



This Issue

News

Are you ready to deploy?

Deployment process - Page 3



Safety key to fun at new skate park in military family housing - Page 4

Feature



Theft doesn't pay - Page 8

Inside

- News....3-4
- Air Force News....5
- GSU News....6
- FYI....7
- Commentary....9
- Sports....10,12

Snow Call Line 556-SNOW

Call the 21st Space Wing Snow Call Line for current information on weather delays or closures at Peterson AFB.



Photo by Senior Airman Shane Sharp

Going up!

Construction workers continue work on the new U.S. Space Command/North American Aerospace Defense building Wednesday. The building, along with the Army Space Command building, is 53 percent complete. The ARSPACE building is scheduled for completion in June and the U.S. Space/NORAD building should be completed by late 2002.

NCO Academy receives facelift

By 2nd Lt. Suzie Kohout
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Military and civilian members from the Peterson complex gathered at the Noncommissioned Officer Academy for a ribbon cutting ceremony Jan. 9.

The ceremony officially welcomed future senior NCOs to their newly renovated facility.

"The NCO Academy can now increase our class size and keep up with current promotion rates," said Chief Master Sgt. Alex Reyna, NCO Academy commandant.

Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Jennings, College of Enlisted Professional Military Education vice commandant, cut the ribbon, assisted by Col. Don Alston, 21st Space Wing vice commander; Rob Dixon, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron, and Reyna.

The NCOA can now accomplish its mission and goals more successfully, which is to "make good NCOs better", Reyna said.

The Forrest L. Vosler

NCOA provides technical sergeants with a 6-week long course where they learn about the profession of arms, leadership, and communication skills.

This facility now includes nine newly remodeled classrooms with video camera and DVD equipment, enabling faculty to train between 87 to 135 students. The academy also has a new learning resource center with new computers that are installed under glass tabletops, a larger auditorium, a new conference room and a break room.

"It's a benefit (because) we train more students and train them on state of the art equipment in order to enhance their education," said Reyna.

Command chiefs from student's bases (Fairchild, McChord, Hill, F.E. Warren, McConnell, Malstrom, Schriever, Buckley, and Peterson Air Force Bases and the Air Force Academy) sponsor different classrooms throughout the academy. Each chief can donate pictures, coffee mugs or base



Photo by 2nd Lt. Suzie Kohout

Tech. Sgt. Mark Sullivan, a student and squadron commander at Peterson's NCO Academy uses one of the learning resource center's new state-of-the-art computer systems during a break from class.

memorabilia to a classroom to represent their base and their students.

According to Reyna, the vision of an improved NCO Academy came about a year and a half ago when academies facilities at Peterson, Tyndall, and Lackland where evaluated because of the increase of promotion rates. A new NCO Academy is also in the process of being completed at Gunter-Maxwell.

Ninety-nine percent of

academy students are technical sergeants, so it was appropriate that the school was dedicated to Tech. Sgt. Forrest L. Vosler who was awarded the highest military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Vosler was only one of six Air Force enlisted members to receive this honor. He passed away on Feb. 17, 1992 and on Sept. 9 that year the Peterson NCO academy was dedicated to him.

Friend says goodbye to Nate

By 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

The last time I saw Army Special Forces Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Chapman he was getting his airborne wings from the commandant of the Army's Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga. He and I were going through the same school.

He was looking forward to a career with Special Forces. The way he explained it to me was that if we weren't willing to go to the undesirable places and do the dirty jobs that no one else wants to do, then the bad guy wins.

I remember thinking at the time that it was strange that someone still believed in the simple "good guy, bad guy" concept. In a time of rapidly changing geopolitical policy, was there still such a thing as a black-hatted villain?

The events of Sept. 11

showed me how right Nate was.

Nate was killed Jan. 4, when enemy fighters ambushed him near the Pakistan border -- in the middle of the action, where he longed to be.

Fighting wars from miles away has its advantages. But for Nate and other special operators, the sense of excitement is part of who they are. It's in their blood. They know the risk associated with the job and they accept it.

Nate's job as a Special Forces soldier, wearing the Army green beret, took him all over the world and into war zones. He parachuted into Panama during Operation Just Cause in 1989. He served in the Gulf War and was deployed to Haiti. And finally to Afghanistan.

He and the others from the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) left Fort Lewis and headed to the mountainous

landscape of Afghanistan to do the dirty job of hunting down terrorists and restoring order to that country.

For those who choose to belong to Special Forces, when the war starts they feel an urge to be in the middle of the action, usually at a spot that many people can't find on a map. They do it, not for glory, medals or reward, but simply because it needs to be done. There's a close-knit group that many people will never understand. They look to each other as family. It's not uncommon for fellow team members to know more about each other than their own families.

Nate is now back home in Fort Lewis where his family of brothers in arms is stationed. There's nothing left to do except say goodbye Nate. Thanks for going where no one wanted to go and taking on the bad guy.

Action Line

QUESTION: I heard a rumor that a baby was abducted at the Peterson clinic. Is that true?

ANSWER: Thank you for your call. It is important to all that we control rumors we may hear. On January 14, the 10th Medical Group initiated an exercise at Peterson clinic that involved the scenario of a baby abduction. This was only an exercise and not a real world event.

No child was lost or harmed. It is required for all medical facilities to practice emergency procedures period-

ically and be prepared to respond to contingencies. The clinic staff and security forces did an outstanding job responding to this exercise and treated it as if it were a real incident.

Many valuable lessons were noted which will enhance an already robust response capability to ensure the safety and well being of all who we care for. Again, I appreciate your question.

Submitting Action Lines

To submit an Action Line call 556-7777 or fax your question to 556-7848.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
21st SW commander

Space Observer

Published by the Gazette, 30 S. Prospect Street, Box 1779, Colorado Springs, 80901, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 21st Space Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Space Observer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by DOD, the Department of the Air Force or the Gazette, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made avail-

able for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs Office, 775 Loring Ave., Suite 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Space Observer is published every Friday. For advertising inquiries, call the Gazette, (719) 476-1640 for display ads, and 476-1685 for classified ads.

Articles for the Space Observer should be submitted to the 21st SW/PAI, Attn: Space Observer, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. Deadline

for submission is 4:30 p.m. the Wednesday one week before publication. All articles, copy and announcements submitted will be edited to conform to AFI Series 35 and the Associated Press Stylebook and Label Manual. For details, call the editor at (719) 556-8476 or DSN 834-7846.

21st Space Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
Chief of Public Affairs
Capt. Donald B. Kerr
NCOIC Internal Information
Tech. Sgt. Gino Mattorano
Editor
Senior Airman
Josh Clendenen
Assistant Editor
Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson

21st Space Wing



GSU

At a Glance



Unit: 1st Space Control Squadron

Location: Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Colo.

Mission: The 1st SPCS provides command and control to all 21st Space Wing space surveillance sites in the Space Surveillance Network.

Information from 20 sites is forwarded to the unit for compilation and analysis. The unit receives more than 70,000 observations daily to maintain a database of more than 9,500 Earth-orbiting space objects. This information is made available to customers worldwide through an electronic bulletin board.

The 1st SPCS is the focal point for organizations, such as NASA, that need vital, up-to-the-minute information on space debris. The 1st SPCS plays a key role in each launch, flight and return of the space shuttle, ensuring accurate positional data is available on all objects in the shuttle's orbital path.

The unit also tracks objects moving out of a stable orbit that will eventually reenter the Earth's atmosphere. Information on reentering satellites is forwarded to U.S. Space Command 14 days before the object is projected to reenter the atmosphere.

News Briefs

AIR FORCE BALL - The Air Force Ball is slated for Feb. 1 at the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel.

Tickets are available through the following representatives:

■ NORAD/USSPACE - Lt. Col. Mike Hennessy at 554-3442.

■ AFSPC/ Cheyenne Mountain - Maj. Penny Heiniger at 554-2442.

■ 21st Space Wing - Maj. Craig Biondo at 556-1430 or Senior Master Sgt. Brad Steininger at 556-1714.

■ 367th Recruiting Squadron - Capt. Jeff Gibson at 554-1246.

■ USAFA/ 10th Air Base Wing - 1st Lt. Joy Kaczor at 333-3752.

■ 50th Space Wing/Space Warfare Center - 2nd Lt. Damion Barbour at 567-5612.

For details, call Jeri Andrews at 638-1305.

CSAF SURVEY - The Chief of Staff Organizational

Climate Survey will be Jan. 22 - Mar. 8.

The survey is designed to gather information from Air Force personnel so senior leaders can make improvements in areas that are lacking.

To take the survey, log on to <http://csafsurvey-randolph.af.mil>

ANNUAL AWARDS

BANQUET TICKETS - The 21st Space Wing Annual Awards Banquet is Feb. 7, 6 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. Tickets are on sale through Feb. 4.

For more information, contact any first sergeant.

CAPTAIN PROMOTION BOARD

- The next line Air Force/judge advocate promotion board to captain will convene June 10 at the Air Force Personnel Center. For information call the Career Enhancements Element at the military personnel flight, 556-6266/4008.

Are you ready?

Air Force commitments demand readiness for deployable personnel

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Epperson
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The possibility of deployment for military members has increased due to the potential for additional taskings after the events of Sept. 11.

According to Tim Donegan, 21st Space Wing Plans and Programs, military members need to be ready to deploy when the time comes.

"The wing has more than 200 people who are postured for deployment," he said. "This means they must be ready to deploy within 72 hours notice."

Of those 200 "soft" taskings, around 90 people are "hard" tasked, he added. This means that they will deploy on a certain day at a certain time.

Regardless of deployment status, if a military member's name is on the postured list, he must be ready.

"Going into the deployment process with a good attitude will help members with preparations," said

Master Sgt. Ronald Berkley, 21st Operations Support Squadron deployment manager. "Look at the assignment as an opportunity to see some places you might not otherwise visit and see a part of the Air Force mission you might never get to see at your home base."

There are several things a military member must do to prepare for deployment, and most squadrons have out-processing checklists to assist in the process.

"Individuals deploying need to visit both the medical and dental clinics and the immunizations office as soon as they have had their deployment briefing and received copies of their medical clearance letters," Berkley said.

The 810th Medical Group has been very expedient about processing the paperwork, he added, but they do need a few days to review individual records.

The records review ensures there are no pre-existing medical conditions

that require attention before the deployment.

Another important area is training.

Military members are required to be current on weapons qualification training if they are deploying to overseas locations.

Every deploying member must receive a Law of Armed Conflict briefing and be current on biological warfare and chemical warfare training. They must also be proficient in Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Defense survival skills and Self Aid, Buddy Care.

"There are a limited number of training dates and times for some of the required training items," Berkley added. "When members are scheduled for training, they need to make sure they go."

There are several other steps that must be completed before a member deploys. Some of these are deployed unit- and area-specific, like passports and Personnel Accountability Kits, but

all should be on the out-processing checklist.

Another important aspect of a deployment is the family left behind.

"The Air Force will make sure the military member is ready to go," Berkley said. "The military member needs to make sure their family is ready."

The Air Force Space Command Family Matters Office developed the Personal and Family Readiness Guide, which is available at the Family Support Center. The guide is designed to help military members prepare their families for the deployment. The guide offers tips on money matters, required legal documents, important phone numbers and information about base support agencies and programs.

There are many steps military members must take to be ready for deployments, and according to Berkley, planning ahead is the key.

For questions and concerns about the deployment process, contact your unit deployment manager.

IRS requests information on combat zone exclusion

Lt. Col. Wayne
Wisniewski
Staff Judge Advocate

The Internal Revenue Service recently sent out letters requesting many military members justify their combat zone tax exclusion.

As the information below indicates, the IRS admits that this was done erroneously. The Department of Defense is reacting with extraordinary speed to rectify this situation.

The Armed Forces Tax Council members and other individuals met with the IRS recently to discuss the CZTE letter that was sent to approximately 50,000 members. Here is a brief summary of the meeting:

- The IRS will send out a follow up letter to each member who received the original letter. They will try to get the letter out before January 25.

In the meantime, members may disregard the IRS letter they received, because the IRS will not be taking any actions based upon that letter.

- The IRS has provided a toll-free telephone number for tax questions that may arise while a member is in a combat zone. The number is 866-562-5227.

The number may be used by the member or by a family

The primary purpose of the letter was to update IRS records to ensure that certain extensions are allowed and other types of actions are not taken against members serving in a combat zone.

member. The individuals will not be limited to asking combat zone related questions; any tax questions may be asked.

The IRS will also provide an e-mail address for the same purpose.

- The primary purpose of the letter was to update IRS records to ensure that certain extensions are allowed and other types of actions are not taken against members serving in a combat zone.

The IRS will be using a letter similar to the letter that was released to obtain information in cases involving questionable assertions of combat zone tax relief.

The letter will be substantially revised and reviewed by members of the Armed Forces Tax Council before it is used.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gino Mattorano

Signing on

Dave White and Dennis McDonald, fabrication and installation craftsmen for Adko Sign Company of Colorado Springs, attach the Air Force Symbol to a display board being installed in Bldg. 845, the 21st Space Wing Headquarters building. The display boards will be used to identify wing leadership, recognize award winners and identify historical figures in the wing's history.



Check out the Space Observer online at www.spaceobserver.com

Safety key to fun at new skate park

By 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The family housing office and the civil engineer flight recently finished building Peterson's skateboard park in the military family housing area.

The park was funded by the family housing office and was designed to provide base residents with facilities similar to those off-base. Civil engineers drew up the plans and built the skateboard park. The park is located at the corner of Selfridge and McGuire Streets.

"While its great to have fun, it's also important to recognize some basic safety guidelines," said Sandy Mock, wing ground safety manager. "Safety equipment has been proven to help reduce and limit injuries, and should be worn at all times," said Mock.

The park is just one of the few neighborhood improvement projects that have been proposed to help improve quality of life in the base housing area.

"The projects we're planning have done very well in the local com-

munity, and look like they'll do very well on base," said Colleen Miller, chief of the housing flight.

In-line skating, skateboarding, and bike riding are popular, but are responsible for various injuries to both children and adults in our community. To keep these sports fun and safe, those using the skateboard park will be required to follow the park's safety guidelines.

Park users must wear head, elbow, and knee protection. Only in-line skates, roller skates, bikes and skateboards are allowed.

A row of trees runs parallel with both streets, so children are reminded to look both ways before entering the street. Drivers won't have much reaction time if a child runs from behind a tree into the street.

Its also important for kids to wear bright clothing when out around dusk, and it gets dark early this time of the year.

For more information on in-line skating and skateboarding safety, call the wing safety office at 556-4392.



Photo by Senior Airman Shane Sharp

Kayla Anderson, family member, enjoys the new skate park in military family housing. The skate park is for the enjoyment of the Peterson community, but people should put safety first.

Around the Air Force



BAS rate changes

Survey focuses on organizational climate

By Tech. Sgt.
Mark Kinkade
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — For the first time since its launch in 1997, the Air Force chief of staff survey will focus solely on organizational climate issues.

The survey will be available online Jan. 22 to March 8 and has been redesigned to gauge what Air Force people think about management and work-related topics. The 1997 and 1999 versions of the survey also asked respondents about quality-of-life issues in the service.

"Based on previous feedback, we've significantly improved this year's survey," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper.

"The size of the survey has been cut in half, focusing entirely on issues such as leadership and supervision, job characteristics, resources, values, communication, training, teamwork, and recognition."

The survey will help define the Air Force of the future, and has adopted the motto "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow" to encourage as many people as possible to take the 45-minute survey, officials said.

Quality-of-life issues are addressed in a separate survey, said officials with the survey

development team at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Previous surveys resulted in a series of changes at all levels of the Air Force. For example, following the 1999 survey, Electronic Systems Command officials decided to drop an initiative that would have converted 54 military positions at Hanscom AFB, Mass., to civilian jobs after military people at the base raised concerns about extensive additional duties. The survey was also the catalyst for increasing Hanscom's military presence by 10 percent.

Also, a host of bases improved or added recognition programs after survey results were sent to commanders. Many bases developed additional leadership programs for both officers and enlisted people, and commanders worldwide launched several organization streamlining programs to reduce inefficiencies in their commands.

Officials said the survey is useless unless people participate and commanders follow up on results.

"At this time, we need the vector check on the health of our organizations and leadership our people can provide," Jumper said. "To achieve valid results, we absolutely need maximum participation."

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Enlisted people are seeing a change in the way basic allowance for subsistence is added to their leave and earning statements.

Effective Jan. 1, BAS became a \$241.60 monthly entitlement, like officer BAS, for all enlisted people who have graduated from basic military training. For those who graduate after Jan. 1, BAS starts the day of graduation. It will not fluctuate from month to month.

BAS will increase each January based on the annual percentage increase of U.S. Department of Agriculture food costs.

Enlisted people E-1 through E-6 permanently assigned to single-type government quarters are entitled to BAS and may also be assigned to essential station messing, said Master Sgt. Tamra Miller, travel and contingency policy chief. This means they receive the BAS entitlement, but may be charged the discount meal rate for all meals made available by the government dining facility.

"Charges, at the discount meal rate, will be directly deducted from the member's pay account," she said. "Members directed to use the dining facility will have three meals a day deducted from their pay whether meals are eaten or not."

Meal rates deducted beginning Jan. 1, 2002, are: \$1.35 for breakfast and \$2.70 each for lunch and dinner. This will leave people on ESM an average residual amount of \$40 per month, which is slightly higher than partial-rate BAS, Miller said. However, not everyone living in a dormitory will be on ESM.

"Exceptions may be made only when assigned duties prevent a member from being provided at least 80 percent of their government meals on a regular basis," she said. "If a member consistently misses more than 18 meals per month, the commander should consider removing them from ESM and allow BAS without deduction."

Commanders are required to demonstrate that meals are missed because of assigned

duties. Some examples include the location of the person's residence; specialized duties such as band, honor guard or chauffeur; duty hours; and distance to a dining facility.

Before removing a person from ESM, commanders must show that the person missed more than 20 percent of his or her meals for at least seven months in a 12-month period. However, commanders may forecast the 12-month period if historical data is not available,

Effective Jan. 1, BAS became a \$241.60 monthly entitlement, like officer BAS, for all enlisted people who have graduated from basic military training.

Miller said. This is appropriate when people under similar circumstances miss more than 20 percent of their meals on a consistent basis.

People assigned to ESM who miss meals because of assigned duties may still claim

missed meals. Missed meals will be reimbursed on a per-meal basis at the rations-in-kind-not-available rate.

For ESM people, meal rates will also not be deducted during periods of regular and permissive temporary duty, leave or while a member is hospitalized in a uniform service medical treatment facility.

People automatically authorized to mess separately are E-7 to E-9; enlisted people residing with their command-sponsored family members; and military couples assigned to the same installation or adjacent installations who maintain common family quarters.

Other changes to BAS include the payment of the RIKNA rate. The Fiscal 1998 National Defense Authorization Act eliminated this payment upon the completion of reform. This year's act grandfathers the rate.

"The RIKNA rate will not be subject to annual increases, but provisions to receive the rate are grandfathered until the regular BAS rate equals or exceeds the RIKNA rate," Miller said. "It's estimated to be eliminated by 2005."

This rate is \$262.50 per month.

Officers are also seeing a change in BAS. Effective Jan. 1, the 1 percent growth cap for officer BAS is lifted. Officer BAS now increases annually by the same percentage as enlisted BAS.

This rate is \$166.37 for 2002.

For more information, contact local commander support staffs or finance offices.

Eighth grader's idea nets \$10K to help rebuild Pentagon

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Like teachers throughout America, Jim Sisler threw out his lesson plan Sept. 12.

Sisler, who teaches West Virginia history at Moorefield Middle School, was more interested in engaging his students in the events of Sept. 11 than he was in local history. He asked his students what they could do to help. Eighth-grader Lasidi Helmick, 13,

suggested donating money to rebuild the Pentagon.

Her suggestion turned into lessons in giving and in making government work.

The fruits of the suggestion ended up on Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's desk when he accepted \$10,187.93 raised through the efforts of Helmick and her classmates. The money was the first donation made under the Show Pride in Your Military Act, the recently passed legislation that resulted from the girl's suggestion.

Moorefield teachers called their congresswoman, Shelley Moore Capito, and asked where they could send the money.

Capito found the federal government had no mechanism to accept such earmarked donations, so she introduced the bill that would allow DoD to accept it.

At the same time, the Moorefield students were contacting eighth graders throughout West Virginia and the country to donate to their rebuilding fund.

Congress attached Capito's bill to the 2002 Defense Authorization Bill, which became law when

President Bush signed it Dec. 28.

"We decided on donating to the Pentagon because a lot of us have been to Washington, not too many of us have been to New York," Helmick said. She said the students felt the attack on the Pentagon was "sort of in their backyard" and wanted to help. Moorefield is about two hours west of Washington.

Rumsfeld joked with the students, but spoke seriously as he thanked them for their efforts.

"There is no question that we are grateful and appreciate the effort you put in to raise an enormous

amount of money," Rumsfeld told the class.

He told the students that the military values teamwork and people working together to accomplish an important goal. There may be brilliant geniuses who go off alone and do things of importance to the world by themselves, Rumsfeld said, but "all of the rest of us don't do that."

"What we do is we work with other people to accomplish things," he continued. "That's what the men and women of the armed services do, and that certainly is what you have done in setting a goal and going out and accomplishing it."

7th SWS receives outstanding rating from numbered Air Force inspection

2nd Lt. Brady Smith
7th Space Warning Squadron

The 7th Space Warning Squadron received an "Outstanding" rating after recent inspections from the 14th Air Force.

They received the rating after the 14th Air Force Standard Evaluation Team completed a week-long evaluation Dec. 10-14.

The evaluation is part of a new inspection process developed by the 14th Air Force 18 months ago that assesses readiness, validates a unit's ability to conduct and support the mission and also checks the evaluation and training within the unit itself.

"I am ecstatic with the outcome," said Lt. Col. Dane Hollenga, 7th SWS commander. "There is no doubt the men and women of the 7th Space Warning Squadron know how to accomplish their mission in an 'outstanding' manner.

"I am tremendously proud of everyone in the squadron. This rating proved what we already knew...we are a great squadron, filled with great people."

The 14th Air Force has performed previous inspections on other units, but this is the first time the 7th SWS has been evaluated. During the visit, the 14th AF SET reviewed Crew Force Management Standardization/Eval-



7th Space Warning Squadron, Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

uation and Training programs to assess operational crew readiness and determine the offices' effectiveness.

"We are pleased to have the 7th Space Warning Squadron as one of our key tenant units here at Beale," said Col. Mike Newell, 9th Reconnaissance Wing vice commander. "Their recent 'Outstanding' rating is a fine tribute to a stellar squadron whose dedication to the space surveillance mission adds so much to ensure our national defense. No doubt, lots of hard work in the unit and great leadership have paid off."

Performance, mission operations, management and the mission ready training program all attained an "Outstanding" rating. The evaluation

shop received an "excellent" rating, which brought the squadron's overall rating to "Outstanding."

The rating is based on a five-tier rating system ranging from outstanding to unsatisfactory. Crew performance, while under evaluation, counts as 75 percent toward the unit's overall score. The remaining 25 percent of the unit's rating comes from training and evaluation programs' compliance with higher headquarter directives and special interest items.

After all was said and done, nine military personnel at the 7th SWS, were recognized as "outstanding performers" and four as "outstanding contributors."

Around the Wing

13th Space Warning Squadron, Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

During the holidays, the 13th SWS delivered 119 boxes of food and gifts to 21 local-area families in support of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor organization in Healy, Alaska.

On Christmas Eve, several volunteers from the base served meals to the homeless at the Fairbanks, Alaska, Soup Kitchen.

Jan. 9-10, the 13th SWS held its third blood drive in nine months in support of the Blood Bank of Alaska. Clear is the only military installation in the state that supports this organization.

The squadron will host the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders for a visit Feb. 7-8.

Clear's Feb. 15 Dining Out will feature Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, as guest speaker.

3rd Space Surveillance Squadron, Misawa Air Base, Japan

Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Lawton, was recently promoted to master sergeant through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program.

Today

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Commemorative Service, 11-noon, at the base Chapel.
- Registration for session one, spring and summer swim lessons at the Fitness Center.
- Prime rib, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Officer's Club.
- PREP Couples Communication class, 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Monday

- Holiday - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Tuesday

- Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
- Resume review class, 9:00-11:00 a.m., at the Family Support Center.

Wednesday

- Story time for kids, 10:15 a.m., at the base library.



Photo by Staff Sergeant Melanie Epperson

Under construction

The R. P. Lee Youth Center moved to Building 625 Monday, allowing construction crews to remodel the interior of the old building. The youth center will be at the location across from the aero club and flight training center from 12-14 months, until the remodeled building and additions are completed. For further information, contact the youth center at 556-7220.

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

Thursday

- Mongolian barbecue, 5-7 p.m., at the Enlisted Club.
- Play group, 10:30-noon, at the base Chapel.

Jan. 25

- Uniserv Thrift Savings Plan briefing, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.

Helpful Numbers

- Family Advocacy Center 556-8943
- Education Center 556-4064
- Library 556-7462
- Community Center 556-7671
- Aquatics Center 556-4608
- Fitness Center 556-4462
- Officers' Club 556-4181
- Enlisted Club 556-4194
- Youth Center 556-7220
- Family Support Center 556-6141
- Chapel 556-4442

Community Notes

Community News

PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN - The Peterson Family Member Programs Flight is sponsoring a training session on preparing your child for kindergarten.

The workshop is free and is scheduled for Wednesday, noon-1:30 p.m., at the base theater.

For more information, call Karen Kirshenbaum at 554-9572.

RED CROSS CLASSES - The American Red Cross will offer a number of classes throughout January.

The classes and fees are as follows:

- Adult CPR, Tuesday, 6-9:30 p.m. There is a \$35 fee.
- Child and infant CPR, Jan. 30, 6-10 p.m. There is a \$30 fee.
- First-aid, Thursday, 6-9:30 p.m. There is a \$30 fee.
- Babysitter training for youth ages 11-15, Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There is a \$30 fee.

For more information, call 556-7590.

TAX VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -

The base tax office needs volunteers for the coming tax season. Volunteers will be trained to serve as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance tax preparers.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Debra Henry at 556-4403, or debra.henry@peterson.af.mil.

ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR - Carol Ann Walker, an accredited financial counselor, will instruct an estate planning seminar Jan. 29, 1-4 p.m., at the Family Support Center. Topics include wills, net worth and property.

To register or for more information, call the Family Support Center.

AIRMAN'S ATTIC HOURS - The Airman's Attic is open Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and Thursdays, noon-3 p.m.

For more information or to donate items, call 556-3125.

Community Activities Center

SNOFEST - SnoFest is Feb. 22-24 at the Keystone Resort.

■ Partigras tickets are on sale at the CAC for \$7 each for those who purchase tickets by Feb. 15. Tickets purchased after Feb. 15 are \$10 each.

■ Lift tickets are on sale now at the CAC. Adults (ages 13 and older) pay \$28 per day and youth (5-12 years) pay \$18 per day.

■ Equipment is available for rent at Outdoor Recreation. Reserve equipment at least 24 hours in advance. Call 556-4867 for more information.

■ Race categories include individual, team, commander's cup and challenge. Look for details in the January issue of Good Stuff or Leisure News. Register at Outdoor Recreation, call 556-4867.

For general information about SnoFest, visit or call the CAC, 556-7671 or 556-1733.

Education Center

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN - School grants of \$100 to \$1,000 are available for dependent children. Apply on line at <http://www.troa.org>. Application deadline is March 1.

The scholarship program is sponsored by the Retired Officers Association.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY CHILDREN PROGRAM -

Applications for the second annual Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program are now available at your local commissary or for download at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Qualified sons and daughters of

U.S. military ID card holders, including retirees, may apply for the \$1,500 scholarships. Application deadline is Feb 5.

AIR FORCE AID EDUCATION GRANT - The General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant program awards \$1500 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, retired or deceased Air Force members, retired reservists over age 60, and Title 10 reservists on extended active duty.

Spouses are also eligible if the sponsor is assigned to the continental United States.

Applications are available at the Family Support Center or for download at <http://www.afas.org>.

DANTES TEST PROGRAM - The DANTES Test Program will no longer offer the following tests:

- Introductory business law
- Calculus with elementary functions
- Information systems and computer applications
- American government
- College algebra and trigonometry
- Human growth and development

After July 1, the center will no longer offer the following tests:

- American government
- College algebra and trigonometry

For more information on the cancellations, call the Education Center at 556-4064.

Leave Donations

VOLUNTARY LEAVE DONATIONS NEEDED - Civilian annual leave donations are needed for numerous individuals throughout the Air Force.

To donate leave, or for more information on the program, call the Civilian Personnel Flight at 556-9231.

Peterson Air Force Base Chapel Schedule
Protestant Services

Liturgical Worship 8:15 a.m.

Traditional Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Gospel Services 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Catholic Services

Mass

Weekdays 11:35 a.m.

Saturdays 5 p.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Reconciliation Saturdays 4 p.m.

Religious Education

Adult and pre K-12th grade Sundays 8:30 a.m.

Crime doesn't pay for Peterson shoplifters

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Short on cash but you really need the latest Britney Spears CD? Well, we all know there's more than one way to skin a cat, so if you don't mind a little stealing, you could get that CD for free. On the other hand, you could be among the inept shoplifters who get caught trying to "lift"

a CD or makeup, a watch or a computer game, or maybe even a desktop computer.

Here on base, according to AAFES manager Lorenzo Salgado, chances are very high that shoplifters will be caught. Surveillance cameras throughout the store broadcast images to a security monitor room, where security professionals track shopper behaviors. In addition, floor detec-

tives (who you may never recognize as detectives) walk the aisles "shopping" for thieves.

According to Salgado, his security team is well trained and very aggressive in their surveillance duties, especially over the past several months. Why won't you recognize them? Many are retired military members, some are active-duty military and others are dependent family members. You won't know they're detectives because they look like everyone else.

Between the monitors and floor teams, the BX catches nearly every person who tries to shoplift, but that doesn't seem to deter those who are determined.

Determination to steal, however, doesn't mean they don't get caught.

According to Staff Sgt. Christopher Doucet, 21st Security Forces Squadron, the

number of shoplifters apprehended at the BX more than doubled from 28 in 2000 to 65 in 2001. The reason SFS knows that is they were all caught.

Military members caught shoplifting on base face a variety of possible punishments, depending on the dollar value of the stolen product and on the situation, said 21st Mission Support Squadron first sergeant Chief Master Sgt. Andy Laning.

For a military member who is a first-time offender and has an otherwise clean disciplinary history, an Article 15 and loss of BX privileges for six to 12 months is likely. For higher dollar value crime, and for repeat offenders, the stakes are higher.

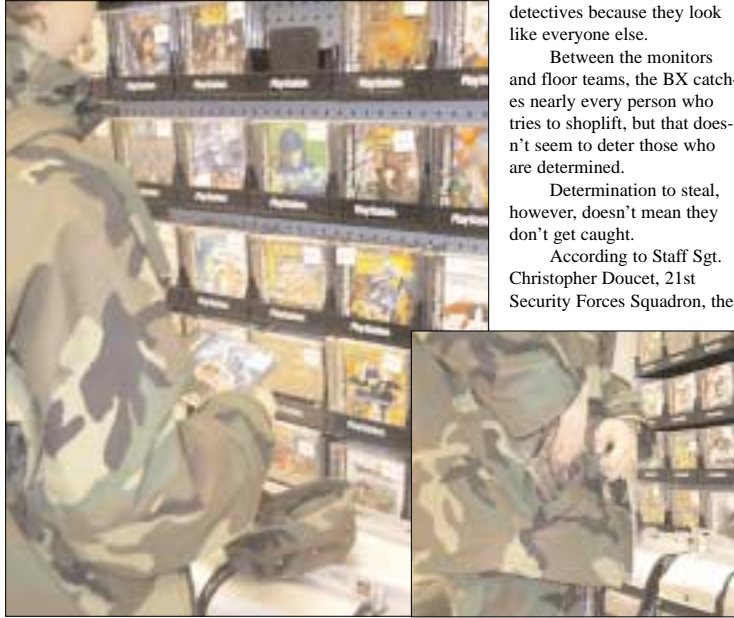
Doucet added that second-time offenders lose BX privileges for five years, and third-time offenders lose the privileges for life. Every shoplifter – military and civilian – is reported to and cited by the Colorado Springs

Police Department as well, Doucet explained. So military disciplinary measures aren't all offenders will experience. Topping it all off is the public humiliation of having the entire base learn of the shoplifting attempt, Laning said.

Although shoplifting may seem to be a nonviolent crime that "only hurts insurance companies," the fact is that every shopper is the victim when a shoplifter succeeds. Civilian retail stores in the United States lose billions of dollars a year on shoplifting (including employee and vendor theft), and that loss is passed on to the customer.

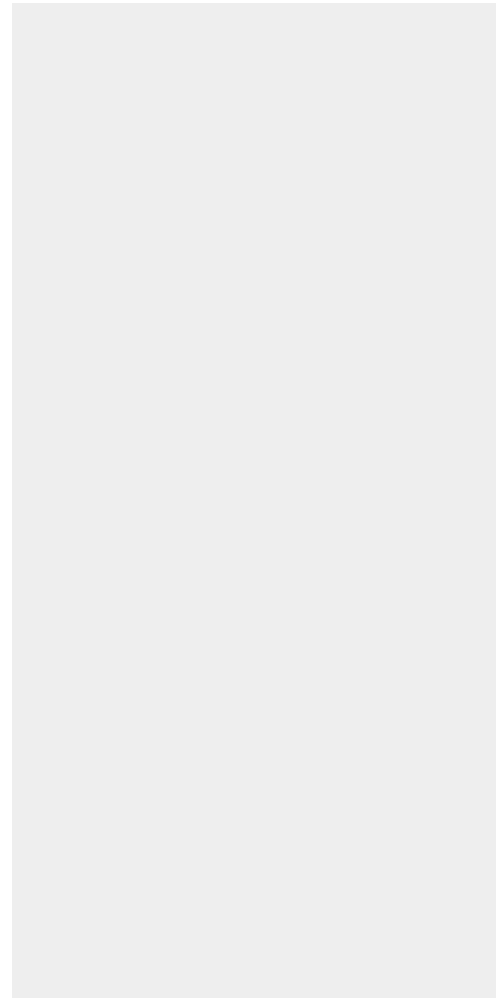
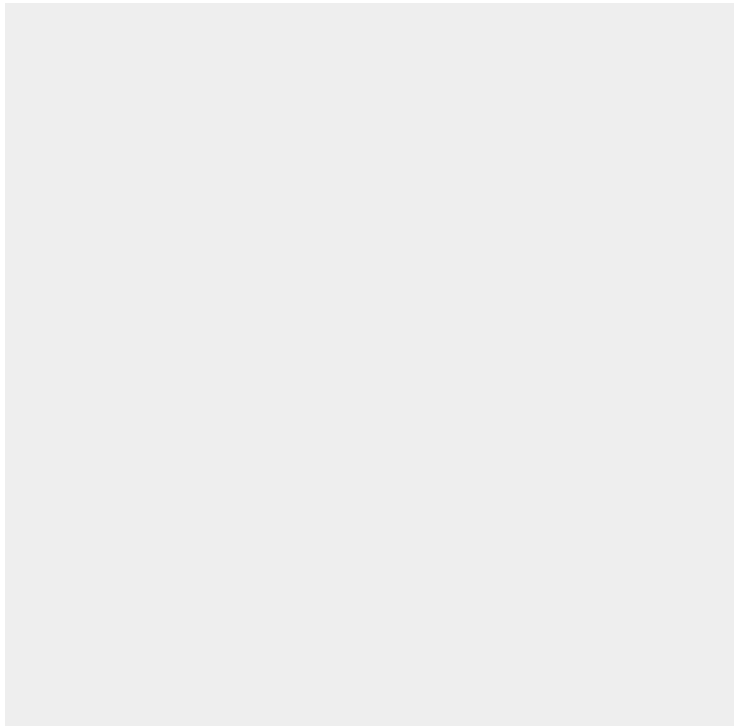
And nonviolent isn't always the case either. Some shoplifters become very violent when confronted, Salgado explained.

The bottom line for military or civilian members who may think they can "get away with it" is, "You'll get caught. We're not messing around," said Doucet.



Photos by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

No matter how sneaky you think you are, there's always someone watching. If you steal on base, you will suffer the consequences.



AFMC chief reflects on Martin Luther King Day

By Gen. Lester L. Lyles
Air Force Materiel Command commander

I would never try to recollect the story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, or his accomplishments. Most Americans are familiar with this already, or certainly will have the opportunity to learn more about this great man from the many historical articles and TV specials presented during our national holiday honoring him.

Instead, I want to briefly reflect on Dr. King's most famous speech, "I have a dream", which he gave nearly 40 years ago on August 28, 1963.

I was 17 years old on that hot, sultry day, and about to enter college in my hometown of Washington, D.C.

I can honestly say I was not a young man with a great social conscience at the time. Yes, I was obviously concerned about the plight of minorities, but I was not fully involved

in the equality movement.

The march for equality in Washington, D.C. that day was, at first, nothing more than an exciting happening with lots of people, movie and TV stars, and political dignitaries.

I remember walking down the broad expanse of Constitution Avenue from the U.S. Capitol to the park grounds and reflecting pool by the Lincoln Memorial listening to people singing, "We Shall Overcome" and watching people marching arm-in-arm like old friends.

What initially stirred my emotions and started me thinking that this was not just a happening, but something truly significant, was when I noticed that this magnificent crowd of 300,000 did not contain just African-Americans, but people of all races and ages; people from all walks of life marching and singing for a cause.

This was true integration and equality.

When Dr. King came to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, a hush slowly descended over the crowd and he began in his deep, melodious, rich tone.

With the giant statue of Abraham Lincoln as a backdrop, it was almost as if the president who freed the slaves was pleased at what he was seeing and hearing; like a fatherly spirit proud of what his Emancipation Proclamation had set in motion some 100 years before.

We've come a long way as a society since that day in 1963, thanks to the unceasing contributions of known heroes, like Dr. King, and many more unknown. It is the countless unknown heroes we should strive to recognize and remember during Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

If you are inclined to doubt the success of these heroes, just ponder the current landscape in our nation's senior

leadership: Secretary of State Colin Powell, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, Congressmen and women. The list of luminaries goes on across all walks of life —politics, religion and especially the military.

I hope the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Day will not just be "a day of rest." It should be a day of action, a day that each of you will participate in projects that promote the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

This national holiday will always remind us that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy lives on. His dream has made a difference in our lives both as a nation and personally.

You too can continue to make a positive difference for today and the future by just practicing the ideals of Dr. King.

Planning key to successful permanent change of station

2nd Lt. Rick VanSchoor
21st Logistics Support Squadron

You have just found out that you and your family have received orders to another base. First of all, don't panic. There are several things you can do to make your family's move as painless as possible.

First, to prepare for a smooth move, it is important to start early. Granted, there will be some things that can't be done right away, but doing little things from the start of the PCS process all the way until the day of your move, will help you from becoming overwhelmed as the move approaches.

Make billeting reservations as soon as possible. You can make reservations as soon as you have a copy of your orders.

The Family Support Center offers many helpful things. They have videotapes and booklets for the base to which you will PCS. The tapes and booklets can make the move a little less frightening.

Also, the Family Support Center offers a Smooth Move Seminar. I found this seminar very informative. They answered just about every question we had.

On the day of the move, we were ready. Before the movers arrived, we had put things aside that we would need while our household goods were packed away.

For example, we packed important papers such as our

PCS orders, family records (financial, school and medical) and birth certificates.

We also put aside clothing, a few pots, pans and dishes, towels and a few cleaning supplies. Put these things in a place clearly marked, so the movers won't inadvertently pack them.

While the movers are packing your belongings, try to be observant without appearing to be looking over

their shoulders. Make sure you look the inventory over carefully before signing it.

If you have children, make up some traveling bags for them. These bags can include doodling pads, games, journals, and small snacks that don't make too much of a mess.

Your family's PCS move will be exactly what you make of it. If you start early, and use the resources at your dis-

posal, your move can be a wonderful and exciting experience. On the other hand, if you wait until the last minute, all the problems you encounter will make your move that much more of a headache.

Life in the Air Force

involves many moves. A good move will help make the transitions easier.

Above all, don't be afraid to ask for help. Our base communities will always be there to lend a helping hand.

Fitness Center opens 'self-supervised' play area

By Tech. Sgt.
Michael Phillips
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Peterson's Fitness Center has constructed two new play areas where children can play with their favorite toys while Mom or Dad works out. The enclosed play areas, one in the aerobics room and one in the cardio area, were set aside so parents can bring their children to the fitness center with them, and monitor them playing while they work out.

Fitness Center Director Sharon Duell noted an increasing number of the center's patrons are either single parents or from families where both parents work. In families where one parent is deployed, the remaining parent can be affected in the same way.

"It's hard for people to fit in a regular workout if they have to find someone to watch their children," she said. "It can also be an added expense. As a result, workout time gets pushed aside. This gives them a chance to keep up a regular workout program without having to worry about their children."

Having the children in the same room with the parent can be a big stress reliever for both the parent and the child. "Parents are welcome to bring



Photo by Senior Airman Shane Sharp
Melanie Epperson and her son Devin, eight months, take advantage of the fitness center's new children's play area.

their children, along with the child's favorite toys, when they come for their workout," Duell said. "They can keep up their fitness routine while the kids have a chance to play, knowing Mom or Dad is right there."

"When parents have to worry about childcare, it also affects their motivation," Duell said. "It's hard enough for some people to keep motivated to a regular workout schedule. I want to help people by removing the excuse of not having anyone to watch the kids."

The areas are self-supervised, meaning the parent will be responsible for watching the child.

Finding the space to

build the plexiglas-enclosed areas required some creativity, Duell said, but it will help to fill a definite need. "I've been working to get this in place for quite some time now," said Duell. "After a lot of planning and moving around to find the space, we should be ready by the end of the week."

"The play areas are available any time the fitness center is open," Duell said. "I want to make sure we do everything we can to accommodate people. We want to take as many obstacles out of the way as possible."

The Peterson Fitness Center is currently open 4:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Courtesy photo

Hiiiya!

Tae kwon do instructor Omar Rodriguez teaches 7-13-year-old students from 6-7 p.m. and those ages 14 and older from 7-8 p.m., every Tuesday and Thursday. The class is open to all military and DoD ID card holders. Call 556-1515 for details.

Sports Shorts

Fitness Center 5K fun run - A 5K fun run is scheduled for today at 11:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$2. Participants should meet in front of the Fitness Center.

Holiday hours - The Fitness Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 21 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Air Force Wrestling - People interested in applying for the Air Force Wrestling Team must submit an Air Force Form 303 before Jan. 22. For more information call 556-1515.

Personal trainers - The Fitness Center has personal trainers available. If you are interested in hiring a trainer, call 556-4462 for more information.

Yoga - Yoga classes, Wednesdays, at 6:15 p.m. and Fridays, 12:15 p.m.

Tae Kwon Do - Tae Kwon Do classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Fitness Center for Children 7-13, 6-7 p.m., and children 14 and older, 7-8 p.m. All military and DoD ID card holders are eligible. Call 556-1515 for details.

Crud tourney - The Rocky Mountain Crud Championship is from 3-9 p.m. Jan. 25 at Peterson's officer's club ozone room. Teams must consist of five players and registration fee is \$10 per team, to cover costs for food and door prizes. For more information contact a company grade officer's council member.

Sports

Take steps to keep New Year's resolutions

A New Year's resolution for many Americans is an annual tradition. Another annual tradition is breaking New Year's resolutions.

An online poll done by the Wellness Junction (www.wellnessjunction.com) found that 68.4 percent of their respondents, nearly seven out of 10, made resolutions concerning diet, exercise or both.

It is not surprising. According to the Surgeon General's recent report (www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/obesity/), excess body weight has been estimated to lead to more than 300,000 deaths in the U.S. per year, making it the second underlying leading cause of death, second only to smoking. The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, using a Body Mass Index (BMI) measurement of equal or greater than 25kg/m², projected that 62 percent of men and 44.5 percent of women were overweight in the U.S.

Even with our active-duty Air Force members using the Maximum Allowable Height-Weight Charts, we know that 20.4 percent of men and 20.5 percent of women exceed their official maximum

Fitness and weight loss go hand in hand. The local fitness center is packed in January and early February with New Year's resolution makers, according to Ms. Sharon Duell, Fitness Center Director.

The key to resolution keeping is setting goals and then keeping them. Resolution makers' first stop should be the Health and Wellness Center if losing weight or getting in better shape are your goals.

Major Scott Guthland, Health Promotions Manager for the HAWC, stated, "We are ideally situated with our programs to help someone start on the right track with their new healthy resolutions."

Guthland added that their "Peak Performance" Class gives the nutritional information needed for a balanced diet, which is then followed by a 2 ½ hour fitness instruction by Ms. Cindy White, Exercise Physiologist.

Another great New Year's class, Guthland added, is the Sensible Weigh Class that focuses more on diet and weight loss.

Regardless of your resolution, check out the Health and Wellness Center Web page

www.peterson.af.mil/ids/hawc or call 556-HAWC (4292).

To help you get motivated, the HAWC is offering free 2002 magnetic calendars to individuals with New Year's resolutions to lose weight or become more fit.

(Information courtesy Peterson Health and Wellness Center)

Tips for keeping New Year's resolutions

- Make only one or two resolutions
- Be specific, be realistic, and write your goals down
- Be patient with yourself, forgive and forget, and start back again
- Find a friend with the same resolution. "Misery loves company"
- Remember -- "one day at a time"