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Spending reductions prompt changes for military operations. **Page 6**

**HORSING AROUND**

Cadet team excels in equestrian competitions. **Page 11**

# ACADEMY SPIRIT



## Week of red-hot fire info

By David Edwards  
Academy Spirit staff writer

The Academy Fire Department spends one week each year trying to teach children lessons the firefighters hope will last a lifetime — and maybe even prolong some lifetimes.

Local observance of Fire Prevention Week was thorough, as fire department personnel blanketed the base from Monday through Friday with educational materials, words of wisdom and some attention-grabbing props.

The action began at the Base Exchange, where the department's 1929 REO Speedwagon fire engine was on display. The antique truck was donated to the Academy in 1995 by the family of Chief Golden Simmons.

Since then, the Speedwagon has been a cherished possession of the Academy Fire Department. It also made an appearance Wednesday at the Child Development Center.

About 350 students at Douglass Valley Elementary School welcomed firefighters Tuesday for a DVD pre-



MIKE KAPLAN

Fire Inspector Mike Mater hops aboard the Academy Fire Department's 1929 REO Speedwagon to cap off his Fire Prevention Week presentation Wednesday at the Child Development Center. Firefighters also visited Douglass Valley Elementary and the Falcon Youth Center.

sentation and demonstration of fire-protection gear and a modern fire truck.

Both the elementary students and the preschoolers at the Child Development Center were treated to a visit by Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog. Smokey and Sparky also graced the Cadet Area and the Falcon Youth Center with their presence at the end of the week.

Fire Inspector Mike Mater showed a video to the preschoolers that stressed the importance of develop-

ing a family evacuation plan.

"(We're) catching them early, building on things that they will take with them for the rest of their lives," he said. "Often the kids will go home and tell their parents what they learned and the family will create a fire-escape plan."

For the most part, Smokey and Sparky were warmly received, although many of the preschoolers were tentative at first and one little girl was intimidated to the point of tears. The Speedwagon was a big hit.

Dealing with a wide assortment of attention spans was part of the challenge, but Fire Prevention Week is the department's time to shine without the stress and perils of the job impinging. Cool stuff and furry animals tend to help the cause, too.

"One of the neatest parts of doing this is when random parents come up to me and tell me how much of an impact our visit made," Mater said. "(The kids are) still talking about it even as the school year goes along."

## Academy named environmental 'gold leader'

### Solar array, recycling program help meet criteria for environmental award

By Don Branum  
Academy Spirit staff writer

The Air Force Academy received a Colorado Environmental Leadership Program Gold Leader award from the Colorado Public Health and Environment Department at a ceremony in Denver Oct. 4.

The Gold Leader awards recognize institutions that have fully operational, facility-specific environmental management systems that have undergone planning, implementation, operation as well as checks and reviews at several levels.

The nomination process began earlier in 2011. An application signed by the previous 10th Air Base Wing commander, Col. Rick LoCastro, outlines some of what the Academy has accomplished to date, including the 6-megawatt solar array and a recycling program that has reclaimed more than 93,000 pounds of household hazardous waste and more than 2 million pounds of cardboard, paper, metals, glass and wood.

In terms of future goals, the Academy seeks to



meet the Air Force "Net Zero" installation requirement, meaning that the Academy will meet its energy needs solely through renewable sources.

"To accomplish this, we set a couple of goals," LoCastro wrote on the nomination form. "By 2015, our installation must reduce its current energy consumption by 38 percent while increas-

ing its renewable and green energy from a 2010 amount of 10 percent to 100 percent."

Meeting the criteria to receive a Gold Leader award isn't easy, said Environmental Leadership Program Coordinator Lynette Myers.

"Gold Leader candidates must be able to demonstrate above-and-beyond environmental achievements," Myers said, citing the Academy's solar array and recycling program as examples. In addition, candidates must have fully implemented environmental management systems and at least three years of regulatory compliance.

Myers said she would like to see the Academy continue its environmental stewardship, learn from their results and share the information with others who have the same goals and environmental impacts.

The award is renewable every three years, meaning the Academy will become eligible to receive another Gold Leader award in 2014.

Among the other Gold Leaders recognized Oct. 4 were the city of Aspen, Colo., and the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Previous years' Gold Leaders include the city and county of Denver, the Denver Zoological Foundation, Ellis Elementary School in Denver and Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company in Littleton.



# 'Buy in': Do you have it?

By Chief Master Sgt. Robert Carter  
62nd Aerial Port Squadron

**JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. (AFNS)** —“Buy in.” Is it a buzz word for the not quite committed?

Today's continuously changing military environment requires people who can adapt to change, think on their feet, make decisions and think through problems and issues, all for mission accomplishment. So what does this have to do with buy in? If you as a military member, do not have a buy in at different levels, you will fail to maximize your success. These levels are with your people, your job and the Air Force.

As a chief master sergeant, I didn't adopt the idea until I was a young NCO, but it progressively grew from there. My first real experience was when a close friend overheard a conversation between two Airmen in the dormitories talking about potentially creating some turmoil. She told them, “Not in my Air Force!” I thought to myself wow, that's real ownership. She's a stakeholder in this great Air Force (and that's how I want to be).

First, as a young NCO, you are a trainer of younger Airmen, and the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you display to those you train must be honest, accurate and

provide growth. As one grows in rank, that same honest, accurate mentoring is shared with peers, senior enlisted leaders and junior and senior officers alike.

Second, to take care of your people on all levels must always be first in your mind. When they are late, find out where they are. When they are sick, ensure they receive medical care. When they do things well, be sure they are acknowledged. The phrase, “We are entrusted with the care of our countries sons and daughters” doesn't just relate to senior leaders or commanders. We all must care for those under our control and at times even those who are not.

Lastly, our core values really drive home the keystone of how we act, react and operate in our military microcosm. Do you really think integrity is just a buzz word? Try operating in a combat environment without it. You fail. In a flightline or operational environment without it, you fail. In a customer service environment without it, you fail.

Would settling for mediocrity on the battlefield allow for success? The Army expects and receives excellence each and every time when they call upon the Air Force in joint operations. Your buy in at all levels -- your people, your job and in your Air Force -- allows us to be the most feared and respected air and space force in the world!

Own your piece of the mission. Are you bought in?



MIKE KAPLAN

## Contribution

Brig. Gen. Richard Clark, commandant of cadets, fills out his Combined Federal Campaign contribution form, with the assistance of Cadet 1st Class Christopher Hassa, the Cadet Wing CFC project officer. The CFC is in full swing at the Academy and contribution forms are available through unit CFC representatives.

## ACADEMY SPIRIT

To responsibly inform and educate the Academy community and the public about the Air Force Academy

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Academy Superintendent  
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# Academy to migrate .mil users to AFNet

By Don Branum  
Academy Spirit staff writer

Airmen who use computers on the Air Force Academy's "dot-mil" network should expect changes when the 10th Communications Squadron here migrates to the Air Force Network in early December, the squadron's project manager said Oct. 6.

The migration will not directly affect users on the Academy's "dot-edu" network, David West said.

Users' email addresses will change as part of the "Email 4 Career," or E4C, initiative, West said. The new email addresses will follow Air Force employees even when they move to other bases. Additionally, users will be able to login to any computer on the AFNet once the migration is complete.

"When the AFNet migration is 100-percent complete, Airmen will have a single account, always active and accessible at any Air Force location worldwide," West said.

Users whose computers run Windows XP must have their operating systems upgraded to Windows Vista or Windows 7 before Dec. 5 or must request a waiver if applications on their computers will not run under newer operating systems, West said. Some users running Windows Vista will also require operating system updates depending on what version of the Air Force Standard Desktop Configuration is loaded onto their PCs.

The 10th CS is working with each organization to update computers through an automated process, but some PCs may not take the automated upgrades, West said. The 10th CS helpdesk, located on the second floor of Fairchild Hall, can upgrade these PCs manually. Some client support technicians can also reimagine computers with the



newest SDC.

The first step in the migration process took place Oct. 4 when the 10th CS implemented size limits on dot-mil users' email boxes. Most users on the dot-mil network are restricted to 80 megabytes, with higher limits set for senior officers and mid-level commanders.

AFNet migration seeks to reduce Air Force operational costs while improving network security, said Vince Ross, program manager for the Air Force Electronic Systems Center's Cyber Integration Division, in a March 23 Air Force report. The consolidated network will greatly reduce the number of potential vulnerabilities.

At Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., one of the first bases to migrate to AFNet, the only thing users have noticed is "a lot less spam," Ross said.

The Air Force Network Integration Center, headquartered at Scott AFB, Ill., is the lead agency for implementing the AFNet migration and a direct reporting unit aligned under Air Force Space Command.

## AFNET Q&A

**Q:** Whom do I call if I have problems during or after the migration?

**A:** Users should continue to call 333-HELP (333-4357). The automated call tree will route dot-mil callers to the Enterprise Service Desk. Dot-edu callers will still work with the Academy's Help Desk.

**Q:** Can I still access my email account through Outlook Web Access?

**A:** Yes, Yes, but the webmail address will change from <https://webmail.usafa.af.mil> to <https://usafa.mail.us.af.mil/owa>.

**Q:** How can I prepare for the AFNet migration?

**A:** If your computer is not already running Windows Vista or Windows 7, contact your client support technician or the Academy Help Desk to have your operating system upgraded or to obtain a waiver from the upgrade.

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# Cadets help youths learn about Arab Spring

By David Edwards  
Academy Spirit staff writer

With its usual assist from the Air Force Academy, the Colorado Springs World Affairs Council's annual high school symposium drew a record turnout this year.

More than 450 students from Springs-area high schools filled the auditorium at Colorado College at the end of September for a slate of activities related to the Arab Spring.

The symposium is one of the signature events for the Political Science Department at the Academy and a shining example of the ongoing collaboration between local civic organizations and premier academic institutions.

"The Department of Political Science has had a longstanding relationship with the Colorado Springs Council on World Affairs, (which) seeks to promote citizen education on international relations," said Dr. Fran Pilch, a political science professor and longtime Academy representative at the event. "CSWAC has run the high school symposium for many years, but with tremendous support from both Colorado College and USAFA."

Several Academy cadets led discussion groups following the keynote address by former Ambassador Richard Fairbanks. In addition, members of the Academy and CC forensics teams debated the provision of military aid to Yemen, Bahrain and Syria.

Fairbanks was the star attraction, and he seemed to relish what many might consider an unenviable task: holding the sustained attention of hundreds of teenagers at 8:30 a.m. while talking about events halfway around the world.

His overview of the domino effect of successful uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt was well received and set the tone for the students' plenary discus-



Ambassador Richard Fairbanks

sions that followed.

"When you say 'The Arab Spring,' you're talking about shards and pieces in a kaleidoscope," Fairbanks said. "You can't generalize; you have to be specific."

And that means country by country. The conflicts in Syria and Libya were precipitated by the downfall of

Egypt's ruler of 40-plus years.

"I first dealt with Hosni Mubarak when he was vice president, so that makes me older than Methuselah," Fairbanks said. "We were always pretty happy with him. The problem is the people weren't always happy with him. I don't blame the administration for not having a policy because nothing like this has ever happened."

He also described his dealings with former Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, whom he called "a vicious killer." The presidency passed to Assad's son Bashar, who is accused of cruelly repressing the ongoing uprising in Syria.

Coinciding with the Arab Spring has been a renewed push for Palestinian statehood. Fairbanks said the rich Arab states have done very little to help the Palestinians and have used them as a ploy to divert the world's attention from their own outrageous conduct.

The great change that precipitated the Arab Spring, he said, was a technological one. When the Cold War ended, so did state control of access to

information. Satellite dishes sprouted on rooftops all over the Middle East, putting the Arab World in touch with all of the outside world.

Fairbanks would not prognosticate, however. The implications of the successful uprisings and unfolding events in Libya, Syria and elsewhere are not going to be immediately clear, he said.

"There's a saying in the Middle East that the optimist is always wrong," Fairbanks said. "I'm skeptical; the game isn't over. Has the Arab Spring been successful? Ask me in 10 years. Is it good for us? Ask me in 20 years."

After the keynote address, the debate and the plenary discussion, the students went to lunch and then returned to the auditorium to close the day with a screening of a film about the fall of Mubarak.

In years past, the Academy has had a more visible presence at the symposium. Pilch was the keynote speaker two years ago, and last year it was her political science colleague Dr. Schuyler Foerster.

"In the past, the high school symposium followed the Academy Assembly, retaining the assembly's topic as the symposium topic," Pilch said. "However, that changed a couple of years ago, and the symposium now picks its own topic."

The Academy Assembly is only a few days away. Delegates and guests will start arriving Tuesday, and the major events will take place Thursday and Friday.

This year's assembly topic, "Power and Influence: Global Dynamics in the 21st Century," doesn't directly dovetail with the symposium's theme, it is likely that parallels will emerge.

And if attendance at the assembly resembles attendance at the symposium, it will be a busy week indeed and another feather in the cap of the Political Science Department.

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# Turn energy awareness into action

Jennifer Elmore  
Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency

This October, the Air Force joins our nation once again to observe Energy Awareness Month. This year's theme, "Power the Force, Fuel the Fight," encourages us to do more than just be "aware." Instead, military personnel and civilians alike should take action.

"Our country is in a new energy paradigm and we can no longer use energy at will without regard to the consequences. We must make a commitment, plain and simple, to re-think the way we use – and view – energy," said Maj. Gen. Timothy Byers, the Air Force civil engineer.

The Air Force is making excellent progress toward satisfying federal energy mandates. "Some of the more prominent goals require us to reduce energy intensity 30 percent by 2015, reduce water intensity 26 percent by 2020, and increase renewable energy to 25 percent of all electricity use by 2025," said Rick Stacey, chief of the Air Force Facility Energy Center, a division of the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. "But as time goes by, the goals are getting tougher. We need everyone doing all they can do to help the Air Force continue our energy program successes."

Since 2003, the Air Force has reduced energy use nearly 15 percent, water consumption 11 percent, and more than six percent of all electricity is obtained from renewable sources. "The Air Force is actively seeking ways to reduce our energy demand, increase our renewable energy supply, and make ourselves leaner, cleaner, and smarter when it comes to energy use," said Gen. Byers.

## Reduce demand

The Air Force uses facility energy audits, utility meters, energy recommissionings, and a variety of other tools to pursue aggressive reduction targets.

At Kirtland AFB, N.M., audits led to an upgraded energy management control system that is expected to save \$3.7 million over the lifetime of the system. Newly installed meters at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., allowed for better resource management and generated \$2 million of new revenue through more accurate billing of non-Department of Defense tenants.

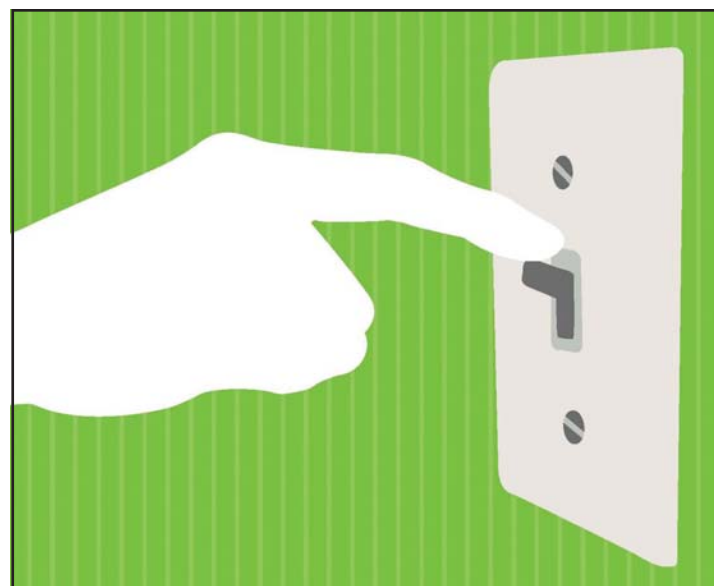
## Increase supply

The Air Force leads the Department of Defense as the number one producer and user of renewable energy. More than six percent of our electric supply comes from on-base renewable energy projects including wind, solar, geothermal, and landfill gas. "We are evaluating ways to expand our portfolio to include waste-to-energy and biomass projects as we work toward producing 25 percent renewable energy by 2025," said Ken Gray, AFFEC Rates and Renewable Branch chief. Two new wind turbines will come online this fall at the Massachusetts Military Reservation. Additionally, construction will soon begin on a 14 megawatt solar array at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

## Change the culture

Our success, our ability to truly change the Air Force culture and develop a new mindset when it comes to energy, depends on you. "Each individual can and must contribute," said Mr. Stacey. "No matter how small or how large the action, people will ultimately make the difference. Take a moment to turn off lights and appliances when not in use; make saving energy and water a habit every day; and encourage your family, friends, and co-workers to do their part too."

Take "ACTION" this Energy Awareness Month. A-C-T-I-O-N stands for: Appliance reduction; Computer log off; Temperature set points; Inform facility managers; Outdoor conservation; and No waste. These are easy steps that can yield positive results for the community and the Air Force.



## DO YOUR PART

- **Appliance reduction** - How many personal appliances can be removed or consolidated in common areas like the break room? Reducing energy usage by reducing the number of appliances and machines you use can yield significant energy savings.
- **Computer log off** - Since personnel at many installations are advised not to turn off computers, it's important to log-off. This ensures that computers will enter energy-saving sleep mode. The Air Force IT Power Management Team estimates this action alone can save more than \$10 million a year.
- **Temperature Control** - Climate control set points can have a major impact on energy use. Most bases use settings of 68 degrees in the winter and 78 degrees in the summer. Rather than increasing energy demand with space heaters or fans, dress appropriately for the temperature in your facility.
- **Inform your facility manager** - Report incorrect temperature set points, leaky faucets, blocked air vents, cracked windows, and other problems to your facility manager or civil engineer customer service.
- **Outdoor conservation** - If you notice a broken sprinkler head wasting water or area lights left on in a parking lot during the day, report it to your local civil engineer customer service.
- **No waste** - Don't turn a blind eye to problems. If you see something that doesn't need to be on, turn it off. If you see a problem, report it.



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# Air Force building the future force

Focus will be on increasing efficiencies, reducing costs for a leaner, more effective AF

By Mitch Gettle  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency



WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Changes are coming to the Air Force and officials are working with the Department of Defense to prioritize current and future resources as part of a national priority to reduce spending.

In the spring of 2010 the Defense Department began a comprehensive effort to increase efficiencies, reduce overhead costs, and eliminate redundant functions in order to improve the effectiveness of the DOD enterprise.

This effort focused on reprioritizing how DOD can use resources to more effectively support and sustain the total force and most importantly the warfighter.

According to the Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, the Air Force is following that guidance.

“We have been examining the full spectrum of operations — from base-level to headquarters — to develop efficiency initiatives that streamline and right-size the organization and redirect resources where we need them most to forge a leaner, more-effective Air Force,” said Donley.

Air Force leaders are also focused on shaping the force within the estab-

lished budgetary guidelines.

“We can’t afford business as usual,” said Donley. “We are developing new ways of doing business as we build the Air Force of the future.” The future force will reflect reductions in some areas and growth in others, he said.

“We will need to reduce overhead and consolidate wherever possible to meet budget targets,” said Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Norton Schwartz. “We will have to make difficult choices.”

To begin shaping the workforce to meet future needs, the Air Force implemented hiring controls in May, followed by a 90-day hiring freeze in August, and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Program offerings in September. Mandated by the Fiscal 2012 budget, these actions are designed to accommodate the reduced growth in the civilian workforce by allowing the Air Force to consider where new positions will best support future missions and where current tasks need to

be eliminated or reduced.

As the Air Force approaches the end of the 90-day hiring freeze in November, and employees approved for VERA/VSIP approach separation by 31 December, the Air Force will consider what additional measures may be required to meet future needs. Air Force members should expect continued workforce shaping measures, affecting military, civilians, and support contractors.

Some of the consolidation and shaping includes organizational changes at the MAJCOM and installation level.

“Air Force organizations and installations of the future may not operate the same tomorrow as they do today,” said Schwartz. “In fact, we are considering a restructure of AFMC - our largest employer of civilians - to standardize processes, streamline decision making and align missions for more effective operations. The new structure will focus on reducing overhead costs and redundant layers of management while largely protecting the command’s rank and file workforce.”

Given the scale of the coming reductions, functional communities are taking a look at their processes seeking opportunities to streamline operations, Schwartz said. Additionally, Air Force leaders have been examining numerous base-level support activities, looking for better ways to support Air Force missions.

According to Schwartz, the Air Force will establish new baselines for many functions across the Air Force.

The Air Force will also focus on providing the essential services members need and taking more advantage of local communities and the valuable services they provide for Airmen and their families. For example, some services commonly available on installations, but are either not financially viable or not often used, may be consolidated or closed in order to redirect resources to other places where Airman and family needs are greater, he said.

The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force expressed confidence in the ability of Airmen to adapt to change as the Air Force evolves.

“As specifics of these challenges start to take shape, I’m confident our Airmen will exceed all of our expectations,” Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, James Roy said. “In the end, we will remain the world’s finest Air Force.”

“These are challenging times, but we have a unique opportunity to shape the future of America’s Air Force, and we are committed to doing everything possible to balance fiscal responsibility with our investments in our people and the nation’s defense,” said Schwartz. “I have no doubt our Airmen will rise to the challenges before us.”

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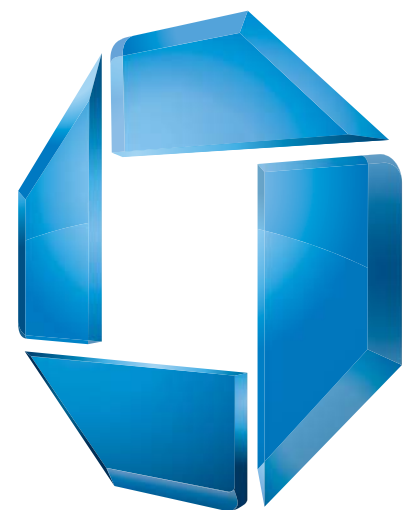


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# Quick thinking earns '01 grad Distinguished Flying Cross

By Senior Airman Michael Charles  
99th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AFNS)** — An A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross during a ceremony here Sept. 30.

Maj. Ryan Hayde, a 2001 Air Force Academy graduate, was presented the medal by Brig. Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy, the 57th Wing commander, for his actions during his recent deployment to Afghanistan.

"It's an honor to receive such a prestigious award in front of my peers," said Hayde, the 57th Wing commander's action group chief. "However, it made me equally happy, if not more, that my wingman, Capt. Sam Chipman, received an Air Medal and was recognized for the great things he did on that mission as well."

The Distinguished Flying Cross was authorized by Section 12 of the Air Corps Act in 1926. President Calvin Coolidge awarded the first Distinguished Flying Cross in 1927. The medal is awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the U.S. armed forces who distinguishes himself or herself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight in support of operations.

"The only thing that we, as close-air support pilots, think about is supporting the guys on the ground," Hayde said. "Sometimes, the word 'support' gets a negative connotation, but for



STAFF SGT. TAYLOR WORLEY

Maj. Ryan T. Hayde, an A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot with the 57th Wing, is awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross from Brig. Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy during a commander's call Sept. 30, in the base theater at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Hayde received the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement during an aerial flight while deployed to Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan. He was also awarded the Single Mission Air Medal and the Air Medal.

us the word 'support' is a badge of honor."

During his deployment, Hayde began a night offensive operation to engage enemy Taliban forces Oct. 29, 2010. While approaching his mission objective, he was notified that an 8,000 foot flight ceiling and inclement weather would prevent the execution

of the original mission plan. With little room for error and less than two miles from the Pakistan border, Hayde coordinated with the other aircraft participating in the mission and two joint terminal attack controllers on the ground to develop a new plan to achieve the objectives.

Minutes after deciding on an al-

ternate plan, Hayde led his flight on numerous passes over five possible helicopter landing zones. His aircraft destroyed several improvised explosive devices in nearly zero visibility, allowing a 150-man assault force to land safely. Once the assault force team moved into the nearby city, they came under immediate fire. For the next 35 minutes, Hayde continually tracked U.S. ground forces and provided cover fire. He also coordinated with friendly AH-64 Apaches to deploy 100 rounds and three bombs on enemies who were deeply entrenched in two separate mountaintop locations. Hayde's quick thinking and service-before-self attitude led to the success of the mission and the capture of more than 25,000 pounds of homemade explosives and 40 kilograms of opium.

"Sometimes, getting the opportunity, during what may be the worst day of a Soldier's life, to provide air support and allow that individual to make it home to his or her family safely, is the most amazing honor you can receive," Hayde said. "I believe the total air power, not just my flight, enabled all the special operations forces to make it home that night."

The award, presented to Hayde for his actions last October, acknowledges his ability to uphold the highest standards and core values of the Air Force, while successfully accomplishing the mission, officials said.

## USAJOBS upgrades complete, AF positions listed

By Debbie Gildea  
Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS)** — Following a comprehensive upgrade, that resulted in a limited number Air Force vacancy listings for nearly two weeks, job seekers can now return to the USAJOBS website to browse Air Force vacancy notices.

The upgrades were completed a day ahead of schedule, according to Nancy Tackett, the Air Force Personnel Center supervisory human resources specialist. Job seeker account information, resumes and other supporting documents were all successfully transferred as part of the data extraction process. To access it, though, account holders will have to create a new password.

The upgrade process results in stronger security procedures, elimination of unnecessary applicant profile questions, and improved search filters, Tackett explained. Air Force job seekers will begin seeing AF vacancies posted this week.

For more information about the USAJOBS transition, go to [www.USAJobs.gov](http://www.USAJobs.gov) or [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov). For more information about Air Force civilian career opportunities, go to [www.afciviliancareers.com](http://www.afciviliancareers.com). For information about other Air Force personnel issues, visit the Air Force Personnel Services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>.

## Air Force leaders send birthday messages to Navy



**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** — Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy salute the Navy on its 236th birthday Oct. 13.

Secretary Donley wrote a letter to the secretary of the Navy stating:

"Congratulations as you celebrate the 236th birthday of the United States Navy. The men and women of the United States Navy embody a tradition of honor and selfless service dating back to the establishment of the Continental Navy in 1775. Today, they continue to uphold these most hallowed Navy traditions by serving proudly around the globe.

"The 690,000 members of the United States Air Force — Active Duty, Reserve, Guard and civilians — are proud to serve alongside you and your Sailors as part of the joint team that provides America with unequalled military capability. America's Airmen salute you and wish you the best on the Navy's 236th birthday."

General Schwartz wrote a letter to the chief of naval operations stating:

"Congratulations to you and the men and women of the United States Navy as you celebrate 236 years of dedicated service to a grateful nation. Since before the Declaration

of Independence was signed, our Navy has served with honor, courage, and commitment. "The Airmen of the United States Air Force proudly serve alongside you and your fellow Sailors, today and every day. We wish you continued success in the coming year, during which America will begin commemorating the bicentennial of the War of 1812 - one of the many periods in our proud history during which the United States Navy proved its warfighting mettle against a determined adversary."

Chief Roy wrote a letter to the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy stating:

"Happy Birthday to you and all of our Sailors as you celebrate the Navy's 236 years of unwavering service to our grateful nation.

"Since 1775, our Sailors have represented the fighting spirit of the Navy around the world and are proud to serve with honor, courage and commitment. In a world of violent extremism, scarce resources and rapidly advancing technologies, America's Sailors remain highly motivated, dedicated and ready to answer our nation's call at a moment's notice.

"On behalf of Airmen everywhere, I wish you all the best as you celebrate and we look forward to serving alongside you for many years to follow."



# A cold, snowy Oktoberfest

## Despite weather, some folks came to eat, dance German-style

Community members braved the season's first snow storm to attend the Academy's Oktoberfest celebration Saturday at Falcon Stadium.

The 10th Force Support Squadron hosted the event, which featured a

beerfest and winter expo, as well as German food and desserts.

Representatives from Colorado ski resorts were also on hand to talk about their ski areas and sell lift tickets for the upcoming ski season.



Amy Maness, a recreation specialist with the 10th Force Support Squadron, serves German goodies at the Academy's Oktoberfest celebration Saturday.



Erin Sparrow, left, and Kara Dahl, both cashiers with the 10th FSS Outdoor Recreation Center, stay warm during the winter expo sale Saturday at Falcon Stadium.



No Oktoberfest celebration is complete without a traditional German Oompah Band, and Edelweiss Musik of Colorado Springs provided first-class entertainment.

PHOTOS BY TODD RYAN



# Fighting Irish down Falcons 59-33

by Tech. Sgt. Vann Miller  
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

**SOUTH BEND, Ind.** — Air Force discovered just how hard the Irish could fight as Notre Dame trounced the Falcons Saturday at Notre Dame Stadium.

While the offense had glimmers of excellence, the defense proved to be porous against the Irish offense as they gave up almost 600 yards in the 59-33 defeat.

Notre Dame took the offensive to start the first quarter, as they tried to deliver the same intensity they showed Purdue Oct. 1.

Air Force Coach Troy Calhoun said he had to tip his hat to Notre Dame as they showed no weakness in their execution.

The game started off with a deep kick by Air Force to the goal line where Notre Dame quickly moved the ball to the 19 yard line. From there, the Fighting Irish pressed on, and with a smart passing game, drove to the Air Force 33. A 34-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Tommy Rees to wide receiver Michael Floyd put Notre Dame on the board first.

Air Force showed promise on offense while they quickly moved the ball down field only to be stripped by Notre Dame

safety Jamoris Slaughter.

“It was disappointing on the first big play with a 20-yard run,” said Falcon running back Asher Clark after fumbling the ball. “Especially when they could use it as a big turnaround for their defense.”

The ground game dominated Notre Dame’s second drive. But it was Rees’ 5-yard touchdown pass to tight end Tyler Eifert that capped the nine-play, 59-yard drive, pushing the lead to 14.

The Falcons attempted to shift the momentum of the game after a steady moving 64-yard drive of their own. The drive stalled on Notre Dame’s 16-yard line, and forced an Air Force field goal from Parker Herrington, cutting the score to 14-3.

“It was a combination of us playing well, but hurting ourselves on penalties,” said Falcon quarterback Tim Jefferson. “We had about six or seven penalties and they all turned out to be huge. It was just one of those things where it’s mental. It’s the mental aspect of the game where you have to take advantage where you can.”

After another Rees touchdown to receiver Robby Toma, Notre Dame had a 21-3 lead at the end of the first quarter.

“I think they are an excellent football team,” said Calhoun as he described the Notre Dame offense. “I mean their movement, their size, that’s a really, really good offensive line.”

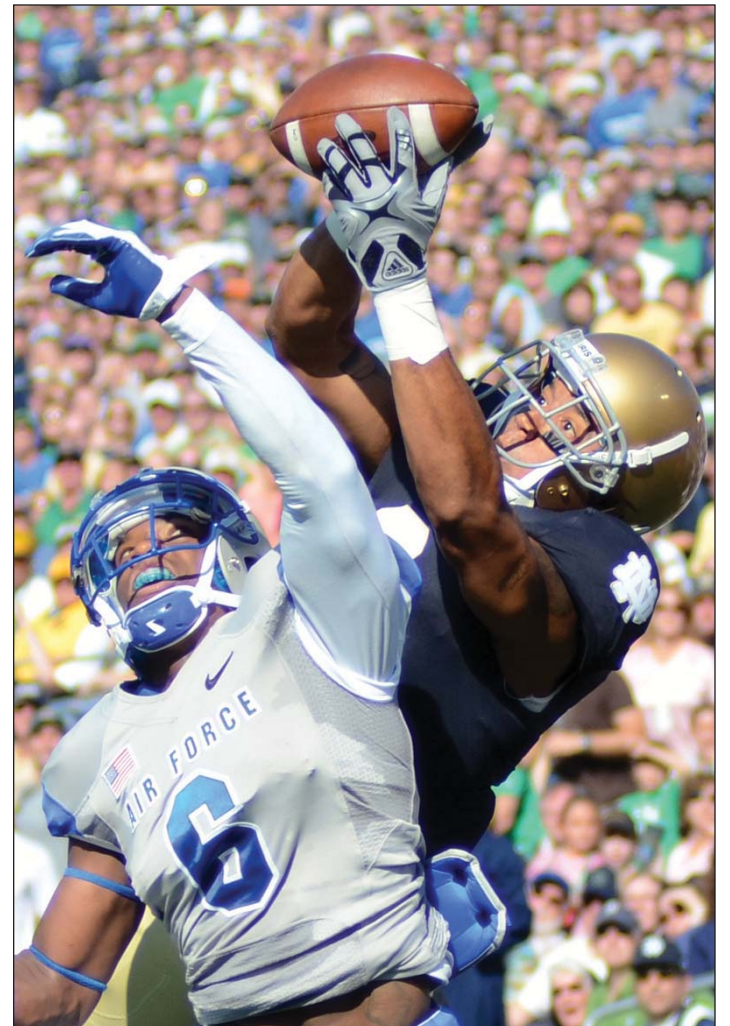
The Falcons and Irish would trade touchdowns and the Irish would head to the locker room at halftime with a 42-16 lead.

Both teams scored two touchdowns and a field goal in the second half. Air Force defense allowed seven different players score touchdowns. for the Irish.

“It makes us feel like the defense needs to step up,” Davis said. “We put it on the seniors’ backs and we have a lot of seniors on defense who just need to make more plays. In the last two weeks, we just have not made enough turnovers. We didn’t have any today. You can’t win games like that.”

The Falcon offense managed to display some impressive stats. Air Force led in first downs, rushing, possession time and total offensive yards.

This game marked the 29th meeting between Notre Dame and Air Force, where Notre Dame now has a 22-6 series lead over the Falcons and an 11-4 record against the Falcons during home games.



TECH. SGT. RAYMOND HOY

Notre Dame wide receiver Michael Floyd out jumps Air Force defensive back Jon Davis for the first Irish touchdown of the game Saturday at Notre Dame Stadium in South Bend, Ind. The Irish rolled on the Falcons, 59-33.

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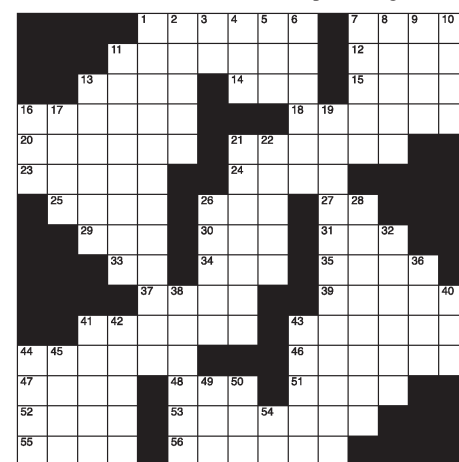
### CLUES ACROSS

1. Membrane around the lungs
7. Perennial trunked plant
11. Upper side of a building
12. Count on
13. W. Samoan monetary unit
14. Much \_\_\_ About Nothing
15. Freedom from difficulty
16. Person for whom something is named

### CLUES DOWN

1. Synthetic wood finish
2. Soils
3. After E
4. Reptile genus
5. A long thin implement
6. Greek god of light
7. Goody
8. Duane \_\_\_: NY pharmacy
9. Other, different
10. In a way, looked
11. Liberated by payment of a demand

18. Filled with lead
20. Against
21. Upper surface of the mouth
23. Belgian painter James, 1860-1949
24. Miri or Daffa
25. Alaskan gold rush town
26. \_\_\_ Lanka
27. Touchdown
29. Theater stage scenery
30. A slight amount
31. Of she
33. Designated hitter
34. Lemon or lime drink
35. Expel in large



13. Body trunks
16. Adam’s wife
17. Actor Sean
19. Of major consequence
21. Festival processions
22. Tolerate
26. Look at with fixed eyes
28. Take a deposition from
32. Rechristen

37. 4840 square yards
39. Sharpened a knife
41. Birch bark, dugout & outrigger
43. Yellow winter melon
44. Admirer
46. Hands on hips
47. Afrikaans
48. A flat cushion or mat
51. European hop
52. Initial poker wager
53. Linking together
55. Precipitation
56. Satisfying an appetite
36. “Dragnet” actor Jack
38. \_\_\_ Christi, TX
40. Taoism
41. Coon cat
42. Former U.S. Senator Spector
43. Sleeping room on a ship
44. Essential oil from flowers
45. “Church lady” Carvey
49. Professional nursing group
50. Telegraphic signal
54. Atomic #22

## SUDOKU

								9
	7		3		4			6
	8			7				5
			5	1				3
		5		3		4	9	
2					7			
9		3		8	2			
		8		5			1	
			4					8

Solution on page 4

Level: Intermediate

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# Cantering with a can-do spirit

Equestrian team riders' good showing in early competitions draws notice

By David Edwards  
Academy Spirit staff writer

When the Air Force Academy equestrian team goes to competitions, they have a few things in common with the Jamaican bobsled team: small group of upstarts stepping into the arena against longtime powerhouses with the resources to match; questions about their competence in the sport; complete devotion to a seemingly hopeless cause; plenty of verve and spunk despite the long odds.

Hollywood won't be telling this story anytime soon, however. So for now, the equestrian team's website will have to do.

And after some pretty phenomenal results at recent events, the website has a considerable amount of boast-worthy items to publicize. Just last week, the 14-person team trekked up to Fort Lupton, Colo., and emerged from the field of nine teams with a third-place finish.

In Colby, Kan., the previous week, Cadet 3rd Class Spencer Rutter won the opening reining event and two other cadets placed third.

The results speak for themselves, but they're even more impressive when a little context is added.

Many competitors in the equestrian events are NCAA-level athletes whose schools equip them through the athletic budget. Master Sgt. Travis Clawson, the team's NCOIC, said that at the last competition the Academy riders arrived in cars, while the University of Nebraska team showed up in a massive tour bus.

Most of the teams the Academy faces have upward of 50 members who specialize in either English or Western. As a club team, the Falcon equestrian competitors have no such luxury.

"We're very, very small fish in a very big

ocean," said Cadet 1st Class Dayna Grant, the team captain. "Luckily, we've got a very experienced group. It helps to have experienced riders to guide the newbies."

As far as resources, the equestrian team must make do with what little it has. A few of the cadets have donated their personal horses for team use.

Equestrian Center Director Billy Jack Barrett set aside a barn for them, and everything inside the barn is owned by cadets. The budget is all of \$8,000.

Many of the rival schools offer equine science as an academic major. Academy cadets have no such option, so recruiting has been done primarily via the annual Club Day.

Grant said that the past two years the team has brought live horses. The presence of actual animals has drawn more interest than a poster otherwise would have.

Even so, the time demands the sport imposes tend to keep away all but the true die-hards.

"Horses, unlike bicycles, need to be exercised every day," Grant said. "That's part of the reason why we don't have many people. Not everybody is willing to commit that kind of time. It's been an interesting evolution because my freshman year, we weren't even a club. We were just a group of kids hanging out with horses."

That evolution turned into competitiveness with amazing rapidity. It has also come on the heels of a dormant spell that covered several years. All the while, the other horse-related club at the Academy, the rodeo team, was riding strong.

Now that the equestrian team is competing again, Barrett's facility is seeing more use among the Cadet Wing, which provides him with more volunteers for programs.

The competition season runs through March and consists of 10 shows under the auspices of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association.

Clawson said he's very proud of the team's accomplishments, which he believes are magnified by the limitations the Academy riders face and their status as the underdog's underdog.

He and Grant are hoping for many more positive showings and a little less anonymity.

"We don't get much attention," Grant said. "But this is a completely well-rounded program in terms of ensuring what the Air Force looks for in an officer."

For more information, go to [www.usafaequestrianclub.org](http://www.usafaequestrianclub.org).



Cadet 1st Class Dana Grant, of Cadet Squadron 26, competes at the Fort Lupton, Colo., equestrian event Saturday and Sunday.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Cadet 3rd Class Nicholas Donnelly, of Cadet Squadron 19, negotiates a jump during an equestrian competition in Fort Lupton, Colo.

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RAYMOND MCCOY

Freshman Ayesha Hein goes up for a spike during a match with Boise State Saturday. She tied sophomore Cami Richan for second on the team with six kills.

# Air Force falls to Boise State in 3

The Air Force volleyball team dropped a three-set match to Mountain West newcomer Boise State on Saturday in its only match of the week.

Despite tallying more kills, assists and digs than the visiting Broncos, Air Force fell in straight 25-13, 25-19, 25-17 sets.

"We got more kills (than Boise State)," head coach Matt McShane said. "We tried a new lineup tonight that I really liked. It opened up Ayesha (Hein) and got her a bunch of good swings. Victoria (Foster) also got some good swings being close to her. I'm proud of this team, because we're not giving up. There are areas where we need to get better, things we need to work on, but we're not giving up."

For the second straight match, Foster led all players in scoring. The freshman recorded 11 kills, while posting a .280 attack percentage (11k-4e-24k). Foster was the only player on either side of the net to record double-digit kill totals. Classmate Hein, who tied sophomore Cami Richan for second on the team with six kills, posted a .284 hitting clip, connecting on six of 14 attempts with just two miscues.

Freshman Hillary Keltner recorded a match-high 21 assists, while sophomore Josalynn Wise added 11. Air Force added three service aces, including a pair of freshman Brooke Pottle. Junior Maiya Perich, who led both teams with 12 digs, recorded a point for the Falcons with a service ace, while freshman Kristen Holt posted the club's lone solo block.

Two long runs by the Broncos broke open a 6-6 tie in the first set, as Boise State advanced to 11-7 and 15-7. Sophomore Cami Richan put down kills to stop the visitors' runs, while a strike from Foster put

the Falcons at the 10-point mark (19-10). Foster and Hein added kills, but Boise State took the set 25-13.

Boise State scored first in the second set, but the two squads traded points until Air Force tied the set at 10 off of a kill from Foster. BSU responded with the next four points to go up 14-10. Foster, Hein, Richan and sophomore Claire Bieber added kills, but the Broncos went on to win by a score of 25-19. The Falcons hit .367 in the match, connecting on 14 of 30 attempts, while committing just three errors.

The Falcons found themselves in an early 5-1 hole to start the third set, but a pair of kills from Holt and singles strikes from Foster, Hein and Pottle helped the Falcons even the score at nine. Service aces from Pottle book-ended a kill from Wise, as the Falcons went up 12-9.

The Broncos tied the set at 13, but freshman Megan Clary put down a kills to give the Falcons back the lead at 14-13. Boise State scored the ensuing point and used a 10-3 run to close out the set by a 25-17 margin.

Air Force also posted a season-high attendance figure with a raucous, standing-room only crowd of 1,001. It is the second-highest total since returning to East Gym last year and the third time in McShane's tenure that the attendance has reached at least 1,000.

"The crowd was fabulous," McShane commented. "Just fabulous."

Air Force leaves the friendly confines of Falcon Court at East Gym next week to close out the first half of Mountain West Conference action. The Falcons will travel to UNLV on Saturday, Oct. 15.

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405 N. Tejon  
[rastapastacs.com](http://rastapastacs.com)

USAFA Grad Owned. Creative Caribbean Pasta, Fresh & Funky Salads, Ridiculously Good Desserts. Open seven days a week for affordable lunch and dinner. Voted Best New Restaurant by Gazette readers. Happy Hour Daily 4-6. Live Reggae Music the First Friday of every month.



**Salsa Brava Fresh Mexican Grill**  
Rockrimmon -  
802 Village Center Dr.  
719-266-9244  
Briargate -  
9420 Briar Village Pt.  
719-955-6650  
[SalsaBravaonline.com](http://SalsaBravaonline.com)

## MEXICAN

Voted Best Mexican Restaurant in Colorado Springs - 2011. Salsa Brava serves traditional Mexican dishes with a twist, made with the freshest of ingredients. Monday - \$5 Margaritas. Tuesday - Briargate 5K Run Club. Wednesday - \$5 Martinis & Rockrimmon 5K Run Club. Happy Hour daily from 4-7 p.m. Full-service catering for groups up to 3,000.

## FINE DINING



**The Margarita at Pine Creek**  
7350 Pine Creek Rd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
598-8667  
[www.margaritaatpinecreek.com](http://www.margaritaatpinecreek.com)

Hours: **Lunch:** Tuesday-Friday 11:30a.m.-2:00p.m. **Dinner:** Tuesday-Saturday 5:30p.m.-8:30p.m. **Brunch on Sunday:** 10:30a.m.-2:00p.m. Serving award winning, contemporary, seasonal cuisine-with a casual attitude for 37 years. Upstairs: fine dining (accompanied by our harpsichord on Saturday evenings). In the downstairs lounge: local music (from jazz to bluegrass) Wed-Fri. Enjoy appetizers to full course meals! Always affordable dining with a special occasion feel. Join us for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Relax and take in the Colorado scenery on the patios soon! Perfect for private parties, rehearsal dinners, weddings and other events.



**The Famous**  
719-227-7333  
31 N. Tejon Street  
[www.thefamoussteakhouse.net](http://www.thefamoussteakhouse.net)

## STEAKHOUSE

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**Pikes Peak Ice Cream & Gelato**  
481 Highway 105, unit 208  
(west of Rosie's Diner)  
Monument, CO 80132  
719-313-9484  
Our Booth at the AFA Stadium,  
south end

Pikes Peak Ice Cream & Gelato is the only locally owned dessert lounge that produces our own gelato-style ice in the store. We source clean, local dairy and imported Italian ingredients allowing us to support local community businesses and ensure that our gelato-style ice cream is 14,100' above the competition. Military Monday: 15% discount with military ID.



**Zanes Steak House**  
719-260-6555  
5905 Corporate Drive & I-25  
Exit 148 N. Nevada

**SERVING LUNCH AND DINNER FROM 11:00A.M. DAILY** It's been told that a cowboy cook named Zane may have settled in these parts, leaving his legendary recipes to carry on the name; Zane. Join us for a foot stompin time with hand cut, specially seasoned steaks, tender & meaty ribs and ranch style fixins. Bend an elbow in the trailblazer saloon or pony up on the patio. Let us host your private shindig or roundup in the old west way...The legend lives on at Zanes.





## Take an outdoor adventure

For information on program offerings, contact Outdoor Adventure at 333-2940 or visit their website at [usafaservices.com](http://usafaservices.com).

**Hiking on the Academy:** Women's casual-paced hiking is held Tuesdays at 9 a.m., with co-ed quick-paced hiking held Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. The hikes are free, but registration is required. Contact Outdoor Adventure for more information.

## Honor Guard candidates

The Air Force Academy Honor Guard wants volunteers who can help pay final honors to those interred at the Air Force's only active cemetery.

Airmen must have 12 months of retainability on base and be able to support at least two details per month for one year.

Training is every other Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m. Benefits of Honor Guard membership include consideration for a medal upon completion of the 12-month commitment and free attendance to some major sporting events.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Lissy Slezak at 333-9309 or Staff Sgt. Hugo Reinor at 333-5621.

## Clinic offers shingles vaccine

Shingles vaccinations are now available at the Academy Allergy and Immunization Clinic. The vaccine is recommended for people age 60 and older. Anyone 50 to 59 years old must have a prescription.

The clinic's hours of operations are: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

On the first Thursday of the month, the clinic closes at 11:30 a.m. for training. Patients are advised to call ahead because mission requirements can cause closures on short notice. The number is 333-5080.

## Mixed bowling league

Organizers are looking for teams to bowl in a mixed league (two men, two women) Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at Academy Lanes Bowling Center on the Air Force Academy.

For more information, call Mike at 694-4401 or Terri at 290-1894 or sign up at the bowling alley.

## Get your recyclables ready

To commemorate America Recycles Day, the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron will hold its annual electronics recycling event from November through January.

Each Wednesday and Thursday beginning in November, electronic items can be taken to Civil Engineers' Complex (Building 8125) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for recycling.

Recycling is free. Recyclable items include personal computers and components, televisions, DVD or CD players, stereos, speakers and VHS players. Over the past five years, the Academy has recycled more than 40,000 pounds of electronics.

For more information, call Derek Damien at 333-3224.

## Preppies need sponsor families

Sponsor families are needed for cadet candidates attending the U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School for the 2011-12 school year. The Prep School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy.

Eligible sponsors are: active/retired GS-05, E-6, O-3 and above. Academy graduates and professors may also apply.

If you would like to sponsor one or more of these students, or if you have any questions, please call Mark Winter at 333-2583.

## Cadet classical performances

Join the Academy cadet orchestra in highlighting four gifted cadets in an afternoon of concerto performances Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Arnold Hall theater.

"Morceau de Concert for Horn" by Camille Saint-Saëns will be performed by senior Josiah Eubank. Vivaldi's Concerto in G minor for two cellos will be performed by junior Hayden Richards and senior Wendy Lathrom. The final number

is the famous Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Second Movement, by Sergei Rachmaninoff. This will be performed by Stephen Bittner.

The Cadet Orchestra Club consists of a full orchestra as well as smaller ensembles. Performances are at the Academy and at other locations in Colorado Springs.

## Toastmasters meeting details

The Toastmasters Academy Orators club meets Wednesdays 12:05-1 p.m. in the contracting department conference room, 8110 Industrial Drive.

The group provides leadership growth through confidence-building exercises and artful, purposeful communication. For more information, call Irene Noble at 333-5133.

## Double-feature movie night

Two movies will be shown tonight at the Community Center Auditorium. The first movie, "Cars 2," rated G, starts at 6 p.m., and the second movie, "The Hangover, Part Two," rated R, starts at 8 p.m. Sodas and popcorn will be available for sale.

## AFSA to brief retirements

Air Force Sergeants' Association Vice Chairman for International Legislative Affairs James Lokovic will brief the newly proposed retirement program, education benefits, marriage law act, and other topics relevant to both the enlisted and officer corps. There will be three sessions, all of which will take place Oct. 24. Times and places are as follows: 8-9

a.m., Community Center Theater; 10:30-11:30 a.m., Fairchild Hall, L6 Lectar; 3-4 p.m., Community Center Theater. For more info, call Master Sgt. Mark Schwartze at 333-8075.

## Gamers, football fans, unite

Madden tournament, Oct. 23, 2 p.m. sponsored by Community Activities. Open to Academy patrons 18 and older. Snacks and beverages will be on sale. Call 333-2928 to register.

## Sign up to stay at SnoFest

SnoFest 2012 lodging now on sale! Call 800-258-0437 to book and provide Group Code GC8PRB and base affiliation.

## Cadets give youth soccer clinic

Soccer clinic for children ages 5-18, Tuesday and Wednesday, 5 p.m. until dark on the Pine Valley soccer fields. Clinic provided by Academy intramural soccer team Cadets. Call 333-4169 to sign up.

## One-day painting class offered

Quick-start oil painting, featuring local artist and instructor Laura Reilly. Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Price is \$95 for all-day instruction. Reilly will teach how to set up your palette, show required painting materials and provide a painting demonstration. There will be a break for lunch.

This class is for beginners and painters who want to refresh their skills or just paint with (and receive guidance) from a pro. Call 333-4579 to sign up in advance.



## Cadet Chapel

**BUDDHIST**  
Sundays, 10 a.m.

**PROTESTANT WORSHIP**  
**Combined Worship Service:**  
Sundays, 9 a.m.

**CATHOLIC WORSHIP**  
**Mass:** Sundays, 10 a.m.

**JEWISH WORSHIP**  
High Holiday Schedule  
**Yom Kippur:** Today, 4:45 p.m. service, dinner to follow at 5 p.m.; Kol Nidrei, 5:45 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. Mussaf service, includes Yizkor; 5 p.m. service; 6 p.m. Neila service; fast ends, 7:12 p.m. We will break the fast as a community after services.

**Normal schedule**  
Fridays: 7 p.m.

## Community Center Chapel

**CATHOLIC WORSHIP**  
**Mass:** Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m.  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.  
**Formation Classes:** For students in grades K-8. Sundays, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

**PROTESTANT WORSHIP**  
**Evangelical:** Sunday, 10:15 a.m.  
**Gospel:** Sunday, 11:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday Night Live:** For ages 3 to adult. Begins with a meal. Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.

The Falcon Club presents... **WIN a trip to the Super Bowl!** Or one of two Regular Season Games Plus, End-of-Season Bonus drawing for \$5,000 in FSS gift cards!

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**Cedar Springs Behavioral Health System, Inc.**

**Business Office Associate**

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Insurance verification, billing to insurance company, collections of patient cost-shares, financial counseling, collections of insurance payments, review of patient accounts for correct contractual and proration, review of account to be ready for self-pay and/or collection agency. Understanding of billing and HIPAA regulations, knowledge of insurance and self-pay collections. Requires creativity, high energy, organizational, and problem-solving skills. Also requires verbal/written interpersonal and customer service skills. Working knowledge of software programs such as Windows, Word, Excel, etc. The ability to maintain patient confidentiality. Requires ability to exercise independent judgment to accomplish goals. The ability to multi-task is an essential skill for this position.

**EXP/EDUCATION:**

High school education or equivalent. One year of billing and insurance collections experience in a healthcare setting is preferred. Knowledge of insurance and self-pay collections helpful. Ability to multi-task and problem solve essential. Good customer service, written/verbal, organizational and interpersonal skills required.

To apply, please fax your resume to (719) 630-0118 and note the position for which you are applying, or you may also apply in person at Cedar Springs Hospital, 2135 Southgate Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. EOE

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