By Senior Airman Danielle Purnell

**Team at Tunnel 9 tackles NASA heat shield test**

Team at Tunnel 9 facility in 2006,” said Adam Amar, NASA’s acting aerothermal lead and system manager. “We’re looking at the heat-resistant materials that will protect the Orion capsule.”

Jen Coblish, lead projects manager at Tunnel 9, said, “The Orion capsule has to have a properly sized thermal protection system (TPS) to successfully travel through the harsh environment encountered during atmospheric re-entry. Ground testing serves a critical role in providing high-quality data to validate computational tools being used today to develop advanced, personalized configurations.”

According to Amar, who is NASA’s principal investigator for the project, the ground test will support a flight test, tentatively scheduled to take place at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., in 2013.

AEDC’s economic impact – which includes AEDC and its remote operating locations – the Hypervelocity Tunnel 9 at White Oak in Silver Spring, Md., and the National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex at Muroc Field, Calif. – was $633.8 million for fiscal 2011. Each location impacts the local areas through payroll, secondary jobs created through local purchasing, and other expenditures for supplies, utilities, fuel and services and the spin-off impact of those purchases.

AEDC employed a mixture of active-duty military personnel from the Air Force and Navy; Department of Defense civilians; and contractor personnel, which totaled 2,640 personnel in fiscal 2011. Of the 2,640 personnel, 61 were active-duty military; nine Air Force Reserve and National Guard; 330 appropriated fund/civilian employees (includes general schedule, federal wage board and other military branches); 63 government non-appropriated fund employees; 42 other civilians (credit union, Base Exchange and commissary tenants); and 2,154 contractor and sub-contractor employees. Additionally, using the Tennessee Valley Authority economic impact model methodology, AEDC estimated that more than 1,800 secondary jobs were created in the local area, for a total of 4,494 jobs directly related to AEDC.

Examples of secondary jobs include those created by home construction and at local supermarkets, car dealerships and department stores. During fiscal 2011, the payroll cost for AEDC government and contractor personnel was $279 million. AEDC’s direct expenditures – which include utility costs, service contracts with outside vendors and military health insurance paid to local doctors and hospitals – was more than $111 million. Furthermore, the indirect spin-off impact of these direct expenditures is approximately $208 million. The overall economic impact figure is secured for a test. (Photo provided)

From left, Tunnel 9 ATA Project Engineer Dan Lewis and NASA’s principal investigator for the project and NASA’s Orion acting aerothermal lead and system manager Adam Amar review the Orion capsule test article before the Tunnel 9 facility is secured for a test. (Photo provided)
**Hold the Line: Goals as the key to success**

By Lt. Col. Abraham J. Raymond

**VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFNS)**

We all have a sense of purpose and a desire to achieve results. This applies not only to our professional lives, but our personal lives as well.

We are surrounded by influence requests and a desire to vote for a particular political group. The pressure to influence our subordinates to participate in some aspects of the political process is tremendous.

We must remain firm in our resolve to support our elected officials and not collectively vote them in, or against, for particular candidates. For this reason, the Air Force has implemented the so-called “flying by the seat of your pants” philosophy. Courts have no legal basis for this, but it is a sound policy designed to protect our service members and the public from undue influence.

Our rights are protected by the Uniform Code of Military Justice. We must protect our rights by being informed and participating in our political process.

Military members who violate these rules may result in court-martial proceedings.

**Department of Defense Directive 144-10**, “Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. Air Force,” instructs that “Members of the armed forces on active duty; reservists on active duty status; and airmen on active duty status while performing military training may not engage in political activities.”

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 smoking only. Smoking near a facility in an area not designated on the map is prohibited and any violation will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Rules governing political activities by military members are found in a federal law known as the Hatch Act. DOD civil service employees are bound by this Act as well.**

**Hatch Act**

The term “employee” means any person who is, or acts as, a clerk, or any other employee, except an independent contractor, who holds a position that is classified under the OPM Schedule; is subject to the rules and restrictions of the Hatch Act; and is paid from funds appropriated by Congress or is paid from another source and is required to consult with, or receive direction from a Federal agency or department.

**Political activities** include:

- Making a political contribution
- Activity under the control of a political organization
- Serving as a political officer or candidate
- Participating in an election campaign
- Being a political party worker
- Voting in a political primary
- Serving as a political officer or candidate
- Voting in a political primary
- Serving as a political officer or candidate

**Political activities by Members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. Air Force**

Political activities by Members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. Air Force, while on active duty, may include:

- Attending a political meeting
- Expressing political views
- Making political contributions
- Participating in a political campaign
- Serving as a political party worker
- Voting in a political primary
- Serving as a political officer or candidate
- Engaging in any other political activity

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The Association for Legal Assistance to the Military 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.

**EEO policy by the Department of Defense**

The Department of Defense, the Department of the Navy, the Department of the Air Force, the Department of the Army, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of the Interior and related agencies are equal opportunity employers and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national orientation, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor.

**By 2nd Lt. Abraham J. Raymond**

**Kurt Lewin, universally known as the father of modern social psychology**

...Lewin essentially did all his research on the basis of his personal and professional interest areas. He was not much above his last achievement in this way. In this sense he steadily raises his level of aspiration.

...What it usually boils down to is to come up with a list of goals and milestones; to get started and get going in the right direction; to stick to them and reviewing them periodically to keep yourself on track. You have it’s hard to stick to a plan or even adjust it along the way if you don’t have a goal in the first place.

Don’t be that Airmen who never plans for the future, or the one who “flies by the seat of his pant.”

Whether your goals are to make the next promotion, or elevate your CAF career or to be prepared for the next campaign; plan and track it.

Some of these plans are being marketed to particular military personnel. During the year, develop a plan and stick to it.

*(Reprinted with permission from the U.S. Air Force Legal Assistance Program)*

**Action Line Team AEDC**

I believe in free and open communications with our customers. As the team leader of the Action Line Available, I can help you connect to the correct office or get the right information. I can provide tips and ideas on improvements, explain entitlements or get you connected to the right office by calling 454-6000.

**Attention:** The Action Line is one of three ways of using the AEDC Interact Network. The other two are the ACE Line and “Ask a Question,” and by calling 454-6000.

The Action Line is always available, the fastest and best way to get things resolved is by calling 454-6000. We are working to continually satisfy our customers by exceeding their organization directly involved. Encourage everyone you know in the AEDC community to call 454-6000, if they never know what the right, give us a chance.

*Col. Michael Brewer
AEDC Commander*
By Shawn Jacobs

The AEDC Angel Tree program was a great success again this past Christmas, with approximately 160 employees providing gifts for 75 disadvantaged military children.

One of the volunteers, Art Walker, an Air Force Investments project manager, took a special interest in the program because he was an Angel Tree recipient as a child. Walker, a native of Mobile, Ala., and 2009 graduate of Alabama A and M University in Huntsville, Ala., said his parents split up when he was about 10, and his mother was left to raise his family, which consisted of his mother, older brother and two younger brothers.

He said his mother learned about the program through their church.

“I was an Angel Tree kid for two or three years,” Walker said. “Of course, by then I was 12 or 13, and Christmas had a totally different meaning (for me). Probably for the next three or five years after that (my younger) brothers remained Angel Tree kids until my mother got more established and back on her feet. The good part about when we got introduced to the Angel Tree program, I didn’t feel like somebody was handing me something. I felt more like I was being blessed with something. The actual individual who bought the bike or bought the clothes didn’t feel like a faceless love and spirit through their gift.”

Walker said when he got to high school and college, he supported Angel Tree programs through his church.

By Karen Parrish

By Maj. Karen Roganov

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The first group of military maintainers at the 33rd Fighter Wing recently qualified in the F-35A, the latest joint strike fighter, in accordance with Department of Defense regulations required by a uniformed certifier, a task only civilian certifiers initially continued to support.

“This first-ever Air Force to Air Force on-job training event is an important milestone in establishing the operational effectiveness of the F-35A at Eglin,” said Lt. Col. Michael Miles, 33rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander. “The Air Force will now be able to better assist our contract logistics services teams in maintaining operations.”

Lockheed Martin was initially contracted to provide this service, but as the military becomes more “self-sufficient,” maintainers will share the task.

The six maintainers were identified by an auxiliary power unit joint technical data on how to properly maintain the aircraft left to right, said Walker. The special training of the three F-35s in 2012 and beyond, the military wrench turners are not ready to take the toolboxes over just yet.

“Of course, by then I was 12 or 13, and Christmas had a totally different meaning [for me]. Probably for the next three or five years after that (my younger) brothers remained Angel Tree kids until my mother got more established and back on her feet. The good part about when we got introduced to the Angel Tree program, I didn’t feel like somebody was handing me something. I felt more like I was being blessed with something. The actual individual who bought the bike or bought the clothes didn’t feel like a faceless love and spirit through their gift.”

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Air Force offering second round of voluntary retirement, separation

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Air Force is offering a second round of voluntary early retirement authority and voluntary separation incentives to help support the service’s fiscal 2012 workforce. The offer is part of the Air Force’s continuing effort to meet the Department of Defense and the government as a whole, said Maj. Gen. Sharon D. Durbor, the director of force management policy. “We are working to balance mission needs while taking into account the effect on our current permanent civilian workforce and their families.”

The first round of VERA/VSP was used to reduce a modestly-sized civilian workforce, enabling strategic rebalancing efforts. As the Air Force continues in fiscal 2012 civilian workforce restructuring, round two of VERA/VSP will be used to further realign and rebalance the civilian force.

Civilian employees will receive VERA/VSP eligibility views from their personnel managers in January and applications due by Feb. 3, or an earlier date established by local authorities. Applicants approved for this round of VERA/VSP will need to separate on or before April 30.

“People are available for management positions, to include civilian hiring controls, where required, with the goal of avoiding involuntary measures for our current permanent workforce,” Durbor said. In August, the Air Force instituted a freeze that was lifted as an Air Force-wide control Dec. 18. Hiring controls remain in effect in some areas, which was determined by major commands, on current MAJCOM strength relative to approved funding levels. Of the positions already identified across the service, many were vacant, and the freeze created added economic challenges. Fly-by-wire, free-form, microwave, and upgrading the Raptor.

In total, this retired Raptor will then be available for the service to use for a variety of training and test purposes, including maintenance tests and training exercises. The service will continue to provide the government with the highest quality data set possible to support the future Air Force mission. For any information about civilian employment, voluntary separation programs and other personnel issues, visit the Air Force Personnel Service website at https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil.

Air Force personnel are also using laser diagnostics during the tests to interrogate the high-enthalpy facility conditions in which we may have the approach to the heat flux. Laser-induced incan- dence (LII) is a new tech- nique being deployed for the first time during this test. We constantly try to advance the understanding of these high-fidelity measurements, but it is necessary to accurately measure the surface pressure fluctuations in the heat shield, as well as a new heat-flux sensor called an ALTP (atomic layer thermonu- clear) sensor.

The ALTP sensor has never been run in Tunnel 9, however, they have been successfully used in many high-enthalpy facility locations in Europe. We are extremely interested in evaluating the performance of the ALTP sensor in Tunnel 9’s test environment. AEDC will continue to provide the highest quality data set pos- sible to our customers.”

AEDC operates the world’s largest complex of ground test facilities with a replacement value of more than $11.3 billion.

ROUND TWO

“Air Force makes second offers of VERA/VSP

Additional figures do not include the impact from test custom- ers like Pratt & Whitney, General Electric or other companies who maintain staff at AEDC to manage operation Jan. 9.

Air Force-wide control Dec. 18. Hiring the move is part of the Air Force’s continuing effort to meet the Department of Defense and the government as a whole, said Maj. Gen. Sharon D. Durbor, the director of force management policy. “We are working to balance mission needs while taking into account the effect on our current permanent civilian workforce and their families.”

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through various organizations of which he was a member. Still, the significance of giving back to the program that had been such a blessing to him didn’t sink in until recently.

“It probably wasn’t until this past year when I started working here at AEDC,” he said. “I had my first child in April, and I think probably what’s different this year is that, A, I’m established and, B, I understand as a parent now – versus a young adult – how important it is for that child to feel like he or she is having a very good Christmas and not to feel like they’re being left out.

I think, actually, the difference would be me transitioning from childhood to adulthood and seeing it from the other side of the fence.”

Janet Feller, a program analyst in the wind tunnels, coordinated the AEDC Angel Tree program this year for the ATA Employee and Community Activity Committee (E&CAC). She said she was particularly impressed with Walker’s interest in the program.

“He called me about the Angel Tree program and said that he and some folks in his office would like to participate,” Feller said. “Art shopped for several Angels, getting some last minute things and some extra items to donate. He and some from his office helped with the loading of the vehicles when the staff counselors came to collect the gifts.”

Feller said Walker is the first former Angel to share his story with her.

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Whether at work or at home, a consistent theme in Susan Drinnon’s life is that she derives help from helping others. Drinnon, a computer scientist/system administrator for AEDC’s Tunnel 9 Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel facility at White Oak, Md., recently reflected on her life.

In 1985, Drinnon came to Maryland as a summer administrative aide at the Naval Surface Weapons Center at White Oak, Md., never thinking she would still be there 27 years later.

“I hadn’t finished my degree in music when I came here,” she said. “I had been working at McDonald’s to pay for college, and it was one of the reputable customers who asked what I was going to be doing over the summer. I told him, if I didn’t get a job as a secretary, then I’d be working there. He told me about the opportunity to possibly work here as a summer aide.”

With a BA in music, Drinnon found herself in a world unlike anything she knew existed outside of her hometown of buttontonville. About seven miles from the Navy’s White Oak facility, she found herself in a world where she was “being able to stay current with technology.”

“Mostly now I support our desktop systems and our test network systems, I do both sides. On Oct. 1, 1997, when AEDC assumed management of Tunnel 9 from the Navy, Drinnon stayed on, but I might want to move in towards a technical degree,” she said.

“I like helping people,” Drinnon said. “The job keeps her busy. The biggest challenge is being able to stay current with technology.”

Carol Paschall, an ATA administrative assistant at Tunnel 9, like many workers, relies heavily on a computer network system to keep up with her job. “Tunnel 9 is always very helpful when I have a computer issue,” Paschall said. “If she can’t solve the problem, she will submit a ticket to network control.”

“It’s humbling when Susan usually knows what the problem is. “It reminds me of how technologically challenged I am. There are times when an issue can wait, but Susan takes care of it right away.”

Paschall said Drinnon’s commitment to helping others extends beyond the workplace.

“Susan works for her local volunteer fire department,” Paschall said. “I had a sign asking for volunteers, and she just went in and asked if she could help. I don’t know many people that would volunteer somewhere without any connection other than being part of her local neighborhood.”

Dan Marron, director of Tunnel 9, said Drinnon’s helpful attitude reminds him of the movie, “Pay it Forward,” about a teacher who inspires a boy to literally good deeds that in turn inspires others to reciprocate, a process that continues throughout the story.

“Susan, besides being an invaluable member of our team, makes a positive impact in her community by volunteering at the local firehouse,” he said. “In fact just this week, she received a second award from the Maryland State Fireman’s Association.

Drinnon’s involvement with the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company, Odenton Volunteer Fire Company President Jim Allen said in Drinnon’s award nomination letter, “One might think that as the chair of the committee, the only duties are leading the committee and ensuring that the members of the committee complete tasks on time and the fund drive goes off without a hitch.”

“However, that is not the case with this committee. As it turns out, the mail-out fund drive typically turns out as a ‘woman (man) show’,” Paschall said.

“Susan has been active on other fronts as well in our spare time, including donating her hair twice to Locks of Love.”

Around 10 years earlier, she was talking with a neighbor who worked for the American Cancer Society.

“She told me about Daffodil Days – they sell daffodils and they get the proceeds and one of my favorite flowers is the daffodil,” Drinnon said. “So, I bought them because they were daffodils and because I wanted to help the ACS.”

Drinnon got involved with another nonprofit organization, too.

“I started participating in the Komen Race for the Cure about six years ago,” she said. “The gym I belong to would go as a group, and I have been participating with them every year. I have known several people who either had breast cancer or know people whose family has been affected by breast cancer, and a past co-worker died from breast cancer and I know people whose family has been affected by breast cancer, and a past co-worker died from breast cancer.”

Drinnon found her place at the fire station and eventually became a local member of the annual mail-out fundraising effort.

“This fundraiser raises the majority of the funding for our fire station,” she said. “I also work every summer at the Maryland State Fireman’s Association convention in Ocean City, Md., where I help set up the exhibit halls and sign in the vendors for the convention.”

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DOD holiday celebration
AEDC workers built their largest-ever model, the B-52H Stratofortress, and ran tests aimed at increasing the legacy aircraft’s weapons capability for the B-52H Program Office.

A 1/20th scale model of Raytheon’s Small Diameter Bomb II and an F-15E Strike Eagle fighter underwent store separation testing to ensure the SDB II is just what the warfighter ordered.

An F135 engine went through validation and altitude development in AEDC’s altitude test cell C-1. The F135 engine is a Conventional Take Off and Landing and Carrier Variant designated for low-rate initial production for the F-35 Lightning II program.

The Air Force Research Laboratory tested a 23-percent scale model of the Speed Agile technology demonstrator at AEDC’s National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex to test a new Short Take Off and Landing transport vehicle concept.

AEDC’s 70 watts segmented arc heater, H3, set a new record. Before Aug. 17, the longest run-on record was about nine minutes. The new record is 25 minutes. The long run time may provide engineers with advanced arc heater technology to eventually fill a long-standing ground testing capability gap between facilities at Arnold and NASA.

AEDC engineers conducted altitude testing in test cell J-1 on an F100 engine that powers the F-15 Eagle and F-16 Fighting Falcon as part of a Continuous Improvement Program project.

A Minuteman III Stage 3 motor went through simulated altitude testing in AEDC’s J-6 Large Rocket Test Facility. The testing supported Hill AFB and the Minuteman Solid Rocket Motor Warm Line program.

Clockwise from far left: AFMC commander Gen. Donald Hoffman visited AEDC in June, and AEDC’s Tunnel 9 facility in Maryland in April; also visiting during the year were Gov. Bill Haslam and Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey; Commandant at the U.S. Air Force Academy Brig. Gen. Richard M. Clark spoke at AEDC’s African-American Heritage Luncheon; Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy; and Senate Armed Services Committee staff member for science and technology Dr. Robie Roy.
The Department of Defense has implemented a temporary moratorium on the sales of products containing DMAA within military facilities. The moratorium will remain in effect pending further review of relevant scientific evidence and reported events, officials said.

Recent reports show that two Soldier deaths and additional adverse health effects in other service members may be related to the use of dietary supplements containing DMAA, which is also known as dimethylamylamine. "We support the decision of the Military Exchanges and Commissaries to remove products containing DMAA from their shelves until we can make a further determination about the safety of this ingredient," said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, the deputy director of Force Health Protection and Readiness Programs with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness.

DMAA is sold as a single supplement and in combination with multiple other ingredients. In particular, it is often combined with caffeine, a legal, natural stimulant. Stimulants may accelerate metabolism, heart rate and blood pressure, which may increase the body’s production of heat, especially in hot and humid conditions.

“We are concerned about reports of heat illness, kidney (and) liver damage, and sudden death in service members who reportedly used products containing DMAA," Kilpatrick said.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Jonathan Woodson asked the surgeons general of the military services to conduct a review of available scientific evidence and adverse event reports to better understand any potential relationship between DMAA and these events. Recommendations from this review will guide further decisions, officials said.

"We take the health of our service members and families very seriously, and believe this action is necessary as a precautionary measure until we can learn more," said Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, the Army surgeon general.

Air Force Academy cadets spent five weeks at AEDC with the academy’s Cadet Summer Research Program, seeing practical ways to apply what they had been pursuing academically.

In March, AEDC’s Fire Department was selected as the AFMC’s Small Fire Department of the Year for 2010.

Dietary supplements removed from Exchanges due to health concerns

The Department of Defense has implemented a temporary moratorium on the sales of products containing DMAA within military facilities. The moratorium will remain in effect pending further review of relevant scientific evidence and reported events, officials said.

Recent reports show that two Soldier deaths and additional adverse health effects in other service members may be related to the use of dietary supplements containing DMAA, which is also known as dimethylamylamine. “We support the decision of the Military Exchanges and Commissaries to remove products containing DMAA from their shelves until we can make a further determination about the safety of this ingredient,” said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, the deputy director of Force Health Protection and Readiness Programs with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness.

DMAA is sold as a single supplement and in combination with multiple other ingredients. In particular, it is often combined with caffeine, a legal, natural stimulant. Stimulants may accelerate metabolism, heart rate and blood pressure, which may increase the body’s production of heat, especially in hot and humid conditions.

“We are concerned about reports of heat illness, kidney (and) liver damage, and sudden death in service members who reportedly used products containing DMAA,” Kilpatrick said. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Jonathan Woodson asked the surgeons general of the military services to conduct a review of available scientific evidence and adverse event reports to better understand any potential relationship between DMAA and these events. Recommendations from this review will guide further decisions, officials said.

“We take the health of our service members and families very seriously, and believe this action is necessary as a precautionary measure until we can learn more,” said Lt. Gen. Patricia Horoho, the Army surgeon general. (Courtesy of the U.S. Army Medical Command Public Affairs.)
Jan. 21: Evening Under the Stars semi-formal event, dinner/social 5:30-8 p.m., magic show 6-7 p.m., Live Entertainment Ensemble 7-10 p.m. Ages 16 and older. Nonmembers $16.95 members, $11.95 nonmembers. Tickets are available first 80 to sign up.

Jan. 23: Monterey Wine Dinner (3663).

Jan. 27: Teams can have up to four people. No one under 18 will be permitted during the event. Anyone registering must have a permission slip which will receive a ticket. Call 643-3007 for your nonmembers. This event is by reservation only.

Jan. 28: Monterey Wine Dinner (3663).

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

Top in Blue will be performing at the Andersen Auditorium 7 p.m. Jan. 24. Tickets in an all-ages member special 5-7 p.m. $15.95 members, $16.95 nonmembers. Food and beverages are not available during the event. This is a standing event.

Feb. 18: Daytona tickets available at discounted rates through ETY (Information, Tickets, and Travel). The race will be held at 2 p.m. Feb. 26 and various packages are available. Call 643-3007 for details.

COOL 100 Walk/Run Incentive Program continues. Participants log their miles using the hours on their call sheet, use the track located behind the Fitness Center, use the pavement track located behind the Fitness Center, or use their personal track at their facility at home. These miles are to be turned in by March 10. Nonmembers who complete 3 miles while wearing a pedometer will receive a T-shirt. Call 643-3007 to reserve your new T-shirt.

Outdoor Rec (ODR) 440-6084

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Outdoor Recreation

Baby Falls Lasters Tour planned for Jan. 14. Meet at Outland Recreation at 5 p.m. Jan 14. Tullahoma High School will depart at 6:30 p.m., magic show 7:30 p.m., dinner/social 5:30-8 p.m., the Stars semi-formal event ends at 10 p.m. This event is by reservation only. Call 643-3007 for your nonmembers. This event is nonrefundable starting 10 days prior to the event. Record minimum of 10 to take the bus and call 644-4084 to sign up. It is a mandatory event.

Paintball is every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You may play at any time during the day. A maximum of 10 people can play at one time. The cost is $30 per participant and includes all paintballs and equipment provided and use of the paintball field. Cost is $20 extra per person if you need to rent equipment and/or paintballs and tank of air. It is $20 per person for those who do not rent equipment and that also wish to use paintballs and tank of air. All paintballs must be purchased from ODR for $3.50 per box of 200, a box of 2,000 if your own is low. If you do not have your own, you may purchase the minimum of 10 box fillers to ensure equipment is not empty. Come join the Outland Recreation ski trip as we head to Gatlinburg Jan. 20-22. We will leave Friday at 4:30 p.m. arriving in the evening to check into the hotel with time to look around and do a little shopping. Wake up bright and early on Saturday morning to hit the slopes. There will be one hour of fun and the rest of the day playing. Gatlinburg evening will be an all-you-can-eat buffet at night of Gatlinburg, Tenn. at 5:30 p.m. The cost is $30 per person or $40 for couples. Call 643-3007 as soon as possible for reservations. It is a mandatory event.

Tours

Information Tickets and Reservations for Tours are available 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tours are available for 25 passengers or less at any time. Booking is not necessary. This event is nonrefundable starting 10 days prior to the event. Record minimum of 10 to take the bus and call 644-4084 to sign up. It is a mandatory event.

Gatlinburg Jan. 20-22. We will depart on Sunday at 7 a.m. returning to the airport at 11 a.m. The cost is $300 per person. Call 643-3007 to reserve your spot. All events are mandatory events.

Arnold’s Christmas Tree Farm is now open. The farm will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Dec. 10. The cost is $10 per person or $18 per family. Call 643-3007 to reserve your spot. All events are mandatory events.

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Youth Programs (Family 440-3001)

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Youth Programs

Fitness Center 445-6440

Check us out on Facebook! Arnold AFB Services Fitness Center

Fitness Center Equipment Orientation will be by appointment Monday through Friday during January. Morning sessions will be held for those unfamiliar with the Fitness Center equipment. Questions pertaining to equipment usage or performance will be answered by Kevin Michael. Call 644-4084 to arrange for an appointment with Kevin Michael, certified Personal Trainer (CT-CPT).

3 Point Shoot Out will be held Jan 18 at 1:30 p.m. Participants will shoot two shots from each of five locations every starting point on each point and each choice. The winner will be the first one to score the most points and it is worth 10 points. Two point three point winners will gain prizes.

Intramural Basketball

League set to begin Jan. 24. Games played on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sign up as individuals or groups. Must be 18 or older. Registration ends Jan. 17. No requirement needed to participate. The cost is $10 per participant and includes game play and use of equipment provided and served lunch provided and use of the basketball court and facilities. Cost is $15 per person for those who do not rent equipment and that also wish to use paintballs and tank of air. It is $20 per person for those who do not rent equipment and that also wish to use paintballs and tank of air. All paintballs must be purchased from ODR for $3.50 per box of 200, a box of 2,000 if your own is low. If you do not have your own, you may purchase the minimum of 10 box fillers to ensure equipment is not empty. Come join the Outland Recreation ski trip as we head to Gatlinburg Jan. 20-22. We will leave Friday at 4:30 p.m. arriving in the evening to check into the hotel with time to look around and do a little shopping. Wake up bright and early on Saturday morning to hit the slopes. There will be one hour of fun and the rest of the day playing. Gatlinburg evening will be an all-you-can-eat buffet at night of Gatlinburg, Tenn. at 5:30 p.m. The cost is $30 per person or $40 for couples. Call 643-3007 as soon as possible for reservations. It is a mandatory event.

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WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Defense Department officials released the “Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies” on Dec. 27, covering the academic year from June 1, 2010, to May 31, 2011.

The report shows an increase in reports of sexual assault, with 65 reports of sexual assault involving cadets and midshipmen, compared to 41 reports in the previous academic year.

“One sexual assault is one too many,” Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta said in a DOD news release.

“Whether it’s in our academies or our ranks, at sea or ashore, there’s no place for this unacceptable behavior,” Panetta continued. “We treat each other with dignity in this institution. I expect everyone in this department to live up to that high standard.”

In the release, Air Force Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, the director of the department’s sexual assault prevention and response office, stressed the importance of accountability and victim support.

“We know that the military academies are similar to college campuses around the country in that sexual harassment and assault are challenges that all faculty, staff and students need to work to prevent,” Hertog said.

“However, when it does occur, we owe it to those who have been victimized, and to every cadet and midshipman, to do everything possible to provide needed support and to hold those who commit sexual assault appropriately accountable,” she said.

During the comprehensive review outlined in the report, defense officials visited the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

They reviewed each institution’s policies, training and procedures, and held focus groups with cadets and midshipmen.

Officials found that most academy programs fulfilled or surpassed the requirements of existing DOD policies and directives.

“We also identified areas for improvement to enhance programs and ensure compliance with the department’s policies,” Hertog said. “In our oversight role, my office will follow up with the academies every six months to ensure the necessary improvements are implemented in a timely manner.”

One required improvement is that academies evaluate and measure their sexual harassment and assault prevention programs. Defense officials also announced two new policies relating to sexual assault Dec. 27.

One allows a service member who makes an unrestricted report of a sexual assault to request an expedited transfer to a new duty station. A restricted report, which is confidential, allows a victim to seek medical aid and counseling but is not communicated to the chain of command.

The second new policy standardizes retention periods for sexual assault records across the military services to ensure victims have extended access to those documents.

“This is a leadership issue, first and foremost, so I also expect us to lead with integrity and with energy to eliminate sexual assault and harassment from our culture,” Panetta said. “I’m confident the steps we are taking are the right ones, but we must continue to improve.”

The annual report is required by the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act, which directed the DOD to annually evaluate sexual harassment and violence policies, training and procedures at the military service academies.

The academies participated in the assessment.
Air Guard unit provides testing ground for mask development

By Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Air Force officials announced the next chapter in a partnership with the Royal Saudi Air Force as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recently signed a $4 billion Foreign Military Sales Letter of Offer and Acceptance solidifying their plans to purchase 84 F-15SA lighter aircraft and upgrade their current fleet of 70 F-15S aircraft to the 9A configuration.

The agreement allows the U.S. Air Force the opportunity to assist the Royal Saudi Air Force in not only equipping their equipment, but ensuring they will have a well trained force to maintain and operate it.

Officials said that under the agreement, students may begin arriving this year, and in 2012, the service expects to train over 300 Saudi airmen in Air Force technical training courses.

The U.S. Air Force has been training members of the Royal Saudi Air Force on U.S. soil for more than 25 years, officials said. Since 2007, more than 1,000 Royal Saudi Air Force members have attended U.S. Air Force training programs, including pilots, navigator, logistic, maintenance and explosive ordnance disposal training, as well as professional military education courses.

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