

LOOK FOR THE PHOTO CAPTION CONTEST IN NEXT WEEK'S OBSERVER

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado

SPACE OBSERVER

Thursday, April 28, 2005 Vol. 49 No. 17

General explains what space brings to the fight

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany – The commander of Air Force Space Command expressed the importance of space superiority, leadership development and integrating space with military operations during an April 16 visit here.

Space superiority is an important

part of what we do in our Air Force and in the rest of the military, said General Lance W. Lord.

“That’s why I’m here (in USAFE) ... to check how we’re doing and make sure that space is integrated in everything we’re doing and I’m really pleased with what I’m seeing,” he said.

Just as air superiority is required to protect the airspace over the battlefields, space superiority is critically important

to protecting the on-orbit satellites that disseminate information which enables all aspects of military operations, he explained.

“Space control,” he added, “is the capability to make sure you maintain your space superiority.”

Space control focuses on three mission areas: situational awareness, the “fundamental underpinning” of space operations; defensive counterspace, or

protecting U.S. assets; and offensive counterspace, used to maintain our ability to operate in the medium of space, said the general.

“(Space) is part of everything we do, economically and militarily, so it’s important to protect that advantage,” he said.

General Lord said that an important mission of Space Command is to *See Space, Page 4*

Officials expand existing whistleblower protections

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Blowing the whistle on fraud, waste and abuse at work seems like the last thing workers would do if they wanted to keep their jobs and advance their careers.

But that is exactly what servicemembers and federal civilian employees are required to do, and officials at the Office of Inspector General have bolstered protections offered to ensure they do not suffer reprisals.

Federal laws protect so-called “whistleblowers” from personnel actions they could suffer when reporting abuses within their organizations: getting fired, losing out on promotions or getting shuffled to lesser jobs. These laws also protect against less dramatic but equally career-damaging actions, from receiving bad evaluation reports to letters of counseling.

New policies adopted by the Defense Department Jan. 7 broaden those protections even further, said IG officials.

Whistleblowers are protected from having their security clearances revoked or tampered with as a result, officials said.

The new provisions also offer first-time protections to civilians of DOD’s intelligence community involved in whistleblowing activity. Previous protections for these employees were limited to reports made directly to Congress or reports involving violations of civil liberties. Hollywood lionizes the lone employee who stands up to large corporations or bureaucracies to point out misdeeds or out-and-out crimes.

Yet despite federal protections, some people who *See FWA, Page 11*



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Senior Master Sgt. Peggy Scott, Peterson Air Force Base Individual Mobilization Augmentee, and Master Sgt. Richele Beckett, assistant to BIMA Administrators, signed more than 315 IMAs in for the Peterson AFB Common Training Assembly Friday and Saturday.

Common Training Assembly ensures IMAs trained, ready to go

By Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

Air Force Space Command Reserve Forces conducted a common training assembly last week to ensure nearly 350 individual mobilization augmentees are trained and ready for mobilization.

Reservists are expected to be trained at the same level as their active duty counterparts. While active-duty Airmen have all year to meet

their ancillary training requirements, IMAs must try to accomplish their requirements while “in status,” either during annual tour or periods of inactive duty training. Since IMAs are often unable to accomplish these requirements, AFSPC decided to remedy the problem with the CTA concept, the brain-child of Col. James Rendleman, AFSPC’s director of Reserve forces.

With CTAs, AFSPC ancillary training is col- *See CTA, Page 11*

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37 Days
June 4, 2005



Warfare centers to integrate capabilities

The Air Force is integrating some of its forces to better leverage air, space and information operations combat capabilities to support mission's worldwide, Air Force officials announced today.

Elements of the Space Warfare Center, part of Air Force Space Command, located at Schriever Air Force Base, will integrate with the Air Warfare Center at Nellis AFB, Nev., to become the new AF Warfare Center. In addition, Air Force officials are looking at what information warfare capabilities might also fit into the integration. The new warfare center will belong to Air Combat Command.

The transformation will occur over the next sev-

eral months. Details will be coordinated by an ACC and AFSPC working group with a goal of integration by Oct. 1.

No physical movement of units or closing down of facilities is currently planned.

"Integrating elements of the SWC and the AWFC consolidates key Air Force warfighting assets into one organization, which will create a warfighting synergy that increases combat effectiveness and peacetime efficiencies," said General Lance W. Lord, AFSPC commander.

"This integration will better meet operational requirements for air, space and information operations,

ensuring the Air Force continues to provide quality stewardship for America's warfighting assets," he added.

As the consolidation progresses, there will be no interruption to air, space and information operations support to the joint warfighter, General Lord said.

"This integration is another step we're taking to ensure the Air Force has the right mix of air, space and IO capabilities for training and supporting our combat forces. Doing this now will make us even more ready to meet current and future challenges," said Lt. Gen. William M. Fraser, ACC vice commander. *(Story courtesy of AFSPC Public Affairs)*



21st Operations Group holds change of command

By Senior Airman Shawn Clements

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Colonel Wayne McGee assumed command of the 21st Operations Group from Col. Teresa Djuric during a change of command ceremony Friday.

Brigadier General Richard Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, presided over the ceremony.

After the presentation of the colors, the three national anthems and the invocation, General Webber stepped forward to deliver his comments. "This group has accomplished many great feats and has contributed many things to this wing," General Webber said. "They helped contribute to the overall excellent rating the wing received during the Operational Readiness Inspection, including an outstanding rating in operations. The group's contributions were evident when the wing was also named the nation's first space superiority wing."

Colonel Djuric, who is moving on to the Pentagon Space Superiority Division, then took the stage to say her thanks and good-byes.

With group members standing in a perfect formation, she lauded the group for their dedication and achievements during her command.

"Standing before you is the best operations group in the Air Force," Colonel Djuric said. "We knew that we were entrusted with a very important mission and we helped take that mission to the next level."

Colonel McGee joins the 21st OG and Team Pete from Air Force Headquarters at the Pentagon, Washington, where he was the space operations division chief.

After the operations group guidon changed



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Center: Colonel Wayne McGee, 21st Operations Group commander, salutes Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, as Col. Terry Djuric, former 21st OG commander, looks on during the change of command ceremony held here Friday.

hands, signifying the change of command was complete, Colonel McGee took the podium for his comments.

He reassured the crowd that the group would continue its string of excellence.

"To the men and women of the 21st OG, you are the ones responsible for producing our space situational awareness and our defensive and offensive space

combat power," Colonel McGee said. "You, and the members of the 21st SW, provide the space superiority necessary to keep our nation and our allies free. You provide space effects that add to our warfighting combat power.

"I'm extremely excited about being your operations group commander and I look forward to working with every one of you."



A Moment in Time

April 26, 1948

The U.S. Air Force becomes the first service to plan for racial integration, anticipating President Truman's executive order to be issued in July.

April 27, 1939

U.S. Army Air Corps orders the P-38.

April 28, 1958

After an in-flight explosion, 1st Lt. James Obenauf notices an unconscious crewmember. Instead of ejecting, Obenauf pilots the B-47 to a safe landing at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. He will receive the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism.

SPACE OBSERVER

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Recognizing the members selected for Guardian Challenge 2005

Top guns

“Captain Melchor has been leading the space control section through various exercise and real-world taskings with top-notch results,” said Capt. Robert Chambers, 21st Operations Support Squadron. “Many of his efforts have served as benchmarks for other agencies. His briefing skills have been lauded as “excellent” by Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, especially noted during our Operational Readiness Inspections.”

However, those are not the only skills Captain Melchor possesses.

“Since part of the intelligence competition focused on force protection, Captain Melchor was the natural choice. Being a prior enlisted security forces member, he brings rare security forces experience to the intelligence realm,” Captain Chambers said. “He’s our wing lead for anti-terrorism, force protection, threat working group issues and authored the instruction standing up the force protection intelligence cell.”



Captain Floyd Melchor

Captain Floyd Melchor hails from Clovis, Calif. He’s currently serving as the 21st Operations Support Squadron Intelligence Flight deputy commander.

Team Pete Airmen duel with F/A-22 demonstrator

By 1st Lt. Paradon Silpasornprasit

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

The flying experience was simulated, but the adrenaline rush wasn’t. More than 250 Team Pete members strapped themselves into the F/A-22 Raptor Cockpit Demonstrator that “landed” at Peterson Air Force Base last week.

The cockpit demonstrator came to the base for a three-day exhibition during which volunteers could take this high-tech ride for a spin. Pilots say the cockpit demonstrator is very close to the actual simulator, which has many classified components and cannot be displayed to the public.

The mock-up cockpit demonstrator travels to 25-30 sites annually. Many of its destinations are military installations like the U.S. Air Force Academy, which hosts the exhibit every year. This spring, Peterson flight enthusiasts got in on the action.

“It was very detailed,” said Senior Airman Jose Paucar, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron. “You can pretty



Photo by 1st Lt. Paradon Silpasornprasit

Staff Sgt. Craig Thompson, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron takes the F/A-22 Cockpit Demonstrator through its paces as Mark Dougherty, Lockheed Martin, F/A-22 Business Development Manager provides a few tips on how to handle the demonstrator.

much pinpoint anything. You couldn’t even tell it was computer-generated.”

Airman Paucar wasn’t alone in his assessment of the simulated

soaring experience.

“People love it,” said Mark Dougherty, Lockheed F/A-22 Business Development. “This is a tool that shows

a lot of what the actual plane is all about.” There are three cockpit demonstrators in existence – one in Marietta, Ga. one in Crystal City, Va. and one traveling exhibit that makes its way around the country via semi-truck. The demonstrators cost \$1.5 million and have been around for nearly a decade.

The recent buzz focused around the F/A-22 comes as the Air Force prepares to invest in 381 of these stealthy aircraft, expected to be the air dominance fighter for the next 40 years.

It’s what’s inside the airplane that makes the F/A-22 unique, said Jim Conlin, F/A-22 Manager customer requirements operations. It’s unique because it is not a night-fighter like the F-117. It is a daytime stealth aircraft that can fight day or night. It’s a transformational weapon system. While most weapons systems evolve, the F/A-22 is a new concept.

Last week’s event gave Airman an opportunity to better understand and appreciate that concept. “It’s kind of neat to see where technology has come for the past 15 years,” said Staff Sgt. Craig Thompson, 21st CES.

Front Range Air and Space Day

Air Show

is 37 days away





Space, from Page 1

support the joint warfighters executing the Global War on Terrorism.

“You can’t go to war and win without space,” he said. “Space is critical to the conduct of operations. ... (Troops) use it, need it and depend on it.”

Some of the ways troops are using space “downrange” include intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, communication, positioning and navigation systems and space-based weather, General Lord said.

One significant contributor to the fight in Iraq has been Blue Force tracking, which allows space operators to track friendly forces carrying special sensors and to create a visual image of their positioning, he said.

“In a couple of intense firefights in Iraq, we were able to save our troops because we were able to locate them and keep them out of harm’s way,” General Lord said.

The situational awareness that the system offers has another benefit.

“(Blue Force tracking) helps make sure we know where people are and helps eliminate the potential for friendly fire and fratricide,” he said.

The general emphasized the benefits that space technology offers to all services.

“What space has done for ground forces, especially air forces, land forces and sea forces is given them that capability to maneuver faster, connect our communications, be more precise and, when we need to be, more lethal

because of ... the accuracy of the global positioning system.” he said. “When you put that all together, it’s really a tremendous capability.”

Fresh from USAFE Project Connect visits at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, and Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, General Lord pointed out the importance of mentoring and maintaining a dialogue with troops.

“(Mentoring) is a powerful way to communicate and make sure people understand we care about whom they are and what they do,” he said.

The general said that in today’s “point-and-click” world, face-to-face leadership and personal interaction is essential.

Part of General Lord’s leadership philosophy is taking care of the 7,500 space professionals in the Air Force, developing them professionally and ensuring they’re integrated with their colleagues.

“Air and space are equal partners in what we do,” he said. “Everybody is important and contributes to the mission.”

General Lord said he thinks the biggest threat to U.S. space superiority now is complacency.

“We may assume that the medium of space is not going to be contested,” he said. “Space is transparent to the user ... (but) we don’t want to take it for granted. ... If you’re not in space, you’re not in the race.”



Secondary education is there for the taking

By Jeff Adcox

Staff Writer

Much like a tattoo, a person's level of education will stick with them throughout the rest of their career. That fact is more and more apparent each year as the earning potential disparity continues to grow for individuals with no formal education.

According to data compiled by the Department of Education in 2003, the average adult worker 25 and older will earn approximately \$15,000 more a year than someone with just a high school diploma.

Throughout a 35 year professional career, this translates into more than half a million dollars of income for someone with a bachelor's degree under their belt. Yet, even with that kind incentive, a number of Airmen are not making significant strides to further their education.

Recognizing this fact, the Air Force created an educational institute that supports Airmen trying to increase their level of education and it also serves as an important recruiting tool. Enter the Community College of the Air Force.

Most Airmen should be aware that by completing technical school or on-the-job specialty training they are working towards an Associate's Degree in their Air Force Specialty Code from the CCAF. Upon attaining their three-skill level, enlisted members are automatically enrolled in the CCAF, which is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges.

The Peterson Education Office acts as an extension or branch for the CCAF with technicians and counselors that help students achieve the requirements of the degree.

Lisa Simon, education counselor for the Education Office does stress the fact that this degree program must be completed prior to separation from the military.

"We get far too many people who separate from the Air Force," she said, "only to get out and do their resume or they have a job that does not work out and they find they cannot complete their degree."

At that point the credits are not completely wasted, Simon relayed, but it is up to the individual educational institution to decide which credits they want to accept toward their own degree programs.

A CCAF Associate's Degree requires 64 credit hours, a good portion of which can be gained by com-

pleting training within a technical area. A student must also complete a combined 30 hours of program electives and general education requirements from area colleges. But, once again the Air Force is there to help.

Every Airman is entitled to \$4,500 of student aid per semester for tuition costs and once they enroll in classes the education office takes care of the rest.

"Students can bring in their course information to our technicians, which process their tuition assistance documents," Simon said. "The schools will then bill us and we pay the schools directly."

Another opportunity for Airmen to complete CCAF degree requirements is through hassle-free testing. By utilizing the College Level Examination Program members can test out the courses they need to achieve their Associate's degree.

The CLEP exams are comparable to final course examinations and measure college level knowledge in five basic study areas that include English composition, humanities, social science-history, natural science and mathematics.

The CLEP exams are free for active duty and reserve personnel and according to Simon, the electronic characteristic of these tests provide instant results which are a nice benefit to the student.

The Peterson Air Force Base library also has multiple copies of study guides to prepare Airmen for these exams. Students may check out study guides from the library in three week intervals.

Don Dooly, 21st Mission Support Squadron education chief, has seen this support program work first hand.

"I would see it time and time again where students would take one course and then another and it wasn't long before they would complete their CCAF degree and start working toward their Bachelor's degree," Dooly related. "What a difference it makes, you can see it in them. They are more positive about themselves and they do their work much better."

For the prospective student, Dooly believes people should start out slow so they don't get too overwhelmed with the process.

"The worst thing you can do is overload yourself, because you are setting yourself up for failure," Dooly said. "Start with something that you want to take and that you are comfortable with."

Active duty members who are deployed overseas or who do not have the time to attend classes also have

a distance learning option that they can take full advantage of. The most common form on distance learning is with online courses.

The education office advises that you take your time when evaluating this option also. Remember to verify that the course is an accredited course and be aware of the personal time management skill you must possess in order to complete the class requirements.

For information, call the education office at 556-4064.

Calling All Teachers

Over a decade ago, a program aptly named Troops to Teachers was established to help recruit quality teachers for schools that serve low-income families. Since then, TTT has been relieving teacher shortages in math, special education and other high need subject areas.

The TTT program helps Airmen who already have their Bachelor's degree transition from active duty to private sector employment by providing counseling and assistance programs throughout the teacher certification process.

"We start out by getting them enrolled in a teacher licensure program and from there we provide everything they need to be successful in that program," said Megan Diderrich, program assistant for TTT.

Once a participant has their license the TTT office will also help place them in a position teaching a subject they choose.

Financial aid is also available for eligible participants in the form of a \$5,000 stipend designed to defray the costs associated with the teacher certification process. Bonuses of \$10,000 may also be available to teachers who serve a low-income community for a three-year period.

According to Diderrich, the program is a perfect match for recently or soon-to-be separated members.

"Military personnel make great role models for our nation's school children," Diderrich said. "They have the leadership skills and the abilities necessary to teach in those low income, high need districts. The skills that they have gained during their military careers just make them excellent teachers."

So far this year the program has successfully placed 46 teachers in Colorado schools.

For information, call Troops to Teachers at 262-4107.





MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION SET

21st Security Forces Squadron pass and registration section will be conducting vehicle registrations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Wednesday at the enlisted club lobby. All motor vehicles that enter and operate on Peterson Air Force Base must be registered with the 21st SFS. For information, call the 21st SFS at 556-6406 or 556-4678.

LIBRARY STAFF ANNOUNCES CLOSURE

The Peterson Air Force Base library will be closed May 9-10 for installation and training on the new integrated library system. For information, call 556-7462.

PARKING LOT CLOSURES SET

There will be pavement milling work throughout the installation Friday that will require parking lot closures and restrict traffic on Paine Street. The parking lots affected will be; the post office, military clothing sales, and the fitness and aquatics centers. There will be one-way traffic on sections of Paine Street. For information, call Daniel Yocum at 556-1833.

PAINT SHOP SCHEDULES STREET RE-STRIPING

Street re-striping will take place

Saturday and Sunday. Also, Sunday the painters will begin re-painting the crosswalks, stop bars and turn arrows on the base. The process will take most of the month of May to accomplish.

For information, call Steve Durand at 556-4952.

FIRST SERGEANTS GROUP SCHEDULES GOLF TOURNEY

The First Sergeants Golf Tournament begins at 8 a.m. May 13 at the Silver Spruce Golf Club. The registration fee is \$45. It includes the tournament, greens fees, golf cart and lunch.

FEDERAL WOMEN'S PROGRAM PLANS BRIEFING

A "Resume's - Working through the process" briefing takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. May 19 at the civilian personnel conference room in Building 350.

For information, call Debra Agnew at 554-5265.

YMCA OFFERS FREE MILITARY REGISTRATION

The YMCAs of the Pikes Peak Region is offering active-duty military, civilian DOD employees and active-duty Reservists a one-time free registration. People can bring their identification card to any YMCA branch anytime. Military members who are E-5 and below also get discounted monthly membership rates.

Financial assistance is available.

PIKES PEAK TOP 3 MEETING SET

The Pikes Peak Top 3 meets at 3 p.m. May 5 at the enlisted club. Membership is open to master sergeant selects through chief master sergeants who are assigned to Peterson. Retirees who are sponsored by an active-duty top three member are also welcome to join as associate members. Pikes Peak Top 3 actively supports enlisted causes and professional development through a variety of activities. For information, call Senior Master Sgt. Leyda Pendergrass at 556-9022.

BASE MUSEUM REVEALS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Construction for the new Medal of Honor Park is currently underway on the northwest side of the base museum grounds. The project is scheduled to be completed in November. Construction will not affect the day to day operations of the museum. For information, call Ernie Branch at 556-1422.

SKY SOX SCHEDULES AIR FORCE APPRECIATION DAY

The traditional Sky Sox Night for Air Force members becomes Sky Sox Day this year as the Colorado Springs Sky Sox play the Portland Beavers at 1:05 p.m. Saturday. People from Peterson, the U.S. Air Force Academy, Schriever Air Force Base and Cheyenne

Mountain Air Force Station are invited to attend.

Come early for the festivities, including Sox the Fox, presentation of the colors by the High Frontier Honor Guard of Peterson AFB, the national anthem and the ceremonial first pitch. The game is free to eligible users of these installations.

Eligible persons can get up to 10 free tickets at the community activities center. For information, call the CAC at 556-1760.

TOUR GUIDES NEEDED

The 21st Space Wing Public Affairs currently seeks sharp officers and Airmen. Candidates must be E-4 and above who have been on Peterson for at least one year to interview for positions in the base tour guide program.

Each year Peterson is host to more than 1,000 base tour visitors. Share your Air Force experience with potential recruits coming on base from local schools, ROTC units nationwide, scouts and community organizations. Tours typically last four hours and take place from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Interviewees must have their supervisor's permission to become part of this elite team. Tour dates will be e-mailed each week as far as three months out so that members can sign up to escort the tours. For information, call 556-6208.



See the Space Observer online at www.csmng.com

Personnel Corner

MPF OFFERS ADVICE FOR RENEWAL OF COMMON ACCESS CARDS

There are hundreds of Team Peterson members' common access cards, both military and civilian that will expire in the next three to five months. The military personnel flight here encourages members to check the card's expiration date. If their CAC expires within two to three months, get it renewed now rather than waiting until just before expiration. For information, call Staff Sgt. Krista Lopez at 556-4680.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT ANNOUNCES NEW HOURS

The 21st Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight moved to standardized hours. The MPF will be open for customer service walk-ins and appointments from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The MPF can accommodate exceptions on a case by case basis by making appointments with the appropriate MPF representative from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For questions concerning the new hours of operation or information, call Maj. Jeff Boleng, 21st Mission Support Squadron commander at 556-4023, or Capt. Debbie Horne, MPF commander at 556-7135.

AFPC OFFERS IMPROVED AIRMAN PROMOTION DVR PROCESS

The military personnel flight is no longer required to print and distribute data verification records for Airmen. Members may view and print their own DVRs via the virtual MPF.

Members requiring assistance should contact their commanders support staff.

AIR FORCE ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO OFFICER PROMOTION ORDERS

The Air Force Personnel Center will only send

a copy of promotion orders to the automated records management system for archiving. Officers desiring a copy of their promotion orders must submit a request to the Air Force Personnel Contact Center via contact.center@randolph.af.mil. In order to allow sufficient processing time for orders, its recommended officers submit requests 45 to 60 days after their effective promotion date.

CANADIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE CALL FOR REGISTRATION

Women residing in Colorado Springs are invited to attend the Canadian Women's Conference, which takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 7 at the U.S. Air Force Academy Community Ballroom. There is a \$20 registration fee. Lunch will be provided, along with goodie bags and door prizes. For information, call Joyce Charlton at 556-6141.

PASSPORT SERVICES OFFICE CHANGES LOCATION

The passport office is now located at the family support center in Building 350, Room 1016. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays and from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:15 to 3:00 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Although a passport package may be picked-up at any time, appointments are required for people submitting paperwork for an official or tourist passport.

For information, call Jan Kienast at 556-6141.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT OFFERS UNIFORM GUIDANCE

When wearing women's short sleeved maternity blues, the aeronautical and chaplain badges are mandatory. All other badges are optional. Center the aeronautical, occupational or miscellaneous badge a half-inch above the ribbons.

If the ribbons aren't worn, center the badge parallel to the name tag. Center the additional badge a half-inch above the first one. Center the name tag on the left side, horizontal with ground. The bottom of the ribbons must be even with bottom of name tag.

When wearing the pointed collar, center the name tag on the right side, 1 1/2 inches higher or

lower than the first exposed button. When wearing the rounded collar, center the name tag on right side 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches below bottom of the tab, parallel with the ground. Center the duty or miscellaneous badge a half-inch above the name tag.

Officers must place shoulder mark insignia as close as possible to the shoulder seam. Airmen must center chevrons halfway between shoulder seam and bottom of the sleeve. Senior NCOs must wear either shoulder mark insignia or chevrons.

DOD UPDATES NATIONAL SECURITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM

The 2004 National Defense Authorization Act gave the Department of Defense authority to establish a new human resources management system for civilian employees called the National Security Personnel System. This system will create a new framework of rules, regulations and processes rooted in the principles of flexibility and fairness that govern the way civilians are hired, compensated, promoted and disciplined in DoD. Proposed regulations were posted in the Federal Register Feb. 14.

Its recommended employees and managers go to the DOD NSPS Web site at www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html and click on FACT SHEET to read more about NSPS and the proposed regulations. It's also recommended people go to the Air Force NSPS Web site at www.dp.hq.af.mil/dpp/dppn/nsps/ and subscribe to the Air Force NSPS newsletter.

CAA SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT

The Career Assistance Advisor is seeking volunteer facilitators for the new professional enhancement program. It's a standardized program replacing enlisted professional development and other programs Air Force-wide. Courses take place quarterly for Airmen and NCOs and bi-annually for senior NCO selects.

A wide variety of topics are covered during these mandatory three-day courses, and lesson plans and slides are provided to volunteers. For information or to volunteer, call Master Sgt. Kristin Clark at 556-9226 or kristin.clark@peterson.af.mil for referral to the appropriate course director. 



Major vehicle accident

Two vehicles were totaled after they collided at the intersection of Peterson Boulevard and Paine Street. Security forces arrived on scene to begin investigating the accident. According to an eyewitness, a vehicle traveling south on Peterson started to turn left onto Paine and did not see the oncoming vehicle because it was hidden behind another vehicle. One service-member complained of neck pains, but declined medical attention. Towing services were contacted to remove the vehicles from the scene and patrols resumed as normal. The accident is under investigation.

Drivers need to be aware of traffic conditions and exercise extreme caution when approaching and turning at busy intersections.

Shoplifting

A family member was detained by a base exchange detective for attempting to steal \$24.95 worth of merchandise. The young lady tried to get away with a music CD and women's lingerie. Security forces were notified and the Colorado Springs Police Department dispatched an officer to respond. The young lady was transported to the SFS

control center and issued a summons for shoplifting. People should remember that shopping at the BX is a privilege, not a right. Shoplifting from the BX effects the amount of total sales and funds donated to support Peterson Air Force Base families.

911 hang ups

In two separate incidents, security forces were dispatched to investigate 911 hang-up calls. In both cases it was found that young children were at fault for the incidents. One child, a three-year-old girl, was practicing dialing the number in case of an actual emergency. Parents need to stress to children to only dial 911 in the event of an emergency. Hang up calls waste valuable time and may result in emergency responders being delayed to an actual emergency situation.

Alarm activations

In 11 separate incidents, security forces promptly responded to activated alarms. Their investigations into the cause revealed human error to be the cause in all incidents. This is a continuing problem. Occupants of buildings with alarm systems must pay strict attention to procedures when entering their building.



U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes
WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

With Eagle Eyes, any community member can report suspicious activities 24 hours a day by calling the law enforcement desk at 556-4000.



Asian Pacific American Heritage Month luncheon set

By Capt. Floyd Melchor
21st Operations Support Squadron

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month — a celebration of recognition and achievements by Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. The APA Heritage Month also recognizes the vital role Asians and Pacific Islanders have played in further enriching our society through vibrant cultures and rich history.

The Asian Pacific American culture includes many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages and cultures. The community encompasses countries from the Philippines, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam and Hawaii, to name a few.

So how did Asian Pacific American Heritage Month originate? Much like Black History and Women's History celebrations, APA Heritage Month originated in a congressional bill.

The APA celebration initially began when House Resolution 540, sponsored by Representatives Frank Horton and Norman Y. Mineta, called for President Jimmy Carter to designate the first ten days of May as APA Heritage Week.

The following month, Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced a similar bill in the Senate. Both bills passed and as a result, on Oct. 5, 1978, President Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the first ten days of May as APA Week in 1979.

In 1992, President George Bush signed legislation declaring May as the annual APA Heritage Month.

The month of May was selected to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to America in 1843, as well as the completion of the transcontinental railroad, built mainly by

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Stats

<p>Serving our nation 276,000 – The number of Asian-American military veterans. There are 25,000 veterans who are of native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander heritage.</p> <p>Coming to America 8.7 million – The number of U.S. residents who were born in Asia. Asian-born residents</p>	<p>comprise one-fourth of the nation's total foreign-born population.</p> <p>52% – The percentage of the foreign-born from Asia who are naturalized U.S. citizens. The corresponding rate for the foreign-born population as a whole is 38 percent.</p> <p>1.7 million – The estimated number of foreign-born peo-</p>	<p>ple from China. Next to Mexico, China is the leading country of birth for the nation's foreign-born.</p> <p>Also among the top 10 countries of birth for the foreign-born population are the Philippines, India, Vietnam and Korea.</p> <p><i>(Courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau.)</i></p>
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Chinese immigrants in May 1869.

The goal of APA Heritage Month is to develop an appreciation and understanding of APA culture and to recognize the contributions of APA in the United States. We've all been fascinated by the Chinese dragon dance, hula dancing and of course the foods. Who can forget the food?

Some famous Asian Pacific Americans include: Bruce Lee, martial artist and actor; Ellison Onizuka, astronaut; Gary Locke, Governor of Washington; Benny Agbayani, Colorado Rockies baseball player; and Kristi Yamaguchi, Olympic gold medalist.

Asian Americans also have an incredible record in the U.S. military. Particularly Japanese Americans because of what they did during World War II.

The 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team were segregated Army units who fought in Italy and Germany. They became known as the most decorated unit in U.S. military history for their size and length of service.

The APAs bring to our society a rich cultural her-

itage representing many languages, ethnicities and religious traditions.

Whether in government, business, science or the arts, Asian Pacific Americans have added to the prosperity and vitality of our society. As family members, citizens and involved members of the community, they reinforce the values and ideals that are essential to the continued well-being of our nation.

The theme of this year's APA heritage month is "Liberty and Freedom for All." To celebrate, the APA Heritage Committee will host its annual luncheon takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 12 at the Peterson Officer's Club. The Colorado College Asian Dance Troupe will perform a variety of dances stemming from this diverse heritage.

Tickets are on sale now for \$10 and must be purchased by May 5 to reserve your seat.

For tickets, information or to volunteer, call Capt. Floyd Melchor at 556-1796 or e-mail floyd.melchor@afspc.af.mil.



CTA, from Page 1

lected into four opportunities yearly versus 700 IMAs attempting to individually arrange their training. General Lance W. Lord, commander, Air Force Space Command, endorsed the concept and directed all AFSPC IMAs to attend one CTA annually. "He is a great supporter of the program," Colonel Rendleman said, "and Air Force Reserve Command has leaned forward to fund the active duty tours used for the training."

"Air Force Space Command leads the way in improving IMA readiness with the CTA concept," said Lt. Col. Douglas Young, AFSPC IMA program manager.

The Peterson AFB CTA was jam-packed with briefings and hands-on training. The CTA also provided Reserve program benefit updates and time for IMAs to accomplish due or overdue medical and dental assessments.

"Being new to the IMA program; the CTA was very informative and well organized," said Master Sgt. Tamara Davis, an IMA assigned to the 21st Services Squadron. "The ancillary training was an excellent refresher for me."

After completing this training, IMAs report for duty better prepared to serve alongside their active duty colleagues.

As with any conference or large gathering, networking is a side benefit. IMAs are individually assigned to an

active duty unit which explains a common expression often made by them, "I am alone." The networking that goes on at a CTA shows an IMA that he or she is truly part of a larger group.

"I do not feel "alone" at all," Sergeant Davis said.

More than 300 AFSPC-assigned IMAs from Peterson, Vandenberg, Calif., and Buckley AFBs, attended the CTA along with 30 from the U.S. Air Force Academy. Also participating were NORAD/NORTHCOM and DISA IMAs.

The effort to conduct CTAs resulted from a trend that was identified after the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Several thousand IMA reservists, including hundreds of AFSPC IMAs, were mobilized.

Pre-mobilization readiness rates were found to be unsatisfactory.

By conducting four CTAs last year, more than 650 AFSPC IMAs were trained. This feat did not go unnoticed. During the November 2004 IMA Program Manager - Base IMA Administrator conference held at the Air Reserve Personnel Center, AFSPC's training concept was lauded.

"CTAs are the way of the future to improve IMA readiness," said Maj. Gen. Jay Barry, mobilization assistant to the Chief, Air Force Reserve.

The Peterson CTA was the third of four scheduled for this year. Earlier Los Angeles AFB, Calif., and Patrick AFB, Fla., CTAs trained hundreds of IMAs.

The final FY 05 CTA is scheduled for June 24-25 at Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

FWA, from Page 1

report abuses within their organizations say they suffer reprisals as a result.

M. Jane Deese, director of the DOD Inspector General's military reprisal investigations office, said she receives hundreds of reports a year of these incidents. And while the vast majority of these claims turn out to be unsubstantiated or not covered under whistleblower-protection laws.

The IG's most recent Semiannual Report for Transmission to the Congress included three examples of substantiated whistleblower-reprisal cases between April 1 and Sept. 30, 2004.

In one case, an Airman in Utah said he received an unfavorable enlisted performance report after reporting mismanagement by officers in his command to an inspector general. Following an investigation by Deese's office, corrective action was taken against the officers involved.

In another case, a Sailor said she was issued a letter of instruction and downgraded fitness report in reprisal for complaining of discrimination to her chain of command and equal opportunity office, and in testimony to the Defense Advisory Committee on women in the services. Deese's office investigated and determined that two officers had, in fact, reprisal against the Sailor. Both officials involved retired from active duty.

Reprisals against civilian employees are somewhat harder to track, because most cases are referred to the

independent Office of Special Counsel.

However, the DOD Inspector General's civilian reprisal investigations office investigates most of the highest-profile cases, said Dan Meyer, the office's director. These cases involve civilian employees in the DOD intelligence community, participating in operations in Iraq or Afghanistan, associated with contractor fraud of more than \$1 million, or who are fired as a result of whistleblowing activity, he said.

While servicemembers, civilian employees and DOD contractors all receive whistleblower protections under the law, Meyer said the guidelines for what constitutes a whistleblower differ.

For example, servicemembers who report waste, fraud or abuse through their chains of command qualify as whistleblowers. However, civilians who report these occurrences to their immediate supervisors do not.

Meyer recommended that would-be whistleblowers consult with their inspectors general to learn about their rights and protections before taking action.

While nobody wants to have to blow the whistle on waste, fraud or abuse, and those who do often face a social stigma, Deese and Meyer said that whistleblowers are a vital part of the Defense Department's effort to monitor itself.

"You have to have people willing to come out and speak out," Deese said. "It's critical to the goal of maintaining accountability and integrity in the system."

Civil Engineers host Earth Day events

By 1st Lt. Tracy Giles
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

More than 250 people stopped by the Peterson Base Exchange April 21 to learn more about Earth Day, which celebrated its 35th anniversary Friday.

The event was hosted by 21st Civil Engineer Squadron operations and environmental flights and included tables with educational materials, brochures and energy saving devices.

"Many just stopped by to learn more about doing their part to protect the environment," said Danette Taylor, pollution prevention manager. "Kids weren't left out either, with endangered species coloring books, ecotip bookmarks, post cards, posters and candy."

Miss Taylor said most people were interested to learn about the recycle center on base. She said it is located south of Building 1324 on S. Goodfellow street and allows for newspapers, aluminum and steel cans, and #1 and #2 plastics to be recycled.

In addition to this, Taylor said base housing residents can recycle curbside every other Tuesday.

Another environmental issue people were interested in was water conservation, said Tim Pugh, energy manager.

"Biggest thing is not to be complacent," Pugh said. "Even though we've had an average year of snow pack and rainfall this year, we are in the middle of a ten year

forecasted drought cycle."

Mister Pugh said the Colorado Springs city council has currently authorized twice a week watering for residents: Tuesday and Saturday for odd-numbered addresses and Wednesday and Sunday for even-numbered addresses.

He said people should make sure all of their watering is completed during designated times in order to avoid the heat of the day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"Everyone is also reminded to wash their cars at on or off base car washes in order to protect storm drains and rivers," Pugh said. "Peterson has done an outstanding job in water conservation and we need to continue to do so this year."

Miss Taylor said every day is Earth Day for the Peterson Environmental flight. She said their staff makes sure air, land and water resources are protected at Peterson and all 21st Space Wing geographically separated units.

"It's more than cliché," she added. "Each person really does make a difference in the future of our Earth through the things they do or don't do. We can all make simple changes in the items we buy, using less and wasting less. It all adds up. Our children and our grandchildren will benefit or pay for what we do now."

Conservation packets are available at the self help store on base. For information, call 556-6789.



Photo by Dennis Plummer
Lt. Col. Terry Watkins, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron commander, assists children from the Peterson Child Development Center with the ceremonial tree planting to commemorate Arbor and Earth Days.

Recycling on base

The recycle center located south of Building 1324 is open from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Additional locations: There are bulk recycling dumpsters located in the fenced area northwest of Building 1380. There are also multiple paper and cardboard recycling dumpsters located at various locations around the base.

Bulk Dumpster Usage

The bulk waste dumpsters are specifically for wastes generated in the mission processes at Peterson.

Wastes generated from off-base are *not* to be placed in the bulk dumpsters.

The following are prohibited from being dumped in the Bulk Waste containers:

- Appliances containing refrigerants.
 - Hazardous materials.
 - Electronics such as computer monitors, computers and televisions.
 - Used motor oils.
- (According to city Colorado Springs Ordinance 4517, unauthorized use of bulk dumpsters or recycling containers may result in penalties up to \$500 or 90 days in jail.)

Did You Know?

Housing residents can have bulk wastes such as furniture picked up at

their curbside. Call Liz Dillon at 556-1479 to schedule a curbside pickup. Refrigerators, air conditioners and freezers cannot be picked up due to the refrigerants contained inside them. These must be taken to the Colorado Springs Landfill. For information, call 683-2600.



The following can be placed in Housing curbside recycling containers:

- Aluminum and steel cans
- Plastics #1 and #2 (for example - milk jugs and soda bottles) Look for these numbers and symbols on the bottom of containers.
- Newspapers (magazines and newspaper inserts are OK).
- Cardboard - break down boxes.
- Chipboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc.).
- Paper grocery bags.

Note: Plastic grocery bags - these can be recycled at the base exchange or in

the source separated gondolas (bin labeled "plastics") located at the Recycling Center.

Hazardous Waste Disposal Facts

If you are an active duty member moving or you have hazardous household chemicals you'll never use, take your household hazardous waste materials to the regional household chemical turn in facility at the Air Force Academy.

The best part: It's free!! For details, drop off times and days, call 333-4691. El Paso County has a full time facility on Marksheffel Road about four miles north of the base that accepts other hazardous wastes except for oil. For information, call 520-7878.

Used Oil Recycling

Wednesday through Sunday, the Auto Skills center will change your oil or you can change it yourself and they will keep it. For information, call 556-4481.

Most oil change facilities (i.e. Jiffy lube, PEP Boys etc.) will take your oil whether they change it or not. The Air Force Academy will take household used oil from government employees Wednesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 333-4691.

(Information courtesy of 21st CES environmental flight)

Tips by the Gallon

Outdoor tips and savings per day per household

1. Water your landscape only two days per week and before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m. to reduce evaporation – **up to 20 gallons**
2. Reduce watering time (for example, reduce watering time by 10 percent - from 30 minutes to 27 minutes) – **up to 13.5 gallons**
3. Use a bucket and put a shut-off nozzle on your hose when washing your car – **up to 60 gallons residential car washes prohibited**
4. Cover your spa or pool to reduce evaporation – **up to 33 gallons**
5. Don't hose down your sidewalk, driveway, parking lot or patio. Use a broom – **up to 25 gallons**

Join Colorado Springs Utilities in the Springs Water Saver challenge ...
Save 50 gallons of water per day

Indoor tips and savings per day

1. Take shorter showers (decrease shower time by one minute) – **2.5 to 5 gallons**
2. Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth – **5 gallons**
3. Never use the toilet as a waste basket – **3 to 5 gallons**
4. Place a plastic bottle filled with water in toilet tank to reduce flush water – **2 to 3 gallons (.25 gallon per flush)**
5. When taking a bath, only partially fill bathtub – **up to 20 gallons**
6. Wash only full loads of laundry. If you can't wait for a full load, use the right water level to match the size of the load – **up to 20 gallons**

Be waste aware – waste reduction resources, tools

Window to my environment

This Web-based tool at www.epa.gov/enviro/wme provides a wide range of federal, state and local information about environmental conditions and features in your area of choice. By entering a zip code or a city and state name, you can retrieve an interactive map that shows the location of regulated facilities, monitoring sites, water bodies, population densities and perspective topographic views. In addition, this tool provides geographic statistics about your area of interest, including estimated population, county and urban area designations and local water bodies and watersheds. Finally, retrieve federal, state and local information on environmental issues like air and water quality, watershed health, superfund sites, fish advisories and impaired waters.

America Recycles Day

The America Recycles Day website at www.americarecyclesday.org contains information on the upcoming and past America Recycles Days. The site contains a fact sheet and press releases about the event as well as suggested reading materials and links to additional information.

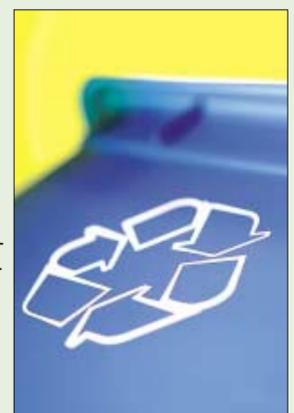
Earth 911

The Earth 911 website at www.earth911.org contains a wide variety of information on solid waste-related topics, including recycling, composting, and buying recycled products. The site also provides information on local recycling centers and events and includes a kids' section with activities and information for kids of all ages and teachers.

Your home, community

This website at www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/citizens.htm provides tips for consumers on solid waste issues, such as recycling, reducing solid waste, and composting. Useful resources include, "The Consumer's Handbook for Reducing Solid Waste," which provides helpful information to consumers on how to reduce the amount of waste they create. Other resources include information on EPA's Plug-In to E-Cycling campaign.

(Information courtesy of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)



Dinosaurs

The Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center provides education, entertainment and research for all ages



A Tyrannosaurus-rex is in the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center in Woodland Park until May 15.

Story and photos
by Nel Lampe
Mountaineer staff

Dinosaurs and palm trees in the small town of Woodland Park, about 18 miles west of Colorado Springs?

Perhaps it's not as odd as first thought. After all, a fossilized palm leaf and other evidence of a tropical environment were found just a few miles away at the fossil beds. And a large number of dinosaur bones seen in museums around the world came from the Cañon City area, about 40 miles south.

None of the specimens in the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center are from Colorado, however.

Most of the dinosaur specimens are from dig sites in South Dakota, and the reptile and fish specimens are from Kansas sites.

The facility opened almost a year ago, and provides education, entertainment and research. Children seem to especially like dinosaurs, and this facility is a great place for them to find a favorite dinosaur, to learn about paleontology and digs, touch real dinosaur bones, get up close, learn about several species, or participate in their own "dig" in Woody's Paleo Play Area. The play area also has several books and interactive exhibits.

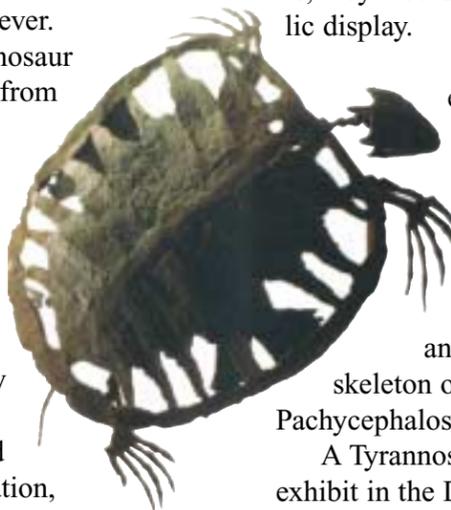
The Woodland Park facility was founded by Mike and J.J. Triebold, of Triebold Paleontology.

The paleontology company has been in business since 1989, although Mike Triebold has been collecting fossils for more than 20 years and operates dig-sites in several states. In addition to the

Colorado facility, TPI has a large facility in North Dakota, which is open to the public.

TPI provides services to museums and other organizations, such as paleontological exploration, restoration, mounting and replica casting. The company's work can be seen in museums throughout the world.

The dinosaur specimens seen in the Dinosaur Resource Center are on loan from TPI. The full-scale size skeleton displays are cast from authentic specimens, then reinforced with steel and assembled. Because real, millions of years old fossilized bones are very heavy, need lots of support scaffolding and are also quite fragile, they wouldn't stand up to public display.



Several special exhibits are in the Dinosaur Resource Center, such as the world's smallest Tyrannosaurus Rex, the world's largest Mosasaur, and the only partial

skeleton of a Pachycephalosaurus in the world. A Tyrannosaurus-rex is on exhibit in the Dinosaur Research Center. It will be displayed through May 15. This is the second largest specimen ever found — it's second in size to the famous specimen named "Sue," and was found in the same area in South Dakota. The T-rex lived about 66 million years ago, and grew to be about 40 feet long.

A working laboratory allows visitors to view fossil cleaning and preparation such as the young T-rex, known as Sir William. Sir William was about 15 years old when he died, was about 25 feet long and weighed about 3,500 pounds.

Educational exhibits address geologic time, what the earth may have been like millions of years ago, which dinosaurs lived in Colorado, paleontology "bone wars" and several castings of dinosaur tracks. There's even an exhibit of fossilized dinosaur eggs.

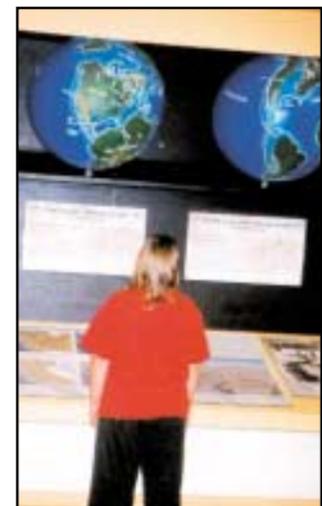
Visitors may tour the facility on their own, or inquire about

See Dinosaur, Page 16



The Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center is just off Highway 24 West in Woodland Park; by the palm trees.

HAZARDZONES



Places to see in the Pikes Peak area.
April 28, 2005



Dinosaur, from Page 15

guided tour groups. There's two or three guided tours during the day, depending upon employee availability. A sign at the entrance desk lists the tour times, or call the Dinosaur Resource Center at (719) 686-1820 for the schedule before leaving home.

The Dinosaur Research Center has three exhibit halls. The main hall is the Dinosaur Hall, and contains several dinosaur displays. There are also several winged reptile specimens hanging from the ceiling. A second, smaller room contains an *Albertosaurus* specimen in a fighting stance with an *Edmondosaurus*.

Another room is the Prehistoric Ocean. All exhibits in this room are fish or reptiles found in Kansas. Some 83 million years ago, a large sea-way covered much of Kansas. Many fossils of sea life, such as squid, giant clams, oyster shells and fossilized fish and reptiles have been found in digs in Kansas, and are displayed in the Prehistoric Ocean room.

As interesting as the displays are, and the fact that the center is less than 30 minutes away, one of the great attractions at the Dinosaur Research Center is the gift shop, called Prehistoric Paradise. In addition to resort-wear fashions and jewelry, the gift shop is a treasure trove of all things dinosaur.

If there's a dinosaur aficionado in your family, this is the place to shop. There are dinosaur puzzles, books, skeleton kits, chess sets with dinosaur shaped pieces, rocks, slices of rocks, crystals, geodes, shark teeth, back packs in dinosaur shapes, and safari-style clothing. There are myriad T-shirt styles, caps, cups and hats. How about a real fossilized leaf or insect? Prices start at about \$25 and up; there's even a \$2,000 sink and counter made of fossils. A casting of an *Oviraptor* skull sells for \$1,215. Or choose a dinosaur crossing sign for a child's room — there are several species to select from.

People can shop in the Prehistoric Paradise without paying admission to the exhibits, so return trips for gift shopping are easy.

Hours at the Dinosaur Center are Monday through Thursdays, April through October, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays the center is open until 8 p.m. It's open Sundays from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Winter hours are 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays; Sunday hours are the same year-round. It is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year.

Admission to the Dinosaur Resource Center is



"Gundy," a Triceratops, lived 66 million years ago. This specimen, which was about 25 feet long, was found in South Dakota.

\$9.50 for adults and \$6.50 for children ages 5 to 12. Children under 5 are admitted free. Show an active duty military identification and receive \$1 discount.

Memberships are also available.

Various private activities can be arranged at the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center, such as group sleepovers, corporate or unit parties.

Birthday parties can be arranged for up to 10 children and five adults. The Raptor Package includes an hour-long interactive tour, bingo and prizes.

A T-rex package includes everything in the Raptor package, plus a dinosaur-themed cake, drinks, a paleo pack for each child and a gift card for the honoree.

To inquire about birthday parties, call 686-1820, Ext. 112.

The Dinosaur Resource Center also works with Boy Scout or Girl Scout groups with special activities and a private guided tour. Call 686-1820 ext 112 to make scouting arrangements.

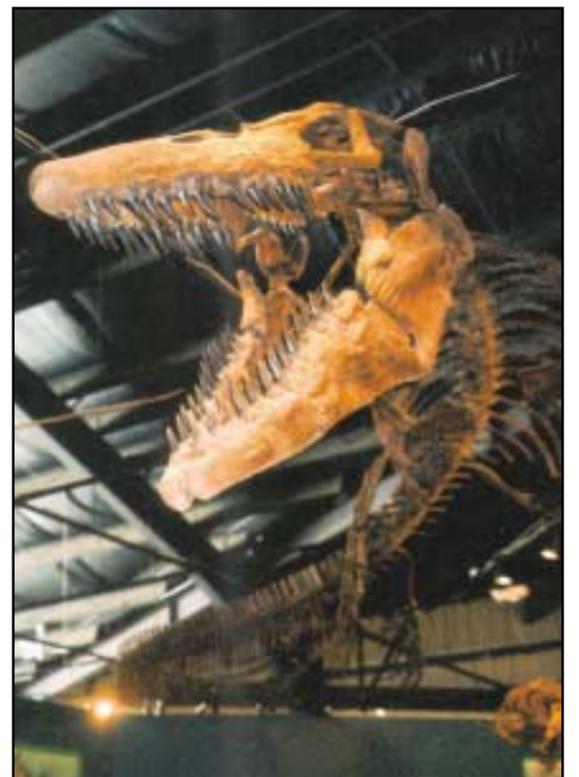
The Resource Center also has special activities and exhibits throughout the year, including guest speakers.

To reach the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Center, take Interstate 25 north to the Cimarron Exit or Highway 115 to Cimarron Street, then Highway 24 west to the town of Woodland Park, about 20 miles.

The center is at 201 S. Fairview St. in Woodland Park, on the south side of Highway 24, just after the second traffic light. Look for the palm trees.

There are no refreshments available in the Dinosaur Center, but Woodland Park has several restaurants, a doughnut shop and fast food restaurants.

(Courtesy of the Fort Carson Mountaineer)



The world's largest Mosasaur, a carnivorous marine reptile that lived in the ocean that covered Kansas, is in the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center.



An Albertosaurus, found in Montana, is displayed in the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center in Woodland Park.



Interactive displays in the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Discovery Center allow visitors to touch ancient bones.

Just the Facts

- Travel time about 30 minutes
- For ages all
- Type dinosaur center
- Fun factor ★★★★★
(Out of 5 stars)
- Wallet damage \$\$
 - \$ = Less than \$20
 - \$\$ = \$21 to \$40
 - \$\$\$ = \$41 to \$60
 - \$\$\$\$ = \$61 to \$80
 (Based on a family of four)

GO! Get out!!

Pikes Peak Center

Mary Chapin Carpenter with Mindy Smith present a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

"42nd Street," part of the Broadway Theater series, is in the theater at 7 p.m. May 8 and 9.

Clay Walker is in concert at 7 p.m. May 19; call the Pikes Peak Center (190 S. Cascade Ave.) box office at 520-SHOW for tickets. Parking is streetside or in a garage behind the center (\$5 fee).

Colorado Springs Children's Chorale: "Bright Lights and Broadway" is at 3 p.m. May 15.

Colorado Springs Philharmonic's Pop Series features John Williams. Cinema Magic at 8 p.m. May 21.

Call the box office at 520-SHOW for the Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave.

Parking is streetside or in a garage behind the center (\$5 fee).

Concerts

Colorado Springs Philharmonic presents its next concert at 8 p.m. on Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. May 1. The philharmonic presents works by Beethoven, Lalo

and Smetana. Tickets start at \$12; call 520-7469.

"Mozart's Requiem," at First Methodist Church, 520 N. Nevada St. at 8 p.m. May 7 and at 2:30 p.m. May 8. The Colorado Springs Philharmonic and the Colorado Springs Chorale are presenting the concert. Tickets are \$20; call 520-SHOW.



Rembrandt's etchings

The White Galleries of the Sango de Cristo Art Center at 210 N. Santa Fe in Pueblo has several collections of art displayed, including **"Rembrandt: The Moreschim Collection"** of etchings through

Saturday. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children, and admits visitors to Buell Children's Museum as well.

Musical

"Singin' in the Rain," opens Friday in the Fine Arts Center Theater, 30 W. Dale St., at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 p.m. on Sundays through May 22. Call 634-5583 for tickets.

Dinner theater

"Beehive, the '60s Musical," is at the Country Dinner Playhouse, in south Denver, 6875 S. Clinton St.; call (303) 799-1410. Shows are Wednesdays through Sundays. Tickets start at \$35. This show runs through May 8, when it will be replaced by **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,"** opening May 11.

"Farther North to Laughter," is opening at Iron Springs Chateau Melodrama Dinner Theater, 444 Ruxton Ave., in Manitou Springs. Performances are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets start at \$24; call 685-5104.





Library exercises learning

By Tech. Sgt. Matt Gilreath
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Military members who seek higher learning and entertainment can find both at the Peterson Air Force Base Library.

The library director, Kathy Kucharski said the library's mission focuses on three areas, mission support, educational support and quality of life.

// We have one of the better College Level Examination Program and Defense Activity for Non-traditional Educational Support study guide resource centers in the area.

//
– Kathy Kucharski, Library Director

“There are more than 39,500 books here, including a special section of suggested reading from the Air Force Chief of Staff,” Kucharski said. “We have a wide selection of fiction, non-fiction and books for children also.”

With education benefits being an important part of the military, the library has plenty of resources for

those seeking higher education.

“We have one of the better College Level Examination Program and Defense Activity for Non-traditional Educational Support study guide resource centers in the area,” Kucharski said. “There are several study guides for each of the tests and videos, so members are more likely to have what they need on hand. There are troops that come from Schriever AFB and from Fort Carson to use our facility.

“Army members may also use the Micro-fiche reader and make print outs of their records,” Kucharski said.

“There are 16 Internet stations for people to use and do online research for projects or papers they have to write. Three of the work stations are located toward the front where the children's books are, so parents may sit and use a station and keep an eye on their kids,” Kucharski said.

Kucharski said parents may also bring their children to story and craft time on Wednesday's from 10:15 to 11 a.m.

If people need a room to have training, the library can also accommodate that need as well.

“We have an open forum room for up to 25 people,” Kucharski said. “There is a TV with a VCR and DVD player and we can even set up a system so people can do a power point presentation.”



The Peterson AFB library has 16 internet stations in various locations available for online research projects.

For some people, the library offers a quiet break from the office to catch up on some reading.

Lieutenant Colonel David Barkdull, U.S. Northern Command chief of plans and policy branch said the library provides a relaxing atmosphere.

“It's nice to get away from the office and get caught up on some professional reading,” Colonel Barkdull said. “I like to read the other services publications, like the Army Times, and see what is going on with them. The library also has a good variety magazines and journals.”

So whether people are seeking to finish their degree, conduct research or just simply relax with a good book, the library is the place to be. 

ARAGON DINING FACILITY MENU

Today	Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
<u>Lunch:</u>	<u>Lunch:</u>	<u>Dinner:</u>	<u>Lunch:</u>	<u>Dinner:</u>	<u>Lunch:</u>	<u>Dinner:</u>
Herbed Baked Chicken Stuffed Cabbage Rolls Southern Fried Catfish Black-eyed Peas with Rice Mashed Potatoes Fresh Sweet Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Peas	Mexican Baked Chicken Swiss Steak with Tom Sauce Stuffed Green Peppers Baked Macaroni and Cheese Steamed Rice Fried Cabbage Carrots Black Eye Peas	Lasagna Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Sweet Italian Sausage Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Polonaise Cauliflower Italian Style Baked Beans	Crispy Baked Chicken Cajun Meat Loaf Grilled Steak Baked Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Frozen Style Peas Glazed Carrots	Fish Almondine Stir Fry Chicken with Broccoli Pork Chops with Mushroom Gravy Rissolle Potatoes Rice Pilaf Calico Corn Club Spinach Fried Okra	Ginger Barbeque Chicken Breaded Fried Shrimp Seafood Cocktail Sauce Spinach Lasagna Orange Rice Mashed Potatoes Black Eye Peas Lima Beans Corn O' Brien	Tuna and Noodles Sauerbraten Chicken Breast Parmesan Au Gratin Potatoes Steamed Rice Cauliflower Combo Peas Fried Cabbage Corn O' Brien
Dinner:	Lunch:	Dinner:	Lunch:	Dinner:	Lunch:	Dinner:
Roast Loin of Pork Jaeger with Mushroom Sauce Glazed Cornish Hen Potato Halves Orange Rice Carrots Simmered Pinto Beans Corn Combo	Roast Turkey Baked Can Ham Raisin Sauce Fish and Fries Mashed Potatoes Corn Bread Dressing Succotash Tempura Vegetables Herbed Green Beans	Swiss Steak with Tom Sauce Baked Chicken Hot Italian Sausage Peppers and Onions Steamed Rice Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Polonaise Carrots	Paprika Beef Barbeque Beef Cubes Chicken Fajitas O'brien Potatoes Steamed Rice Cauliflower Corn on the Cob Lima Beans	Breaded Onion-Lemon Fish Pork Schnitzel, Steak Yakisoba, Beef and Spaghetti Baked Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Simmered Pinto Beans Spinach Stewed Tomatoes	Southern Fried Catfish Barbeque Spareribs Oven Fried Chicken Red Beans and Rice Macaroni and Cheese Collard Greens Blackeyed Peas Glazed Sweet Potatoes	Caribbean Jerk Chicken Beef Porcupines Chicken Enchiladas Scalloped Potatoes Steamed Rice Mexican Corn Peas and Onions Savory Baked Beans

Hours of Operation: Weekdays/Weekends: Breakfast 5:30 – 8 a.m.; Lunch 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Dinner 4 – 6 p.m.;
Holidays/Down days: Supper 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; All carry out times 7 – 9 p.m.