little easier.

I also learned the procedure has a 10-year track record and thousands had already participated.

Also, a little research on my part uncovered that a government civilian employee can use up to seven days of paid leave each calendar year (in addition to annual and sick leave) to serve as a bone-marrow donor.

My PBSC donation required five days of injections in Washington, D.C. to "encourage" the stem cells to move from the bone marrow into the bloodstream.

On the fifth day, the

See PLAN, page 7

**Attacking the symptoms that lead to bad decisions**

By Capt. Scott Taylor

*Air Force Legal Operations Agency*

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS)** – As an area defense counsel in the Air Force, it is my job to represent Airmen who get in legal or administrative trouble, and I love my job.

I have spent the majority of my legal career as an attorney representing people in trouble, both as a civilian and now as an ADC. It has been my experience that people seldom make bad decisions in a vacuum. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, stress, and depression are very common factors amongst my clients over the years.

For the majority of people, these factors do not excuse behavior, but we are failing our fellow Airmen if we ignore environmental factors that can substantially contribute to that behavior. Being a defense attorney allows me to see my clients and not see them for the worst thing they have ever done, but rather see the whole person and all the good they have done in their life as well. I come from a very conservative background, and I was very surprised to find I enjoyed the work and the lifestyle of a defense attorney. It has changed my outlook on life dramatically.

**Stress**

Ask any doctor about the effects of stress on a body and you will hear that stress has powerful effects on your physical and mental health. Stress comes in all forms. In the United States, approximately one in five veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has major depression or PTSD. Veterans with PTSD or depression experience more serious legal problems, a higher lifetime use of alcohol and other substances, and worse general health. A 2007 Department of Defense report noted that military service can result in "hidden wounds" such as combat stress and PTSD. These hidden wounds can lead to difficulty controlling anger, irritability, self medicating with alcohol and other

drugs, and other reckless or high risk behaviors. stress is not limited to combat stress however.

Military life comes with a significant amount of stress that takes its toll on our mental health, our physical health, and our family lives.

Awards and great performance reports are a fantastic achievement, but every award or great performance report comes with an investment. As we all strive for excellence in all we do, we make an investment with our time and our health through long hours, extra duties, volunteer work, and all the associated activities that come with being the best. We can all relate to giving our best and having that achievement seemingly overlooked. We can all point to a time when we felt a quarterly award was deserved but someone else was nominated instead, which only increases the mental workload. Every deployment, every award, every stellar performance report, and every significant accomplishment is paid for. We cannot place these stressors on Airmen and then treat the negative consequences of that investment as an isolated behavioral problem.

**Consequences**

Not all of my clients over the years can reasonably point to stress as a legitimate source of poor decision-making. I have represented people as a civilian attorney who are criminals in the classic sense of the word. I have also represented a large number of people who made a poor decision either during or after a divorce, or when dealing with a medical condition, or suffering personal loss, or who dealt ineffectively with pressure or, again, stress.

As I get to know the whole person when I meet new clients, I am often struck with how often bad decisions are accompanied with family problems, alcohol use, drug use, or other negative behaviors. It is extremely rare when I meet someone who woke up one morning

and decided to break the law. Few people truly contemplate the consequences of their actions; rather we live in the moment. I have represented a lot of very good people who did some very bad things, and who are often dumbstruck as to how they wound up in serious legal trouble.

External factors tend to pile up and lead a person down a path to their downfall, and when I speak to clients under the attorney client confidential relationship, I can't help but notice how many are shocked that they were capable of making such poor choices. These choices can be as simple as deficiencies in the work place, to fitness failures, to alcohol-related incidents or drug abuse, to serious criminal conduct.

**Attacking Symptoms**

Part of my job entails telling the whole story, and explaining how a client arrived at a point in their life where they made a decision to break the law or some other poor decision. I have represented veterans in my civilian career and have personally seen the negative consequences of a conviction, or a punitive or involuntary discharge. I met veterans who never got help, and who escaped into drugs or alcohol, and who lost their families and homes. I met hopeless people who served their country, but now have nothing to show for their sacrifices. I represented one particular homeless veteran on a drug charge, and made an argument to a judge that his service should be taken into consideration. That judge turned the tables on me and asked why I did not serve. He asked me if I was too good to serve my country, and I did not have a good answer at the time. Later, the same judge administered the oath for my commission.

That experience is a large part of why I am here today, serving you as an area defense counsel. By the time that I met him that homeless veteran was too deep down the rabbit hole for me to make a difference in his life, though I tried my best.

I think of him and I think of everyone on this base who is facing stress, no matter the source. That homeless veteran was an Iraq war veteran, who self medicated with drugs and was involuntarily discharged. He had nowhere to go, and no one to help him since because of his discharge, he did not qualify for most veteran's benefits. He never addressed his mental health problems that I could see as plain as day. Instead, the symptoms of his illness were punished and his life became unrecognizable to him.

**The Way Forward**

I committed to giving up my life as a civilian attorney and entering active duty to serve you. If I do nothing else during my time on active duty, I hope to represent Airmen who need help, and to put the brakes on the Air Force taking negative action before they go down the same path as my civilian clients. All the awards and officer performance report bullets in the world mean nothing if I do not try to help you avoid those same pitfalls. Certainly, there is misconduct that is simply derives from personal shortcomings and poor decision making. However, I know a good amount of misconduct or poor decision making is also accompanied by signs of a bigger problem.

The solution is to talk about these stressors. Talk to your friends, talk to your families, talk to a chaplain, or talk to a mental health professional. When you hold that stress inside, and are too

proud to talk because you are afraid of appearing weak; that leads to misconduct, fitness problems, or even suicide.

I sincerely hope that anyone contemplating hurting themselves will talk to someone before making a decision that cannot be un-done. I have represented clients who have done some of the most awful things imaginable, but I have never met someone who we should give up on.

I write this because everyone is both a potential client, and potentially someone who could hold my clients fate in his or her hands. We all like to think we will always make great decisions, and it is easy to isolate poor behavior and look at it in a vacuum. However, with all the sacrifices and stress that accompanies military service, never forget that it could be you facing a charge for driving under the influence, a fitness failure, a bad performance report, or even a court-martial. My clients are great people who sometimes make bad decisions. My goal is that everyone recognizes and talks about their stressors with someone so you do not need my services.

If you really think about your stressors and find the people around you who want to help, you can avoid the poor decisions and the symptoms of what you are going through. But if and when you make that poor decision, no matter how awful, I will be there gladly to stand by your side when no one else will and defend you to the best of my ability.

**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 three ways: via the AEDC intranet home page, Action Line boxes at the base cafeterias 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. Raymond Toth  
AEDC Commander

**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, you cannot smoke 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. In case of inclement or cold weather, employees are encouraged to use their personal vehicles if a sheltered designated smoking area is not available nearby. 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 AEDC web portal at [https://lapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALLimages/Smoking\\_area\\_map.pdf](https://lapro.arnold.af.mil/PORTALLimages/Smoking_area_map.pdf). 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.

Regarding use of smokeless tobacco, 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. Smokeless is strictly prohibited in conference room meetings and other areas, e.g. PMEL, where Air Force regulations specifically prohibit.

Due to the nature, appearance, and safety concerns of electronic cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"), they are considered to be in the same category of tobacco products whose use is governed by Air Force Instruction (AFI) 40-102, Tobacco Use in the Air Force. Therefore, all rules stated above for tobacco products apply to electronic cigarettes.

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 letter supersedes previous letter dated 28 October 2006, subject as above.

## Officer certified as Homeland Protection Professional

By Raquel March  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

Lt. David Everett, a plans and programs officer with the Arnold Air Force Base police department, recently earned the designation of Certified Homeland Protection Professional (CHPP) by the National Sheriffs' Association, Center for Public Safety in partnership with the National Domestic Preparedness Coalition.

The designation certifies that Everett is prepared to help his organization prevent, protect against, prepare for, respond to, mitigate and recover from all hazards.

The certification requires the individual have a blend of education and experience; requisite course work in the area of homeland protection, and participate in online courses and a test.

"This is a culmination of several years of training, practical experience, and my supervisor Dan Hawkins, Chief Richard Trull, Pat Eagan and ATA (Aerospace Testing Alliance) allowing me the opportunity for advancement," Everett said. "It allows me the opportunity to gain additional training and utilize that knowledge to improve on my ability to assist our



Pat Eagan, left, ATA Mission Support Department director, congratulates David Everett, a plans and programs officer with the Arnold Air Force Base police department, on his earning the designation of Certified Homeland Protection Professional (CHPP). (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)

unit, company and AEDC."

The certification may be used in every area of Everett's work as the Plans & Programs officer, the alternate antiterrorism officer,

the Emergency Operations Center emergency support and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Program unit manager.

Everett, a resident of Estill

Springs, has worked for ATA four years. He is a United States Air Force retiree who previously held an active duty position as AEDC Security Forces Chief.

## AEDC employee receives master's degree



(From left) Pictured above are Commander of the Curtis E. Lemay Center for Doctrine Development and Education Maj. Gen. Thomas K. Andersen; Commandant of the Air Command and Staff College Brig. Gen. Stephen T. Denker; AEDC Financial Management Specialist Bill Gonce; and Air Command and Staff College Dean of Distance Learning Dr. Bart R. Kessler. Denker presented Gonce with the On-Line Master's Program Master's of Military Operational Arts and Sciences Degree in front of the program's 2012 graduating class at the Air Command and Staff College, Woods Auditorium, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., July 16. (Photo provided)

## B-52s bring persistent airpower to Exercise Pitch Black 12

By Airman 1st Class Marianne Santos  
36th Wing Public Affairs

**ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam (AFNS)** – The 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, Minot Air Force Base, N.D., took to the skies of Australia's Northern Territory Aug. 2 to 18 as the lone U.S. Air Force unit flying in Exercise Pitch Black 12.

With more than 2,200 personnel and up to 100 participating military aircraft, Exercise Pitch Black 12 is the Royal Australian Air Force's largest and most complex air exercise.

From July 27 to Aug. 17, the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, Australian Defense Force, Royal Thai Armed Forces, Singapore Armed Forces, New Zealand Defense Force, Malaysian Armed Forces, French Armed Forces, British Armed Forces, Indonesian National Armed Forces and a component operating under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization participated in the exercise.

The 69th EBS's participation in Pitch Black

12 is critical to satisfying their mission objectives in support of Pacific Air Forces' continuous bomber presence.

As part of the mission, bombers participate in exercises while deployed in order to showcase both U.S. offensive and defensive capabilities, engage with the citizens of regional partners and ultimately contribute toward interoperability with other countries.

"In traversing the Pacific Ocean for large-scale exercises such as Rim of the Pacific and Pitch Black 12, our crews hone their skills, as well as assure our allies of the United States' commitment to the region," said Capt. Timothy May, 69th EBS weapons and tactics flight commander and bomber liaison officer representing the squadron in Australia for Pitch Black 12.

"It shows that the United States maintains a credible strike capability in the region at all times,"



A B-52 Stratofortress from the 69th Expeditionary Squadron deployed from Minot Air Force Base, N.D., participates in Exercise Pitch Black at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Aug. 2. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes)

he said.

For more than 20 years, the RAAF has conducted the biennial Pitch Black Exercises as major training activities, providing participating nations the opportunity to obtain useful military training and the chance to strengthen ties with regional partners.

May said that integrating into Pacific Command joint and coalition exercises, operations and training provided

aircrews unique training opportunities in support of the continuous bomber presence.

"This exercise afforded my colleagues and I a tremendous opportunity to learn and expand our skills as aviators," May said. "Communicating and planning with our Pacific allies provided a unique learning opportunity that bolsters cultural and professional relationships among regional partners."

During the exercise, the B-52 displayed unique capabilities that make it a commodity in such large-scale air exercises. Along with its ordnance capacity, the B-52 brings a long-endurance capability, which translates directly to persistent airpower.

"The B-52 brings a volume of ordnance that smaller, tactical assets cannot match," May said. "In multiple cases during the

See B-52, page 4

## HazMat request process changes

Do you request hazardous materials (HazMat) for your job? Do you complete 3952s for HazMat approvals and use HMMS to request HazMat approvals?

If you answered yes, beginning this month you will no longer obtain HazMat approval through HMMS.

EESOH-MIS will be the on-line tool AEDC personnel will use to obtain HazMat approvals. In the meantime, ATA HazMat management personnel will request additional information from requesters for HazMat approvals.

If you use HMMS to request HazMat use approvals, training in the new EESOH-MIS system begins in September.

Please contact Christina Norman at 454-7383 for more information.

## AF Aid Society education grant applications online Nov. 1

Mark your calendar. It's almost time to apply for the Air Force Aid Society's Gen. H.H. Arnold Education Grant. Online applications for the 2013-2014 academic year will be available from the Society's website, <http://www.afas.org> after Nov. 1. Please visit the website for details on eligibility and requirements.

Applicants must be in one of the following categories (items 1-3) and meet all other eligibility criteria listed below (items 4-6):

1. Dependent sons and daughters of Air Force members in one of the following categories:

- Active Duty, Title 10 AGR/ Reserve on extended active duty, and Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty. All members must be on active duty through December 1, 2012 (all other Guard and Reserve are not eligible).

- Retired due to length of active duty service or disability, or retired AGR/Reserve with 20+ qualifying years creditable for retired pay (all others are not eligible).

- Deceased while on active duty or in retired status. For financial aid purposes, a "dependent" student is one who will not reach age 24 during the award year; will not be a graduate or professional student; will not be a veteran; will not be an orphan or ward of the court; will not be married or have legal dependents other than a spouse.

2. Spouses of Active Duty members and Title 10 AGR/ Reservists on extended active duty. Member's active duty status must extend through December 1, 2012. Eligible spouses must be legally married to member (not separated or pending divorce) at time of application and disbursement of award.

3. Surviving spouses of Air Force members who died while on active duty or in retired status.

4. Will be a high school graduate enrolled or accepted as a full-time undergraduate student in the 2012-2013 academic year.

NOTE: Students enrolled exclusively in distance education courses should check with their school official to verify their enrollment as meeting school's full-time status requirements.

5. Will be enrolled or accepted in an accredited college, university or vocational/ trade school approved by the U.S. Department of Education for participation in federal aid programs.

6. Maintain at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 grading scale.

**B-52 from page 3**

exercise, a single B-52 covered nearly 50 percent of its team's targets in given scenarios."

The exercise required participants to conduct offensive counter air and defensive counter air missions launched from RAAF Bases Darwin and Tindal.

Pitch Black 12 utilized massive training areas that featured realistic threat simulations and targets. These training areas ac-

commodated larger aircraft formations and provided a formidable obstacle course for the aircraft and crews of participating nations.

"During the exercise we integrated into flying formations with the other nations," said Maj. Christopher Morris, 69th EBS mission planning cell team chief. "On a training day, we can have Indonesian or Taiwanese aircraft escort us to the target and protect us

from the opposing targets. Such formations promote good integration with our regional partners' air forces."

May said that the exercise gave participants opportunities to practice operating in high threat environments against very capable adversaries.

"With six nations participating we receive different perspectives from regional air forces, from mission planning to execution to

debrief," May said. "The collective efforts of all six nations bring an impressive array of aircraft and skills to the fight."

The 69th EBS participation in Pitch Black 12 is only one among multiple exercises wherein the B-52 has represented the U.S. Air Force and its air-strike capability.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to integrate with our allies through par-

ticipation in Pitch Black 12," said Lt. Col. Doug Gosney, 69th EBS commander. "Our B-52 bomber force and aircrew maintain a high level of readiness across all mission sets. Participation in these types of exercises allow us to hone our skills even further while simultaneously forging and strengthening relationships with our friends and allies."

Along with experiences gained and reinforced in-

ternational ties, the 69th EBS continues to support the CBP mission and take part in exercises that develop greater interoperability, strengthen regional peace, and promote stability and prosperity within the Asia-Pacific Region.

"I am extremely proud of our bombers and crew force for their accomplishments and participation in regional activities in the Pacific," Gosney said.

**AFMC from page 1**

• Test and Evaluation – Perform world-class test and evaluation.

• Sustainment – Sustain Air Force capabilities through world-class depot maintenance and supply.

"Foundational to those five mission-area priorities is a sixth priority," Wolfenbarger continued. "And that is to ensure that in everything we do we are taking care of our people and their families, that we are doing all of the appropriate recruiting, training and retention so we can continue to execute this very important mission."

• Recruit, train and retain a high performing workforce while caring for our Airmen and their families.

The general then outlined the seventh AFMC priority.

• Execute Agile Combat Support as an enterprise across the Air Force, responding to highest priority warfighter needs.

"A few years ago, our Air Force senior leadership put together a strategic planning framework that is focused on core functions," Wolfenbarger said. "Agile Combat Support is pervasive and cross-cutting to all other core functions, and the AFMC commander was established as the core function lead integrator for that mission area. That's a responsibility that is bigger than AFMC and one that we take very, very seriously."

The general also took this time as an opportunity to introduce the new AFMC command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Mike Warner, who spoke to the

audience about taking care of all Airmen – enlisted, civilians and officers.

He emphasized the importance of adhering to standards even in times of change.

Wolfenbarger concluded her commander's call by thanking the workforce for their many contributions to AFMC's success despite facing a number of challenges.

"We are a nation at war. We have been at war for 22 years," she said. "I want to thank you for the very important role each of you plays in service to our Air Force and in service to our country. And I would just ask that you do your very best to execute your part of our mission because there are so many, and most importantly the warfighters, who depend on us to do our jobs well."

**EPA from page 1**

mission-related work is taking place. Arnold AFB has cleaned up the surface areas in these locations to worker safety and health standards.

"The contaminated groundwater underlying the main test area is pumped to air stripper treatment units without having to take the test facilities offline," Timmons said. "There will always be operational and maintenance costs associated with these pump-and-treat sites as we hydraulically contain the contaminated groundwater plume and treat it. We are as close to site closure as we can get at this point in time."

What Arnold has done is effectively remove the risk from its sites, and removal from the NPL means there's less chance the complex's funding could be affected due to environmental concerns, Timmons said.

"It doesn't matter if you're on the NPL or proposed for the NPL," he said "Every year there is an Annual Report to Congress submitted by Air Staff showing all the NPL bases, and we have continued to show forward progress in remediating our sites year after year after year."

Pam King, AEDC's chief of the civil engineer-

ing branch's asset management section, said it also takes away a negative perception from the complex that could affect business.

"[Customers] can be confident that we're meeting all the environmental regulations," she said. "We have controls and processes in place so that we don't have an 'Oops.'"

For the next couple of years, base environmental officials expect the majority of their work will be the continued removal of World War II-era munitions from the historical ranges and maneuver areas that once served as training sites for the Army's Camp Forrest.

**Loading donations**

**2nd Lt. Carl Tegtmeier, a Junior Force Council volunteer at AEDC, loads donated non-perishable food and hygiene items into his truck to deliver to one of several local Good Samaritan organizations participating in the annual Feds Feed Families food drive. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)**

**DONATIONS from page 1**

turbine test project manager and JFC volunteer, said, "I know that it's a really rough time right now. It's important for us to help out folks who are less fortunate."

Timothy White Keller, a Tullahoma Good Samaritan Outreach Program volunteer since 2004, came to the base commissary during the FFF drive to pick up non-perishable food and hygiene items, donations the JFC had collected from their AEDC coworkers.

"We're very grateful

for what the base has done for the Good Samaritan, especially with food drives like this – it helps us to reach out to the people in Tullahoma who are really in need," Keller said. "Something else that I can say about AEDC is that we've always had Air Force people come and volunteer to do work with us. I mean anything from painting, helping mow the lawn, to doing just some light work. We've been very blessed to have Arnold [Air Force] Base here

to really take us under their wings and support us."

Josh Meeks, a member of AEDC's plans and programs division, is the Junior Force Council's current president. He said the recently concluded FFF food drive is only one way the group is reaching out to local communities.

"We led the AEDC support effort to the local Special Olympics event this year and are joining forces with another local charity to provide food for the less fortunate," Meeks said.

## X-51A flight ends prematurely

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – The X-51A Waverider successfully launched from an Air Force B-52 bomber over Point Mugu Naval Air Warfare Center Sea Range Aug. 14, 2012, at approximately 11:36 a.m. PST.

The X-51 safely separated from the B-52 and the rocket booster fired as planned.

However after 16 seconds, a fault was identified with one of the cruiser control fins.

Once the X-51 separated from the rocket booster,

approximately 15 seconds later, the cruiser was not able to maintain control due to the faulty control fin and was lost.

"It is unfortunate that a problem with this subsystem caused a termination before we could light the Scramjet engine," said Charlie Brink, X-51A program manager for Air Force Research Laboratory. "All our data showed we had created the right conditions for engine ignition and we were very hopeful to meet our test objectives."

This particular control subsystem had proven

reliable in the previous two flights of the X-51A including the historic May 2010 flight when the Waverider flew for more than three minutes at Mach 4.88 under scramjet power – nearly five times the speed of sound.

Program officials will now begin the process of working through a rigorous evaluation to determine the exact cause of all factors at play.

One of the four X-51A vehicles remains.

AFRL officials have not decided when or if that vehicle will fly at this time.



**The X-51A Waverider is mounted under the wing of a B-52 at Edwards AFB, Calif., in preparation of its Aug. 14 test flight. On a previous flight, the X-51A flew for more than three minutes at Mach 4.88 under scramjet power. (Photo provided)**



# Milestones



**Richard Meyer**  
40 years



**William Bonson**  
35 years



**Gregory Renner**  
35 years

## 40 YEARS

Richard Cope, ATA

## 35 YEARS

Robert Lovitt, ATA

## 30 YEARS

Charles Vining, AF  
Kimberly Thompson, ATA  
William Taylor, ATA

## 25 YEARS

Terry Prince, ATA  
Charles Henderson, ATA  
Jeffery Utley, ATA

## 20 YEARS

Oscar Womack, ATA

## 15 YEARS

Ulrika Cooper, ATA

Betty Sood, ATA

## 10 YEARS

Larry Bishop, ATA

## 5 YEARS

Jon Cox, ATA  
Derick Daniel, ATA  
Kenneth Raatz, ATA  
Rebecca Shell, ATA  
Carol Smith, ATA  
Timmy Tinnel, ATA  
Shannon Grubbs, ATA  
Robert Loftus, Jr., ATA  
Scott Cutshaw, ATA  
Daniel Johnson, ATA  
Matthew Kologinczak, ATA

## OUTBOUND

### MILITARY

1st Lt. William Parker  
1st Lt. Wesley Meredith  
1st Lt. Bradley Chronister  
Capt. Garrett Bruening

### RETIREMENTS

Col. Eugene Mittuch, AF  
Joseph Helms, ATA

### NEW HIRES

Jared Allen, AF  
Michael Fain, AF  
Jamie Smith, AF  
Kathy Swanson, AF  
Charles Jenkins, AF  
Christy Charter, AF  
George Blasingame Jr., ATA  
Paul Frankowski, ATA

## AWARD from page 1

and didn't bother to bring up what had happened.

"Kirk didn't actually mention the incident at all," said Col. Rick Petito, chief of the Test Systems Sustainment Division. "Someone else said 'Hey, did you see Kirk on the news last night?' Kirk was very humble about it and has maintained that persona since."

Petito decided Rutland needed more recognition than a mention in a staff

meeting, so he got in touch with the Navy to see what the options were. Rutland's boss, Naval Air Systems Command division head for power plant and propulsion Thomas Weiss, took it from there and showed up to present the medal to Rutland for the Aug. 23 ceremony.

Rutland's citation, signed by Naval Air Systems Command Commander Vice Admiral David Architzel, states Rutland's

"sense of responsibility to your fellow man exemplifies the qualities of a true leader, and reflects great credit upon yourself, the Command, and the United States Naval Service."

In his mind, Rutland believes he just did what anyone else in the situation would have done.

"I don't think I did anything remarkable or spectacular," Rutland said. "I certainly appreciate the recognition, and I'm humbled

by that. Floored, actually. But I was in the right place at the right time, and God bless that the situation came out well."

But others, like Test Systems Sustainment Division deputy Michael Schleider, believe Rutland's humble attitude shouldn't overshadow his act of heroism.

"Somebody in Kirk's mentality, he may think 'Of course anybody would have,'" Schleider said. "But Kirk did."

## PLAN from page 2

transplant team used a process called apheresis to extract the stem cells. Moments later, the cells were packed on ice and shipped to Italy.

About a month has gone by since the donation, and I didn't grow the third eye I had worried about.

I did puff up like a blowfish the day after the procedure. The coordinator said this was not a normal side effect, so it might have been the Tastykakes I was hammering during the trip.

Regardless, the ridicule I endured from my wife and kids was a small price to pay when compared to being able to help save a life.

I hope you'll consider registering with the National Marrow Donor Program.

Years might pass, and you may forget you registered, but knowing you're part of a greater plan is what's important.

Does one person count? Who knows, but maybe you could be that one rare match out of more than 9.5 million registry members.

To learn more go to <http://marrow.org/Home.aspx>.

**Do your part ... recycle  
this paper after reading!**



# AEDC engineer blessed with life-saving opportunity

By Philip Lorenz III  
Aerospace Testing Alliance

When Andy Escue, a Dynetics engineer with ATA's technology group at AEDC, learned that Kim Meadors, his wife's second cousin and Andy's close childhood friend, was facing a medical crisis, it took them both by surprise.

Kim, who is the same age as Andy, was in urgent need of a kidney transplant.

"It was in late February [when] my wife Sheryl and I saw a post on Facebook from a mutual friend of ours asking or urging folks to go and be tested for his cousin," Andy said. "I believe God was at the center of all of this."

Sheryl credited her husband as doing "an incredible thing by donating life."

She said, "Andy's response to some has been that we look for and ask God to help us recognize opportunities to help others and do the right thing. We happened upon an opportunity."

"Knowing that he could possibly give Kim a better quality of life and time with her son and family and choosing not to help was not an option. Even though Kim is my cousin, our families haven't gotten together in years. Now, we are connected in a new way, and we are all planning on being a bigger part of each others' lives."

The experience served as a lesson to reinforce one

of Andy's long held core beliefs.

"It's just [about] keeping your eyes open for opportunities to help other people," he said.

Sheryl and Andy discussed being tested to determine if either of them would be a potential kidney donor for Kim. It was a much longer and more complex process than they realized.

"Andy was very discrete in the way he first told me what he and his wife were facing with her cousin," said Lynn Sebourn, AEDC's site manager for Dynetics and Escue's supervisor.

Sebourn said many of his senior managers and Escue's coworkers have been impressed, but not surprised by what Andy and his wife did for a family member.

"Whether it's his professionalism as an engineer, his commitment to his church's outreach programs or his love of playing bluegrass music with his coworkers on a lunch break or after work, is something I learned after the fact, so to speak," Sebourn said. "Andy's a very quiet young man, who doesn't talk about work, he just gets things done."

"I'm sure there are lots of great engineers on base, but as far as the ones I know, he's top notch. He came out of Tennessee Tech with his masters—he's been really effective since the

day when we hired him."

Sebourn, who has been at AEDC for 20 years, said he advised Andy and Sheryl to approach the screening process with full knowledge of the risks to both of them.

"I really already knew what the outcome would be if either of them proved to be a match for Kim," Sebourn said. "My initial advice to him was to make sure his wife's on board with this process. I said 'make sure because this is a pretty big step to take when you're young and you've got a kid yourself.' He and his wife were already talking very carefully about it—and I never heard anything that sounded like there was any doubt on her part either, which really impressed me."

Sheryl said God had provided Andy and her with an opportunity that might never come again.

"Kim is a mother and is my and Andy's age," she said. "I don't know how long a person can live on dialysis—she had been on dialysis for a little more than a year before the transplant."

"But it was just tragic to think that if a donor was not found a young woman may die leaving her son without a mother. I think the biggest impact resulting from this event is Andy's example to others. We work with the youth group at our church; Andy is the head coach for the Coffee County (Central)



Kim Meadors and AEDC engineer Andy Escue pose for an informal photo after the medical team's successful completion of surgically transferring one of his kidneys to Kim at Vanderbilt Hospital recently. Escue and Meadors, pictured below in April 1987, were close childhood friends. Now they both have sons who are six and eleven years old, respectively. (Photos provided)



High School men's soccer team, as well as being involved in a couple other community organizations.

I think a lot of people have been inspired by this selfless act."

Regarding Kim, Andy

said, "She is still recovering at home and the kidney seems to be working well."

## Giving back to the community



Aerospace Testing Alliance (ATA) Employee & Community Activities Committee (E&CAC) Chairman Christy Brunner, center, presents donations to Coffee County High School machining and manufacturing instructor Jeff Hinshaw, left, and criminal justice instructor Mindy Acklen. (Photo provided)



Aerospace Testing Alliance's (ATA) Employee & Community Activities Committee (E&CAC) Treasurer Stacey Lowe-Alan, left, presents an E&CAC donation to Jack T. Farrar Elementary School kindergarten teacher Ginny Pack Aug. 22. The donation will help pay for Saxon Phonics kits used to develop phonetic skills used throughout various subject content areas. Students pictured from front left: Pazlee Lowe, Aleina Clark, Natalie Howard, Christina Petty, Zachary Anderson and Aiden Dunn. Back row from left: Favian Cervantes, Abigail Grenier, Lexa Barnes, Sophie Ferrell, Kendyn Brock, Jasmine Tarter, Travis White and Noi Castillo. (Photo provided)

## Team AEDC participates in Battlefield Day

Team AEDC members took to the "battlefield" Aug. 15 to test their fitness.

Battlefield Day, put together by the AEDC Fitness Center once a year, is a series of events designed to push competitors' level of fitness.

Participants competed in relays and sprints, hit a 170-pound tire with a hammer and toss the tire as many times as possible in 30 seconds, and took part in a game of tug-of-war.

"People are left feeling spent, but with a sense of accomplishment," said Joe Watters, AEDC Fitness Center programs coordinator.

This year's winners were:

- Baton relay – 2nd Lt. Matthew Karczewski and 2nd Lt. Ben Hoff
- 60-meter sprint – Jordan Panter
- Tire hammer and toss – Jordan Panter
- Tug-of-War – Chad Overcast, Brian Pittman, Paul Wright and Paul Schwer.



Aerospce Testing Alliance engineer Chad Overcast takes his turn flipping a 170-pound tire while AEDC Fitness Center programs coordinator Joe Watters times him at AEDC's Battlefield Day Aug. 15. (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)

## AFMC promotes 'Colorful Choices' in September

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** – During the month of September, Air Force Materiel Command will be promoting its 'Colorful Choices: Fruit and Veggie Initiative.'

September is National Fruit and Vegetables Month, an excellent time to revisit these bright and colorful powerhouses of a healthy nutrition plan.

Eating the recommended servings of fruit and vegetables can help protect you from heart disease, bone loss, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer.

To get a healthy variety, think color. Eating fruits and vegetables of different colors gives your body a wide range of valuable

nutrients. For example, red fruits and vegetables such as tomatoes, watermelon and apples contain lycopene and anthocyanins, which help reduce the risk of some cancers and keep your heart healthy.

Orange fruits and vegetables help to improve the immune system, strengthen your vision and protect against infections.

The goal of the Colorful Choices: Fruit and Veggie Initiative is to attend two Colorful Choice classes and complete a pre- and post-survey.

Participants who complete this task will be able to choose from one of three completion awards (while supplies last). Throughout September, Civilian



Health Promotion Services (CHPS) will be offering these Colorful Choices activities:

- Fruit and Veggie Health Education Classes

- Cardiac Risk Profile (CRP) Screenings
- Blood Pressure Screenings

To participate in the Colorful Choices: Fruit and

Veggie Initiative:

- 1) Have an online account at [www.afmcwellness.com](http://www.afmcwellness.com).

• Department of Defense civilians need to have a

current Health Risk Assessment. Active Duty members do not need to complete a HRA to participate.

2) Attend a Colorful Choices class.

3) Take a 5-10 minute pre-survey (participant identity is anonymous).

4) Attend a second Colorful Choices class.

5) Take a 5-10 minute post-survey (participant identity is anonymous).

6) Receive your completion award.

For more information, contact your local CHPS team or visit [www.afmcwellness.com](http://www.afmcwellness.com).

(Information provided by Air Force Materiel Command Wellness Support Center)

## Fitness expert Horton turns up heat at Edwards workouts

By Kenji Thuloweit

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

**EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif.** – Edwards Airmen, civilians and spouses were "treated" to two grueling workout sessions Aug. 23 conducted by fitness expert and health food promoter Tony Horton.

Horton is the creator of P90X, a popular intense home workout regimen.

That intensity carried over to the Fitness Center Multipurpose field at 7:30 a.m. where Airmen turned out in droves to work out for more than an hour. Another session for spouses and civilians was held inside the gym at 10:30 a.m.

Horton, joined by his workout staff, took Team Edwards members through the rigorous regimen, evidenced by the sweaty bodies 10 minutes into the session.

Horton has traveled to

37 bases so far promoting fitness and healthy eating.

"Our men and women in uniform play a special role in protecting and serving our country," Horton said. "My goal is to help the folks at Edwards Air Force Base really understand the importance of consistent exercise, healthy eating and how it relates to better performance and improves their quality of life."

"I'm here because I care about you, the men and women of our military."

Horton marched back and forth through the lines of exercisers cheering them on and instructing them on proper technique and form.

The regimen included traditional muscle exercise like pushups and sit ups, with the cardio portion using forms of yoga and martial arts.

"It was very tough," said

Melissa Hoffman, NASA Dryden Flight Research Center employee. "I have the DVDs at home, but have not had a chance to watch them too much. I think it's awesome [Horton] came out here."

Following the workout, Horton gathered everyone around to speak about healthy eating as the way to longevity and a better quality of life. He emphasized eating foods that contain one ingredient, such as fruits and vegetables. Finally, attendees lined up for photos with the fitness guru.

Horton and his crew also met with members of the Health and Wellness Center.

After the two workouts and lunch at Club Muroc, the exercise crew was given a base tour and visited the Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Test Force before departing.



Fitness guru Tony Horton provides some motivation during his 10:30 a.m. workout session Aug. 23. Horton visited Edwards as part of his military base tour promoting fitness and healthy eating. He held another session in the morning for active duty Airman at the Fitness Center Multipurpose field. (U.S. Air Force photo by Kenji Thuloweit)

## Advances in C-5 Engine shop create user-friendly workspace

By Jenny Gordon  
Robins Public Affairs

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – Advances inside the C-5 Engine Shop have resulted in not only higher morale, but also quality of life and efficiency improvements.

As C-5 engines are brought into the shop for Isochronal inspections, maintainers must move over, under and around each engine. In the past year, new engine stands were introduced, which allow various access points on different levels so mechanics can move more freely around the entire engine.

As a result of this, safety hazards have decreased. Once this process progressed, mechanics also saw a need for an idea to reduce hazards from tripping on cords which lay across the shop floor. Now there are overhead trusses which have been installed which provide air and electric capabilities through drop-down cords.

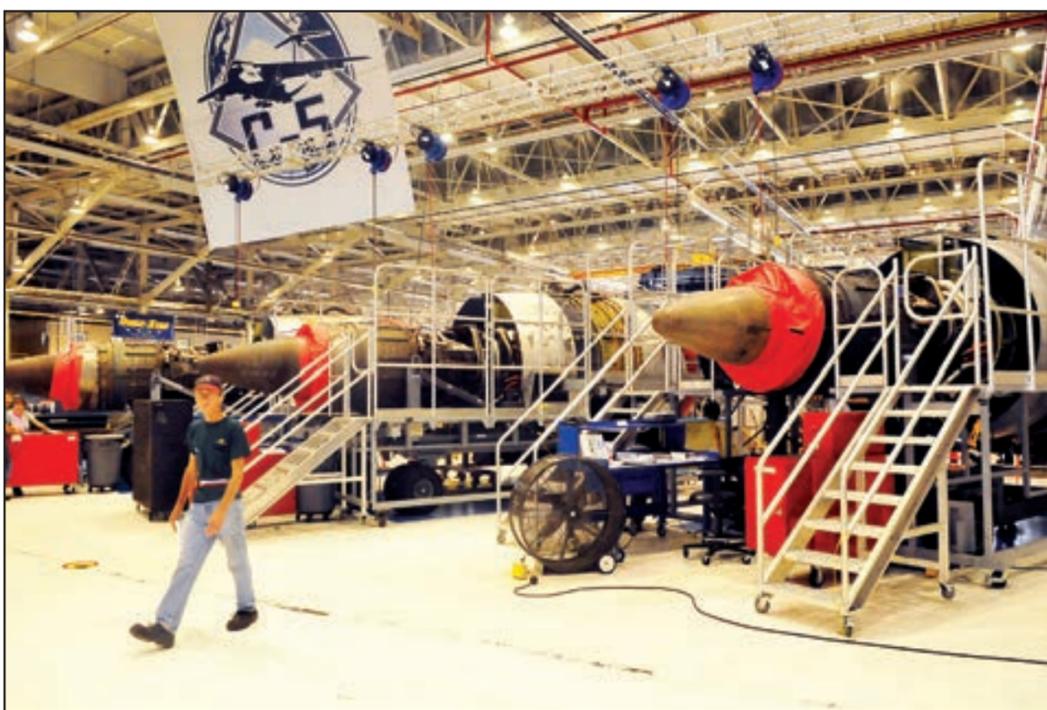
Upcoming plans are also in the works to add a hydraulic power supply line to the overhead system.

"Everything we've done inside this shop has made it more user friendly," said Scott Ball, 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production supervisor.

"Much of what has driven this is the result of the Voluntary Protection Program," added Roy Rudd, 559th AMXS team lead.

Other improvements included mounted LED lights installed under each engine stand so mechanics can use both hands while working (they're also magnetized). The shop floor was stripped and painted bright white to add better light reflection, and a large consolidated shop tool kit was added to speed up the work process, eliminate lines and increase efficiency.

The shop has moved to eliminate paper copies of technical orders through the use of 10 Toughbooks, or



Improvements in the C-5 engine shop have made the environment safer and has streamlined the process for mechanics. (U. S. Air Force photo/Sue Sapp)

laptops with hard, protective shells, so they can be used by mechanics as they work.

The shop is the first in the 402nd AMXG to proto-

type the new Electronic Work Control Documents. By having information automated, the new system

will save time and benefit

the workforce with future inspections by reducing opportunities for mistakes.

"All of these improvements make a better quality

of life for the mechanic and maximize our efficiencies," said Kevin Hamilton, C-5 Production Support Flight chief.

## APTU lunch and learn



Dr. Doug Garrard, Aerospace Testing Alliance's Aerodynamic and Propulsion Test Unit (APTU) program architect and lead analysis engineer, recently gave a lunch and learn presentation on Arnold Engineering Development Complex's blow-down facility in Tennessee at the Technical Library to 12 of the complex's employees, including engineers and non-technical professionals. (Photo by Jacqueline Cowan)

## Weather command candidates named

By Debbie Gildea  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - RANDOLPH, Texas** – The Weather Officer Squadron Commander Candidate Selection Board, which convened here in July, named 21 lieutenant colonels, lieutenant colonel-selects and majors as command candidates, said Air Force Personnel Center officials.

"Those selected will compete for 12 projected weather squadron command vacancies in 2013," said Capt. Jimmy Odom, weather officer assignment chief. "It was a very competitive process, and although some candidates will not be selected for weather command opportunities, they remain eligible for other command

opportunities throughout the calendar year."

Possible command opportunities available for those who are not selected to lead a weather squadron include 365-day extended deployment squadron command, Air Education and Training Command recruiting and training squadron command and Reserve Office Training Corps requirements.

Command matches are expected to be announced the end of October, Odom said.

To see the list of candidates, go to the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>, select the "search all components option" and enter "weather command candidates" in the search window.

## ORS Office staying busy, organizing three new programs

By Michael P. Kleiman  
377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M.** – Perhaps the Operationally Responsive Space Office should consider changing its motto of "Employ. Deploy. Develop" to "Reaching the Reality of Rapid Response."

In the past 14 months, the organization experienced success with its initial satellite, ORS-1, transitioned for operational use to U.S. Central Command in January, approximately six months after launch.

It also funded the liftoff and first 180 days of flight of the experimental Tactical Satellite-4, slated for transfer to U.S. Strategic Command less than one year after reaching orbit.

Not resting on its laurels, the ORS Office has implemented an aggressive strategy in designing, developing, launching and operating low-cost, rapid-reaction spacecraft through the ORS-2, ORS-3 and ORS-4 programs.

"Although ORS-1's and TacSat-4's operational performance in providing joint force commanders with enhanced battlespace awareness has exceeded expect-

tations, our team's focus has remained on producing affordable and quickly assembled and launched (within days to a week after receiving the warfighter's request) satellites," said Dr. Peter Wegner, ORS Office director. "Our three current programs (ORS-2, ORS-3 and ORS-4), will make huge strides in rapid response becoming a reality."

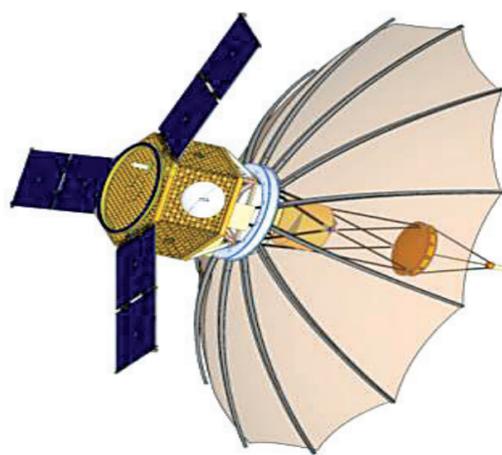
Currently, in the development stage, ORS-2 will consist of a modular, rapidly configurable bus employing plug-and-play technology, as well as radar and electronic tactical support payloads.

The satellite, with a projected \$20 million mission cost, will operate in a 45-degree inclination orbit 311 miles above the Earth.

Much of the ORS-2 program schedule has yet to be determined, but delivery of the modular bus has been planned for summer 2012.

Like its predecessor, ORS-2 will provide enhanced battlespace awareness to the Joint Force Command during its planned one-year mission.

On the other hand, project specifics for ORS-3 have



been decided. Planned to launch from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport located at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va., in August 2013, the satellite will feature a primary payload, the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center's Space Test Program Satellite-3 and 27 additional experiments comprised of free-flying systems and non-separating components.

ORS-3 will employ CubeSat wafers, which enable secondary payloads to take advantage of excess lift capacity unavailable to the primary trial.

In addition, the third ORS mission, costing \$27 million,

will demonstrate launch vehicle flight safety architecture of the future through the Autonomous Flight Safety System (AFSS) payload, which uses launch vehicle orbital targeting and range safety planning processes to protect public safety from an errant launch vehicle during flight.

"I am really excited about the Autonomous Flight Safety System payload onboard ORS-3 because the apparatus will allow for real-time range safety calculations. For example, if the launch vehicle encounters an emergency immediately following liftoff, the AFSS will assist in immediately aborting the rocket, which ulti-

mately prevents loss of life and property," Wegner said. "Another unique aspect of ORS-3 is the 27 secondary experiments consisting of both separating (free-flying) and non-separating. Several universities and businesses have expressed interest in participating in the ORS-3 flight, which will use an integrated payload stack."

Finally, the fourth ORS mission also has a definitive timetable with most pre-liftoff milestone dates established and the launch window no earlier than September 2013.

Using a three-stage sounding rocket known as Super Strypi will deliver to orbit an integrated payload stack of approximately 419 pounds, launched from the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, near Kekaha, Kauai County, Hawaii, and will operate in 97-degree orbit approximately 280 to 326 miles above the planet.

Like ORS-3, onboard payloads include the AFSS and CubeSat Wafers, which will accommodate an undetermined number of secondary experiments.

With a \$10 to \$12 million price tag, ORS-4 will function with decreased infrastructure comprised of the AFSS, global positioning system metric tracking, space-based telemetry relay, and automated flight planning.

"Since its inception in May 2007, the ORS Office has been committed 24/7/365 to providing space power focused on the timely satisfaction of Joint Force Commanders' needs. Both ORS-1 and TacSat-4 have been resounding successes for us to build upon in achieving rapid, responsive and affordable space flight," Dr. Wegner said. "I believe the next three ORS missions will enable us to accomplish that milestone. We are prepared to do so."



# Academy holds panel honoring women's suffrage

By Don Branum

*Air Force Academy Public Affairs*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** – A Colorado state representative, the state's League of Women Voters president and the co-founder of a political polling firm came to the Air Force Academy on Monday to discuss the importance of women's suffrage and the need for informed voters as election season approaches.

The panel, comprising Colorado Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver), Catherine Perrone and RBI Strategies and Research's Rick Ridder, spoke about the power of women's votes, how to sort through biased sources of information and how to embrace political discussions without drifting into partisan political territory.

Duran, the youngest member of the Colorado State House, was elected into office in 2010 and spoke about how candidates relate to their constituents and community.

"So many times, particularly at the local level ... by getting involved with issues that affect the local community, there can be an amazing difference that you can make," she said. "Sometimes I think people don't realize how important it is just to show up when issues affecting the community are being discussed and having your voice heard in one way or another. One of the most important things people can do in this country is make sure that they cast their ballots, because there's no greater power than to have a representative voice on the future of our country."

Perrone became involved with the League after retiring from the corporate world in 2001. The League, she said, found itself without a mission after voters ratified the 19th Amendment, extending

suffrage to women, on Aug. 18, 1920.

"Once it was ratified, we discovered our role was to educate 20 million women how to cast a vote," Perrone said. "From the very get-go, we started as a non-partisan organization, and what that basically means is, we don't endorse or oppose candidates or political parties."

Instead, she said, the League seeks to inspire both women and men to engage with local government and to educate themselves.

"The power of the vote is awesome," Perrone said, whispering to add emphasis to the last word. "It takes your energies and puts them in a place where other people listen. It's an encouragement of a power to participate at every level of government ... from your local water board ... or your city council, all the way up to the president of the United States. Where else in your life can you reach so many levels so simply?"

Ridder introduced himself with humor, telling the members of the audience that they were "a little sick."

"Let me explain to you why you're sick," he said. "Normal Americans ... do not come on a Monday at noon to a room – with very little sunlight, I might add – to talk about politics. Normal Americans think about politics about 12 to 15 minutes over the course of a two-year period. That means that already we've had you for two-thirds of that allotment, and you're here for another 45 minutes, so you're going to skew everything."

Striking a more serious tone, Ridder told the audience they held a remarkable power, because 52 percent of all voters in the November presidential election will be women. That number might

increase to 53 percent for the state of Colorado, he added.

"So when we talk about the women's vote, it's because you're the majority, and you have the power to a greater extent than your male counterpart across the table," he said. "It's important to take and grasp that power and take it to the next level."

Duran said the nature of politics is changing, particularly in how candidates connect with the voters in their communities. How candidates reach out to people is just as important as the message itself – a lesson she learned during the 2008 presidential campaign. Focusing on key groups of people who wouldn't normally vote and talking with them on issues that are important to them is key, she added.

"Now I use Facebook, I use Twitter; I know a lot of other elected officials use those means to communicate as well," she said. "I think one of the most important ways to get out to voters is to have one-on-one conversations with them about what they care about, what they see for the future of the country."

"That personal touch is really making a big difference. When I ran, I knocked on so many doors; I called so many people; I had so many one-on-one conversations, because at the end of the day, that was really the most effective way to communicate why I was running for office and why I was asking for their support and their vote," Duran added.

Perrone acknowledged that filtering bias from information sources is no small task.

"It's gotten harder over the last few years, that's for sure," she said, to laughter from the audience. The League issues a pamphlet each year aimed toward



**Master Sgt. Kelly Links introduces panelists at a Women's Equality Day luncheon at the Air Force Academy Aug. 27, 2012. Panelists were Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver), League of Women Voters President Catherine Perrone and RBI Strategies and Research co-founder Rick Ridder. Other guests of note included Rep. Janak Joshi (R-Colorado Springs) and Lynn Gangone, dean of the University of Denver Women's College. Links is a dental technician with the Academy's 10th Dental Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Don Branum)**

sharing information about candidates running for office and about each of the state's ballot initiatives. The League contacts organizations registered with the Colorado secretary of state and asks them to provide position statements for and against each of the initiatives.

"We gather that information here at (the) League, and then we publish it," she said. "We don't edit it, but we do fact check it."

While the pamphlets require several hundred man-hours of volunteer work, the League provides them at little to no cost. Audio and interactive versions of the pamphlets are available on the League's website at [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org).

Motivating young Americans to vote can be a challenge as well. Debbie Southee, an employee with the 10th Force Support Squadron's Cadet Support Flight, asked for "leverage" to help convince her nieces and nephews living in upstate New York to exercise their rights.

"I cannot get them interested whatsoever," said Southee, a naturalized U.S. citizen. "Their parents have not voted; their grandparents have not voted. ... Give

me three top reasons why a 21-year-old needs to vote."

Duran said funding for education is a topic of contention between the candidates representing the two major parties that might get the nieces' and nephews' attention. Another, she added, is whether the country will continue to provide opportunities for the next generation. "I would encourage them to look at the platforms for all the candidates on those issues," she said.

The final question for the panel centered on how service members can discuss their views on issues and candidates without straying into partisan political territory. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Aug. 22 that partisan political statements by service members can erode public trust.

Air Force Instruction 51-902, "Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force," limits how service members may participate in the political arena. The Hatch Act, which is detailed at [www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm](http://www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm), outlines what activities are allowed or prohibited for civilian employees.

"One of the great things about the military is that there's a history and tradition of being engaged but not partisan," Ridder said. "It's difficult, but I think that what's important is being able to discuss in terms of your value system, in terms of what makes you feel connected with an issue or a candidate, and also looking at all the sides."

Ridder referred to a recent study that showed placing a party affiliation in front of a candidate's name could change an election's outcome.

"You don't have to use the labels, 'Democratic position' or 'Republican position,'" he said. "Those labels really don't mean much. What means much is what you believe and how you wish to communicate that and express it. ... The biggest change in politics in the last 20 years is that we've gone from 'All politics is local' to 'All politics is personal,' so think in terms of how something impacts you."

Guests at the event also included Colorado Rep. Janak Joshi (R-Colorado Springs) and Lynn Gangone, dean of the Women's College at the University of Denver.



## Arnold Golf Course 454-7076

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Golf Course

**Tuesday-Thursday Special:** \$10 green fee for unlimited golf. Cart fee not included.

**Sausage and biscuits available in the Pro Shop** Monday through Friday. If you have an early golf outing during the week, grab a quick breakfast before you start. These sausage and biscuits are from the Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill menu, prepared in advance and placed in the warmer in the Pro Shop for your convenience. The biscuits are \$2 each and coffee is also available. The grill opens at 10:30 a.m. during the week and serves a full breakfast on Saturday and Sunday starting at 8 a.m. The Pro Shop will have the sausage and biscuits available starting at 7 a.m. Monday through Friday. Limited quantities will be available, so get them while they last.

Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill is open 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call ahead orders for dine in or carry out, 454-FOOD (3663).

## Arnold Lakeside Center 454-3350

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Arnold Lakeside Center and Arnold AFB Services Information, Tickets and Travel

**Café 100 now has WiFi.** Café 100 is continually improving to better meet your needs. The latest addition to the menu? Wireless Internet. Stay connected while enjoying a Starbucks coffee, sandwich, pizza or other selection. Café 100 is open Monday through Friday 6:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Books Are Fun is back for a **book fair** from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 6 in the A&E Building's Café 100, room C102. Discounted selections include paperbacks, best sellers, educational, reference, cookbooks, children's items, gift selections and more. Save up to 70 percent off retail prices.

**First Friday Jam** will be Sept. 7 beginning at 6 p.m. This month will be an unplugged version. We can mic your acoustic or acoustic-electric guitars, keyboards, horns, fiddles, etc. but we would like to do the evening much like unplugged events you've seen on television. If you want to join the jam, send an email to [jim.jolliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:jim.jolliffe@hotmail.com). As always, we welcome anyone to join with the band to play and instrument or sing. Or you may take over and do your own performance. We invite all to come listen, dance and enjoy.

## September Movie Schedule

Movie nights are Thursdays with movie start time of 6:30 p.m. and dinner available from the Express or Pizza menus from 5-8 p.m.

**Sept. 13** – "What to Expect When You're Ex-

pecting," rated PG-13 (1 hr. 50 min.) starring Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Lopez, Elizabeth Banks, Brooklyn Decker, Anna Kendrick, Matthew Morrison, Dennis Quaid, Chris Rock, Chace Crawford, and Rodrigo Santoro.

A look at love through the eyes of five interconnected couples experiencing the thrills and surprises of having a baby, and ultimately coming to understand the universal truth that no matter what you plan for, life doesn't always deliver what's expected.

**Sept. 20** – "Snow White and the Huntsman," rated PG-13 (2 hr. 7 min.) starring Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron.

In a twist to the fairy tale, the Huntsman ordered to take Snow White into the woods to be killed winds up becoming her protector and mentor in a quest to vanquish the Evil Queen.

**Sept. 27** – "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted," rated PG (1 hr. 33 min.) starring voices of Ben Stiller, Jada Pinkett Smith and Chris Rock.

Alex, Marty, Gloria and Melman are still fighting to get home to their beloved Big Apple. Their journey takes them through Europe where they find the perfect cover: a traveling circus, which they reinvent – Madagascar style.

## Weekend dining room specials (all include two sides and salad bar):

All specials and times are subject to change without notice. Please call ahead to ensure availability and openings.

### Friday 4-9 p.m.

**Sept. 7:** Baked potato bar w/salad bar, \$9.95 member, \$11.95 nonmember.

**Sept. 14:** Country fried chicken, \$8.95 member, \$10.95 nonmember.

**Sept. 21:** Prime rib for two, \$29.95 member, \$31.95 nonmember.

**Sept. 28:** Shrimp Alfredo, \$9.95 member, \$11.95 nonmember.

### Saturday 5-9 p.m.

**Express Menu only every Saturday.**

Arnold Lakeside Center has planned a **Day Trip to Chattanooga** Sept. 15 to visit Lookout Mountain, Ruby Falls and the Incline Railway. Lookout Mountain is home to Rock City, which is 1,700 feet above sea level with a 100-foot waterfall that cascades down the mountain. It also has the famous Swing-A-Long bridge that spans nearly 200 feet. The self-guided tour along the brow of the mountain gives you a bird's eye view where you can "See Seven States." Ruby Falls is America's deepest cave and largest underground waterfall accessible to the public. The Incline Railway is approximately a one-mile inclined plane railway along the side of Lookout Mountain. Passengers are transported from St. Elmo's Station at the base to Point Park at the mountain summit which overlooks the city and the Tennessee River. At a grade of 72.7 percent it is billed as one of the world's steepest passenger railways. Meet at the ALC at 9 a.m. Cost is \$55 for adults and \$30 for ages 3-12. Deadline to sign up is Sept. 12. There must be at least six to take the trip. Remember to bring money for lunch and souvenirs.

Call 454-3303 for more information and to sign up.

**Last Friday Trivia Contest** is 6:30 p.m. Sept. 28 with an entertainment theme of art, stage, television and movies. Teams may have up to four people. No cell phones are permitted during the event. Anyone using a phone while a question is underway will be disqualified. There are eight rounds with three questions per round. Each round teams have two, four and six points to wager before the question. Only one points value may be used per question. For example, if you wager four points on the first question then you must choose either two or six points for the next question. Whichever value is left must be used for the final question in that round. After the eighth round, teams may wager up to their total points earned for the final question. Prizes are awarded for top finishers.

## Hula Pole-ooza Luau and Fishing Derby set for Sept. 22 at ALC beach.

Services Community Center, Club and Outdoor Recreation have joined together to bring you Hula Pole-ooza, a fun-filled event for children and adults. Things get underway Sept. 22 at 2 p.m. with a Fishing Derby for ages 5-15. This portion of the event is free but registration is required. The first 25 to register at 454-3303 will receive a rod and reel. The first 50 to register will receive an event T-shirt. There will be four age groups (5-7, 8-10, 11-12, 13-15) with prizes awarded in each along with overall prizes for longest and largest fish. Prizes in each age group are based on total length of fish caught. Fishing will be done from the ALC beach shoreline using any bait or lure. Fishing will begin at 2 p.m. so be sure to arrive early for check-in. Fishing will conclude at 3:45 p.m. and awards will be presented at 4 p.m. Outdoor Recreation will have a rocket bounce house, inflatable basketball game, cornhole, volleyball, team building games, kayaks and canoes on hand for all to enjoy from 4-6 p.m. Arnold Lakeside Center will kick off the luau at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. in the beach pavilion. Reservations are required by Sept. 14 for dinner. The menu will include Huli Huli chicken, pulled pork, grilled tilapia with papaya relish, fried rice, Polynesian grilled vegetables and aloha sweet potatoes. Cost is \$17 for members and \$19 for non members. A kids' menu will also be available including hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and cookie for \$6.95. Dessert will be cupcakes in honor of the Air Force's birthday (Sept. 18). The luau will have beach games, luau band, hula dancers and tropical bar. Dig out your beach wear or favorite Hawaiian shirt and join us on the beach. Call 454-3303 to sign up for the fishing derby, make reservations for dinner or for more details.

## Fitness Center 454-6440

## Hours of operation

**Arnold Lakeside Center:** Catering/Management offices by appointment. Cashier Monday through Friday 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dinner: Arnold Express Menu or Hap's Pizza only Thursday 5-8 p.m., dinner or Arnold Express Menus and Hap's Pizza Friday 4-9 p.m. and Saturday 5-9 p.m.; Main Bar Thursday 5-8 p.m., Friday 3:30-10 p.m. and Saturday 5-10 p.m.; Social Hour Friday 4-6 p.m., Movie Night Thursday 6:30 p.m.

**Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT):** Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Café 100:** Monday through Friday 6:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

**Barber Shop:** by appointment – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**GLC:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. May vary depending on bookings.

**Outdoor Rec:** Tuesday through Sunday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. FamCamp Store: Friday through Sunday 12-4 p.m.

**Fitness Center:** Monday-Friday 5 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Arnold Golf Course:** Pro Shop & Driving Range 7 a.m.- dusk. Driving Range open 24 hours with pre-purchased key card. Mulligan's Coffee Bar & Grill Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Recycling:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Wingo Inn:** Monday through Friday 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Nonappropriated Funds Human Resources:** Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

need to provide all of their own supplies to start, cook and complete their chili entry and plan to make enough to provide samples as well as a batch for final judging. Teams need to be self-sufficient and make all necessary arrangements for electrical (if required), tables, chairs, utensils, containers, ingredients, etc. The ALC will provide supplies for the judges and for the attending personnel not affiliated with a team to judge for people's choice. Any ties of any kind will be decided by public coin toss. Power may not be available to contestants so teams need to plan accordingly. Eight-foot tables are available to rent from the ALC or Outdoor Rec (454-6084) for \$4 each and must be reserved in advance to guarantee availability. Costumes and booth decorations are encouraged but not required. Official rule sheets are available upon request. Cash prizes will be given for best tasting (\$200), best tasting runner-up (\$125), most unusual ingredient (\$75) and people's choice voted on by others in attendance (\$100 plus half of voting form sales). People's choice votes are \$3 per person for a voting form entry and includes napkins, cups and spoons for every booth entered in the competition. Call 454-3303 to register your team by Oct. 9.

## Fitness Center 454-6440

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Fitness Center

**Fall Fun Run** is scheduled for Sept. 12 on the Fitness Center trail. Complete two laps anytime during the day at your own pace to complete the 3.5 mile course. The first 25 to sign up will receive an event T-shirt.

**The Triple Threat** event is scheduled for Sept. 17-21 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day. This is a lift event for men and women to perform three lifts while standing on the floor – shoulder press, deadlift and squat. The combined total pounds of the three lifts will be added and that will be the participant's score. Top three scores for men and women will receive a T-shirt. Call to sign up or for more information.

**Fitness Center Blood Pressure Screening in Café 100 Sept. 19.** Not sure what your blood pressure level is or why it matters? The Fitness Center will be in Café 100 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Sept. 19 to conduct blood pressure

screenings. High blood pressure usually has no symptoms but can lead to serious problems. You can control high blood pressure through healthy lifestyle habits and medication. This is a free assessment and information on blood pressure along with other health information will be available. Dr. Tessier from the Medical Aid Station will be on hand to help answer any questions. Stop by and see where your numbers fall and learn more about heart health.

**Volleyball** will begin Oct. 1. Team info is due Sept. 24. Call to sign up and for details.

## Outdoor Rec (ODR) 454-6084

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Outdoor Recreation

**Paintball** took a break during the hot months but is now back with only a few changes. All paintball programs are for ages ten and older. Ages 10-17 must have a parent permission form. Remember to wear appropriate clothing – long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and closed toe shoes – as paintballs fly at 300 feet per second and can sting and possibly leave a mark other than paint.

## Regular Saturday play

is 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. every weekend except third Saturday due to monthly tournaments. Those interested need to call and sign up at least a day ahead of time to ensure equipment availability. When the day arrives, simply meet at the paintball field and get play underway with the direction of an Outdoor Rec (ODR) staff member. Cost is \$35 per person with equipment provided and includes 500 paintballs and a tank of air. It is \$20 per person for those with their own equipment and that also comes with 500 paintballs. All paintballs used must be purchased from ODR for \$13 per bag of 500 or \$45 for a box of 2000.

## Monthly tournaments

are on the third Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. A few changes have been made to this program. Teams of four will now play double elimination to test your skills until the best team arises. Prior to the tournament there will be a 25-minute warm up field time with team-on-team play. There must be at least one team member above age 18 and there must be at least eight teams to hold

the tournament. ODR has 20 paintball guns available on a first come first served basis. Indicate at time of registration if you will be using your own equipment or need to reserve equipment. Cost to enter the tournament is \$55 per team and includes a bag of 500 balls and air for the day for each team member. The winning team will receive a free day of paintball (regular Saturday play) for all four team members valid for one year and includes equipment, field fee, air for the day and bag of 500 balls. Sign up deadline for the tournament will be the Tuesday prior and late registration/cancellation fees will be applied the Wednesday prior. Those who participate in the Introductory Class will receive \$5 off the tournament entry fee.

**A Paintball Introductory Class** will be held 2-5 p.m. Sept. 8 at the paintball field. This class is \$10 and is for beginners that want to know more about the game of paintball. In this class you will learn about the parts of the gun and equipment used, shooting your gun and overall playing technique. A \$5 discount will be given toward the Paintball Tournament for those completing the Introductory Class.

Call 454-6084 for more information about the paintball program or to sign up for these events.

**Basics of Lake Kayaking Class** will be held 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 15 and 29. This class will give you basics needed for kayaking on our brand new sit-a-top kayaks. Learn how to sit properly in the kayak, how to do proper strokes, self- and assisted-rescue procedures, turning methods, proper entry into the kayak and more. This training will help familiarize you with kayaking and give you the necessary tools to be safe and have fun. Make sure you wear appropriate clothing and bring sunblock, because we will be getting in the lake during this class. Participants may bring their own kayak if you have one. The class is scheduled for two hours (depending on the amount of participants and questions) and then we will take a tour of the lake. This class is for ages 12 and up and cost is \$10 per person. There must be at least three to hold the class and maximum class size is 10. Call to sign up two days prior to event.

**Archery Basics Class** will be Sept. 22 for ages 10

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# Large solar array planned for Davis-Monthan AFB

By Capt. Martha L. Petersante  
376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFNS)** – The Air Force plans to expand its renewable energy portfolio substantially with a 14.5-megawatt photovoltaic solar array at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. The base has entered into an agreement with SunEdison, LLC to design, finance, build, operate and maintain the array on 170 acres of underutilized base property. Construction will begin soon with completion planned for no later than December 2012.

The power purchase agreement provides electricity to Davis-Monthan at a reduced rate for a period of 25 years saving the base from \$400,000 to \$500,000 a year in utility costs. The project will provide 35 percent of the energy needed to power Davis-Monthan. It will be slightly larger than the Nellis AFB, Nev., photovoltaic solar array built in 2007.

According to Ken Gray, the Rates and Renewables Branch Chief at the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Tyndall AFB, Fla., the array has to be built

and generating electricity by the end of the year.

“The project as it was conceived, contracted and offered to us is only viable and can only be done cost effectively for SunEdison if they can participate in a program to sell the Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to Tucson Electric Power. That program ends the 31st of December 2012,” said Gray.

Purchasing RECs helps Tucson Electric Power meet state renewable portfolio standards and receive federal tax incentives. A REC is sold or traded as an environmental commodity. The REC owner is credited with purchasing renewable energy.

The Air Force currently operates 131 solar, wind, waste-to-energy and landfill gas projects, which help meet goals established by the Energy Policy Act 2005 and Executive Order 13423. It has plans to build 30 new projects by the end of 2013 – not an easy task.

The Davis-Monthan solar array required the first Department of Defense approval for an Air Force

project of this type. Gray said complying with the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA, process is also challenging in Arizona where many

historical Native American areas exist.

“Getting this project through the developmental stage has highlighted to us areas where we need

to improve our process of garnering approval and authority to do our renewable energy projects,” said Gray. “We think lessons learned during the development of

this project will allow us to shorten execution time to six months.”

Planning the Davis-Monthan solar array began in 2010.

## Weapons evaluation



An F-15 from the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron drops a guided bomb unit during a Combat Hammer mission at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. The 85th TES is part of the 53rd Wing located at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Combat Hammer missions were part of an annual month-long weapons system evaluation program held at the base by the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group. The group is responsible for air-to-ground and air-to-air weapons evaluation for the Air Force. The air-to-ground unit, known as Combat Hammer, is managed by the 86th Fighter Weapons Squadron, located at Eglin. The air-to-air unit, known as Combat Archer, is managed by the 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron, located at Tyndall AFB, Fla. (Courtesy photo)

## SERVICES from page 14

and older. The class costs \$3 and will begin at 9 a.m. Deadline to sign up is three days before each class. There must be at least three to take the course and no more than 15.

This class will teach the basics of archery to include how to hold a bow properly, how to shoot with correct technique and also learn some history. Bows, arrows and targets will be provided but you may bring your own equipment

if you have it.

**FamCamp boat tours offered.** FamCamp guests have added incentive to stay on select weekends to be able to go on lake tours. What better way to spend a couple of hours than on a lake tour of Woods Reservoir? For only \$5 per person, take a two-hour ride around the 3,980-acre lake. While on the tour enjoy the scenery and wildlife as you hear stories of the

lake and local area. Boat tours are available Sept. 29 at 10 a.m.

**FamCamp outdoor movie nights.** FamCamp guests will be able to enjoy an outdoor movie for free beginning at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15 and 29. Bring your chairs or blankets to the open grass area behind the upper bathhouse. Sept. 15 will be “The Hunger Games” starring Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcher-

son and Liam Hemsworth. Set in a future where the Capitol selects a boy and girl from the 12 districts to fight to the death on live television, Katniss Everdeen volunteers to take her younger sister’s place for the latest match. Sept. 29 will be “The Avengers” starring Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, and Scarlett Johansson. Nick Fury of S.H.I.E.L.D. brings together a team of super humans to form The

Avengers to help save the Earth from Loki and his army.

**Wingo Inn**  
454-3051

Check us out on Facebook! Wingo Inn

Reservations for Wingo Inn can be made 120 days in advance. Room

**Gossick Leadership Center**  
454-4003

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Gossick Leadership Center

rates start at \$39 per night. Please call 454-3051 for reservations.

