

MISSILEER



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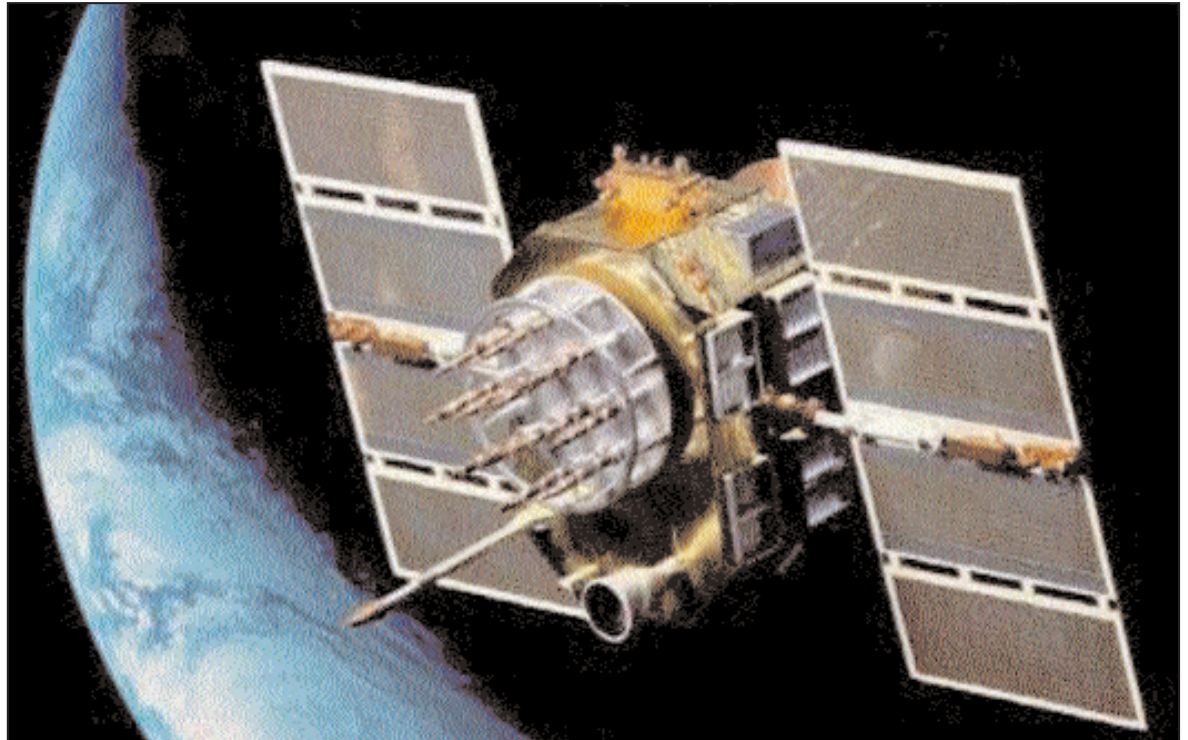


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A Delta II rocket is scheduled to launch the GPS IIR8 as the primary payload and a prototype version of a new class of low-cost, highly-maneuverable micro-satellites, the XSS-10, as the secondary payload on Jan. 29 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The launch window is set for 1:06 through 1:20 p.m. (Graphic illustration courtesy Boeing)

Wing prepares to expand GPS constellation

By 1st Lt. Eric Badger
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Get ready to roll.

The 1st Space Launch Squadron will breathe new life into the immortalized "Let's Roll!" slogan with its launch of a Delta II/GPS mission next week.

The Delta II rocket will also be the first vehicle launched from the 45th Space Wing to display the "Let's Roll!" nose art. The nose art will be showcased as a remembrance of Sept. 11 and in honor of heroes and victims in

the war on terror.

"We're dedicating this mission to America's first team to wage war on terror: Todd Beamer and the men and women of United Airlines Flight 93," said Lt. Col. Brad Broemmell, 1st Space Launch Squadron commander. "These people gave their lives on Sept. 11 to protect their countrymen, statesmen and leaders. We remember their courage with the "Let's Roll!" slogan emblazoned across the top of our Delta II rocket. We believe the phrase cap-

tures the spirit of today's military: Young Americans who say I'm trained and ready. Send me."

The launch window is set for 1:06 through 1:20 p.m. Jan. 26. For those wishing to view the launch, two good viewing areas are State Road 528 (Bee Line Expressway) and Jetty Park in Cape Canaveral.

The primary payload is the GPS IIR8 satellite. The Global Positioning

See GPS, page 4



Straight from the
COMMANDER'S
DESK



Happy Space Command Family Day greetings everyone! Hopefully you're reading this while enjoying a relaxing day off; everyone deserves one. I know with the NASA Pegasus launch tomorrow, plus other mission and conference preparations, some people are working today. Don't worry, I've instructed commanders and supervisors to ensure all are compensated for today.

I want to thank everyone who had a hand in making the Jan. 17 Mentoring Day a success for the wing. I thought the attendance was great and from walking around the wing, I know many TVs were tuned to Shark Vision. I hope we didn't waste anyone's time. Furthermore, I don't want this to turn into what some did in college, "cram for the exam and then dump it as they walked out the door."

So we're going to do another mentoring day in about six months and build on last week. I am meeting with all commanders next month to understand how they are internalizing our performance objective to their organizations. But in the meantime, I hope you take the lessons to heart and that mentoring among each other takes place on an almost daily basis. The key is remembering the theme of our performance plan for the year, "OUTSTANDING is just the START."

Remember, START stands for: Synchronize Actions; Trust People; All Accountable; Recognize Achievement and Tenacious Execution. My expectation is everyone in the wing should be able to recite what START means when asked. So don't be surprised if I start a meeting you attend or stop you on the street and casually ask, "So tell me what the A in START stands for and what it means to you?" If we don't internalize our performance plan, it'll sink in about as far as rain on concrete.

I'm a big believer in putting my money (and time) where my mouth is so I'm not expecting people to totally mentor and internalize our performance plan on their own. I've set the third Friday of every month aside as "Warrior Training Day," for the 45th Space Wing. And just to be perfectly clear, this is not a "down day," or a "good day to get my doctor's appointment out of the way." This is a workday and should be one of the most important days of the month for all of us - military and civilian.

On these days, I want customer service cut to a minimum. Be sure to advertise it so people coming to the wing and our retiree population know about it. I envision a mixture of "in-house" mentoring and training sessions to take place within each organization with the day capped off with officer, enlisted and civilian calls. If we dedicate one day a month to our performance plan and everyone reads from the same sheet of music, we'll accomplish our mission in a more efficient manner with our Air Force, and more importantly, our nation benefiting as a whole.

Congratulations to the entire team that supported the launch of STS-107, Jan. 16. Obviously, with the world situation and the fact an Israeli astronaut was on board made this one of the most visible missions in shuttle history and a security challenge. But everyone handled it professionally, dealt with security inconveniences and launched our 105th straight successful ground to space mission. SUPER JOB to all and I look forward to an equally smooth and impressive landing Feb. 1.

But we have some work on the range before that. As mentioned, the NASA Pegasus SORCE mission is tomorrow and a very important launch for the DOD takes place Wednesday. We'll launch a Delta II with the Global Positioning System satellite IIR-8 on board. Along with it is a micro satellite, the XSS-10 technology demonstrator. I know there is an article on Page 1 about what they'll do so I won't take space here.

But needless to say, with the world situation, it is vitally important we give our war fighters another weapon in the arsenal to help fight the war on terror and any future conflicts. Sure, GPS helps cars find the nearest ATM for the common man, but many of our weapon systems totally rely on GPS to give them their "eyes" on target for effectiveness. That is the vital role space plays in keeping America free.

The next time you see video of a bomb going into a cave with an opening the size of a window, just know every GPS in space right now was launched at the Cape. It is helping our deployed personnel win the war against terrorists and that is a feather we can all put in our cap.

The last count I saw was 190 tickets were sold for our annual awards banquet Feb. 1. We have a great event planned and the Scott Air Force Base band is providing the entertainment for the night. Also, the group and squadron commanders answered a challenge by the banquet committee to raise money to defray costs for our young enlisted troops. They were challenged to raise \$500 and came through with \$750. So the "it cost too much" excuse factory is shut down. The

committee is looking for final totals by close of business Monday so contact your first sergeant today to sign up. Our super nominees deserve our support and recognition!

If you're a consistent reader of this column then you know safety is extremely important to me and I believe being safe first is the key to our success. Then you can only imagine how extremely pleased I was to hear that for the fourth year in a row, our ground safety office earned top command honors. This is unprecedented, and while a lion's share of the credit goes to that office, each and every person in this wing deserves credit. Along with the office, Master Sgt. John Thomas and Tech. Sgt. Scott Rodesky of the safety office earned command honors for their work while Staff Sgt.'s Timothy Morris, 3rd Space Launch Squadron and Jonas Paterno, 45th Operations Support Squadron, also won individual safety awards. My hat's off to all of them and it caps off a great 2002 where we had no significant injuries due to accidents. Let's have a repeat performance for 2003.

Another important event is taking place Feb. 6. It's the national prayer breakfast held at the Officer's Club at 7 a.m. The cost is \$7 for club members or \$8 for non-club members. Tickets can be bought through squadron first sergeants. Col. (Chaplain) Richard M. Hartwell, the AF Space Command chief of chaplains, is the guest speaker for the morning. It is important that we remain strong spiritually, as well as physically, so I encourage everyone to come and join in on the fellowship for the day.

I don't know if you noticed the neat series in the *Florida Today* we've set up with our folks deployed. Recently they ran a feature on two of our troops who met David Letterman on Christmas Day. This Sunday, they are scheduled to run a story about one of our contracting members, Master Sgt. Donna Kinley who took her first camel ride.

If, in the course of talking to deployed members, you know of a person in a unique location or doing a job or activity that is "definitely not something you'd see every day in Brevard," give my Public Affairs Office a call at 494-5933/34. All you need to have is their e-mail or DSN number; they will take it from there. It is a great way to highlight our people and show the people of Brevard County the "human" side of our folks deployed. It'll be something they'll hang on to and show the grandchildren.

Again, enjoy the three days and come back fired up next week for the GPS launch. I know the Super Bowl is Sunday and I want you to enjoy it so line up the designated drivers, if needed, now. Have fun and God Bless!



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Tax center ready for season

By Staff Sgt. Ariane Freeman
45 TH SW LEGAL OFFICE

It's that time of year again - income tax season.

Free income tax assistance and electronic filing of federal income tax returns will be provided at the base Legal Office, located in building 562, 642 O'Malley Road, Patrick Air Force Base. The Tax Center opens Feb. 5 and starts scheduling appointments Feb. 3.

This free tax service is authorized under the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, but the workers are all volunteers from Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral Air Force

Station active-duty units and retirees living in the local area.

The service is available to active-duty military personnel and their family members of all branches of service, retired military personnel and their family members, reservists and guardsmen who are on Title 10 (active duty) orders and their dependents.

At Patrick AFB and Cape Canaveral AFS,

military and civilian volunteers known as Unit Tax Advisors assist members from their units. UTAs have been trained and certified by the IRS to ensure the accurate preparation of federal income tax forms 1040EZ, 1040A, and 1040. UTAs will have the requisite e-file software installed at their respective work centers.

The Tax Center will prepare the basic 1040EZ, 1040A, and 1040 returns. Unfortunately, federal and state guidelines prevent the Tax Center from preparing self-employment and small business returns, rental property (business or personal) returns, or returns involving depreciation or "recapture."

The Tax Center does not prepare state income tax forms.

Appointments, available Monday through Friday 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., can be scheduled by contacting a UTA or by calling 494-4914. Bring the following items to the appointment: W-2 forms, 1098 or 1099 Interest or Dividend statements, the previous year's tax return, Social Security cards of each individual to be listed on the return, including dependents and a voided check (for electronic deposit of refunds).



Space Command opens Web site for easy access to base services

By Stacey Knott
AIR FORCE SPACE COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - Air Force Space Command members, their families and retirees now have easy public access for all their family support needs.

The new AFSPC command Web site, "People Helping People-Integrated Delivery System," was launched last May, but until recently only members with restricted ".mil" site access were able to view it.

Now, one-stop shopping for base community information and resources is available for everyone.

"We found that military spouses and retirees needed increased access to base support information, but they couldn't get to it from the '.mil' site.

"So we bought a '.com' site in order to meet their needs," said Betty Schuster, People Helping People-Integrated Delivery System executive director.

The "People Helping People" site at <http://www.php-ids.com/> allows people to check out a variety of service agencies: the Family Support Center, chapel services, Health and Wellness Center, Family Advocacy Program, Life Skills Support Center, Military Equal Opportunity, family member support flight, drug demand reduction and legal.

The site also offers easy registration for classes, newsletter subscription and a calendar of events.

The PHP-IDS working group at AFSPC developed the site to ease the difficulty and frustration associated with trying to find this type of support information and to help eliminate duplication, overlap and gaps in the existing services.

The 45th Space Wing's Web site provides easy access to family support needs by featuring the "Patrick Helping People" link on the homepage, <https://www.patrick.af.mil>.

The "Patrick Helping People" link provides information and all services listed above for the 45th Space Wing community.

Patrick needs volunteers for beach cleanup

By Terri Bracher
45TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

Many 45th Space Wing airmen, Department of Defense civilians, contractors and their families, and the general public are asked to fight the war on trash Feb. 4, from 1 to 4 p.m., during a beach cleanup for Patrick Air Force Base.

Each year the wing joins the Brevard County effort during the Ocean Conservancy Florida Coastal Clean-up, sponsored locally by Keep Brevard Beautiful, Inc.

This year's effort is in addition to the county cleanup scheduled for April.

The check-in point will be at the A1A beach parking lot across from Hangar 800 and is open to the public.

Trash bags and gloves will be provided at check-in. Individuals are advised to use sunscreen, wear a hat and bring water or refreshments.



Join the war on trash by volunteering for the Patrick beach cleanup Feb. 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. (Photo by Maj. Cindy East)

Everyone's efforts make a difference. The last beach cleanup resulted in 71 volunteers removing approximately 250 bags of trash and 600 pounds of recyclables. For more information, call Greg Liscombe at 494-9257.

GPS, continued from page 1

System was designed to aid Americans and the American warfighter.

It provides assistance through gas purchases, credit card use and serves as the key link to vectoring laser-guided bombs into terrorist caves.

At the same time, they guide humanitarian relief aircraft into tough-to-land airports ensuring needy supplies arrive and allow golfers in Cocoa Beach figure out yardage to a pin.

The 1st SLS leads the way on this mission.

"By launching the GPS IIR8 spacecraft into its proper orbit, we ensure our GPS constellation is 'fully charged,' that is to say, robust, healthy and ready to support military operations worldwide," said Lt. Col. Brad Broemmel, 1st SLS commander.

"Given the current threat environment, we need vibrant global navigation and timing capability more than ever."

Along with the GPS IIR8, a prototype version of a new class of low-cost, highly-maneuverable micro-satellites is set to fly as a sister mission with the GPS.

The secondary payload, the XSS-10, is a 60-pound micro satellite that will be used as experimental aircraft to help revolutionize operational space capabilities, according to Lt. Col. Broemmel.

The Delta II, carrying the GPS IIR8 and XSS-10, is an expendable launch, medium-lift vehicle primarily used to launch Navstar Global Positioning System satellites into orbit, providing navigational data to military users. Additionally, the Delta II launches civil and commercial payloads into low-earth, polar, geosynchronous transfer and stationary orbits.

"The entire team is working around the clock to prepare this mission for launch," said Lt. Col. Broemmel.



Mentor-merizing

A number of facilities on base, including the base library, closed for Mentor Day so wing members could watch the scheduled programs that featured sessions covering stress management, recognizing performance, effective communication, budgeting and a quality of life seminar. The day was wrapped up with officers', civilians' and enlisted calls. Nearly 2,000 people attended the various classes throughout the day. All of the sessions were televised on SharkVision, the wing's television channel. A second Mentoring Day is being planned for the summer timeframe. *(Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)*



Get involved

Volunteers are needed for the African-American Heritage Committee for this year's observance in February. A chairperson and members are needed. To participate call Capt. Marlon Johnson at 494-6334 or 494-6333.

ORM course scheduled

The next Operational Risk Management Course is Wednesday and Thursday, noon - 4 p.m. at the Patrick Education Center. It will be broadcast to 50 bases worldwide through a video link. Hands-on practice will be conducted during the course. The course is open to all personnel and highly recommended for supervisors. Call Chris Olesnevich at 494-3266 or e-mail him at chris.olesnevich@patrick.af.mil to reserve a seat. Seating is limited to 25 people.

Take a class

The Family Support Center offers the following classes this week. Sign up by calling 494-5676. Employment Orientation, Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - noon; CGO Quarterly, Tuesday 12:30-4 p.m.; Sponsorship Training in Bldg. 537, Room 118, Wednesday 9-11 a.m.; Indoor Air Quality, Wednesday noon - 1 p.m.; Can't Cook, Won't Cook, Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Dress to Impress Fashion Show, Jan. 31 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Prayer Breakfast set

The Commander's National Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by the 45th Space Wing Chaplains Office, is 7 a.m., Feb. 6 at the Officers' Club. Speaker is Chaplain (Col.) Richard Hartwell, Air Force Space Command chaplain.

Menu is cold and hot breakfast. Purchase tickets through first sergeants and \$8 for non-club members or \$7 for club members.

Civilians can use FSC programs

DoD civilians are authorized to use Family Support programs and services. The Family Support Center provides information, expertise and consultation with individual and family needs. Services provided include transition assistance, personal and family readiness, spouse employment, relocation, separation support and financial management. Call them at 494-5675.

Fill out new profile

Due to the closure of Manassas Travel at the Cape last spring, all information (profiles, past flight information, etc.) from that office has been purged.

To build a new profile, call them at 494-7286 or go to Manassastravel.com, click on the government link, then the Florida/Patrick AFB link and fill out the profile.

Pre-retirement seminars offered

The Civilian Personnel Flight offers the upcoming Mid-Career Planning seminar Feb. 11. It provides planning information and guidance to AF civilian employees who are more than five years from retirement eligibility.

A pre-retirement seminar is Feb. 12-13 and is designed to provide AF civilians within five year retirement eligibility, information on retirement benefits, investment planning and social security.

Seating is limited to 40. To register, call 494-8398.

Update records

Make sure the two most important documents in your record, DD Form 93 and SGLI, are up to date. Any time there's a change in address, marital status, parents' move, update

DD Form 93.

If beneficiaries change, update SGLI. Make updates to these forms through your command support staff. Your MPF point of contact is customer service.

Be TRICARE savvy

Wuesthoff South Hospital, 320 S. Wickham Rd., Melbourne, isn't currently TRICARE certified. This means that routine care received there won't be paid under TRICARE. TRICARE won't schedule routine care there for patients until the hospital becomes TRICARE certified in the spring. Call 494-8459 or 254-5297.

Lt. Col. Bible promotion set

Lt. Col. Steven Bible, 45th Contracting Squadron commander, will be promoted to colonel at 3 p.m., Jan. 31 in the Patrick Base Theater. The military dress for the ceremony is uniform of the day and casual dress for civilians.

Attend free movie

The Patrick Theater presents a free screening of "Shanghai Knights" Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m. Get free tickets at AAFES locations or call Denise Taylor at 494-4646. Tickets don't guarantee seats; get there 15 minutes before the show.

Tops in Blue performs free

The Air Force's Tops in Blue entertains Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. at the Cocoa Village Amphitheater in historic downtown Cocoa. The event is free.

Balloons available for Valentine's Day

Balloon bouquets are available Valentine's Day from Outdoor Recreation. Balloons are \$3 each with a two-balloon minimum delivery. Free delivery and pick up are available.

Specialist earns \$4,207 for idea

By Sue Walden
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Donna Fowler is \$4,207 richer because she had a good idea.

The Base C4 Help Desk computer specialist submitted an idea to the Innovative Development Through Employees' Awareness program that would save thousands of dollars for the government.

"When I was working in the 45th Contracting Squadron there was a great need to have more Adobe Writer programs, but there wasn't enough licenses to put the program on all the computers," Ms. Fowler said.

Adobe Writer, a program that edits and converts PDF documents, costs \$250 per program. This would have cost the government \$31,300,



Ms. Fowler

and as far as Ms. Fowler was concerned, it was just too expensive. She contacted the Adobe salesman to work on a plan to lower the purchase amount and he informed her of a government contract where the office could purchase the program for \$27 each, plus \$9.10 for maintenance, enabling them to receive free upgrades and technical support.

"Donna saved the government \$28,044, reducing the amount the programs cost to \$3,256, which was a great savings," said Alexandria Mullins, 45th Space Wing IDEA program manager. Ms. Fowler is a great example of how submitting an idea to save money or to streamline a process is beneficial for the government and the submitter, according to Ms. Mullins. "IDEAS are on the increase, which is substantial. I really push the part about win-

ning money to make people understand how important the IDEA program is. It helps the government save money and puts some in your pocket," she said.

Ms. Fowler said she's thankful to the 45th Contracting Squadron because they pushed her to submit her idea to the IDEA program.

To submit an idea, go to <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>. "It took me a couple of hours to put it in the right format, but in a sense I got paid \$2,000 an hour to submit it," said Ms. Fowler, who said she may use her windfall to help finance her master's degree in information technology.

"There's nothing better than giving people money for an idea that helps the government," said Ms. Mullins. "I love this part the most about my job." For more information about the IDEA program, call her at 494-7808.

Wing Annual Awards Banquet set for Feb. 1

By Monique Seaman
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 45th Space Wing's 2002 Annual Awards banquet is Feb. 1 at the Officers' Club, and will honor military, civilian, nonappropriated fund and team excellence award winners.

"This will be a night the wing recognizes the accomplishments of our 'Outstanding' performers from 2002," said Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Chaney, Wing Career Assistance Advisor and this year's Annual Awards committee lead.

The one-night extravaganza begins with social hour at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. with entertainment provided by The Starlifters, a group from Scott Air Force Base's Band of Mid-America.

The evening's dress includes mess dress for officers, mess dress or semi-formal for enlisted, suit for civilian men and evening dress for civilian women.

The banquet theme is "Outstanding is just the S T A R T" (Synchronized actions; Trust people; All accountable; Recognize achievement; Tenacious mission execution). "Our success in last October's Operational Readiness Inspection is a testament to that and the award winners will exemplify it,"

said Senior Master Sgt. Chaney.

The evening's keynote speaker is Maj. Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, director of Programs, deputy chief of staff for Plans and Programs, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

He also serves as chairman of the Air Force Board and has oversight of all Air Force programs. He is an Air Force Academy graduate, former test pilot and former shuttle command pilot with two missions.

There will be closed circuit tele-

visions located throughout the club to ensure everyone has a good view.

The board convened Jan. 23 to judge the group, wing staff agencies and tenant unit award nomination packages that were submitted Jan. 15.

Group, overall wing staff and tenant winners are notified prior to the banquet.

All winners are recognized and overall wing winners are honored at the banquet.

"Since we can only accommodate 300 guests, those wishing to attend should purchase their tickets soon," said Senior Master Sgt. Chaney.

The last day for ticket sales is close of business Monday."

Tickets for the event are on sale through Monday. Buy tickets through first sergeants or contact Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Chaney at 494-4547.

920th RQG rescues ailing French woman

By Senior Airman Heather Kelly

920TH RQG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Force Reserve crews from the 920th Rescue Group were dispatched early Sunday morning in an HC-130 aircraft to provide critical medical aid to a severely injured French woman aboard a sailing vessel.

Located approximately 1,000 miles off the coast of Antigua, the woman was suffering from septic shock and gangrene, the result of a winch accident Jan. 11. The mishap severed four fingers on one hand, resulting in a potentially life-threatening trauma.

Pararescue specialists from the 920th dropped crucial medical supplies to the ship and provided life-saving instruction to the woman's fellow crewmembers. After being stabilized, the woman was picked up by a neighboring French vessel. The operation took place over 2,300 miles off Patrick's shores and lasted more than 15 hours.

"We carefully planned how to reach the victim," said Maj. Robert Lipira, a navigator with the 39th Rescue Squadron who was on the mission. "The closest help was from another French vessel, but it was located many hours away."

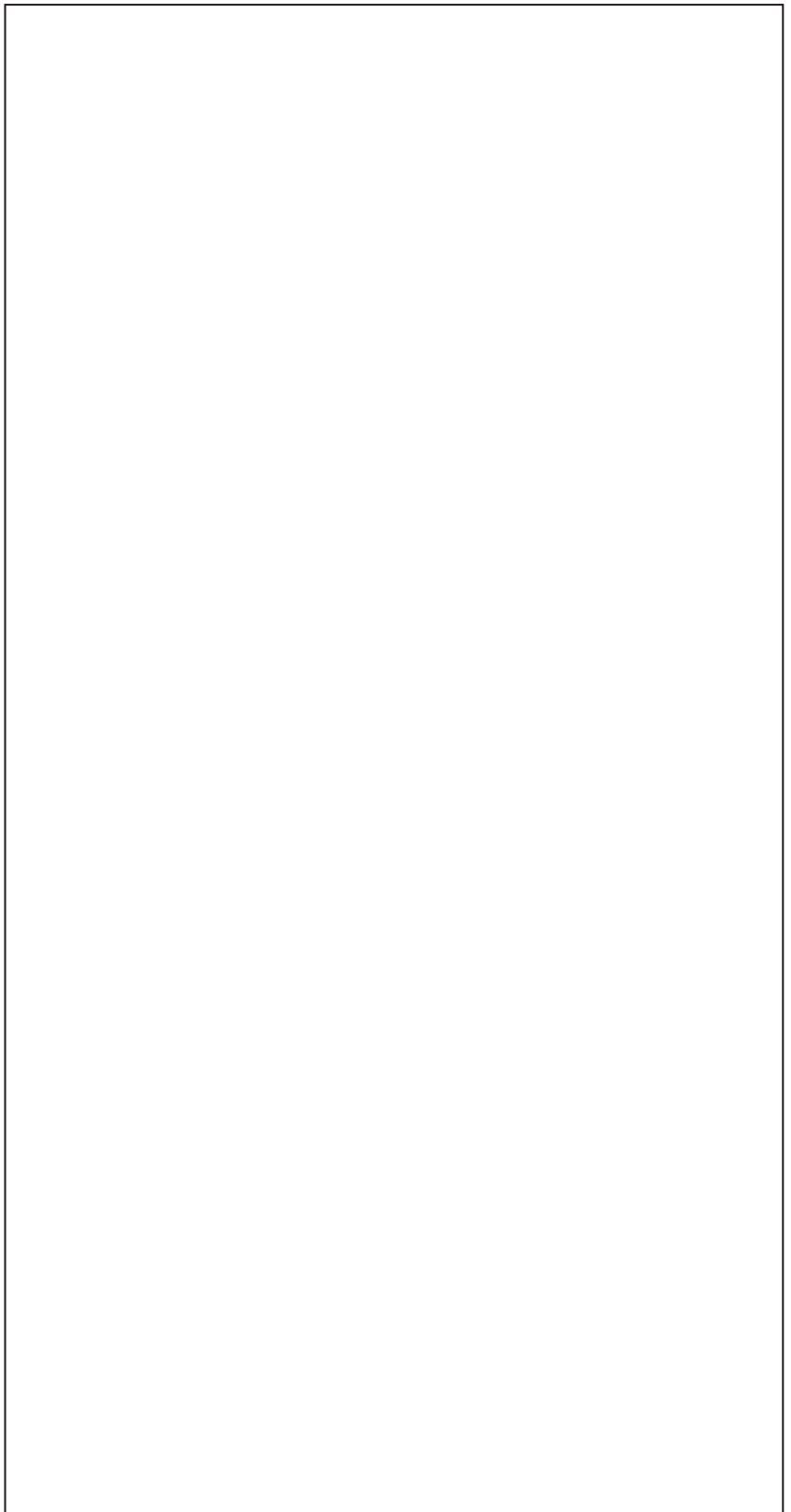
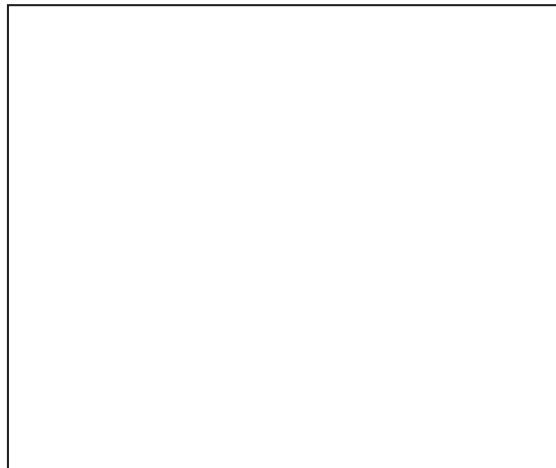
Maj. Jeff Hannold, director of operations for the 39th Rescue Squadron, said his unit received the call to assist the injured passenger late Saturday. "The group responded with an HC-130 aircraft complimented by a group of highly-skilled pararescue professionals."

Arriving at the scene after dark, the rescue crewmembers found 13-foot sea swells that made parachuting very risky. "With every individual situation, we have to assess how we can best help those in need," added Maj. Hannold. "The safety of all of those involved in the mission has always been our number one priority."

In ideal rescue conditions, pararescue specialists are able to parachute into open seas and administer emergency medical and rescue support directly. In unfavorable weather conditions or at night, the challenges involved in administering aid become greater. The medical supplies they dropped stabilized the victim for another day until additional help arrived.

The primary mission of the 920th RQG is combat search and rescue, but the Air Force Reserve unit is also heavily relied upon for space support, as well as civilian rescue missions.

Most recently, the 920th activated and deployed some 90 members to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Nearly one third of the unit's reservists have been mobilized since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11.



It's in the bag at Patrick's commissary

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Patrick's commissary has a nearly 100-person team of baggers that reaches across the diversity spectrum.

There are high school and college students, military spouses, a military member and even some retirees who are just staying busy during their golden years.

Nearly all of them have one thing in common though, they love the job. The reasons for their love, or at least deep like, are as different as they are.

"I just like the people I get to see every day, the customers as well as the people I work with," said Pat McClure, who's considered the number 2 bagger there. Every year, the baggers elect a management team. This year's team is led by long-time veteran Tony Cuccia who leads a team of three others who ensure the commissary's bagging runs smoothly.

As Pat describes her love for everyone she works with, she's wearing a smile as wide as the commissary.

Blake Cox, a 19-year-old son of a retired master sergeant who's been bagging for two years and eight months walks up to Pat jingling a stack of quarters in his hand.

Ms. McClure doesn't even break stride as she bags groceries and talks to a reporter. She looks over at Mr. Cox and asks him, "How many you got?"

"Sixteen," he says. She digs into her wooden tip jar, pulls out four ones and hands them to Blake as he gives her the stack of coins.

"I'm also the banker," she says with a smile. "The kids here, they don't like change. Me, I don't care, money is money. Besides, he's like a grandson to me."

Mr. Cox said his motivation for being there is different from Ms. McClure's. "The money's great," he said. "Don't get me wrong, I like the people but with this job, I have flexibility, I can go to college in the morning and then work a six-hour shift here afterward."

Randy Clark said this is the sixth commissary he's worked in the last couple of years. "My wife keeps moving and I normally can go and get a job at the commissary," he said. He likes the fact he can get paid every day.

Heather Lemay likes the flexibility that when her husband, a Coast Guard member, is gone, she can pick up extra hours, and when he returns, she can get a few days off.

Training

Mr. Cuccia, head bagger since about 1983, said they put the baggers through about two hours of training after hours one evening. "We want to ensure that it's always done the same way," he said. "I've had customers call me and say they're missing something, and since we train all the baggers to do things the same way,



Noi LeBlanc, one of the nearly 100-person staff of Patrick commissary baggers, bags the groceries of another satisfied commissary customer. The job of a bagger is highly detailed, down to how the groceries are stacked inside the bag. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)

I can usually tell them where to look and find it."

The training program doesn't have to kick in often, the waiting list is six months to a year for new baggers and there's about 50-people presently waiting.

Head bagger

Mr. Cuccia said he's 100 years old, but his driver's license says 68. He's been head bagger almost since he came to the commissary. "I figured if I was going to be stuck here, I might as well be stuck in charge," he said.

He went to the commissary after a 20-year Air Force career, followed by a stint at Kennedy Space Center. "We had the first launch over there and then they laid a bunch of us off, so I came here temporarily," Mr. Cuccia said.

Twenty years later, he's running for re-election one more time Feb. 5, but all the candidates agreed, it's nothing personal.

Richard Smith, an active-duty sailor who's campaigning as part of a four-person team, said

it's not personal. "I like Tony and if I don't win, Tony and I will still be friends, and if I win, hopefully we'll still be friends."

Mr. Cuccia says that won't be a problem. "Twenty of the people here have run against me," he said, pointing to the line of 19 registers where baggers are working. "We're all friend, life's too short not to be friends with everybody."

The head bagger job has plenty of duties, but in a nutshell it's make the schedule and try to keep everybody relatively happy.

Additional duties

There's lots of additional duties baggers get stuck with. Twenty minutes a day, each bagger has to round buggies up. They've got to make sure there are plenty of bags as well.

However, the most important additional duty is to look out for the customer, in more ways than one. Nearly every bagger interviewed told of customers not holding the trunk open and it conking them on the head. One bagger pointed to a cut over his left eye. "You've always got to be aware out there," Mr. Cuccia said.

Every bagger also shared how they helped customers scour the parking lot, looking for that elusive car.

The best story might belong to Clark though. He was helping a customer find his car. "Then, we found the car, and he couldn't find the keys. I looked in the car, the keys were there and I realized the car was running!"

Tipping tip\$

- ▶ You can't find a customer in the commissary who agrees on how much to tip. Not many baggers can agree either.
- ▶ The only income received by baggers is tips.
- ▶ Most people tip baggers \$1 – \$2 per cart.
- ▶ Most baggers said they make anywhere between \$35 – \$100 a day. It depends on the day of the week and the season. They also make more in the winter, due to the influx of retirees from up north.



MISSION FUN Family Child Care



Family Child Care provider Satomi Marling encourages 3-year-olds Danika Plotkin and Christian Turnbull to make an art project from many colors and textures. (Photos by Jim Laviska)

By Capt. Susan Romano
45TH SPACE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For most who work here at Patrick and the Cape, the daily tools of the trade may include rockets, radars, runways or wrenches. But for a certain group of individuals who work at Patrick, the tools of their trade include play-doh, legos, tonka trucks and tinker toys.

The Family Child Care Program is a Department of Defense initiative to provide parents an alternative to Child Development Center care. It also affords parents the opportunity to secure care for children with special needs, evening and weekend care, care for school-age children, or care children whose parents work rotating shifts.

Odetta "Tina" Washington, Patrick's Family Child Care coordinator for the past 10 years, said the FCC program also offers an opportunity for spouses to contribute to the family income while caring for their own children.

Currently, Patrick has 10 licensed providers, with three others undergoing processing to become licensed. To become a licensed provider, applicants must be at least 18 years old, be able to write, speak and read English, are physically and mentally capable of caring for children, can complete required FCC training, have a high school diploma and are willing to agree in writing to the requirements for being a certified FCC provider.

"We have three different certification and licensing levels of providers," said Ms. Washington. "A provisional license is a probationary period that new providers must undergo for three months. A standard license is the next level. This license focuses on health, fire and safety issues of being an FCC provider. It requires the provider to score more than 80 percent on their monthly, unannounced inspections. Providers also work on FCC training modules."

Ms. Washington also explained what the third license includes.

"A developmental license is issued after two years in the program. The provider must complete 15 training modules, score more than 75 percent on monthly inspections, and complete another checklist in addition to the standard FCC inspection checklist," she said.

Satomi Marling has been one of Patrick's licensed providers for the past two years. When asked what the most rewarding part of her job is, she responded, "I love watching the children learn new things and develop new skills."

Ms. Marling cares for up to six children at a time and maintains a daily schedule that includes meals, play time, arts and crafts projects and rest periods.

"I really enjoy doing crafts with the children," Ms. Marling said. "The children have so much fun painting and drawing. But they really enjoy giving the projects to their parents to see how they react to their work."

In addition to managing the FCC program, Ms. Washington is responsible for the Extended Care Program, which is designed to help families who may have to work longer hours, extended shifts, evenings, weekends, or may experience a temporary change in shift hours. It also offers service to active reservists who have weekend duty at Patrick or the Cape.

"The Extended Care Program is more accessible to military members as they perform their mission during contingency or high operations tempo. We encourage those parents to learn about this program because it is there for them," Ms. Washington said.

Ms. Washington is also the coordinator for the Air Force Aid Free Child Care Program. The program offers 20 hours of free childcare to families who are arriving or departing Patrick AFB.

"The program is an Air Force Aid Society initiative, and parents have up to two months to use the free care," said Ms. Washington.



Tina Washington, Patrick's Family Child Care coordinator, bounces 10-month-old Hunter Plotkin on her lap as he giggles.

Additionally, the AF Aid Society sponsors a program for parents who return from a deployment of 30 days or longer. Up to 16 hours of free care is available for each child.

"It's a wonderful job that I highly recommend, especially to those parents who want to earn money but don't want to leave their children in someone else's care," said Ms. Washington.

For more information or to learn how to become an FCC provider, call 494-8381.



Lieutenant named distinguished graduate

Second Lt. Karla Taff, 45th Services Squadron, was recently selected as the distinguished graduate of the SVS 101-02B Services Initial Skills Course.

The course lays the foundation for new officers in the Services career field.

The distinguished graduate award is given to the top 10 percent of students maintaining the highest academics throughout the five-week class.

7 win wing staff awards

The following have been selected as the wing staff annual award winners:

Airman of the Year - Senior Airman Mohammad Schultz

NCO of the Year - Tech. Sgt. Renwick Davis

Senior NCO of the Year - Master Sgt. John Cody

CGO of the Year - Capt. Jason Mello

Category I Civilian of the Year - Sherry Boswell

Category II Civilian of the Year - Larry Jayne

Category III Civilian of the Year - Katrina Windschitl

Theater

Friday - Wednesday The Melbourne Civil Theater presents "I'll Be Back Before Midnight," at 8 p.m., 3030 W. New Haven Ave., Melbourne. Call 723-6935 for tickets.

Friday and Saturday "Over The River and Through The Woods," is performed at the Titusville Playhouse at 8 p.m., 301 Julia St., Titusville. Call 268-1125 or visit www.nbbd.com/godotpi.

Friday - Sunday The Surfside Players present "Let's Murder Marsha" at 2:30p.m. and 8 p.m. at 320 S. Fifth St., Cocoa Beach. For reservations, call 783-3127.

Auditions

Saturday Children's Community Theatre holds auditions for its performing troupe at 1 p.m. at the CCT School of the Performing Arts, 234 Willard St., Cocoa. Call 632-9217 for details.

Arts

Feb. 8-9 The City of Palm Bay Parks & Recreation Department presents the 2nd annual Palm Bay Art Fest 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Knecht Park, 1380 Glenham Dr., Palm Bay. Admission is free. Free parking is in Harris Corp. parking lot.

The Palm Bay Art Fest is also looking for artists. Call 952-3441 for more information.

The Brevard County Government seeks a mural artist for their public places project.



Encouraged to apply are professional artists with experience in interior mural art and working with youth arts groups. Application deadline is Feb. 28, 5 p.m.

For more information, call 690-6817.

Outdoors

Saturday, Sunday, Jan. 30 Beginning Bird-watching Tours 9 a.m. - noon at Black Point Wildlife Drive, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, State Road 402.

Cost is free. Bring binoculars, camera, field guides, bug repellent, snack and water. Call 861-0667 for details.

Museums

Now - Feb. 3 "Tutankhamun: Wonderful Things of the Pharaoh's Tomb" is on display at the Brevard Museum of History and Science, 2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa.

Call 632-1830 or visit www.brevardmuseum.com.

Deployed member enjoys 'Cocoa' in desert

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Master Sgt. Donna Kinley, New Year's Day 2003 experience in Southwest Asia gave new meaning to the term hoofing it

No, it wasn't watching Dick Clark in Times Square. It was something with a bit more of an Arabic feel to it. She went camel riding.

Camels are big hairy stinky beasts that have a reputation as being accurate spitters. However, this didn't deter Master Sgt. Kinley, who's a contracting specialist currently deployed to Southwest Asia supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Morale, Wellness and Recreation section at her deployed location had brought the camel in for the purpose of giving people rides during the New Year's Day activity. Master Sgt. Kinley said when she saw the camel, she knew she was going to ride it. "I'd never had the chance before but knew it was a once in a lifetime opportunity and didn't want to miss my chance," she said.

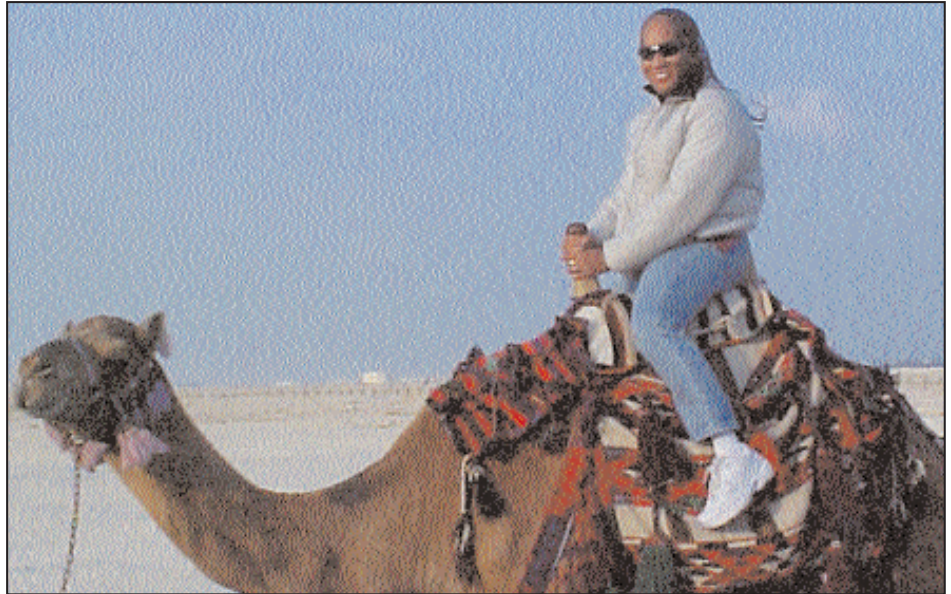
Cocoa the camel's take off got her attention. "I think it was a little slow for her, but it sure wasn't too slow for me," she said. The camel's herder led Cocoa by the reins down the block and back.

Master Sgt. Kinley's done a lot more than camel riding though.

As the expeditionary wing's chief of contracting, she's on the ground floor of building a base out of nothing. "We're buying everything from tent-building supplies to every day stuff that an office needs," she said.

The deployed environment offers some unique challenges as well. "One shop you go into, everyone will speak English, then the next shop, no one speaks English. But you still have to get a bid from them," Master Sgt. Kinley said.

One thing is certain though. "Negotiating is an art form here," she said. "When you go in and they give you a price, they don't expect you to accept the



Master Sgt. Donna Kinley, 45th Contracting Squadron, rides Cocoa the camel on New Year's Day during her deployment in Southwest Asia. (Photo courtesy U.S. Air Force)

first offer, so you have to sit there and negotiate. There's no such thing as price tags here."

She leads a team of four and goes to meetings most of the day while they're out buying. Her job is simple. "I'm a manager here," she said.

"My biggest challenge is to make sure that the guys get what we have to have when we have to have it," she said. "I have to make sure everything is prioritized."

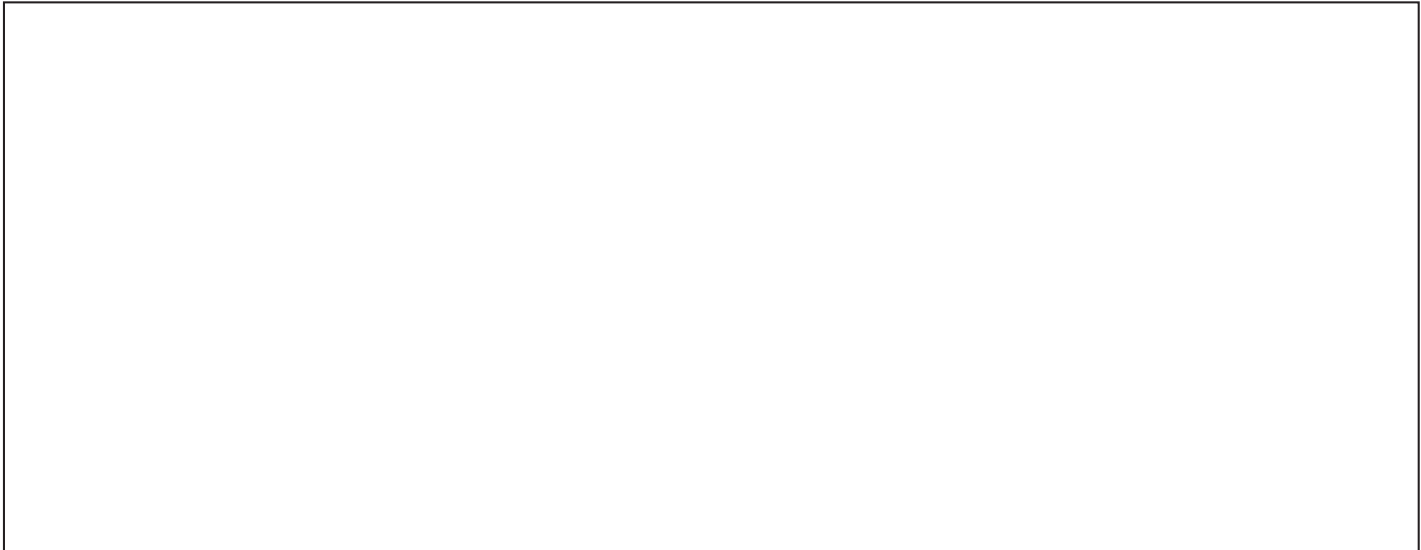
However, that's not the hardest part of the deployment that has the single mom, "livin', working, eating and sleeping in a tent."

"I miss my daughter Dikara a lot," she said.

Four-year-old Dikara is staying with family members in Ohio while Master Sgt. Kinley is in the desert. Dikara hasn't quite grasped the idea of why mom is gone. "I told her my boss wanted me to come over and go to work," she said.

Everyone there is like Master Sgt. Kinley. There are people they miss and their job is different in the desert versus with their home unit, but they've all got a common attitude.

"Everybody here likes stepping up to the challenge," she said.





Clutch free throw

Patrick's varsity basketball finished third in Eglin's Martin Luther King Jr. Basketball Tournament last weekend. Patrick's seven-person team opened tournament action Saturday by edging MacDill AFB 91-89. Sunday, they beat Eglin's tough prison team 92-90. In an afternoon game where they were vying for a spot in the championship game, they lost to Tyndall AFB 106-96. They were down by 28 at the half, but came within two before falling behind by 10. The day's last game pitted them against the host, who beat Patrick 105-93. They're expecting to return to action in March in a tournament at Robins AFB, Ga. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force)

Spirit of Services

Take a boat ride

In support of Family Day Friday, Outdoor Recreation offers free boat rides from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call them at 494-2042.

Big Super Bowl blast at club

The NCO Club offers a Super Bowl party Sunday. Doors will open at 2 p.m. and game time is set for 6 p.m. The event is open to everyone with an ID card.

Register for door prizes, which include jerseys, T-shirts, a recliner, gift certificates, dinner certificates and hats among many other prizes. A trivia club member will walk away with a 32" flat-screen TV. (Club member must be present to win.)

The event also features a chili cook-off. Bring a homemade creation in a crock-pot. Judging takes place at 5:30 p.m. First- and second-place winners receive a prize. A half-time feast includes sub sandwiches, pizza, chili and hot wings.

Pre-game trivia contests consist of the following:

▲ 2002 Madden Football Play Station II Competition - Trophy and prizes awarded to winners. Sign up in advance by calling club at 494-7491

▲ Best Dressed Fan Competition - Judging takes place during half time and the winner takes home a prize.

▲ King for the Quarter - Each quarter, a winner receives a complimentary beverage, a sandwich and gets to sit in the best seat in the house for that quarter. Each will be eligible to win the chair - drawing after the start of the fourth quarter.

▲ Football Toss - pre-game throws with the top five finishers to compete at half time for prizes.

▲ Jersey giveaway - pick a team. One winner from each side with bonus prize if your team wins.

▲ Trivia Table - five chances to win

▲ 100 patrons will choose a square based on the scores at the end of each quarter - prizes to be awarded.

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Admission for club members is free. Nonmembers pay \$3. Call the club at 494-7491 for more information.

Golf to victory

The 45th Space Wing Manatee Cove Golf Course presents a President's Day Tournament Feb. 17. Shotgun is at 8 a.m. The format is a two-person team with three formats in one 18-hole round: Holes 1 through 6, Scramble; holes #7 through 12, Best Ball Gross; and holes #13 through 18, Alternate Shot.

The number of flights depends on the number of entries. The team handicap is 30 percent of the team total. Players must have a USGA handicap or play scratch. Cost is \$22 for annual pass/fee holders, \$32 for punch card holders (no punch required) and \$35 for all other players.

Tees will be gold for the men and red for the women. First-, second- and third-

place winners in each flight will receive an award. Register in the Pro Shop starting Jan. 24 through noon, Feb. 14. No refunds will be made after Feb. 14. Call 494-7856 for additional information.

Discover surf fishing

Those interested in learning to surf fish or perfecting fishing skills, call Outdoor Recreation for their monthly Surf Fishing Clinic and fishing trip.

Trips are scheduled for Feb. 7 from 5-6:30 p.m. and Feb. 8 from 7 a.m. until noon. The cost is \$20 and includes instruction, a trip guide, bait and tackle. Call 494-2042 for more information.

New machines on hand

The Auto Skills Center has recently received two new machines: a Vibration Control/Wheel Balancer that road-tests tires and a new tire changer. No appointment is necessary to use these machines. Call 494-2537 for more information.



**Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
45th SW
commander**

Action Line: 494-6550

The Action Line is your direct link to me and provides a valuable source of information on ways we can work together to make Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station better places to work and live.

The best way to get something fixed is to identify the problem to supervisors and first sergeants.

If you can't get your problem resolved through the agencies, contact the Action Line: e-mail, action@patrick.af.mil or click on global e-mail Action Line - Patrick AFB; recorded message, 494-6550; mail, 45SW/PA 1201 Edward H. White II St, Ste C-130, Patrick AFB FL 32925-3237; fax, 494-7302. Address all correspondence "Attn: Action Line."

When directing an issue to the Action Line, callers must indicate to whom they've previously addressed the issue.

45th Mission Support Group

Col. Steve Werner
494-6607

45th Civil Engineer Squadron

Lt. Col. Chris Hazen
494-4041

Base Housing

Caroline Jamba
494-2593

45th Services Squadron

Lt. Col. Jack Sproul
494-8081

Military Personnel

Capt. Richard Rivera

494-7831

Commissary officer

Donald Pruitt

494-4060

AAFES

Mike Lovejoy

494-6455

Civilian Personnel

Robert Daniel

494-5238

Military Equal Opportunity

Capt. Marlon Johnson

494-6334

45th Security Forces Squadron

Lt. Col. David Woods

494-6202

Financial Services

1st Lt. Raymond Kipp Bradley

494-7171

45th Medical Group

Col. Charles Mackett III

494-8100

Ground Safety

Paul Compton 494-2202

Inspector General

Lt. Col. Ralph Gracia

494-2287

Q: At the base's Friday night movie my (friends) and I were trying to listen to the movie but it was so hard to hear because there appears to only be two speakers on the front screen area.

In many cases you cannot hear what the individuals are saying due to the poor quality of the speakers or the theater doesn't have enough speakers. It's a beautiful, large theater and accommodates many people, but the sound system is just atrocious.

I talked with the people running the theater and they said they've had other complaints but no action has been taken. I guess they had just closed the theater down and remodeled it, but that was not one of the items addressed.

A: Thank you for your concern. National

Cinema Service Corp. provides the maintenance on our system. A technician has done preventive maintenance to our projectors and sound system twice in the past six months. We have again contacted them and they have made adjustments to the channel processors. They assure us that the number of speakers the theater has is sufficient for the size of the auditorium so long as all of them are working.

We'll monitor this closely and continue to strive to maintain the best atmosphere for your movie enjoyment.

We appreciate your patronage and taking advantage of our low cost service

In the future, feel free to contact Denise Taylor, at 494-4646, with any problems or concerns you have regarding the base theater.



Friday *Hot Chick* A popular, mean-spirited teen-age girl wakes up to find herself turned into a man. Along the way to finding out how she ended up like that, she discovers how shallow and cruel she's always been. Stars Rob Schneider, Rachel McAdams (PG-13 for crude and sexual humor, language and drug references)

Saturday *Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights* Davey is lurching down a wayward path facing prison when his friend proposes that he work with him at the community center as a volunteer referee for the local basketball league. The trust test

is if Davey can rise above his self-destructive habits. Animated, voices of Adam Sandler, Kevin Nealon. (PG-13 for frequent crude and sexual humor, drinking and brief drug references)

Sunday *Solaris* A psychologist arrives at a space station only to find that his liaison is dead. With his death comes other mysterious events, such as the appearance of the crew and friends who have passed away. Stars George Clooney, Steven Soderbergh. (PG-13 for sexuality/nudity, brief language and thematic elements)

Show times are 7:30 unless otherwise indicated. Admission is \$2.50 for adults age 12 and older and \$1.50 for children 11 and younger.



Catholic

Daily Mass 11:30 a.m. in the Seaside Chapel.
 Saturday: 4 p.m. confession. 5 p.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel and 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Seaside Chapel.
 Sunday School: 10 a.m. at the Education Center for pre-kindergarten - 6th grade, grades 7-12 at 6 p.m. at South Patrick Chapel.

Protestant

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship in the Seaside Chapel.
 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday school in Seaside Chapel
 9:45 a.m. Grades K-12 at South Patrick Chapel
 11 a.m. Inspirational Service in the South Patrick Chapel
 Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Fellowship dinner in the South Patrick Chapel.

