



USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO ACADEMY SPIRIT

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 Twenty-six miles daily by bike gets deployed cyclist "home."
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H₂Okay
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Photo by Ken Carter

Richter!
 Class of 2008 member Jeremy Silko, Cadet Squadron-10, greets his commander-in-chief center stage during the graduation ceremony in Falcon Stadium May 28. President George W. Bush congratulated all 1,012 members of the Lt. Karl Richter Class and shared entertaining gestures with many. See Pages 14-15 for more.

Top Air Force leaders resign

The following letters of resignation were provided by the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs in Washington D.C. More related news and information will be provided in the Academy Spirit as it becomes available.

From SECAF

Since November 3, 2005, it has been my privilege to serve this country as the 21st Secretary of the Air Force. I have relished the opportunity President Bush gave me to lead the strongest Air Force in the world during a time of war, and I have marveled at the tremendous accomplishments of our Airmen and civilians in their valiant defense of this country and its interests.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as their Secretary while working side-by-side with General Moseley and the magnificent patriots serving in the Department of Defense and the United States Government to win today's fight, take care of our people, and prepare for tomorrow's challenges.

Recent events convince me that it is now time for a new leader to take the stick and for me to move on. Therefore I plan to tender my resignation to Secretary Gates. Even as I do, my heart, my thoughts, and prayers remain with America's Airmen who will continue to do magnificent things for this great country.

*Michael W. Wynne
 Secretary of the Air Force*



From CSAF:

Recent events have highlighted a loss of focus on certain critical matters within the Air Force. As the Air Force's senior uniformed leader, I take full responsibility for events which have hurt the Air Force's reputation or raised a question of every Airman's commitment to our core values. For the past 36 years I have been privileged to serve my country as an Airman in the United States Air Force in peacetime and combat. I was honored and humbled to be appointed the Air Force's 18th Chief of Staff and have been proud to serve our Airmen and their families. Upon taking office, I worked hard with Secretary Wynne to ensure the Air Force provided the right forces at the right time to help our Nation and allies win the Global War on Terror.

I think the honorable thing to do is to step aside. After consulting with my family, I intend to submit my request for retirement to Secretary Gates. The Air Force is bigger than one Airman, and I have full confidence that the Air Force will continue working with the Joint team to win today's fight, take care of its Airmen, and meet tomorrow's challenges. I love the Air Force and remain proud of America's Airmen.

*T. Michael Moseley
 Chief of Staff
 United States Air Force*



Officials encourage safety — 101 critical days and beyond

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The 101 Critical Days of Summer program began last month and runs until Labor Day.

In a service-wide letter, Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff T. Michael Moseley noted 19 Airmen were tragically lost last year.

"We must ensure Airmen at all levels understand the importance of smart personal risk management and being good wingmen," read the statement. "We cannot afford to lose a single Airman."

The Air Force had one fatality during the first week of this campaign when a 24-year-old Airman lost his life while kayaking alone in the Gulf of Mexico. He had received the kayak as a birthday present and while his spouse was at work, he took the kayak out into the Gulf May 26 and did not return.

Over the past five years of the Academy's 101 Critical Days of Summer there's been one private motor vehicle fatality. The individual involved was not wearing a seatbelt and was thrown from the vehicle during a roll-over.

Common sense underlies much of the guidance.

"It takes just two seconds to buckle up and save a life," said Academy Safety Director Mr. Phil Deremer. "That's why more than 80 percent of Coloradans 'Click It.' Buckle up every time.

"The Colorado Springs Police Department is working their new DWI/DUI vehicle, and it will be a one-stop process for drunk drivers."

CSPD will set up a random DWI/DUI stop and everyone going through it gets a chance to talk to a police officer.

"If you have not been drinking, then not a problem," the Academy safety official said. "However, if you have been drinking you will be asked to step into the new DWI/DUI van to be processed. Once people have completed all requirements they will go out the rear door of the van with citation and court appearance date in hand."

Last year's stats help tell the story:

— In Colorado, 206 unbuckled people died in traffic accidents. If every one had been wearing a seat belt, nearly half may have survived.

— Three quarters of unbuckled deaths were men.

— Nearly half of all unbuckled deaths were younger than 30.

— Twelve children younger than 16 died without child safety seats, booster seats or seat belts.

— Sixty-two percent of the teenagers who died were not wearing seat belts.

— Seventy percent who died at night were not buckled up.

Graduation has come and gone and now that the academic school year has ended, it's time for summer sports camps and construction.

Academy members will find safety challenges without leaving the base.

Sports camps begin next week and will run through June 25. During this time, the Academy will house 1,700 sports camp residents ages 12-17 in Vandenberg Hall. An additional 2,800 children will come to the Academy on a daily basis.

"A concerted effort on the part of contractors and permanent party alike will be needed to keep little ones, as well as spirited teenagers, out of harm's way," said Mr. Deremer.

The cadet area is loaded with construc-



tion projects that have begun or will begin in the weeks to come. This will cause road closures and parking impacts throughout the Cadet Area. Along with traffic and parking concerns comes a concern for the safety of pedestrians in and around these construction areas.

"Traffic warnings and closure signs must be obeyed and efforts must be made to separate the pedestrian from the work area," said the official. "Barriers, used in conjunction with warning and guidance devices and signs must be utilized to provide safe and well-defined walkways."

Where walkways are closed by construction, in most cases, an alternate route will be provided. These designated walkways must be used by pedestrians to ensure safety.

"Drivers must yield right-of-way to pedestrians at any crosswalk, marked or unmarked," Mr. Deremer said. "At all crosswalks, it is the pedestrian's responsibility to be cautious and alert while crossing."

The top causes for pedestrian injury are:

- Darting out from between parked cars
- Struck while walking along the edge of a roadway
- Crossing a multi-lane street
- Crossing in front of a turning vehicle
- Crossing behind a vehicle that is backing
- Dashing across an intersection
- Crossing in front of a stopped bus

"We wish everyone a happy and safe summer; we want you back in the fall," said Mr. Deremer.



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

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The *Academy Spirit* also accepts story submissions by fax at 333-4094 or by e-mail: pa.news paper@usafa.af.mil.

Character Corner The Character of an Organization

By Col. John Norton
Director, Center for Character Development

We all have a sense of what the character of an individual is all about. A person of good character has a strong moral compass and can be counted on to do the right thing, even when that means paying a personal price. But does an organization such as a military unit or even an institution like the Academy have character?

Organizations do have character, and their character directly reflects the nature of their

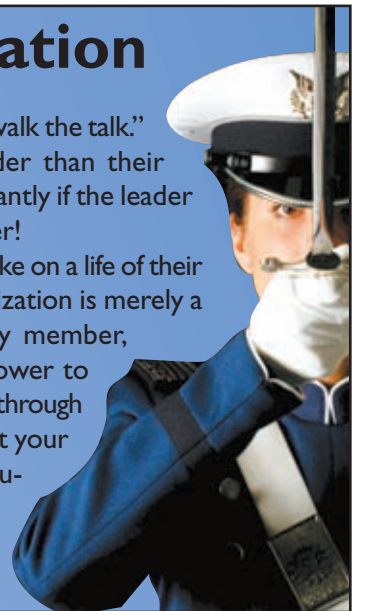
leaders.

Maybe you've been in an organization with especially positive or especially negative "climate and culture." If so, you probably noticed how contagious good or bad attitudes can be. Cynicism spreads like wildfire, especially if it is evident in the unit's leadership. The leader's role is to set the tone; his or her values establish the ethical expectations within the unit—the leader's vision needs to be clear to all. Integrity flows from the top down—examples like Enron and Worldcom prove how quickly a tainted leader can bring down the entire

organization. The leader must "walk the talk."

Leaders' behavior speaks louder than their words; subordinates notice instantly if the leader says one thing and does another!

Organizations do seem to take on a life of their own, but remember—an organization is merely a reflection of its members. Any member, especially the leader, has the power to raise the unit up or bring it down through their own acts and attitudes. Let your good character be a positive influence for your unit's character!



Character Matters airs Wednesdays at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on KAFA radio, 97.7 FM.

What is your favorite activity in the summer?

"I enjoy riding bikes around the Academy and long trips."



Ann Macomber
Spouse of Navy member

"I like to just relax and work in my flower garden with my kids."



Rosemary Ness
Spouse of retired Navy Reservist

"I enjoy going camping and, because of gas prices, someplace close like Mueller State Park."



Ralph Roscoe
Air Force retiree

"I enjoy golfing on the Academy, about once a week depending on the weather."



Bill Schohn
Air Force retiree



Academy responders help stem tragedy

By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Cowboys stick together.

That is the way Tom Davis summed up the help he got from the Academy when a trailer he was hauling caught fire Tuesday and threatened the 13 horses he was driving to the Cheyenne, Wyo., Frontier Days.

It was a critical situation, one which could have led to the total loss of life for the horses and put motorists in danger as well.

Instead, the immediate and professional help Mr. Davis received turned the situation around.

A contractor for a rodeo stock broker, Mr. Davis got his first inkling something was wrong from fellow truckers who signaled smoke was coming from his trailer.

He pulled off I-25 just north of the North Academy Boulevard interchange and saw the smoke and fire from the trailer.

Mr. Davis called 911 after pulling off and, after futile attempts to suffocate the fire with his own and donated fire extinguishers, he removed the parade horses and turned them out on a large grassy area bordering the interchange and away from the busy highway.

He said later if he had to have a break down on the road, it was an ideal location.

The emergency call triggered help from Academy firefighters, the 10th Security Forces Squadron and staff from the Academy Equestrian Center.

Within five minutes, two trucks with

trailers from the center were on the road and loaded with halters and leads.

Just over a half hour later, the horses were nibbling hay in an Academy corral.

One horse, sadly, was so badly injured he needed to be humanely euthanized. Miraculously, 12 survived.

"I wasn't coming out of there without the horses," Mr. Davis said of fighting the choking thick, black smoke trapped in the trailer.

All seasoned horsemen from the Equestrian Center, Billy Jack Barrett, center director, and staff members Lonnie Aragon and Robert Templin, managed the horses' rescue. Mr. Aragon haltered them one by one and handed them off to bystanders who held their leads before they were loaded into Academy trailers.

Mr. Davis said he suspected a faulty wheel bearing as the culprit of the fire.

"They call. We jump and run and deal with anything they throw at us," Mr. Barrett said.

Mr. Aragon called it "just another day on the job."

On the way to the site, he pondered the kind of horses he might be dealing with, including broncos with the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

The gentle palominos, however, were well-trained saddle horses and made his job easier.

They successfully arrived in Cheyenne the next day. Gen. Robert Kehler, commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, will ride



Photo Courtesy of Academy Fire Dept.

Academy firefighters from Station 1 extinguished a blaze inside this trailer carrying 13 horses to the Cheyenne (Wyo.) Frontier Days festival. Tom Davis, the driver and a seasoned horse handler, was grateful to Academy first responders and the Academy Equestrian Center staff for their professional and immediate help.

one of the rescued quarter horses as parade grand marshal for Frontier Days.

Mr. Davis has been involved with horses since he was a kid. The Vietnam veteran and helicopter pilot has worked ranches, rodeos, blacksmithing, training and rounding up horses for the Bureau of Land Management. He breeds and trains horses when not on the road and, ironically, has served as a Colorado wild land firefighter.

Mr. Davis once rode from Texas to Alaska with pack mules and chronicled his adventures in his book *Be Tough or*

Be Gone.

"I don't know what I would have done," he said of Tuesday's ordeal. "It is amazing how the cowboys came out to help. You always know who the good guys are."

True to cowboys helping cowboys, Mr. Aragon pointed out if the Academy's horses were ever in jeopardy, dozens of members of the Pikes Peak Range Riders would have trucks and trailers at the stables within minutes.

Mr. Davis plans to take it easy for a while after the rescue.

"I'm ready to go fishing," he said.

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Academy NCO's husband sustains severe injury in Hawaii

Surprise wave crushes spinal column, devastates couple

By Ken Carter
Editor

What started as a vacation on the island of Kawai for the Academy's NCO in charge of civil law and her spouse April 23 quickly evolved to a life-altering accident.

Colorado Springs native Tech. Sgt. Diana Wilkins had recently returned following a deployment to Afghanistan just two months earlier. She and her husband were bound for Mexico to get away for some overdue rest and relaxation.

Plans changed.

When passport issues caused inconvenient delays, their backup destination became Hawaii.

Just two days into their planned one-week vacation, tragedy loomed.

Anthony Wilkins, 31, has been married to Diana for nearly a decade. April 25, while the two were enjoying the beach life, he sustained a devastating back injury when he dove into shallow water and was immediately

pounded downward by an unanticipated, unforgiving wave. The damage to his spinal cord left the El Paso, Texas, native with only the ability to slightly shrug his shoulders, although the couple remains optimistic for a miraculous recovery.

"I was lounging on the beach, enjoying the sun, and Anthony was playing in the water," Sergeant Williams said. "He dove in and was hammered by a wave. An off-duty EMT saw what was happening and she quickly pulled him out. Within 30 seconds there were others on the scene to help. They quickly constructed a brace around his neck out of sand, until further help arrived."

Facing away from the water, Diana didn't see it happen. When she noticed the commotion she ran to see if she could assist. As she approached she saw that it was Anthony. He was laying face down and she feared he had drowned. Maybe he'd hit a stick she thought, and she began looking for blood. "He never lost consciousness," she said reflecting on the accident. "When we turned him over his eyes were open and he was breathing."

Then came the shocking reality of what had happened. "I can't feel anything," Anthony said.

Medical treatment received in Hawaii was both delayed and complicated. Anthony spent 11 days in Queens Medical Center, Honolulu. There he underwent two surgeries including a tracheotomy which had to be accomplished under some very challenging condi-

tions. The couple ultimately remained under the watchful care of the Tripler medical staff for 24 days and finally returned to the mainland May 29.

The irony of surviving in the combat zone for Diana and Anthony facing disaster in paradise had all the makings for an emotional roller coaster ride.

During a telephone interview in mid May, Diana reported, "He's been just great, spirits high, staying positive ... all he wants is a milkshake."

"Progress is slow but we're getting there," she said. "We've received tremendous support from the Academy community and the people at Hickam Air Force Base have also stepped up to help."

Now back in Denver, Anthony's receiving rehab treatment from Craig Hospital. It's rated among the top 10 rehab treatment facilities in America and is world-renowned as a premier center for specialty rehabilitation and research for those with spinal cord and traumatic brain injury.

Anthony's injury is a C-4 bursting fracture with an incomplete spinal cord injury, and he has quadriplegic paralysis. He is expected to be in intensive rehab at the hospital for six to 24 months. Depending on how he adapts to physical therapy will determine how much, if any, muscle control and limb movement he will regain.

A donation can be made at any Wells Fargo branch in the name Diana and Anthony Wilkins, and it will get to the special account established in their names.

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Deployed member cycles from Kabul to the homeland



By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

The officer spotted a sign at the Kabul International Airport that he was 7,373 miles from home.

Lt. Col. Tim Lawrence a 1988 grad from Waterloo, Iowa, learned he would only be allowed to do PT inside the gymnasium on a NATO base or at the Afghanistan National Military Academy due to security.

"I like to challenge myself, and wondered if I could cycle all the way back home based upon the amount of time I had here," said Colonel Lawrence.

Colonel Lawrence ran the numbers and calculated he needed to ride 36 miles daily. It was an overload, so the Academy's director of the Space Systems Research Center contacted West Point U.S. Army Maj. Eric Crispino, also a mentor at the Afghanistan Military Academy, to cycle the distance home.

He suggested that he participate and "we could make it a relay," Colonel Lawrence said.

The American officers talked about it with the 900-plus Iraqi cadets, many from homes with limited education, no electricity, and are extremely poor.

As vice dean of Afghanistan's Military Academy, he makes efforts to get to know the students.

"I have sat down with many cadets over 'chai' and talked to them about setting goals, and how important bettering their lives professionally thru excellence in academics, military, and athletics will make their nation stronger."

But the cycling effort drew a light-hearted student response.

"When they look at our status map, they laugh and think I am crazy," Colonel Lawrence said. "I told them Air Force cadets say the same thing!"

The effort that started Feb. 1 was disrupted May 6 when Major Crispino returned to West Point.

Colonel Lawrence might be described as head-strong.

"I cycle every day, sometimes twice a day, and need to average about 26 miles a day to make it home," he said.

His typical day starts at 5:30 a.m., and a five-kilometer drive to work.

There's the mid-morning meeting with the dean to discuss academic issues like setting up credit hours, improving courses, hiring of people, faculty organization, budget, creating new majors, exams, organizing intramurals and accreditation processes.

An 11 a.m. convoy takes off for Camp Eggers for meetings with other training mentors and lunch with

the Afghans.

Then comes an afternoon meeting with faculty and department heads of social sciences, history, math, basic sciences, civil engineering, religious studies, leadership and management, military studies, foreign languages, computer science, law, and physical education.

"By 4 p.m., I'm working on my own getting ready for the next daily meeting with the dean and support work for the command."

At 6:30 p.m. he departs for the airport.

Dinner is at 7 p.m., followed by the gym or entertainment.

He's in bed by 10:30 p.m.

Cycling is done indoors, so improvised explosive devices and snipers are not a problem.

The cycling will end sometime in September, when he returns to the Academy.

"I am single but I have been touched by all of the outpouring of support I have been getting from friends and family in Arizona, California, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, England, and Germany," the colonel said.

The Academy colonel, who has been to 32 different countries, is on his first deployment.

He has faced myriad challenges.

Many of the Afghans were trained in antiquated Soviet style military training, and are really struggling with trying to adopt a Western-style curriculum.

"Our Academy cadets always like how I look at a tough satellite engineering problem," the colonel said. "I always come up with a simple and corny motto. My motto here is 'Change is hard.'"

He has taught them how to schedule their courses, establish a majors and core GPA system so they can better monitor cadet academic performance, improve every course across the 12 different departments, become more learning focused and have the cadets do homework outside of class.

"The superintendent thought as long as cadets were in class, learning was occurring, so they scheduled homework classes for the cadets to have Q and A with their instructor instead of studying on their own. Some of the ideas are very basic."

Colonel Lawrence established a faculty council so each of the department heads and dean could get



Courtesy Photo

U.S. Army Maj. Eric Crispino helps Academy Lt. Col. Tim Lawrence cycle the distance from Afghanistan back to the Academy.

together once a week to discuss academic issues.

"Before, everything was stove piped, and department heads went to the dean on their own time which caused a lot of wasted effort on his part," he said. "Some of the courses were teaching the same material. I was smart in that I have the meeting start one hour before the faculty bus leaves to take them home. None of them have cars, so the faculty bus takes them to several stops in Kabul. It gives them a sense of urgency to get through the important events at the meetings."

Perhaps the most important thing the American colonel has done is to start the accreditation process by giving each department head structure for their courses.

"They had no concept of course documentation, or creating a binder that includes faculty teaching the course, syllabi, exams and lessons learned," he said. "The establishment of a course director determines course outcomes that they can assess for every course as well. These course outcomes will track to the department outcomes which will map to the academy outcomes. Seeing them write their mid terms, and making sure some of the questions were meeting their outcomes, was a big day for me!"

That's just the tip of the iceberg, Colonel Lawrence said.

"The interesting thing about this job is every day something new happens," he said. "I also get a tremendous amount of help from the individual course mentors from the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Military Academy and other team members."

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By Academy Spirit staff

The Academy's Environmental Quality Program managers are reinforcing to workers and residents alike that tap water consumption here is both safe and sound.

According to Tech. Sgt. Gary Poulin, EQP NCO-in-charge, distribution of the Academy Annual Water Quality Report, due to the community each year by July 1, was completed this week.

The handout content includes both local and national data.

"The water conservation content within the handout, for example, came straight from the

Environmental Protection Agency," the sergeant said.

The recent issues making Colorado news reporting unsafe tap water was what Sergeant Poulin refers to as the "Alamosa incident."

"The water issues in Alamosa are the result of water that had not been properly disinfected," the sergeant said. "At the Academy, we test our water three weeks of every month, a total of 16 times ... and it is properly disinfected," he reassures.

Bottled water versus tap water has evolved into much debate, particularly in the last decade, with bottled water producers touting the superiority of their products. National scientific test results don't support that.

"It's a misnomer that bottled water is healthier than that straight from the tap," Sergeant Poulin said. "Many consume bottled water simply for the convenience when traveling or when tap water is otherwise unavailable."

The annual quality report goes on to say that, "all drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk."

The sources of drinking water, again, including bottle water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radio active material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

"We received a few calls concerning the Academy's water quality following the Alamosa incident," Sergeant Poulin said, "however, rest assured that we monitor our water very closely here and it is totally safe."

For more information about water quality issues, contact Capt. Scott Steigerwald or Sergeant Poulin, at 333-4825.



Tap vs. Bottled

Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced many that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council, bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 25 percent of bottled water is actually just bottled tap water (up to 40 percent according to government estimates).

The Food and Drug Administration is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that's packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommend eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to \$1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you install a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you'd pay for bottled water.

For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, check out their web site at: www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/bw/exesum.asp.



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2006 Academy graduate perishes in Florida waters

Officials say drowning determined to be cause

By Ken Carter
Editor



1st Lt. John Alley

Air Force 1st Lt. John Alley, 26, who graduated from the Air Force Academy May 26, 2006, is gone less than two years later.

According to Pensacola Assistant Chief of Police Chip Simmons, the young pilot's death May 24 appeared to have been caused by drowning. Lieutenant Alley's body was discovered by a young man fishing some distance from where Alley had apparently been involved in a vehicle accident along a scenic Florida highway. The lieutenant's

vehicle, a mid 90s Toyota Corolla, was found without passenger where it had hit a guard rail earlier that Saturday morning. The damage sustained to the vehicle did not appear life threatening and personal belongings including cell phone, keys and wallet were locked in the car.

Details surrounding the death are still under investigation and various newspaper reports between Florida and Colorado Springs say there are no apparent signs of foul play.

In the 2006 Polaris yearbook, then Cadet 1st Class John H. Alley identified Colorado Springs as his home town and his major as Aeronautical Engineering. His yearbook quote goes, in part, "It would be hard to name all the people and experiences that have slowly shaped me (and continue to do so) over these last six years." The quote goes on to say, "... Don't forget your helmet on the slopes, and go big or go home!" He was assigned to the Proud Chickenhawks, Cadet Squadron 16.

An autopsy early this week determined that the 26-year-old did not suffer any serious injuries in the wreck before he locked his personal possessions inside his car.

Mr. Simmons said it will probably never be known if his death was an accident or intentional.

A memorial service was held in Milton, Fla., Saturday where the second lieutenant was posthumously promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. Presentation of his pilot wings was also included in the service.

1st Lt. John Alley's funeral is 11 a.m. today in Bountiful, Utah, at the Bountiful Heights Stake Center.

Lieutenant Alley was married to Emily Wibur July 14, 2007. She is expecting the arrival of John Harold Alley, Jr. in October.

A trust fund has been established for the wife and future son.

Contributions can be made by sending checks marked "Alley Family Trust Fund" to:

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Emergency, urgent care response requirements differ;

Treatment, process varies based on patient's severity

By Col. Alan Berg
10th Medical Group commander

It's been over a month since the 10th Medical Group's emergency department closed and the Acute Care Clinic opened.

The transition has gone very well, and I wanted to reinforce what patients should do for emergency or urgent care. Since medical emergencies tend to be sudden, unexpected and stressful, it's wise to have a plan for getting emergency or urgent care before being faced with a serious situation.

Let me be very clear about emergencies—in the event of a life, limb, or eyesight threatening emergency, patients should go, or be taken to, the nearest emergency department for care. TRICARE defines an emergency as a medical, maternity or psychiatric emergency that would lead a "prudent layperson" (someone with average knowledge of health and medicine) to believe that a serious medical condition existed, or the absence of medical attention would result in a threat to life, limb or sight and requires immediate medical treatment, or which has painful symptoms that require immediate attention to relieve suffering.

Within 24 hours of any emergency, TRICARE requires you to notify your Primary Care Manager so they can coordinate your care. For non-active duty patients, those admitted to a hospital, TriWest must be notified by calling 1-888-TRIWEST (1-888-874-9378), toll-free, within 24 hours of being admitted. For emergency care, there is no co-pay for active duty and their family members. Retirees and their family members have a \$30 co-payment for emergency room care. Medical emer-

gencies are covered by TRICARE, and you will not be responsible for more than your applicable costs.

Urgent care is different than emergency care. Urgent care services are medically necessary services required for an illness or injury that would not result in further disability or death if not treated immediately, but require professional attention and have the potential to develop such a threat if treatment is delayed longer than 24 hours. Before seeking urgent care outside a military treatment facility, you must obtain prior authorization.

Our 24-hour Acute Care Clinic has the capability to handle your urgent care needs. We purposely schedule this clinic by appointment to keep you at home and comfortable while you await your appointment rather than sitting for hours in a room full of sick and injured patients, as is the case in most ERs. It's important to remember that receiving care at a civilian ER for a non-emergency condition could make the patient responsible for costs incurred. If the urgent care is not pre-authorized, you will be responsible for point of service charges which normally would be the entire billed amount, ranging from \$65 to \$500. If patients use a downtown urgent care facility when care is pre-authorized, there's no co-payment for active duty or their family members, and there's a \$12 co-payment for a retiree or their family members.

Patients can avoid the possibility of incurring charges by making appointments in the 10th MDG's Acute Care Clinic. The clinic is open 24 hours a day. The Acute Care Clinic is staffed by both military and civilian family practice physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, and is located in the former 10th MDG emergency room location until our facility renovation is



File photo

complete in late summer 2008.

Patients enrolled under the 10th MDG are given priority for appointments during duty hours and other Department of Defense eligible patients are booked on a space-available basis. After duty hours and on weekends, patients will be booked on a first come-first served basis through the appointment line at 457-CARE (457-2273). From 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., patients with acute or non-emergent care should call for an appointment with their PCM. From 5:30 p.m. to 6 a.m., patients with acute/non-emergent care needs should call 457-CARE for an appointment within the Acute Care Clinic. For patients enrolled under the 10th MDG, a network urgent care authorization will be issued if there is no appointment available.

You are our partner in healthcare and we look forward to continuing to serve you at the 10th Medical Group!

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Class of 1959 celebrates history of Long Blue Line

By Lt. Col. (ret) Steven Simon
Class of 1977

As the Class of 2008 walked across the stage in Falcon Stadium May 28, becoming the fiftieth class to graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy, we reflected upon the Academy's early days and its first graduating class, the Class of 1959.

On April 1, 1954, now remembered as "Founders Day," President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed Public Law 325 formally authorizing the establishment of the Academy. There was an astonishing amount of work to be done before the Academy could become a physical reality. After extensive evaluation of hundreds of potential locations, on June 24, 1954, Air Force Secretary Harold E. Talbott selected Colorado Springs. Finally, after decades of planning, the Air Force Academy had a home.

Because this new home would not be ready for several years, Lt. Gen. Hubert R. Harmon, the Academy's first superintendent, chose Lowry Air Force Base, Denver as the interim site. Monday morning, July 11, 1955, 306 young men reported to Lowry AFB, becoming the Class of 1959. For the next three years, the cadets toiled at the Lowry site while on the north side of Colorado Springs, the Chicago firm Skidmore, Owings and Merrill designed and was busily

supervising construction of the permanent Academy. By August 1958, a sufficient portion of the Academy was ready for occupancy, and the Cadet Wing, led by the Class of 1959, marched up the hill to the gleaming new aluminum, steel and glass campus. Ten months later, on June 3, the 207 members of the Class of 1959 graduated. Held in Arnold Hall, theirs is still the only indoor graduation in Air Force Academy history.

By any measure, the Class of 1959 has excelled. Among its many contributions, the Class of 1959 adopted the Honor Code and chose the falcon as the Academy's mascot. Even before the class graduated, it featured the Academy's first football All-American. The Academy's first Rhodes Scholar and its first Astronaut are members of '59. Approximately 90 percent of the class went to pilot training upon graduation and two Class of '59 grads flew for the Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team. Four members died in combat in Vietnam, one became a prisoner of war, and nine earned the Purple Heart. The first Academy graduate to return to the Academy as commandant of cadets and the first Academy-grad superintendent are from this class. An astounding 19 graduates of the Class of 1959 went on to earn general's rank. Of the 14 Academy grads to win the



Photo by Ken Carter

John Hundemer, Maj. Gen. (ret) Pete Todd and John Miltner visit and share memories as members of the Class of 1959 during the Richter Class graduation Parade at Stillman Field May 27.

Distinguished Graduate Award, four are from '59. To a man, the Class of 1959 was and is the embodiment of everything the original Academy planners envisioned.

As members of the Academy's

fiftieth class transitioned from cadet to officer, we tip our hats to their eminent forebears who stand at the front of the Long Blue Line—the members of the Class of 1959.



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AEF evolves for stressed career fields

By Tech. Sgt. Russell Wicke
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — Air Force officials here will soon implement an amendment to the air and space expeditionary force deployment cycle that will better reflect the deployment tempo of stressed career fields.

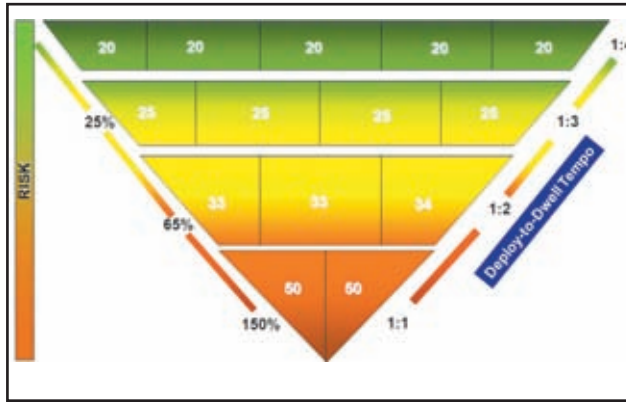
Currently more than 45 percent of the 35,000 Airmen fighting in the war on terrorism are deployed out of their scheduled AEF deployment cycle because of high demands and minimal manning.

"We have been living under the current circumstance with many exceptions to policy, and if you're going to live with an exception to policy for a very long time, it should at that point be a part of your policy," said Col. Matt Erichsen, the Air Combat Command operations division chief.

The original AEF cycle is divided into five pairs designed to have all Airmen on a 1:4 dwell ratio for deployment. In other words, during contingencies, Airmen should expect to deploy for 120 days and return home for 480 days. Manning for almost half of the Air Force career fields make it impossible to maintain the 1:4 ratio in current circumstances.

Under the new construct, called AEF Evolution, each career field will fall into a different category of deployment cycles. Career fields in higher demand will have smaller dwell ratios (or more frequent deployments). The deployment categories are called tempo bands. Air Force officials have created five tempo bands: A through E. Tempo Band A reflects the original AEF cycle of a 1:4 dwell ration based on 120-day deployments.

Bands B through E are based on 179-day deployments. Tempo band B is a 1:4 dwell ratio — or six



This graphic represents the air and space expeditionary force deploy-to-dwell tempo. Called AEF Evolution, each career field will fall into a different category of deployment cycles.

months deployed 24 months home.

Tempo band C is a 1:3 dwell, band D is a 1:2 dwell and band E, reserved for the most stressed career fields, is a 1:1 dwell, or six months out, six months in.

Tempo bands B through E have been added to provide predictability, structure and rule sets for the nearly 50 percent of functional areas currently operating at a tempo greater than 1:4 or for a duration greater than 120 days.

Airmen can expect the tempo banning to go into effect as early as October. They will be able to see what tempo band they fall under by viewing their profile in the Air Force Portal. Information on the Portal is scheduled to be in place by December.

These changes were recommended by the AEF Steering Group to provide increased predictability of tour length and tempo for Airmen. The improvements are not intended to change how often or how long Airmen deploy, but instead they will synchronize the

AEF with the joint-planning process and allow the Air Force to meet combatant-commander requirements more efficiently.

"You can think of it more as truth in advertising for our Airmen," said Lt. Col. Ed Swanson, the ACC AEF provisioning branch chief. "What we want to do is create these tempo bands to reflect what the career fields are presently doing — so they have better predictability and know when their rotations will be." Colonel Swanson said it enables Airmen to make life plans accurately for their families.

It also aligns the Air Force deployments and planning with the rest of the military services.

"When we plan out (deployments and operations) ... we're planning 20 months out," Colonel Swanson said. "The rest of the (military) community is planning 24 months out. So we're off cycle with them, and have never aligned correctly."

Air Force Reserve members will not be placed in tempo bands like active-duty Airmen.

Tempo banning allows Air Force warplanners to more accurately identify when a career field is approaching a 1:2 dwell ratio, which may trigger mobilization for Reserve components. If Reserve Airmen are mobilized, they will fall into a standard 1:5 tempo-band ratio.

This evolution of the active duty "will be the new description of the air and space expeditionary force," Colonel Erichsen said. "If we pull out of the Middle East, ideally everyone will come out of those tempo bands and we'd (all) be in Tempo Band A." But the tempo band structures would remain in place for potential upcoming surges and crisis.

Additional AEF information can be found at the AEF Web site, which is linked from the AFPC "Ask" site.

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J-STARS total force cooperation helps save lives

By Senior Airman Carolyn Viss
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) — Looking deep into hostile territory, modified Boeing 707s with multi-mode radar systems provide surveillance of territory behind enemy lines.

The 7th Expeditionary Airborne Command and Control Squadron Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System is equipped with radar, communications, operations and control subsystems.

It's detached here from the 116th Air Control Wing at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., and comprised of active-duty, guard, reserve, and sister-service members, said Capt. Stephen Grogan, the 7th EACCS



Photos by Senior Airman Dominique Simmons
Capt. Steve Grogan controls an operator workstation inside a Joint STARS aircraft May 19. Captain Grogan is the 7th Expeditionary Airborne Command and Control Squadron senior director.

senior director and a full-time Air National Guardsman. The team works together to detect ground movement and provide Army Common Ground Stations with moving target indicators.

"If I find something with a suspicious track, I cross-cue it to see if it's a

viable threat," said Senior Airman Jimmy Cooper, 7th EACCS airborne intelligence technician.

Equipped with 18 operator workstations, the aircraft orbits for 10 to 12 hours, Captain Grogan said. Each of the six sections - including communications techs, airborne mission systems specialists, surveillance, operations, intelligence, and Army specialists - has a key role in the overall success of each sortie.

"There's a lot of coordination going on," Airman Cooper said. "Everything flows together: information is going from the ground to the aircraft and even off board to other aircraft and [sister services] ... and every person has a special function that's vital to the mission."

"Every time this unit walks out the door, we do it as a blended wing of Georgia Air National Guard, active duty and Army personnel," said Lt. Col. Bruce Darveau, 7th EACCS Crew 7.

It's a great sense of satisfaction when the whole picture does come together, they agreed.

"We can show up for the next mission

brief and see the results ... when something we tracked turned out to be a cache of mortars," Captain Grogan said. Ground or air forces deal with threats based on surveillance information they provide.

The Soldiers on board are also a key part of the information sharing process. As the "go-between" they provide near/real-time access to imagery that enables members on the ground to react to what's going on in the area of operations, said Army Sergeant 1st Class Michael Novotny, 7th EACCS airborne target sensors supervisor.

All of that information-passing is possible because of the unique radar systems on the Boeing 707, said Tech. Sgt. James Hanchett, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron airborne surveillance radar maintainer.

"The 707 repurchase was cost-effective [for the Air Force]," he said. "They took a proven platform and installed an advanced radar system to the aircraft" that can provide targeting and battle management data to Joint STARS operators using secure data links.

His job as a maintainer of those surveillance systems is important because "if the radar system fails, people on the ground suffer," said the 19-year Air Force veteran.

But it's not just the air and ground crews passing information back and forth that makes the Joint STARS team successful. There's a whole other team of maintainers, crew chiefs, hydraulics, and engine specialists, and guidance and control specialists who get the aircraft off the ground.

"It literally takes an 'army' of about 50 people to get the plane off the ground," Sergeant Hanchett said. "My system is useless on the ground, so we rely on every single person to make the mission happen. Many times, we've gotten feedback from up range, saying 'Thanks, J-Stars ... you saved us again.'"



Tech. Sgt. Mike Arnold performs pre-flight checks inside the cockpit of a modified Boeing 707. Sergeant Arnold is deployed with the 7th Expeditionary Airborne Command and Control Squadron.



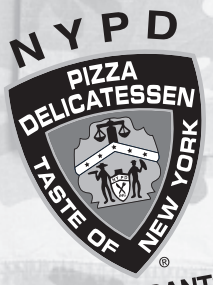
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Native Australian turned colonel about to retire

By Butch Wehry
Academy Spirit staff

Her parents fled Latvia during World War II, spending six years as displaced people in a West German camp. Then they moved to Australia, the first country to allow immigration of war refugees and the place their children were born.

"The immigration to America was for two reasons: with my family scattered all over the world, my parents wanted to be closer to my uncle and aunt," said the girl who would become Col. Rita Jordan, the Academy's first female permanent professor, chair of the Social Sciences Division and head of the Department of Management. "America would offer greater opportunities."

It has and while Colonel Jordan's retirement ceremony was May 23, her official retirement is late this month.

The journey wasn't easy.

"We were fortunate to have my Dad's brother and his family live in Harrisburg, Pa.," she said. "It was my uncle's employer, a prominent businessman in Harrisburg who 'sponsored' our family when we first came to America. We faced the challenges many foreigners do ... having difficulty with English and the resulting perception that one does not have the skills necessary for jobs other than manual labor. We were fortunate to have family in Harrisburg, so we did not have the additional stress of knowing no-one."

As immigrants, starting a new life in a new country, they had very few amenities.

"My parents, from the time I can remember, stressed the importance of education and continuing to acquire knowledge," Colonel Jordan said. "It was assumed we kids would go to college. Therefore, it should not be surprising that I was a voracious reader and my parents were happy to keep us supplied with all we could read."

She went on to college hoping to get a Bachelor's degree in Biology.

"When I encountered organic chemistry, I realized that biology would not be in my future, I fell back on what I truly enjoyed—literature," she said.

She also became interested in joining the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Two factors prompted her to join the Air Force.

"I was looking for excitement—something besides finishing college and teaching English in a high school



Courtesy Photo
Col. Rita Jordan

and in 1971 and 1972, there was no end in sight for Vietnam," she said. "By joining the Air Force, I thought I could contribute in some way, having grown up hearing about how Latvia was taken over by Communism, the thought of helping prevent that from happening to other countries."

In 1974, the Air Force was trying to get women into non-traditional career fields.

"When I reported to Kincheloe Air Force Base in Michigan, I was one of five female officers ... the only one not in the nursing or administrative fields," the colonel said. "I can't really remember how many enlisted women were in maintenance — 20 or so sticks in my memory. The other enlisted women were in admin or working in the hospital. It was challenging from the beginning. My first supervisor was not difficult towards me but every chance he had, he discussed how I would be happier in another career field. At that time, the service was also very chauvinistic towards women, so I did not get much mentoring on how to be successful."

The remark that's stuck with her from those first three years was her chief saying, "If you stay in the Air Force you will become a cold and bitter woman." He did not have much confidence the Air Force would give women a chance to show they could be effective leaders in high tempo and stress areas such as maintenance or flying.

"While he was correct that it would be a struggle, and in certain areas continues to be, it is great to see women have broken the glass ceiling and continue to do so," Colonel Jordan said.

She joined the Academy management department in 1985.

"There were very few female instructors but there were women in all mission elements," she said. "On the Dean of Faculty side, it was about one per department ... so maybe 25. I arrived as a senior captain and recall the lack of field grade female officers to look up to. A significant change from today when we have approximately 16 percent female faculty."

In April of 1998, she became the first female to be permanent professor and head of the Department of Management.

"I was fortunate that I got the opportunity to serve as an officer, at the same time being an educator," she said. "Upon returning to the Academy after receiving my PhD, I hoped to one day have the opportunity to serve in a senior leadership position but realized timing was a critical factor."

But it did not appear that the incumbent permanent professor of management would be retiring anytime soon.

So it was exciting to have the opportunity to compete for the position when he announced his retirement in 1997.

"The fact that I would be breaking a glass ceiling

as the first female permanent professor did not really enter my mind," she recalled. "Having been in the minority when assigned to my maintenance units, I became accustomed to being one of the few or even the first. I feel honored the Academy and the Air Force had confidence in my leadership as an officer and an educator by selecting me."

Now three additional women have been appointed as permanent professors.

Memories flow.

"It's difficult to say if they are my memories or memories because I have been told stories about the years we lived in Australia," Colonel Jordan said. "The times I remember are from living in Adelaide, South Australia. I have memories of our home and of the school I attended. When I was in high school, we returned to Australia for my cousins wedding. During the month we spent there, I had the opportunity to return to the school. It was interesting to go back into the class I would have been in had I remained there. The girls in the class had vague memories of 'a girl who was going to America.' I was in second grade when we left."

The colonel has had the chance to return to her homeland.

"We were raised speaking Latvian while growing up and only hearing stories about the country of our heritage," she said. "So, when I heard about the opportunity to serve on a Joint Contact Team in former Soviet bloc countries, I jumped at the chance. It was wonderful to get to really know my cousins, aunts and uncles ... more than just a letter from across the ocean. I was totally immersed in my Latvian roots for six months."

With both parents deceased, she has an older sister, Mary Brokans, who still lives in Harrisburg and a younger brother, Edmunds Brokans, who lives outside Philadelphia.

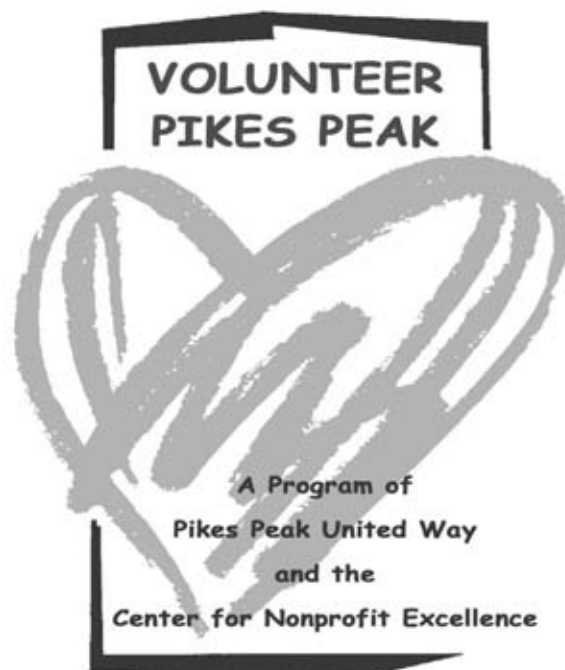
She has two daughters. Erika graduated from Air Academy H.S. in 2001, the University of Colorado - Boulder in 2005 and is currently working on her MBA at UCCS. Sondra is a freshman at Lewis Palmer High School.

"I have seen tremendous change in the Air Force since I first entered ROTC in 1972 and it has been rewarding to be a part of many pioneering moments," Colonel Jordan said. "I have been honored to work with so many extraordinary people over the years in the maintenance bays, on the flight-line, and in the classroom. It is especially rewarding to finish my time with the cadets at the Academy."

She'll take two to three months off to "clear" her head.

"I want to enjoy having total control of my time and activities for at least a short time," she said. "I look at retirement as an opportunity to go in a totally new direction. That's what I'll be thinking about those first couple of months."

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Inspirational!

Science, technology, engineering and math outreach talks motivate students

By Lt. Col. Lynnane George
Deputy Head
Department of Astronautics

Three Academy cadets traveled to Bolling Air Force Base in Washington D.C. to visit high schools in Virginia and Maryland May 19-20, talk to the kids about opportunities at the Air Force Academy, and present Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics workshops.

Day one Cadets 2nd Class Cherie-Lee Meyer, Cadet Squadron-36; Ozmund Ortiz, CS-21; and Joshua Mason, CS-22; spoke to students over three lunch periods at West Potomac High School in Alexandria, Va. That afternoon, the cadets then visited Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps classes at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, Md., and spoke to students about the Air Force Academy, as well as their backgrounds and why they chose to major in engineering.

The next day the group visited physics classes at T.C. Williams High School (of *Remember the Titans* movie fame) also in Alexandria. The cadets spoke in three 90-minute physics classes about the Academy and presented solar powered car workshops, using kits provided by Agilent Technologies, Inc. in Colorado Springs. The students explored clean energy sources, specifically considering solar energy. Then, using solar cells and a motor, the students experimented with the collection of light and conversion to mechanical motion. Each class finished up with a competition to see which car could travel five meters in the shortest amount of time. The very spirited and motivational physics teacher the cadets had the opportunity

to present to, Myron Hanke, had only thanks to give to the cadets for their involvement.

“What a wonderful experience my students had today. It was great to see them engaged, and they learned a great deal from each of the team members,” he said.

Overall, the Academy cadets spoke to more than 700 students.

All events were very well received and motivational to many young people interested in career fields in science and engineering (and potential future Academy cadets). The cadets were especially surprised at the lack of information about the Air Force Academy at public schools in the area.

Cadet Meyer, one of the key leaders on the trip and the Academy’s Cadet-In-Charge of the Women In Science and Engineering Chapter, said, “For many of the high school students, our visit was the first time they had ever been told of the Air Force Academy. We talked to over 75 kids on Tuesday alone, and only three of them had even heard of the Academy. It was great to open new opportunities to such talented teenagers.”

“I thought it was very interesting how few people knew about the Academy,” said Cadet Mason. “Some had heard of West Point and Annapolis, but the Air Force Academy just doesn’t seem to get into mainstream media with enough positive light to have people notice. I think PR trips like ours are important because we will have left some difference in the minds of those students which we interacted with. Hopefully some of them will talk about the Academy and even perhaps apply. If we have a bigger pool of competent high-schoolers to give appointments to,



Cadet 2nd Class Joshua Mason describes a component to students at T.C. Williams High School. Courtesy Photos



Students test the results of their project under light as Lt. Col. Lynnane George and Cadet 2nd Class Ozzie Ortiz look on.

then the opportunities for us to have better cadets increases as well.”

Cadet Ortiz agreed. “When I was speaking to the high school students in the D.C. area, it became evident many do not realize the opportunities the U.S. Air Force Academy can offer to

those well qualified but who may not have the resources for college,” he said.

“When we talked about the perks of the Academy lifestyle, the classroom would explode in chatter about how cool some of the things I take for granted every day really are.”

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Soggy skies take no toll on graduation fervor



Photos by Ken Carter
The chest bumpin', cheek kissin', hat signing, cell phone talkin', attitude posin' commander-in-chief offered Richter Class members many sure to be fond memories.



By Ann Patton
Academy Spirit staff

Job well done, President George W. Bush told the Class of 2008 during graduation exercises May 28.

"Your teachers are proud of you, your parents are proud of you and so is your commander-in-chief."

A cold, steady drizzle soaked Falcon Stadium, and dense fog grounded the Thunderbirds' main show, but foul weather couldn't dampen the spirits of the 1,012 graduating firsties or family and friends who came to congratulate them.

The wet and chill didn't stop the commander-in-chief from congratulating each graduate personally which, in many cases, included exchanging high fives, hugs and even chest bumps. He even said hello via cell phone to a proud family member in the stands.

The "Lt. Karl Richter" Class, named for its exemplar, entered with 1,327 basic cadets in the summer of 2004. It's the 50th class to graduate from the Academy.

"In becoming officers of the United States Air Force, you have chosen a vocation that is both hazardous and rewarding," President Bush said. "Whether you serve in the skies above or on the ground below, each of you has stepped forward to defend your country. You've chosen to face danger in foreign lands so your fellow citizens do not have to face danger in our own land."

The president kidded the graduating warriors for pranks which allegedly still had them on restriction.

"In keeping with longstanding tradition, I hereby absolve all cadets who are on restriction for minor conduct offenses," he said. "As for your grades, well, some things are even beyond the powers of the president."

It was President Bush's last commencement address at a service academy.

The Class of 2008 included 828 men and 184 women and ended life on the Hill with a cumulative grade point average of 2.97. More than half the graduates will enter pilot training after graduation.

President Bush told the class defeating hateful stereotypes requires all elements of

national power, including military power. "Today, revolutionary advances in technology are transforming warfare," he said and added, "technology allows targeting a regime without targeting an entire nation."

The president stressed the unmatched U.S. military power creates challenges.

"The enemies of the 21st century will increasingly turn to the use of asymmetric warfare," he said.

"To meet this new challenge, we need to continue to develop technologies that put unprecedented speed and precision and power in your hands," President Bush told the Richter Class.

Defeating hateful ideologies requires using national resources to strengthen free institutions in countries fighting extremists, he said and pointed to Germany and Japan as examples. Both were assisted in building free societies and strong economies after World War II and once our mortal enemies are now U.S. allies.

With only a handful of squadrons left to receive diplomas, loud cheers followed the appearance, finally, of warming sunshine.

Although the foggy, wet weather prevented their scheduled demonstration, six Thunderbird F-16s soared overhead from the north precisely in sync with the traditional hat toss below.

Graduation culminated four years of discipline, study and just plain hard work for the Class of 2008.

"Pumped," 2nd Lt. Devin Hart said of his feelings about finishing at the Academy.

"Ecstatic," said 2nd Lt. Remington Brooks. "Ecstatic and excited," said 2nd Lt. Sheridan Martinez.

"Speechless," said 2nd Lt. Neal Wendt. "It's hard to believe I'm finally graduating."

Saying good-bye, at least for a while, to what she valued most on the Academy would be a little tough for Lieutenant Martinez. "I'll miss my friends."



Photo by Ken Carter
Fellow classmates ensure Cadet 1st Class John Payne's uniform is quickly updated with second lieutenant bars.

Photo by Mike Kaplan



Other highlights ...

Many spectacular activities and events surround graduation each year. Here are just four samples. Class of 2008 members and their dates danced the night away during the graduation ball Friday night preceding the hat toss. Music Director Dr. Joe Galema conducts a cadet chorale performance in Arnold Hall Theater, May 24. Three members of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbird aerial demonstration team pass parallel to the snow-covered Rockies, May 25. Tuesday evening, May 27, 40 commissioning ceremonies occurred at varied locations, both indoor and out.

Photos by Arnie Spencer

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Doug Valley selects Earth Day winners

By Academy Spirit staff

The Douglas Valley Elementary School's 2nd Annual Earth Day Art/Poetry Contest had the topic "Blue Planet, How Global Warming Affects our Oceans" and ran from March 1 to April 25.

Students were given a brochure with information concerning climate change, weather, the greenhouse effect and climate systems.

"We had a total of 206 participants, grades 1-5 of Douglass Valley Elementary," said Jeanie Duncan, 10th Civil Engineering Squadron. "Judging was performed by the 10th CES environmental flight."

Twelve winners were selected, 10 art winners and two poetry winners. The contest winners also had their art and poetry work on display at the Academy Base Library from May 12 to May 22.

Winners received one of the following prizes; a complimentary pass to Seven Falls, a complimentary pass to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo or a complimentary pass to Laser Quest.

"As the Pollution Prevention Manager for the Academy, I try to hold various events throughout the year," Mrs. Duncan said. "For Earth Day, I decided to focus on our children, and find ways to spark their interests in our global concerns. After all, our children will continue to expand on the Green Technology we are developing today."



Courtesy Photo

And the winners were:

1ST GRADE

Krista (art)
Andrew (art)
Braden (poetry)

2ND GRADE

Jaila (art)
Leah (art)

3RD GRADE

Lauren (art)
KayLee (art)
Rachel (poetry)

4TH GRADE

Sterling (art)
Kalana (art)

5TH GRADE

Nathaniel (art)
Beth (art)

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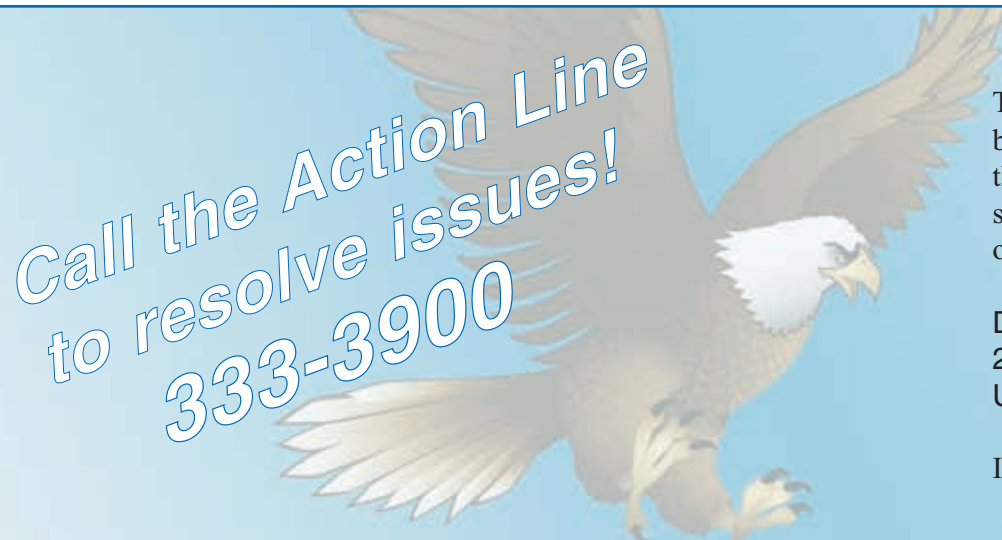
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Courtesy Photo

Alabama Air Show

Cadets 2nd Class Amanda Beck (left) and Kim Robinson, holding Cody, one of the Academy falcon mascots, are surrounded by the Dogwood Trail Maids during the Fairhope Festival of Flight air show near Mobile, Ala., May 17. The cadets attended the air show to help enhance the public's knowledge and understanding of the Air Force Academy. The Dogwood Trail Maids are high school juniors and sophomores from the local area who serve for one year as goodwill ambassadors for the Eastern Shore. They complete about 300 hours of community service, appearing at city, county and state events such as parades, festivals and out-of-town trips that promote the Eastern Shore.



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Track and Field present annual awards

By Valerie Perkins
Athletic communications

Several members of the Air Force track and field team were honored as the team recently presented its yearly awards at the end-of-season banquet. Senior Travis Picou and sophomore Sara Neubauer shared the MVP honor, while senior Ian McFarland and sophomore Melissa Beerse earned the Outstanding Competitor distinction.

Picou, the 2005 Freshman of the Year, concluded his stellar four-year career with three Academy standards (indoor 60-, outdoor 100- and outdoor 200-meter dashes), five Mountain West Conference titles and 12 all-conference accolades. He also holds all four class records in the 200-meter dash. Neubauer, last year's Most Outstanding Competitor, claimed her first MVP award after rewriting both the indoor and outdoor shot put records. Neubauer also claimed the women's High Point Award for her performances at the conference meets.

McFarland literally ran into the spotlight at the outdoor conference championships, by winning both the 5000- and 10,000-meter events. He was also awarded the Arne Arneson Award for Dedication. This award is named after the Falcons' former head coach and recognizes the individual whom the coaches feel exemplifies the quality of dedication to excellence. After rewriting both the indoor and



Photo by Mike Kaplan

Sara Neubauer

outdoor program records, Beerse joined McFarland with Outstanding Competitor distinction. She also received the Gail Conway Performance Award, which honors the female athlete with the single-best performance of the season.

Freshmen Noah Palicia and Rachel Simmons were named the Newcomers of the Year for their respective teams. Palicia made an immediate impact in the multi-event record books, moving into seventh in the heptathlon and 10th in the decathlon. Like Palicia, Simmons made

an immediate impact on the Falcons' record book, as she pole vaulted into second-place all-time during both the indoor and outdoor seasons. Both Palicia (heptathlon) and Simmons (pole vault) set freshman class records in their respective events.

Senior Jon Butcher and junior Daniel Castle shared the men's Most Improved Award, while sophomore Katie Weber earned the honor on the women's side. At the outdoor conference meet, Butcher placed fifth in the 400-meter hurdles and was a member of the fourth-place 4x400-meter relay team. Castle scored for the Falcons in the 1500-meter run, jumped into fifth on the program's all-time list and qualified for the NCAA Regionals. Weber increased her personal best distance in the javelin, while recording the third-best throw in Academy history.

Sophomore Nick Frawley was named the winner of the Alonzo Babers Performance award after winning the indoor pole vault and receiving all-conference (third-place) honors at the outdoor meet. He qualified to both the indoor and outdoor national championships. The award is dedicated to the former athlete who went on to win two Gold medals at the 1984 Olympic Games. It is given annually to the male athlete with the single-best performance of the year.

Two awards were given out to indi-

viduals that display strong drive and determination. Senior Josh van Wyngaarden was honored with the Bret Hyde Award, while sophomore Ally Romanko received the Callie Calhoun Award for the second straight season. The Bret Hyde Award is dedicated to the record-holder of the 3000-meter steeplechase who went on to place in the 1984 Olympic Trials and the Callie Calhoun Award is named after a six-time NCAA champion in indoor track, outdoor track and cross country.

Senior David Lissy, the indoor shot put champion, was selected as the Laura Piper Ironman Award winner. The award is given to an individual who competes, excels and scores in multiple events at scoring meets. It is named after Laura Piper, who was killed in Operation Desert Shield.

Senior captain Deb Durey was honored with the General Tad Oelstrom Award for Character and Leadership. This honor, which is named after a former Academy superintendent and record-holder, goes to the one senior on the roster that excels academically, militarily and athletically, while classmate Kevin Hawkins received the Falcon Award for Spirit and Enthusiasm. Senior Bruce Fritz earned the Ernie Cunliffe Manager Award for the second time in three seasons. Sullivan becomes just the second manager to earn the honor more than once in a career.

Athletic Department takes intramural soccer crown

By Dave Castilla
Intramural sports director

Three Athletic Department soccer coaches used their experience and savvy to earn an 8-0 victory over the 10th Medical Group in the intramural soccer championships on the multipurpose field May 22.

AD took a 4-0 lead at halftime as Brandon Jones scored two and Jason (Dano) Kneuer and Doug Hill each added one goal apiece.

In the second half, AD goalie Kirk Reimer decided to play the field and scored a goal, Holly Togiai scored off a nice assist from Kneuer and the final two goals were scored by Hill and Jones making the final score 8-0.

At the conclusion of the season, AD took the base championships by defeating all participating teams, with the only blemish on their record being a 3-3 tie against the 306th Flying

Training Squadron April 29.

Participating teams included AD, 10th MDG, 306th FTG and 10th Civil Engineer Squadron. The 10th MDG took base runner-up honors.

Up next, AD player Jason Kneuer will be coaching the Academy in the Rocky Mountain Soccer championships July 26 and 27. Teams playing in the championship include Peterson, Buckley, Schriever and F.E. Warren Air Force Bases and Ft. Carson.

Photo by Dennis Rogers

Athletic Department's Holly Todiai (left) looks down field for teammates while keeping the ball away from 10th Medical Group player Stephanie Ward in AD's 8-0 victory over the 10th MDG in the intramural soccer championships at the multipurpose field May 22.



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(Week 4)		11. DFP	7.0	10. 10TH MSS/CCA	0	306 FTG	0	0	C.Wing 34	MDG#3 5
Division 1		12. MAINT 2	9.0	11. DFENG	4.0	10 CS	0	2	Ath.Dept. 25	MDG#3 3
1. 306 FTG	9.5			12. LGR	4.0	MDG#3	0	3	Retirees 21	ATH.Dept. 18
2. 10TH MDG 1	12.0	Division 2	Pts.	Softball		DRU/MSS	0	4		
3. 98 FTS	9.5	1. NSSI 1	12.0	CD.WING	W	L	May 22			
4. NSSI 2	8.0	2. MAINT 1	9.0	RETIREES	3	0	MDG#1 16	MDG#2 3		
5. DRU 1	2.0	3. 94 FTS	9.5	SFS	3	0	MDG#2 17	DRU/MSS 7		
6. DRU 3	6.0	4. 10TH MDG 2	8.0	MDG#1	2	0	CES 25	DRU/MSS 15		
7. DFEG	5.0	5. DRU 2	7.5	ATH. Dept.	1	0	Retirees 34	CES 20		
8. 10TH CS	1.5	6. DFL	9.5		1	1				
		7. CW 2	1.0						Jun 3	
									Rain	
									Jun 4	
									CD.Wing 27	10 CS 13
									Retirees 33	10 CS 11
									SFS 20	DRU/MSS 13
									SFS 31	MDG#2 2



Mountain lions spotted

Recently at least two mountain lions were observed on or near the Eagle Peak Trail and they displayed little wariness around people. Mountain lion attacks are rare, but they may key in on easy prey such as pets or small children. Do not approach a lion. Most mountain lions will try to avoid confrontation if given a way to escape. Immediately report any mountain lion sightings to Security Forces at 333-2000 or the Natural Resources office at 333-3308.

Cadet Area construction

Construction is underway on Vandenberg Drive which will cause road closures and impact parking in the Cadet Area until its completion in early to mid August. During this time, drivers are asked to follow all warning signs and

cooperate with restrictions needed to make improvements to the roads and parking areas. Obey all traffic and warning signs and only park in appropriate spaces. During the construction period, the Vandenberg/Field House Gate will be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and will close weekends. The Sijan Gate will be open 24 hours a day. People are highly encouraged to use the shuttle service set up to alleviate parking challenges during the construction period. Shuttle buses will pick up and drop off in the lower east Field House parking lot every 15 minutes starting at 5 a.m. and running until late in the evening.

Sponsors needed

Sponsors are needed for incoming students attending the Preparatory School for the 2008-2009 academic year. The Preparatory School is designed to prepare students for admission and success at the Air Force Academy. To apply to sponsor one or more of these students, call Mrs. Cleo Griffith at 333-2583 or e-mail cleo.griffith@usafa.edu

AFRF offers options

The Airman & Family Readiness Flight presents:

-**SCORE, Going into Business**; Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to noon: Get answers to key questions for those interested in owning and running a business.

-**Troops to Teachers**; Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: This workshop provides information for military members interested in beginning a second career in public education as a teacher.

-**Military Spouse Career Advancement Account Orientation**; Thursday, 1 to 3 p.m.: If you are the spouse of an active duty Air Force enlisted member up to staff sergeant or junior officer, have more than a year left at this duty station, and are continuing your education, learn how you may be eligible for an educational grant of \$3,000 per year for up to two years.

-**Newcomer's Orientation and Information Fair**; June 19, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: This mandatory orientation, held at the Milazzo Center, is for all newly-assigned Academy members. Spouses are welcome to attend.

-**Transition Assistance Program Seminar**; June 24-27, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: Those separating in a year or retiring in two years can call the Airman & Family Readiness Flight to reserve a spot in the next available TAP class. The class guides attendees through building resumes, developing interviewing skills, networking, dressing for success and more.

-**Newcomer's Base Red Carpet Tour**; June 27, 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: This informative, fun-filled base tour gives insight into the Academy mission and reveals much of what is to see and do here. Call 333-3444.

Fire, Fire, Fire!!!

The fire department staff reminds all to call 911 immediately upon spotting any fire, even if one's just been extinguished. This is required to ensure there is no hidden fire areas smoldering that could reignite. Additionally, the fire department needs to document the cause to track fire trends and determine how best to educate. Call 333-2473.

Purple Summer Camps

The 2008 Operation Purple Summer Camps are free outdoor adventure camp experiences open to all military youth and teens ages 10-17. Priority for registration is given to children whose parent has been, is, or will be, deployed. Visit www.nmfa.org and click on the Operation Purple Camp link or contact Tracie Modrell at tracie.modrell@us.army.mil or call (719) 282-8351.

MOAA lecture

The Military Officers' Association of America presents "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" lecture today from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Airman & Family Readiness Center. The presentation, given by the deputy director on the MOAA's national staff, is beneficial for those contemplating retirement or separation within three years. The lecture includes comprehensive information on resumes, cover letters, job search, networking, career fairs, interview techniques, salary negotiation, benefits packages, the current job market and other relevant and important transition topics. The presentation is geared toward officers, but all are welcomed to attend. Call 333-3444 to register.

Club offers appreciation breakfast

Falcon Club members and their spouses are invited to enjoy a free breakfast buffet from 6 to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday. The buffet includes scrambled eggs, home fries, bacon, sausage, build-your-own breakfast burrito bar, French toast, assorted breads, juice and coffee. Nonmembers pay \$6.95 and their children ages 12 and younger are \$3.95. Reservations are requested. Club membership is open to both military and civilians. Call 333-4253.

Vacation Bible School

Register now and join the Protestant and Catholic communities at the

Community Center Chapel for the 2008 Vacation Bible School, Monday to June 13 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. This year's science-themed VBS, "Power Lab," bubbles over with fun and exciting activities for 4-year-olds through fifth graders. Call 333-3300.

Volunteer recognition golf

The Volunteer Recognition Golf Fundraiser is scheduled for Aug. 7 at 1:30 p.m. on the Eisenhower Golf Club Silver Course. Entry fee is \$30 for airmen through staff sergeants and first and second lieutenants and \$40 for all other players. Entry fee includes lunch, golf cart, green fees, range balls, post round drinks and rental clubs if needed. Additionally, Professional Golfers Association staff will conduct a golf clinic from noon to 1:15 p.m. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Academy Volunteer Recognition Program. Prizes will be awarded to the first-place team, and male and female longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information or to register, call Tim Neuman at 333-2137 or Jeannie Lopez at 333-3444 by Aug. 5.



Rodeo coming

Tickets for the 68th Annual Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo are on sale. The rodeo is July 9 through 12 with the Academy sponsoring the matinee on July 12. Adult tickets are \$10, \$15, and \$27 depending on seat location. Children's tickets are \$5, \$7.50 and \$12.50. Military personnel and groups of 20 or more receive a \$2 discount. For tickets, visit www.ticketswest.com or call 576-2626. Visit www.coloradospringsrodeo.com or call 635-1101.



CADET CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Sunday

Reconciliation 9:15-9:45 a.m.

(or by appointment)

Mass - 10 a.m.

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. - 6:45 a.m.

Wednesday

Catholic Adoration - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Mass - 6 p.m.

Protestant Services:

Sunday

Traditional - 9 a.m.

Hill Fellowship - 11 a.m.

Jewish Services

Fridays - 7 p.m.

Buddhist Worship

Wednesday. - 6:30 p.m.

All Faiths Room

Muslim Prayer

Fridays - Noon - Muslim Prayer Room, Chapel Basement

COMMUNITY CENTER CHAPEL

Catholic Masses:

Saturday

Reconciliation - 3:30 p.m.

Mass - 4 p.m.

Sunday

Mass - 9:30 a.m.

Religious Formation - 10:45 a.m.

(September - May)

Tuesday-Friday

Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Services:

Saturday

Contemporary - 6 p.m.

Sunday

Traditional - 8 a.m.

Gospel - 11:15 a.m.

Religious formation - 9:30 a.m.

(September - May)

Military Academy Pagan Society

Third Thursday - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

(For more info, call Tech Sgt. Robert Longcrier at 333-6187.)

For more information, call 333-3300.

Youth Fire Safety Camp

Learn fire safety tips, emergency reporting, the importance of smoke detectors, stop drop & roll, junior bucket brigade, hose competition, fire safety education trailer, recognizing home fire hazards, and identifying hazardous solutions.

When:
9 July 2008
1000 to 1400 hrs

Where:
Fire Station 1
6202 Pine Drive

Who:
for ages 8 through 12

How:
Sign up by 2 July 2008
phone 333-2051
e-mail tracy.nichols@usafa.af.mil

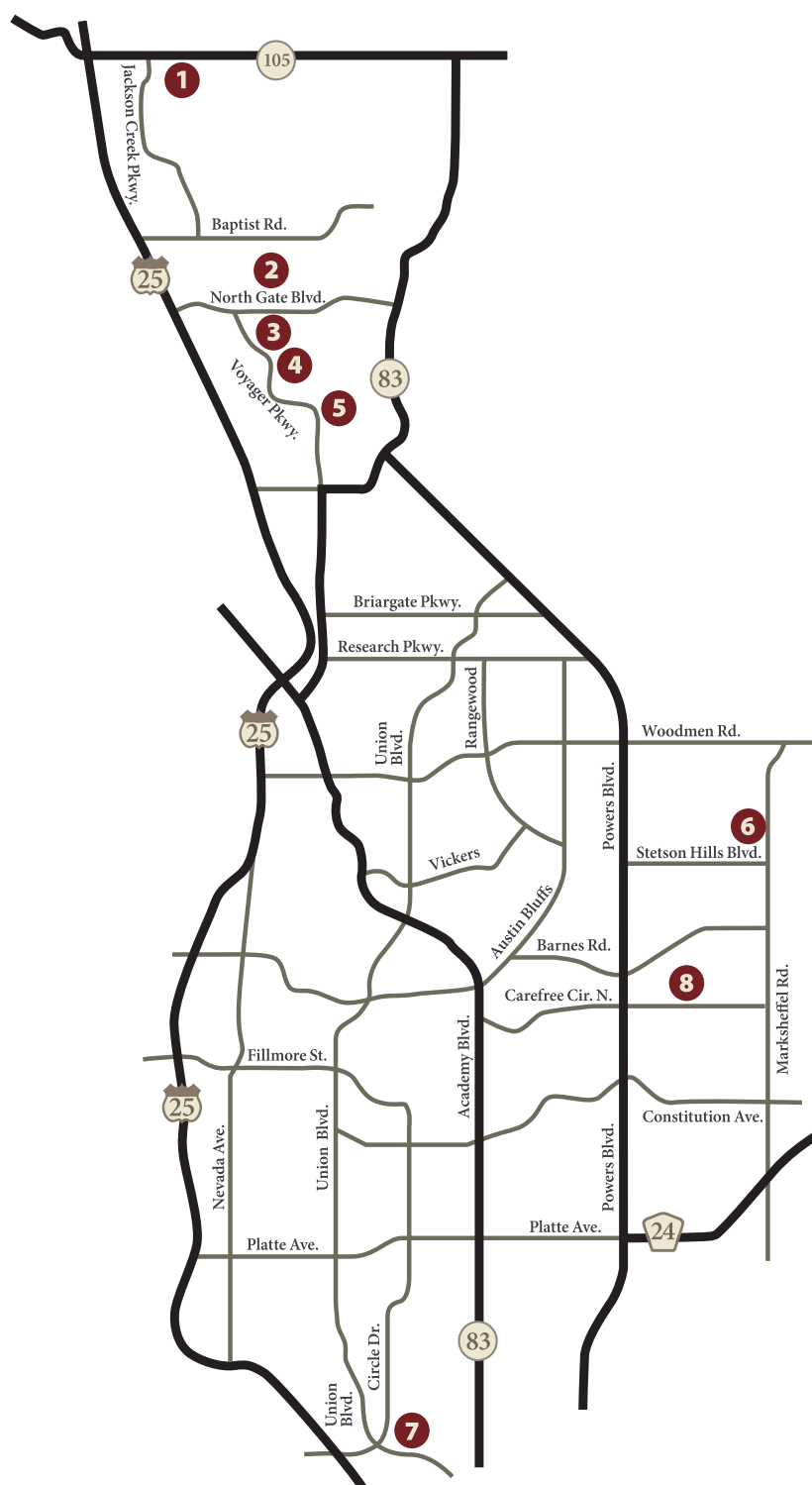
Provided by Academy Fire & Emergency Services. Lunch & Course Certificates will be provided.

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