Air Force Materiel Command is evaluating the current organizational structure to more efficiently operate in the current fiscal environment and improve AFMC’s overall management of Defense.
VETERANS DAY: A time to remember

By Gen. Donald Huffman
AEDC Commander

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE -- The holiday of honor, country, and freedom will be celebrated today as we gather to honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. May we be respectful in our actions and thoughts while we remember those who gave all.

All the great wars fought at home and abroad transformed our nation. The war effort is still going on today, making it strong and free.

Major John M. Power, 78th Pursuit Squadron commander, closed the following attacks on the American people.

This in a time of war, we will remember those who have taken pay - and sacrifices and give glory to their sacrifice. There is a day to remember the sacrifices of freedom and peace.

During times of war, there are many instances of bravery as generations of boys and girls have left home and went to war.

And men. We cannot forget the many heroes who were told that all those who were killed in this country.

A hero is someone who pushed across the world and through the boundaries of the German air force.

In a situation you haven't faced before. These are all stories of men, women, and children who gave all.

In 1954, having been a member of the 83rd U.S. Congress, the 83rd U.S. Congress, and the 83rd U.S. Congress, after World War II and Korea, the 83rd U.S. Congress, through the armistice, which went into effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of November, 1918.

We could also refer to the sacrifice of our nation's service members and sacrifices in the way we, as a people, give thanks for the millions of lives lost.

The American people of all ages and branches, it doesn't have to be a technical sergeant. We have an older, wiser, seen-it-all, and has ideas that you may not have. After all, it had never been a previous assignment. He was (and is still) a remarkable man.

Sage advice I received as we worked together. We didn't always agree, but I always learned from him. He didn't always have the answers, but he always made me think.

And sacrifices. Our veterans service organization and individuals in the Veterans Administration will never ask for money or return on your life.

The important thing in the supervisory relationship is a willingness to help. It's having a vested interest in the overall success of the organization. It's easy to see from the supervisory-subordinate relationship how to do this. We could also refer to the sacrifice of our nation's service members and sacrifices in the way we, as a people, give thanks for the billions of lives lost.

The hard realities of life have taught us much. I appreciated their ability to help me grow professionally.

I, 11/11/11 approaches, we pay to those Americans who have answered our nation's call with exemplary service and sacrifice. Our veterans service organizations and many backyards. Some have come across great battlefields, some have engaged wars, and some have patrolled the skies. Others have contributed to the character and greatness of our country.

Let us pray: With the approval of the AEDC commander, 11 November 1917.

As November 11, 2011 approaches, we pay to those Americans who have answered our nation's call with exemplary service and sacrifice. Our veterans service organizations and many backyards. Some have come across great battlefields, some have engaged wars, and some have patrolled the skies. Others have contributed to the character and greatness of our country.

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By Jason Austin

Arnold AFB Public Affairs

Two force structure announcements were made Nov. 2 by the U.S. Air Force and the Air Force Materiel Command. Arnold AFB leadership expects responses to both announcements by Nov. 15.

Force structure announcements are used to manage workforces required to support the Air Force’s mission worldwide, and to manage the space at each base and the local community. These type of announcements are made at all Air Force bases around the country.

The first announcement, made by the Secretary of the Air Force Patrick M. Shanahan, directs all Air Force-wide civilian workforce restructuring. This initiative will create 5,000 positions against the Air Force’s top priorities, and will be made across the force as a whole.

As announced, Arnold AFB will lose only 18 positions, which are being managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who is the lead architect for this effort. That's what our job is to do the best, design it, and get it started in the building. That's what the Air Force is doing today.

The Air Force will be reducing its workforces in 2012 in order to align to a respective PEO while the current Aerospace Sustainment Center at Hanscom AFB, Mass., and the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB, Fla. Those three acquisition centers, the three ALCs, will be eliminated. In addition, the Air Force will realign to a respective PEO.

The command’s maintenance and supply mission will be led by the new Air Force Sustainment Center at Tinker AFB, Okla. The AFPC will consolidate oversight of most missions at Tinker AFB, the Warner Robins ALC, the Air Logistics Command and the Air Force at Hill AFB.

The current Aerospace Sustainment Center at Hanscom AFB, Mass., and the Air Armament Center at Eglin AFB will be eliminated. The current acquisition centers, the three ALCs, will be eliminated.

The command’s mission will also be consolidated. The center for test management will be at the Air Force Test Center at Edwards AFB, Calif., currently assigned to the 422nd Test Wing at Edwards AFB, Calif.

In summary, the Air Force’s workforces will report to the new AFSC. Each location’s mission work remains at these locations.

Also joining AFLCMC will be the AFRL, which is the Air Force’s test management function, and the AFSC will become the 448th Supply Chain Management Group. Also joining AFLCMC will be the AFSC, which will be the 448th Supply Chain Management Wing.

The new Air Force Sustainment Center, which will be named the Oklahoma City, Okla., area Sustainment Center, will be the new AFSC. Each location’s mission work remains at these locations.

From page 1

Turf Set for Nov. 17

The 2011-AFSC Charity Fair will take place Nov. 4, 2011 at 10 a.m., at Cafe 100 in the A&E Building and the 1100 Building.

A long sleeve Turkey shirt is available for任意 donation of $15. Also, bring a non-perishable food item for an extra chance to win a door prize. Entry forms and donations are available at the A&E Building.

AEDC AECC Director Britton Cornington talks with a representative from one of the 25 local charities in attendance at the AEDC’s 2011 CFC Fair.

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AECC AECC Director Britton Corrington talks with a representative from one of the 25 local charities in attendance at the AEDC’s 2011 CFC Fair.
Sunny skies and warm weather provided the perfect setting for the annual VA Picnic hosted Oct. 6 by AEDC at the Arnold Lakeside Center (ALC).

Approximately 95 veterans, along with their caregivers, were treated to hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings and had an opportunity to sing along or dance to karaoke, take a boat ride on Woods Reservoir or a ride in a horse-drawn carriage. The veterans, ranging in age from 52 to 88, came from the Alvin C. York Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Tennessee State Veterans home, both in Murfreesboro.

Tech. Sgt. John Bankston helped Tech. Sgt. Michael Hurley organize the event with assistance from Master Sgt. Patrick Lazarus. Sergeant Bankston said 42 volunteers from AEDC and a number from the surrounding community helped activities run smoothly. He thanked the people and organizations who donated the food and gifts for the veterans.

“It’s unreal the amount of gifts they brought, and all those gifts [were] divvied up into individual bags and donated to each visiting vet,” Sergeant Bankston said. “Whatever there was no room for we boxed it up and put it in the back of the buses when they were leaving. I was impressed and shocked at the same time with the amount of gifts. It was a lot.”

“The AFSA [Air Force Sergeants Association] provided a lot of the financial backing as far as paying the club. Every professional organization on base, whether directly or indirectly, had something to do with that event. That includes the Arnold Top IV, the Junior Force Council and the CGOC [Company Grade Officers Council].”

The Arnold Community Council, area chambers of commerce, business and individuals also donated to the event.

Sharon Stephens, a recreation therapist at the York VA Medical Center, said the veterans look forward to the picnic every year.

“It brings many reminiscing opportunities for our vets, especially with the men and women in uniform giving recognition and personal attention to each vet,” Mages said. “It makes them feel special and appreciated… and brightens their day. I have several vets who are still talking about that day.”

Sergeant Bankston said connecting with the older veterans seemed to come naturally to the local Air Force personnel.

“Personally, it was sobering,” Sergeant Bankston said. “There were folks from the Korean and Vietnam wars and just to be able to kind of connect with them, even in a two-minute conversation, was pretty surreal. Sometimes you do think alike. They’re not really that much different from us; they’re just older.”

Left, Veterans prepare for a cruise on Woods Reservoir, one of many activities at the annual VA Picnic. Right, Veterans and Air Force personnel enjoy a “friendly” game of cards at the ALC. (Photos by Rick Goodfriend)
CIVILIANS from page 1

can’t afford business as usual.”

Upon receiving the Sec-

Defence of 2010’s memo damming that civil-

ian manpower cuts stay within fiscal year 2010-

level goals, the Air Force began a comprehensive strategic review of the entire civilian workforce to de-

termine whether or not civil-

ian authorizations were in the right places to meet mission priorities. The strategic review re-

vealed several imbalances. Some high priority areas needed growth, while some management and overhead functions needed stream-

lining. These imbalances led to a variety of initia-

tives, including a broad ex-

panse of monetary resources with the most critical mis-

sions.

In particular, the Air

Force will grow by ap-

proximately 3,900 posi-

tions in acquisition, the nuclear enterprise, and in-

telligence, surveillance and reconnaissance key areas while reducing approximately 5,000 posi-

tions in management, staff support areas.

“We clearly understand the turbulence these and future reductions will cause in the workforce,” Gen.

Norton Schwartz, Chief of

Staff of the Air Force said. “As we focus on rebalancing scarce manpower resources with the most critical mis-

sions, we will cut overhead costs and redundancies in areas of the Air Force that will help our national and our partners.

We appreciate the local communities support to our workforce, who are members of your com-

munity, as we continue to make adjustments and do our part to maintain budget goals.”

Validating F-35 engine processes for future

Patty Officer 1st Class John Buser, a Strike Fighter Squadron 101 group commander, makes adjustments to an F-35 Lightning II’s joint strike fighter engine at Eglin AFB, Fla., July 27. Airman, Maintainers and Sailors are executing step-by-step processes to validate engine maintenance procedures in the F-35’s F-135 to ensure they are sound before being bought to future F-35 maintainers. (U.S. Air Force photo/Samuel King Jr.)

LEGO from page 1

the Tullahoma Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE).

“For the first two years, the teams were relatively small and they [TSPE] sup-

plied us with robots,” An-

drods said. “We donated mon-

ey this past year and we were able to purchase a second robot, which is allowing us to field teams this year. It [having two teams] is a lot more challenging but I think it would be the same way being the original.”

The Food Factor Robot Game includes tables with Lego blocks and mixed bacteria, which must be knocked off the table. It also includes a box that must be brought back to “base” and a truck which must be brought to base.

Other tasks include mov-

ing a corn harvester and knocking corn out of the hoppers in the base and other challenges. Teams may receive tasks that they want to accomplish, but they must be completed in an allotted time.

“First off, they have to demonstrate that they want to do the task, how the task is going to be done and design and implement the tool that’s going to attack the task,” Andrews said. “Then you have to program the task and you can’t program from beginning to end, you at a time at the way you’ve taught them.

“Sometimes it’s hard to start kids early because they want to get the whole thing done at once, but [we] get them engaged in engineering.”

Andrews said the Project portion of the Challenge includes research by the students.

They have to present a skit to judges,” he said. “They talk about how the food process happens, how food can get contaminated and how to take precautions to prevent it from being contaminated. They get evaluated by how well they did it.”

Andrews said surprised him.

“We didn’t think we did it,” he said. “We were happy with the way we did it.”

SMP’s Sandi Stewart said LEGO League can benefit students in a number of ways.

“Students in LEGO League learn leadership and teamwork skills as they research and apply solutions related to math, science, engineering and technology,” she said. “The LEGO League provides an excel-

lent opportunity for students to develop their interests and knowledge in these areas.”

Stewart said the school is fortunate that Andrews volunteers to coach the team.

“His expertise in the sci-

ences and engineering has provided invaluable experi-

cences for our students,” she said. “We consider him an important member of our team at South Middle School.”

Stewart also thanked AFA for the donation, which allowed the purchase of a new robot.

“With the purchase of the new robot, we will be able to support students in South Middle School in regional and state competi-

tions,” she explained. “The robot will also be used by students in science classes.”

Andrews said Deda Cummings, wife of AFA Human Resources Branch Manager Mike Cunnin-

gham, was instrumental in getting the LEGO League team established at the school.

“Dede, all honesty, was probably responsible for getting it out at South Middle School the first year it went there,” he said. “She wanted a little help, so I went out there and helped and basically it has gone on for the last three years.

“Every year I have more and the more I learn, the better you can coach the team and pass ideas on to them. You learn from watching other teams. One reason that our team has had the success that we have is that we don’t start with a new coach every two years. We’re building on experi-

ence and it’s good for the overall program.”

Regional competition among schools in five area counties begins Nov. 19 at East Middle School in Tull-

ahoma. State competitions are Dec. 10 in Cookeville.

LEGO robotics donation

Kathy Gatta, AFA Public Affairs manager, presents a $50 donation to Sandra Stewart (right), South Middle School (SMS) principal, and Karen Mathews, teacher, to purchase a LEGO robotics kit to use in promoting STEM education at the school. The robot will be used by the SMS LEGO League team and by science classes at the school. (Photo provided)
A couple of old bugles, a worn Army jacket and a memento-filled gold pan illustrate Bowden’s family’s military heritage. Bowden’s father, who lives in the small community of Smith’s Grove, Ky., near Bowling Green, wanted Bowden to have the mementos due to his daughter’s connection to the military at AEDC.

“My dad gave me that when I worked at a military installation and that it is an involvement with national security responsibilities,” Bowden said. “Even though they have two sons and a grandson, Dad wanted me to have those while I’m working here to display in my office. When my career is over, he’d like me to pass them on to my brother, who can pass them on to his son.”

Bowden’s father, who served as Turbines craft supervisor, is the family’s military historian. Bowden’s grandfather’s World War I bugles and hat, her uncle’s Army jacket and a membranous gold pan that belonged to her aunt adorn Bowden’s office at AEDC.

AEDC.

Her grandfather’s World War I bugles and hat, her uncle’s Army jacket and a membranous gold pan that belonged to her aunt adorn Bowden’s office at AEDC.

“His hat is so well preserved,” Bowden observed. “I’m not even sure how he was able to do that, but I love the fact that I have the photographs of him with his Bugle Corps wearing the hat she has on display in her office. The Army jacket belonged to Bowden’s uncle, Henry Carpenters, who made a career in the military after leaving the service in 1914 during World War I. He served with the 38th Infantry Division in the South Pacific. Discharged after the Japanese surrendered in 1945, Herman returned home to Lynch, Ky., mar- ried, and enlisted and served the remainder of his career as a master sergeant.

Herman was the platoon leader and supply sergeant for Baker Company, 18th Engineer Combat Battalion on the front line in Europe. Shortly after the war, he began teaching school in Alaska, where he spent the remainder of his life working in coal mines. After enlisting in the Army in 1942 during World War II, Bowden served,” Bowden observed.

By Shawn Jacobs

Air Force vice chief testifies on force readiness

Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Air Force vice chief of staff provided the Air Force perspective on readiness in an area of mo- tivation of the special committee estab- lished by the Special Committee to establish the nation’s defense needs if Congress meets its requirements.”

“Being the oldest fighter that the Air Force has ever flown,” the general explained. “We are flying the oldest fighter that the Air Force has ever flown,” the general explained. “We are flying the oldest fighter that the Air Force has ever flown.”

As Turbines craft supervisor, Bowden claimed that the General Breland said. “Impassioned gold pan that belonged to her aunt is also the part of the military heritage of my family. Sometimes you figure out what you’re supposed to do in life and sometimes you’re just not sure. I’m confident that I’m right where I’m supposed to be.”

General Bowden’s grandfather is pictured above with his U.S. Army Bugle Corps during World War I wearing the hat she has on display in her office. Her grandmother’s World War I bugles and hat, her uncle’s Army jacket and a membranous gold pan that belonged to her aunt adorn Bowden’s office at AEDC. (Top photo provided; bottom photo by Rick Goodfriend)

“After a couple of years, Geneva returned to Lynch, Ky., to complete her education. She committed her life to teaching in independent schools for U.S. military children around the world, including Korea, Turkey, Taiwan, Okinawa and her last assignment, Alaska, where the Aleutian Islands of Alaska come to a great head and probably because of the family’s military history — she had a great heart for the military,” Bowden said. “As a matter of fact, during World War II, Okinawa and the various places that my aunt went to teach U.S. military school children.”

“When she retired from teaching, as you can imagine, they gave her a beautiful com- memorative gold pan. She loved Alaska and retired to Anchorage. She and her father, who lives in the small community of Smith’s Grove, Ky., near Bowling Green, wanted Bowden to have the mementos due to his daughter’s connection to the military at AEDC.

“Guy was stationed on the Rio Grande River. He was the first U.S. settlement in a worn Army jacket and a membranous gold pan that belonged to her aunt is also the part of the military heritage of my family. Sometimes you figure out what you’re supposed to do in life and sometimes you’re just not sure. I’m confident that I’m right where I’m supposed to be.”

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“Guy was stationed on the Rio Grande River. He was the first U.S. settlement in the United States. Guy was stationed at Eagle Pass, Texas, which was the first U.S. settlement on the Rio Grande River. It was disestablished upon the signing of the armistice in 1918 that ended the war and he spent the remainder of his life working in coal mines and representing the miners as financial secretary of the Local United Mine Workers Union.

“The hat is so well preserved,” Bowden observed. “I’m not even sure how he was able to do that, but I love the fact that I have the photographs of him with his Bugle Corps wearing the hat she has on display in her office. The Army jacket belonged to Bowden’s uncle, Henry Carpenters, who made a career in the military after leaving the service in 1914 during World War I. He served with the 38th Infantry Division in the South Pacific. Discharged after the Japanese surrendered in 1945, Herman returned home to Lynch, Ky., mar- ried, and enlisted and served the remainder of his career as a master sergeant.

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2011 Chili Cook-Off Winners

Seven teams took part in this year’s chili cook-off at the Arnold Lakeside Center Oct. 14. Teams competed for bragging rights and cash prizes provided by Ascend Federal Credit Union.

Best Overall: ALC Kitchen Divas
Captain: Whitney Etheridge

Best Overall Runner-Up: Team Save the Ta-Ta’s
Captain: Jenny Conry

Most Unusual Ingredient: Team Can-Your-Chili-Scintillate-The-Atmosphere
Captain: Taylor Swanson
Ingredient: Cactus

People’s Choice: Kindermann’s Mushroom Chili
Captain: Tara Kindermann

INBOUND MILITARY
Capt. Allyson Banks, AF

OUTBOUND MILITARY
1st Lt. Marc Honrath, AF
capt. Rodney Fried, AF
1st L.t. Jamie Carganese, AF

NEW HIRES
Robert Merrill, AF

PROMOTIONS
Stanley Burgett, ATA
Jennifer Johnson, ATA
Stephen Mayes, ATA
Sarah Colman, ATA
AEDC quarterly award winners announced

Ricky Mead, a Jacobs Technology Program manager, has received the William M. Dunne People’s Choice Award.

Mead is the program manager for modernization programs in the von Kármán Gas Dynamics Facility (VFK) Tunnels A/B/C and 4E.

The programs, which consist of nine individual projects he began planning in 2006, are valued at $50 million.

Ricky Mead, Jacobs Technology Program manager. Mead has pioneered the way both AEDC and the individuals involved in his programs. Combined with continual emphasis on safety, the first four months of the A/B/C installation outage this year have been executed with no recordable injuries. Even in the midst of continuing technical, resource and programmatic challenges, Mead continues to find ways to achieve very complex issues within his programs. “I am honored to have been selected to receive this award for the work that has been accomplished to-date in the A/B/C and 4E Modernization efforts,” Mead said. “It has been a great experience to work with such an exceptional group of people over the past five years on these two programs, and we are all looking forward to their successful completion over the next three years.”

Mead, a Shelbyville native, started his career with Sverdrup Technology at AEDC in 1989 and was transferred to the Technology Group in 1990. He worked in the Tullahoma office until 2004, when he returned to AEDC as part of a corporate reads-back initiative on ATA’s contract. His noteworthy accomplishments are indicative of his personal initiative, cooperation and customer focus that characterize his outstanding career working with AEDC.

Heather Fair, civilian of the Quarter - Administrative

The ATA Team Member of the Quarter

The ATA Team Member of the Quarter is John Payne. Payne is a technical specialist with the Project and Design Engineering Department. He was recognized for his commitment to AEDC energy programs. He recently took the initiative to introduce a TIA rebate program to AEDC that could result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in energy savings. Payne is also responsible for the lighting program at AEDC and frequently researches energy-efficient lighting solutions for the base. Payne has worked at AEDC for 28 years.

Heather Fair, Civilian of the Quarter - Administrative

Payne has worked at AEDC for 28 years.

Heather Fair, Jacobs Technology Group program manager, was recognized for directing several tests across AEDC. Fair, financial management specialist, was recognized for controlling an ever-fluctuating Operations and Maintenance budget despite seven months of budget uncertainty.

Heather Fair, Jacobs Technology Group program manager. Fair is a technical specialist with the Jacobs Technology Group program at AEDC and frequently researches thousands of dollars in energy savings. Payne is also responsible for the lighting program at AEDC and frequently researches energy-efficient lighting solutions for the base. Payne has worked at AEDC for 28 years.

ATA Craft Team Member of the Quarter

The ATA Craft Team Member of the Quarter is Brian P. Barnes. Barnes was recognized for spearheading the revamping of the AEDC Fire Department’s Respiratory Program, including face fit test of 33 personnel, training on system operation and maintenance and conducting and conduting air samples for the department’s newly-assigned tactical air compressor. Barnes also was recognized for his training and organizing skills. He led personalized training for a junior firefighter on two career development courses, resulting in the trainee attaining an International Fire Service certification ahead of schedule. Barnes has worked at AEDC for 2 years.

Dee Wolfe, education and training, was recognized for taking on workforce development chief duties and ensuring consistency in education and training requirements across AEDC.

Dee Wolfe, Civilian of the Quarter - Clerical/Technical Support

Dee Wolfe, education and training. Wolfe, education and training, was recognized for taking on workforce development chief duties and ensuring consistency in education and training requirements across AEDC.
Alexander, engineer/scientist, was recognized for her excellent work with the AFAA Hazard Abatement Log to record and track workplace hazards.

Phillips, ETF issuing official, was recognized for his thorough knowledge and understanding of the functions, limitations and hazards of the ETF A/B plants.

Farris, postal assistant/base tele- phone operator, was recognized for accomplishing two roles with a cheerful and positive attitude.

Jackson, project engineer, was recognized for compiling test data that prevented a test article’s removal, rebuild and reinstallation that would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Vaughn, project manager, was recognized for high performance in executing tasks to ensure the success of APTU upgrade jobs and preparation for test programs.

Walker, emergency management technician, was recognized for continually displaying leadership and professionalism while executing specialized emergency management duties.

Harvey, planner/scheduler, was recognized for producing a plan to complete the B-52H model during a period where the inside machinist workload was near maximum capacity.

Blevins, iron worker, was recognized for his experience, which enabled insertion of a large test article in J-6 without any incidents.

Summers, operating engineer lead, was recognized for playing a key role in the cleanup effort after strong storms blew through the AEDC area in the spring.

Hane, lead machinist, was recognized for providing excellent support for the Condition-Based Maintenance oil analysis function and the expanding mechanical ultrasound and infrared programs.

Grissom, lead vehicle dispatcher, was recognized for developing a plan to accommodate the base population for the 60th anniversary picnic.

Williams, instrument technician specialist, was recognized for devising a quicker and safer method for calibrations in the 1-1 Test Cell.

Leonard, subcontract administrator, was recognized for guiding IT engineers through every step of the $1.8 million IT&S Virtual Infrastructure Upgrade Project and facilitating communication between the vendor and ATA.

Limbaugh, project control officer, was recognized for her work in assembling fiscal year 2012 budget and workload proposal products while successfully closing out 2011 financials and award fee.

Thompson’s keen attention to detail and thorough test planning, preparation and conduct practices on the B-52H Store Separation test resulted in a program which met 100 percent of data objectives on-budget.
New wind turbines help Air Force go green

By Senior Master Sgt. David Byron
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) - Under Secretary of the Air Force Eric C. Conaton visited the Massachusetts Military Reservation in Cape Cod, Mass., Oct. 28 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony for two new wind turbines.

The 1.5 megawatt wind turbines, in addition to an existing turbine, were built to offset electrical costs for powering numerous groundwater cleanup systems at the reservation.

The turbines will pay for all the Air Force’s electric needs for groundwater remediation at Massachusetts Military Reservation. Conaton said. “As Air Force missions expand and change over time, we will be integrating the full spectrum of our facility design and construction projects and into our mission operations.”

As the Air Force under secretary, Conaton is responsible for ensuring the Air Force has what it needs to perform its missions in support of national security. Dependence on fossil fuels can be a liability in both supply and cost, generating the need to decrease demand and diversify supply sources. The wind turbine project is an example of an Air Force initiative to meet this need.

“The Air Force currently operates 85 on-base renewable energy projects at 43 installations, playing a significant role in the national strategy to establish greater energy security via conservation and alternative energy use,” Conaton said.

According to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports, the Air Force is the third largest purchaser of green power in the federal government. “The future is bright for renewable energy use,” Conaton said. “As Air Force mission requirements and for environmental cleanup, the Air Force has what it needs to perform its mission in support of national security. Dependence on fossil fuels can be a liability in both supply and cost, generating the need to decrease demand and diversify supply sources. The wind turbine project is an example of an Air Force initiative to meet this need.”

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The Air Force’s two new wind turbines at the Massachusetts Military Reservation in Cape Cod, Mass., seen from a distance, pose an interesting contrast to an ornamental traditional windmill atop a local Cape Cod shop. The 1.5 megawatt wind turbines, in addition to an existing turbine, were built to offset electrical costs for powering numerous groundwater cleanup systems at the reservation.

The turbines will pay for all the Air Force’s electric needs for groundwater remediation at MMR, saving more than $1.5 million per year. The turbines will pay for all the Air Force’s electric needs for groundwater remediation at MMR, saving more than $1.5 million per year.

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for children. There must be $60 for adults and $40
signed up Nov. 9-16 will

first Friday Jam will be Nov. 4 starting at 6 p.m.
and may be made by calling

11 a.m.-1 p.m. on November 12 featuring the movie "Crazy Stupid Love" starring Ryan Gosling and Julianne Moore. A special date night will be for $24 (2$25 nonmembers) members at 454-6440.
2 p.m. Wednesday.

2 p.m. the 1st and 3rd week of every month.

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NCO retraining program a success in fiscal 2012

By Eric Grill
AFNS, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOPLH AFB, Texas (AFNS) – The 2012 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program concluded Oct. 26 with 970 Air Force NCOs identified to transition to new career fields.

The NCORP consists of overage – voluntary and involuntary – career fields with shortages, said Chief Master Sgt. Shannon Parker, the Air Force Personnel Center’s chief of enlisted skills management. In phase II, non-volunteers were selected for retraining based on the remaining Air Force needs.

The major program change for fiscal year 2012 NCORP was running phase II concurrently for restricted AFSCs along with the phase I program for unrestricted AFSCs, officials said.

Restricted AFSCs are those AFSCs that are only permitted to retrain into the same career field with a shied-out. Airmen in restricted AFSCs had 30 days to volunteer for retraining before entering Phase II.

“This better met mission objectives and allowed for the Air Force to meet program goals within 60 days and reduce the potential for phase II,” Sergeant Parker said.

While we still had an involuntary phase, we are very happy with the results, not only because we met our program objective, but did so with such a large voluntary effort.”

Airmen were also allowed to apply for special duties such as military training instructors, military training leaders and recruiting, she said.

The fiscal 2012 NCORP concluded meeting 100 percent of the target goal, Sergeant Parker said.

Even though the objectives were met, there are still some remaining AFSCs. Anyone eligible Airmen are encouraged to volunteer.

By Tech Sgt. Leisa Grant
National Guard Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) – There are two things you should not see as of Nov. 1: Hallowe'en costumes and the Air Force Battle Dress Uniform (BDU).

In 2006, the Airman Battle Uniform became authorized for wear and a date was set for final phase-out of the woodland camouflage-patterned BDUs. Previously announced to be effective Oct. 1 of 2011, a more recent Air Force Instruction 36-2903, “Dress and Appearance,” pushed the date back to Nov. 1. This applies to all Air Force components.

Other items will simultaneously enter retirement with the BDU’s effective Nov. 1 including the desert camouflage uniform, black T-shirt, black combat boots and tan boots with the ABU outside theater of operations.

The almost 30 year-old duty uniform, originally designed for use throughout Europe and the Cold War, was worn by all branches of the service until 2005. Starting Nov. 1, only the Navy will be authorized to wear the BDU until it is set phase-out date.

Aside from its appearance, one of the major differences between the ABU and BDU is its maintenance. The new uniforms require very little care, needing only to be washed and hung for drying. Furthermore, the boots, now a sage green, full-grain leather boot with rubber heel and toe reinforcement, do not require polishing.

Not all Airmen embraced the changes immediately.

“The (BDU’s) featured solid, good-looking creases that lacked great with well-shined boots,” said Master Sgt. Sam Macaluso, a member of the Nevada Air National Guard 152nd Airlift Wing.

But, even for those who like the creases and the spit-shined boot look, the appeal of less maintenance grows on them.

“We’d often spend our entire guard duty at night getting the perfect shine on the boots,” Macaluso said. “It’s easier to have boots you don’t need to shine and a uniform you don’t need to press constantly.”

With less time spent on upkeep their uniforms, Airmen are afforded more time to focus on other aspects of their military lives.

“A big benefit is the ABU gives Airmen at schools more time to study,” Macaluso said. “Discipline and standards are important, but I believe Airmen have a lot more than their uniforms to focus on these days.”

(Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Eric Boster of the Nevada Air National Guard contributed to this article)