

**MENTORING**

Training provides structured approach to mentoring. **Page 4**

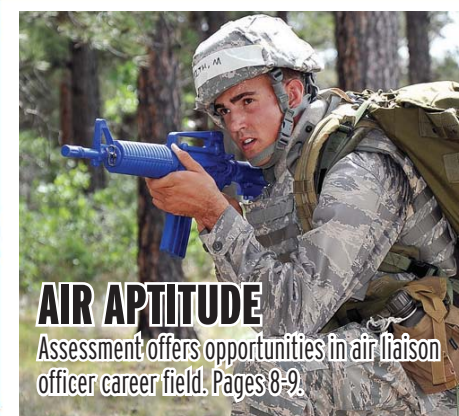
**LEADING BY EXAMPLE**

Cadets participate in Lackland's basic training program. **Page 6**

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# ACADEMY SPIRIT

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## Earning acceptance



MIKE KAPLAN

Members of the Class of 2016 pinned on their first cadet military rank and swore to uphold the Academy Honor Code at their Acceptance Parade Tuesday at Stillman Parade Field. The Honor Code is the minimum standard of behavior and performance expected of all Air Force Academy cadets, and reads: "We will not lie, steal or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does." The newly minted freshman cadets begin their academic semester Thursday.

## Superintendent prepares cadets, staff for new academic year

By Don Branum  
Academy Spirit staff writer

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould held a series of superintendent's calls Monday and Tuesday in the Arnold Hall Theater here to mentally prepare the Academy's faculty, staff and cadets for the beginning of the 2012-2013 academic year.

Classes began Thursday after what Gould called an eventful summer, capped by the Class of 2016 Acceptance Parade on Tuesday.

"I want to take this opportunity to get us all going in the same direction," Gould said. He showed staff members a diagram outlining the Academy's mission, which is to produce highly trained and educated officers and inspired leaders of character.

Strategies listed on the diagram included recruiting quality people, developing a comprehensive curriculum and center of innovation, measuring its institutional competencies and assessing the outcomes of its efforts.

"We have a mission here, and we want to be the best at it," Gould said. "That's where metrics are important. We say we develop highly trained and educated officers, and in our gut we think we do, but metrics will help us prove it. They'll help keep us focused on the reason we're here."

Underlying the Academy's strategy for its mission are principles that will help it get there, including diversity, a culture of respect and inclusion, proper resource security management, a developed and motivated workforce and combat-ready Airmen ready to deploy, Gould said.

The general welcomed several new senior officials: Brig. Gen. Greg Lengyel, who succeeded Brig. Gen. Richard Clark as commandant of cadets; Col. Kabrena Rodda, who assumed command of the Academy Preparatory School; Col. Joseph Rizzuto, who now commands the 306th Flying Training Group; and Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Ludwig, who succeeded now-retired Chief Master Sgt. Todd Salzman.

He also thanked 10th Air Base Wing Airmen for their efforts in containing the Waldo Canyon Fire, which burned more than 18,000 acres west of Colorado Springs before it was contained in early July.

"(Army) Maj. Gen. Joe Anderson, who commands the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson,

See Superintendent Page 5

# Help arrives in my darkest hour

By Master Sgt. Kevin Wallace  
100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

**ROYAL AIR FORCE  
MILDENHALL, England  
(AFNS)** — I want the nightmares to stop!

That's one thing I told Dr. Jeffery Peterson, a 48th Medical Operations Squadron clinical psychologist, when I went to see him last year.

I admit the visit wasn't voluntary.

Just before leaving Afghanistan in May 2011, I had to accomplish an online post-deployment health assessment and was flagged on many of my responses. I had to see Peterson my third day home. I felt our encounter was routine, but optimistically routine.

While downrange, I was involved in several close-range firefights, as well as living in constant threat of the near-daily attacks we repelled.

I was notified that I had to do yet another PDHA last August. What followed absolutely blew my mind!

After submitting the PDHA, I stopped by a co-worker's office to talk briefly and returned to a ringing phone. A member of the 48th Medical Group staff was calling me merely 21 minutes after pressing the final mouse click and submitting the PDHA. I was amazed at how fast they reached out to me.

I was flagged again and scheduled to see Peterson that same afternoon. I honestly dreaded having to go "talk about my problems" again but was truly impressed at how the medical system was working like a well-oiled machine. The 48th MDG staff monitored my progress as if I were their only patient.

Once more, Peterson was very positive and he seemed exceedingly concerned about complications in my Purple Heart medal approval. Since then, he saw my Purple Heart come to fruition and has been in routine contact with me. I also received comprehensive treatment from another 48th MDG psychiatrist and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

Despite my care moving from the family practice clinic to the mental health clinic, Peterson has kept in repeated contact with me. It's more than obvious, he cares.

Top-care isn't limited to Peterson either.

Dr. Paul West, my psychiatrist, goes well above and beyond, whenever I need a listening ear or professional advice.

Furthermore, the Air Force assigned me to Tom Sansone, a Wounded Warrior counselor at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Sansone has been involved in all aspects of medical care, and has called me at home and at work dozens of times. He's an amazing counselor.

The truth is I never wanted to see Peterson, West, Sansone or the other medical staff. I didn't volunteer: the Air Force redeployment system forced these people into my



MASTER SGT. KEVIN WALLACE  
A Spanish soldier engages insurgents from an AS532 Super Puma, which flew a four-ship combat patrol over the hills of Badghis Province in northwestern Afghanistan Dec. 19, 2010.

“I honestly dreaded having to go ‘talk about my problems’ again but was truly impressed at how the medical system was working like a well-oiled machine.”

life, but I'm sure glad it did.

Luckily, many Airmen won't see lives taken firsthand, much less take human lives or lose close friends to the enemy. Yet, others will. For those people, there's help.

For service members thrown right into the mix of the darkest aspects of war and inhumanity, I hope you fight well and stand your ground, my brothers. I hope you keep our enemies at bay and keep the fight on foreign soil. Rest assured, as I now know, there are people here at home who care.

For me that was my wife, the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program and the 48th MDG.

Through my rants and despair, my anger and sadness, my wife has always been there. Still, there are some things I could never talk to her about; who'd want to put the worst on the ones they love?

In those times and for those subjects, I have professionals at nearby RAF Lakenheath. I'd be lying to say I always had complete confidence in our medical system — I used to have my doubts. But no longer; now I have full faith that the system works and the professionals care.

I'll permanently change station to a stateside base next month, and the professionals who cared for me at RAF Lakenheath will become people of my past. I admit that fact is troubling. Yet, I've seen first-hand success of the Air Force medical system and the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program. I'll be in good hands wherever I go — I'm a believer!

## ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Lt. Col. John Bryan —  
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# Academy's Long Blue Line adds 6 more graduates

The Class of 2012 added six new graduates to its ranks at the summer session's graduation and commissioning ceremony Aug. 3.

The Air Force's newest second lieutenants are:

**Charles Gross of Slidell, La.** Gross graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in systems engineering management, and his next assignment will be as a contracting officer at Moody AFB, Ga.

**Wendy Lathrom of Wichita, Kansas.** Lathrom graduates with a Bachelor of Science in political science, and her next assignment will be pilot training at Columbus AFB, Miss.

**Tiffany McKinney of Birmingham, Ala.** McKinney graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in basic sciences, and her next assignment will be cyberspace operations officer training at Keesler AFB, Miss.

**Christopher Pieper of Aurora, Colo.** Pieper graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in behavioral sciences, and his next assignment will be as a contracting officer at

Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

**Joseph Silverio of Binghamton, N.Y.** Silverio graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics, and his next assignment will be pilot training at Vance AFB, Okla.

**Matthew Toussain of San Antonio, Texas.** Toussain graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in basic sciences, and his next assignment will be as a cyberspace operations officer training at Keesler AFB, Miss.

Air Force Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould was the guest speaker for the ceremony. He presented the diplomas to the new graduates, along with Brig. Gen. Dana Born, dean of the faculty.

After receiving their diplomas, the Academy's newest graduates swore the oath of office, and family members pinned on their new ranks.

These six lieutenants bring the Air Force Academy's total number of graduates to 45,014 since the first graduating Class of 1959.



Charles Gross



Wendy Lathrom



Tiffany McKinney



Christopher Pieper



Joseph Silverio



Matthew Toussain

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# Mentoring program aims to encourage diversity

By Amber Baillie  
Academy Spirit staff writer

Twenty-six Academy employees attended a coach mentoring core course on Monday as part of the 2012 Academy Mentoring Program to achieve personal and professional growth, network across the Academy and exchange knowledge and expertise with others.

Faculty and staff consisting of civilians, officers and enlisted individuals participated in interactive exercises and discussions to develop a mentoring plan between mentors and mentees and sign an agreement to commit to the program for the next ten months.

"I've been here for 20 months now and I have been looking forward to this moment," said Academy Chief Diversity Officer Dr. Adis Vila, head of the program. "I believe that it is only through mentoring that people have an opportunity to succeed in organizations."

Vila said the 26 participants were hand-picked for the pilot program out of 4,000 permanent party members at the Academy.

"We will be measuring the program's success to see if there is growth among the participants," Vila said. "We may not have an opportunity to do this again. It will be up to the participants' expertise, experience and what they get out of it that will be key to our ability to keep it going."

Vila said one of the main reasons she wanted to institute a mentoring program was due to the Military Leadership Diversity Commission report issued in March 2011.



Tina Erzen and Col. Andy Szmerkovsky conduct a short mentoring session during a class on mentoring at the Air Force Academy Monday.

DON BRANUM

"Researchers found that women were leaving the Air Force at a faster pace than men in the Air Force," Vila said. "That doesn't mean we aren't losing good men also but I figured if we were going to have a professional development opportunity like this, I wanted it to be open to men as well as women and include civilians, officers and enlisted. It's important for this program to be inclusive and my hope is that participants will learn how to work with people who may be different than themselves."

Tamra Gauthier, a trainer and management analyst from the Department of Veterans Affairs, facilitated the course

"We had a mix of people that ranged from Airmen to colonels, to civilians and high-graded faculty," said Gauthier. "You tend to get the formality and respect the rank, and automatically there is a barrier. Our focus was getting people to talk, feel comfortable and eliminate that barrier."

The training consisted of mentor and mentee sessions where participants practiced direct communication, created goals and scheduled a time to meet with one another.

Gauthier focused on the core competencies of the GROW model, which includes good feedback, powerful questions, active deep listening, direct communication, trust, presence and personal mastery.

"The GROW model is a blueprint for the mentoring process," Gauthier said. "The model asks, 'What is your goal?' and 'What is your current reality?' When you set a goal, you need to look at your circumstances, whether at work or at home and see if they allow you to pursue that goal."

Laurie Carroll, a mentor in the program and chief of the Academy's Manpower, Organization and Resources Division, said she used a similar approach as the model in previous mentoring situations and found

it to be very effective.

"It's an easy way to remember and focus on the four key parts of an effective mentoring conversation," Carroll said. "I will find it helpful and use it in the future."

Rachael Clark, a mentee in the program and economics instructor in the Academy's Department of Economics and Geosciences, said she looks forward to receiving professional wisdom from her mentor.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know my mentor more and learning about my career field," Clark said. "I'm pretty junior in my career field, so it's nice to get to learn from my mentor, who has been in the field for many years."

Gauthier said compatibility between the mentor and mentee is essential.

"If it's not working well or a mentor is lacking in one area of expertise, that's where the mentee can network and go to someone else who may be an expert in that area," Gauthier said. "At the training, I saw relationships really start to develop and others crossing over between areas of interest and different offices."

The program will run Aug. 2012 to June 2013. Two mentors from the Center for Character and Leadership Development attended the training to observe and see if there were components within the program they could take to the Cadet Wing.

"We don't want the formal part of this program to be limited to just the training session," Vila said. "A lot of activities will be designed for this group in mind because we want there to be actual opportunities for development throughout the program."

## Alumnus Legasey honored for distinguished service, support

By Steven Simon  
Acting Chief, USAFA Development and Alumni Programs

Edward E. Legasey, USAFA Class of '67, has been awarded the Academy's 2012 Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes his outstanding service and unfailing support to the Academy.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, Academy Superintendent, will present the award during the Parents' Weekend Parade on Aug. 31

The Academy established the Distinguished Service Award in February, 1999. Each year the award is presented to an individual or organization whose contributions have had a distinct impact on the morale or well-being of the Academy. The award recognizes those who contribute to the betterment of the Academy through their generosity and dedication to the institution.

Legasey's personal commitment to excellence at the Air Force Academy has spanned four decades and continues to be felt throughout the Academy and the graduate community.

"The selection is a true testament to your exemplary support throughout

the years," wrote Gould in his June 2012 congratulatory letter to Legasey announcing the selection.

Legasey expressed his gratitude to the Academy for his selection.

"I consider it a genuine privilege and pleasure to be able to provide service to the United States Air Force Academy," he said. "The Academy played a pivotal role in my professional development, and I hope my service will help ensure future generations of cadets will have the best possible experience as they walk the path to becoming leaders of character. To be honored with this award, when there are so many who do so much for our beloved Academy, is truly humbling. Thank you."

Legasey excelled from his cadet days forward. He served as a cadet group commander and co-captain of the hockey team, and was a regular on the Superintendent's List. Upon graduation as a distinguished graduate, he earned a Master of Science degree in Operations Research from the University of Pennsylvania. He served on active duty for nine years, during which time he worked as an operations research analyst on large, complex management information



Edward E. Legasey

systems and directed software test and evaluation for the B-1 bomber.

Following active duty, Legasey worked as a civilian employee for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for two years, and then left government service to join with a partner to found SRA International, a global information technology and professional services firm. He spent the next 26 years building the company into a major player in the information technology industry.

Legasey has spoken at several National Character and Leadership Symposiums on Business Ethics. His company hired hundreds of Academy graduates, launching many to successful careers. He is a founding member

of the AFA Society of Washington, DC, an organization of graduates dedicated to business networking.

He served on the Association of Graduates Board for six years, with four years as the chairman. He and his wife, Patricia, established an endowment for Character and Leadership with the AOG. William Thompson, Class of '73, AOG President and CEO, summarized the impact Legasey has had on the AOG and the Academy.

"Ted has not only been a steadfast supporter and generous donor but as Chairman of the Association of Graduates Board of Directors, he led the first Capital Campaign which raised more than \$60 million for the Academy. He has and continues to be a strong supporter of the AOG and the graduate community."

Among his many contributions, he and Patricia made the lead gift for the construction of the Memorial Pavilion at the Academy Cemetery.

Legasey is also a Founding Director for the USAFA Endowment. General (Retired) Stephen R. Lorenz, Class of '73, USAFA Endowment president and chief executive officer, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Legasey's contributions.

"Ted, who is a member of the USAFA Endowment Board, has made such a positive difference here at the Academy. His support of Cadets programs and of the graduate community as a whole is truly selfless."

## Superintendent

From page 1

asked, ‘What can we do at the 4th ID to help?’” Gould recalled. “‘We could have a brigade of Soldiers up here with shovels if you want.’ Our fire chief said, ‘If you have any heavy equipment, we could use it to create some firebreaks.’ Later that afternoon, six flatbeds came rolling up Interstate 25 loaded with heavy equipment.”

U.S. Forest Service policy allows forest roads, most of them unpaved, to be widened or improved under specific circumstances. The policies are more relaxed in emergency situations like forest fires, Gould said.

“Well, the engineers came up there with their heavy equipment, and they improved those roads,” Gould said, to laughter from the audience.

The general invited 10th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Chief Ernst Piercy and other firefighters in the theater to stand up and take a bow, which they did to applause from the rest of the audience. He praised the firefighters for fire mitigation efforts in the years before the fire and tipped his hat to the 306th Flying Training Group for coordinating helicopter operations at the Academy Airfield. Finally, he thanked the 10th Security Forces Squadron for preventing any incidents of looting or other criminal activity while the Douglass Valley and Pine Valley housing areas were evacuated.

Gould also thanked Fort Carson for setting up a staging area for Academy evacuees, Colorado Col-



“As of Aug. 3, we’ve had 36 active-duty suicides. For the total force, that number is 63. That’s up from totals from this time last year of 30 and 57. I don’t know what’s happening – nobody does – but we have to do something about it.”

– Academy Superintendent  
Lt. Gen. Mike Gould

lege for temporarily hosting summer classes and the Discovery Canyon Campus School for offering its facilities for Basic Cadet Training should they be needed. Finally, he thanked the staff and volunteers who helped move reception and inprocessing into the Cadet Field House from its normal location in Doolittle Hall.

But while the Academy’s families handled the Waldo Canyon Fire admirably, many challenges remain, Gould said. Chief among those challenges are suicides, which are increasing among active-duty Airmen and the total force, illegal drug use and sexual assault.

“As of Aug. 3, we’ve had 36 active-

duty suicides. For the total force, that number is 63. That’s up from totals from this time last year of 30 and 57,” Gould said. “I don’t know what’s happening — nobody does — but we have to do something about it.” He recommended people seek out someone to talk to in person or over the phone if they have thoughts about harming themselves.

The cases of illegal drug use — particularly cases of spice use — “really disturbed me,” Gould said. “We sent a bunch of cadets home.”

Gould said he was also concerned about sexual assault cases: the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator reported 52 cases of assault last year that ranged anywhere from unwanted

touching to rape. Former Cadet Stephan Claxton is now serving six months confinement after his court-martial conviction for attempted abusive sexual contact, two counts of wrongful sexual contact and four counts of assault and battery.

“We’ve got to stop this. We’ve got to stop it,” Gould said. “We’ve all got to rally around this. We have to make a commitment not to let it happen at our Academy or in our Air Force. We need to make sure we’re doing everything we can ... as Air Force team members to keep this stuff from happening.”

One task Gould has laid out in the next year is a cross-functional team study on how to prevent the climate from deteriorating into a “total breakdown of institutional control,” a term used to describe the failure of former senior officials at Penn State to intervene when they became aware of Jerry Sandusky’s crimes against children committed there.

“Let’s look at the Academy, learn more about what happened at Penn State so we can make sure it doesn’t happen here,” he said.

He has also charged the Commandant of Cadets staff to transform the Center for Character and Leadership Development into an Air Force center of excellence, and he has asked the Dean of Faculty’s leaders with developing a curriculum for leaders of an Air Force that will not be deployed in either Iraq or Afghanistan when they graduate.

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**LEFT:** Air Force Academy cadet Nicque Robinson leads trainees from 323rd Training Squadron through column movements July 11.

**BELOW:** From left to right, U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet 2nd Class Nicque Robinson, Commander of Airmen Cadet 1st Class Joshua Hall, and Cadet 1st Class Christina Beckett lead the formation during practice just prior to the Air Force Basic Military Training graduation ceremony July 13 at the BMT parade grounds.

PHOTOS BY  
ALAN BOEDEKER

# LEADING BY EXAMPLE

## Academy cadets develop leadership skills at BMT

By Mike Joseph  
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas (AFNS)** — U.S. Air Force Academy cadets learned first-hand over the past seven weeks how military training instructors develop the Air Force's newest warrior Airmen in basic military training.

The 27 cadets in the Summer Leadership Program developed leadership skills by shadowing MTIs in seven BMT squadrons at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The cadets from the Academy's incoming junior class, along with two supervising seniors, arrived on base May 24 and departed Saturday after participating in key positions in the July 13 BMT graduation parade.

"The cadets followed the same steps as a student training to be a military training instructor," said Staff Sgt. Corey Norris, the 323rd Training Squadron NCO in charge, who oversaw the cadets during their stay in BMT.

"They shadowed MTIs to learn the leadership skills and the different leadership techniques it takes to mold future Airmen," he said. "The cadets did the same thing our NCOs do on a daily basis, and they will be able to draw from their experiences here in BMT when they lead basic cadet training next summer for the academy's incoming freshmen."

Norris said the Summer Leadership Program teaches the future Air Force officers how to become better leaders by understanding how future Airmen

are developed in basic training.

"They will have a better understanding about the enlisted force and how MTIs mentor the trainees," he said. "They experienced what BMT is like for both the MTIs and the trainees."

Along with developing and enhancing their leadership skills, they also learned about character development."

Cadets 1st Class Joshua Hall and Christina Beckett supervised their underclassmen counterparts. Both participated in the Summer Leadership Program last year as underclassmen and gained a greater understanding of the program's future benefits.

"I've learned a lot more this year, especially about leadership and mentoring," Hall said. "Here, you're not worried about school or athletics. You're only concerned about the military side. This summer has better prepared us for our first duty station."

Beckett agreed with her classmate.

"This is totally different from last year," she said. "We're dealing with more people issues."

"We were in charge of 25 other people. This taught us how to work with them, how to handle their issues and be better mentors. It's been enlightening."

The focus and primary benefit of the program is for the cadets who shadowed MTIs and NCOs to pass on their training knowledge at the academy. It also exposed them to the importance of working with members of the enlisted corps.

"I've learned more in this program



“I’ve learned more in this program about leadership and mentoring in seven weeks than the three years I’ve been at the academy because of the roles.”

- Cadet 1st Class Joshua Hall

about leadership and mentoring in seven weeks than the three years I've been at the academy because of the roles," Hall said.

"We met with all the squadron commanders in an open forum, and had the opportunity to ask questions," he added. "What we learned from them

will help us become better officers."

During their seven weeks at BMT, the cadets also worked on perfecting their military drill skills. The program's culminating event was July 13 when the cadets filled the key positions in the weekly BMT graduation parade.

# AF travel card transitions back to GTC

By Tech. Sgt. Shawn J. Jones  
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The terms and conditions for the Air Force's travel charge card are changing, but Airmen can hang on to their blue cards.

From Tuesday through the end of September, the Air Force Banking Office will email some 300,000 Airmen, informing them that their controlled spend account card will convert back to a government travel card, which will operate like a standard charge card.

For Airmen who received a CSA card and previously had a GTC or traveled using the CSA without going delinquent, the transition will be automatic. They must complete a training course found at [www.defensetravel.dod.mil/passport](http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/passport) and sign a statement of understanding.

However, some Airmen are being notified by their agency program coordinator that they must apply for the GTC because they never had a GTC in the past, but were issued a CSA card and either went delinquent or never used it. The application process involves a credit check that will only

be performed with applicant's consent.

The current blue CSA card will now operate just like the GTC that was used for many years prior to the CSA. GTCs have fixed credit limits like a regular charge card, and cardholders no longer need to request temporary spend limit increases. If a cardholder's official travel estimate exceeds their credit limit, they need to discuss their options with their APC.

This CSA to GTC transition will bring about a few new features. New to the GTC program is the option for cardholders to request electronic balance refunds, receive automated e-mail reminders when an account is close to becoming delinquent, and a future enhancement to automatically split-disburse most non-mileage expenses such as hotel taxes, excess baggage and rental fuel to the travel card when completing a Defense Travel System voucher.

These new features aren't the only differences between the new GTC and the CSA card.

Requests for credit limit increases on the new card must be coordinated with the cardholder's supervisor and APC who is responsible for manag-



SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTINA BROWNLOW

The Air Force Banking Office will start converting approximately 300,000 controlled spend account cards into government travel cards Aug. 7. For most Airmen, the process will be automatic, and they can continue to use their blue cards. However, those Airmen who are identified as failing to meet creditworthiness requirements will need to make arrangements with their agency program coordinator.

ing the travel card program. Also, the terms of the GTC include a cash advance fee of 2.2 percent, which is considered a reimbursable travel expense when used for official purposes.

"It is critical for all Air Force travel-

ers to know their travel card status - open or closed, restricted or standard - and their APC before departing for a temporary duty or a permanent change of station," said Jim Sisson, Director, Air Force Banking Office.

## Air Force plays role in the success of NASA's Mars Rover

By Philip Lorenz III  
Arnold Engineering Development Complex Public Affairs

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn. (AFNS) — As news broke of NASA's Mars Science Laboratory "Curiosity" rover's successful landing on the "red planet" Aug. 6, Arnold Engineering Development Complex's Hypervelocity Tunnel 9 Director Dan Marren was watching the live TV broadcast of the event.

"Last night, after eight months of high-speed flight, while you slept, NASA successfully landed the rover Curiosity on Mars," Marren said. "What I find refreshing is that for our

part, there is an interesting story. "Much of the success of the "7 Minutes of Terror" — that most challenging part NASA refers to from re-entry to touchdown — is directly related to sub-systems AEDC helped develop and validate. A solid heat shield and a proper deceleration parachute were crucial to putting the rover down safely. What is even more rewarding to me is that our capabilities designed many years ago for the original space race and strategic systems were so useful today enabling discovery and the natural curiosity of the human race."

Curiosity is the most highly advanced, mobile robot with the heavi-



An Orion heat shield material sample model undergoes aerothermal testing in H2 as part of a recent facility validation and calibration run. This and other heat shield material candidates will undergo aerothermal pre-production testing at AEDC in June.

RICK GOODFRIEND

est overall payload ever sent to another planet to investigate Mars' ability, both past and present, to sustain microbial life.

AEDC's role in supporting the MSL program has included evaluating the aerothermal loading of the heat shield at the complex's Hypervelocity Tunnel 9 facility in Silver Spring, Md., and assessing thermal

protection system material candidates for the MSL's heat shield at the complex's central location in Tennessee.

In addition, NASA and AEDC's engineers tested the MSL's full-sized parachute in the world's largest wind tunnel at National Full-Scale Aerodynamic Complex in California.



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# A GRUELING ASSESSMENT

Air liaison officer trials test mettle of would-be forward air controllers



**ABOVE:** An Airman trying out for air liaison officer school test fires an M-4 carbine loaded with simulated munitions during mobile operations in urban terrain training at the Air Force Academy Aug. 5.

**NEAR RIGHT:** Land navigation was part of the assessment, and would-be air liaison officers were tested on their ability to move from point to point.



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

By Don Branum  
Academy Spirit staff

Airmen with the 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., conducted a five-day air liaison officer assessment here, Aug. 2 through Monday, to determine how many of 35 ALO candidates had the leadership, followership and adaptability required to succeed in formal training and become career ALOs.

Conducting training at the Academy instead of in Georgia in August reduces attrition from heat-based injuries, said Maj. Andrea Hagen, the 93rd AGOW's director of operations.

"When we conducted the assessment in August of last year, out of 35 candidates, 17 went to the hospital for heat injuries," said Hagen, who has a background in battlefield weather. "So

I said to my commander, how about we do this at the Air Force Academy, because we'd have fewer heat injuries. He said go ahead."

In contrast, only two candidates succumbed to heat-related injuries during the assessments here, Hagen said. Another nine had withdrawn their candidacies during the course of the assessments — which, Hagen said, is part of the reason why the assessments are held.

Hagen also praised the Academy's facilities.

"We have everything we need in one location, so we don't have to travel much," she said.

The ALO career field is fairly new: In the past, it consisted entirely of pilots who received two- to four-year ALO assignments, Hagen said.

"Rated ALOs bring their frame-specific experience to the fight, so we still

need their experience," she said. "But career ALOs will have a better bond with the Joint Terminal Attack Controllers. It promotes continuity. Having both rated ALOs and career ALOs is the best mix for the Air Force."

Many of the candidates in the August course were ROTC cadets, but four cadets from the Academy took part. Hagen said the 93rd's Airmen try to evaluate cadets before they graduate so they can go straight into the training pipeline after graduation.

The class also included several commissioned officers, including several captains and a major.

"The mix is good because they come from different backgrounds with different levels of experience," Hagen said. "They draw on one another. The cadets don't necessarily have the Air Force experience that the commissioned officers

do, and they gain from going through the assessments together."

One of the students, a lieutenant, said on Sunday that he's had a good time during the assessments. He added, though, that he looked forward to the end of training Monday.

"Tomorrow's going to be a very good day," he said.

Officers wishing to become ALOs must be non-rated in the grades of O-1 through O-4 and have less than 11 years total active federal commissioned service by the time they begin their assessment. Only males can apply for the career field, they must volunteer for hazardous duty, and they must meet tactical air control party physical and medical standards. Academy cadets must receive endorsements from their squadron and group air officers commanding.



**NEAR LEFT:** An air liaison officer candidate loads simulated rounds into an M-4 rifle clip during an air liaison officer assessment Aug. 5. The course is designed to test officers' and cadets' ability to lead, follow and adapt during combat situations. Palmer is assigned to the 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing at Moody Air Force Base, Ga.

**ABOVE:** Master Sgt. Joseph Palmer and other mobile operations in urban terrain instructors demonstrate how to clear a room.

PHOTOS BY DON BRANUM



# '59 graduate recalls Lowry AFB experience

By Don Branum  
Academy Spirit staff writer

The first Air Force Academy graduate to attain general officer rank spoke about his experiences at Lowry Air Force Base, which was the home of the Academy before the campus was finished in 1958, to some of 2nd Lt. Francis Lowry's descendants here Aug. 3.

"I walked through the gates of Lowry AFB on July 11, 1955, marched in by a bunch of NCOs," recalled retired Maj. Gen. Harold Todd during a history presentation. "An officer came up to me, and he didn't like a thing about me. There were all sorts of things he was personally going to fix."

Todd said he didn't realize at the time that the dressing down was part of "the welcome-home game." But for him, it didn't matter.

"If I didn't make it here, there wasn't a safety net," Todd said. "I'd be back in the ghetto."

He and 206 other young men did make it, however, thanks to what he called a transformation.

"It came from the people who had chosen to train us," he said. "These guys, as far as I'm concerned, are superstars. With the perspective of age and experience, I realized everything we had accomplished was because of them. We made them, the air training officers, honorary members of the Class of '59."

Todd was one of a few officers at the time who flew both fighters and bombers. He started in B-47 Stratofortresses but later flew B-52 Stratofortresses during the Vietnam War.

"We were flying from Guam most of the time, so it was a 13-hour round trip," he said. "That's a really long time."

Much shorter was his record as a Strategic Air Command standardization and evaluation officer, he said.

"I came in at 8 a.m., and I was fired by the wing commander at 1 p.m.," Todd said. "He wanted me to do something that wouldn't have been right. One of the things I learned here is that ethics isn't situational: It either is or it isn't right."

But Todd landed on his feet and went on to work for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff: Gen. David C. Jones, whom Todd called "a great mentor and friend." Afterward, he served as the air defense commander at Mc-



PHOTOS BY U.S. AIR FORCE

**ABOVE:** Cadets from the first Air Force Academy class march during a training exercise at the school's temporary location at Lowry Air Force Base, Colo., during the summer of 1955. **BELOW:** Cadets line up for physical training at Lowry.

Chord AFB, Wash., which he called his most meaningful experience.

"The air defense business was not widely regarded," Todd said. "Air Defense Headquarters was known as an 'elephant burial grounds.' You can imagine the morale, enthusiasm and initiative a squad like that would have: The Air Force has said, 'You have no value,' just not in those words. They said we had no wartime mission."

That made no sense to Todd, who said he felt the Air Force shouldn't be in charge of something that had no wartime mission. So he set about to define one.

"European air forces are dispersed. They have their command and control set up so that if their main headquarters gets knocked out, their backup takes over," he said. "I went to my people, and I said, 'I want to charge you guys to prove the Air Force wrong. Figure out how we can operate in a dispersed environment, even in a nuclear environment.'"

"These guys really weren't the bottom of the barrel. They came up with the most innovative ideas. They presented me with the capability to con-



trol forces for a limited time under any circumstances," Todd said. "That was the finest thing we'd ever done. These guys didn't just feel better about themselves -- they had earned the right to feel better about themselves. This bunch of 'losers' had done this for their country after being told they had nothing more to offer."

Todd's final assignment was at Maxwell AFB, Ala., where he was commandant of the Air War College and vice commander of Air University.

"Our students included officers from India and Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Israel, Turkey and Greece," he said, listing countries with a history of conflict. "But they were always professional. The things that divided their countries' attention didn't really get to them."

Christine Willson organized her family's visit. When she asked the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center officials about a historic tour of the Academy, they recommended she talk to Jack Anthony, an Astronautics Department instructor and history aficionado. Anthony arranged to use the Visitor Center's meeting room, presented a brief 1950s-era video of Academy life

and arranged for Todd to attend.

"We thought it would be a neat idea for people to come out here," Willson said. "We've learned more about the Lowry side of the family. It's important to my grandmother and father that we establish that connection."

Willson's family is related to Lowry through her grandmother, Davena Mackay Carson, who is Lowry's second cousin. Lowry, an aerial observer during World War I, was killed by German anti-aircraft fire Sept. 26, 1918. Lowry Field opened in 1938, became Lowry AFB on June 24, 1948, and was closed Sept. 30, 1994.

Todd told the younger members of the family in attendance to define their own success.

"For some of you, a military career would really be a good thing. It's much more participatory now: There's more of a willingness to look at opposing views, which is something I learned here," he said. "For some, it's not going to be a good career. The opportunities for you are broader than they were for me, but so are the challenges. Take your school seriously — decisions you make now are going to affect you the rest of your life. Life is a series of building blocks ... it begins with education."



DON BRANUM

Retired Maj. Gen. Harold Todd talks to members of the Mackay family during their visit to the Academy Aug. 3. The Mackays are related to 2nd Lt. Francis Lowry, after whom Lowry Air Force Base, Colo., was named. Todd, from the Academy's Class of 1959, was the first Academy graduate to pin on general officer rank.



# Academy hosts 10k, 1/2 marathon



Elizabeth Doe was the overall female winner in the 10k, completing the run in 52:42.

RESULTS	
<b>10K WOMENS</b>	<b>HALF MARATHON WOMENS</b>
<b>UNDER 17</b>	<b>18-29</b>
1. Cameron Lee 2. Sela Mafi	1. Dulce Perez 2. Samantha Morrison
<b>18-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>
1. Elizabeth Doe 2. Kerri Schmidt	1. Anne Portlock 2. Heather Gunderson
<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>
1. Kimberly Lee 2. Leslie Gunderson	1. Lori Stich 2. Pam Shaw
<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>
1. Kelly Lee 2. Karen Jahnke	1. Marion Reising 2. Suzanne Roseberry
<b>50-59</b>	<b>60+</b>
1. Karen Henry 2. Beverly Swift	<b>HALF MARATHON MENS</b>
<b>60+</b>	<b>18-29</b>
1. Laura Neal 2. Emilia Stienbarger	1. Natthieu Caldwell 2. Jeremy Thompsom
<b>10K MENS</b>	<b>30-39</b>
<b>UNDER 17</b>	<b>40-49</b>
1. Mark Carbajal 2. Thomas Lee	1. Joseph Sundry 2. Keith Smoly
<b>18-29</b>	<b>50-59</b>
1. Mike Stephens 2. Kyle Thomas	1. Brian Kirkwood
<b>30-39</b>	<b>60+</b>
1. Scott Stanford 2. James Nelson	1. Kevin Ross
<b>40-49</b>	<b>60+</b>
1. Bernie Obluda 2. John Sittig	1. Andrew Ogan
<b>50-59</b>	
1. Timothy Smith 2. Michael Woods	
<b>60+</b>	
1. Charles Medina 2. John Massey	



PHOTOS BY SARAH CHAMBERS

Approximately 200 runners competed in the Fitness Center's sixth annual 10k and 1/2 marathon races on the Santa Fe Trail Saturday. Participants received a t-shirt and gift cards were given as door prizes.



Ron Walker, Fitness Center assistant athletic director, presents Mike Stephens his medal as the top male finisher in the 10k race. Stephens completed the race in 43:13.

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Pesetas (abbr.)
5. Mutual savings bank
8. Supplementing with difficulty
9. Dancer Twyla
12. 100 = 1 kwanza
13. Sleep gear
16. Travel a route regularly
17. Sever the edges
18. A people of

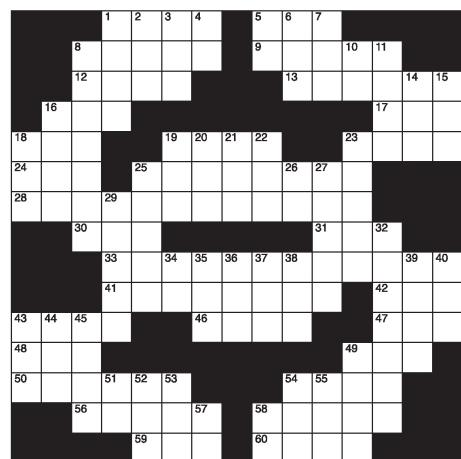
19. Titan mother of Helios
23. 2 syllable metrical foot
24. Rapid bustling movement
25. Makes more precise
28. Brittle bone disease

30. Don't know when yet
31. Graphical user interface
33. Make the connection
41. Uncaptured prisoners
42. No (Scottish)
43. Oh, God!
46. Counting of votes

47. A cgs unit of work
48. Actress Basinger
49. Foot digit
50. Banded metamorphic rock
54. South American nation
56. Dwarf juniper
58. Sunfishes
59. Exclamation: yuck!
60. Inner surface of the hand

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Landscaped road (abbr.)
2. Fasten with a cord
3. Black tropical American cuckoo
4. Specific gravity
5. Metric ton
6. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
7. The cry made by sheep
8. Actor Gould
10. Actor Wagner's initials
11. Native to Latin America
14. Silent
15. All the best (texting)
16. Protective cushions
18. Path (Chinese)
19. Thrust horse power,



19. Myanmar
20. 10 = 1 dong
21. Stray
22. Military mailbox
23. Copy of a periodical
25. Glides high
26. Spanish "be"
27. Draws near in time
29. In a way, receded
32. Rocks formed from magma
34. Integrated circuit
35. Skip across a surface
36. Central mail bureau
37. Snakelike fish
38. \_\_\_ Aviv, Israel
39. Swiss river
40. Nickname for Margaret
43. Electrocardiogram
44. Cotton seeding machine
45. 50010 IA
49. Electric rail car
51. 29th state
52. "Law & Order: \_\_\_"
53. Special interest group
54. Blue grass genus
55. Rt. angle building extension
57. New Hampshire
58. Military policeman

## SUDOKU

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

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so shapren your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution on page 11

Level: Advanced

08-10-12

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**Smooth move**

The Airman and Family Readiness Center offers a smooth move seminar for relocating Air Force members and civilians from 2-3 p.m. Tuesday and from 3-4 p.m. Aug. 30 at the AFRC in Bldg. 6248.

The seminar will include specific information about destination bases, finance and allowances, and household goods movement.

For more information or to register, call the AFRC at 333-3444.

**Health Service Day**

The Academy Civilian Personnel Office will host a Health Service Day for civilian employees from 9-10 a.m. Aug. 21 in the Civilian Personnel office conference room in Bldg. 5136. Healthcare insurance providers will be available to answer questions about their products and services.

For more information call civilian personnel at 333-4363.

**Whitewater rafting**

The Outdoor Recreation Center offers rafting trips to Browns Canyon, the Royal Gorge and Big Horn Sheep Canyon through August.

The trips depart from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 7 a.m. and return at 5 p.m.

Trips include transportation, a wet suit, personal flotation device, helmet, splash jacket and lunch.

Trips range from \$55-\$85 per person. For more information visit the Academy Support website at <http://usafasupport.com/the-great-outdoors/outdoor-adventure>.

**Transition assistance**

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will host a Transition Assistance Program seminar from 7:30 to 4:30 p.m. Aug. 20-24 at the AFRC in Bldg. 6248.

The seminar is suggested for both military and civilians preparing for retirement or separating.

For more information or to register, call the AFRC at 333-3444.

**Yellow Ribbon Event**

The Colorado Yellow Ribbon Event is Saturday from 8-10 a.m. at the Colorado Veterans Monument to welcome home troops and honor those still serving. A parade will follow at 10 a.m. at Civic Center Park.

The event is a grassroots effort promoted by Colorado residents in order to support our state Veterans and service members.

For more information visit [www.coloradoyellowribbon.org](http://www.coloradoyellowribbon.org).

**Pharmacy hours**

The Academy Community Center Pharmacy will no longer be open on Saturdays beginning Aug. 26.

The last Saturday the pharmacy will provide services will be August 25.

The pharmacy will continue with its regular hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Child support services**

The El Paso County Child Support Services will now be at the Academy the last Thursday of every month from 1-3 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

They will help establish, modify and assist child support orders, establish paternity, assist with visitation issues, provide a connection to other community resources and assist family members of active duty members stationed at another base.

There is a one-time \$20 fee. To make an appointment call 719-457-6331.

**Horsemanship classes**

The Academy Equestrian Center offers horsemanship classes, which include a one-hour trail-riding lesson plus instruction in grooming, saddling and etiquette, for \$30 per lesson.

For information, contact the Equestrian Center at 333-4607.

**Summer bowling leagues**

The Academy Lanes Bowling Center's summer bowling leagues are now in session.

Available leagues include a parent and youth league Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for \$14 per team, three-person youth leagues Thursdays at 10 a.m. for \$7 per person and four-person adult mixed leagues Thursdays at 7 p.m. for \$10 per person. Children may receive free bowling

lessons during youth league play on Thursdays.

For more information, call Academy Lanes at 333-4709.

**Sergeants Association Meeting**

The Air Force Sergeants Association Falcon Chapter 1180 meets every third Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the Casual Lounge at the Falcon Club.

**Pottery studio available**

The Arts and Crafts center offers a pottery studio available for use when a class is not in session.

The studio includes nine pottery wheels, glazes and five kilns. Clay is available for purchase.

For more information call 333-4579.

**Got an IDEA?**

The Innovative Development through Employee Awareness, or IDEA Program is designed reward individuals whose suggestions improve the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of Air Force, Department of Defense, and government operations.

Anyone can submit an idea, but only Air Force military members, civilian employees, cadets, Preparatory School candidates, and contract personnel who are paid from appropriated funds are eligible for cash awards.

Monetary awards can be as high as \$10,000 for each idea that results in validated tangible savings, and \$200 for ideas resulting in intangible benefits.

To submit an idea, go to [https://ipds.randolph.af.mil/ipds/web/page\\_edi](https://ipds.randolph.af.mil/ipds/web/page_edi) (CAC login required) or contact the IDEA office at 333-4332.

**VA Stand Down Day**

The local Veterans Administration office is requesting active-duty assistance for its VA Stand Down Day Oct. 18.

Volunteers are primarily needed to escort veterans around the stations on the day of the stand down. Volunteers are also needed to assist in prep work a few days leading up to the event, for set-up/tear-down, and also food and beverage serving on the day of the event.

To volunteer or for more information contact 1st Lt. James Franciere at 567-2162.

**Veterans rally**

Cripple Creek, Colo., will host a "Salute to American Veterans" rally and festival Aug. 17-19. Motorcycle enthusiasts are also invited to participate in the 25th annual POW/MIA Recognition Ride Aug. 18. For more information visit [www.theveteransrally.org](http://www.theveteransrally.org).

**STEM event**

The Rocky Mountain Company Grade Officer Council is hosting the Challenger Learning Center and Radio Disney for a day that will promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug 18 in Patriot Park at Peterson AFB.

The program is aimed at military youth in the local area. The day will emphasize STEM and will include live Phineas and Ferb themed shows by Radio Disney. There will also be booths promoting STEM, to include a tie-dye booth, massive bubble making, and a planetarium. This is a free, picnic style event. Bring your lunch and enjoy the entertainment.



**Cadet Chapel**

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

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**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.  
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**MONTE CARLO 2012** 36ft, super slide, W/D, many extras, beautiful! Must sell this week! \$24,500, 520-305-0166 (cell)

**New Today!**

**SILVER Shadow RETRO** 2010 - Tear Drop Camper, 2010 Custom Retro Style, Silver Shadow, 5x10 with many extra's (719)229-4707



**SURVEYOR 264** 2005 - 26' travel trailer in great condition. Includes: Front Queen Bed • Rear Kitchen • Large Slide Out • Plenty of Closets and Storage Space • Asking \$11,995 (719)260-0829








**TIRES:** New Yokohama 17" - 2 each 255/40ZR17 and 2 each 215/45ZR17. Tires came off of a show car. New \$700.00, asking \$350.00/set of 4 (firm). Will not separate set. Call 303-660-3401.

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# Peak Dining


**BILLIARDS**



**Antique Billiard Museum**  
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**Diamond Billiards**  
3780 E Boulder St Colorado Springs, CO 80909 / 719-596-9516

Two great Billiard Rooms. Best equipment, pricing and pro shop. Over 68 playing pool tables including regulation, snooker billiards and diamond bar tables, 50 cents.


**FINE DINING**



**The Margarita at Pine Creek**  
7350 Pine Creek Rd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
598-8667  
www.margaritaatpynecreek.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.

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**Rasta Pasta**  
481-6888  
405 N. Tejon  
rastapastacs.com

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**Jack Quinn's**  
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Open for Lunch & Dinner daily;  
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www.jackquinnspub.com

**CHINESE**



**Bamboo Court Restaurant**  
719-599-7383  
4935 Centennial Blvd., Suite G

Mon-Fri Lunch: 11:00-3:00pm, Mon-Sat Dinner: 3:00-9:00pm, Sat Lunch: 12:00-3:00pm, Sun Dinner: 4:00-9:00pm Our single combination Dinner Specials come with any entree from the dinner entrees menu and soup of the day, fried or steamed rice, egg roll & crab ragoon. At Bamboo Court, our only goal is to make your expectations a reality!

**STEAKHOUSE**



**The Famous**  
719-227-7333  
31 N. Tejon Street  
www.thefamoussteakhouse.net

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facebook.com/FamousSteakHouse

**DELI**



**Wooglin's Deli & Cafe**  
719-578-9443  
823 N. Tejon Street

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For advertising information  
call Sara at 719-636-0130



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