

A NEW BEGINNING

NCO helps interpreter, family start new life in US. **Page 5**

FAMILY FUN

SnoFest offers fun, reduced fees. **Page 11**

A NET WIN

Men's Basketball beats San Jose State. **Page 13**

Academy SPIRIT



Circle of 6 app increases cadets' safety

Cadets 1st Class Avery Larkin (left) and Lauryn Van Valkenburg browse the Circle of 6 app on their cellphones Wednesday at the Sijan Cadet Oasis. The free app can be downloaded on Apple and Android technology and allows Airmen to discretely notify friends when in trouble.



AMBER BAILLIE

Technology helps prevent sexual assault, violence

By Amber Baillie
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The Circle of 6 phone app allows cadets and Airmen to discretely notify their friends should they find themselves in an uncomfortable or dangerous situation.

Developed in 2011 by Tech 4 Good, Inc., the app allows users to store six names and

numbers of people they trust. In an unsafe situation, the user can press a "Call Me" option sending out a text message to their "circle of 6" saying, "Call and pretend you need me. I need an interruption." The user can also select a "Come Get Me" option sending a text message that reads, "Come and get me. I need help getting home safely,"

See App Page 14

Academy tentatively names new athletic director

By Don Branum
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

A former deputy and interim director of the U.S. Military Academy's athletic department has been tentatively named as the Air Force Academy's next athletic director, officials at the Academy announced Tuesday.

James Knowlton, previously the director of athletics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.,

will succeed Dr. Hans Mueh, who will retire later this month.

"We were extremely pleased to receive applications from many highly qualified candidates," Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson said. "Jim



James Knowlton

Knowlton demonstrated the right level of intensity and experience while still understanding the unique military culture at our United States Air Force Academy."

Knowlton, who graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1982, served as its deputy and interim athletics director from 2003 to 2006, where he supervised 25 intercollegiate athletic programs with over 1,000 student athletes.

Knowlton is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and led a battalion of 750 soldiers while stationed at Fort Carson. His military awards and decorations include a Legion of Merit medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, a Ranger Tab, an Air Assault Badge and a Senior Parachutist Badge. He is a registered professional engineer in Virginia and holds a master's degree in civil engineering from

See Athletic Director Page 14

2014: A historic year for our Air Force

By Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Around the world, many families and friends enjoyed the holiday season and rang in another new year. Yet, we are actively globally engaged, and many Airmen spent the season away from loved ones. Nonetheless, it's a time of celebration for many and reflection for many more.

As we close another chapter in our history, we take pride in all our Airmen, Air Force and families accomplished. We've seen many achievements and challenges in 2014, but you consistently met them with honor, humility and resilience.

In 2014, we continued to win the fight by aiding our Afghan partners as they established and operationalize a sustainable air force; we partnered with Iraqi and coalition partners to push back the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant, a truly vicious adversary; and we supported logistics, training and engineering efforts in Africa to contain the Ebola virus.

Force management was a difficult trial in 2014. We took big losses through involuntary and involuntary programs. Thankfully, there will not be any involuntary force management programs this year.

Through it all, we've continued to strengthen the team. We introduced the Airman Comprehensive Assessment, supporting a dialogue between Airmen and their supervisors; we reinvigorated the nuclear enterprise; and we delivered higher quality professional



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force
James A. Cody

Airmen grew leaner, faster and stronger. As you meet with your team, reflect on those accomplishments. Consider the impact you have in the world's greatest Air Force. Thank those who offered a helping hand and, if the mission allows, enjoy well-earned time off with those who deserve our greatest gratitude: our families.

The new year will have its own trials but if our history is any indication, we'll once again triumph. It's what we do, and what we have always done. You are our greatest asset and strength and we couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you.

military education through blended-learning courses.

We shaped the future to meet strategic vectors outlined in the Air Force 30-Year Strategy. We launched the Airman Powered by Innovation program to effectively turn ideas into cost savings, and introduced changes to the Enlisted Performance Reports and Weighted Airman Promotion System, ensuring job performance is the most important factor when evaluating and identifying Airmen for promotion.

These significant strides scratch the surface of what we've has done in 2014.

From top to bottom, our

The Air Force issued me my 'kids'

By Staff Sgt. Nicholas Rau
460th Space Wing Public Affairs

BUCKLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS) — While I've decided to live the child-free lifestyle, the Air Force, in its infinite wisdom, saw the need to issue me two kids. They are both straight out of technical training and brand new to the Air Force — and one is still too young to accept an adult beverage.

Let's be honest: As children do, they totally cut into my "me time."

In all seriousness, these Airmen are bright, young women with an incredible future ahead of them, and I am duty-bound to ensure that doesn't change.

Perhaps like many supervisors, sometimes I feel like a parent. I am responsible for these ladies and their development as Airmen. I have a vested interest in their success and a powerful role in their morale.

Sometimes that responsibility is easy, but sometimes it bolts me into action in the middle of the night.

One of my Airmen calls me from the side of the busiest highway in Denver, nearly in tears, and tells me she had just been in her first car accident. Like any good parent, I jump out of bed in my pajama pants and head out the door without thinking twice. In a flurry of hands-free phone calls to our first sergeant and my Airman, who is now backing up the highway for miles, we square everything away and get her back to base with the help of the police and a tow truck driver.

It was after everything was taken care of and she was back in her room I truly realized being a supervisor was about more than

solving a problem.

It was time to listen. She had been in her first car accident. She was in a brand new city. She was on her own for the first time. All things combined, I understood why she was so distraught. For me, this was a challenge to overcome; but for her, this may have been one of her most terrifying experiences. I knew I had to listen.

This experience taught me two valuable lessons. One, if my Airmen are in trouble, I need them to know they can trust me to take care of them. Two, I need a new pair of pajama pants because crushed blue velvet went out of style two decades ago.

But how do I get these young Airmen to trust me? I am nearly 10 years older, an entire generation separates my interests from theirs. How can I relate?

I became the next Sherlock Homes, paying attention to the little details to find common ground. My investigative eye was on overdrive as I tried to learn more about my other Airman.

She is quieter and a bit less outspoken, but she is unbelievably artistic. Her talent with a drawing pencil makes me look like a preschooler with a crayon. What do a young, female Michelangelo and I have in common? During a dorm room inspection, I observe pop culture posters on the walls and spot her video game system; I can relate to that.

Paying attention to my Airman allowed me a glimpse into her life.

Still, was this enough to get her to connect with the oldest person in her work center?

It came down to what my dad did with me for our father-son bonding. He introduced me to Star Wars and Star Trek, ingrained classic rock into my head, and shared outlandish stories of his past. These moments brought me closer to him, so I thought it might work with my Airmen.

Well, now they know more 1980s music than they ever thought they would, and they have heard more "old-man" stories than they probably wished to hear. It took willingness from both sides to adapt,

but at the end of the day, we built that Airman-supervisor connection.

I honestly feel they can trust me. They can come to me with not only problems I listen to or help solve, but also with the successes they achieve. Hearing that they won an award or were lauded by the commander gives me the same level of joy and pride as they have. I am proud of my Airmen and they have become more than a required responsibility to me.

The best thing I found is that every supervisor feel this way. All it takes is a desire to be a part of their Airmen's lives and take a genuine interest in their wellbeing. Find your connections, build them and adapt as necessary, and don't give up on your Airmen.

For me, regardless of whether or not these young ladies are my blood, I wish only the best of success for my "daughters."

Perhaps like many supervisors, sometimes I feel like a parent. I am responsible for these ladies and their development as Airmen. I have a vested interest in their success and a powerful role in their morale.

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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

Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson —

Academy Superintendent

Lt. Col. Brus E. Vidal —

Director of Public Affairs

Ray Bowden — Editor

Don Branun — Staff Writer

Amber Baillie — Staff Writer

Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes —

Staff writer

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The Academy Spirit is published by The Gazette, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the U.S. Air Force Academy. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Academy Spirit are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the U.S. Air Force Academy Directorate of Public Affairs. The editor reserves the right to edit articles to conform to Air Force policy and Associated Press style. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

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Send submissions to: usafa.pai@usafa.af.mil. Deadline for free classified ads on a space-available basis is noon every Tuesday for that week's publication date. Paid classified publishing is accepted by the publisher at 719-444-7355. For display advertising, please contact Marie Rush at 719-476-4818.

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DOD releases 2015 military pay, compensation rates

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department announced the 2015 military pay and compensation rates for service members in December, with most service members receiving a 1 percent increase in basic pay.



The new rates for basic pay, basic allowance for housing, basic allowance for subsistence and the cost of living allowance rates for the U.S., took effect Jan. 1.

General and flag officers will not see an increase this year.

BAH rates for service members in 2015 increased on average \$17 per month, or 0.5 percent. Rates are calculated using median current market rent and average utilities (including electricity, heat, and water and sewer) for each pay grade, with and without dependents.

Two changes were made to BAH rate computations for 2015: renter's insurance, contributing an average of 1 percent to rates, was eliminated, and the fiscal year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act reduced housing rates on average 1 percent for service members.

Individual rate protection for service members remains an part of the BAH program. Even if BAH rates decline, including through

the elimination of renter's insurance and the reduction in the calculated rate, a service member who maintains uninterrupted BAH eligibility in a given location will not see a decrease. This ensures service members who made long-term commitments in the form of a lease or contract are not penalized if local housing costs decrease.

The 2015 BAS rates for service members increased 2.9 percent over last year. The new rates are \$367.92 per month for enlisted members and \$253.38 per month for officers.

The annual adjustments to BAS, a monthly nontaxable cash payment to military members intended to be used to buy food, are linked to changes in food prices as measured by the annual change in the Agriculture Department Cost of Food at Home Index.

From October 2013 through September, the index rose 2.9 percent, forming the basis for the increased BAS rates.

The DOD also released its 2015 CONUS COLA rates. Roughly 12,000 members will see a decrease in their CONUS COLA payments, while some 7,000 members will see an increase or no change, and 4,000 members will no longer receive a CONUS COLA payment.

Training increases human trafficking awareness

Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department's Combating Trafficking in Persons program manager said Monday that mandatory employee training increased awareness of slavery and human trafficking across the department's workforce.

Sam Yousef said the annual training drives home the department's zero tolerance policy for slavery and human trafficking, even as the DOD observes National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

The DOD defines human trafficking as using fraud, force or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport or obtain a person for commercial sex or labor services.

Defense surveys show a jump in awareness of slavery and human trafficking, from 72 percent in 2008 to nearly 90 percent today, Yousef said.

The department also concentrates on raising awareness of labor trafficking, Yousef said.

Typically occurring outside of the United States, the crime of labor trafficking has led DOD officials to develop specialized training.

"The training is primarily for contractor officers and con-

tracting officer representatives (on foreign soil)" Yousef said. "It highlights awareness of their responsibilities in managing contracts as they relate to human trafficking."

Common labor trafficking practices include confiscating workers' passports, withholding wages and creating inhumane living conditions.

"You might not think much of it before you take our training, but through increased awareness, you're able to connect the dots a little more," he said.

In South Korea for example, 7th Air Force issued a policy prohibiting service members from buying drinks for "juicy bar" workers and patronizing establishments connected to prostitution and human trafficking, Yousef said.

"It's a very significant accomplishment," Yousef said. "In a 2003 DOD-wide survey, we reported 52 percent of our service members were aware of bars placed off-limits by their leadership, but in 2013 we reported it at 92 percent."

One effort concerning NGOs will team the Defense Health Agency with the nonprofit Polaris Project, which combats human trafficking around the world.

CLUES ACROSS

- Mandela's party
- Gives up territory
- Yellow edible Indian fruit
- Storefront coverings
- King of Huns
- Atomic #18
- Jive talk for ignored
- D. Tartt's third novel
- Three-toed sloth
- Gained through effort
- Macaw's genus
- Helps little firms
- A large group of pheasants
- Baby bed

CLUES DOWN

- Subside in intensity
- Hale, Am. revolutionary
- Leafstalk herbaceous plant
- Price of a ride
- 1/2 an em
- Execute or perform
- Narrative poems
- Breathe deeply and heavily
- 1/40 inch button measure
- Morally reprehensible

29. English dictionary (abbr.)

30. Yellow-fever mosquitos

32. Liquefy

34. Add a supplement

38. Insistence on traditional correctness

39. Milk, butter & cheese

40. = to 10 amperes

43. Mined mineral

44. Greek god of war

45. Don't know when yet

48. Fellow

49. Detailed criteria for a piece of work

50. Special Spanish dish

53. Atomic #46

54. CBS This Morning hostess

56. Rubber tree genus

58. Pa's partner

59. A tiny bubble in glass

60. Lost light

63. Surface boundary

64. Islands

65. = to 1/100 yen

44. 4th month (abbr.)

45. Nervous & taut

46. Emits blood

47. Assert without proof

49. Saturates in liquid

50. No. Italian river

51. Article

52. Mayflower cooper John

54. Filippo __, Saint

55. Begetter

57. Old Dominion state

61. Raised railroad track

62. Point midway between N and E

31. -, denotes past

32. A young canine

33. Biblical Sumerian city

34. Hitler

35. Marched in a procession

36. Patchy in color

37. Trauma center

38. Time after midday

40. The expanse of a surface

41. Develops into

42. Equally

12. For instance

13. Members of U.S. Navy

17. Crown

19. Old English

20. Libyan dinar

21. Goddess of the rainbow

22. Catch

26. Fern spore mass clusters

28. Music disc

30. All without specification

person

SUDOKU

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

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

Solution on page 11

1-9-15

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Cadet Wing gets new commander



ABOVE: Cadet 1st Class Sophia Vasiliadis receives applause after taking command of the Cadet Wing in a ceremony led by Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Stephen Williams (far right) and attended by most of the 4000-member Cadet Wing.

RIGHT: Cadet 1st Class Sophia Vasiliadis will report to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for pilot training after graduation.

PHOTOS BY MIKE KAPLAN



U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Cadet 1st Class Sophia Vasiliadis took command of the Cadet Wing here Tuesday in a ceremony led by Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Stephen Williams and attended by most of the 4000-member Cadet Wing.

As the top cadet, Vasiliadis carries the Cadet Wing Gold Sabre, continuing the long-standing Academy tradition of the senior cadet carrying a gold sabre at ceremonial events.

“(Academy) graduates and officers tell me you don’t normally get the opportunity for command until much later in your career,” Vasiliadis said. “Hopefully, if I get the opportunity to command in the future when I’m on active duty, I’ll bring a little more experience to the position and be a better leader.”

With the change occurring on the first day of the new semester came a shuffling of other leadership positions in the Cadet Wing. Cadet 1st Class Josiah Cline is now the wing’s deputy commander and Cadet 1st Class Kayla Vildosola is its director of operations.

Vasiliadis, an operations research major, is scheduled to graduate May 28 and report to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for pilot training. She hails from Great Falls, Va., and is a 2011 graduate of Langley High School.

Cadet 1st Class Jake Sortor was the Cadet Wing’s previous commander.

Academy Supt.: ‘Commitment is greater than us’

By Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson addressed the classes of 2015 and 2016 in Arnold Hall Monday.

General Johnson spoke about the importance of creating a culture of commitment and a climate of respect, both within the Academy and in the permanent party world.

“Commitment to something greater than us and respect for each other is a big deal,” she said. “It’s respecting each other’s faith systems; it’s respecting each other’s persons. This is about leadership, trust and accountability.”

She said the lessons cadets learn as they move upward in the Academy shouldn’t be stored away to use when they are higher ranking, but immediately put into practice.

“The Air Force and our country are more important than me,” General Johnson said. “The Academy is more important than me. I think all of you are more important than me. I didn’t start believing that yesterday — I started 37 years ago.”

General Johnson also said the juniors and seniors have a responsibility to be role models for the underclassmen.

“I expect you to model behavior and lead the wing,” she said. “It’s not all about physical heroism. That’s not even the hard

part. It’s easier to face down a bullet than it is to look someone in the eye and tell them they’re wrong.”

Cadet 1st Class Angela Johnson said that kind of thinking is what makes Superintendent’s Calls valuable.

“I value critical thinking, I value thinking outside of the box,” she said. “That’s something I think I brought to this Academy, and I really appreciate that General Johnson values it as well.”



“The Air Force and our country are more important than me. The Academy is more important than me. I think all of you are more important than me. I didn’t start believing that yesterday — I started 37 years ago.”

Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson
Academy Superintendent



PHOTOS BY LIZ COPAN

Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson speaks to the classes of 2015 and 2016 in Arnold Hall Monday. Gen. Johnson emphasized the importance of creating a culture of commitment and a climate of respect both in and outside the Academy.

Academy NCO helps Afghan interpreter start new life in US

By Amber Baillie
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Two months after the inside attack on eight American Airmen and a civilian adviser in Kabul, Afghanistan, an NCO now stationed at the Academy deployed to the country to take on the same job as the fallen victims, known as the "NATC-A NINE."

Master Sgt. Michael Simon, an Academy Military Trainer for Cadet Squadron 16, began a year-long deployment in June 2011 at Shindand Air Base as a Mi-17 crew chief air adviser, where he relied heavily on Afghan interpreters to stay alive and accomplish the mission of training Afghan airmen to run an independent and operationally capable Air Force.

Now, three years later, Simon is sponsoring a former interpreter so he (the interpreter) and his family can live a better life in Colorado Springs.

"While downrange, I was placed in the Afghan Air Force military unit to help with tasks such as flightline maintenance and phase maintenance," Simon said. "Being able to connect with Afghan Airmen was critical to our mission. We couldn't communicate without local interpreters and that's how I met Mohammad Javad or 'MJ.'"

MJ, 26, speaks Dari, Persian Farsi, English and Pashto. He said he became an interpreter to help Afghanistan become a safer place for his family.

"It was a dangerous job because I had to keep all of my personal information a secret," MJ said.

"Working with Sergeant Simon was an honor for me. We were a team and needed to work together to reach our goal."

Afghan interpreters working with American forces are often targeted by the Taliban. Due to the risk of the job, interpreters can apply for a Special Immigrant Visa allowing them to leave the country to protect their families.

MJ was an interpreter for the U.S. Air Force and Army for three years.

"It's a long process," Simon said. "I worked with the Lutheran Refugee Services to help get MJ's documents and apartment set up before he arrived to the U.S."

Simon said sponsoring MJ is the least he can do to thank him for his support downrange.

"The Afghan interpreters helped us out so much and were crucial to our mission," Simon said. "If MJ was in the military, I think he'd be awarded a Bronze Star for the support he provided."

MJ and his family arrived to Colorado Nov. 19; Simon picked them up from the airport.

Simon helped MJ look for a job,

get a cellphone, had him over for dinners, and provided his family cooking supplies, baby items and more through church donations.

"I'm glad his family is here and I want to support them in any way I can," Simon said. "They were only allowed to bring two suitcases to the U.S. They basically came here with nothing. My wife, Jessica, and his wife, Sarah, have really hit it off. Their daughter is six months old and is one day older than my

six month old."

MJ rides his bike every day to work at a manufacturing company. He is currently trying to save money so he can buy a car and find a better job.

"America is the land of opportunities," MJ said. "I hope to make a better future for my family here. Sergeant Simon helped me and my family more than I thought and expected. We are really good friends now."

Building a rapport with Afghan interpreters while deployed was critical, Simon said.

"The first six months I was there, my main job was to build a relationship with them where they could trust me and it worked," he said. "Once I had that kind of relationship with them, they opened up and had the highest respect for me because it was mutual. I respected them for what they were doing for their country. Just like interpreters, Afghan military members are sought-after by enemy forces. Their lives are at risk but they're a part of the military because they want to serve and change their country. I also love their caring, hospitable and communal culture."

Simon said he plans to sponsor another Afghan interpreter currently in the process of obtaining an SIV.

"I look at MJ and other Afghan interpreters as an extension of our military family," Simon said. "When I was serving as an adviser, I relied on and trusted them to ensure another horrific NATC-A NINE situation did not happen again."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Master Sgt. Michael Simon, an AMT for Cadet Squadron 16, (left) poses with Mohammad Javad or "MJ," a former Afghan interpreter, during the Christmas holiday. Simon worked with MJ in Afghanistan while training Afghan Airmen to run an independent and operationally capable Air Force.



Simon (center) poses with Afghan Air Force maintainers in 2011 after they received a training upgrade at Shindand Air Force Base, Afghanistan. The maintainers, referred to as "engine body mechanics," had to demonstrate competency of several core maintenance tasks to receive the upgrade.

Wings of Blue

There's no place like sky for the holidays

By Ray Bowden
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

U.S. Air Force Academy Wings of Blue Parachute teams were busy training, competing and taking part in a variety of parachute demonstrations across the country during the holiday season.

"In just 17 days, we completed more than 1,600 jumps, dominated the advanced divisions of the U.S. Parachuting Association Collegiate Nationals and, over the course of four demonstrations, performed before 175,000 live viewers and millions of television viewers," said Lt. Col. Anthony Mincer, the 98th Flying Training Squadron commander.

The Wings of Blue competition team competed in the U.S. Parachute Association's Collegiate National Championships in Eloy, Ariz., Dec. 28 through Jan. 2, earning 27 medals, including gold and silver in the Four-Way Formation Skydiving Competition, gold and bronze in the Six-Way Speed Formation Competition, and silver and bronze in the Two-Way Vertical Formation Skydiving Competition.

Cadet 2nd Class Jasper Arneberg, a Wings of Blue instructor assigned to Cadet Squadron 5, made eight jumps during the competition, filming the Academy skydivers during the event.

"One of the greatest events during the competition was when our junior skydivers tied with our senior skydivers at the end of the sixth and final round of the Four-Way Formation Skydiving Competition," he said. "The seniors won in a seventh round jump off, but there was lots of tension in the air. It was a great moment."

The competition showcased the quality of Academy Airmanship training, Arneberg said.

"We have more resources than any other college and we make the best of those resources," he said. "We're always grateful for any training opportunity."

A Wings of Blue demonstration team performed during the Cactus Bowl at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Ariz., Jan. 2, while a training contingent of more than 80 Academy jumpers took part in annual winter training Dec. 18 through 24 at Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., completing 1,547 jumps.

Academy demonstration teams also performed at the Patriot All-America Golf Tournament Dec. 28 in Litchfield Park, Ariz., and at the Orange Bowl Dec. 31 at Sun Life Stadium in Miami.

"The jump into the opening ceremonies at the golf tournament was perfect and, at the Orange Bowl, nearly 70,000 fans watched our team bring in the game ball, each teams' flag

and the U.S. flag," Mincer said.

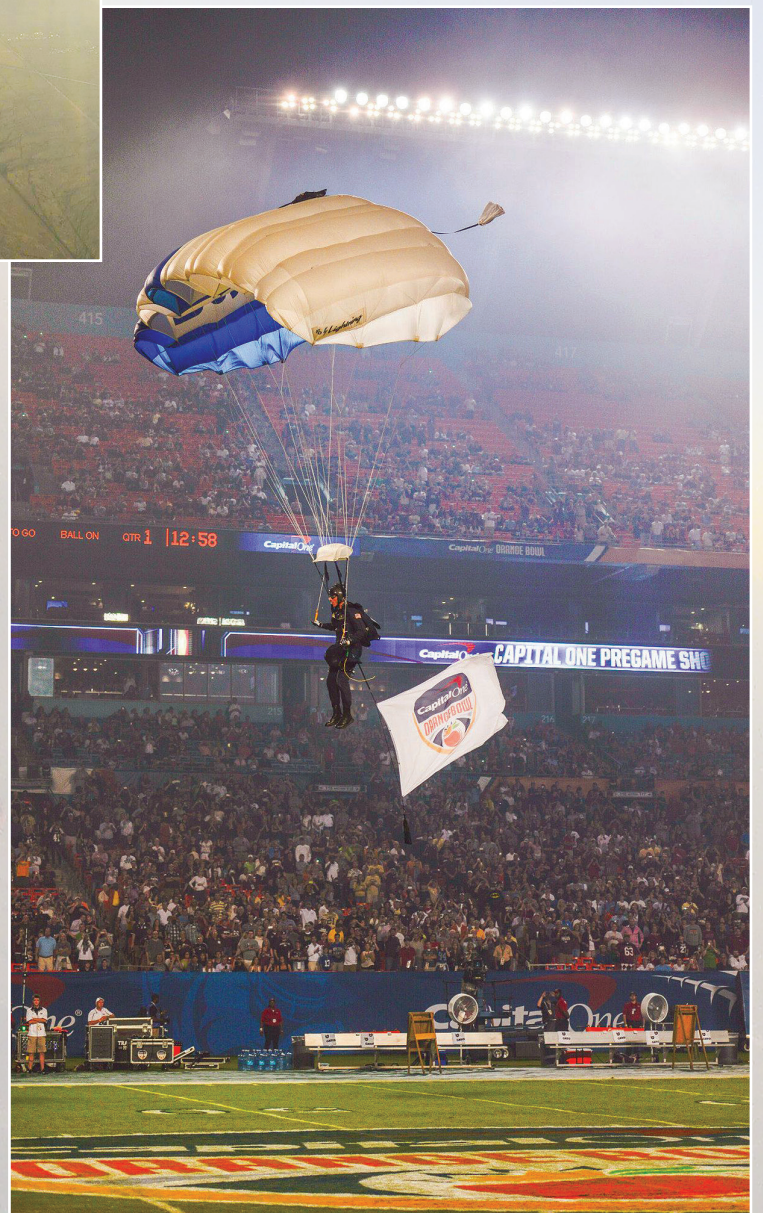
Another demonstration team performed at the Famous Potato Bowl in Boise, Idaho, Dec. 20 Mincer said.

"The Wings of Blue is all about leadership and we learn from every competition and event," Arneberg said. "Any chance to jump is a great training opportunity and just an awesome time."

The Wings of Blue is part of the Academy's Airmanship Program, which includes Airmanship 490, the basic freefall course and Airmanship 491, in which 25 elite cadets selected from a pool of about 250 hone their parachuting skills and upgrade to jumpmaster status.

The program includes Airmanship 496, in which 50 Wings of Blue members are placed on a demonstration team and a competition team to represent the Air Force and the Academy at various annual national events, including air shows and Bowl games.

"I could not be more proud of our Wings of Blue performances," said Col. Steven Burgh, the 306th Flying Training Group commander. "Our



From top to bottom:

The view from the back of a C-17 before Wings of Blue and Wings of Green cadets jumped into the Arizona skies Dec. 20.
Wings of Blue photo

Cadet Chloe Hurst walks with other Wings of Blue team members after landing at the U.S. Parachuting Association Collegiate Nationals in Eloy, Ariz Jan. 2.
Photo by Cadet 2nd Class Jeff Herrala

A Wings of Blue formation at the U.S. Parachuting Association Collegiate Nationals.
Photo by Cadet 2nd Class Jeff Herrala

Cadet 1st Class Andrew Marty jumps into Sun Life Stadium in Miami, Fla. before the Orange Bowl Dec. 31.
Courtesy photo

Falcons over Broncos in Potato Bowl mash up

Air Force ends turn-around season 38-24 over Western Michigan

PHOTOS BY LIZ COPAN

By John Van Winkle
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

BOISE, Idaho — A dominant running game and strong linebacker play carried the Air Force Academy to a 38-24 victory over Western Michigan in the rain-soaked Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Dec. 20.

Four quarters of steady rain made for a wet and saturated field, turning the blue artificial turf into a gigantic water slide and had a considerable impact on game play. Wet footballs made ball handling tricky, accounting for four fumbles and a stifled passing game for both teams.

The Falcons fumbled on their first offensive play, resulting in a turnover.

"We ran a triple-option play the first play of the game, and (news media) let me know how that turned out," said Falcons head coach Troy Calhoun. "After that, the triple option went out the window."

With the pitch option from the quarterback to the trailing tailback effectively drenched, the Falcons went to a double-option approach, using the fullback dive and fake option to set up a handoff to a running back or quarterback run. Both proved effective enough to generate a 5.47-yard rushing average for the Falcons in the first half, and a 4.4 yard-per-carry average by game's end.

When the Falcons were on defense, they concentrated on stopping the run, forcing the Broncos to try to win the game through the air.

"They'd shoot two guys through a gap and blitz off the edge and that was very difficult to run against," said Western Michigan head coach P.J. Fleck.

The Falcons defense held the Broncos to just 79 yards rushing, despite the Broncos having a 1,500-yard running back in 220-pound freshman Jarvion Franklin. But the

Falcons limited Franklin to 21 yards rushing at the bowl game.

"I think our number one objective each week is stop the run," said Falcons senior linebacker Jordan Pierce, who racked up 10 tackles, with three tackles-for-loss and two sacks. From an inside linebacker standpoint, Pierce said the constant rain "wasn't too bad."

"Rain is just something you have to deal with. It's not ideal conditions, but we just have to go out there and play our game," Pierce said.

Through the air, the Broncos drew blood, with quarterback Zach Terrell airing it out for 297 yards and three touchdowns to wide receiver Corey Davis. That kept scoring close, until Air Force's linebackers made the decisive play of the game.

The Broncos were down 23-17 early in the fourth quarter, when Terrell was caught from behind on a quarterback run by Falcons outside linebacker Spencer Proctor. The senior linebacker forced the football free. Fellow linebacker Dexter Walker scooped up the slick ball and found space along the Western Michigan sideline to make a run for the end zone. Sixty yards later, Walker scored the Falcons' first defensive touchdown in two years.

"Little man Dex was in front of me to scoop it up, because I wanted it," said Pierce, with a grin. "That touchdown really turned the game in our favor, and that was all she wrote."

Walker's touchdown put the Falcons up 29-17. Quarterback Kale Pearson found wide receiver Jalen Robinette alone in the end zone for the two-point conversion to give Air Force a 31-17 lead. The teams would exchange touchdowns in the remainder of the fourth quarter, but the Broncos couldn't overcome the scoring deficit in the time left, and the Falcons took home a 38-24 win in their latest bowl game.

"Having 11 days to face the Fal-

cons' triple-option offense was a near impossible challenge," said Broncos head coach P.J. Fleck. "Statistically they had 361 yards of offense. That's okay for them; that's not a mind-blowing game for them."

Game MVP Shayne Davern accounted for 101 of Air Force's 284 ground yards and two touchdowns. His second touchdown was a 55-yard run, after he ran into the middle of the pile and three Broncos missed tackles. But Davern kept going.

"I kept looking back expecting someone to be there. But there was no one there. That doesn't happen often," Davern said. "For the MVP award, credit goes to the offensive line and the offense, and to the defense for keeping us in the game."

The win finishes the 2014 Falcon football season at 10-3, which is the most wins in the Calhoun era, 2007 to present. Going into the game, Air Force, Western Michigan and TCU were tied three ways for the best turnaround since 2013, with each team winning seven more games in 2014 than in their respective 2013 seasons.

Winning in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl closes the book on a complete team turnaround: The Falcons were at 10-loss team in 2013 and are now a 10-win team in 2014. That turnaround is an all-time new record for Air Force, and could be the NCAA's best turnaround for 2014, pending the result of TCU's bowl game.

This was also the final football game for 27 Falcons seniors, but greater things await them after football, Calhoun said.

"As great as it's been to follow a group of champions like this 2014 Falcon Football, just wait and see what they do five years from now on active duty," said Calhoun. "They're going to be great leaders, great officers and great representatives of our Air Force Academy."



ABOVE: Air Force quarterback Kale Pearson registered five completions on nine attempts for 77-yards against Western Michigan in the Famous Potato Bowl Dec. 20.

FAR LEFT: Air Force senior linebacker Jordan Pierce sacks Western Michigan quarterback Zach Terrell in the first half of the Bowl Dec. 20.

LEFT: The Falcons offense pushes through the Western Michigan defense. Sophomore running back Shayne Davern rushed for 101-yards and two touchdowns on 12 carries, earning him the MVP trophy for the Academy.

Academy grad, female aviator, trains Afghan air force pilots

By Jim Fisher
377th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFNS) — Maj. Mary Clark, a UH-1N Huey instructor pilot and the 58th Operations Support Squadron's assistant director of operations at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., knows what it takes to make a good helicopter pilot.

Contributing to the growing Afghan air force, Clark trained pilots at Shindand Air Base, Afghanistan.

The Class of '04 U.S. Air Force Academy graduate prepared 20 student pilots, including three female members of the Afghan air force and male rotary-wing pilots to fly the Russian-made Mi-17, and contributed to non-flying aspects of all pilot training.

The aviator had an opportunity to set an example for the Afghan women, she said, who were training to fly fixed-wing aircraft.

Clark said she hopes the impact made by the mission she made her own for a year went beyond producing capable pilots for the Afghan air force.

"We exposed one culture to another and did our best to create an avenue for advancement in their society," she said.

Students trained by the 58th Special Operations Wing are turned into combat-ready special operations and rescue crew members who can make an impact in operations around the world.

Due to cultural restrictions on interaction between men and women



U.S. AIR FORCE

Maj. Mary Clark made an impact by training pilots, male and female, for the Afghan air force at Shindand Air Base, Afghanistan.

outside the family environment, it helped the Afghan women to have a female instructor, Clark said. The women were not invited to evening study sessions male students would hold, and were somewhat on their own when coalition instructors were not holding a formal class. Clark was able to provide an avenue for them to get questions answered and facilitate their self-study.

"If they had a question they would come to me," Clark said. "They felt more comfortable having a woman present during training."

In addition to helping the women to adapt to the training environment, Clark acted as a role model.

"The women were all very motivated and competent. Despite facing significant threats to their safety, they did well in their training," she said. "These women were very brave to choose this career path. I was happy to be able to be an example of professionalism for them. I think it was important for them to

see that a woman could become a pilot."

In addition to adjusting to the culture, Clark had to adjust to a different aircraft.

To prepare for the mission, she had to learn how to fly the Mi-17, which is very different from the UH-1N. Because the Mi-17 rotor spins in the opposite direction, it has a different flight control arrangement, and it is much larger than the Huey.

"I got 35 hours in the Mi-17 before I deployed," Clark said. "And the transition was smooth. It was fun."

Once Clark had established herself as a well-trained and skilled pilot, she gained credibility with male and female students alike.

The major also had to deal with not only the dangers inherent to the deployed environment, but the heightened alert following a spate of inside attacks from Taliban members.

"It's terrorists targeting their own people," she said. "You had to be on guard, but you can't be paranoid. A year is just too long to be paranoid."

More traditional combat-related threats called Clark into action. She took part in a rescue mission after a helicopter was struck from an improvised explosive device during a training mission, and some of her Afghan comrades were killed in the line of duty. This included a safety officer she had advised throughout her year there who was killed in a

grenade attack a week before she left the country.

The female Afghan pilots Clark worked with also had to deal with constant dangers.

While on base, the women were protected, but if they could not wear their uniforms in public without making themselves a target of the Taliban, Clark said.

A competent air force to defend gains Afghanistan has made toward a free society will also translate into a more enlightened society in the long term, she said.

"You have to change an entire generation," Clark said. "Our presence as advisers, Airmen, and, in my case, as a woman, served to enlighten the younger generation of Afghan soldiers we interacted with. This willingness to embrace a global perspective, coupled with the establishment of national pride, is essential for the country to defeat terrorist threats to their government and way of life.

"I encountered many intelligent and motivated Afghans," she continued. "With coalition support we saw many successes, such as Afghan officers becoming instructor pilots and leading real-world missions as well as taking command and leading their own people. As NATO troops withdraw over the next year it will be incumbent on these leaders to continue these practices as they assume primary responsibility for defending their country and their freedom."

Clark was assigned to Cadet Squadron 14 while a cadet.



JIM FISHER

Maj. Mary Clark instructs 1st Lt. David Shadoin during pre-flight procedures Dec. 16, at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. Clark is an UH-1N Huey instructor pilot and the 58th Operations.



By Airman 1st Class Rachel Hammes
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Tickets are available for SnoFest, an annual event that will be held at Keystone Resort, Colo., Jan. 23-25.

Scheduled activities include ski and snowboard races, a themed party and a cardboard derby at the Nordic Center.

SnoFest also offers non-skier activities such as gondola rides, dog sled tours, an eco snowshoe hike and beer and wine tastings.

Maj. Charles Day, deputy director of the 10th

Force Support Squadron here, said this year's events are meant to provide more quality time for families.

"The focus of SnoFest this year is get back to its original intent of family-focused fun morale, welfare and recreation events," he said. "We're changing a few things, such as offering a party on Saturday night only, so families can have the time they want and need to have fun enjoying the discounted prices we're receiving through Keystone. Additionally, for the first time ever, we're establishing a Family Fun Area at the Nordic Center where we'll have tubing, snowball

launching, kids games, hot chocolate and cookies and fire pits for making s'mores, all for just \$10 per adult and \$5 per child."

This year also includes special incentives targeting certain audiences for the first time.

"New this year is a day trip for single Airmen, cadets and Rec-on personnel (active duty personnel and their families) for Jan. 24," Day said. "For a low cost of only \$25, individuals receive a lift ticket, rental equipment and transportation."

Tickets are available until Jan. 17 at the Outdoor Recreation Center located in the Community Center. The center can be reached at 719-333-4475.

Academy grad flies in father's footsteps

By Mary McHale
AFNORTH Public Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE Fla. — Some sons follow in their father's footsteps. Others fly in them.

Such was the case recently when Academy Class of 2008 graduate Capt. Taylor Wight, an F-15 Strike Eagle pilot, flew an evaluation Program mission here with his father, Academy Class of '88 graduate Col. Al Wimmer, director of Air Forces Northern Operations and Information Operations Directorate and F-16 Viper driver.

Both knew from their teenage years they wanted to fly. Wimmer flew his first flight at 16 as a member of Civil Air Patrol, which he joined at 13.

"While I was at the Academy, I learned more about the Air Force and its missions and knew I wanted to be a fighter pilot," Wimmer said. "I was lucky enough to achieve that."

Wight recalls he knew from high school his desire to be a fighter pilot.

"I remember us living at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada and watching from our back porch all the F-16 Vipers taking off and feeling the thuds from the afterburners as they took off," Wight said. "That's where it all kind of evolved for me."

Now, after 24 years, Wimmer is a command pilot with more than



MASTER SGT. KURT SKOGLUND

Col. Al Wimmer, Air Forces Northern's Director of Operations and Information Operations chats with his son, Capt. Taylor Wight, before their dissimilar aircraft mission Dec. 12. Wimmer is an F-16 Viper pilot while his son, is an F-15 Strike Eagle pilot.

3,000 flying hours in the F-16 Viper, including 450 combat hours. His son is the assistant chief of training with the 335th Fighter Squadron, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. He became a Strike Eagle driver after an assignment as a T-6 II instructor pilot at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

For Wight, flying with dad was an honor and humbling experience.

"It's still sinking in," Wight said. "It's very surreal to fly a mission with my dad, and see him in his Viper and there I am flying the Strike Eagle. I feel super blessed, honored and humbled to have that chance. It's been a great day."

Given their different platforms, the mission they flew was a dissimilar aircraft dog fight. Rumor has it dad trumped, but both returned with a lifelong memory.

"First of all, it's a dream to fly fighters, to watch my boy fly and for us to fly together," Wimmer said. "We were both beaming ear to ear all the way back."

TRACK AND FIELD

Falcons are highest-ranked team in Mountain West



LIZ COPAN

Senior All-American Joey Uhle closed out last season with top-25 marks in the pole vault.

Men's team ranks 26th in preseason projections

Athletic Communications

NEW ORLEANS — Air Force men's track and field ranks 26th in the preseason edition of the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Associations Division I National Team Computer Rankings, the association office announced Tuesday.

The preseason projections are based on the top returners from each school, with consideration given to early-season performances.

Contributing to the Falcons' preseason placement are three nationally-ranked returners: senior All-American Joey Uhle, junior Dylan Bell and senior Kobi Rex.

Uhle and Bell closed out last season with top-25 marks in the pole vault, and have surpassed those clearances this year. Rex returns after recording a No. 35 ranking in the high jump last year.

Air Force's No. 26 ranking is the best among Mountain West programs. Defending conference champion New Mexico is ranked 27th, while Colorado State (74th), Utah State (94th) and Wyoming (108th) are also listed in the preseason projections.

In all, 148 teams were ranked from a Division I field featuring more than 270 men's programs.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Air Force falls to UC Santa Barbara, Falcons 14-5 in dual meets this season

By Athletic Communications

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — The UC Santa Barbara men's swimming team defeated Air Force, 138-121, in a dual meet in Santa Barbara, Calif., Jan. 3.

The Falcons are 14-5 in dual meets this season.

The 200-yard medley relay team of Devon Davis, Michal Barnosky, Ryan Dunne and George Frank won with a time of 1:32.97.

The 400-yard free relay team of Dunne, Jordan Dahle, Michael Hannigan and Frank won with a time of 3:02.98.

Junior Kevin Jackson won a pair of events, the 1000 freestyle (9:37.23) and the 500 free (4:38.74). Dunne won the 50 free (21.10), while Dahle won the 100 free (46.26) and Frank was second (46.32).

Several Falcons earned second-place finishes: Dahle in the 200 free (1:43.77), Davis in the 100 backstroke (51.30), Barnosky in the 100 breaststroke (56.52), Kris Tillery in the 200 backstroke (1:52.94) and Jackson in the 400 IM (4:14.54).

Air Force returns to action with a pair of home meets, Jan. 16-17 when the Falcons host Seattle.



Air Force Junior Kevin Jackson won a pair of events, the 1000 freestyle (9:37.23) and the 500 free at a dual meet at UC Santa Barbara Jan. 3.

U.S. AIR FORCE
FILE PHOTO

BASKETBALL

Air Force over San Jose State, 78-56

U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

Air Force beat San Jose State in a 78-56 victory Wednesday in its first Mountain West Conference win this season.

Air Force (8-6, 1-2) ended the opening half of the game with 12 points, leading 37-26. The Falcons led by 15 with 8:02 left on the clock in the second half, holding San Jose State without a basket shot or scored at 4:19. By 4:16, the Falcons had a 23-point advantage.

Air Force also led in assists (23-11) and rebounds (32-22), ending by shooting 61.1 percent (33 of 54) from the floor.

Marek Olesinski scored 16 points, while Hayden Graham contributed 14 and Max Yon added 13.

Rashad Muhammad scored 26 points on 10-of-18 shooting – with 6 of 12 from 3-point range. Darryl Gaynor II gained 11 points for the Spartans (2-13, 0-3).



MIKE KAPLAN

Sophomore Hayden Graham blocks a shot by San Jose State's Jaleel Williams during Wednesday's game at Clune Arena. Graham had 14 points in the win.

WRESTLING

Falcons to take part in Borah Duals in Gunnison

Athletic Communications

Air Force Wrestling returns to dual action Saturday in the 25th-annual Tracy Borah Duals, hosted by Western State Colorado, where they take on the host Mountaineers, along with CSU-Pueblo and Cal Baptist.

Previously, Air Force placed 29th at the 52nd annual Ken Kraft Midlands Championships, hosted by Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Junior Scott Reilly (174), freshman Sam Kreimier (157), junior Konner Witt (184) and senior Carter McElhany (141) earned a pair of wins each.

The Falcons have a pair of wrestlers currently ranked by numerous wrestling publications.

Junior Josh Martinez, a two-time NCAA qualifier, is ranked seventh by Wrestling Report, eighth by Open Mat, ninth by InterMat and 14th by W.I.N. Magazine at 125 pounds.

Senior Jesse Stafford is rated 17th in the nation at 165 pounds by Open Mat, and 19th by InterMat and W.I.N. Magazine and 21st by Wrestling Report. on Jan. 16 and Stanford for a nationally televised dual Jan. 18.

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App

From Page 1

along with their GPS location.

"It's important because people should have every tool available to them to keep them safe," said 2nd Lt. Tobiah Kroskob, a Culture, Climate, and Diversity Projects staff member here. "It's a really quick and easy way to communicate with the people you trust, should you find yourself in a potentially dangerous situation such as sexual assault or feeling uncomfortable by yourself."

The app is free to the general public and available for Apple and Android users to download.

"Cadets have their phones on them all the time and the app is user friendly," said Cadet 1st Class Avery Larkin, Personal Ethics and Education representative here. "This app is another avenue to communicate. If you're feeling unsafe you can simply press the circle."

"A lot of cadets are good about using the buddy system and don't go out alone," she said. "Even so, I'd rather have the app and not need it than need it and not have it."

Circle of 6 was created during the White House "Apps Against Abuse" challenge. In November, the Cadet Wing along with PEERs here participated in the "It's On Us" campaign, a White House initiative against sexual assault. All cadet squadrons were briefed on the campaign and app. U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School cadet-candidates will be briefed this month.

"It's so simple," said Cadet 1st Class Lauryn Van Valkenburg, a PEER representative here. "It takes two taps on your phone to communicate to a friend that you need help. You don't have to text a full sentence or contact multiple people because the app does it for you."

The app also gives users access to the national sexual assault hotline, the campus anti-violence support center (put in by the user) and links to information on healthy relationships.

"It's an easy way to increase cadets' awareness and open dialogue," Larkin said.

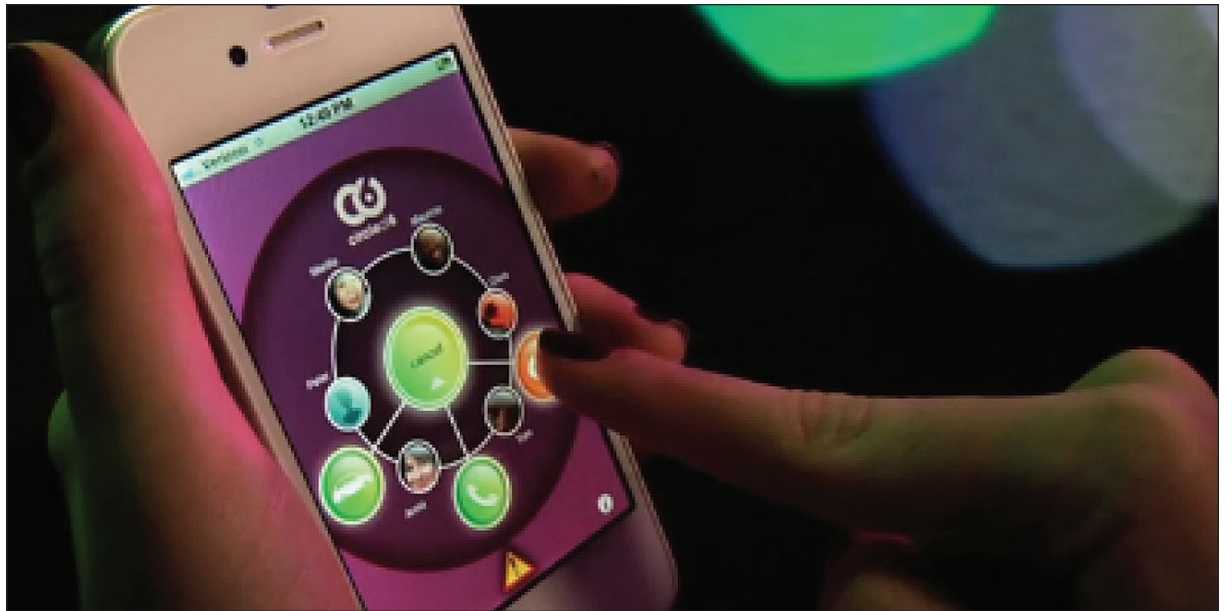


AMBER BAILLIE

Cadet 1st Class Lauryn Van Valkenburg is a PEER representative at the Academy.

"It's so simple. It takes two taps on your phone to communicate to a friend that you need help. You don't have to text a full sentence or contact multiple people because the app does it for you."

Cadet 1st Class
Lauryn Van Valkenburg



CIRCLE OF 6

The Circle of 6 app for iPhone and Android makes it quick and easy to reach friends.

Instagram photo of the week



User @jlowell20 shared this Instagram of sunset on the the Academy. We look forward to highlighting your Instagram photos in upcoming editions of the **Academy Spirit**. If you would like to have a photo published, upload it to Instagram using **#YourAcademy**.

@JLOWELL20

Athletic Director

From Page 1

Cornell University.

"He will balance the demands of the NCAA business with our absolute necessity to win with character," General Johnson said. "He brings a fresh perspective but knows the importance of athletics to all of our cadets, not just intercollegiate cadet athletes. I am confident he will set a culture and climate aligned with our core values. I look forward to him joining our team."

Knowlton said he is "incredibly excited" about being tentatively named the Academy's athletic director.

"I want to thank Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson and the search committee for their invitation to join the Academy family, and I am eager to work with the Falcon cadet athletes, coaches and staff. My family and I are very much looking forward to what lies ahead."

At RPI, Knowlton oversaw 23 intercollegiate NCAA teams, most of which play in Division III, involving 550 student athletes. During the 2012-2013 academic year, athletic teams at RPI averaged GPAs higher than 3.0, and many of the teams had winning records, according to the school's website, www.rpi-athletics.com.

"This is an excellent example of a leader who has grown, through his Rensselaer experience, to take on an important role at another noteworthy institution of higher education," RPI President Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson said. "Jim has created a culture of leadership and success in athletics that is centered around excellence in the classroom and on the 'field of friendly strife.'"



Religious events

Christian: Baptism of Jesus, Sunday – Commemoration of Jesus' baptism and the beginning of his public ministry. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan. 18-25 – This observance is marked with prayer for the restoration of unity among the churches of faith. Conversion of St Paul, Jan 25 – The observance of Saint Paul's confrontation by a vision of Jesus while on his way to persecute Christians. Saint Paul became a leading presenter of Jesus. This event will be observed at worship services.

Bahai: World Religion Day, Jan. 18 – The Baha'i community dedicates this day to the unity and oneness of all world religions.

Ethiopian Orthodox Christian: Timkat, Jan. 19 – The Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Epiphany celebration of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River.

Hindu: Makar Sankrant, Wednesday – Makar Sankrant is one of the most important festivals of the Hindu calendar and celebrates the sun's journey into the northern hemisphere. Hindus often observe this celebration by flying kites, feeding the poor and offering libations to the dead. **Vasant Panchami, Jan 24** – This Hindu celebration dedicated to Saraswati, the goddess

of learning.

Jewish: Tu B'shvat, Thursday through Friday – Tu B'Shevat is an agricultural holiday centered around trees. It is known as the "birthday of the trees" since the trees in Israel bloom at this time. It's traditional to plant a tree during this holiday. A popular celebration consists of a roundtable worship service, called a "Tu B'shvat seder," providing symbolic food and drink items such as wine, various nuts, and fruits.

Sikh: Maghi, Tuesday – The Sikh commemoration of a battle in which 40 Sikhs died for Guru Gobindh Singh Ji.

Access to medical care in weather events

The clinics and hospitals at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Peterson Air Force Base and Fort Carson are part of the Colorado Springs Medical Health System, referred to as the "market."

From a centralized location at the health systems' offices, the Patient Appointing Services call center books appointments and handles calls for more than 172,000 beneficiaries through the market's 524-CARE line.

The call center operates under adverse or inclement weather conditions. In the event of a medical facility or base closure, call-center personnel will contact patients to cancel and re-schedule appointments. If the call center closes, a message on the appointment line will provide instructions on how to make an appointment or contact a provider. Patients should call the appointment line during bad weather to confirm if a facility is open to avoid an unnecessary trip.

If a medical facility in the market closes due to weather conditions or otherwise, patients can speak with a nurse from the national Nurse Advice Line by calling 524-CARE, option 2, or with the on-call provider using option 4.

MLK observance volunteers needed

The 10th Air Base Wing Martin Luther King Jr. Special Observance Committee needs volunteers to assist with a community service project in honor of the civil rights leader's birthday.

The theme of the event is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A day on, not a day off."

The committee will work with a local organization, 8 a.m.-noon, Jan. 19, at the Winter Warming Shelter, at 505 S. Weber Street.

Volunteers need to be 13 or older.

Call 333-5171 for more information or to volunteer.

10th FSS events

SnoFest: Jan. 23-25. Lodging: Visit www.mysnofest.com for lodging rates. Call 1-800-258-0437 to make a reservation. Give the group code "GC8PTC" and base affiliation for your Snofest rate. Lift tickets: Purchase discounted lift tickets at the Community Center Outdoor Rec Center. Adults are \$64, Academy cadets, Prep School cadet candidates and airmen through senior airmen are \$54. Children five through 12 are \$40.

Air Force Worldwide Bowling: Children can win a bowling ball and bowling bag by bringing family and friends to bowl.

Visit www.usafbowltowin.com for more information.

Free youth clubs: Academy children can join various youth clubs to gain leadership and service experience. The Torch Club is for children 9-13 and meets Wednesdays, 4 p.m.; The Keystone Club is for teenagers 14-18 and meets Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Youth Employment Skills: This program teaches high school students who are active duty dependents work skills.

Enrolled high school students can bank volunteer dollar credits toward their post-secondary education or training at \$4 an hour. Volunteer work must be on base. Students may accumulate up to 250 hours or \$1,000 during four years of high school.

Smokey Joe's Café: Today, 7:30 p.m. See the longest-running musical revue in Broadway history at the Academy. Call 333-4497 for more information.

Martin Luther King Jr Dodge Ball Tournament: Saturday, 9 a.m. at the Fitness Center. Teams of eight compete in a double elimination. Prizes awarded. Call 333-4522 for more information.

Ski trips: Monarch, Saturday and Sunday; A-Basin Saturday; and Breckenridge and Keystone Saturday. Call 333-4475 for more information.

Celestial Seasonings and Butterfly Pavilion Trip: Sunday. A \$39 fee includes transportation, entry fees and tours. Call 333-4475 for more information.



Cadet Chapel

BUDDHIST

Service: Sunday, 10 a.m.
Meditation: Thursday, 6:20 p.m.

PROTESTANT

Traditional, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary, Sunday, 11 a.m.

CATHOLIC

Mass: Sunday, 10 a.m.
Daily Mass: Mon. - Thurs., 5:30 p.m.
Confession: Sunday, 9 a.m.
Adoration Confession, Wednesday, 4:30-5:20 p.m.

JEWISH

Shabbat, 7 pm., Kiddush dinner, 7:45 p.m.

MUSLIM

Jumah Prayers, Friday, 12:30 p.m.

Community Center Chapel

CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass: Saturday, 4 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m. Tuesday - Friday, 11:30 a.m.

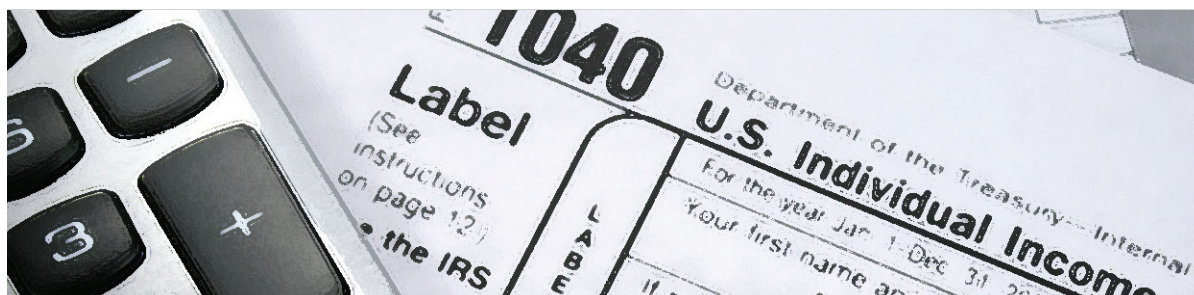
Reconciliation: Saturday, 3 p.m.

Formation Classes: For students in grades K-8. Sunday, 10:15-11:30 a.m., September-May.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Religious Education: Sunday, 9 a.m., pre-school through adults.



Free tax preparation services announced

The U.S. Air Force Academy Tax Center will offer free tax preparation services Feb. 2 - April 15.

Tax returns will be prepared by appointment only 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

This free service is open to active duty Academy service members (enlisted and officers 0-3 and below), their dependents, Academy cadets, and retirees, if space is available.

The Tax Center will only be able to process your return if your gross income is less than \$100,000, you do not have more than one rental property and you do not own a business.

Military members and families exceeding the eligibility limits, or otherwise unable to visit the Tax Center, are encouraged to visit their local Exchange for free or discounted services or to use the free Military OneSource online tax preparation service at www.militaryonesourceeap.org. Fort Carson's Tax Center may also be able to assist and can be reached at (719) 524-1013.

Clients need to bring the following documents for their tax appointment: military or dependent IDs; copy of 2014 tax return; W-2s, 1099s, and 1098s; Social Security cards for the service member and all

dependents; birth dates for the service member and all dependents; copies of court orders for divorce, child custody, and child support and Form 8332 if post-2008 divorce; and a blank or cancelled check. Documentation of the following is needed, if applicable: childcare costs; IRA contributions; stock, bond, or mutual fund sales, brokerage statements; alimony paid or received; bank account and routing numbers in order to receive a refund by direct deposit; Power of Attorney if signing a tax return for a deployed service member; and list of charitable donations, copies of all automobile registrations for all owned automobiles. Depending on their personal situation, individuals may need additional documents to complete the return.

To allow for efficient processing of simple returns, the USAFA Tax Center asks service members who have complicated taxes, multiple dependents, or other multiple deductions, to wait until the last week of February to make appointments.

The USAFA Tax Center is located near the South Gate, at the 10th ABW/HQ Building, 8034 Edgerton Drive, Suite 237. Appointments can be made at 333-3920 starting Jan. 26.



PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

Call: 444-SELL Fax: 719-636-0122 Email: mary.heifner@gazette.com Mail: Classifieds, 30 E. Pikes Peak Ave. Ste 100, CS, CO 80903

Classifieds

Deadline: Tuesdays at 5 p.m. Rates vary contact us for details.

FREE ADS FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED AIR FORCE ACADEMY PERSONNEL!

Name: Address: City: State: Zip: Phone: Grade: Unit: Signature:

My signature certifies that this advertisement is for the purpose of selling my personal property as a convenience to me or my dependents...

Free ads in accordance with military regulations must be non-commercial and for personal property offered by active-duty and retired military personnel...

Table with 10 columns and 3 rows for Ad Category.

Merchandise TANNER GUN SHOW PUEBLO STATE FAIR- GROUNDS January 10th, 11th; SAT. 9-5; SUN. 9-4

WANTING TO BUY small compact wood burning stove or heater. Please call: 719-598-2649

Pets Kittens Two Yellow One Black and White One Tiger Stripe Grey \$20 each

AKC F Yellow Lab Puppies \$450/ea. Born on 9/26/14, Penrose CO. (719)372-3875

BOXER PUPPY male fawn, AKC reg. 1st shots & wormed. Ready to go! Call: 785-821-4234

CAIRN TERRIER PUP, 8 week old female, APRI reg., 2-shots, \$350. Adorable! (719)232-4438

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel pups- ready now, shots, wormed, dews, w/supplies, AKR family raised. \$850. 719-964-6075

New Today! MINI DACHSHUND 2 piebald males 5 1/2 mos \$400. 1 chocolate/tan female 2mos \$600

Pomeranian Puppies 5 months old-all shots Brother & Sister Loves Kids \$800 Each (719) 598-1534

Schnauzer AKC male, 16wks \$475 (719)342-0057

LOST DOG \$\$\$REWARD\$\$\$ Missing in the Gold Camp area near Gold Camp Elementary School area. Please call to reunite our family 719-338-4361

New Today! Whoodles M.F \$1200 (785)764-3798

New Today! Whoodles M.F \$1200 (785)764-3798

-YORKIE PUPPIES- Tiny, baby doll face, pad trained, shots. AKC Registered. (719) 306-9607

Services & Announcements

HEALTHCARE MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR The Center at Cordera, an 80 bed Skilled Nursing Facility, is looking for a FT Maintenance Director.

EDUCATION EC BOCES is seeking a Special Education Teacher Current CDE license Severe Cognitive or Generalist preferred.

BANKING Ent Lending Specialist - Sales Ent FCU is inviting career minded sales professionals with Consumer loan origination experience to apply for Consumer Lending Specialist sales positions.

Printer Repair LaserPro II now JetEx 17 N. Circle Drive (719)578-5533 HARDWOOD FLOORING SPECIALISTS

Publisher's Notice Please check your ad the first day it appears and notify The Gazette immediately of any errors.

FREE FOOD! Live cooking show at your place! You do the inviting-we provide the food, cooking and clean up.

Employment

EDUCATION Program Coordinator Upward Bound Program Encourages/motivates/assists disadvantaged students to graduate high school and enroll into college.

Call to subscribe 1-866-632-NEWS

When you receive your PCS the clock starts. You need to move soon and sell your current house even sooner.

Linda Lafferty CRS, MRE, CNE, ABR, GRI, MRP, Broker, Member of Co Spgs Member of Peak Producers 719.955.8590

TECHNICAL Certified A Water Treatment Plant Operator The Board of Water Works of Pueblo, Colorado has an opening for a Certified A Treating Operator

Salary range \$51,732.00/year to \$69,841.00/year plus a comprehensive benefit package to include medical, dental, life and disability insurance.

Minimum requirements include a high school diploma or GED equivalent, Colorado Class "R" Driver's License or equivalent, excellent math and diagnostic skills to detect and evaluate critical situations.

Work is performed primarily in an indoor environment and occasionally in an outdoor environment. Position may be exposed to adverse weather conditions, confined spaces, noise and traffic hazards.

MAINTENANCE Cheyenne Mountain District 12 Now Hiring: Night Custodian Supervisor Cheyenne Mountain High School \$15.15 - \$16.73 Depending on experience

HEALTHCARE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER The CMO provides health care expertise and management oversight for Clinical Services providers within the DOC.

Candidates must have a current Colorado medical license, be board certified or eligible in Family Practice, Internal Medicine, or Emergency Medicine. CHIEF OF CLINICAL OPERATIONS

The CCO provides management oversight for Clinical Services for the DOC. The CCO monitors and directs the operations of Clinical Services for all facilities throughout the state of Colorado.

GENERAL Andrae Michaels Portrait Company is now hiring for: Pre-Registration \$35K-\$55K Traveling Sales Positions \$32K-\$65K Traveling Photographer \$26K-\$60K

To place your ad call: 719-444-SELL

Now Hiring IMMEDIATE PT/FT DRIVING INSTRUCTOR Teach Teens Safety Clean DMV Required Will Train! Send resume to: driveguy1@msn.com

MAINTENANCE CUSTODIAN FT K-6 School Custodian. Send resume to: smithd@jmcacolorado.net NO CALLS. EOE

TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS WANTED Looking for self motivated Drivers for the Towing Industry. Train for your own business partnership.

TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS WANTED Looking for self motivated Drivers for the Towing Industry. Train for your own business partnership.

Real Estate For Sale N/E Custom Home Community \$519,800+ Stucco/Ranch Walk Out*Exceptional Views of PP & GOG*Cherry Cabs.

N/W Mtn Shadows \$389,900 Stucco W/O on Cul De Sac w/ Peak & Mtn Views*Extensive HW Flooring*9 ft Ceilings Main & Bsmnt*Oversized Garage*Walk to Schools & Park*4Br's

Rentals WOODMOOR, TRUE COLORADO HOME! 3br/2.5ba, 3451 sf (WOW!) Updated, views, trees - must see! \$1900/m, 481-8129

PINE CLIFF: House for Rent. Backs to Ute Valley Park! 5-bedroom, 4-bath, 2-car garage \$2300. Call 303-947-0390

Vehicles FORD 1997 E150 luxury pkg, seats 7. Runs good. V8. \$3000obo. 719-367-6459

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