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Peterson Complex surpasses CFC goal

By 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout
21st SW Public Affairs

Week six of the 2001 Combined Federal Campaign saw Peterson Air Force Base donors blow away this year's goal of \$375,000.

The unofficial week six total of \$382,651.50 was more than \$7,000 past the initial goal.

The last day of the campaign was originally Nov. 6, but was extended to Tuesday.

The extension turned out to be the key in beating the goal.

"Peterson donors proved to be exceptional this year," said Barbara Fitz, CFC director, "They exceeded the goal and beat last year's amount of \$378,000. Given the military priorities, humanitarianism is continuously strong."

The mission of CFC is to support and promote philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-effective and provides all federal employees the opportunity to improve life for all.

"People are not only devoted in service to the nation, but they have overcome national tragedy and still have enough spirit and generosity to help others out through CFC," said Col. Don Alston, 21st Space Wing vice commander.

One contributing factor to this year's success was the surge of patriotism after the Sept. 11 events, that originally forced cancellation of the campaign's kickoff.

"We (the CFC staff) knew one of two things; either the campaign would be stronger than ever because of recent world events or that military priorities would supercede campaign giving," said Fitz, "We found at Peterson there was no better time to give this year."

The money raised went to agencies that helped the Sept. 11 fund as well as many other charities both locally and nationally.

The CFC has been helping people since the first campaign in 1964. Since then the CFC has continued to be the largest and most successful workplace fundraising model in the world.

Harvest of love



Photo by Scottie Bibb

Peterson Air Force Base and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station civilian and military members sort and package donated food for distribution throughout southern Colorado. They are among volunteers who have been supporting the annual Care & Share/KRDO Harvest of Love food drive. Colorado Springs and local community schools collect the food and Peterson and Cheyenne Mountain volunteers pick it up and haul it to the Care & Share warehouse, where other base volunteers repackage it for distribution throughout 31 Colorado counties. Last year's drive brought in about 400,000 pounds. To volunteer for the final days of the Harvest, see the notice on Page 2.

Snow removal committee prepares for winter

By 2nd Lt. Mike Andrews
21st SW Public Affairs

It's that time of year again, the leaves are falling, there's a chill in the morning air, frost on your windshield and your dogs water dish is topped by a thin layer of ice. If you haven't already guessed, winter is almost upon us. Which means the wing is busy preparing for Snow Removal Operations.

Every year about this time, there is a mandatory Snow Removal committee meeting (reference AFI-32-1002, Snow and Ice Control, Chapter 2, para. 2.2). The purpose of the meeting is to

better serve the base population during winter weather, while ensuring priorities are set according to the mission.

In the event of a major snowfall, there are a few things all base personnel and residents should be aware of.

"The primary notification of delayed reporting, early release, or base closure will be through local radio and television channels," said Master Sgt. Lorenzo Luechtefeld, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Infrastructure Element.

The snow-call line will also be updated with the latest information regarding delayed reporting and base closures. The number is 556-7769 and

will be updated by 6 a.m., unless it's a normal reporting day.

"Delayed reporting, which means a delay of two hours, is designed to give the snow removal team time to clear snow from the entire base," said Luechtefeld. "Please report at the delayed reporting time, not an hour earlier."

There's been a question in the past as to who's mission essential personnel. Unit commanders will designate who is mission essential. If you haven't been notified -- please stay home. This makes it easier for the civil engineers to clear the roads and contin-

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News



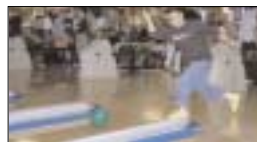
Local CE troops learn from city utility workers - Page 4

Feature



Rocky Mountain Blue offers affordable skiing to military - Page 8-9

Sports



Bowling tournament raises money for Guardian Challenge - Page 2

Straight Talk Line 556-9154

Call the 21st Space Wing Straight Talk Line for current information on real-world wing events.

Ringing the bell

NEW YORK -- (From center left) Dick Grasso, chairman of the New York Stock Exchange; Vice Adm. Michael Cowan, Navy surgeon general; Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff; Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army chief of staff; and Gen. James Jones, commandant of the Marine Corps, rang the NYSE opening day trading bell Nov. 12, during a Veterans Day commemoration ceremony here.



Courtesy photo

President signs \$10.5 billion Military Construction Act

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – President Bush signed the \$10.5 billion Military Construction Appropriations Act of 2002 into law Nov. 5.

The president originally asked for \$9.97 billion. Congress added to the amount and also took away \$55 million earmarked for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization.

Bush said the act funds the vast majority of his requests for military con-

struction projects. The act provides \$4.1 billion for military family housing. He said these projects are critical to supporting military readiness and the quality of life for service members and their families. Of the total, \$1.2 billion goes to new family housing units and improvements to existing units. The rest of the money goes to operations and maintenance of existing units.

The act includes the additional \$400 million he requested aimed specifically at improving family housing. "I want to thank the Congress for including it in

this bill," he said. "However, I am disappointed that the bill includes a 1.127 percent general reduction, and a rescission of \$55 million from the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization."

The act also funds \$1.2 billion for barracks, \$44 million for child development centers, \$199 million for health care facilities and \$953 million earmarked for the reserve components.

Funds for rebuilding the Pentagon following the Sept. 11 terrorist attack do not come from this legislation. That money is part of an emergency supple-

mental request before Congress that would also fund added anti-terrorist and force protection measures put into place since the attack.

In other news, the House is working on the 2002 Defense Appropriations Bill in tandem with the emergency supplemental. Once the House completes work, the Senate will "mark-up" the bill. The 2002 Defense Authorization Bill is in conference. Put simply, the appropriations bill provides the money, and the authorization bill gives DoD the permission to spend it.

News in Brief

Military Family Appreciation Week

■ Monday through Nov. 25 has been designated Military Family Appreciation Week and Nov. 23 a family day for NORAD, U.S. SPACECOM and AFSPC units. The Thanksgiving holiday weekend, Thursday through Nov. 25, will be a four-day regular pass period in accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3003, military leave program, paragraph 8.2.4 and other applicable service regulations. Military personnel not required for mission essential duty are authorized non-chargeable leave Nov. 23. For civilian personnel, liberal leave is encouraged.

Crime stoppers

■ Because of recent terrorist incidents in the United States, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 803 at Peterson Air Force Base is asking the military community to report any and all suspicious activity immediately.

If you see suspicious activity and you need to reach an AFOSI agent immediately, call the Crime Stoppers Hotline at 556-4357.

Harvest of Love

■ The Annual Care and Share KRDO Harvest of Love food drive begins next month, and volunteers are still welcome. Volunteers are needed Monday through Wednesday. Those interested can volunteer to drive mili-

tary pickup vehicles, support pickup teams, work in the warehouse sorting and packing food, or work in the warehouse yard helping pickup teams unload and sort food.

To volunteer to drive and work on one of the pickup teams, call Senior Master Sgt. Neal Thatcher, 556-4351 or neal.thatcher@Peterson.af.mil

To work in the warehouse or warehouse yard, call Senior Master Sgt. Brian Gauthier at 474-3907 or brian.gauthier@cheyennemountain.af.mil.

AFSA donations

■ The Air Force Sergeants Association, Chapter 1181, is collecting items to donate to different organizations.

Items include old or unused greeting cards to be sent to a children's

rehabilitation center, old or unused stamps to be sent to the Children of America Foundation and food coupons to be sent to bases overseas.

Items may be dropped off at the mission support facility, Building 350.

Clinic change

■ The Peterson Air Force Base Clinic is changing the way it does business. The Nurse Triage line will be available for patients to call beginning Tuesday. People who call the line will be able to make same-day appointments, get lab and test results, get medication refills, and leave messages for specific providers. The triage number is 556-2273. Active duty same day appointments will be taken 6:30-7:30 a.m. All other same day appointments will be taken 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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Holiday 'greetings' program reaches millions

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO -- The Army and Air Force Hometown News holiday greetings teams had been arranging their trips for months and their itineraries were finally set in stone. The teams were planning to visit about 15 countries in less than 40 days, so any minor error could potentially throw off an entire trip.

But there was one problem. They were scheduled to leave Sept. 12.

"Most of our teams were delayed at least a week because of Sept. 11," said Tom Taylor, broadcasting chief at HN. "Even after they left, they had to shift countries around to accommodate airline schedules."

Despite these and other challenges, the holiday greetings teams went on to set an HN record with more than 10,200 greetings taped in about 38 days.

Each fall, three three-person teams head out on a worldwide journey armed with little else but camera equipment. They travel to the farthest reaches of the Earth, visiting places like Saudi Arabia, Bosnia and Iceland. Their mission is to seek out and tape holiday greetings from airmen, soldiers, sailors and Marines who will be far from home over the holidays.

Under ordinary circumstances, the trip can be rife with minor inconveniences, such as a lost hotel reservation or a missed plane. But, because of Sept. 11, this year was anything but ordinary, said Master Sgt. Ron Przysucha, HN television branch chief and team chief for the Southwest Asia crew.

"We faced plenty of challenges on the road," Przysucha said. "An airline

went out of business the night before we were scheduled to fly, our equipment was confiscated and we were kicked out of a country. Plus, security was heightened everywhere, which delayed us quite a bit."

The trip was a bit unnerving at first, said Staff Sgt. Amy Schleper, an HN broadcaster and Southwest Asia team member.

"On the flight out, I fell asleep and then woke up just as we were flying over New York," she said. "I was pretty scared. But I felt safer when I saw the extra security on bases and in airports, not just here, but around the world."

Once they returned from their grueling, whirlwind trip, the teams started working around the clock to edit and package tapes, which are then sent to hometown television and radio stations for broadcast during the holiday season. The greetings ultimately reach millions of people around the country.

"The response to the program was wonderful," said Staff Sgt. Brady McCarron, an HN broadcaster and European team member. "Most people have seen the greetings on TV back home and are glad to be a part of the program."

Sometimes people are so eager to participate, they get upset if unforeseen circumstances get in the way, Schleper said.

"Our equipment was confiscated when we landed and we could only shoot for one day instead of three," she said. "When we saw how upset people were about missing out on the program, we borrowed equipment and taped from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. We interviewed more than 140 people in one day."

While people have been eager to



Photo by Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles

Master Sgt. Ron Przysucha, Army and Air Force Hometown News television branch chief, edits holiday messages that will be distributed to TV and radio stations around the country during the holiday season. HN greetings team members recorded more than 10,200 greetings in about 38 days.

participate in the past, the response seemed particularly enthusiastic this year, Taylor said.

"There were many displays of patriotism in the messages this year," he said. "A lot of people brought flags to their interviews, and many thanked their fellow servicemembers for what they do. There was a real team spirit out there."

Enthusiasm for the holiday greetings program appears to be catching. In the 18 years since the program's inception, the number of TV subscribers has jumped from 100 to 1,100 stations, with more than 1,000 radio stations participating. And the numbers keep on growing.

"TV and radio stations have been

calling every day to subscribe to the program," Taylor said. "CBS sports has even contacted us. They're interested in using the greetings during their Thanksgiving Day programming. The response this year has been overwhelming."

The greetings teams may have had a rough time on the road dealing with airline and security issues, but Schleper said the end result is worth it.

"There are a lot of servicemembers who won't be home for the holidays this year because of deployments or assignments far from home," she said. "So I'm proud that I'm able to send their families a personal holiday greeting from their loved ones."

DOD suggests new ways to thank troops

WASHINGTON -- Department of Defense officials are suggesting new ways for Americans to show support for servicemembers deployed overseas.

The initiatives provide alternatives to traditional letter-writing campaign which were suspended because of attacks on America. DOD officials suggest Americans support the troops by helping the communities in which they live.

For example, people can visit a Veterans Administration hospital or nursing home on behalf of servicemembers who normally would visit but are now deployed or otherwise occupied with their duties.

Many servicemembers volunteer to coach children's teams, feed the homeless and aid their communities in a variety of other ways. Interested Americans can show their support and honor their military by stepping in to assist in these programs.

Although many towns do not have a military base near-

by, military recruiters are stationed nearly everywhere. Local governments and chambers of commerce are encouraged to reach out to these local members of the military, invite them to speak at community events and encourage members of the community to learn more about America's military.

Members of a community who know families with a deployed servicemember might want to offer their support by reaching out to those families while their loved ones are deployed.

A number of private organizations are developing Web-based methods for Americans to show support. While donations of food and gifts for delivery overseas can no longer be accepted, interested Americans might contribute instead to military relief societies.

These suggestions are in response to the suspension of the "Any Service Member" mail program for operations in Bosnia and Kosovo. Military

postal officials will not be implementing a similar program for Operation Enduring Freedom. Operation Dear Abby, a morale booster for servicemembers overseas for more than 17 years also has been suspended.

Servicemembers value and appreciate expressions of support from the American people, and these and other mail programs have been a significant boost to morale. However, recent mail-related attacks have resulted in additional precautions and safety concerns for servicemembers.

The increased manpower required to ensure safe mail handling coupled with the increased volume of mail that letter-writing campaigns generate could exceed capabilities, and therefore cannot be supported at this time.

Normal mail delivery addressed by name to individual servicemembers will continue uninterrupted. (Courtesy of Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

— SNOW, From Page 1

ue to keep our streets safe.

If there is a snow storm, here are some additional reminders for base personnel:

- Facility occupants are required to clear sidewalks 100 feet away from the building.

- Housing occupants are required to clear driveways and sidewalks 50 feet away from their residence.

- During snow and ice operations, vehicles cannot be parked on the street. Streets with parked vehicles cannot be plowed.

- Drivers must immediately notify the SFS desk sergeant of stalled/stranded vehicles, as they may create a safety hazard for other vehicles or the snow plows.

- All personnel on leave or TDY must store their vehicle in the overflow parking area next to Base Operations. This is for the protection of your vehicle during snow removal in parking lots.

- Maintain safe distance from all snow removal equipment, some of these vehicles weigh more than 20 tons or 45,000 pounds. The loss of life is a real probability when you combine inclement weather and inattentive driving.

- 50-foot clearance is required when following a dump truck equipped with a sanding unit or when you are behind the anti-icing spreader. For your own safety, do not attempt to pass these vehicles. They are designed to throw or spray chemicals over the entire width of the road. The chemicals they use may cause damage to your vehicle.

- Keep in mind that when the liquid anti-icer is first applied, it makes the road surface very slippery.

For more information, call Snow Control at 556-1442.

Smart maps, smart people, smart move

By Master Sgt. Austin Carter
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

When two young civil engineering troops from Air Force Space Command went to school recently to learn about Geospatial and Information Systems, their instructors were not dressed in blue and the classroom was not on a base. Their classroom was in the streets of Colorado Springs and their teachers were the city utility workers who have been using the equipment for years.

The airmen were not only learning about mapping on the system, they were part of an ongoing experiment at AFSPC to give civil engineers the opportunity to learn about the latest technologies in their fields years before the Air Force can create its own courses.

It is one of those legendary "win-win" propositions that are highly touted in conference rooms but seldom seen on the street, said Chief Master Sgt. Jameson Reps, the AFSPC civil engineer functional manager. But, this time it is the real deal.

"These hands-on experiences with the private sector are an excellent way to establish linkage between the professional aspirations of our airmen and the future needs of our Air Force," he said. "By showing them they are connected to the high-tech side of industry, it becomes an exciting concept for most of our young folks."

The promise of GIS was too tempting to sit back and wait for the inevitable day the Air Force would have their own course, Reps said.

Reps went to the local experts and persuaded them to hold a three-day course for two students -- Senior Airman Trier Richard, an engineering assistant with the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.; and Airman 1st Class Logan Rodgers, a

fireman with the 21st Space Wing Civil Engineering Squadron here. Their experiences would become the basis for a new CE course.

"The class is what we think a formal class in GIS will cover when it's made into a curriculum," Reps said. "This isn't rearview mirror stuff. What the Air Force civil engineering and Colorado Springs Utilities are doing today, others will be doing next year. We'll use their experiences to develop the class for our Air Force folks. We're trying to act while the others are still reading the script."

The hero of that script is GIS.

The National Imagery and Mapping Agency defines GIS as "any information that has associated with it some geographical and temporal reference, to include mapping, charting, geodesy imagery and intelligence." This information is highly accurate and stored, distributed and organized by data type.

GIS gives a layered approach to mapping, offering information on several levels. Like those old plastic clear pages on anatomy figures, users can pull back layer after layer until they find the information they are looking for in the structure or land, such as elevation, vegetation, drainage systems, electrical systems and floor plans. Whatever is needed can be plotted and placed as a layer on a digital map.

"Think of it as a many-layered cake," Reps said. "The Geospatial and Information System is like that cake. It's a map with different layers that you can peel away or combine to see different things at the push of a button.

"There's a terrain layer, a soil layer, street layer, vegetation..." he said. If the layers communicate with each other and I'm able to get the information I want, that makes me smarter, more effective and more efficient. That's some awesome technology."

See SMARTMAP, Page 6



Photo by Rob Bussard

City park Geospatial and Information Systems analyst Scott Thompson-Buchanan oversees the work of Airman 1st Class Logan Rodgers during an exercise. Rodgers from the 21st Space Wing at Peterson AFB, Colo., and Senior Airman Trier Richard from the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., recently took a course on GIS in the streets of Colorado Springs.

21st Space Wing



GSU
Corner

21st SW commander visits base on top of the world

Brig. Gen Bob Kehler and a team of 21st Space Wing members, recently visited the 12th Space Warning Squadron at Thule Air Base, Greenland recently to experience life on the frozen tundra.

The general used the few hours of daylight available at this time of year to take a look at the variety of repair work and improvements at Thule as a result of the flooding in August, as well as on-going facility improvement projects.

The general also held a commander's call for base personnel and toured base facilities.

Despite the significant damage to roads and bridges from August flooding, repair work is well underway.

The 12th Space Warning Squadron is the

host unit for Thule and is one of five ground-based radar systems providing space warning for the 21st Space Wing.

The squadron provides attack warning and assessments of sea-launched and intercontinental ballistic missiles. It passes that information to the North American Aerospace Defense Command missile warning center at Cheyenne Mountain.

The squadron is also responsible for a portion of Air Force Space Command's space surveillance program and assists in tracking nearly 9,500 objects in Earth's orbit.

The unit is now gearing up for a December site visit by Gen. Ed Eberhart, Air Force Space Command commander.



12th Space Warning Squadron
Thule Air Base, Greenland



Courtesy photo

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, center, and Col. Warren Whitehead, 12th Space Warning Squadron commander, right, talk to base exchange personnel during the general's visit to Thule early this month.



Courtesy photo

NORAD, USSPACECOM quarterly award winners

NORAD and U.S. Space Command quarterly award winners gather for a photo with Lieutenant General Edward G. Anderson, III, deputy Commander in Chief, USSPACECOM and Lieutenant General Kenneth R. Pennie, deputy Commander in Chief, NORAD. The winners were named during a ceremony Nov 1. From left to right, General Anderson; Lt. Craig Whittinghill, NORAD company grade officer; Capt. Ronald Creech, USSPACECOM CGO; Senior Master Sgt. Rickey McCaslan, NORAD Senior NCO; Master Sgt. Steven Schulz, USSPACECOM SNCO, Master Corporal Daniel Milne, NORAD NCO; Tech. Sgt. Maria Wehlen, USSPACECOM NCO; Senior Airman Wendee Marshall, USSPACECOM Jr Enlisted.

— SMARTMAPS, From Page 4

If an emergency response unit had to get to a burning building on base, an operator going to the site could open a laptop en route and find a GIS map of the location. Click on a button -- there is the floor plan showing the various exits. Click -- the location of the nearest fire hydrants. Click -- drainage for spill containment. Click -- the fastest routes to the closest medical facility. Click -- best place to set up a cordon. Click -- all this is now known before the team arrives. The possibilities are limited only by the accuracy of the mapping.

The key ingredient is the use of space itself. The Global Positioning System is used to mark the accurate location of each of these features using the triangulation from at least three of the 24-satellite constellation orbiting Earth. The same system that helps pilots and seafarers locate themselves exactly on the map is now being used for the pinpoint accuracy needed for these "smart maps."

GIS is also being used by private industry, especially utility companies and local governments. The smart maps enable maintenance crews to not only find a location on the city streets with uncanny reliability but also to see it in relation to a systematic grid. If, for instance, there is a service outage, the maps would show dispatched crews where the key transformers are located or where nearby gas valves can be found should they need to be turned off.

"I've had absolutely no experience with this technology," Rodgers said. "But I can see there's not going to be any more fumbling with maps in the vehicles for anything off-base during an off-base emergency response. If there's hazardous material, we can see what creek it's going into, the slope, what dams and coverts are in its way. It's at the touch of a button. I don't think only CE or security forces should have this knowledge. I think it should be taught Air Force-wide to help everyone."

Rick Brewster, a senior applications developer with the utility company, said he felt the interchange of ideas was worth the training at their offices downtown.

"It's an opportunity to show what we've got and what GIS provides," he said as he watched the two airmen find exact points on a city block of downtown Colorado Springs with a portable GPS. "It's a great opportunity for us to exchange ideas with the military. They're a large part of our community here and we welcome the opportunity to share and teach technologies."

Reps said he had ulterior motives in setting up the GIS course.

"It gives us smarter eyes than we've ever had," Reps said. "For us it's a new, more efficient way to bed down camps, emergency response, ordnance disposal, surveying. But we have to get it in the hands of our younger airmen. They're the ones who are going to be using it. All we have to do is let them go and give them room."

Beagle's retirement on hold

By Staff Sgt. Beverly Isik
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

LAJES FIELD, Portugal — So far, Stop-Loss has affected nearly 11,500 Air Force people, plus Jake, the Air Force's only explosive-sniffing beagle.

Jake, a member of the 65th Security Forces Squadron for the past six years, was really looking forward to his scheduled October retirement.

He had been dreaming of the good life for months. Sleeping late. No more patrolling and doing random searches. Then Osama bin Laden and Sept. 11 put all that on hold.

Stop-Loss, which became effective Oct. 2, gave military service secretaries authority to keep servicemembers who otherwise would retire or leave the service. So, like many others, Jake is going to have to postpone his retirement.

The 11-year-old beagle — that is 77 in human years — is tired of "sleeping in the dog house," and of being the butt of jokes around the squadron.

So what if he is short. He knows people make fun of the fact that his partner, Staff Sgt. Trevor Woodard, has to lift him up so he can check the mailboxes at the post office.

"I don't think he knows he's so little," Woodard said. "He's a little bossy toward the other dogs. We have an 85-pound German shepherd who's afraid of him."

Weighing in at a whopping 25 pounds, Jake is only trained for searching, not for attacking like most military working dogs.

"We still joke that he's our vicious attack beagle," Woodard said.

Jake may be old, but he is still a good cop.

"His nose is as good as ever," said Woodard, who has been Jake's partner for the past year. "He's just tired of working."

To compensate for the inconvenience of Stop-Loss on the eight-year veteran, Woodard incorporates as much training as possible into Jake's schedule. Unlike most military working dogs, Jake is a food-reward dog. Most dogs are rewarded with a ball or some other chew toy.

"I try to find as many excuses as possible to give him extra treats," Woodard said. "That way he feels a little better about being out working, instead of sleeping."

Out of nearly 2,000 military working dogs in the Department of Defense, Jake has been the only beagle in the Air Force for the past 10 years, said Gary Emery from the Air Force Security Forces Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"Besides Jake, there is one other beagle which is assigned to the Navy," Emery said. "There are three other small-breed dogs in training here at Lackland: a Jack Russell terrier, a springer spaniel and an English cocker spaniel. The Navy uses these smaller breeds to search areas aboard ships that German Shepherds and Belgian Malinois can't reach."

Jake has not lived a glamorous life or traveled to hot spots around the world. He has never had the opportunity to protect the president of the United States or other dignitaries. But Jake knows he has been a vital part of force protection here. He is intimately familiar with every nook and cranny of the base, and he has been dedicated to keeping it safe for the past six years.

Jake is a rare breed as far as his partner is concerned.

"He's kind of cool," Woodard said. "He has definitely got a personality. I call him a crotchety old geezer, but he has grown on me."

When he can finally turn in his badge, Woodard said Jake will be able to do what beagles do best — chase rabbits.

Thanks to a new law that allows adoption of older military working dogs by qualified people, Jake already has a new home.

Fellow security forces member Senior Master Sgt. Mitchell Price is adopting Jake. But this is not a typical adoption. The squadron has applied for a special order from the 65th Air Base Wing commander that would make Jake the official squadron mascot.

If the request is approved, Jake would spend his days in the squadron and go home to his new family at night.

"He'll always be part of the squadron as far as I'm con-



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Johnson

Jake, the Air Force's only explosive-sniffing beagle, and Staff Sgt. Trevor Woodard, from the 65th Security Forces Squadron, make routine checks of the post office and other base facilities at Lajes Field, Portugal.

cerned," Price said. "My goal is whoever replaces me here at Lajes will adopt Jake so he can stay here with the squadron."

Price said he made the decision to adopt Jake for various reasons.

"He's the last of his kind, and my kids fell in love with him," Price said. "But in reality, I didn't want him to be euthanized. We wanted to keep him in the family — the security forces and mine." (Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)

Ski until you're blue —

Military's newest resort has something for everyone



Photos courtesy Vail Resorts, Inc.

Keystone includes three interconnected mountains with groomed terrain set to test skiers and snowboarders of all levels and abilities. The premier trail "North Peak" features several steep plunges that may be especially attractive to the more advanced skier. For the beginner, there are many classes, starting with one for 3-year-olds, to teach ski basics.

For those who don't wish to indulge in the snow sports, horse-drawn sleighs and stagecoaches can be reserved for a ride through the Snake River Valley to an authentic 1860s Old West cabin, where cowboys cook mouthwatering dinners over a campfire.

By 2nd Lt. Virgil Magee

Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

KEYSTONE, Colo. — Servicemembers and government employees looking to get away from their day-in, day-out routine have a new option when it comes to snow-filled recreation.

The Air Force's newest recreational venture, Rocky Mountain Blue, opened here Nov. 5 and gives Department of Defense employees the opportunity to frolic through the snowcapped scenic mountains of Colorado at greatly reduced costs.

RMB, a partnership between Air Force Space Command, The Air Force Academy and Keystone Resorts, is an initiative in which the resort offers a variety of discounts to active-duty, reserve, guard, retiree, DoD civilian and non-appropriated funds civilians.

The brainchild of Gen. Ed Eberhart, commander of Air Force Space Command, RMB is the first step in determining if there is a market for a government-owned resort in the area. That decision will be made in two or three years.

In all, Keystone features 1,749 acres of terrain served by 22 ski lifts, including two high-speed, six-passenger gondolas and three high-speed, four-passenger chairlifts.

Located just 90 minutes west of Denver, the Rocky Mountain Blue program offers

servicemembers many activities such as skiing, horseback riding, mountain biking, hiking, ice-skating, shopping and golf.

"There are a lot of ski resorts in the area, but Keystone offers a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities and they were happy to have us," said Col. Dave Estill, Air Force Space Command director of services. "This is a good value for our members to have a good time in the Colorado outdoors."

Keystone includes three interconnected mountains with groomed terrain set to test skiers and snowboarders of all levels and abilities. The premier trail "North Peak" features several steep plunges that may be especially attractive to the more advanced skier. For the beginner, there are many classes, starting with one for 3-year-olds, to teach ski basics.

The resort is home to the largest single-mountain night skiing experience in North America. Three lifts serve 288 acres of terrain until 8 p.m.

Visitors can also skate all day and evening on the five-acre Keystone Lake, the largest outdoor-maintained ice rink in the country.

Finally, for those who don't wish to indulge in the snow sports, horse-drawn sleighs and stagecoaches can be reserved for a ride through the Snake River Valley to an authentic 1860s Old West cabin, where cowboys cook



Rocky Mountain Blue

everyone

outhwatering dinners over a mpfire.

What's the use of traveling that way if you're going to stay in a hole-in-the-wall where the maid forgot to clean up after the big bash last April?

There are no worries about that at Keystone. Lodging managers take pride in making sure visitors are so comfortable they may not want to vacate the rooms for the slopes.

"All employees look after our guests. We consider ourselves responsible for them," said Wilbur Bodden, a lodging supervisor.

The resort boasts 1,600 units of lodging, many conveniently close to the ski slopes. It's possible to wake up, pull up the drapes and see hordes of downhill racers finishing an early-morning run on your doorstep. Some rooms boast floor spas, loft bedrooms, balconies and fireplaces.

Military guests will be lodged at The Inn at Keystone, newly renovated 103-unit hotel just a five-minute walk away from the lifts.

And, if security is an issue, the staff at The Inn doesn't give out room numbers and you won't get into the lobby without a room key.

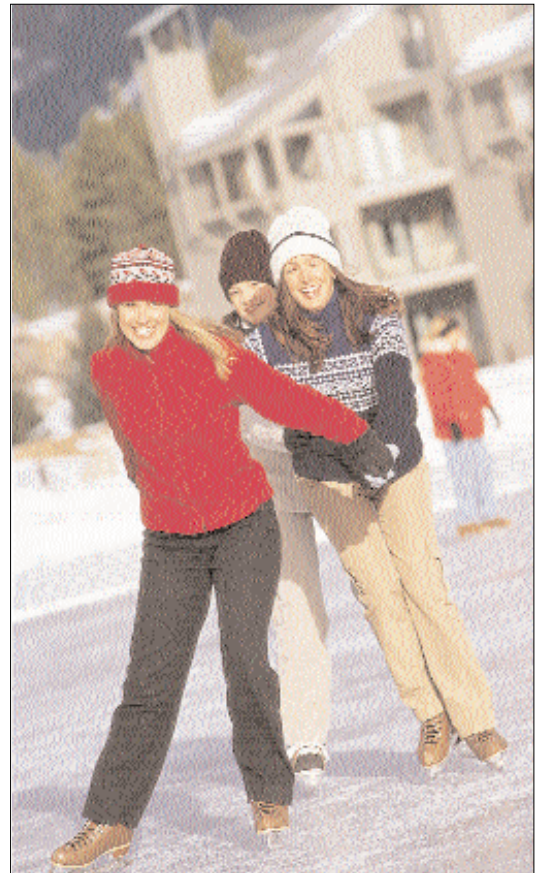
Additional information on Rocky Mountain Blue can be found on the Internet at <http://rockymountainblue.com> or you may telephone them toll free at (866) RMT-BLUE, which is (866) 768-2583.



After a long day on the slopes you can enjoy a meal at one of Keystone's more than 30 restaurants. Meals range from as simple as pizza to an expensive four-star dinner.



If you have the need for speed, ski and snowboard racing is available - but it isn't for the faint of heart!



Keystone Resort also offers a variety of other winter activities like ice skating.



For Your Information

Today

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.
- Yoga, 12:05 p.m., at the Fitness Center.
- Cash drawings, 5-7 p.m., at the clubs. Only members are eligible.

Saturday

- Falcon Wanderers Military Family Appreciation Volksmarch, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the YMCA/USO Today Room (207 N. Nevada Ave.). For more information, call Susan Golden at 556-6141

Sunday

- Sunday Brunch, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Officers' Club.

Tuesday

- Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Interfaith Worship, and Community Service, 6 p.m., at the base chapel. Pie social to follow at 7 p.m. Bring two pies - one to share at the chapel and one to take to the troops who work over the holiday.
- Right Start briefing, 8 a.m.- 12:30 p.m., at the Enlisted Club



Courtesy photo

Caution near construction

The 21st SW Safety Office would like to remind base members about construction along the jogging trail leading out to Peterson East. Joggers and walkers should heed all warning signs around the construction, don't put yourself in a situation that could hurt you or someone else, stay safe.

- Toastmasters meeting, 11:35 a.m., at the Enlisted Club.
- Sponsorship Training, 7:30-8:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
- NAF Resale Store one day sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Enlisted Club. Purchase couches, sofa sleepers, chairs and tables. Military or DoD ID card required.

Thursday

- Thanksgiving Day buffet, 11a.m.-2 p.m., at the Officers and Enlisted Clubs. Reservations are required. Call 574-4100 for the Officers Club and 556-4194 for the Enlisted Club.
- Play Group, 10:30 a.m.-noon, at the Chapel.

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

TEMPORARY POWER OUTAGES: There will be a temporary power outage at the base library and Family Advocacy Center (Building 1171) Monday, 7:30-9:30 a.m., and Nov. 23, 2:30-4:30 p.m. The power outages will also affect the NCO academy. For more information, call Robert Dixon at 556-1463.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS OPEN SEASON 2001: The 2001 FEHB open season is underway and will continue through Dec. 10. All elections and changes will be made electronically through the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (1-800-997-2378) and will take effect Jan. 13. The 2002 FEHB guides, plan brochures and the new premiums will be available on the OPM's FEHB website at www.opm.gov/insure. For more information, call Beverly Sagapolutele at 556-7073.

TOASTMASTERS: The Peterson Toastmasters meet every Tuesday, 11:35 a.m., at the Enlisted Club. The group improves on public speaking skills through formal speeches and impromptu "table topics." For more information, call Maj. Jerry Perkins at 554-3680.

AUTO SKILLS CENTER: The Auto Skills Center offers a free oil change for spouses of deployed military members. Bring new oil and a filter for your vehicle and the skills center will do the work free of charge. Interested customers must bring a copy of deployment orders. Call 556-4481 for details.

Right start

RIGHT START BRIEFING: The 21st Mission Support Squadron will have a Right Start briefing Nov. 27, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Enlisted Club. The event combines the former newcomer's briefing and the information fair. For more information, call 556-7525.

Base construction

PARKING LOT CLOSURES: The Dover Street entrance into Building 365 and 391 parking lots will be closed beginning Nov. 19 for approximately 11 days. The Contractor will install utilities for the new Operational Support Facility. These buildings can be accessed from Peterson Boulevard during this time. For more information, call Ken Chalifour, at 556-4133.

JOGGING TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS: To improve safety on the east jogging path, solar powered lights will be installed along the entire length of the path. Work is underway and will continue until April 30. The project consists of installing light pedestals beside the jogging path. The contractor will dig trenches beside the path to install underground power lines between each light. The trenches will be worked during daylight hours and will be filled in at the end of each workday. Base personnel should use caution while using the jogging path throughout the duration of this construction project. Particular care should be taken around contractor equipment, open trenches, and areas of disturbed earth beside the path. Any questions or concerns to Master Sgt. Gordon Wilkins, at 556-4140.

Education Center

CLASS WITHDRAWAL: Any military member taking classes at Pikes Peak Community College can withdraw from classes because of real-world situations if they do the following:

- Complete a PPCC registration/class adjustment form to withdraw.
- Complete a tuition appeal form.
- Complete an Air Force form 118 and have it signed by a supervisor.
- Submit all paperwork to the PPCC representatives on Peterson.

For more information, call the education center at 556-4064.

Chapel

ADVENT LUNCH BUNCH: Everyone is invited to an hour of inspiration, fellowship and food Nov. 23, Dec. 4, 11 and 18 at noon at the chapel. For more information, call 556-4442.

Community Activities Center

TICKET DISCOUNTS: Get discounts on tickets for Three Irish Tenors at the U.S. Air Force Academy Dec. 8, 7 p.m. or Ocean Journey, Cave of the Winds, Royal Gorge, Denver Nuggets, Colorado Avalanche and Colorado Gold Kings. Call 556-7671.

KRIS KRINGLE MARKET: The Kris Kringle Market is a craft fair scheduled for Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in Building 210 on the flightline. Rent a table to display crafts or come and buy. Call 556-1733 for details.

FRAMING CLASS: There is a framing class scheduled for Nov. 28, 5-9 p.m., at the CAC. Cost for the class is \$25.

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.

Serving America - an awesome responsibility

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Dougherty
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - My 7-year-old son Alex asked me a very good question as we were driving cross-country during the past two weeks: "Daddy, how come you're going to the Pentagon?" The simple way for me to answer the question was to have him look out the window of the car.

"You see that guy over there? I've been ordered to the Pentagon for him and his family. I'm going for the lady driving that oversized truck we just passed. I'm going because the people of America need me," I said.

Although it was a fairly philosophical way to answer the question, my two sons seemed to understand my explanation quite well, despite their youth. The reason we serve isn't always as clear-cut as it is right now.

Before the events of Sept. 11, America was at peace. Of course, it was a relative peace. Our Air Force was deployed over the world as usual, but there wasn't any one threat you could point to and say, "I'm defending America from this particular bad guy."

The terrorist attacks on the

nation put into focus the reason we wear the uniform. My trip across the country reminded me of what we are all fighting to protect.

I wear the uniform to keep the gates of Rocky Mountain National Park open for visitors from across the country and the world. I serve because there are thousands of people in Wisconsin who need to be protected as they cheer on their Green Bay Packers. I saw countless other examples of America's freedom -- the freedom we all serve to protect -- during our 2,500 mile drive from California.

As my family and I window shopped at a mall in Council Bluffs, Iowa, tears welled up in my eyes as I looked at a display of New York photographs taken before terrorists destroyed the majestic twin towers. I serve because the people of America are too precious to allow anyone to do this to us again.

As our country honors Veterans Day Nov. 11, take a moment to get out and truly see the America you serve. You'll see Old Glory flying higher than ever, and don't be surprised if someone stops and says "thank you." Serving in America's Air Force is an awesome responsibility, but it's worth it.

Sports

Wing bowlers raise money for Guardian Challenge 2002

Bowlers from the 21st Space Wing raised an estimated \$2,500 for Guardian Challenge 2002.

The bowling fundraiser Nov. 9 was successful due to the 130 bowlers whose pledged donations will help to offset the cost of team uniform items

and other costs involved with the competition.

Guardian Challenge is the Air Force Space Command's annual space warfighter competition.

The event pits the best space warfighters in AFSPC against each other, determining

the top space and missile wing teams in the Air Force.

Competitions involve satellite operations crews, remote space tracking crews, security forces, food service specialists, as well as missile operations and maintenance crews.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Gino Mattorano

A wing bowler does his part to raise money for the 21st Space Wing's participation in Guardian Challenge 2002, the Air Force's premier Space Warfighter competition, held annually at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

Guardian Challenge 2002

May 5-10
Vandenberg AFB,
Calif.



Col. Michael Rampino, 21st Operations Group commander, demonstrates the bowling form that helped raise money for Guardian Challenge 2002.

Sports**Shorts**

Badminton tournament - A badminton tournament is scheduled for Nov. 28-30 at the Fitness Center. Entry fee is \$5 per team. Games will be played between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The registration deadline is Nov. 21.

Personal trainers - Personal trainers are available at the Fitness Center to work with Peterson Complex members. For more information call 556-4462.

Military Ski Team - The Military Ski Team is preparing for the 2001-2002 season. The military ski team is a member of a weekend ski race group called Teamski Inc., which sponsors seven weekend races at the Nation's most popular destination ski resorts, including Keystone, Steamboat Springs, Loveland, Winter Park, A-Basin and Beaver Creek. Teamski is a ski racing program for adult recreational skiers who live in the front range cities. The minimum age to race is 18, and the age range last year was 18 to 64.

The Teamski race format

consists of six racers per team and race against each other on dual modified giant slalom courses in "head to head" competition. Racers take two runs, one on each side of the parallel courses.

Teamski marks its 23rd year of continuous operation and is sanctioned by United States Ski Association.

The Military Ski Team is looking for skiers who have had some racing experience or are strong recreational skiers. Teamski rules prohibit participation by people who have made money skiing -- including professional racers, coaches or ski instructors -- in the past three years.

Racers must be active duty, reserve or National Guard military, or Department of Defense civilians, dependents of either group or retirees from either group.

For more information call Dan Wilson at Peterson Air Force Base, 554-9189, Brian Healy at Schriever AFB, 567-4759 or Andy Thornburn at Buckley AFB, DSN 877-6721.