

PEARL HARBOR DAY

Siblings return to childhood home, recall memories of surprise attack. **Page 5**

REMEMBERING FALLEN

Volunteers place wreaths at AFA Cemetery. **Page 10**

'BOWL'-ING IN D.C.

Air Force will meet Toledo in the Military Bowl. **Page 11**

ACADEMY SPIRIT

PROUD TO BE IN MWC

Falcons announce decision to stay put. **Page 4**



Santa is back in town



SARAH CHAMBERS

Santa Claus meets with a young girl during the Air Force Academy's holiday tree lighting ceremony at the Community Center Chapel Dec. 1. The ceremony included a book reading and hay rides as well as cookies, hot chocolate and hot cider.

Academy builds vision for women's mentoring

Initiative from study by the Military Leadership Diversity Commission

by Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Women across the Air Force Academy joined forces at the Milazzo Center Nov. 29 to develop a vision for a women's mentoring program based loosely on an existing program in Colorado Springs.

The purpose of the two-hour meeting was to present ideas on how a women's mentoring program could best meet the needs of the Academy's community, said Dr. Adis Vila, the Academy's chief diversity officer.

"Our mentoring program is ours to design," Vila said. "This is an opportunity for each of us to help one another, because we all have a skill we can share with others."

Women are the initial focus of this

mentoring initiative due in part to the results of a study by the Military Leadership Diversity Commission, Vila said.

That study, titled "From Representation to Inclusion: Diversity Leadership for the 21st-Century Military," found that women and minorities are underrepresented at senior officer levels. One of the study's 20 recommendations was to prepare service members to manage their career progression through mentoring and career counseling programs.

Debi Bauer, who was president of the Colorado Springs Women's Express Network from 2010-2011, spoke to the women at the Milazzo Center about her experience setting up a mentoring network.

"This is a labor of love for all of us involved, and it will probably be a labor of love for you, too," she said.

Bauer also said it was important to **See Mentoring Page 3**



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Master Sgt. Tiffany Smith, center, shares an idea with others in her roundtable discussion during an Air Force Academy women's mentoring initiative meeting at the Academy's Milazzo Center Nov. 30. Smith is superintendent of the Manpower and Personnel Directorate's Command Personnel Division.

Cadet Chorale spreads message of goodness, beauty

By Dr. Barry Fagin
Computer Science professor

"Comfort ye my people." A lone tenor voice begins Handel's "Messiah." The words soar to the roof of the Academy Chapel, soon joined by the combined voices of the Cadet Chorale.

I know the singer. He's majoring in computer science, currently fighting his way through my advanced programming languages course. Once he's commissioned, he'll be a skilled cyberwarrior. Who knew he could sing? Could Handel, three centuries ago, have imagined his music made real by a young man with such skills?

Computer scientists supposedly know only of machines and logic, zeros and ones. What could we possibly know of beauty, art and awe? And yet, this cadet does. As a singer in one of the greatest musical works in human history, how could he not?

Another student of mine braves the challenge of "Thou shalt break them," soloing through octave-wide jumps and long coloratura passages. I know how hard this music is, written for professional singers trained to perform for the court of King George II. Where do these young men and women find the time to sing at all, let alone well, in a place like the Air Force Academy that demands so much of them? And yet, they do.

What am I, Jewish by birth and a skeptic by nature, doing in a Christian chapel listening to a profoundly Christian work? In addition to some cadets, I know a few musicians in the orchestra. I've gigged with the bassist, and we chat briefly afterwards. But I didn't come to make a social call.

In fact, maybe I shouldn't be here at all. There are good reasons for Jews to worry about "The Messiah." The alto recitative from Isaiah, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive," is a mistranslation used against Jews for over a thousand years. The

Hebrew word is "almah," which means a young woman.

But the original mission of the authors of the Gospels was to convince Jews that Jesus was the savior foretold by Jewish texts. This idea carried through the early days of Christianity, influencing translations up to and beyond the King James Bible. The rest, as they say, is history.

That history shows us while evil can spring from religion, it is not unique to it. The same is true for good, and that is why I am here. I am here because I am human, with an innate capacity for wonder, inspiration, beauty, and awe. That is what I seek in "The Messiah." It is absolutely what I find.

The beauty of music is rooted in our common humanity. We are all shaped by the same forces of nature. We breathe the same air, and we are equipped through evolution to respond to changes in its pressure waves. The musical relationships of the octave, the fifth and the third are fundamental properties of the physical world we all share. To me, this makes music more beautiful, not less.

Every once in a great while, a human being is born with an innate grasp of musical relationships and a desire to create beautiful sounds. Every once in a greater while, they produce lasting works of true genius. These works touch the inner humanity of all who hear them. They make our lives better.

Hearing such music, sung by young men and women dedicated to something greater than themselves, I can't help but feel inspired, uplifted and ennobled. Yes, there is evil, misery and suffering in the world. But there is also goodness, beauty and hope. "Messiah," if nothing else, should teach us that.

Editor's Note: Fagin is a lay Torah reader at Temple Shalom in Colorado Springs and a professional musician. His commentary was printed in Thursday's Gazette. See photos from "Messiah" on Pages 8-9.

Pearl Harbor Day reminds us: Remember, honor WWII veterans

By Katy Wagers
Special to the Academy Spirit

When I visited my grandparents the weekend after Sept. 11, 2001, I remember my late grandmother, Clara Hix Clifford, saying to me, "I never thought I'd see something like this again in my lifetime."

By "again," she was referring to the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese — a world-altering event that remains true to the words of President Franklin Roosevelt: "a day which will live in infamy."

At the time, it was a shock to the people of the United States. They had managed to steer clear of the war raging in Europe until this unprovoked attack on American soil claimed the lives of more than 2,400 people that bright Sunday morning.

Forget what you've seen in the Hollywood recollections of the important historical events of our time. For a real picture of what happened, go to the words of those who lived through it.

My grandmother remembered going to Muskogee, Okla., to visit her father



STAFF SGT. CAROLYN VISS

A Navy bugler plays "Taps" during a Pearl Harbor memorial ceremony Dec. 7, 2010.

who'd just had an operation at the local veteran's hospital.

"(My friend and I) ate dinner in Muskogee and then went to a picture show," she recalled. "We came out of the picture show to hear the newsboys hawking newspapers on the street with cries of 'War begins! Hawaii bombarded! Japs bomb Pearl Harbor!'"

"So that was the seventh of December," she said. "The next morning, we had an assembly at the high school. We could have heard a pin drop in an auditorium full of high school kids. The old radio gave all of us the

president's speech and the declaration of war. I had the coldest feeling as all this happened that not one of us would ever be the same again."

They weren't. Many of the young men who sat in that high school auditorium ended up going to fight the war. From Dec. 8, 1941, to Sept. 1, 1945, Allied troops fought the Axis powers across the face of the earth. The places and events of that conflict — Bataan, Normandy, the Battle of Midway, Iwo Jima, and of course Hiroshima and Nagasaki — are now indelibly etched into the history books and the minds of many of the older generations.

The generation that fought in World War II is slowly passing from this world. My own grandmother died just four days after the first anniversary of Sept. 11, a little more than 60 years after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. With her death and every death of those who lived through the war, a piece of history is lost.

It is our responsibility as Americans to remember days like Dec. 7 and to honor the sacrifices of those who came before us.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

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Academy Superintendent
Lt. Col. John Bryan —
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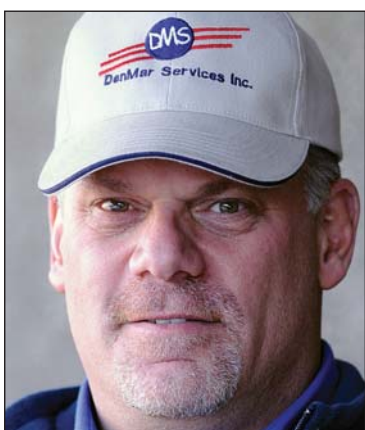
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Mentorship

From Page 1

have such networks to help other women break the “glass ceiling” that typically keeps women from top jobs in both public and private sectors.

“We can be really hard on one another, and that has got to stop,” she said.

Based on the Colorado Springs group’s early missteps and successes, Bauer said the Academy group should set up processes for screening mentors and protégées early and stick to them, should conduct initial training for those on both sides of the mentoring table and should set ground rules for mentor-protégée relationships. She also suggested the Academy’s group look into the skills needed to run an advisory board and publicize their efforts.

After Bauer’s presentation, the group split into five tables to discuss what the Academy’s mentoring program should look like. At the end of the two-hour session, the smaller groups shared their ideas, including establishing a pool of mentors, building on existing programs like the Cadet Sponsor Program, recruiting enthusiastic mentors for the program and combining both in-



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Capt. Carla Stephany shares her table’s ideas with the larger group during the Air Force Academy’s women’s mentoring initiative at the Milazzo Center Nov. 30. Stephany is a clinical social worker at the Academy’s Peak Performance Center.

dividual and group mentoring.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the Academy’s superintendent, said he valued what the group set out to accomplish.

“I wish I could take a seat and be a part of this,” he said. “I look forward to seeing the feedback.”

Chief diversity officer recognizes contributors

The Air Force Academy’s superintendent and chief diversity officer recognized five individuals Nov. 30 for their contributions to the Academy’s ongoing diversity outreach efforts.

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould and Dr. Adis Vila presented certificates of appreciation to Warren Greenwood, Maj. John Schroeder, Dr. Terry McFarlane, Don Branum and Mark Mayer in the lead-in to a women’s mentoring initiative meeting at the Milazzo Center here.

Listed below are the individuals recognized along with a brief summary of their accomplishments.

Warren Greenwood: As the Academy’s civilian training manager, Greenwood helped the Diversity Office with its pilot programs and provided substantive feedback to CDO-led training programs. He also made sure more than 250 Academy personnel received diversity training and documented their training records.

Maj. John Schroeder: Schroeder, the chief of the Commandant of Cadets Military Training Branch, supported the CDO’s efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion through helping establish communication with cadets in advertising an “Ambassadors of

Inclusion” pilot program and is helping to finalize the program’s summer “internship” portion.

Dr. Terry McFarlane: McFarlane, a research psychologist with the Academy’s Strategic Plans and Programs, Requirements, Assessments and Analyses Directorate, supported the CDO through research and analysis of diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, particularly an analysis after the Oku Interactive Theater in August and two analyses after the Harlan Training sessions in September.

Don Branum: Branum, a writer in the Academy’s Public Affairs Office, provided public affairs support to the CDO through timely articles, including each of the CDO’s training sessions and the CDO-hosted brown-bag lunches discussing the repeal of Don’t Ask Don’t Tell.

Mark Mayer: As a member of the initial “Train the Trainers” cadre, Mayer coordinates with the Harlan Consulting Group on continued training of diversity group members in addition to setting the schedule and providing leadership for his group. Mayer, an assistant professor in the Academy’s Physics Department, has also incorporated skills from his training into his workplace and the classroom.

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Gould: Air Force to stay in Mountain West

Superintendent cites loyalty, regional ties

By John Van Winkle
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Air Force Academy will stay in the Mountain West Conference, declining an offer to join the expanding Big East Conference, Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould announced Wednesday.

The Academy was one of several schools courted by the Big East, which extended feelers and formal invitations to Air Force, Boise State and other MWC teams earlier this year.

While a dialogue will continue, the Academy will remain in the Mountain West for the foreseeable future, Gould said.

"We are proud members of the Mountain West Conference, and for now we are going to stay there," he said. "Now is not a good time for Air Force to move to the Big East, for lots of reasons. The primary draw was the potential for some big TV money – and I emphasize potential. The primary draw(s) to stay put (were) loyalties, regional affiliations with traditional rivals ... commitments we've made and what I feel is the right thing for our cadets, for our Air Force Academy and for the Air Force," he added.

The lure of greater television revenue was a factor in other schools' decisions, but it's the core mission that matters for the Air Force Academy, Gould said.

"We don't make decisions based on a potential television revenue," he said. "We're about taking care of our cadets and giving them the best opportunities to compete, to win, to achieve success, to beat Army and Navy -- mainly to recruit and retain some of the finest young men and women in the country. And we feel that what we have in



JOHN VAN WINKLE

Air Force receiver Cody Getz, center, dodges Colorado State defenders en route to his first touchdown of the season during the Falcons' 45-21 victory over the Rams Nov. 26. Regional rivalries like Air Force-CSU were one of the factors in Air Force's decision to stay in the Mountain West Conference, Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Mike Gould said.

the Mountain West Conference will enable us to do that.

"We are committed to the MWC. I feel the Air Force Academy is a key and pivotal member in the Mountain West, and we were (on) the ground floor," he added. "I think we can do a lot to shore up membership in this conference."

Gould said the decision to stay was made only after fully examining each option's pros and cons. These included travel time, class time missed, costs and traditional rivalries. Those rivalries are a very important part of the equation, he added, citing

the end of the Texas-Texas A&M football rivalry as one of the consequences of the ever-shifting college football landscape.

"We just played our 50th football game with Colorado State in our 53-year history," Gould said. "And we don't have as many years behind us as other schools do, but we'd like to build on this. What better rivals can you have than those in the Front Range and some of our regional partners?"

The Mountain West has been thrown several curve balls in membership in recent years, losing BYU to an independent status and Utah to the Pac-12. TCU departs after this academic year: The Horned Frogs were initially slated to join the Big East next season but bolted to the Big 12 after that membership offer hit the table in October.

Wednesday, the Big East announced its latest additions: the University of Central Florida, University of Houston and Southern Methodist University as full members along with Boise State University and San Diego State University as football-only members, all beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year.

That will leave the Mountain West with Air Force, Colorado State, New Mexico, UNLV and Wyoming. When the 2012-2013 academic year starts, Hawaii will join the Mountain West for football only while Fresno State and Nevada-Reno come on board as full members of the conference.

But this likely won't be the end to the conference realignments.

"We will address conference membership next week in Las Vegas in our (MWC) Board of Directors meeting, and we'll take a look and see where we go from here," Gould said. Among the options on the table for the Mountain West include possible conference expansion, as well as a proposed football-only alliance with Conference-USA.

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- Atomic #38
- Omnivorous mammal of C and S Am.
- Records electrical brain currents
- Without (French)
- Mother's sisters
- An open skin infection
- Long mucilaginous green pods
- Past tense of 23 across
- Cereal grain product
- Lack of normal muscle tone
- Lean, scrawny
- Work holiday (informal)
- Abnormal breathing
- Peels
- Capital of the Apulia region
- They ___
- Linear unit (Span.)
- More lucid
- 6th largest Russian city
- Fights a short bout
- Ancient Olympic Site
- Companion animals
- Indian frocks
- SE Indonesian island
- The winged goddess of the dawn
- Exchange of goods
- Bird in a pear tree
- A contest in which the winner is undecided
- Tidal bore
- Petite
- Freshwater duck genus
- A nasty smile

CLUES DOWN

- The supporting part
- Poker stake
- Tennis player Bjorn
- Rapid bustling movement
- Centripetal
- Wound around something
- Sumac genus
- Original Equipment Manufacturer
- Alcohol withdrawal symptom
- Unkeyed
- Small water travel vessel
- Family Formicidae
- 3rd largest whale
- Scamper
- Container counterweight
- (Largest) Peoples of Ghana
- Unit of loudness
- Double-reed instrument
- Sole genus
- "Dynasty" actress Linda
- Said of a maneuverable vessel
- Macaws
- Seamen
- A women's undergarment
- Cost Information Report
- A brutish giant
- One who divines the future
- Very fast airplane
- Frying vessel
- 007's creator
- 1/1000 of an ampere

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Solution on page 15

Children of Pearl Harbor tour former home

By Master Sgt. Mike Hammond
Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (AFNS) — As children of an Airman stationed at Hickam Field, Hawaii, Larry Bush and Deloris Anderson were at home the fateful morning of Dec. 7, 1941, during the surprise Japanese attack.

On Wednesday, 70 years later, they finally came home.

The house where some of their earliest childhood memories were formed and some of their most enduring fears were born is still standing, like they are. And the opportunity to step back in time came during a visit to Hickam Field, now Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, ahead of the 70th Anniversary commemoration of the attacks on U.S. military forces stationed on Oahu.

On this bright, sunny, and slightly breezy Hawaiian day, an Airman and his wife opened the doors of their home, and welcomed the pair and their extended family members for a personal tour of the quarters they called home the morning of the surprise attack.

Master Sgt. Dimitri Xadzipulos and his wife, Concetta, now occupy the historic quarters and quickly agreed to host the family during their visit.

The brother and sister pair left Oahu during evacuations in February 1942.

Bush, who visited the island last year, and Anderson, who made her first return in 70 years, found many familiar sights at their former home and also said much had changed over the years.

As Concetta Xadzipulos walked them through the hallway, they looked into a small closet.

"My sister and I were stuck in that closet," Bush said.

"Well, we weren't very big then!" his sister added, as they were only 5 and 8 at the time.

But the significance of this visit was far more than a trip down memory lane for the pair. It brought back thoughts of the family that once was.

Their father, Master Sgt. Gerald Bush, was a telecommunications expert on Hickam Field that morning and helped restore and protect communications lines during and after the attack. He shipped off to fight in the European Theater of World War II not long after the family left Hawaii.

"This is the last place we lived as a family," Bush said, his voice cracking with emotion. "Because after we were evacuated, my dad went to (World War II), and we never saw him after that. He didn't make it back. He died in November 1944 — right before the Battle of the Bulge. So that's very, very, emotional."

Both Bush and Anderson said the effects of the attack on Oahu remained



Mary Koenia, the grand niece of Hickam Field Japanese attack survivor Deloris Anderson and Alexis Bignell, friend of the family, rub their hands across a bullet-hole-ridden wall Sunday at the Courtyard of Heroes at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

PHOTOS BY TECH. SGT. JEROME S. TAYBORN

with them throughout their lives. According to Bush, a car backfiring 23 years later, in 1964, caused him to tell his wife to get out of the car.

"I thought they were shooting at us!" he said.

Anderson, to this day, startles at loud, booming noises.

"Thunderstorms are what bother me," she said.

For the Airmen of today, the visit was a way to personally meet history. The Xadzipuloses said they welcomed the opportunity to meet the people who, as young children, once survived flying bullets and shrapnel in their home.

"We had no idea about the history of our home, so it was an easy decision to have them over, and we are thrilled," Dimitri Xadzipulos said. "They lived part of history, and it is a historical event for them and for us to have them come back."



Deloris Anderson and Larry Bush pose for a photo Dec. 5, in front of the U.S. flag that was flown at Hickam Field during the attack Dec. 7, 1941. As children of an Airman stationed at Hickam Field, the siblings, who were only 5 and 8 years old, were home Dec. 7, 1941, and survived the sudden attacks by the Japanese.

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by G. Clement Hill

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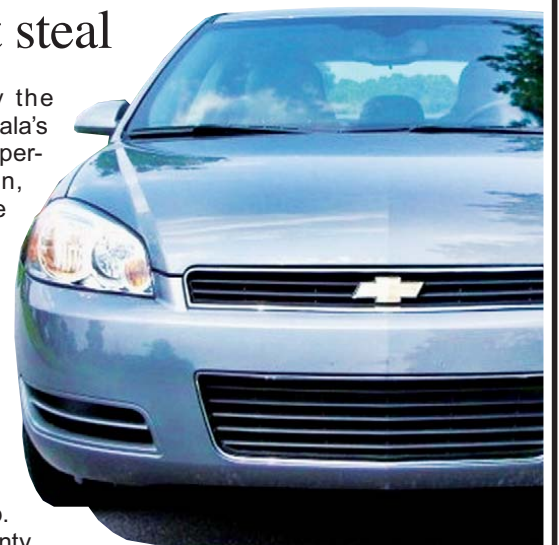
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WHERE TO BUY. The new Suss Superstore is a spin-off of the Suss Buick-GMC and Corporate Fleet Return Center in Aurora, serving the Denver area for over 30 years and the top volume used car retailer in Colorado in 2010. And now Suss has brought their bargains to Colorado Springs. The Suss Superstore offers a huge selection of 2011 Impala LT's priced from just \$14,981 with no added "dealer handling" fees. And just \$15,981 captures an Impala with gorgeous leather seating and heated front seats. With a small, friendly and knowledgeable sales staff, you'll find it refreshing to shop at a dealer who still does business in a small town, old-school way. Suss represents most credit unions, and trades are always welcomed. Located in Motor City at 945 Motor City Drive, sales may be reached at (719) 466-8300.

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Last Joint Base Balad commander departs

By Senior Airman Amber Kelly-Herard
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq (AFNS) — The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing commander and final commander of Joint Base Balad relinquished command during a ceremony here Dec. 4, concluding a process that began 14 months ago to transition the second-largest U.S. base in Iraq to the Iraqi government.

Brig. Gen. Kurt Neubauer, a 1981 graduate of the Air Force Academy, will return to Osan Air Base, South Korea, to serve as vice commander of 7th Air Force.

"My first feeling was of gratitude for the privilege of wing command again," said Neubauer, who took command Oct. 5, 2010. "The second was the challenge of facing the unknown of accomplishing the mission from Balad while effectively shutting down a base the size of Charlottesville, Va."

The general took command and helped transfer Joint Base Balad to the government of Iraq.

"I'm very proud of what our wing accomplished and the experience of command in (U.S. Central Command) has been profound, both professionally and personally," Neubauer said. "I will greatly miss serving with the (332nd AEW Airmen), but I'm anxious to be reunited with my family and go on to our next assignment in Korea."

Along the way, Neubauer said he has gained many memories of the 332nd AEW.

"There are so many memories — for example, flying that last combat sortie from Balad," he said. "Other things that come to mind are personnel rotations. You get attached to people after serving with them. Watching squadron and group commanders turn over (command), or seeing my command chief leave — those are bittersweet memories."

The general also highlighted trans-

ferring the air control and C-130 Hercules squadrons and standing up detachments for the MQ-1 Predator and MC-12 squadrons as unforgettable events.

"The last very vivid memory is seeing (Balad) fade from the view of our C-130 after we signed the base over to the Iraqi air force," he said. "That memory will stay with me for a long while."

The general said his command was not always easy.

"Our biggest challenge was getting the mission done — defending the base, providing top cover for U.S. Forces-Iraq and assisting our Iraqi hosts — while simultaneously drawing down our Airmen and equipment," Neubauer said. "That was a real test, and I couldn't be more proud of the leadership, stamina, strength and agility of our 332nd AEW group and squadron commanders. They did a Herculean job balancing those divergent mission tasks."

Despite the challenges, however, the 332nd AEW succeeded.

"My most rewarding experience is not losing anybody through the course of 14 months," he said. "In spite of the fact that we were under significant indirect fire threat, and things got a little hairy as personnel and equipment thinned out, we went in this thing together and we came through the other side together."

Neubauer praised the accomplishments of the Airmen of the 332nd AEW.

"I think everybody has a lot to be proud of," he said. "They may not realize how important their role is and continues to be in this part of the world, but let there be no doubt that what they did has been righteous and worthy work. It's something they should be proud of, and more importantly, they shouldn't be bashful about telling their families and their fellow citizens back home what they did here."

One last hurrah

A TG-10C glider performs its final aerobatic flight with wingtip smoke above the Academy airfield Dec. 2. The TG-10Cs are reaching the end of their lifetime hours, and December is the last month of service before they are destroyed. This aircraft has served the Academy and cadet aerobatic demonstrations at football games, parades and airshow aerobatic demonstrations since 2003.

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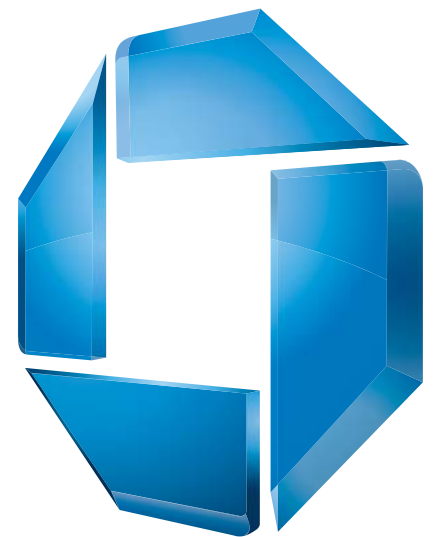
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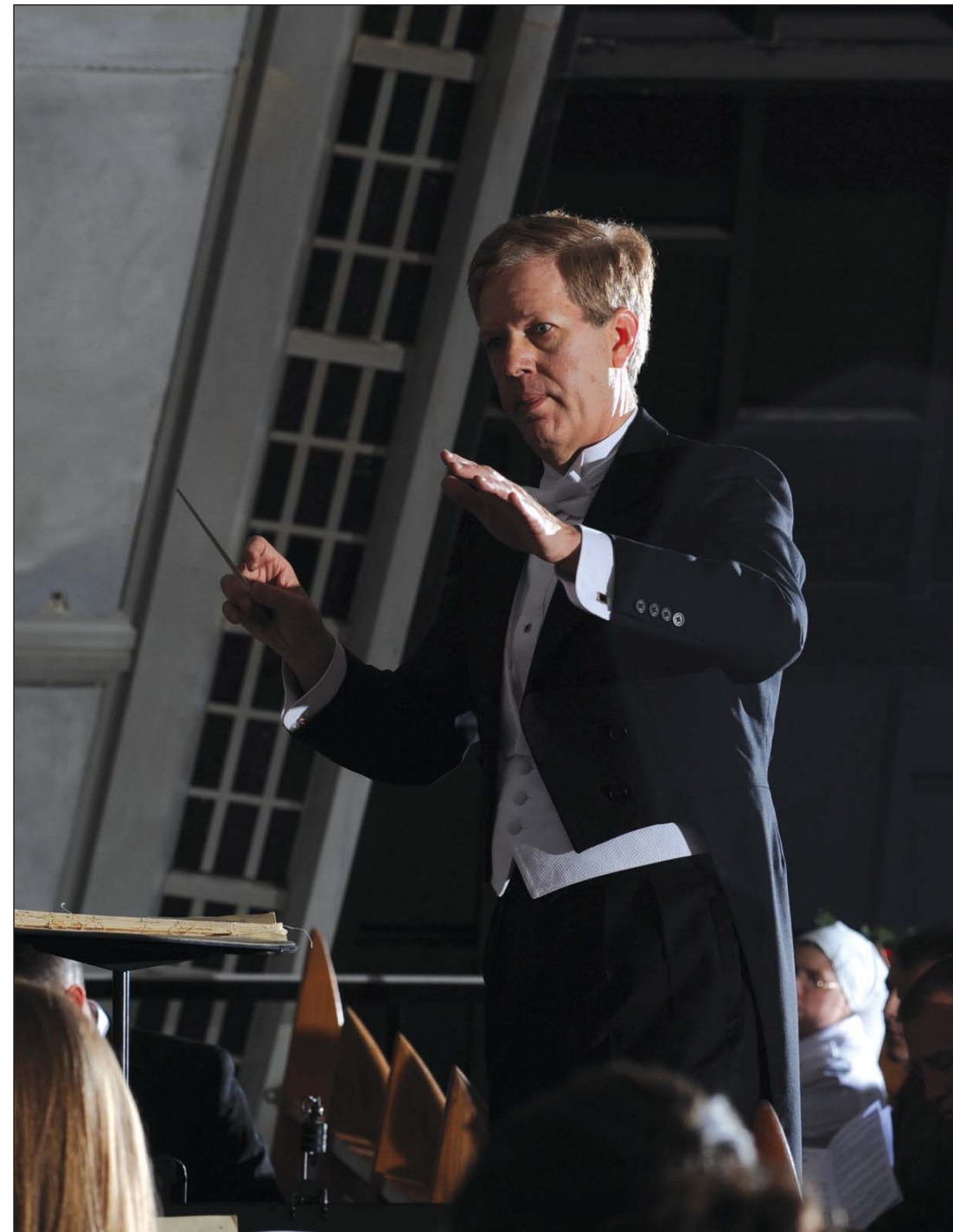
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Handel's 'Messiah'

Cadet Chorale performs at Academy Chapel

Cadet 2nd Class Dominique Amor performs an alto solo during the first part of Handel's "Messiah" in the Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel Dec. 2. Amor, a native of Shoreline, Wash., is assigned to Cadet Squadron 14. This is her first semester performing with the Cadet Chorale.



Dr. Joseph Galema conducts the Cadet Chorale's performance of Handel's "Messiah" in the Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel. Galema, the Cadet Chapel's music director and organist, started working at the Academy in September 1982.



Clark Wilson (front) and Angus Foster perform in the Air Force Academy's presentation of Handel's "Messiah."



The Air Force Academy Cadet Chorale performs the "Hallelujah" chorus of Handel's "Messiah" in the Cadet Chapel Dec. 2. The Chorale comprises 45 cadets, including 10 freshmen.

PHOTOS BY DON BRANUM

Chorale members

Class of 2012:
 Brianna Adams
 David Adams
 Josiah Eubank
 Anna Gault
 Michael Hauser
 Laura Henderson
 Brian Higgins
 Alyssa Hughey
 Kyle Kenerley
 Brady Knutson
 Kristopher Martin
 J. Dakota Newton
 Henry Niemeyer III
 Nathaniel Raymond
 Paulina Rudolph
 James VonAhnen
 Katherine Wright

Evans Mills, N.Y.
 Atlanta
 Honey Brook, Pa.
 Aurora, Ill.
 Mason, Mich.
 Bolivar, Pa.
 Vestal, N.Y.
 Castle Rock, Colo.
 College Station, Texas
 Hubbard, Ind.
 Crossville, Tenn.
 Parker, Colo.
 McComb, Ms.
 Peachtree City, Ga.
 Silver Lake, Kan.
 Marshalltown, Ind.
 Las Vegas

Class of 2013:
 Dominique Amor
 Jonathan Beabout
 Alexander Beveridge
 William Deavor
 Ga Han
 Natalie Justice
 Holden Simmonds
 Spencer Weide

Shoreline, Wash.
 Lockport, N.Y.
 Peoria, Ill.
 Gadsden, Ala.
 Lancaster, Calif.
 Flat Rock, N.C.
 Austin, Texas
 Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Class of 2014:
 Kristin Butt
 David Harris
 Kathryn Lopez
 Danny Mills
 David Myers
 Preston Nguyen
 Kaitlin O'Connell
 McCall Ostlie
 Jaime Ramey
 V. Vince Thienstrong

Cheyenne, Wyo.
 Springfield, Va.
 Avon, Ill.
 Bandera, Texas
 Zachary, La.
 Pflugerville, Texas
 Leesburg, Va.
 Moorhead, Minn.
 Springfield, Tenn.
 Los Angeles

Class of 2015:
 J. Scott Agnolutto
 Steven Cox
 E. Luke Glinski
 Sang Han
 Vania Hudson
 Courtney Keplinger
 Jacob Lee
 David Saunders
 Scout Wallace
 Steffen Williams

Dunkirk, Md.
 Minot, N.D.
 Milton, Mass.
 Lancaster, Calif.
 Fountain, Colo.
 Leawood, Kan.
 Papillion, Neb.
 Gallipolis, Ohio
 Lyme, N.H.
 West Des Moines, Iowa

Orchestra

| | |
|---|--|
| Conductor: Dr. Joseph Galema | Bass: Angus Foster |
| Violin I: B.J. Berman, Concertmaster Gary Derbenwick Lydia Campbell | Oboe: Joyce Hanagan Nancy Brown |
| Violin II: Ilya Shpilberg Debora Falco Katie Jones | Bassoon: Clark Wilson |
| Viola: Ekaterina Dobrotvorskaia Keith Russell | Trumpet: Senior Master Sgt. Steven Kindermann First Lt. Jason Plosch |
| Cello: Mary Lindsay, Principal Nancy Nylander | Timpani: Senior Master Sgt. Mike Woods |
| | Harpsichord Continuo: Sara McDaniel |

Remembering those who served

Wreaths Across America provides Academy Cemetery with 950 wreaths

RIGHT: Airman 1st Class Katrina Barrios places wreaths on graves in the Academy Cemetery Dec. 2, 2011. Barrios is assigned to the 10th Surgical Operations Squadron.

BELOW: Staff Sgt. Mario Vironda and Senior Airman Brian Delmarter distribute wreaths during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Air Force Academy Cemetery Dec. 2, 2011. Close to 60 volunteers supported the event. Vironda is the 10th Communications Squadron's NCO in charge of cyber systems operations. Delmarter is a cyber systems operator with the 10th CS.

BOTTOM: Maj. Jason Harris brushes snow off a grave during the wreath laying. Harris is an instructor with the Academy's Department of Military and Strategic Studies.



Air Force to play Toledo in Military Bowl

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Air Force will play Toledo in the 2011 Military Bowl in Washington Dec. 28 at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, NCAA officials announced Sunday.

ESPN will televise the first meeting between the Falcons, who are in the Mountain West Conference, and the Rockets, who are in the Mid-American Conference.

"We're ecstatic," said Falcons Head Coach Troy Calhoun. "The Military Bowl ... is us. It's who we are. When the door opened, we thought this was a perfect fit. We're lucky to be able to get this and to go to Washington, D.C."

Air Force finished its season at 7-5 (3-4 MWC), highlighted by an overtime 35-34 win over Navy and a 24-14 win over Army to win its second-consecutive Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, a 37-26 loss to then-No. 5 Boise State and straight wins over MWC rivals UNLV and Colorado State. The Falcons are ranked No. 2 in the nation in rushing yards, averaging more than 320 yards per game.

Toledo also faced Boise State, falling 40-15 a week after a narrow 27-22 loss to then-No. 15 Ohio State. The Rockets are ranked eighth in the nation for overall points, with more than 42 points per game on average. They finished the regular season 8-4 (7-1 MAC) on wins over Michigan



Air Force quarterback Tim Jefferson rushes up the middle during the Air Force-Army game at Falcon Stadium Nov. 5. Air Force, which won four of its last five games to become bowl-eligible, will play the Toledo Rockets in the 2011 Military Bowl, to be played Dec. 28 in Washington.

TECH. SGT. RAYMOND HOY

State, Central Michigan and Ball State wherein the Rockets scored a combined 155 points.

"I know some of the guys (who) play for Toledo, and I'm from just down the street in Cincinnati," said Air Force senior safety Jon Davis. "I'm pretty excited. To be able to play in the Military Bowl is amazing."

Air Force has won its last two straight bowl appearances, defeating Georgia

Tech 14-7 in the 2010 Independence Bowl and beating Houston 47-20 in the 2009 Armed Forces Bowl. This is the Falcons' fifth-straight bowl appearance under Calhoun's tenure as head coach. The Rockets make their second bowl appearance in Coach Tim Beckman's three years, having lost to the Florida International Golden Panthers in the 2010 Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl, 34-32.

The Military Bowl is sponsored by Northrop Grumman. Portions of the proceeds benefit the USO, with donations of more than \$100,000 made in 2010. Tickets are available through TicketMaster or via the Military Bowl's website at www.militarybowl.org or www.goairforcefalcons.com.

(Information compiled from Air Force Academy Athletics and staff reports.)

ADVERTISEMENT

What a van.. And what a buy!

Buyers find bargain in 2010 Chrysler Town & Country fleet returns

by G. Clement Hill

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO - What a van, what a buy. When the buyers at the Suss Buick-GMC Corporate Fleet & Lease Return Center in Aurora had an opportunity to capture a fleet of nearly 400 of the 2010 Town & Country for over a thousand dollars less than the out-of-warranty 2008 models were currently bringing at auctions, they jumped on it like a tornado in a trailer park. Pricing them at a fire-sale price from just \$16,981, a fraction of their \$30,480 MSRP when new and thousands under Kelly Blue Book, business is brisk as buyers discover what is possibly the best used minivan buy on the market today.

And these are not your plain-vanilla vans. If there's an option they don't have, you probably don't need it. These lavishly furnished Touring models include remote, dual-power sliding doors and power liftgate. Three-zone climate control. Power one-touch windows, even in the sliding rear doors. Power third-row

vent windows. Power remote locks. Automatic headlamps. Quad bucket seats with nifty Stow&Go seating that tucks the seats neatly into the floor, instantly converting this family van into a cargo hauler. A latch-ready child seat anchor system. A roof rack. A satellite-ready AM/FM/CD/MP3 player with steering wheel controls. Cruise Control. A Universal garage door opener. Halogen Quad headlamps. A pair of glove boxes, center console and neat overhead consoles. Lots of cupholders. Fog lamps. Power heated mirrors. Cool overhead ambient surround lighting. Hip, 7-spoke alloy wheels.

And many other nice surprises. Like a 115-volt inverter power outlet in the second row that allows you to plug in a microwave or small refrigerator for the long hauls. Mom can iron clothes in the rear seat, or maybe even whip up some waffles.

You'll make fast friends with this sweet family limo as you climb inside and get comfy. A buttery-smooth, feels-good-on-the-fingers leather

wrapped tilt-steering wheel, 8-way power driver's seat and power adjustable pedals team together to offer the ultimate driving position to its captain. The hip shift control on the dash gives the van a fun, toyish feel. Driver controls are simple and well placed, without the confusing gimmickry that's becoming more common in so many vehicles today.

The 2010 Town & Country boasts great safety ratings with 4-wheel disc brakes with ABS, gobs of airbags, Electronic Stability Control that keeps the van on a straight track when roads are slippery, Traction Control and a tire pressure monitor. Front-wheel drive keeps power planted firmly to the pavement.

Unlike the base Town & Country that uses a bit-sluggish 3.3-liter V6 mated to an outdated 4-speed automatic, these 2010 Touring models are powered by a long-proven, high-endurance 3.8-liter V6 paired to a smooth-shifting 6-speed automatic that takes advantage of every pony. Eager to please, hit the gas, it jumps and runs. Although fuel economy is conservatively rated at 16city/23highway, in reading actual owner reviews, you'll find most report that they fare much better.

Owners also praise the smooth, quiet ride the Town & Country affords, where you can hold a conversation with rear passengers without having to raise your voice. If you think the foreign jobs have anything over the builder of America's best-selling minivans, it's well worth your time to go to automotive websites such as Edmunds.com and read what actual

owners have to say about their purchase. You'll quickly discover that the 2010 Town & Country scores owner satisfaction ratings on-par and higher over the Toyota Sienna and Honda Odyssey, and hear from owners who traded their overseas models for the Town & Country and never looked back. The quality of Chrysler vehicles has jumped leaps and bounds from the products they were producing back in the 80's and early 90's. "When our customers are trading older Chrysler and Dodge vans with 125,000-200,000 trouble-free miles and more on their odometers, the issue of quality never comes up," tells Maurice Terrill, a 25-year veteran on Suss's used car sales staff. "Our customers' previous vans do most the selling," he smiled.

And there's another BIG bonus that comes with these Town & Country. Until 2010, Chrysler's powertrain warranty only applied to the original owner. This was changed with their 2010 models, whereas buyers of used models enjoy the balance of a comprehensive, 5-year/100,000-mile powertrain warranty which carries NO deductible, and also provides for both roadside assistance and a rental car. To add the equivalent warranty to pre-2010 models can run around \$2000 - or more. Besting Honda and Toyota's 5yr/60,000-mile warranty, this is another plus that makes these vans a spectacular value.

WHERE TO BUY. With a genuine, buy-low, sell-low philosophy, the Suss Buick-GMC and Corporate



Fleet & Lease Return Center has been serving the Denver area for over 30 years, and was the top volume used car retailer in Colorado in 2010. And now, Suss has brought their bargains to Colorado Springs, opening the Suss Superstore in Motor City. Buyers can choose from a huge selection of these beautiful 2010 Town & Country Touring models priced from just \$16,981, with no added dealer handling fees. And with over 60% of these vans carrying the low \$16,981 price tag, you won't need a search warrant to find the advertised vehicle. Suss also offers the Touring models with gorgeous leather and heated front seats at an additional cost of just \$1350. With a small, friendly sales staff, you'll find it refreshing to shop at a dealer who still does business in a small town, old-school way. Suss also represents most credit unions, and trades are always welcomed. Located freeway close to anywhere (Tejon Exit) at 945 Motor City Drive, sales may be reached at (719) 466-8300.

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Women's basketball loses 73-70 contest to USF

By Melissa McKeown
Athletic Communications

The Air Force women's basketball team came up short against USF in the Air Force Classic's final game in Clune Arena Saturday, losing 73-70 despite a double-double and a career-best 32 points from junior Alicia Leipprandt.

Leipprandt also added 10 rebounds for her second double-double of the season, while sophomore Megan O'Neil registered her first career double-double with 13 points and a game-high 11 rebounds.

The Falcons got out to a strong start against their Big East opponent, taking a 12-2 lead to begin the game. Shooting more than 48 percent from the field and dominating on the boards, Air Force led by as many as 10 points in the opening half before taking a 40-34 advantage at the break.

Air Force extended its lead to 53-40 in the first five minutes of the second period, but USF took advantage of the Falcons' turnovers to slowly chip away at the margin. With just over three minutes to play, the Bulls grabbed a 67-65 lead and retained control of the game.

USF gained its largest advantage of the contest with 25 seconds on the clock, leading by six points, before Leipprandt knocked down her first three-pointer of the season to cut the margin to 73-70 with less than six seconds to play. A turnover by the Bulls gave Air Force one last opportunity to tie the game, but the Falcons could not score again.

Although Air Force outshot USF and dominated the boards with a 54-33 rebounding advantage, turnovers proved to be the deciding factor. The Bulls recorded 28 steals in the game to pressure the Falcons into a season-high 36 turnovers.

Jasmine Wynne led USF with 18 points, while Andrell Smith added 12 points.

At the conclusion of the tournament, Leipprandt was named to the All-Air Force Classic team, along with



ELIZABETH ANDREWS

Air Force's Camille Thompson looks for a gap in the USF defense during the teams' match in Clune Arena Saturday. Thompson, a sophomore, shot 2-of-7 and had three rebounds in the Falcons' 73-70 defeat.

Wynne, Jackson State's Tiffany Kellum and Idaho State's Kaela Oakes. Meanwhile, Ashleigh Vella was named the Air Force Classic MVP after helping lead Idaho State to a 2-0 record on the weekend.

De Laurell named AHA player of week

By Dave Toller
Athletic Communications

Air Force junior Kyle De Laurell was named the Atlantic Hockey Association player of the week for his efforts in the Falcons' sweep at AIC, Dec. 2-3.

The winger from Mission Viejo, Calif., had six points with three goals and three assists last weekend. He tied his season high (for the third time) with two goals and had a career high four points in the 8-3 win on Friday. He scored the first goal of the game and the Falcons never trailed. On Saturday, he had one goal and one assist in the 7-3 win. His goal in the second period was the eventual game-winner.

De Laurell has scored a point in six straight games, the longest of his career, and he has scored at least one point in 12 of the 15 games this season. He leads the AHA with 21 points and is tied for the league lead with 11 goals. He is ninth in the nation in points per game (1.47) and is 10th in goals per game (0.73).

Air Force, 9-4-2 overall, is in first place in the AHA with 17 points and an 8-2-1 record. The Falcons are off until Dec. 30 when Air Force travels to the World Arena to face NCAA sixth-ranked Colorado College. The Falcons host 13th-ranked Denver Dec. 31 at 6:05 p.m. at the Cadet Ice Arena.



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JEWISH WORSHIP

Normal schedule
Fridays: 7 p.m.

Community Center Chapel

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

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

PROTESTANT WORSHIP

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



Dispose of your recyclables

The 10th Civil Engineer Squadron is holding its annual electronics recycling event through January.

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

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

Community center activities

Double-feature movie night - Community Center auditorium, Dec. 16. The first movie, "Moneyball," rated PG-13, starts at 6 p.m. The second movie, "Dream House," rated PG-13, starts at 8 p.m. Sodas and snacks will be on sale.

Santa suits for rent - During the holidays. Cost is \$25 per day.

Lunchtime table tennis - Monday through Friday starting at 11 a.m. in the Milazzo Center. Sponsored by the 10th Medical Group. Call beforehand to sign up, 333-2928.

Dance classes - Line dance classes are taught in six-week increments. Ballroom dancing consists of four lesson blocks, one hour per block. Classes for both take place Mondays in the Milazzo Center ballroom. Line dance classes start at 5 p.m., ballroom dance classes at 6:15 p.m.

Health plan signup happening

Open enrollment in the federal em-

ployees' health insurance plan will take place through Monday. For more information, call 333-4363.

Entry decal discontinued

In accordance with recent guidance from the Department of the Army, Fort Carson has eliminated the use of the Department of Defense vehicle decals (DD Form 2220) for access to the installation.

Personnel requiring access to Fort Carson will be required to present their DOD-issued ID card (Common Access Card, retiree ID or family member ID) or have an extended pass and a state-issued photo ID.

Effective immediately, the vehicle decal, is no longer available at the Pass and Registration Center. The PRC will now issue Cadet Area stickers weekdays, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The PRC will also continue to issue colonel to general stickers upon request.

Any questions can be referred to Brad Wilson at 333-8420.

Register to stay at SnoFest

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

Assortment of skiing options

The Outdoor Recreation Office has ski passes available for purchase. The list of options is as follows: Monarch, Loveland, Patriot Pass (unlimited Copper Mountain and Winter Park), Patriot Pass Plus (unlimited Copper Mountain and Winter Park and six days at Steamboat), and Liberty Pass for Keystone and A-Basin. Call 333-4475 for more info.

Save the date: Air Force Ball

The Lance P. Sijan Chapter of the Air Force Association will hold its annual Air Force Ball on Jan. 20 at The Broadmoor. Tickets and more information will be available soon. For the latest information, please check the Lance P. Sijan chapter website at www.afasijan.com.

Annual deer hunt at Academy

The Academy's Natural Resources office will conduct the annual base deer hunt this weekend. All hunters are guided by Academy or Colorado Parks and Wildlife personnel, and public safety is a primary concern.

Frequently used roads and trails leading into the hunting areas will be posted with bright orange warning signs requesting that all personnel stay out of these areas.

All licenses for the 2011 hunting season have been issued by the state. To apply for future hunts, you must submit a big game application to CPW for Game Management Unit 512.

If you have any questions or concerns, call Natural Resources at 333-3308 or CPW at 227-5200.

Skate with Santa

The Cadet Ice Arena will host a skate with Santa event from 1-3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$4 per person, and skate rentals are available for \$3.

Health clinic holiday closures

In observance of Christmas and New Year's Day, the 10th Medical Group will be closed Dec. 23-26 and Dec. 30-Jan. 2. This will include the Community Center Pharmacy.

Care for Academy cadets and Prep School students will not be affected by these holiday hours and will be available.

If you have an emergency, please call 911 or visit the closest emergency room. After hours, contact your on-call Primary Care Manager by calling 524-2273, option 3 and they will coordinate your care.

Commissary holiday schedule

The base commissary will have the following schedule of operations for the next few weeks:

Sunday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 19, extra opening: 9 a.m.-7 p.m., early bird shopping 8-9 a.m.; Dec. 24, early closure, 4 p.m.; Dec. 25, closed; Dec. 26, closed; Dec. 31, early closure, 4 p.m.; Jan. 1, closed.

Cadet Area gate closure

At 2 p.m. Dec. 17, the Sijan entry control point will be closed. The closure will last until 6 a.m. Jan. 3. All Cadet Area traffic will be required to enter through the Vandenburg gate, next to the cadet tennis courts.

The 10th Mission Support Group is asking people to inform vendors and contractors of the closure and to ad-

just their driving routes while traveling at the Academy while the closure is in effect.

For further information, call Maj. James "Doug" Couch at 333-3685.

Holiday bowling open house

Today, 4 p.m. at Academy Lanes. Pin decorating contest and more. Cost is \$1 a game for all squadron and office events scheduled through Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Weekend snowmobiling outing

Half day of snowmobiling, Sunday. Cost is \$185 per person ages 16 and up, or \$265 per couple on a tandem sled. Children ages 5-15 are welcome but must ride tandem with an adult. Price includes transportation, guide, snowmobile insurance, warm clothing, helmets and three full hours of snowmobiling. Call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 333-4475.

Breakfasts at the Academy

Falcon Club: Free membership breakfast, Dec. 13, 6:30 a.m. Non-members are welcome for \$8.95.

Holiday Brunch, Dec. 18, 10 a.m. Regular price is \$29.95, with \$8 off for Members First.

Ten Pin Grill inside Academy Lanes: Monday-Friday, 7-11 a.m. All breakfasts include drinks. Call in your breakfast order at 333-4252 by 6:45 a.m. to get your order delivered at curb side.



NAKIA STOVALL

Senior Airman Sophie Holden, right, encourages employees commuting to the Air Force Academy to participate in the Great American Smokeout in this photo taken Nov. 17. Holden is a customer service technician with the Academy's Health and Wellness Center, which offers smoking-cessation classes regularly; more information is available by calling the HAWC at 333-3733.

MANAGEMENT



Production Supervisor

Colorado Springs produce processor accepting resumes for candidate with minimum 3 years supervisory experience.

Responsibilities: product quality, inventory, accuracy of orders, daily yields and labor cost. Candidate must be able to supervise up to 50 employees with multiple languages. Bilingual a plus (English/Spanish). Good communication skills and ability to work in cold storage facility a must.

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Taylor Farms is taking applications for a local driver position must possess a valid CDL-A, clean MVR and at least one (1) year driving experience.

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Peak Dining

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| FINE DINING | | MEXICAN | |
|  | The Margarita at Pine Creek 7350 Pine Creek Rd. Colorado Springs, CO 80919 598-8667 www.margaritaatpinecreek.com |  | Salsa Brava Fresh Mexican Grill Rockrimmon - 802 Village Center Dr. 719-266-9244 Briargate - 9420 Briar Village Pt. 719-955-6650 SalsaBravaonline.com Voted Best Mexican Restaurant in Colorado Springs - 2011. Salsa Brava serves traditional Mexican dishes with a twist, made with the freshest of ingredients. Monday - \$5 Margaritas. Tuesday - Briargate 5K Run Club. Wednesday - \$5 Martinis & Rockrimmon 5K Run Club. Happy Hour daily from 4-7 p.m. Full-service catering for groups up to 3,000. |
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|  | Edelweiss 34 E. Ramona Ave. 719-633-2220 www.edelweissrest.com |  | The Famous 719-227-7333 31 N. Tejon Street www.thefamoussteakhouse.net Lunch Mon.-Fri * Dinner Nightly. Think that late night Chicago Steakhouse: polished booths that enclose years of secrets, big slabs of aromatic prime rib, sparkly cocktail glasses clinking at every table... Best Steak 2011, Best Fine Dining 2011, Best Martini 2011, The Gazette. facebook.com/FamousSteakHouse |
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