Enlisted bestow
highest honor
on Academy
superintendent

By Gino Mattorano
Academy Spirit editor


The award, established by Military Airlift Command’s enlisted corps in 1967, is presented to individuals whom the NCO corps wishes to honor.

According to the Order of the Sword manual, the sword is a symbol of truth, justice and power rightfully employed, and serves as a token for all to see and know that here is a leader among leaders, an Airman among Airmen.

Inducting a senior leader into the Order of the Sword is the highest recognition enlisted Airmen can bestow on a leader, said Chief Master Sgt. Todd Salzman, the Academy’s command chief.

Gould was truly honored as he accepted the award from the enlisted members who attended the ceremony.

“I can’t thank you enough,” he said. “It’s through the hard work and dedication of so many Airmen that brings us together like this. As I think back over my time, every sortie I’ve ever flown, every paycheck any of us has ever cashed, every meal we’ve had in a dining hall, every hospital appointment, every telephone call we’ve ever made, every computer problem we ever needed solved, and every trip through the gate, we have an Airman to thank.” Gould continued his praise for the enlisted corps and spoke of their contributions to the Air Force mission.

“Our enlisted core has rocked for many, many years and they continue to do so every single day,” Gould said. “Everything we do here at the Air Force Academy to develop our cadets into leaders to go out and lead our country happens because of you. We simply could not do our mission without the work you do. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

Gould also challenged the enlisted corps to continue their proud contributions to the Academy mission.

“I would just ask that as you think about the vision that we have here at the Academy of creating this sense of fanatical pride in this institution, that you all would take pride in knowing that each one of you, in your organization and as team members have made a difference,” Gould said. “You’ve made a difference in the lives of cadets, which makes a difference in the future of our Air Force, which makes all the world of difference for the security of our nation. Thank you for this honor, for your dedication, for your integrity, service and excellence. God Bless you all.”

Salzman concluded the ceremony by thanking all the Airmen, NCOs, senior NCOs and retirees who attended and thanked them for being a part of the Order of the Sword ceremony.

“Be proud of who you are, of the stripes that you wear, and be proud of the creed that you follow and the commitment that you carry,” Salzman said. “I am proud of each and every one of you.”

Gould is the 234th recipient of the Order of the Sword, according to the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute at Maxwell Air Force Base-Gunter Annex, Ala., and Air Force reports.

306th FTG unveils new sailplane landing area

By Don Braum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Officials with the 306th Flying Training Group here unveiled a vast sailplane landing area made from artificial turf in a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday.

High winds cut the outdoor portion of the ceremony short but did not dampen officials’ enthusiasm as they applauded the completion of the ceremony short but did not dampen officials’ enthusiasm.

Lt. Col. Brad Roller, 94th Flying Training Squadron commander, outlined the reasons why the $3.6 million proving landing surface, the new glider fleet would be prime causes of material failure in our new fiberglass and carbon-fiber gliders,” Mulligan said. “The aviation turf is a state-of-the-art surface material that reduces the wear and tear from vibration during landing.”

The Engineering Mechanics Department and the Center for Aircraft Structural Life Extension performed a study on the sailplane landing area a few years back, said Scott Bowshot, a civil engineer with the Academy’s 10th Civil Engineer Squadron. The purchase of 22 TFG-16 gliders in 2011 triggered the turf project.

“The findings in the report directly attributed overstress and fatigue on the sailplanes due to the native vegetation in the (landing area),” Bowshot said. “If the Air Force did not invest in an improved landing surface, the new glider fleet would not have been able to land safely.”
Empowered Women Unite and Inspire

By Cadet 2nd Class Casey Hill, Cadet Squadron 36, and Cadet 2nd Class Amanda Rodriguez, Cadet Squadron 06

Over the past few days we were given the unique opportunity to meet more than 1,700 women in uniform from across the United States and around the world. We were granted the opportunity to network with so many great military members across all services and ranks.

No longer are women sitting on the sideline

By Cadet 2nd Class Joy Johnson

When I think about Women’s History Month, the first three words that pop into my mind are perseverance, power, and pure beauty. From the beginning of time, women have always played a dynamic role in shaping the world.

Native American women were builders, warriors, farmers, and craftswomen who were just as equipped and skilled as the men. Women from all races filled more traditional roles as child bearers and taking care of household duties, which were just as important to shaping the future generations to come.

No matter what race or culture, all roles were essential to creating women like Elizabeth Cadet Stanton. She was the daughter of a New York Supreme Court Judge and studied the law and its discrimination toward women. Cadet Stanton later married Henry Stanton, a lawyer and abolitionist, and insisted that the word “obey” be dropped from the wedding ceremony.

Her most memorable contribution was being one of the American leaders who organized the first demand for women’s suffrage in 1848. It wasn’t until almost a hundred years later when women’s rights were finally granted in full after the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920.

Recently, I was told by an older man that working mothers are the most depressed women in America. He explained that having equal rights added on more responsibility to women because now women have the duties of home and work. I wanted to tell him that times have changed and since women are equal, are the home duties?

Since the 1920s, women in America have taken a stand to rise into power. No longer did Rosa Parks give up her seat on public transportation because of the color of her skin. Poet Maya Angelou pursued her passion and wrote the most inspiring poem that created an anthem for all female readers, “Phenomenal Woman, that’s me.” Oprah Winfrey would have never imagined that her talk show would make her one of the richest women in the world.

Hilary Clinton is most inspiring for not wanting to stay in the shadow of her very successful husband. Even though she did not win the presidential elections in 2008, she is well respected for her determination to break the norm and make a difference in this world to create a path for future generations of women.

On these women’s shoulders, is where I and others in my generation stand. The amazing part is that today’s women are educated, personable, and beautiful! Nothing is impossible.

Today’s women are mothers, sisters, aunts, doctors, and innovators.

The opportunity I have been given here at the Academy has truly made me believe that nothing is impossible and the world is ours for the taking. In return, I would like to think of my shoulders as a stepping stool for the next generation's to come.

A beautiful quote by Mahatma Gandhi states that you have to be the change you wish to see in the world. So with every decision I make pertaining to my future, I strive to break the norm like Hilary Clinton, inspire people like Maya Angelou, or refuse to give up on any other girl just like me because the color of my skin like Rosa Parks. I know where I stand and it’s on the shoulder of all the women full of perseverance, power, and pure beauty!
Cadets win business competition with mechanical hand device

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff

Four cadets from the Academy took first place at the Camino Real Venture Competition March 9-11 at the University of Texas at El Paso. A team from the Systems Research and Development Management class defeated nine other teams from Colorado, Texas, New Mexico and Mexico with their Exogrip venture plan at the international business plan competition.

The competition featured two teams from the Academy. The competition required each team to include a graduate student but because the Academy doesn’t offer a graduate program, they received a special exemption.

“It’s a great accomplishment; they were competing against graduate students,” said Lt. Col. Chuck Murnik, assistant professor for the Management Department and adviser for the projects. “I think it was a fantastic experience for cadets because it highlights the details needed to bring a program to life and what it’s like to work in the real world.”

Exogrip is a portable, mechanical exoskeleton device for the hand that was developed by cadets and the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Engineering Mechanics. DFECE and DFEM worked with the non-profit organization FalconWorks to create a device that could help wounded veterans, or any individual, who had lost grip strength in their hands as a result of injury. The device is a powered exoskeleton that fits like a glove and uses sensors and cables to close or extend an individual’s hand.

“It could help a lot of people, it’d be great therapy for those who use it and it’s a neat technological advancement,” said Cadet 1st Class Kira Gonzalez, Exogrip team member.

The team created an 18-page business plan for the product that was developed through the Cooperative Research and Development Agreement between FalconWorks and the Academy. The Electrical Engineering Department developed the prototype. Capt. Willie Mims was the officer in charge of the team.

“The Exogrip is a significant invention because it is a device that could help around two million people in the U.S.,” said Cadet 1st Class Nathan Timsuren, Exogrip team member. “The census also states that about 7.1 million people had difficulty grasping objects like a drinking glass, and this product can help those people with everyday tasks.”

Cadets participated in a series of briefings in front of judge panels that consisted of venture capitalists, business professionals, patent lawyers and academics. DFEC and DFEM worked with professionals, patent lawyers and faculty at UTEP Cadet 1st Class Matt Keough was on the team that proposed a Mini-Ram product, a small, portable battering ram to increase efficiency and safety of breaching operations for law enforcement professionals.

“It was the first time that I was really nervous in front of people,” Keough said. “I thought it was good experience because it was nice to get feedback from professionals, and it gave us good insight into what the business world actually involves and what an investor is attracted to.”

Teams started preparation for their projects in August and conducted feasibility studies to come up with ideas that could lead to a business. It forced cadets to do extensive research and validate assumptions,” said Timsuren. “We did a preliminary analysis of the projects, with 30 business plans to begin with, nine were selected to go forward and two were chosen for the external competition.”

The Exogrip team received a $3,000 first prize.

“Some of the judges came up to us and told us that we knocked it out of the park,” Timsuren said. “I learned that hard work pays off in the end and hope to see Exogrip enter the market soon so that it can help restore the quality of life to those who can use this product.”

Cadets awarded first place for their Exogrip business plan: Cadet 1st Class Michael Oakley of Cadet Squadron 30; Kira Gonzalez of CS 38; El- lisa Claggett of CS 39; Nathan (Nate) Timsuren of CS 36.

*Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. $500 cash rebate is available only to active, active reserve or retired U.S. Military personnel. Active duty/retired status must be verified with a valid U.S. Military I.D. Eligible customers must take delivery of a new 2011 or 2012 Mitsubishi within the program period. 2012 Mitsubishi i is excluded from this program. Offer valid from 2/1/12 to 4/2/12. Limit one vehicle per qualifying customer. See your participating dealer for program details.
Sailplanes

From Page 1

be subject to a premature service life expectancy. The new gliders are fiberglass, which is much more expensive and timely to repair versus the metal TG-10 gliders. While the sailplane landing area’s turf looks similar to what’s installed in Falcon Stadium, the surface beneath the faux grass does not give. The texture is closer to the concrete runways on the airfield than a grass field. That, Plamp said, is one of its advantages.

“There’s no backing, so snow and rain melts just like it would through grass,” he said. “It should last decades.” Another advantage is that the turf requires almost no upkeep, Bowshot said.
The cost to install sod with irrigation would have been more expensive over the life cycle versus installing artificial turf,” he said. “The synthetic turf is virtually maintenance-free, with only the requirement of an herbicide application in the spring to keep weeds from germinating.”

The new landing area will support more than 17,000 sorties per year during its projected 25-year lifespan. Planning for the project began in 2006, with 1½ years spent on design and six months spent on construction. Plamp credited the 10th Civil Engineer and 10th Contracting squadrons as well as Bowshot and the contractor, Toltest Inc., for making the landing area possible.

Sailplanes

In memory of Rachael Newton.

By Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

An NCO who founded a charity in his daughter’s memory has invited the local community to help raise money to research a cure for brain cancer.

Tech. Sgt. Brett Newton’s non-profit Rachael’s Ribbons of Hope organization will hold its annual Running for Rachael Brain Booster 5k at the Cadet Field House March 31, with registration and check-in beginning at 9 a.m. and the race starting at 10 a.m.

Newton, who is currently assigned to the 10th Medical Support Squadron as the NCO in charge of medical information technology assets, started the charity after his daughter, Rachael Newton, died from a brain tumor in November 2007.

“My daughter actually started this before she passed away,” said Newton, a native of Aitkin, Minn., who joined the Air Force in 2000. “She started making earnings and selling them at a friend’s business and gave the money to her doctors so other kids wouldn’t have to go through what she was going through.”

After Rachael died, Newton said he and his wife, Lynette, wanted to expand on Rachael’s vision.

“We decided to try and make it a little bigger, a little better,” he said.

Friends and neighbors signed up to help. Melissa Barczik, a neighbor of the Newtons while they were stationed at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., met Rachael in 2005.

“She was a great kid,” said Barczik, who is now the charity’s treasurer. “She took everything in stride. She always had a bug for you when she saw you. She always had a smile.”

The charity held its first Run for Rachael in March 2008. Barczik said it has raised $15,000 for brain cancer research since its founding.

“It grows more and more every year,” she said. We were really surprised how well we did (in 2008) with the first run. … We’ve added more activities throughout the years and become more involved with the community, more established with local businesses and local groups in town.”

“Everything is donated,” Barczik said. “It comes from various local businesses as well as some big names. Usually, local restaurants donate free meals and things of that nature. There have been times when we’ve had some vendors there, and runners who own businesses will donate. It’s a great feeling to get that support from the community.”

The race is always scheduled for the last Saturday in March, in memory of Rachael’s death and in hopes of getting good spring weather, Newton said.

“We don’t consider it just a run, we consider it more of an event because of the atmosphere we have surrounding it: the prizes we give away and the lighthearted feeling,” Barczik said. “It’s not just, ‘Come, run and go home.’ We want people to hang around and enjoy themselves.”

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Volz is the youngest person to work in the Life Sciences Research Center here, having started in December at 15 years old. Through the cooperative research and development agreement, Volz can work with researchers, use specialized equipment and test her research for the next three years. "It's a benefit to the Air Force because she's doing Air Force-related work for us," said Dr. Donald Ververka, director of the Life Sciences Research Center. "The other part of this is the science, technology, engineering and mathematics aspect; it's a great opportunity for us to give young people exposure doing science and more specifically, research."

Volz works with advanced equipment for the algae, such as a cleaning station, to prevent bacteria or contamination as well as a centrifuge to skim down samples. Because algae has a slimy texture, the centrifuge runs at a high speed to force samples of algae out as a solid. It's almost a peanut butter paste so that we can do further experiments on it," Ververka said. Volz said that her biggest challenge is the science, technology, engineering and mathematics aspect; it's a great opportunity for us to give young people exposure doing science and more specifically, research."

Volz conducts manipulations of particular algae called, nanochloropsis salina. Her experiments aim to find factors that will cause the algae to produce more oil for biofuel. "The overall goal is to increase oil use, so that the oil can be used to make biofuel," Volz said. "You've probably heard biofuel being made from things like soybeans or corn, but algae can grow more densely and have a much higher oil dosage. It's a better choice in the long-term but still needs a lot of development before it can really work."

Volz worked on her experiments at home until she met Ron Furstenteu, from the Chemistry Department, who introduced Volz to Ververka. Through sponsored programs, the CRADA was set up for Volz to use the laboratory here. "There's probably been a local agreement with other high schools, but not like this," Ververka said. "It's different because as you can appreciate, there are different angles in which, if she comes up with a brilliant idea, she's on Air Force property and using Air Force facilities."

Volz said she is grateful that Sara can do things at the Academy that otherwise wouldn't be possible. "She has spent several years trying to get somebody to let her do the work that she wants to do," said Volz. "She's only 16, but she's been begging for this opportunity for a long time."

Pattye said she appreciates that the staff can help guide Sara but not do the work for her. "She's worked hard, and she loves the research," Volz said. "Having such a deep interest and keeping her mind engaged has been good for her."

Sara plans to continue research on bio energy and will conduct research for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for six weeks in December.
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*While Supplies Last
By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff writer

Fourth-class cadets put their mind, body and teamwork skills to the final test last week for this year’s Recognition training event here March 15-17.

The Class of 2015 trained in the hot sun for two and a half days at the gym, practice fields and halls of their cadet squadrons to challenge their knowledge, discipline and physical fitness for Recognition, an annual event that signifies fourth-class cadets’ final training and transition to upperclassmen.

"There are a lot of things that you can get from the training," said Cadet 1st Class Cody Main of Cadet Squadron 36. "You get respect, the feeling that you come out recognized and that upperclassmen respect you. You get perseverance when you look back and think, "Wow, I did this..."

"You get respect, the feeling that you come out recognized and that upperclassmen respect you. You get perseverance when you look back and think, "Wow, I did this," and pride knowing that you were taking on the hardest part of the Academy and conquering it," said Cadet 2nd Class Gregory Kidd of CS 38.

"The leadership reaction course is based on team building and critical thinking, which is primarily what the training is about, not so much the push-ups or mental and physical fortitude," said Cadet 4th Class Henry Tirado of CS 35.

"The Squadron chiefs of safety and security and squadron emergency medical technicians ensured that exercises were conducted in a safe and productive manner.

"This year’s Recognition looks a lot like past Recognitions, and every year, we’ll tweak it to make it better and safer," Main said. "We make it so they get more out of it." Squadrons rotated exercises and watched for the “Never Quit” attitude.

"Training today has been difficult, but I’m glad that I’m doing it because it makes me better and safer," Tirado said.

"Cadets 1st Class Cody Main, Cadet Squadron 36"
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No. 16 Air Force faces No. 1 Boston College

NCAA QUICK LOOK

- Falcons play Boston College, Saturday, March 24 at 4:05 p.m. ET
- Televised on ESPNU HD, available on DirecTV channel 208, Dish Network channel 141 and on Comcast channel 175

No. 16 Air Force (21-10-7) advances to the NCAA Tournament for the fifth time in the last six years as the Falcons won the Atlantic Hockey Association Tournament. The fourth-seeded Falcons face top-seeded Boston College, No. 1 in the nation, in the NCAA Northeast Regional at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass., on Saturday, March 24 at 4:05 p.m. ET. Boston College (29-10-1), the No. 1 overall seed in the tournament, reached the Northeast Regional by winning the Hockey East regular season and tournament titles. In the other regional semifinal, third-seed Maine (23-13-3), ranked 11th in the USCHO.com poll, faces second-seeded Minnesota-Duluth (24-9-6), ranked fifth in the nation, at 7:30 p.m. ET. The two semifinal winners meet on Sunday, March 25, at 8 p.m. in the regional final.

The Coach

Head coach Frank Serratore is in his 15th season as a collegiate head coach, has an overall record of 304-341-60 (704 games). Serratore earned his 300th career win with a 3-0 win at Robert Morris in the regular season finale. Serratore recorded his 250th win at Air Force on Feb. 17 with an 8-0 win over Mercyhurst. Serratore is the winningest coach in the 44 years of hockey at the Air Force Academy. Air Force is 1-4 all-time against the Northeast Regional runner-up. In 2009, Air Force beat No. 1 seed in the tournament, Michigan was the overall No. 4 seed, 2-0, in the NCAA East Regional in Bridgeport, Conn., and faced Yale, the No. 1 overall seed in the tournament. Sean Bertsch tied the game at 1-1 late in the second period, but Yale's Chad Ziegler score the game-winner at 3:16 of overtime.

The Series vs. Boston College

Air Force and Boston College have played five times and the Eagles have won all five meetings. Boston College is 1-0 vs. the Falcons in Massachusetts, 2-0 vs. the Falcons in Colorado and 2-0 on neutral ice. The last time the teams met was in 2007 at the Dodge Holiday Classic in Minneapolis, an 8-2 Boston College win. The teams have never met in the NCAA.
emergency care, it is recommended that you use a United Concordia network dentist. To reach a dentist after hours for an emergency call 337-262-4410. To find a dentist call the Active Duty Dental Program help line at 1-866-984-2327 (ADDP) or visit www.addp-ucci.com.

Free tax preparation available

The Academy tax center currently offers free tax preparation by appointment to cadets, service members stationed here and their spouses. Taxes will be done by appointment only. Appointments will be available 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Mondays and Fridays.

The gross income limit for eligibility is $60,000 for either an individual or joint tax return. The tax center, located in Arnold Hall, will take appointments this month. For more info, call 333-3905.

Walk 4 Life

The Fitness Center now offers “Walk 4 Life,” a low-intensity exercise program designed to improve cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and strength. The walking sessions are approximately one hour, starting at the Fitness Center. Days and times vary. To register or for more information visit the Health and Wellness Center.

Drinking water info

Through water samples taken in November and December, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment identified that the Air Force Academy drinking water did not meet a requirement “to maintain a detectable residual disinfectant in the distribution system.” Please know that this situation did not pose an emergency nor a health risk. If it had, you would have been notified immediately.

Tests taken during this same period did not indicate the presence of bacteria in the water, just that chlorine disinfectant measurements were undetectable. Corrections have been 100-percent effective as confirmed by samples taken in January and February. For more information, including frequently asked questions, visit http://fa.usaf.mil/GM/GM093.

Youth Soccer Camp

A youth soccer camp will be held April 3-5 at 7:30 p.m. on the Pine Valley Soccer Field. The cost is $40 per child. If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Center at 333-3799.

Visitor Center gift shop closed

The Visitor Center gift shop will be closed Thursday.

Interfaith challenge event

The Cadet Interfaith Council invites volunteers to join them for a service project at the Arc-Thrift Store at 7207 North Academy Boulevard in Colorado Springs March 31 from 9-11:30 a.m.

The event, which will include sorting and hanging clothing at the Arc-Thrift Store’s new location, is part of the president’s interfaith challenge and is limited to a maximum of 25 participants. Faculty, staff and permanent party may participate. To reserve a volunteer slot, contact Chaplain (Capt.) Heather Bodwell at 333-2636.

Cadet Chapel

Buddhist

Sundays, 10 a.m.

Protestant Worship

Combined Worship Service: Sundays, 9 a.m.

Catholic Worship

Mass: Sundays, 10 a.m.

Jewish Worship

Normal schedule

Fridays, 7 p.m.

Community Center Chapel

Catholic Worship

Mass: Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Fridays-Tuesdays, 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, 6:30 p.m.

Lent

Stations of the Cross and Lenten Suppers: March 9, 23, 30 at 5:30 p.m.

Lenten Community Reconciliation Service: March 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Holy Week

Catholic Vigil of Palm Sunday: March 31 at 4:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Mass: April 1 at 8:45 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service: April 1 at 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday Mass and Adora- tion: April 5 at 6:00 a.m.

Catholic Good Friday Service: April 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday-Easter Vigil and Mass Reception: April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Protestant Sunrise Service-Eisenhower Golf Course: April 8 at 6 a.m.

Catholic Mass: April 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Catholic Easter Brunch: April 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Combined Protestant Service: April 8 at 11:00 a.m.
FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012

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The Academy Spirit is distributed at no cost to the Active Duty personnel of the Air Force Academy and other personnel assigned to or visiting the Academy. The distribution area includes Air Force personnel stationed in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Newspaper is published once a week. It is intended to serve as a community newspaper and to meet the information needs of the Academy community. The Newspaper is published by the Colorado Springs Publishing Company. It is distributed in a poly-bag attached to the Colorado Springs Sun. 

THE PIONEER

The Pioneer is the official student newspaper of the United States Air Force Academy. It is published weekly and distributed on campus. The Pioneer is a student-operated newspaper that serves the needs of the Academy community by providing news, entertainment, and information. The Pioneer is distributed by the Student Newspaper Association. It is distributed in a poly-bag attached to the Colorado Springs Sun.

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Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you’re a sudoku fan! This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Solution on page 10

For advertising information, call Sara at 719-636-0130