A mission to serve
Cadets help with fire mitigation, debris removal in Mountain Shadows

A Colorado state representative, the state’s League of Women Voters president and the co-founder of a political polling firm came to the Air Force Academy on Monday to discuss the importance of women’s suffrage and the need for informed voters as election season approaches.

The panel, composed of Colorado Rep. Crisanta Duran (D-Denver), Catherine Perrone and RBI Strategies and Research’s Rick Ridder, spoke about the power of women’s votes, how to sort through biased sources of information and how to embrace political discussions without drifting into partisan political territory.

Duran, the youngest member of the Colorado State House, was elected into office in 2010 and spoke about how candidates relate to their constituents and community.

“So many times, particularly at the local level ... by getting involved with issues that affect the local community, there can be an amazing difference that you can make,” she said. “Sometimes I think people don’t realize how important it is just to show up when issues affecting the community are being discussed and having your voice heard in one way or another. One of the most important things people can do in this country is make sure that they cast their ballots, because there’s no greater power than to have a representative voice on the future of our country.”

Perrone became involved with the League after retiring from the corporate world in 2001. The League, she said, found itself without a mission after voters ratified the 19th Amendment, extending suffrage to women, on Aug. 18, 1920.

“Once it was ratified, we discovered our role was to educate 20 million women how to cast a vote,” Perrone said. “From the very get-go, we started as a non-partisan organization, and what that basically means is, we don’t endorse or oppose...
Labor Day Weekend:
Not a time to let down your guard

By Airman-to-Airman Safety Advisory Council
Air Force Safety Center

Labor Day weekend is known for fun, relaxing and spending time with family and friends. It's also the last holiday weekend of the summer. If you're like us, you want to make the most of it. But remember that your family and friends want you to be smart about everything you do. Smart planning and safety awareness are ways to prevent impatience and complacency from turning your Labor Day weekend into a disaster.

As you enjoy the remaining days of warm weather and the holiday activities, please be a good wingman, use good judgment and remember, "Safety — It's Personal." The decisions you make affect more than just you; they can also affect your family, friends and your co-workers. If you think about it, they can even affect your entire Air Force family!

We are members of the Airman-to-Airman Safety Advisory Council because we've had personal safety experiences and want you to learn from our lessons.

A2A wishes you a happy, fun and safe Labor Day weekend!

Editor's Note: This is a message from the Airman-to-Airman Safety Advisory Council members. A2A was developed to advise the Air Force Chief of Safety on ways to reach the 17-26-year-old age group. They were nominated by the major commands and take every opportunity to tell their stories as a tool in mishap prevention. Some of the stories we've received are about Heading into Labor Day weekend, and as always, thank you for all you do for our Air Force and for our Nation.

Because one lost life is too many, we urge all Airmen to look out for one another and remember that safety requires deliberate forethought.

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy issued the following message to all Air Force personnel:

As our Nation pays tribute to American workers during Labor Day weekend, we thank all Airmen for your dedicated service and hard work each and every day of the year. While many of you enjoy a well-deserved break to celebrate the last holiday of the summer season, we urge you to plan your activities with care and to make smart decisions that will keep you, your family, and your friends safe.

Safety is a concern for all of us. Sadly, more than 40 Airmen have died in off-duty mishaps this year, including 27 Airmen killed in motor vehicle accidents. Many of these tragic losses may have been preventable, the result of reckless behavior such as excessive speed, irresponsible alcohol use, failure to use proper safety gear, or inattention. Equally alarming, our Air Force family has lost 70 Airmen to suicide this year.

Our goal is to eliminate all preventable mishaps, and you can help by setting a standard of zero tolerance for reckless behavior and through awareness of subtle behavioral changes that could indicate heightened levels of stress in yourself or others. Because one lost life is too many, we urge all Airmen to look out for one another and remember that safety requires deliberate forethought.

Your family, your friends, and your fellow Airmen depend on you. Please take some time to consider safety as you enjoy Labor Day weekend, and as always, thank you for all you do for our Air Force and for our Nation.
Equality

From Page 1 candidates or political parties."

Instead, she said, the League seeks to inspire both women and men to engage with local government and to educate themselves.

"The power of the vote is awe-some," Perrone said, whispering to add emphasis to the last word. "It takes your energies and puts them in a place where other people listen. It's an encouragement of a power to participate at every level of government — from your local water board or your city council, all the way up to the president of the United States. Where else in your life can you reach so many levels so simply?"

Ridder introduced himself with humor, telling the members of the audience that they were "a little sick."

"Let me explain to you why you're sick," he said. "Normal Americans ... do not come on a Monday at noon to a room — with very little sunlight, I might add — to talk about politics. Normal Americans think about politics about 12 to 15 minutes over the course of a two-year period. That means that already we've had you for two-thirds of that allotment, and you're here for another 45 minutes, so you're going to skew everything."

Striking a more serious tone, Ridder told the audience they held a remarkable power, because 52 percent of all voters in the November presidential election will be women. That number might increase to 53 percent for the state of Colorado, he added.

"So when we talk about the women's vote, it's because you're the majority, and you have the power to a greater extent than your male counterpart across the table," he said. "It's important to take and grasp that power and take it to the next level."

"That personal touch is really making a big difference. When I ran, I knocked on so many doors; I called so many people; I had so many one-on-one conversations, because at the end of the day, that was really the most effective way to communicate why I was running for office and why I was asking for their support and their vote," Duran added.

Perrone acknowledged that filtering bias from information sources is no small task.

"It's gotten harder over the last few years, that's for sure," she said, to laughter from the audience. The League issues a pamphlet each year aimed toward sharing information about candidates running for office and about each of the state's ballot initiatives. The League contacts organizations registered with the Colorado secretary of state and asks them to provide position statements for and against each of the initiatives.

"We gather that information here at (the) League, and then we publish it," she said. "We don't edit it, but we do fact check it." While the pamphlets require several hundred man-hours of volunteer work, the League provides them at little to no cost. Audio and interactive versions of the pamphlets are available on the League's website at www.vote411.org.

Campaign activity at military installations usually not allowed

Guidance that addresses requests by campaign organizations to use military installations is issued by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. This guidance requires that all inquiries from campaign organizations be forwarded to a public affairs officer for review.

Requests for access to a military installation by candidates for elected office are generally denied. However, requests by candidates and elected officials to participate in official activities not related to a political campaign may be allowed after review by legal and public affairs personnel.

Equality

From Page 3
bie Southee, an employee with the 10th Force Support Squadron’s Cadet Support Flight, asked for “leverage” to help convince her nieces and nephews living in upstate New York to exercise their rights.

“I cannot get them interested whatsoever,” said Southee, a naturalized U.S. citizen. “Their parents have not voted; their grandparents have not voted. Give me three top reasons why a 21-year-old needs to vote.”

Duran said funding for education is a topic of contention between the candidates representing the two major parties that might get the nieces’ and nephews’ attention. Another, she added, is whether the country will continue to provide opportunities for the next generation.

“The final question for the panel centered on how service members can discuss their views on issues and candidates without straying into partisan political territory. Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Aug. 22 that partisan political statements by service members can erode public trust.”

Air Force Instruction 51-902, “Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force,” limits how service members may participate in the political arena. The Hatch Act, which is detailed at http://www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm, outlines what activities are allowed or prohibited for civilian employees.

“One of the great things about the military is that there’s a history and tradition of being engaged but not partisan,” Ridder said. “It’s difficult, but I think that what’s important is being able to discuss in terms of your value system, in terms of what makes you feel connected with an issue or a candidate, and also looking at all the sides.”

Ridder referred to a recent study that showed placing a party affiliation in front of a candidate’s name could change an election’s outcome.

“You don’t have to use the labels, ‘Democratic position’ or ‘Republican position,’” he said. “Those labels really don’t mean much. What means much is what you believe and how you wish to communicate that and express it. The biggest change in politics in the last 20 years is that we’ve gone from ‘All politics is local’ to ‘All politics is personal,’ so think in terms of how something impacts you.”

Guests at the event also included Rep. Janak Joshi (R-Colorado Springs) and Lynn Gangone, dean of the Women’s College at the University of Denver.

On parade
Cadets march to lunch during the weekly noon meal formation and parade Monday. All cadet squadrons form up twice weekly and march to Mitchell Hall for lunch.

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10. Golden
9. Tempting
8. Made with White Meat
7. Crispy
6. Pimp
5. Juicy
4. Tender
3. Irresistible Sauces
2. Delicious
1. (All of the Above)
Program eases Airmen’s transition to civilian life

by Joel Fortner
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — A redesigned program will help ease every Airmen’s transition to civilian life and better apply their military experience, Air Force officials said.

The program is the first major overhaul of the transition assistance program for military members in nearly 20 years.

The effort began in response to a call from President Barack Obama in August 2011 to ensure all service members are “career ready” when they leave the military.

Slated to begin servicewide in November, the current three-day, optional program will be expanded to five days and has been redesigned into a comprehensive, mandatory program that includes pre-separation counseling, a military-to-civilian skills review, a Veterans Affairs benefits briefing, financial planning support, job search skills building, and individual transition plan preparation.

A pilot program was held July 9-13 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, which, according to officials, allowed Departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs to test the initiative.

According to Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, the redesigned program bolsters and standardizes the transition services that service members receive prior to retiring or separating from the military to make them employment ready.

“Our goal is to provide Airmen with a comprehensive transition assistance program that prepares them for life after the military, whether that’s pursuing education, working in the public or civilian sector, or starting a business,” Donley said.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy said the program is as good for the civilian sector as it is for Airmen.

“Employers are looking for educated, trained, experienced people like those who are separating from the Air Force,” he said. “This program will help smooth our Airmen’s transitions to civilian life.”

Under the old program, separating Guardsmen and Reservists were often left to their own devices. Roy said another benefit of this new program is the inclusion of the Total Force.

“We want to take care of all our Airmen, and this program does that,” he said. “No component of our Total Force deserves more help transitioning than another.”

By October 2013, three two-day optional sessions on pursuing a technical certification, starting a business, or pursuing a higher educational degree will also be offered to Airmen.

“Our Airmen have extraordinary technical expertise and world-class leadership skills that are in high demand,” Donley said. “This program will help them apply their experience to additional training, formal education, and develop successful civilian careers.”

For more information, contact your local Airman and Family Readiness Center or email af.a1saa@pentagon.af.mil.
Academy helps community heal from Waldo Canyon fire

Nearly 345 cadets, faculty and staff members helped Mountain Shadows residents cut, gather, haul and stack organic slash, branches, deadfall and some burned trees and limbs during the community’s semi-annual “Chipper Event” for fire mitigation Sunday.

Academy volunteers worked with Academy School District 20 volunteers to provide fire mitigation in the hardest hit community during the Waldo Canyon Fire. The event was sponsored by the Colorado Springs Fire Department and the Mountain Shadows Community Association.

The Colorado Springs Fire Department followed Monday by chipping the material and using it for erosion control and landscape recovery efforts within and around the Mountain Shadows burn areas.

Volunteers cut down burned trees and cleared debris left over from the Waldo Canyon fire Sunday. The cadets performed cleanup for more than 100 homeowners and three city open spaces.

Cadet volunteers spread out a tarp on the ground to place debris collected during fire mitigation efforts Sunday.

Volunteers cut down burned trees and cleared debris left over from the Waldo Canyon fire Sunday. The cadets performed cleanup for more than 100 homeowners and three city open spaces.
Rocky Mountain high

Cadets soar above crowd at Rocky Mountain Airshow

A visitor gets the chance to “get behind the stick” of an Air Force Academy TG-15A glider at the Rocky Mountain Airshow near Denver, Saturday. Cadets from the Academy’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Outreach Club, Wings of Blue and glider teams participated in the three-day airshow which featured a variety of modern and vintage military aircraft.

Cadet 3rd Class Linnea Larson, of Cadet Squadron 17, and her sister, Cadet 3rd Class Kirsten Larson of CS-07, left, talk about cadet research projects during the Rocky Mountain Air Show in Denver Saturday. Both Larson sisters are part of the Academy’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Outreach Club.
Cadet 1st Class Sarah Nickisch always had the goal to live in Africa by the time she was 22. A foreign area major who one day hopes to work for U.S. Africa Command, she conquered her goal last fall when she studied at Al Akhawayn University in Morocco for five months. While there she learned the local language, bonded with her Moroccan classmates, worked at a refugee camp, ran a half-marathon and played on a Muslim volleyball team, all through the Academy’s Office of International Programs Semester Study Abroad program.

“It was extremely life-changing, and I’m not just saying that to be cliché,” Nickisch said.

Nickisch, who is minoring in Arabic and French here, applied for the program through her language courses. The program’s purpose is to allow junior and senior cadets the opportunity to attend a foreign civilian university, be immersed in a language and pick up perspectives of a different culture.

“(International Programs) is selective with the cadets they choose for their programs because they want whoever they send abroad to engage with the culture,” Nickisch said. “In the interview, they evaluate how you might react being overseas and if you will feel comfortable enough to interact with society.”

Nickisch visited Morocco twice prior to her semester abroad. She said her experience through the program was different because it was longer and she was there for language and cultural immersion rather than humanitarian efforts.

“I was on my own, able to make lifelong friends and really got to know the community,” Nickisch said. “I loved being there for a semester because my relationships were more sustainable and I eventually want to live in Africa long-term.”

Nickisch said because AUI is an upper-class, English speaking university, it was difficult to practice Modern Standard Arabic regularly, but she learned the local dialect, Darijia, as well as French.

“I figured that even if I didn’t improve much on my MSA, I could look for other opportunities and other things to invest in,” Nickisch said.

Nickisch said she became friends with a Moroccan native, Achmed, who was fluent in English, French, Darijia and MSA.

“He spoke MSA very well, which is not very common in Morocco,” Nickisch said. “Sixty percent of the population is illiterate in MSA and therefore are unable to read the Quran. We were able to converse in MSA pretty frequently, and that was very valuable to me.”

Nickisch said during her semester in Morocco, she acquired enough confidence to escort her entire family across the country for 10 days.

“I took them to all of the hot spots in Morocco, as well as on a camel ride and to the largest mosque in Africa,” Nickisch said. “I’m the only one in my family who speaks Arabic so when I needed to converse with our taxi drivers to get around, my language survival skills kicked in because I was their guide.”

After living in Morocco for a semester, any misconceptions you have about Middle East culture will vanish, Nickisch said.

“Moroccans are loving people and after getting to know them, every one of them would gladly welcome you into their home tomorrow because that is just how hospitable they are,” Nickisch said. “I had an eye-opening experience and positive memory with a culture we struggle to understand.”

Nickisch said she never felt unsafe during her semester abroad and made the most of every opportunity to immerse herself in the culture.

Cadet 1st Class Sarah Nickisch escorts her family on a camel ride in Morocco.
Dear Cadet Parents,

Welcome to the United States Air Force Academy family! The Class of 2016 entered the Academy in June 2012 and began their four-year journey toward becoming officers in our Air Force. They spent the summer in Basic Cadet Training, an intense program designed to enhance their mentality and physical abilities as they adjust to military service. On Aug. 8, the class entered the Cadet Wing at the Acceptance Day parade. The academic year began on Aug. 9.

Our cadets face academic, military and athletic challenges throughout the year. Your parental interest, encouragement and involvement is crucial to helping your cadet succeed. My wife, Paula, and I look forward to partnering with you and your cadet on this exciting journey.

We are glad you could join us for Parents’ Weekend 2012. Events begin Friday and continue through Monday. Friday is packed with activities, including a Cadet Wing parade and an opportunity to attend classes with your cadet, so be sure to arrive early enough to participate. On Saturday, we invite you to join us in cheering for our Air Force Falcons football team as they play their first game of the season against Idaho State. Following the game, your cadet may join you for the remainder of the long weekend. Please enjoy this time with your cadet and make the most of this opportunity to learn more about the programs and facilities of the United States Air Force Academy.

We are confident you will find Parents’ Weekend a valuable and interesting experience, as well as a great way to learn about your cadet’s new life at the Academy. We look forward to visiting with you!

Sincerely,

Lt. Gen. Mike Gould
Parents' Weekend Schedule


development and hear some of the incredible above sea level.


Squadron picnics, Arnold Hall or the Falcon Club. Cadet Field House, Visitor Center, Falcon Club, Arnold Hall

Airfield Open House: Academy Airfield, noon-5 p.m. Check out aircraft displays and speak with staff about airman programs. Guests must have a cadet escort.

Academy Open House: Academy Airfield, noon-5 p.m. Come visit the Cadet Field House, Hall of Excellence at the Falcon Athletic Center and the Cadet Gymnasium. Meet the Athletics staff and learn about the many athletics programs.

Air War Games Lab Tour: 1-3:05 p.m., Fairfield Hall, Room 2672. Cadets and their guests are invited to visit the flight simulators in the AWL. Tickets are not required. The flight simulators offer many cadets a “first look” at flying and aviation in the Air Force.

Parents Weekend Information Fair: Arnold Hall Ballrooms, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Basic Cadet Training videos and portrait photos will be available for sale, and Academy and community organizations will share information.

Basic Cadet Training Video: Academy Theater, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Vector Program Orientation: Arnold Hall Banquet Room, 8:45 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and 1:2-2:15 p.m.

Families, parents to the Vital Effective Character Through Observation and Reflection seminar, which all cadets attend during their freshman year.

Parade: Stillman Parade Field, 10-11 a.m. Arrive early to see the Wings of Blue. Air Force Parachute Demonstration Team and various aircraft demonstrations.

Cadet Performance Showcase: Arnold Hall Ballrooms, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Featured are the cadet show choir, cadet orchestra and other performing groups.

First Class Lunch: Mitchell Hall, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This meal is mandatory for all first-year cadets. Tickets are required for guests.

Lunch Available for Upper-class cadets and their guests: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. locations include: Sagrestano punctus, Arnold Hall or the Falcon Club. Cadet Field House, Visitor Center, Falcon Club, Arnold Hall.

Airfield Open House: Academy Airfield, noon-5 p.m. Check out aircraft displays and speak with staff about airman programs. Guests must have a cadet escort.

Academy Open House: Academy Airfield, noon-5 p.m. Come visit the Cadet Field House, Hall of Excellence at the Falcon Athletic Center and the Cadet Gymnasium. Meet the Athletics staff and learn about the many athletics programs.

Air War Games Lab Tour: 1-3:05 p.m., Fairfield Hall, Room 2672. Cadets and their guests are invited to visit the flight simulators in the AWL. Tickets are not required. The flight simulators offer many cadets a “first look” at flying and aviation in the Air Force.

Academic Advising and First-Year Programs Information Session: Arnold Hall Banquet Room, 2:2-4:15 p.m. and 2:45-3:30 p.m. Learn about academic advising and other first-year programs that support our Class of 2016 cadets as they transition to the Academy’s vigorous academic environment.

Prep School Football vs. USAFA: 2-4 p.m.

Junior Varsity Hockey Field

Dinner Buffet: Mitchell Hall, 5-7 p.m. Open to cadets and their guests.

Observatory Open House: Academy Observatory (east of Fairfield Hall), 7:30 p.m. The Physics and Astronomy Club invites you to come view the night sky through our 24-inch telescope. You can tour the facility, see images that are captured on our own telescope, use the telescopes to explore your universe firsthand (weather permitting) and hear some of the incredible history and lore behind the constellations that can be seen from our vantage point, 7,200 feet above sea level.

Saturday

Breakfast Buffet: Mitchell Hall, 7-9 a.m. Open to cadets and their guests.

Air Force vs. Idaho State: Falcon Stadium, noon-4 p.m. Cadets are required to attend the game and must sit with the Cadet Wing. They may depart Falcon Stadium after the third quarter of the Air Force Song at the end of the game.

Guests can purchase tickets to the game by calling 719-472-1859 or 800-666-8723.

Worship Services: Cadet Chapel and Community Center Chapel, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. For a schedule of services, see the schedule of worship on Page 35 or call TIB-335-2630.

Brunch Buffet: Mitchell Hall, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Open to cadets and their guests.

Sunday Worship Services: Cadet Chapel and Community Center Chapel, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. For a schedule of services, see the schedule of worship on Page 35 or call TIB-335-2630.

Brunch Buffet: Mitchell Hall, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Cadets must purchase tickets for their guests in advance.

Handicapped Assistance

Parents Club Presidents Meeting:

Parents’ Weekend Fair:

Parents Weekend Schedule

Parents Weekend Fair:

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By the Numbers: Class of 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications received</td>
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<td>Offers of admission</td>
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<td>Total cadets admitted</td>
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<td>bers of their families to attend</td>
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<td>Cadets who are the sons or</td>
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<td>daughters of service academy</td>
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<td>were National Honor Society</td>
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<td>members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percentage of cadets who earned</td>
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<tr>
<td>one or more athletic letters</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days until Graduation: 1,371*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If graduation is held after Memorial Day
SUMMER SALE-A-BRATION

Twice a year we clear out our remaining fleet to make room for the hundreds and hundreds of inbound vehicles with pricing that crushes the competition!

2010 Chevy Cobalt 2LT
$11,981
Compare around at $14,000
stk #: c1128

2011 Nissan Versa S
$12,981
Compare around at $15,000
stk #: c1172

2010 Ford Focus SE
$12,981
Compare around at $15,000
stk #: c1167

2010 Hyundai Elantra GLS
$13,981
Compare around at $15,000
stk #: c1220

2011 Mitsubishi Galant FE
$13,981
Compare around at $15,500
stk #: c1238

2011 VW Jetta
$16,981
Compare around at $18,000
stk #: c1158

2011 Suzuki Kizashi SE
$16,981
Compare around at $19,000
stk #: c1272

2011 Ford Fusion SE
$16,981
Compare around at $20,000
stk #: c1195

2011 Mitsubishi Endeavor AWD
$17,981
Compare around at $21,000
stk #: c1246

2011 Chrysler 300 Touring Convertible
$18,481
Compare around at $21,000
stk #: c1159

2011 Chevy Malibu LTZ
$18,981
Compare around at $22,000
stk #: c1256

2011 Toyota Limited
$20,981
Compare around at $25,000
stk #: c1136

2011 Kia Sportage LX AWD
$20,981
Compare around at $22,000
stk #: c1248

2011 Chevy Colorado LT/C 4wd
$21,981
Compare around at $23,000
stk #: c1258

2011 Ford Escape Limited 4wd
$22,981
Compare around at $26,000
stk #: c1277

2011 Mazda CX-9 Sport AWD
$23,981
Compare around at $27,000
stk #: c1242

2011 Chevy Traverse LT AWD
$23,981
Compare around at $25,000
stk #: c1250

2011 Ford Edge SEL AWD
$25,981
Compare around at $30,000
stk #: c1253

2011 Chevy Silverado Ext cab LT 4x4
$25,981
Compare around at $30,000
stk #: c1253

2011 Ford Expedition EL XLT 4WD
$27,981
Compare around at $32,000
stk #: c1222

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From Page 8
friends from all sides of the political, religious and social spectrum.

“Morocco is very unique in the fact that it has a lot of French influence, so it’s trying to be this modern European country and show the world it’s progressed in a certain way that is more open,” Niekisch said. “At the same time, the first line of its constitution says that it’s a Muslim country which comes with a certain set of parameters in how their constitution is laid out, how their government is run and how their society dictates what is legal and what’s illegal. It’s a huge mix of cultures and you can see that in the country’s architecture and fashion.”

Cadet 1st Class Sara Schnabel, a behavioral science major minoring in Chinese, participated in DFIP’s Cultural Immersion program where she spent a week in China to experience cultural diversity.

“I really like learning languages,” Schnabel said. “I applied to the program because I figured, if I’m going to learn Chinese, I should actually try and use it. You can’t be totally immersed in a language like Chinese when you’re in the United States because Asian culture is very different and there isn’t enough people in the U.S. who speak it.”

While there, Schnabel stayed in an international dorm at Nanjing University. Schnabel said the first difference she noticed in China was the lack of personal space.

“Here you keep your distance and if you run into someone you say, ‘Sorry’ or ‘Excuse me,’” Schnabel said. “In China, there is no such thing as personal space because their sense of it is totally different.

Schnabel said Chinese improved simply by reading street signs while on the bus.

“It doesn’t seem like a big deal but it really helps you say, ‘Hey, I recognize what that does,’” Schnabel said. Schnabel said her biggest challenge in China was trying to initiate a personal conversation.

“Trying to push your language even further so you can interact with people more naturally such as by sharing a joke was a challenge,” Schnabel said. “It really made me want to become more fluent.”

Schnabel said her Chinese improved greatly in China was trying to initiate a personal conversation.

“The U.S.’s technology and academic system is amazing and I hope Sri Lanka can integrate some of the stuff we have here into their military,” Ambanpola said. “That’s why they offer these programs. Cadets are forced to talk in another language and they have seen so many people change the way they think about cultures and how they approach other languages through them.

Cadets and faculty interested in these programs during the spring, summer and fall of 2013 may apply between Sept. 1 and Oct. 1. The application may be found along with a listing of all requirements, guidelines and other useful information at the DFIP SharePoint site.

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

How’s It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a grid, broken down into nine 3 x 3 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 clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle.

Here’s How to Solve:

Sudokus are puzzles created as a 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 clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle.
Tops in Blue performed in the Academy’s Arnold Hall Theater Saturday. Tops in Blue is composed of active-duty Air Force members selected for their entertainment abilities. Their primary purpose is to perform for military personnel and their families throughout the world.

Photos by Elizabeth Andrews

Air Force’s premier entertainment troupe rocks USAFA

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, help is available.

Call TESSA’s 24/7 crisis line at 719-633-3819 www.tessacs.org

Puzzle solutions for 08-31-2012
Falcon football returns

Game Facts: Air Force opens the 2012 season at home against Idaho State. This is the second meeting between the two schools and first since 1956. Air Force was picked sixth in the Mountain West during the conference's annual media event in July. The Falcons are opening against an FCS team for the sixth straight year. Air Force is 8-1 all-time against teams from the Big Sky. The Falcons have won 14 straight home openers against unranked teams dating back to 1994.

Coaches: • Air Force: Troy Calhoun (Air Force, 1989) is in his sixth season. He has led the Falcons to a 41-24 career record. Calhoun is 24-15 in MWC games, 17-9 in non-conference games, 23-8 in Falcon Stadium, 14-12 in road games (11-7 in MW road games) and 2-3 in bowl games.
• Idaho State: Mike Kramer (Idaho, 1977) is in his second season. He has led the program to a 2-9 mark. Kramer has a 79-84 career mark in his 13th season.


More Stats: Air Force is 35-19-2 overall in season openers, including a 30-8 mark in season openers at home.

More Facts: • Air Force head coach Troy Calhoun is 5-0 in season openers, all five coming at home.

Home Sweet Home: Air Force is 23-8 at home under head coach Troy Calhoun since 2007. Air Force combined for 10 wins at home in 2009 and 2010 which is the third most in two seasons in school history.

A Look at Idaho State: Idaho State finished last season with a 2-9 overall mark, including a 1-7 record in the Big Sky Conference. The team averaged 18.5 points per game last year. Idaho State won the 1981 Division I-AA national championship. The program has had eight individuals play or coach in the NFL, including current Minnesota Vikings all-pro Jared Allen ... Allen lettered from 2000-03 at Idaho State and was an All-American in 2002 and 2003.
Blue beats Silver, 5-1, in intrasquad matchup

The Air Force men’s tennis team kicked off its 2012-13 season Aug. 24 with the third annual Blue vs Silver match. All 10 players played in the match, with two doubles matches and five singles matches. One singles match was played as one set to help complete the doubles points.

“Today we were able to put our team under match situations for the first time since last spring,” said head coach Dan Oosterhous. “It was a great opportunity to see where our guys are physically and mentally coming back from summer break. Some of the outcomes were surprising but that’s why we do this and it helps us determine where we need to focus our energy in the next four weeks before our first tournament in Denver.”

The two teams split the two doubles matches. The Blue team’s senior Lance Wilhelm and sophomore Grant Taylor opened the match with an 8-5 win over junior Alex Grubbs and freshman Jack McCullers, while juniors Andy Jackson and Ali Rizvi of the Silver team defeated senior Steven Young and freshman Andrew Parks by the same score. Senior Stephen Katrein defeated junior Alex Lineberry, 6-2, in the extra singles match to give the Blue team a 1-0 lead.

The Blue team then took four of the five singles matches, Wilhelm and Young each won in straight sets, while Taylor downed Lineberry, 4-6, 7-5, 1-0(2), and Katrein beat Jackson, 1-6, 7-5, 1-0(5). Rizvi captured the Silver team’s lone victory with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Parks.

The Falcons begin the fall tournament season Sept. 21 at the Denver Invitational.

Singles

- (B) Wilhlem def (S) McCullers 6-3, 6-4
- (B) Young def (S) Grubbs 6-3, 7-6
- (B) Taylor def (S) Lineberry 6-4, 7-5, 10
- (B) Katrein def (S) Jackson 1-6, 7-5, 1-0
- (B) Rizvi def (B) Parks 6-3, 6-2
Parents’ Weekend Brunch

The Academy will host a Sunday Brunch Extravaganza for parents and cadets from 10 a.m. -1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Falcon Club.

Cadets eat free with a parent. Brunch will feature breakfast and lunch items, desserts and a chocolate fountain.

To make a reservation call 333-4253.

Whitewater rafting

The Outdoor Recreation Center offers rafting trips to Browns Canyon, the Royal Gorge and Big Horn Sheep Canyon through August. Trips range from $55-$85 per person. For more information visit the Academy Support website at http://usafa-support.com/the-great-outdoors/outdoor-adventure.

Recycling Center Moves

The temporary location of the Academy Recycling Center will be located in the Community Center on and on the south side of the Armed Forces Bank. A temporary location was created due to construction of the BX and Commisary parking lots that begin on Aug. 20.

Pharmacy hours

The Academy Community Center Pharmacy will no longer be open on Saturdays. The pharmacy will continue with its regular hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Child support services

The El Paso County Child Support Services will now be at the Academy the last Thursday of every month from 1-2 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

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

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

Bowling Leagues

The Academy Lanes Bowling Center’s bowling leagues are in session.

Available leagues include a parent and youth league Thursdays at 7 p.m. for $14 per team, three-person youth leagues Thursdays at 10 a.m. for $7 per person and four-person adult mixed leagues Thursdays at 7 p.m. for $10 per person.

Children may receive free bowling lessons during youth league play on Thursdays.

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

Horsemanship classes

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

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

Sergeants Association Meeting

The Air Force Sergeant Association Falcon Chapter 1380 meets every third Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the Casual Lounge at the Falcon Club.

Pottery studio available

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

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

For more information call 333-4579.

10th MDG Closure

The 10th Medical Group will close at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 10 for a commander’s call.

Access to the on-call Primary Care Provider is available through the Patient Access Service at 524–Care (2273) Normal Operations will resume at 7:30 a.m. on Sept. 11.

Got an IDEA?

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

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

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

To submit an idea, go to https://ips.randolph.af.mil/ips/web/page_edit (CMC login required) or contact the IDEA office at 333-4332.

VA Stand Down Day

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

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

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

Softball Tournament

The Academy will host a softball tournament Sept. 21-22. Please register by Sept. 14 and contact David Castilla at 333-4078 for more information.

Flea Market

A flea market will be held Sept. 22 at 8 a.m. at the Community Center.

Vendors will set up at 7 a.m. and the event will take place on the west side parking lot.

For more information call 333-4522.

Golf Tournament

The Academy Fire Department Golf Tournament will take place Sept. 27 at 12 p.m. at the Eisenhower Golf Course.

The cost ranges from $55-98 per person and will include golf carts, range balls and a driving range.

Sign up no later than Sept. 25. Contact Mike Mater at 719-333-2051 for more information.

Hispanic Heritage Month

A luncheon and Cadet Panel Forum will take place Sept. 27 from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Arnold Hall Ballroom for Hispanic Heritage month.

The event is titled, “Diversity United, Building America’s Future Today” and will include guest speaker Brig. Gen. Abel Barrientes and entertainment by Mariachi Agualia.

The cost is $10 per person and must be paid by Sept. 24. Please call Dr. Sonia Esquivel at 333-8356 for more information.

For more information visit the Academy Support website at http://usafa-support.com/the-great-outdoors/outdoor-adventure.
Classifieds

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PHONE: ____________________________ GRADE: _________________ UNIT: _____________
SIGNATURE: ______________________________________

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