Get ready for the roundabouts

North Gate Blvd., I-25 interchange opens

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff writer

The Interstate 25-North Gate Boulevard interchange reopened Thursday, allowing north- and southbound traffic full access again to and from the Academy.

A segment of the interchange closed Sept. 22 to remove three outdated loop ramps for Exit 156A and 156B and to install two roundabouts, one at each point where the I-25 on-and-off ramps intersect North Gate Boulevard, to enhance traffic flow and safety.

“Traffic flow should be smoother along North Gate Boulevard since vehicles will be less likely to disrupt traffic flow on to Interstate 25, particularly during highly-attend-ed events such as football games, graduation and athletic events,” said Keith Butala, the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron deputy civil engineer. “Also, traffic conflicts between vehicles entering and exiting will be eliminated.”

Work on the interchange will continue, but won’t interfere with traffic, Butala said.

Driving through a roundabout is a learning process, said Bob Wilson, Colorado Department of Transportation public relations manager.

“The biggest thing is to keep an eye out for cars entering and exiting the roundabout,” he said. “The key is to drive slowly, be a defen-sive driver and yield to cars mov-ing in the roundabout.”

Wilson said two years ago CDOT built a roundabout in Canyon City. “It was the first roundabout in the town and people weren’t happy about it,” Wilson said. “It took some getting used to but now...”

Firefighters receive medals for Black Forest fire efforts

By Don Braum
Academy Spirit staff writer

Roughly 35 military and civilian firefighters here received Air Force Achievement Medals and Air Force Civilian Achievement Awards in two ceremonies held Wednesday and Thursday at Fire Stations 2 and 3 to recognize their efforts fighting the Black Forest fire in June.

Academy firefighters helped save approximately 100 structures, including two schools and more than 60 homes, during the most de-structive wildfire in the state’s history.

“We traditionally receive decorations in our Air Force because we did something for the betterment of the unit,” said 10th Mission Sup-port Group Commander Col. Martin Schlacter at Thursday’s ceremony. “These decorations are not being awarded for that at all. You were helping secure and protect property that didn’t even belong to the Air Force. You’re getting the decoration for protecting people who don’t even know your names and may not even have known you were there. If that’s not the definition of Service Before Self, I don’t know what is. “But we know your names,” Schlacter added. “It’s amazing what you guys do. We just want to say thank you.”

The firefighters received two emergency calls during Wednesday’s commander’s call. Schlacter said it was important for others in the 10th MSG to see the firefighters’ quick response. “We’ll sometimes see a truck parked in front of the firehouse, but we’re not usually there when the call comes in,” he said. “It’s symbolic..."
Energy awareness is a national focus during October but for Academy cadets here, it’s a tope-ic of importance year after year. “Energy is the lifeblood of our society,” said Lt. Col. Mark. Remington, Engineering Mechanics Department assistant professor. “Everything we value requires energy and generally the more valuable something is, the more energy it requires. Our cadets represent the future leadership of our Air Force and our na-tion, so we have a responsibility to ensure they graduate with an energy-conscious world view.”

To help develop this world view, through the CFC, Defense De-partment and by extension, taxpayer dollars — that many of its capstone projects focus on energy. In the Engineering Mechanics Department, for example, cadets design prototype energy harvesting de-vices to power structure-monitoring equipment for bridges and other infrastruc-ture.

“This year’s project is to re-duce or minimize the effects of corrosion on such structures by using this harvested ener-gy,” said faculty member Kev-in Gibbons, a capstone team lead. “In previous years, cap-stone projects have included a road-moving vehicle interface, a project using the weight of vehicles to produce electricity as they drive over the road, and a hybrid wind-solar harvester design.”

In the Chemistry Department, cadets study various forms of energy in the Renew-able Energy Education Labo-ratory and have the chance to participate in a waste-to-ener-gy demonstration, sponsored by the Advanced Power Tech-nology Office.

In the Biology Department, cadets research using microbial fuel cells to power re-mote sensors and other devices. Microbial fuel cells are bio-electrochemical systems that generate an elec-trical current by imitating bacterial interactions found in nature.

“Electrochemical organisms could potentially convert fuel substrates into clean bio-electrical power,” said Dr. Don Ververka, assistant professor of biology. “Since they derive energy from the sun, harnessing this natural system could offer a variety of benefits in-cluding fixing carbon dioxide, eliminating toxic energy waste or producing chemicals for commercial uses. The Academy’s energy-saving projects help us pro-mote the five pillars of our mission and help us under-stand the critical role energy conservation plays in the Air Force and the world. As our cadets graduate and become Air Force leaders, they will be prepared to make the difficult decisions concerning energy require-ments demand.”

Donating to CFC gets ‘personal’ for senior NCO

By Master Sgt. Gloria Wilson
34th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey
— It’s been a rough year. In less than 12 months, I’ve been hit with situation after situation that has brought me to my knees.

First, I’ll mention the deaths in my family.

My grandmother died in November, a cousin I grew up with died in December and my much missed and loved dad died in June. All of them died unexpectedly. All their deaths were tragic, yet it’s my dad’s passing from kidney can-cer at the age of 56 that affected me the most.

After my dad’s death, I thought I couldn’t get any lower. I mean, come on — my dad was already down, right? However, I was wrong and my resilience was again tested. A few weeks ago, my 52-year-old mom, a breast cancer survivor, was diagnosed with multiple sclero-sis.

So why am I sharing this? It’s for empathy. Although I could use this comment to talk about how being resilient is im-portant, that’s not why I’m sharing.

It’s because I can only concen-trate on what I can do. As I go through the necessary steps to help my mom, I’ve realized there’s something meaningful I can do for both my parents — and that is to give. I can give to charities that may not offer someone a ter-rer chance at survival than my dad had as he wasn’t even aware he had cancer. I can help fund an organ-i-zation that conducts research to find a cure for multiple sclerosis. I can donate to an organization that may help those with, or who have had, breast cancer. Or, I can con-tribute to an organization assisting those coping with an illness or ter-rerial disease.

My time for giving can be any time, but most importantly, that time is now. Not because of the timing with my family, even though that’s always in my mind and heart, but because the Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas runs through Nov. 15. State-side, CFC ends Nov. 1.

The CFC is an opportunity to give to the charity of our choice. It’s a time frame to figure out where our hearts lie in relation to giving, and to know that if we do-not, our money can go to one or a variety of organizations of our choosing. It could come right back to our base for morale and welfare programs, it can help animals or the environment, or it can even go to a charity that deals with cancer and MS like my donation will.

Through the CFC, Defense De-partment uniformed and civilian personnel stationed around the world can give to charities both national and international chari-ties.

Take a moment to check things out and learn more about CFC to make an informed decision. Also, check to ensure all the charities have been vetted to ensure they are legitimate.

Any donation helps. Many of the organizations cannot continue to operate without the generosity of contributors. I’ve been giving through the CFC since I’ve been in the Air Force — before the deaths and medical challenges in my family. The only difference for me now is it’s more personal, and the need for people to help various charities has been amplified in my life.

I know donating won’t bring back my family members, and I know it won’t cure my mom, but I can only do what I can and hope that my choosing to support CFC makes a difference for others. Even if you choose not to donate, please help spread the word.

Rest in peace dad — I’m doing all I can.

For more information, visit www. opm.gov/combined-federal-camp.ai.
WASHINGTON (AFPS) — The Defense Department’s top financial official provided details on which DOD civilians would and wouldn’t be able to return from furlough following Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel’s Sunday determination that some could return under the Pay Our Military Act.

Robert Hale, DOD comptroller and chief financial officer, emphasized first and foremost the defense secretary values all DOD employees and views their jobs as critical, even though some cannot return immediately — and described the decision as “painful.” In a few cases, Hale said, certain areas simply were not covered by the Pay Our Military Act, signed into law Sept. 30.

Hale said those areas included chief information officer functions but not Internet protocol and cyber functions; legislative and public affairs functions but not internal public affairs communications; deputy chief management office functions at the Office of the Secretary of Defense and component levels, and auditors and related functions.

This list also includes work done in support of non-DOD activities and agencies except the Coast Guard and civil works functions of the Department of the Army.

“Let me say again that those on this list who we’re not going to recall from furlough do critical functions,” Hale said. “What they do is important, but because of the letter of the law, and the advice from the Department of Justice, we had to identify those with less direct impact on military members.”

Hale explained how the DOD came to the determination they could bring some DOD civilians back.

“When we got (the Pay Our Military Act), we immediately began working with the Department of Justice on how to implement it,” he said. “The [Department of Justice] expressed the opinion that the law does not permit a blanket recall of all DOD civilians.

“The Department of Justice did say we can undertake a careful review of civilians who support members of the armed forces and determine who to recall,” Hale said. “Needless to say, it has been a difficult process and time consuming one — but we now have guidance.

Hale said under the DOD’s current reading of the law, the standard for civilians who provide support to members of the armed forces requires qualifying civilians to focus on the morale, well-being, capabilities and readiness of military members that occurs during a lapse of appropriations.

With this in mind, the DOD established categories of civilians beginning with some excepted civilians who already are working to ensure military operations of safety, lives and property, he said.

“They’ll be working now, and under (the Pay Our Military Act), we can pay them in a timely manner — their Oct. 11 pay will be on time and in full,” Hale stated.

Hale highlighted two categories of DOD civilians that, under the act, the Defense Department will recall, and noted the act ensures the military will be paid on a timely basis “next payday, (Tuesday), and future ones.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the flu virus spreads from person to person and can be more severe for young children, older adults, pregnant women and people with medical conditions. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death.

Tricare covers the flu shot and flu mist. Beneficiaries may be able get their flu vaccine, at no cost, from a military treatment facility, hospital or from a pharmacist at one of the 45,000 network pharmacies that administer vaccines to Tricare beneficiaries.

For more information, visit www.cspressscripts.com/tricare or call 877-363-1303.

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 Cadet, military mom strengthen personal, professional bonds

Story and photo by Don Branum
Academy Spirit staff writer

A lot of cadets have a family tradition of military service, but not many families start the same year for two generations. But, that's exactly how Cadet 1st Class Garrett Dean and his mother, Army 1st Lt. Lacey Dean, began in 2010.

Garrett told his mother before his junior year of high school that he was interested in attending the Academy. Lacey, who until then had held jobs in film and business management, decided to look at a life change as well. Shortly after Lacy was accepted to Army Officer Candidate School, Garrett learned he'd been accepted to the Academy.

“She came out to Parents’ Weekend,” Garrett said. “The next month, she started her basic training at Fort Sill, Okla. I saw her graduate.”

Lacey’s next stop was Fort Benning, Ga., for OCS. She graduated the weekend before Recognition was set to begin here. Again, Garrett got to visit.

“I was her first salute,” he said.

Garrett, a Boston-area native, said their shared experience has been “pretty interesting,” and that it’s further strengthened a relationship that was already close.

“It’s been her and me our whole lives,” he said. “We lived in apartments and moved every couple of years, so we joked that moving around Boston prepared us for military life.”

They’ve bonded over similar experiences: as a senior, Garrett is responsible for the well-being of underclassmen in Cadet Squadron 18. As an Army officer, Lacey is responsible for the lives and well-being of the soldiers in her air defense artillery unit. They share experiences and how they’ve learned how to deal with “random day-to-day issues,” Garrett said.

“It’s almost like I’m talking to another firstie, but it’s my mom,” he added.

Garrett said he wants to become a pilot to help soldiers on the ground — including his mother — complete their missions.

“I hope to specifically support the role of close-air support,” he said. “I did Operation Air Force in (Southwest Asia) and spent an afternoon there with a pararescue unit. I would love to help the boots on the ground through a CAS role, help them get the mission done.”

He said his first preference is the A-10 Thunderbolt II, though he knows sequestration has cast a pall over the A-10’s future. Other aircraft will continue to play a role in CAS missions, though, so he’s not picky.

“I just love flying,” he said. “Flying is the most amazing thing, and I’d be happy with whatever airframe I get.”

Garrett and the other seniors here will learn their Air Force specialty codes next week.

“Her’s always been a confident and powerful person. Being a single parent is exceptional. But she’s become even more confident, more willing to try new things. And she’s happier, too ... she’s thrived. She loves it.”

— Cadet 1st Class Garrett Dean

Speaking about his mother, Army 1st Lt. Lacey Dean

CLUES ACROSS
1. Most favorables
2. 23rd Greek letter
3. Rated higher
4. Matrimonial response
5. Matrimonial response
6. 13th Hebrew letter
7. Dentist’s organization
8. Flexity fungis caps
9. Kill violently
10. License & passport
11. Arbor framework
12. Luxuriant dark brown fur
13. Malignant skin neoplasm
14. Acidic pulp pod
15. Hunted beings
16. Be obedient to
17. Excavate with a shovel
18. Equal to 100 causus
19. Lose hold of
20. Highest card
21. Higon stard
22. Brown sugar
23. Medical diagnosis
24. Spanish park
25. Insecticide
26. Marital woman
27. “Show Me” state
28. Early photo process
29. And, Latin
30. Cantonese dialect
31. Causing physical hurt
32. Short trips or tasks
33. Dentist’s organization
34. A group of statues
35. Small craving
36. 13th Hebrew letter
37. Ireland
38. Leuciscus leuciscus
39. A single thing
40. Parting phrases: good____
41. Figure skater Yuka
42. Opera song
43. Create social or emotional ties
44. Opposite of LTM
45. Icahn’s airline
46. Air Reserve base
47. RNA
48. Opposite of LTM
49. Hagiographa
50. Manuscripts, abbr.
51. Over the sea
52. Address a deity
53. Converts hide into leather
54. A group of statues
55. Small craving
56. Palisade
57. Lexicon
58. Putting phrases: good____
59. Figaro skater Yuka
60. Opera song
61. Korean
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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!

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 number clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier to gets to solve the puzzle!

Solution on page 12
Don’t let financial hardships jeopardize security clearance

By Staff Sgt. David Salanitri
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — As the government shutdown continues, Air Force leadership wants their civilian workforce to communicate well and as often as possible when financial challenges arise, as they could impact an employee’s security clearance.

Because a large number of civilian Airmen hold security clearances, leaders want the civilian force to know the steps to take if financial hardships are incurred during the current furloughs.

“If you find yourself in a situation where financial problems or significant debt are a concern, it’s best to let the chain of command know early and enable them to help you work through the problem,” said Maj. Neil Whelden, Security and Special Programs oversight officer.

According to the White House’s Information Security Oversight Office, conditions that could mitigate security concerns include conditions largely beyond an Airman’s control but where the Airman acted responsibly, such as:

• loss of employment;
• a business downturn;
• unexpected medical emergency or death

“The individual has a reasonable basis to dispute the legitimacy of the past-due debt which is the cause of the problem and provides documented proof to substantiate the basis of the dispute or provides evidence of actions to resolve the issue,” he said.

Air Force officials offer the following tips to mitigate short and long-term financial strain.

• Work with creditors to maintain debt in a responsible manner.
• Keep documentation of financial situations and communications with creditors.
• Keep the local security office informed of any emerging financial problems.

Communication between Airmen and financial institutions is critical to ensuring significant debt does not pile up, which could hurt a security clearance, Whelden said.

“Personnel should reach out to banks and creditors to renegotiate debt terms or mitigate debt impact,” he said. “Many banks are willing to change terms and defer payments for furloughed employees.”

Airmen should report bankruptcies, debt delinquencies, evictions or garnished wages to their unit security officers.

For more information, visit www.af.mil.

Chief’s Roll Call: teamwork is crucial during shutdown

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — (Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody released his second Roll Call to Airmen titled “People — Our greatest source of strength” Oct. 4 to encourage Airmen to support one another during the government shutdown.)

Today’s challenges remind us to not lose focus on our teammates — the strength of our team.

Unfortunately, we have begun this fiscal year without an agreement by our government on funding for our nation, and as a result the government has shutdown and a new period of uncertainty has begun.

For many of us, questions about pay have been answered, but that’s not the case for our entire team.

Many Reserve, National Guard and civilian Airmen, who serve our nation with honor and pride, have been sent home without pay.

The shutdown affects us all in different ways beyond our paychecks. Concerns continue to emerge and generate questions, many without answers. The uncertainty and stress of those directly affected, specifically those furloughed, are tremendous and we need to be there for each other. We’re working to get you updated information as quickly as possible.

If you or a teammate is in need of assistance, there are available resources to help. The Air Force has posted — and continues to update — www.af.mil with the most current information we have.

And of course, we have each other. Gather as a team, reach out to one another for support, and commit to care for each other when needed most. Be honest with your concerns and share them with your teammates. Let them know how they can support you. And, don’t forget to reach out to those at home; make sure they are OK and keep them informed.

Although there are still many uncertainties ahead, one thing is absolutely clear: the shutdown and resulting furloughs in no way reflect on the value and effort and dedication you give to the service of our nation.

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Although there are still many uncertainties ahead, one thing is absolutely clear: the shutdown and resulting furloughs in no way reflect on the value and effort and dedication you give to the service of our nation.
Academy pharmacist receives 2013 Distinguished Practitioner Award

By Amber Baillie
Academy Spirit staff writer

Upon receiving a Doctor of Pharmacy from Temple University in 2001, three months before 9/11, Maj. Andre Mach was offered a five-year job contract including a $117,000 salary and a BMW 3-series car, yet chose instead to serve in the Air Force.

To this day, Mach — the 10th Medical Support Squadron Pharmacy Operations chief and Pharmacy Flight deputy commander here — vows it was one of the best decisions of his life.

He returned to Temple University School of Pharmacy as a 2013 Distinguished Practitioner Award recipient Sept. 10 to speak to students on his deep-rooted commitment to serve the nation and society as a trusted health care professional.

“I wanted to prove to myself I was bigger than money,” Mach said. “My gut feeling was ‘this is my home and my country.’ As an immigrant, I wanted to serve in the U.S. military for at least two years to understand how the country operates, and to be a patriot.”

Mach said his friends were stunned by his decision to join the Air Force, and his parents dis-owned him for two years.

“My dad was upset because he’d brought his family away from our home country to provide us a better life, escaping the military and war,” he said. “When I joined the Air Force, (my) having an opportunity to go back into war left him heartbroken.”

Mach moved to the U.S. in 1980 as a refugee from Vietnam. He grew up in an inner-city area of Philadelphia, on welfare and a minority.

“Ethnically I’m Chinese and Cantonese,” Mach said. “From the period of 1975-1980, approximately 400,000 immigrants from Southeast Asia migrated to the U.S. because of the Vietnam War. It was the largest migration in the history of the U.S., and I was part of that.”

After encountering racial tension and realizing he didn’t speak English as well as his classmates, Mach made it his number-one priority to gain better command of the language.

“I realized I’m not going to escape this,” he said. “This is my home and country from here on. I realized in order to be successful in this country, I had to know English well to express my thoughts effectively. To this day I still try to make it a goal.”

Mach added that his life changed drastically when he joined the Air Force in 2001.

“After 13 years in the Air Force, I feel I have a good grasp of the military,” Mach said. “I think it’s important for younger generations to understand how this country was formalized. The greatest asset of this country is our freedom and our people. It’s important to pay tribute to past generations and the sacrifices they made for us to have those freedoms. I believe without that type of history and appreciation, you can’t appreciate the future.”

Serving in the Air Force tests any Airman’s character, Mach said.

“How do you develop character and leadership?” he said. “Cadets need to realize it doesn’t come easy and there will be sacrifices.”

Turbulence and suffering can build people’s character, Mach said.

“I was fairly lucky with how I migrated to the U.S.,” he said. “Some people took more of a tragic path to come to the U.S., who didn’t survive and if they did, might not have the same outlook as me. Because of the infrastructure of this country, the freedom to get an education and a higher education if you really want it is here.”

Mach arrived at the Academy 2011. He provides pharmaceutical care for 200 Academy preparatory school candidates and 4,000 cadets. Throughout his career in the Air Force, he’s also implemented clinical programs such as Lipid, Coumadin and Smoking Cessation clinics.

“It’s an honor to be able to serve in the Air Force for what I went to school for, and to be a pharmacist,” he said. “I think it’s important to be humble, know where you’re from and have a vision of where you want to go.”

The Temple School of Pharmacy Alumni Association cosponsors the Distinguished Practitioner Award, initiated in 2005 to recognize outstanding achievements of alumni.

“(This award) confirms how close Major Mach is to his civilian counterparts and the incredibly high-caliber expertise he brings to the Air Force mission,” Feltenberger said. “We’re very proud of the work Major Mach and the pharmacy team does for the 171,000 beneficiaries in the Colorado Springs area. The scope of their mission is huge and they perform as true professionals doing a great job all day, every day.”

Maj. Andre Mach mixes an ointment compound at the 10th Medical Support Squadron Pharmacy Wednesday.
Air Force, Academy officials answer furlough questions

(Editors’ note: Earlier this week, Air Force officials and Academy leaders released answers to several government shutdown and furlough-related questions.

The information was coordinated with manpower and personnel, financial management and legal experts.

• Will the shutdown delay next year’s graduation?
  No. We anticipate the class of 2014 to graduate on time May 28.

• Will cadets be released early until the shutdown is resolved?
  No.

• Will the Thanksgiving break be cancelled to make up for any classes missed?
  No. Only two lessons were affected and can be made up without cancelling any scheduled breaks.

• Are academic classes fully staffed?
  Yes. All furloughed faculty members have returned.

• What academic impacts did the cadets face?
  Some cadets missed two lessons that must be made up.

• Are the Mitchell Hall dining services still serving all meals to cadets?
  Yes.

• Are sporting events cancelled?
  We’re awaiting written final Defense Department guidance, but we’ve been advised all Academy intercollegiate athletics may resume immediately.

We owe it to our cadet athletes and opponents to honor our commitments in this regard. Athletics is one of the pillars of character and leadership development at the Academy. Appropriated funds will not be used to fund these programs.

Intercollegiate athletes are allowed to practice, and athletic physical education classes are still ongoing.

• Are the cadet library, the cadet gym, the commissary and Base Exchange open?
  Yes. For more information on the commissary, see Page 2.

• Are the Community Center Library and Community Center Gym open?
  No.

• Are cadets participating in Airmanship programs at the airfield?
  No.

• Are Cadet Area bathrooms cleaned and stocked with appropriate supplies?
  Yes.

• Are the Cadet Chapel and child development centers open?
  Yes.

• Is government travel approved?
  Travel using appropriated funds for the most part is not allowed. There are very few exceptions and the travel must approved in advance.

• Can organizations purchase supplies?
  No. Although a majority of Academy members are back to work, units are still not authorized to purchase supplies or expend appropriated money until a new budget is passed.

• Does the government shutdown affect admissions?
  Yes, but only administratively. Our Admissions team cannot travel to actively recruit without an appropriated bill, but our admissions team remains fully available to all applicants and prospects, including prospective candidate tours here.

We anticipate the Class of 2018 to consist of the previously planned 1,190 Cadets.

• Why is the Air Force recalling nearly 104,000 civilian employees placed on emergency furlough?
  According to a memo released by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Saturday, the Air Force will recall most of nearly 104,000 Air Force civilian Airmen placed on emergency furlough due to the government shutdown. However, a significant number will not yet return.

At the Academy, we recalled more than 950 appropriated-fund employees who were furloughed. More than 40 non-appropriated fund civilians remained furloughed.

• Are civilians coming back to work without pay? Will they be paid retroactively?
  Once a bill is signed by the president, civilians will be paid for the days they were furloughed at the beginning of fiscal year 2014. Today, furloughed civilians will be paid for the first six days of the pay period before the furlough started.

• What status do employees called back to work under Pay or Military Act fall within — excepted, exempted or other?
  Employees initially furloughed and later recalled are considered appropriated-fund employees from the date of recall. They are neither excepted or exempted.

• Are employees called back to work under the Pay or Military Act allowed to take annual or sick leave for the pay period beginning Sunday?
  From Sunday onward, all employees on duty are authorized to take annual or sick leave as approved by their supervisor in the ordinary course of business. Employees should record leave using the appropriate leave code in the Time and Attendance system. Employees still furloughed may not take leave as they are not in duty status. If leave was taken from Oct. 1-4 by excepted personnel, it should be coded leave without pay.

• How should employees called back to work under POMA code regular hours worked?
  Employees should not attempt to make retroactive adjustments to the time and attendance system for the pay period ending Saturday. For the pay period ending Sunday, employees should record their time in the appropriate time and attendance system using the codes reflecting their status — RG for regular hours worked, LA for annual leave or LS for sick leave.

• How do non-excepted employees record hours worked during the Oct. 1 shutdown?
  At this time, non-excepted employees are not authorized to record regular hours for work performed during the Oct. 1 shutdown of operations or thereafter if it took more than one day.

• Does the Oct. 17 debt ceiling debate in Washington D.C. affect the Air Force Academy?
  A. No.

For more information, visit www.usafa.af.mil.
Roundabouts

From Page 1

— people there have come to love it. Roundabouts really can be an effective way to move traffic.”

According to Butala, key improvements experienced with traffic circles include a 30-to-50 percent increase in traffic capacity, better traffic flow at intersections with left turning traffic, and continual traffic flow at slower speeds. He also said multi-lane traffic circles can handle 4,000-4,500 vehicles every hour.

“Throughout the design and construction process, CDOT and Kiewit have continually involved and listened to our inputs, and cooperated with the Academy to the fullest extent,” Butala said. “It’s allowed us to be an active partner in the decision making for those components that directly impact us. It’s truly a cooperative effort.”

The North Gate construction is a part of the I-25 expansion project, a $66.4 million plan to add one lane in each direction of the interstate between Woodmen Road and State Highway 105 in Monument. Construction for the 11-mile expansion is expected to wrap-up on Dec. 31.

Roundabouts

Vehicles make their way around the eastern North Gate Boulevard roundabout after it opened Thursday morning.

Roundabout Reminders

- Slow down when approaching the intersection.
- Watch for signs and pavement markings guiding or prohibiting certain movements.
- Enter the roundabout when there is a big enough gap in traffic to the left.
- Drive in a counterclockwise direction.
- Do not stop in the roundabout or pass other vehicles.
- Use turn signals when exiting the roundabout.
- Roundabouts have multiple lanes so choose an entry lane based on destination.
- To turn right at the intersection, choose the right-hand lane and exit in the right-hand lane.
- To continue through the intersection, choose either lane, unless otherwise signed, and exit the same lane as entered.
- To turn left or make a U-turn, use the left lane.
- If the exit is missed, continue around to the exit.

Medals

and it’s important for your MSG brothers and sisters to understand what you do.”

The Black Forest fire burned nearly 24 square miles, eclipsing the 2012 Waldo Canyon fire. It destroyed approximately 500 structures, twice the number destroyed in the Waldo Canyon fire. Airman 1st Class Blake Nelson, a Dallas native, fought both fires: the Waldo Canyon fire erupted just four months after he arrived at the Air Force Academy from technical training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

Fighting the two fires was exciting but also nerve-wracking, Nelson said. Flames in the Black Forest fire climbed as high as 90 feet as they jumped from treetop to treetop.

Nelson said the Black Forest fire felt like déjà vu. “It was, ‘Here we go again,’” he said. He added, “It feels good to help out people who live out there and who didn’t know whether their house was going to be there.”

Nelson said he was grateful to receive the recognition from Schlater and from others in the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron, including 10th CES Commander Lt. Col. Patrick Carley and Fire Chief Ken Helgerson.

“ ‘It feels good to receive something like that,’” he said. Helgerson said the experience was priceless for his firefighters, particularly the junior enlisted Airmen. “That was 20 years of firefighting experience in two days,” he said.

Receiving Air Force Achievement Medals or Air Force Civilian Achievement Awards were:

Hans Barkley
Airman 1st Class Sulaimon Burns
Andrea Caraway
Mark Caraway
David Caulfield
Martin Clinton
Roy Dalton
Staff Sgt. Tanner Derosier
Tommy Disario
Brandon Eubanks
Michael Fitzpatrick
Airman 1st Class Tiegahn Fitzpatrick
Staff Sgt. Jacob Frey
William Gates
Senior Airman Kenneth Gestes
Steven Gonzales
Wesley Harrison
Ken Helgerson
Patrick Holt
Kenneth Kotcher
Patrick Kraft
Xavier Leal
Tech. Sgt. Jason Linfa
Reid Lohse
Staff Sgt. Nicole Longwell
Mike Mater
Jonathan Milam
Tyler Moran
Ryan Moriarty
Airman 1st Class Blake Nelson
Travis Perkins
Ron Prettyman
Staff Sgt. John Salinas
Airman 1st Class Dusty Smock
Airman 1st Class Dusty Smock
Mike Trenker

Firefighters assigned to the 10th Civil Engineer Squadron pose for a group photo after receiving medals Wednesday for helping fight the Black Forest fire in June.
Falcons picked 10th in preseason hoops poll

The Air Force men’s basketball team was picked to finish 10th in Mountain West pre-season media poll, released Tuesday by the conference office.

The poll and all-conference teams were selected by a voting panel of conference media.

Defending Mountain West regular season and tournament champion New Mexico is the overwhelming preseason favorite to win the Mountain West men’s basketball regular season title again in 2013-14.

The Lobos received 23 of 24 first-place votes and 263 points to garner the top spot in the poll.

University of Nevada Las Vegas claimed the remaining first-place vote and 214 points to tie with Boise State for second place, while San Diego State garnered 212 points to finish fourth.

Mountain West newcomer Utah State collected 156 points for fifth place, followed by Colorado State in sixth (142 points) and Wyoming (112 points) in seventh.

Defending Mountain West regular season and tournament champion New Mexico is the overwhelming preseason favorite to win the Mountain West men’s basketball regular season title again in 2013-14.

Boise State returns all five starters among nine letterwinners from a 2012-13 squad that compiled a 21-11 overall record and tied for fourth place in MW action with a 9-7 mark.

The Broncos advanced to the postseason for the fourth time in six years, earning the program’s first NCAA at-large bid with an invitation to the 2013 tournament.

Headlining Boise State’s cast of returnees for fourth-year head coach Leon Rice are All-MW honorees Anthony Drmic and Derrick Marks.

Due to a tie in the balloting, six players were chosen for the 2013-14 Preseason All-MW Team, with two seniors and four juniors representing four institutions.

New Mexico’s Kendall Williams and fellow All-MW performer Alex Kirk.

Air Force men’s basketball coach Dave Pilypich talks to his team last season.

Raymond McCoy
Academy Spirit
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013

Falcon athletic roundup
By Athletic Communications

Air Force intercollegiate competitions placed on a temporary hold due to the government shutdown resumed earlier this week. However, no appropriated funds will be used to fund these programs.

Volleyball
The Falcons host San Diego State in the Cadet East Gym Saturday. This is the second game in a pair Mountain West matchups. On Thursday, the Falcons hosted University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

San Diego State leads its all-time series with the Falcons by a 31-2 margin. Air Force most recently defeated the Aztecs in 2010, as its 3-1 win snapped a five-year losing streak in conference play.

Air Force will make its first trip to San Jose, Calif., in nearly two decades next week, when it faces conference newcomer San Jose State on Thursday.

The Falcons also take on second-year Mountain West opponent Fresno State Oct. 19, in California.

Hockey
The Falcons open the regular season at the Kendall Classic in Anchorage, Alaska, today and Saturday to face Alaska-Fairbanks and d Alaska-Anchorage.

Air Force is back in the Kendall Classic for the second consecutive season, the third time in the last four years and the fourth time overall (1999, 2010, 2012 and 2013).

Last season, Air Force skated to a pair of 3-3 overtime ties with Alaska-Fairbanks and Alaska-Anchorage.

In 2010-11, the Falcons lost to 12th-ranked Alaska-Fairbanks, 5-2, and to Alaska-Anchorage, 3-2. In 2003-04, the Falcons fell to Alaska-Anchorage, 5-4, and beat No. 21 Miami-Ohio, 2-0. In 1999-2000, the Falcons fell to Boston University and Niagara. The Academy is 1-5-2 all-time in the tournament.

Women’s Soccer
The Falcons take on the San Diego State Aztecs (5-5-2, 3-0) today at 4 p.m. and the New Mexico Lobos (5-7-1, 3-0) 11 a.m. Sunday. Both matches are at the Cadet Soccer Stadium.

Last Week, Air Force had both of its conference games at Utah State and Boise State cancelled or postponed due to the 2013 Government Shutdown.

The Falcons are coming off a 2-1 overtime win at Colorado State in its last match Sept. 27.

FALCON 1ST CLASS CHRISTIAN BRECHBUHL

Peak Dining

Dining
	

CADET 1ST CLASS CHRISTIAN BRECHBUHL

Jack Quinn’s Pub

TriCare payment plans available. For more information 719-385-0766.

The Gazette
**Community**

**Academy Spirit**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013**

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**Academy Spirit**

community

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**2013 Hispanic Heritage Month**

The Hispanic Heritage Month lunch and cadet forum will be held in the Arnold Hall Ballroom Oct. 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theme is “Hispanics: Serving and Leading our Nation with Pride and Honor.”

Retired Brig. Gen. Ruben Cubero, the Academy's first Hispanic dean of the faculty, is the guest speaker.

Entertainment will be provided by Mariachi Aguilas.

A lunch of enchiladas or beef taquitos and beans and rice will be provided for $10. Lunch prepayment is required today.

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**Disaster assistance available**

Seven Colorado counties are eligible for individual disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency due to the recent storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides.

Homeowners, renters and business owners in Clear Creek, El Paso, Jefferson, Adams, Boulder, Larimer and Weld Counties sustaining damage may apply for federal disaster assistance.

Individual Assistance was extended after ongoing damage assessments by Colorado Division of Homeland Security, Emergency Management and FEMA officials.

Individual assistance can include grants for home repairs not covered by insurance and rental costs for a temporary home. Grants may also help with serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance: medical, dental and funeral expenses, moving and storage fees and personal property replacement.

Residents in the eligible counties may register at www.disasterassistance.gov.

To apply for disaster assistance, call FEMA at 800-621-3362.

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**Arts and Crafts Art Show**

The theme of the celebration is “Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord, All Ye Lands.”

The Arts and Crafts Center is accepting entries in youth and adult categories, Oct. 18-30. Entries must be submitted by Oct. 30 at 5 p.m.

The competition showcases fine arts, crafts and photography.

For more information, call 333-4579 or visit www.airforcegallery.com.

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**Chapel events**

**Catholic Religious education:** Sundays from 10:15-11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 333-2636.

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**Retired Brig. Gen. Ruben Cubero**

Retired Brig. Gen. Ruben Cubero, the Academy's first Hispanic dean of the faculty, is the guest speaker.

Entertainment will be provided by Mariachi Aguilas.

A lunch of enchiladas or beef taquitos and beans and rice will be provided for $10. Lunch prepayment is required today.

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**Pharmacy Week**

The Community Center will host its 19th Annual Musical Celebration 6:30 p.m., Oct. 12 at the Community Center Chapel.

The event features gospel choirs and praise teams from the local community. Refreshments will be served after the performance.

The theme of the celebration is “Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord, All Ye Lands.”

Sunday Celebration will feature a guest pastor Sunday at 11:30 p.m. A potluck in the chapel annex will follow this service.

For more information, call 333-7627 or 213-6200.

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**Credit score awareness**

It's difficult to improve a credit score significantly in a short period of time, so Academy Airmen should be cautious of unsolicited emails or Internet sites promising to fix their credit.

Basic tips on improving a credit score include:

- Don't apply for multiple credit cards. Select one credit affordable card and use it wisely.
- Pay off outstanding loans or credit accounts on time.
- Avoid making minimum or interest only payments.
- If you’re maxed-out on your credit cards, lenders become suspicious about your financial stability.
- Check your credit report on a regular basis.

For more information, contact the Academy Legal Office at 333-3940.

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**Schedule of Worship**

**Cadet Chapel**

**BUDDHIST**

Thursdays, 6:20 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.

**PROTESTANT**

Traditional Service: Sundays, 9 a.m.

Contemporary Service: Sundays, 11 a.m.

**CATHOLIC**

Mass: Sundays, 10 a.m.

Confession: Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 4:30 - 5:20 p.m. by appointment.

**JEWISH**

Fridays, 7 p.m.

**MUSLIM**

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

**Community Center Chapel**

**CATHOLIC WORSHIP**

Mass: Saturdays, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3:00 p.m.


**PROTESTANT WORSHIP**

Evangelical: Sundays, 10:15 a.m.

Gospel: Sundays, 11:30 a.m.
FREE ADS FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR RETIRED AIR FORCE ACADEMY Personnel!

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