

# SPACE OBSERVER

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# April honors military children everywhere



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane

Kaylee Hatfield runs to the open arms of her mother, Senior Airman Sarah Hatfield, Headquarters Air Force Space Command Communications Support Squadron and member of the High Frontier Honor Guard. April is the Month of the Military Child, honoring children of military members in all branches of the service.

April marks the annual Month of the Military Child observance and in honor of the Peterson Complex kids' corps, base services and child development staffers have planned a host of activities for little kids and big kids alike.

Activities kick off Sunday with a teen center membership drive at the base exchange, noon-2 p.m., and storytelling time at the base library for toddlers through kindergartners at 10 a.m.

Other activities and events at the teen center include tournament night beginning at 5 p.m. Thursday, a lock-in which will include bowling, pizza and swimming April 20, 8 p.m.-8 a.m., karaoke night the 26th, a community beautification project the 28th and more.

Other services-sponsored events include an April 9-23 art display (call 556-7220 for details), free bowling on weekends for kids under 18, a build-a-sandwich lunch social, and a commu-

nity-wide carnival April 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the base youth center. The carnival will include an egg hunt, static displays, firefighter and military working dog demonstrations, and food and games for the whole family. For information on the carnival, call 556-6141.

A full-calendar of events for the Month of the Military Child observance and the teen center calendar are available in the 21st Services insert in this issue of the Space Observer.

## Message from the 21st Space Wing commander

April is a month dedicated to celebrating our children and all they sacrifice for us as military members. Our families, and especially our children, endure great sacrifices. We all know how often our children are affected by the military life. Every PCS we uproot our children, placing them in different schools and communities.

Throughout the month, there will be something for the whole family to enjoy. There will be storytelling at the library, a youth center lock-in, free bowling for children on the weekends and a karaoke night. The celebration culminates with a community-wide carnival on April 21 at the Youth Center, including an egg hunt, static

displays and firefighter and military working dog demonstrations. All these events are great opportunities to share experiences with your children and to say "thanks, we appreciate you."

I've recently returned from visiting our European GSUs. Unit morale was high, facilities were in great shape and our people are doing superbly. I also met with our Guardian Challenge operations teams and had a chance to watch them in action. They are ready to win!

Thanks to our European units for their hospitality.

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler  
21st SW commander

## Buy a wing coin and support Guardian Challenge 2001



21st Space Wing coins are for sale to raise money for Guardian Challenge 2001. The coins cost \$5 each. Call Capt. Brian Freiburger at 556-4570 for more information or stop by the 21st Logistics Group office in Building 365 to buy a coin.

## Wing welcomes new vice commander

The 21st Space Wing welcomed a new vice commander March 23.

Col. C. Donald Alston took over as vice commander, replacing Col. Larry James who was acting vice commander since January.

In the absence of the wing commander, Alston is responsible for day-to-day operations, including a 21st SW work force of more than 8,000 people who provide missile warning and space control for combat forces and the national command authorities of the United States and Canada.

Alston was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1978. He has served in a variety of operations positions at the squadron, group, wing and headquarters levels.

He has also worked as a house liaison officer, United States House of Representatives, and an Air Force legislative liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force; and also performed duties as the executive assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force in Washington, D.C.

He served as deputy director, commander's action group, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., followed by a year as



Col. C. Donald Alston

executive officer to the vice-commander, HQ AFSPC.

After serving at AFSPC, Alston was assigned to U.S. Space Command as chief, requirements integration branch, directorate of plans.

He was then assigned as chief, integration division, directorate of plans, USSPACECOM.

Alston comes to the 21st SW following his command of the 341st Operations Group at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont.

### Action line

#### Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.

**Q.** Can the automated refill system at the clinic be better-organized? Last month I tried over a weekend to refill a prescription and still couldn't get through on Monday -- the pharmacy line was always busy. Several weeks later, I had the same problem. The prescription line takes you through about four minutes of talking and then says our automated refill system is down, call back. I did that a couple of times. When I called the pharmacy, they said it was working fine. When I tried again, it still wasn't working and I got a busy signal the rest of the day. Thanks.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

**A.** Thank you for your call. The automated pharmacy refill system is generally very reliable; however, we have had two instances this year when it was not working properly. I agree it takes a long time to get through all the messages on the system when you call. I have asked the clinic pharmacy to look at ways to streamline the process, while also ensuring those who call are able to get the information they need. In the future, if the refill system is not functioning properly, you can bring your empty vials to the pharmacy and we will refill them while you wait. I apologize for your recent inconvenience. If you have any further questions or comments, please call Major David Bobb at 556-1109.

**Q.** Is anything being done with regards to increasing our civilian locality pay so we are more in line with Denver-Boulder-Greeley (approximately 4.3 percent)? We are currently getting the same locality pay as Laughlin AFB (Del Rio, TX) and Altus AFB (Altus, OK). We all know that our locality is much more expensive to live than the previous two locations. If this can't be handled locally, can you provide information of who to contact (politically) so that our word can be heard?

**A.** You asked a great question. Locality pay adjustments are based on the cost-of-labor, not the cost-of-living. Cost-of-living measures look at the cost of consumer goods and services within a locality, while cost-of-labor measures look at how much employers pay their workers for specific kinds and levels of work. In short, locality pay is intended to make federal pay comparable to what other employers pay in the same area and is based on individual Bureau of Labor Statistics survey locations. The

Denver-Boulder-Greeley locality pay was determined by the large number of federal general schedule employees in what is identified as the consolidated metropolitan statistical area. Our civilian personnel office is not aware of any plan to change the pay area boundary lines. Headquarters Air Force did ask the Air Force Audit Agency to assess the locality pay in Colorado Springs two years ago. The AFAA determined the Colorado Springs locality pay was in line with other bases. Unfortunately, there is no local procedure to increase locality pay for this area. Should you wish to discuss this further, I recommend you contact Candace Cuadra, Civilian Personnel Flight, at 556-4733. She can direct you the appropriate contact point in Washington, D.C.

**Q.** I want to give a word of praise to whoever is responsible for maintaining the roads and parking lots after snowstorms. I have lived outside the main gate of Peterson for 25 years and in all these years, I have never seen the roads as well-cared-for as they are at this time. I think they should be recognized; especially those who are out there clearing the roads and parkways on weekends. I thank you very much.

**A.** I agree with you. Our crews do an outstanding job maintaining our roads, entryways, and sidewalks. They put in many long hours, especially after snowstorms, but they know their efforts ensure a safer environment for all our personnel and base visitors. It's important to note that we have great people from our 21st Civil Engineering Squadron, 721st CES (Cheyenne Mountain), and Embassy Lawn and Landscaping working together to keep Peterson and Cheyenne Mountain safe. Thank you for calling and recognizing our people.

## Civilian leave now charged by the hour

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFP) — When federal civilian employees who serve in the Selected Reserve use a portion of their 15-day military leave, they will now be charged by the hour instead of by the day.

The change is the result of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001, signed into law Dec. 21. Full-time federal employees working a 40-hour workweek will accrue 120 hours of military leave in a fiscal year, or the equivalent of three 40-hour workweeks to perform active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty for training. Part-time employees and employees on uncommon tours will have their military leave prorated based on the number of hours in their regularly scheduled pay period.

Air Force Reserve Command officials said the command's policy on charging military leave changed drastically but became simpler to understand and apply.

Employees can now use military leave only for periods of a civilian workday when active- or inactive-military duty overlaps with the civilian work schedule. They may not use military leave for an entire civilian workday if they are released from military duty and travel before the end of the civilian workday. When they request military leave for inactive duty training, they will be charged the amount of military leave necessary to cover the period of training and necessary travel from their residence to place of duty and back home.

Under the previous policy, employees were charged a full day of military leave, annual leave, accrued compensatory time off, etc., for the second and subsequent consecutive civilian workdays on which active-duty pay was earned unless they were released from active duty before the start of the civilian duty day.

For example, an employee with a civilian work schedule of Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. who worked 4 to 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday was charged full days of leave for Tuesday and Wednesday under the consecutive day rule. No leave was required for consecutive days of inactive duty for training.

Now employees will only be charged leave for the period of time that military duty overlaps the civilian work schedule. Civilians, including air reserve technicians, who perform active duty at home station must have their orders approved by their group commander or higher.

Another advantage of the new policy is that it eliminates the need to take military leave for civilian nonwork days — weekends, holidays and scheduled days off — that occur in the middle of a tour or consecutive tours of military duty.

In the past, reservists who used 15-day military leave or 44-day technician leave on any civilian workday of those tours, active duty or inactive duty, were charged for that intervening time. No military leave was charged for nonwork days occurring at the beginning or the end of those tours.

Other AFRC policies not affected by the legislation remain unchanged.

(Courtesy of AFRC News Service)

## AETC opens local operating location

Air Education and Training Command Studies and Analysis Squadron opened a new operating location in Colorado Springs, marking the occasion with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Federal Building Tuesday.

OL-C will provide headquarters AETC at Randolph AFB with on-site support for training development and training acquisition of new space systems. Air Force members at Det. 1 AETC SAS at Edwards AFB, Calif., handled those duties before OL-C stood up.

"This was a logical move in two ways. First it provides a tremendous cost savings for the Air Force in terms of temporary duty funds. And second, and more important, it will allow for a much closer working relationship between AETC and Air Force Space Command by having AETC personnel in the same location," said Major DuWayne Bredvik, commander of Det 1, AETC SAS.

OL-C supports training development for the Space Based Infrared System, a new ground system for missile warning, the NORAD/U.S. Space Command Warfighting Support System, Cheyenne Mountain

upgrades, and the Advanced Extremely High Frequency/Wideband Gap Filler.

"We're excited to be in Colorado Springs where we can work on a daily basis with Air Force Space Command to provide the best training possible for the people working on our new space systems," said Master Sgt. Gary Joens, OL-C chief. Joens was instrumental in setting up OL-C. For more information, contact Joens at DSN 692-9517.



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Left to right, Steve Smith, building manager of the Federal Building, Maj. DuWayne Bredvik, Detachment 1 AETC Studies and Analysis Squadron commander, Master Sgt. Gary Joens, OL-C Chief and George Douglas, Federal Building maintenance contractor, participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony to open the new AETC Studies and Analysis Squadron operating location at the Federal Building in Colorado Springs.

## New pharmacy plan takes effect Sunday

Significant changes to the TRICARE pharmacy benefits will be implemented this year. Effective April 1, Medicare-eligible retirees of the uniformed services and their families and survivors, age 65 years and older, will be provided with a pharmacy benefit under provisions of the 2001 Defense Authorization Act.

The newly restructured TRICARE pharmacy plan will also reduce co-payments for most TRICARE beneficiaries. Perhaps the most notable change resulting from this plan is that co-payments will no longer be based on a sponsor's military status (i.e., active duty or retired), but on whether the prescription is brand name or generic. There are no new enrollment fees associated with this plan.

Eligibility requires members meet Medicare and/or Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System requirements. This pro-

gram also applies to dependent parents and parents-in-law who meet eligibility requirements.

Seniors 65 and over: Medicare-eligible retirees of the uniformed services and their families and survivors, 65 or older on or before April 1 automatically qualify for the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program. This program will furnish senior beneficiaries with government subsidized (i.e., paid with public funds) prescription drugs via military treatment facility pharmacies, the National Mail Order Pharmacy and TRICARE network and non-network civilian pharmacies. Those eligible who turn 65 on or after April 1 must be enrolled in Medicare Part B to take advantage of retail pharmacy and NMOP benefits.

For more Medicare information or to obtain a Medicare Part B application, visit any Social Security office, call 1-800-772-

1213, or visit the Medicare home page at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

TRICARE Beneficiaries Under 65 — Effective April 1, 2001, TRICARE-eligible active duty family members and retirees and their family members will see a change in their copayments/cost-share for prescriptions.

This pharmacy plan provides all TRICARE beneficiaries, regardless of age or military status, with options of where to get prescriptions filled, including MTF pharmacies, the NMOP, and TRICARE network and non-network civilian pharmacies.

For more information on the new TRICARE pharmacy plan, pharmacy options and co-payment information, access the TRICARE Management Activity Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil), call toll-free 1-888-TRIWEST, or visit the local TRICARE Service Center. (Courtesy of TRICARE)

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## Air Force's first eye laser surgery clinic opens

By Jennifer Brugman  
AFA Public Affairs

The first Air Force clinic to offer laser surgery to correct vision opened at the U.S. Air Force Academy March 19.

"The Academy was chosen because of its visibility and base population," said Staff Sgt. Rick Mann, NCOIC of ophthalmic surgery. "However, the clinic is open to all active duty members of all branches of the military."

The clinic opened after a three-year study at Lackland AFB determined the benefits of the procedure. While the clinic is open to all active-

duty military, whether or not they will be eligible for the procedure depends on their total eye-health.

"It's going to depend on what their prescription is and the general health of their eyes," said Valerie Chavez, clinic office manager. "This is determined at the consultation. They could have the right prescription but there could be other health problems."

The Academy clinic uses the photo-refractive keratectomy, or PRK, technique instead of the highly-advertised Lasik procedure. Both use the same laser but, according to the Surgeon General advisor, Lasik has more complications.

In Lasik, the top part of the cornea

is sliced to create a flap, then the laser corrects the inner layer of the cornea. The flap is replaced after surgery and the eye's natural suction keeps the flap in place during the healing process. Healing takes place within a week.

In PRK, the outer layer of the cornea is cut to correct vision, healing occurs within three to four months. Mann would prefer to use Lasik.

"We're hoping to go to Lasik because it has a quicker recovery time," The NCO said that both procedures have a 3 percent complication rate, but each technique can cause complications in different areas.

Benefits to force readiness are an expected result.

"They (the Air Force) will no longer have to do eyeglass inserts for gas masks," Mann said.

The PRK laser is able to correct low to moderate myopia and astigmatism, according to Mann.

Consultations occur at the clinic and take 1 1/2 hours. The procedure itself takes 5-to-10 minutes per eye. The clinic can accommodate 25 patients per week.

"We have 400 people on the waiting list," Mann said, explaining that those interested who sign up now will have to be patient. "It takes time to get through all the consultations."

For more information, call the clinic at 333-9646.

## Requirements change for civilian off-duty employment

Maj. Joseph Jacobsen  
21st SW deputy staff judge advocate

Military members have long been required to obtain approval before beginning off-duty employment. Until recently, civilian employees were not required to do so. Feb. 1, that changed. Air Force Space Command now requires all command members – military and civilian – to complete an Air Force Form 3902 before starting or continuing an off-duty job. That requirement is spelled out in AFSPC Instruction 51-4.

Members and employees who want an off-duty job must complete the form before starting work. Those who already have off-duty jobs have 90 days from AFI promulgation, May 2, to complete the form.

The form is available on the Air Force publishing Website or on the local area network. Once complete, the form must be kept in a military member's personal information file or an employee's work file.

Military members who do not comply with these requirements could be subject to discipline under the Uniform Code of Military

Justice. Civilian employees who fail to comply with the instruction are subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*.

Supervisors and commanders, when considering whether to authorize off-duty employment, must remember that Air Force Space Command personnel must not engage in off-duty employment that is prohibited by statute or regulation, would detract from readiness, or would pose a security risk. Off-duty employment includes business activities and compensated outside employment, including self-employment.

Applicants don't need to fill out section III of the form, Judge Advocate Recommendation, unless they are required to file a SF 278, OGE Form 450, or off-duty employment will be with a "prohibited source" as defined in the JER. Supervisors and commanders are always free to request JA review and recommendation on this form.

Supervisors of bargaining unit members should consult with JA and CPO regarding this new instruction. The instruction can be found on the AFSPC publications Website.

## Peterson Museum volunteers needed

The museum needs volunteers to work in the gift shop, act as greeters, perform duties as tour guides, help clean and maintain the exterior of aircraft on display in the air park, and to be available to support other on-going projects. For information on how you can help, call Rick Sherry at 599-9646 or Dr. Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, museum director, at 556-8278.



21st Space Wing



# USAFE commander visits Det 4, 18th SPSS at Morón AB

## Congratulations

Senior Airman Josh Killian, 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron, received top graduate honors as the John Levitow Award winner, and was also awarded the Military Citizenship Award, at the class 01-C Airman Leadership School graduation at Misawa Air Base, Japan.



Above: Master Sgt. Omars Blaus (right), Detachment 4, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron, chief of maintenance, and Capt. James Forand (center), Det. 4 commander, field questions from Gen. Gregory Martin (left), United States Air Forces in Europe commander, about the center piece of the Moron Optical Space Surveillance System operations, a 22-inch, electro-optical telescope capable of viewing objects in deep space, some of which are more than 20,000 miles from the Earth's surface. Right: Tech. Sgt. John Soares (left) briefs General Martin, and Col. John Maluda (right), USAFE director of communications, in the Space Operations Center of the MOSS during a recent site visit. MOSS is operated and maintained by members of Detachment 4, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron, located at Morón Air Base, Spain. (Courtesy photos)

Detachment 4, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron, Morón Air Base, Spain



# Traveling Chefs will help clear up kitchen mysteries

By Bonnie Powell  
DeCA Marketing Business Unit

Peterson Air Force Base commissary shoppers can learn from the best as traveling chefs visit the commissary Wednesday as part of a national promotion aimed at putting "home cooking" back on the military family's menu.

The first leg of "Meal Solutions for the Military Family" kicked off this week at Fort Bragg, N.C., and will include stops at 30 commissaries in March and April.

The "Traveling Chefs" are graduates of the Florida Culinary Institute and will prepare recipes during two-hour demonstrations from 10-noon and 2-4 p.m. Morning sessions feature breakfast and appetizer demonstrations, with dinner and dessert in the afternoon. Customers who stroll by or bring folding chairs and take notes will find something cooking every 20 minutes, according to Debbie Coffman, director of marketing for tour sponsor Overseas Service Corp.

The "Meal Solutions for the Military

Family" tour fits in well with customer outreach initiatives of Defense Commissary Agency Director Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter, Jr. Military members and spouses in commissary focus groups have expressed a desire for more information on how to cook; and for quick, simple recipes.

Demos will be professionally presented in a kitchen-like setting. "Customers will also learn how to present the dishes," said Coffman. "The chefs will have eight recipes printed on 'chef hats' to hand out so people can make the same dishes at home." Coupons will also be available from manufacturers participating in the tour.

The "Traveling Chefs" will also visit the commissary at Fort Carson Tuesday and the Air Force Academy commissary Thursday. Recipes used on the tour will be available in

the shopping/promotions section of [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com), just in case shoppers can't make it to the demos or want to print additional copies of the recipes.

Call the PAFB commissary at 556-4500 for more information or to double check the tour schedule.



## Virtual MPF expands services

The Air Force recently expanded the capability of the virtual Military Personnel Flight to include Guard and Reserve members. The expansion provides speed and convenience for members who are not stationed near a military base. This update brings vMPF a little closer to becoming a total force package as last month alone, the vMPF Website received more than 200,000 hits. This release, the third of the new vMPF, adds the following five applications for the Guard and Reserve:

**Duty Status History:** Allows members to access current and previous duty information, including effective dates, Air Force Specialty Codes and duty titles.

**Reenlistment Eligibility Inquiry:** Allows members to see if they are eligible to re-enlist for waiver consideration.

**Selected Reenlistment Bonus eligibility:** Determines if a member is eligible for an SRB and in what zone.

**Proof of service:** Allows members to print their proof of service letter; a document needed by the department of veterans affairs when members purchase homes.

**Point credit history:** Allows members to view the points awarded toward retirement.

Any Reserve or Guard member is able to access service modules wherever there is an internet connection. Members can now check their total retirement points without waiting for a mailed copy from the Air Reserve Personnel Center. They can also print an authorized copy of their service history to prove eligibility for benefits. These services, which will expand in future releases, allows those unit reservists and IMA's who live far from their units, to access their personnel records from their homes.

For more information about the vMPF, go to the knowledge management page of the Air Force Personnel Center Website, <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/km>. For more information about the new applications, contact HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center at 1-800-525-0102 or the AFPC Call Center at 1-800-558-1404. (Courtesy AFPC)

# 21st SW airman receives John L. Levitow Honor Graduate award at ALS graduation

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant  
21st SW Public Affairs

PETERSON AFB CO - A 21st Space Wing airman received the John L. Levitow Award and the Academic Achievement Award during the Peterson Air Force Base Airman Leadership School, class 01-D, graduation banquet Tuesday at the enlisted club.

Senior Airman Melanie Epperson, a staff select and recent honor graduate from the Defense Information School in Fort Meade, Md., returned to duty yesterday following completion of the 5-week course. She and fellow-DINFOS honor graduate Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp produce the base paper, the Space Observer.

The leadership award went to class leader Senior Airman Tyrone M. Clark, 11th Space Warning Squadron, and distinguished graduates were Senior Airman C. Gene Adams, 3rd Space Operation Squadron, and Senior Airman Jodi M. Glassic, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB.

The class was lauded by guest speaker Chief Master Sgt. Vance M. Clarke, 50th Space Wing com-

mand chief master sergeant. The chief reminded graduates and their guests that successful completion of ALS has a long-term purpose: To guide and impassion the airmen for whom they will one day be responsible.

Referring to the oath enlisted members take he said, "You will be the noncommissioned officers appointed over them ... whose legal orders they have sworn to obey." The chief reminded them of the enormity of such a responsibility, and the incomparable satisfaction of fulfilling that role.

Graduates represented units from several regional bases, operating locations and detachments. In addition to Epperson, Clark, Glassic and Adams, graduates included the following senior airmen:

Fernando Santos, Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Cheyenne Mountain, AS  
Alicia A. Scovill, 13th Air Support Operations Squadron, Fort Carson

Sean C. Stephenson, 721st Communications Squadron, CMAS

Thomas E. Temple, 00-ALC/FM, Hill AFB Utah  
Matthew B. Thompson, 721st Civil Engineering

Squadron, CMAS

Jennifer L. West, 50th Civil Engineering Squadron, Schriever AFB

Maripi S. Whitman, 10th Medical Group, Peterson AFB

Justin A. Youvan, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Nellis AFB, Nev.

Gregory A. Mullinax, 1st Space Operations Squadron, Schriever AFB

James R. Pepe, Headquarters, United States Space Command, Peterson AFB

Jeremy K. Potts, 821st SFS, Buckley AFB

Lacey I. Price, 50th Support Group, Schriever AFB

James J. Robbins, 21st SFS, Peterson AFB

Richard O. Rodriguez, 1st SOS, Schriever AFB

Kelvin A. Ruizno, 2nd Space Operations Squadron, Schriever AFB

Charles R. Howard, 21st Operations Support Squadron, Peterson & Schriever AFB

James M. Hunt, 821st Support Squadron, Buckley AFB

Francis P. Impastato, 21st Mission Support Squadron, Peterson AFB

Michael A. Maldonado, 10th MDG, Schriever AFB

Timothy J. Martz, 566th Intelligence Operations Squadron, Buckley AFB

Aaron C. Mitchell, 4th SOPS, Schriever AFB

Edward D. Scott, Eagle Flight Leader, 50th Communications Squadron, Schriever AFB

Lori S. Duplessis, Falcon Flight Leader, 2nd Space Warning Squadron, Buckley AFB

C. Gene Adams, 3rd SOPS, Schriever AFB

Clair F. Corbin, 721st CS, Cheyenne Mountain AS



Senior Airman Melanie Epperson receives her Airman Leadership School diploma from Col. C. Donald Alston, 21st Space Wing vice commander, during ALS graduation ceremony. Epperson received the John L. Levitow and Academic Achievement awards.

## New Items

**EFFECTIVE WRITING WORKSHOP:** The Enlisted Professional Development Committee will conduct a two-hour workshop on effective writing April 12 at 8 a.m., Building 350, Room 2127. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rene' Melero at 474-3599 to sign up or e-mail Rene.Melero@cheyennemountain.af.mil.

**ENLISTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** The next EPD seminars are scheduled for May. The senior NCO seminar will be May 8, NCO seminar is May 9-10, and the airmen seminar will be May 11. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rene' Melero at 474-3599 or e-mail Rene.Melero@cheyennemountain.af.mil.

**NO MORE OIL DISPOSAL ON BASE:** The used oil disposal igloo, known as "Iggy", will be removed the first week of

April because of misuse. Dumping unauthorized materials violates environmental laws, making Peterson Air Force Base subject to state and federal fines and penalties. Wing legal office was consulted and agreed that the potential threat to the environment as well as the possibility for fines and penalties outweigh the need to maintain the service. Here are some alternate disposal options.

(1) Wednesday-Sunday, at the PAFB Auto Skills Center. Call 556-4481 for details.

(2) Most oil change facilities will take your oil whether they change it or not.

(3) The Air Force Academy will take most types of household waste liquids as well as oil Monday-Friday. Call 333-3852 for more information.

(4) El Paso County will operate a full-time facility on Marksheffel Road, about four miles north of the base, that will accept oil and other household waste. It will be operational this fall. Until then, El Paso County accepts most household wastes one day in April and one day in September at Penrose Stadium. Call 575-8450 for details.

## Miscellaneous

**SPACE SYMPOSIUM:** The 17th National Space Symposium will be April 9-12 at the Broadmoor International Center. Featuring top national and international leaders, the symposium's theme this year is "Space 2001: An Earth Odyssey." The symposium needs volunteers to help with media relations, escort speakers, assist with presentations, work information booths, coordinate transportation, support registration and provide security services. Volunteers will have unlimited access to exhibits and may attend speaker sessions as well. For more information or to learn how to volunteer, go to the symposium web site, [www.ussf.org/symposium01](http://www.ussf.org/symposium01) and select "volunteer." Active duty military may also contact the volunteer coordinator, Lt. Col. Charlie Manship, at [charles.manship@peterson.af.mil](mailto:charles.manship@peterson.af.mil), or call 554-9304.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** The 21st Support Group will host a blood drive Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Building 350. Time slot reservations are requested. For more information, call 556-8222 or 556-7066.

**FRANKLIN-COVEY CLASSES:** The "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," a three-day course in personal leadership based on the book by Stephen Covey, will be offered Tuesday through Thursday and April 17-19, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day. "What Matters Most," a one-day time management course from Franklin-Covey, will be April 11 and 20. Courses are open to 21st Space Wing active duty and civil service members. Call 556-6104 or 556-7283 for more information.

## Civilian Personnel Flight 556-7073

**VOLUNTARY LEAVE TRANSFER PROGRAM:** Civilian annual leave donations are needed for a Pope Air Force Base employee assigned to the 43rd Communication Squadron. She has been diagnosed with a cerebral aneurysm and is in need of an indefinite number of hours of donated leave. To donate leave, or for more information, call the civilian personnel flight, workforce effectiveness section at 556-9231 or e-mail [theresa.dickson@peterson.af.mil](mailto:theresa.dickson@peterson.af.mil).

**DEVELOPMENTAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM:** This program allows management the option of restructuring positions to the entry or intermediate grade levels with an identified final target grade. This establishes a formal developmental program with the intent of recruiting and retaining candidates with high potential for development or future leadership positions. The DOP primarily targets employees in GS-1 through GS-8 level positions who are not serving under a time-limited appointment or in a position targeted to the GS-9 or above. Full performance level of the DOP identified positions is normally the GS-11 level. Critical to the success of this program is the identification of appropriate target positions, which is the responsibility of management officials with assistance from the Civilian Personnel Flight. Management officials who wish to identify positions within their organizations to fill using the DOP should contact their servicing affirmative employment/staffing specialist. Announcements for recruitment for DOP positions will be announced on the civilian personnel flight web page [www.peterson.af.mil/21mssdpc/](http://www.peterson.af.mil/21mssdpc/).

## Family Support Center 556-6141

**CLASSES:** Classes are conducted in the family support center classroom, 135 Dover Street, Building 350, Room 1016 (unless otherwise specified). Registration is required for all classes. To register, call family support at 556-6141 or stop by the center.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** To review a list of volunteer opportunities from District 11 schools contact Larry Land at 556-9268.

**JOB ORIENTATION:** Job orientation classes are scheduled for Thursday, and April 12 and 26 from 1-2:30 p.m. This class gives a brief overview of information on the local job market and how the family support center can help with job searching.

### CAREER MARKETING:

Career marketing class is a workshop on conducting an effective job search, writing a competitive resume and interviewing effectively for a job. The next class is April 12, 8 a.m.-noon.

**GOING OVERSEAS:** This program assists families in dealing with a new language, customs, courtesies and lifestyle when preparing for a move to a foreign country. Information on travel, phones, currency and voltage requirements are just a few of the subjects that will be addressed in this class, held slated for 11, 8-9 a.m.

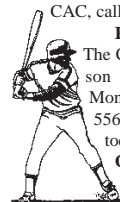
## Family Advocacy 556-8943

**STRESS MANAGEMENT:** Learn basic techniques for managing stress. The next class is Tuesday 2-3:30 p.m., at the base education center. There will also be classes April 10, 17 and 24.

**BLENDED FAMILY PARENTING:** Learn more about the unique challenges of how a step-family functions. Class dates are Wednesday, April 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 2:00-3:30, at the base library.

## Community Activities Center 556-7671

**COPPER MOUNTAIN:** The CAC has reduced prices on lift tickets to Copper Mountain Resort. Ski or snowboard more this winter now that lift tickets have been reduced to \$30. To get your tickets at the CAC, call 556-7671.



### ROCKIES SEASON OPENER:

The Colorado Rockies baseball team season opener against Seattle will be Monday. For more information, call 556-1733. Sign up by close of business today.

### CRAFT FAIR:

The CAC will sponsor a craft fair at the officers club ballroom April 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Table rent is \$10. For more information, call Deb Connor at 556-1737. The registration deadline is Monday.

**BASIC OIL PAINTING:** Learn the basics of oil painting during a four-session class, Tuesday, Thursday, April 17 and 19, from 5-7 p.m. at the CAC. Cost is \$30. All materials will be furnished on a loan basis. Deadline to sign up is Monday. For more information, call 556-1732.

**STAINED GLASS:** Class dates are April 24, 26, May 1, 3, 8 and 10. Cost is \$40 and includes materials and instruction. Call 556-1732 to sign up.

## Military Personnel Flight 556-7377

**MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT SURVEYS:** Each year, the Air Force Personnel Center surveys MPF customers at installations worldwide on the quality of service they get. This year, AFPC is using on-line technology to accomplish the survey. Individuals are chosen randomly to participate in the survey and will be contacted by AFPC via e-mail. The e-mail will explain the purpose and the scope of the survey and will provide an Internet site address to access the survey program. Participation in this survey is confidential and the MPF does not know who has been selected. If you get an e-mail from AFPC asking you to participate, the MPF needs you to take the time and effort to complete the survey. The information is collected, analyzed, and provided to MPF commanders. Your time and effort will enable the MPF to provide better customer service.



## Education Center 556-4064

**VEAP/MGIB:** Public Law 106-419 provides an opportunity for certain Veterans Education Assistance Program participants to participate in the Montgomery G. I. Bill. The education office will receive a list of eligible members within the next two weeks and will notify all eligible active duty Air Force members. The opportunity will affect more than 25,000 Air Force members. The intent of the law is to catch the people who contributed to VEAP at one time in their careers, but may have withdrawn their contributions, making them ineligible for the last conversion.

## Commissary 556-4500

### HOURS OF OPERATION:

Sunday - 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday - 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Wednesday - 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Thursday - 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday - 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Saturday - 8 a.m.-6 p.m.



### Rise high and hit hard



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

John Faulkner, HQ AFSPC/CE intramural volleyball team, hammers the ball over 21st CS defenders during recreational league intramural volleyball action Wednesday afternoon at the fitness center. 21st CS won the match in two games, 25-19 and 25-21. The win gives the 21st CS a record of 6-1 while HQ AFSPC/CE drops to 4-3 with the loss. Intramural Volleyball play-offs begin April 17.

## Olympic USA Men's Volleyball

The USA Men's Volleyball Team (ranked fourth in the world) will visit the Peterson Air Force Base Fitness Center, April 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Admission is FREE**

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. -- Practice (open to the public)  
12:30-1 p.m.-- Scrimmage game against Peterson AFB players  
1-1:30 p.m. -- Meet with fans, sign autographs  
Call Les Stewart at 556-4475 for more information

## Sports Shorts

### Softball coaches meeting

There will be an intramural softball coaches meeting April 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the sports and fitness center. Call Les Stewart at 556-4475 for details.

### Soccer coaches meeting

There will be an intramural soccer coaches meeting Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the sports and fitness center. Call Les Stewart at 556-4475 for details.

### Federal Cup 5K race

The 18th annual Federal Cup five-kilometer race for runners and racewalkers is May 19 at 8:15 a.m. at the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, Colo. The

race also features a 1K Fun Run for children as well as refreshments, medals and trophies for winning individuals and teams, and a prize drawing for all 5K participants. Commemorative t-shirts will be available for \$7 on a first-come, first-served basis. Team categories include men, women, co-ed, masters and seniors. The pre-registration entry fee is \$5 (\$10 on race day). More specific Federal Cup information, including race entry forms and past race results, are available at the Federal Cup Home Page at: <http://fedcup.homestead.com>.

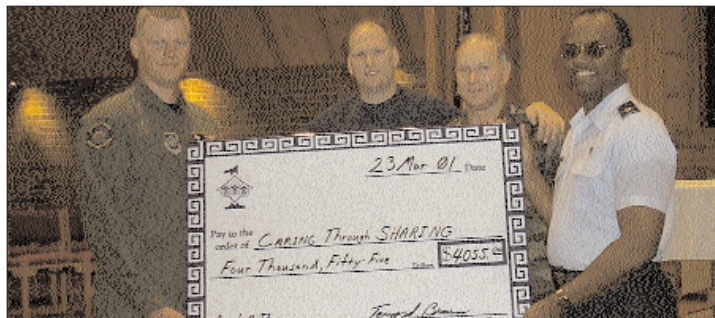


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

### Caring through sharing

Members of the Colorado Springs First Sergeants Council present the chapel with proceeds from the March 9, Caring Through Sharing Bowl-a-thon. Left to right are, Master Sgt. David Lawrence, tournament director, Jeff Jutzi, Senior Master Sgt. Terry Brown, First Sergeants Diamond Council president and Chaplain (Maj.) George Duncan. The bowl-a-thon raised \$4,055, with the largest donation coming from Jutzi.



