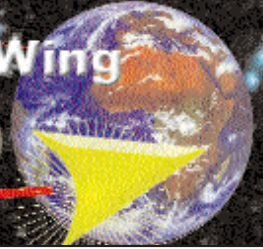


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Airmen from the 45th Medical Group receive their final briefing from Col. Charles Mackett, 45th MDG commander, moments before loading buses for deployment Feb. 8. Center, newlyweds Staff Sgt. Jason Knecht and his wife Senior Airman Maria Knecht get in one last hug before Jason leaves. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Bill Wade)

Deployment forces clinic changes

By Sue Walden
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Due to a recent deployment of more than 20 physicians and medical technicians from the 45th Medical Group, the Family Practice Clinic will now only see active-duty personnel and their family members until further notice. This impacts approximately 7,400 beneficiaries assigned to the clinic.

The weekend clinic is also suspended until further notice.

The nearly 2,000 TRICARE Plus patients over 65 who use clinic facilities will be receiving a letter this week explaining the change. "The letter states that they don't need a referral from our office, and the letter includes a list of off-base Medicare-accepting providers," said Lt. Col. Marlene Abbott, 45th Medical Operations Squadron commander.

Retirees and their family members under 65 who are enrolled in the clinic

require a referral for off-base physician care.

"As they call in, we'll work with them one-on-one to set up referral care until we can bring them back into our system," she said. "They will have to pay a \$12-co-pay per visit when seeing an off-base physician," she said.

For a referral, callers should dial 494-8241, press option four for routine care; option five is for acute care (triage). Lt. Col. Abbott asks that those leaving messages on voice mail should remember to leave a phone number to help expedite the referral process.

Individual Mobilization Augmentees, contractors and Red Cross volunteers are being called to assist the clinic, according to Lt. Col. Abbott.

"We're also getting great support out of Humana, our managed care support contractor," Lt. Col. Abbott said. "We're working with Humana to get a combina-

tion of Reserve backfill and contract replacement providers to supplement our personnel," said Fred Reeg, TRICARE flight's contracting officers' technical representative. "Our goal is to be able to treat all of our patients again within 30 days and not have to continue to send them off-base."

Due to the deployment, Life Skills Support Center is only seeing active-duty personnel and family members of deployed. Physical Therapy is only accepting active-duty and their family members.

Not every part of the 45th Medical Group is affected by the deployment though. "There is a minimal impact on the main pharmacy, lab and radiology," she added.

In the medical field the most important word is "patience," and in this case the key word "patience," according to Lt. Col. Abbott.

Outstanding is just the START!



Straight from the
COMMANDER'S
DESK



By Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
 45TH SW COMMANDER

Happy Valentine's Day, especially to all the ladies of our Space Coast community. I have a special valentine in my life named Deb and I know how critical spouses are to the success of any person's career, especially those who work within the military community. I hope this day is special for you and everyone enjoys it to the fullest.

What a busy and important week it was for our community. It started last Friday with the Columbia memorial at the Kennedy Space Center. I want to thank Mrs. Susan Kroskey and Lt. Col. Tom Eye for arranging our portion of the event. I thought our Chapel choir who began the event and Lt. Col. Andre Lovett's solo added a beautiful touch to the day. As always, our Honor Guard stood proud honoring the heroes of STS-107. I know it was a tough day for all, but we will carry out the dream of these seven astronauts and return to launching shuttles again one day.

As you've read on the previous page, we were snapped back into focus for our military mission the very next day. Early Saturday morning, we said goodbye to more than 20 people from our clinic who deployed after only 24 hours notice. They are doing great things for our country, but I know it's extremely difficult for families and loved ones to say goodbye on such short notice.

This deployment, however, shows the importance of being ready at a moment's notice. I don't have a crystal ball and I can't tell you what will happen next with the situation in Iraq. But I do know that if President Bush decides that military action is the course he wants to take, he'll expect us to be ready to do the job. It's our duty to ensure every deployable person has their records up to speed and, like our medical group members, are ready to hit the road in 24 hours or less.

This brings the total amount of people deployed from our Space Coast to more than 300 and this total could rise in the coming days. The medical group deployment took many people from our family practice clinic so we had to make a very tough decision. Starting last

Monday, until our people come back home, our clinic is going to be an active-duty- and family-member-only clinic.

I know many of our retirees depend on our clinic for care, but we can't service them with the manpower at hand. Retirees will, however, be referred downtown for treatment and they still have access to our

pharmacy. I ask for everyone's patience, cooperation and support during this dynamic time.

Finally, going down to the clinic and raising heck about the situation won't solve anything. Our staff is doing the best they can under the circumstances. If anyone has a real problem with this decision, I'll be glad to address it personally with them and give them the reasons why the wing made this decision.

I'm sure everyone is also aware of the change in the terrorist attack alert to "high risk." This drove changes at our installations, most notably; the security police will check every person's I.D. coming through our gates. It is my job to protect the people and assets of this wing to the best of my ability and this is one of the measures we must take. I think you'd agree the 45th Security Forces Squadron has a good plan in place to alleviate the traffic problem for both South Patrick Drive and A1A.

If everyone continues to cooperate this won't be much of an inconvenience. In the future, more measures may be put in place that impact our community and they could come at short notice. I will do my best to keep everyone informed of the latest information for planning purposes. But remember, my goal is to keep everyone here safe and secure. If it means people must spend a few extra minutes getting through a gate or standing in line at a mission support facility, then that is exactly what will happen. Don't ever forget, we need to be as conscious of a terrorist attack on our own soil as with defeating terrorism overseas.

This week the wing passed a very important test with flying colors. The annual CORONA South conference involving the Secretary of the Air Force, the Honorable Dr. James G. Roche; the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and most of our service's four-star general officers. With the world situation, they obviously had very important business to discuss. It was our job to ensure they had a great conference center and atmosphere so they could concentrate on their discussion matters.

I couldn't be happier with the way the week went. There were no major problems and the leaders of our Air Force were absolutely

impressed with the military, civilian and contractor members of this wing. To put it succinctly, you WOW'd them!

I'd like to thank Col. Steve Werner, 45th Mission Support Group commander and his team for making this a success. As I've said before, when you want to thank many people, you should really only thank your mom so you don't forget anyone - So once again: THANKS MOM!

But I do believe I should recognize some groups who played a major role in the effort - obviously the 45th Civil Engineer and Space Communications Squadron for providing much of the infrastructure support. The 45th Services and Security Forces Squadrons for the super meals and recreational activities for the event along with providing the necessary protection for this group. The 45th Operations Support Squadron that sorted out the many aircraft arrivals and departures and kept everyone on schedule.

Along with them, the 45th Readiness Flight for coordinating transportation and the Contracting Squadron who made sure the bills were paid and we received the best service possible for money paid. The Honor Guard, who truly made the wing's first impression a super one by everyone's account. And all the escorts from around the wing who made sure their individual distinguished visitor received the service they needed and in a timely fashion. Finally, to the Protocol staff that was the Pentagon staff liaison ensuring the necessary details were accommodated.

I know there were many more involved and I appreciate everyone's help. It was a first-class effort all around. SUPER JOB!

Don't forget Thursday night is the new date for our rescheduled annual awards banquet. We'll start at 6 p.m. at the Officers' Club and it is a sold out event so I know it'll be a great evening.

Remember, Feb. 21 is our monthly training day and a great time for mentoring or other activities related to our performance plan and its theme, "Outstanding is just the START!" We have officer, enlisted and civilian calls scheduled for the day and these are important for getting out the latest information to everyone.

It's a three-day weekend so I need everyone to put on their "safety caps" and think about what they are doing so we aren't taking any unnecessary risks. I want everyone back safe and sound Tuesday. Try to relax and have fun this weekend.

Happy Valentine's Day Deb.
 Take care and God bless!



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Columbia remembered



Employees at the Kennedy Space Center gather at the shuttle landing facility for the Columbia crew's memorial service. Left, the service concluded with the missing man formation fly over by NASA T-38 jet aircraft. (Photos courtesy of NASA)

Leaders grateful for military, civilian personnel

By Donald H. Rumsfeld
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

For more than a year, the brave men and women of the U.S. military, together with their civilian counterparts in the Department of Defense, have been working to preserve peace and defend freedom against terrorist forces and those who would harbor and protect them around the world.

To each of you, and your families, we express our profound gratitude and appreciation for the risks you undertake and the sacrifices you make so that all Americans can enjoy the blessings of freedom.

This war, as the president has said, is not one of our making. It was thrust upon us. We



Mr. Rumsfeld

act in self-defense – in deliberate response to acts of war directed against the American people, and to prevent future acts from claiming even more innocent life. We are engaged in a global war, and it is being waged on many fronts using all the instruments of national power.

In recent weeks and months, the president has called the world's attention to Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq. He has rallied the United Nations to enforce its resolutions calling for the regime's disarmament. To assist this diplomatic offensive and to preserve future options, adjustments to current mobilization, deployment and rotation cycles may be necessary, adjustments that may mean longer

tours of duty than you may have expected.

While the times, places and conditions of deployment cannot now be precisely known, we do recognize the uncertainty these circumstances may create for those in uniform, the civilians who work beside them, and the families and loved ones, without whose support their sacrifices would not be possible.

I know the secretaries and chiefs of the military services are communicating with you in greater detail about these matters, but I want you to know that understanding the impacts of these deployments is important to us.

Be assured that the president will not decide to commit forces unless conditions require it, and only as a last resort. Should action be necessary, you will have what you need to carry out the missions assigned. Thank you for all you do for our nation and the world.

Patrick EOD team leads shuttle explosive recovery

By Sue Walden
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A six-man team from the 45th Civil Engineer Squadron is leading the recovery effort of Space Shuttle Columbia's explosive ordnance components.

"Since we are the primary Explosive Ordnance Disposal team for the space shuttle, NASA requested us to help last week," said Master Sgt. Ronald Weldon, 45th CES EOD superintendent flight. The experts, who left Patrick Air Force Base Feb. 4, are divided into three two-man teams positioned in Fort Worth, Texas; Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and Nacogdoches, Texas. "All of us successfully cover the east, west and south geographic area where shuttle parts have been found," said Tech. Sgt. Brett Rodgers, 45th CES

EOD craftsman and leader of the Barksdale AFB team.

The team – headed by Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Dunlap, headquarters Air Force Space Command – consists of 45th CES personnel Tech. Sgt. Rodgers, Tech. Sgt. George Price, Staff Sgts. Michael Chamberlain, Alan Powell and John Carroll and Senior Airman Marlon Mitchell.

The shuttle contains many pyrotechnics that can explode, according to Tech. Sgt. George Price, 45th CES EOD technician and team chief Fort Worth's Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base. "For instance, the shuttle has emergency egress lines containing detonating cord that can blow the shuttle's hatch and allow the crew to escape in an emergency," he said.

When shuttle debris is found, NASA pyrotechnics experts are called to the site to examine the piece. If they determine it contains explosives, the EOD team goes to the site. "If we can't tell that it's been discharged, we bring it to a location to x-ray it," said Tech. Sgt. Rodgers. "If it hasn't been detonated, then we take custody of the piece and explode it. We turn in all pieces back to NASA since all of the debris is evidence." NASA is in the process of shipping the Columbia debris to Kennedy Space Center for reconstruction analysis. The first shipment arrived at the center's 50,000-square-foot hangar on Wednesday.

The EOD team, part of the 11-member EOD flight, is no stranger to picking up the pieces of a disaster and stabilizing a potentially

explosive situation. "The most recent call was the F/A-18 crash two years ago in an area west of Fort Pierce, Fla.," said Tech. Sgt. Rodgers. "But this is more unique." While the jet crash was confined to a one-mile area, Columbia's debris fell in a large area in parts of Texas and Louisiana – some in remote areas.

The team members, who train with NASA pyrotechnics experts at least twice a year on shuttle disaster scenarios, said they are proud to be part of the shuttle recovery, but are saddened by the loss of the seven astronauts. "You just have to try to separate yourself from it because you have to remain sharp and do a good job," said Tech. Sgt. Price. "It's an honor to help NASA piece together this gigantic puzzle and tragedy."

Be vigilant; lives depend on it

By Master Sgt. Kevin Fishel
45TH SW ANTITERRORISM OFFICE

"If I see a troop walking across tent-city and ask him what he or she is thinking about, I expect to hear an alert answer about security and force protection. Every airman is a sensor."

— Gen. John P. Jumper

Awareness, without question, is one of the most important weapons everyone has in their own personal arsenal to fight the war on terrorism.

Terrorist cells are most vulnerable during the preparation for an attack. For example, during the intelligence-gathering phase they risk exposure, detection and identification. The sources they exploit are:

- ▶ Open-source information: Local newspapers, weekly newspapers, TV, radio, Web sites, freedom of information requests, satellite photographs from the U.S. Geological Survey Division of the Dept. of the Interior and base tours.

- ▶ Human intelligence: Casual conversation, extortion, intimidation, infiltration via employment/contract, such as janitorial or groundskeeping.

- ▶ Signal intelligence: Wire tapping, scanning base radio frequencies, civilian law enforcement, fire department radio frequencies, cell-phone, e-mail and microwave intercept.

- ▶ Surveillance of the target: Base tours, external observation from vehicles, nearby rooms; internal observation via sponsored visitation, vendors, contrac-

tors, the rouse of employment, maintenance repair order, utility meter reader, taxi fare, moving/storage company employee.

- ▶ Photographic Intelligence Collection: Still photo or videotape. Protect these sources every day. It's important. Lives of others literally depend on it. Don't hesitate to report "the unusual disguised as the usual" to the 45th Space Wing Security Forces Control Center at 494-2008; Cape Canaveral Air Force Station SF Control Center at 853-3093; Office of Special Investigations at 494-5794 or if observed in the local community, report it to the nearest local or federal authorities by calling 911.

It's important to underscore and remind everyone the definition of Force Protection Condition Bravo.

- ▶ This condition applies when an increased and more predictable threat of terrorist activity exists.

The Info condition level at the 45th Space Wing is now elevated to Bravo.

- ▶ This means an increased set pattern of intrusions have occurred including compromise of system resources.

- ▶ Back up files on new media. Implement other measures as instructed.

- ▶ Report suspicious activity relating to communications and information systems to Base C4 Help Desk-/Network Control Center at 494-2857, Information Assurance office at 494-9412/5366/6156; or Unit Computer System Security officer.

What the terror alert warnings mean

The nation's terror alert was raised to Orange Feb. 7, warning of a high risk of terrorist attack around the Muslim holy period of the Hajj.

Red Severe

- ▶ Increase or redirect personnel to address critical emergency needs.
- ▶ Close public and government facilities.
- ▶ Assign emergency response personnel and

pre-positioning and specially trained teams.

- ▶ Monitor, redirect or constrain transportation systems.

Orange High

- ▶ Coordinate necessary security efforts with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies or armed forces.
- ▶ Prepare to work in an alternate site or with

a dispersed work force.

- ▶ Take additional precautions at public events and consider alternative venues or cancellations.
- ▶ Restrict threatened facility access to essential personnel only.

Yellow Elevated

- ▶ Increase surveillance of critical locations.
- ▶ Coordinate emergency plans as appropriate with nearby jurisdiction.
- ▶ Assess whether the precise characteristics

of threat require refinement of preplanned protective measures.

- ▶ Implement contingency and emergency response.

Blue Guarded

- ▶ Check communications with designated emergency response or command locations.
- ▶ Provide the public with necessary information.

- ▶ Review and update emergency response procedures.

Green Low

- ▶ Refine and exercise planned protective measures.
- ▶ Ensure emergency personnel receive training.

- ▶ Assess facilities for vulnerabilities and take measures to reduce them.

Source: The Office of Homeland Security



Funding for Patrick's new Security Forces Operations Center will compete against other bases in Space Command, and then go to Air Force where it will compete for funding, before arriving at Congress. (Artist rendering courtesy of 45th GES)

Patrick projects battle for funding

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

During Mentorship Day, Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich, 45th Space Wing commander, asked the nearly standing-room-only audience if anyone knew the wing's top building priorities. It grew deathly quiet in the base theater as only a few hands eased up.

If he'd asked who knows what it takes to get funding for the project, even fewer would have known.

The wing's top three projects are the 45th Security Forces Operations Facility; Child Development Center and an indoor firing range.

These aren't the only items the wing is pursuing, but they're getting most of the focus.

"There are three or four that we're really pushing hard then come another one or two," said William Gibson, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron deputy commander.

If you look at the Excel chart the wing created listing all the wing's military construction priorities, there are 24 projects. "We have more projects programmed than we'll ever get to," said Paul Womble, base architect. "We have

projects that take us through 2025."

Projects go through a weeding down process that would make a Bachelorette or Joe Millionaire contestant shy away.

Just like quarterly awards, step one is on the group level, where different groups and tenant units look at their projects and rate them. Top ones advance to the wing.

Then, the wing prioritizes them. Tenant units are a major player in the process.

This is where the 45th SFS ops bldg, CDC, and indoor firing range rose to the top.

They each have their case. The 45th SFS is in the flight pattern of the runway. Plus, the 1940s building isn't meeting the needs of the modern world.

There is also the child development center. "This is very mission critical because we've got 80 to a 100 airmen who have children on the waiting list for the Child Development Center. It's a serious quality of life issue," said Mr. Gibson. "If you're a junior enlisted member with several kids and your wife chooses to work, and your children have to go downtown,

then you're hurting because your whole wife's salary might be going to child care," said Mr. Gibson.

Officials were torn over which one to prioritize, but safety won out, with the promise that children would get the push as soon as funding for the cop shop was secured.

Once it's blessed as the base's top project, it goes to Air Force Space Command.

Once again, another huge hurdle, as it's got to beat out all other Air Force Space Command bases' top projects.

"To get guaranteed Air Force funding, it's got to finish first place at AFSPC," Mr. Womble said. "Sometimes number two gets support, but only number one is assured."

Then, it's got to get officially blessed by Air Force, then Department of Defense, then Congress's appropriations committee.

If it gets approved by the Congress and Senate, then it's part of the 2004 appropriations bill.

Eventually, like the just completed Passenger Terminal, officials will be cutting the ribbon.

Top 10 military construction projects at 45th Space Wing

These are the projects the wing and local tenant units is focusing on garnering funding.

- 1 Security Forces operations Building
- 2 Child Development Center
- 3 Indoor firing range
- 4 GPS/DSCS satellite staging facility
- 5 Satellite operations support facility
- 6 Fire crash/rescue station
- 7 Visitors quarters (Phase 1)
- 8 Civil engineer complex
- 9 Precision Measurement Equipment Lab
- 10 Vehicle maintenance and operations



Florida Hazardous Weather Awareness Week is Sunday – Saturday. Each day is dedicated to educating the public on the state’s weather and how to prepare. Though Florida is a haven for tourists because of its sunshine, the state is also home to various hazardous weather – from hurricanes and tornadoes to floods and extreme heat. Florida is also the lightning capital of the country, with central Florida touted as “lightning alley.” Lightning occurs mostly between May and September. (Photo courtesy of the 45th Weather Squadron)

Week focuses on hazardous weather

By William Roeder
45TH WEATHER SQUADRON

Florida Hazardous Weather Awareness Week is Sunday through Saturday. It’s a good time to learn about the different types of weather and how to prepare.

Each day of the Florida Hazardous Weather Awareness Week features a special weather hazard. The most immediate weather threat to the Space Coast is tornadoes. The strong tornado season slowly rises in February, peaks in late March and then falls in April.

The largest tornado outbreak in Florida history was February 1998. However, the past several years have had reduced tornado activity and people may have become complacent, especially people new to the area who have never seen tornado weather. This year, there may be a return to more severe winter weather due to the moderate El Nino in the Pacific Ocean. The area has already seen some unusual early winter severe weather.

It’s time to prepare for this late winter-spring tornado season. These tornadoes often occur late at night, so be prepared to hear the warning sirens. It’s best to buy a NOAA weather radio that will sound an alarm if the National Weather Service issues a warning for your area. Fortunately, strong cold fronts cause our late winter-spring tornadoes, so the weather forecasters can usually anticipate when conditions are favorable for tornadoes with perhaps a day or more lead-time. Keep aware of the weather forecast. When strong cold fronts are

approaching our area, be especially wary. Know where to take shelter in your house. Secure outside small, light objects, such as bikes, garbage cans and lawn furniture.

Monday focuses on lightning. Florida is the lightning capital of the country, with central Florida being lightning alley.

Florida leads the nation in lightning deaths and injuries. Lightning also causes many more life-long debilitating injuries than it kills. Most of our lightning occurs between May and September.

Tuesday highlights hurricanes and flooding. Florida is one of the most at-risk states for hurricanes. When it comes to hurricanes, many people only think of the wind damage threat near where the eye makes landfall. But local flooding and tornadoes can occur from the rainbands, which can extend over 250 miles from the eye of the storm. Even the weaker tropical cyclones can cause these hazards. The most frequent impact on the Space Coast from tropical cyclones is local flooding. Hurricane season is June 1 - Nov. 30.

Tornadoes and thunderstorms are featured Wednesday. The most violent storm is the tornado. Florida has more tornadoes per square mile than anywhere else in the world. While many of these tornadoes are the weaker F0-F1 storms that occur during the summer, they are very difficult to forecast. Stronger significant tornadoes, F2 or greater, occur during strong cold fronts from February - April. Other significant tornadoes occur with land-falling tropical cyclones. Florida conducts a statewide tornado

drill for schools and day-care centers Wednesday.

Thursday examines marine hazards. Florida’s marine hazards include rip currents, waterspouts, high winds and rough seas. Rip currents occur anytime there are strong inland swells from large-scale persistent easterly winds, but become the biggest hazard during the summer with more people swimming at the beaches. High winds and rough seas can occur with strong winter storms or summer thunderstorms. Waterspouts tend to be a mid-late summer phenomena. The Cape Canaveral/Merritt Island area is ranked third in the world for waterspout activity.

Friday’s focus is temperature extremes and wildfires. Central Florida rarely experiences life-threatening cold. But heat stress can often be a problem during the high temperatures and high humidities in the summer. Wildfires can be a large hazard if summer rains don’t arrive, or during early spring thunderstorms after a winter dry season.

For more information on the Florida Hazardous Weather Awareness Week, visit at www.floridadisaster.org/hwa03/home.htm. For daily weather forecasts and hazardous weather outlooks for the 45th Space Wing, plus disaster preparedness, log onto <https://www.patrick.af.mil/45og/45ws>. For weather hazards outside of 45th SW, see the forecast from National Weather Service/Melbourne at www.srh.noaa.gov/mlb. For weather safety briefings, call 45th WS at 853-8410.

Children leave expensive mark

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Master Sgt. Jay Chapman is an inspector of projects for the 45th Civil Engineer Squadron and he's got a big enemy trying to destroy his cement projects, Patrick's children.

The father of three whose primary job lately is inspecting the installation of more than \$100,000 of sidewalks at Patrick this year and knows his projects make tempting targets.

When visiting a group of mailboxes in Central Housing that had cement poured around this past week, Master Sgt. Chapman and

Tech. Sgt. Kendall Lee, also an inspector, point out some of the children's handiwork. "Tom loves Cindy", "PVJ plans to graduate in 2003" are some of the messages left in the new concrete.

"We know wet cement is a magnet for kids, but there are a lot of reasons kids shouldn't do this," Tech. Sgt. Lee said.

Recently, Master Sgt. Chapman was waiting at the bus stop for the kids to get off the bus to ensure that they didn't scratch their marks in the cement. By the time he'd left his message loud and clear to the bus riders at the first stop and headed to the bus stop two blocks away, two little blond-

haired girls were working on there legacy in the cement.

"They knew they shouldn't be doing it and there was no doubt in their parents' minds either, but the parents felt even stronger about it when we told them they can be held liable for it," Chapman said.

Parents won't be paying for just filling in the names with cement and smoothing over the surface. "That will scratch off," Tech. Sgt. Lee said.

"We'd end up pulling up the whole block of cement and laying it in again, so you'd get the \$2,000 price tag for the construction, plus how much it costs to tear up the cement," Master Sgt. Chapman said. Costs vary due to the project.

Safety is the primary reason kids shouldn't work on there cement legacy. "Children need to know that if they see the area cordoned off, they don't need to be in there. Construction sites pose multitudes of hazards," said Bill James, 45th SW occupational safety lead.

Cement can pose a health hazard. "I've seen guys who got burns from being around the cement where it caused the skin to dry out really, really fast giving them a burn and rash," said Tech. Sgt. Mark Briggs, 45th CES NCOIC of the heavy equipment shop. "So it would have a tendency to affect a child's skin even faster."

The cement in the concrete still poses a health hazard, even though it's diluted.

If the contractor uses a curing compound, that makes the con-



Cement graffiti is expensive to the wing and wet cement is dangerous. (Photos by SSgt. Joel Langton)



There's more than hazards at home when children write on the wet cement, but health hazards as well. (Photo illustration by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)

crete dry slower, and there are chemicals that cause skin and eye irritation, Briggs said.

Tech. Sgt. Lee points to another reason, this one very personal, why he doesn't want the children writing in the cement.

"My 4-year-old is just learning to read, and there's been a time or two when we've gone up and she's spelled out what something says and asked what it means. It's not always a great teaching opportunity," he said.

Patrick CDC earns regional award, tops in county

By Capt. Susan Romano
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Patrick's Child Development Center earned the distinction of becoming a five-star center for 2002 by the Brevard County Child Care Association - and the only one to receive that award in the county.

The five-star program identifies child care centers that meet generally accepted standards for high

quality programming to prepare children for school.

In order for the CDC to qualify for this program, the center had to meet nine criteria that were established by Brevard County.

One of the criteria was that child care providers who care for 10 or more 4-year-olds must have a staff member with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or the equivalent. Another standard

included having providers complete a minimum of two developmental screenings on each child annually using an approved screening tool. Yet another was ensuring the center adhered to the stringent ratios of providers to children.

Pamela Jordan, director of Patrick's Child Development Center, had nothing but praise for the men and women on her staff who made this happen.

"I have a wonderful staff with a high level of knowledge about their jobs," said Ms. Jordan. "They are continuously striving to learn and achieve more, and it's all for the children."

Two members of the Brevard County Child Care Association's education department visited Patrick's CDC and "inspected" the center's program to verify it was meeting the established criteria for the award.

"In addition to preparing children for success in school through the implementation of a developmentally-appropriate curriculum, we strive to encourage the parents to become involved in our programs," said Ms. Jordan. "Monthly parent involvement opportunities are another one of the criteria we

must achieve."

"It's a win-win situation for everyone involved," said Tom Mount, Family Members Program flight chief. "Our center got the well-deserved recognition it's earned, and our children benefit by continuing to get the very best care and educational programs available."

A five-star sign was placed at the center, serving as a reminder to the Patrick community that the CDC offers top quality care - the only child care center in Brevard County to achieve such recognition.



From left, 4-year-olds Nikkie Stephens, Braedon Barker and Logan Holland take some time out to look over their favorite book during playtime at the Child Development Center. (Photo by Capt. Susan Romano)



Foundation offers clam bake

The Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation, Inc. sponsors a lobster and clam bake Saturday at the lighthouse, Hangar C, at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Serving begins at 4 p.m. and the event ends at 7 p.m. Menu choice is lobster or chicken and clams, corn and bread.

The event is open to U.S. citizens 16 years and older. Price is \$25 per person. All profits assist the foundation in restoring, preserving and protecting the 134-year-old Cape lighthouse. Due to security reasons, transportation will be provided at 3:45 p.m. from the Cape's Pass and ID building located at the South Gate.

Those with badge access can drive to the Hangar C parking lot. The first floor of the lighthouse and gift shop will be open for tours guided by the foundation's volunteers. For tickets, call 868-6502.

Tickets are also available at Mainly Lobster in Cocoa Beach, 799-4700; Village Perks, Cocoa, 638-0038; Alma Clyde Field Library, Cocoa Village, 690-1971; and Creech Engineers, Melbourne, 255-5434.

Take a class

Attend the following Family Support Center classes by calling 494-5676. Newcomers Orientation, Tuesday 7:30 - 11 a.m.; Employment Orientation, Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - noon; Information Fair at BX, Wednesday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Deployed Spouses, Thursday 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Singles Workshop, Thursday 5-6 p.m.; HomeSchool Work Group, Thursday 6-7 p.m.; Appraisal Faire, Feb. 22 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Luncheon highlights representatives

The Navy Officers' Wives Club luncheon meeting is Feb. 21 at 11:30 a.m. in the Officers' Club.

The event includes a presentation by base representatives.

Menu is chicken stir fry and club sandwich.

For reservations and menu preference: A-L call Nancy Harper at 255-6853, M-Z call Disney Dearing at 255-6762.

Tax help available

Most active-duty military, retirees, family members and reservists on Title 10 can receive free income tax assistance and electronic filing of federal income tax returns at the 45th Space Wing Legal Office, bldg. 52.

The Tax Center opened Wednesday and services are provided by appointment only now through April 15.

Schedule an appointment through a Volunteer Income Tax Assistant or call 494-4914. The center prepares basic 1040E, 1040A and 1040 returns.

Be on committee

The newly reorganized Patrick Spouses' Club accepts nominations for the 2003-2004 executive board. Previous experience isn't needed. Elected positions include president, first and second vice president, recording secretary, treasurer and charitable treasurer. Additional committee positions include activities, awards, charitable services, countdown staff, decorating, historian, member-at-large, membership, programs, publicity, reservations, sunshine and ways and means. The club is open to all spouses regardless of rank. Meetings provide spouses an opportunity to socialize and share talents. For a candidates questionnaire or for more information, contact Jayne Hazen at 777-3973 or e-mail da4hazens@cfl.rr.com. Applications must be received by Feb. 20.

Promotion ceremony planned

Lt. Col. William Cleckner assumes rank of colonel in a ceremony March 1, 10 a.m. at Complex 14, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. R.S.V.P. by Feb. 24; by calling 494-6194.

Personnel who don't have a Cape badge should R.S.V.P. early and arrive by 9:30 a.m. March 1 at the Cape South Gate for escort. Military dress is duty uniform; civilian casual dress.

Scholarships available

The Patrick Spouses' club is accepting appli-

cations through March 25 for their annual scholarship program. Scholarships are open to high-school-age children of active-duty military and retired stationed at Patrick AFB, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Antigua or Ascension Island. Pick up applications at any Brevard County high school or call Terri Ten Haken at 779-4255.

Annual health fair set

The Health and Wellness Center sponsors its annual health fair at the Patrick Fitness Center gym March 18 from 7-11 a.m. The fair offers a variety of health screenings and information from various military and civilian agencies. Free screenings include skin and oral cancer, visual, postural and more.

Wuesthoff Hospital provides laboratory testing including CBC, lipid profile, PSA and TSH at a nominal fee. Payment for these lab tests must be in cash or check. Those wishing to have lab tests need to fast for 12 hours.

Bring outdated medicine to the fair for destruction. For more information, call the HAWC at 494-2660.

Heritage luncheon set for Feb. 28

The African American Heritage luncheon is Feb. 28 at 11 a.m. at the Officers' club.

Mrs. Alberta K. Wilson, Central Brevard NAACP, branch president is guest speaker.

Cost is \$11 for club members \$12 for non-members. Call 494-6334 for more information.

Banquet rescheduled

The annual awards banquet is Feb. 20 at the Officers' club. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., program starts at 6:30 p.m.

Med Group closure

The Patrick AFB Clinic, Life Skills and TRICARE Office is closed Monday. The Clinic and Pharmacy will be closed Feb. 21 and will continue to be closed every third Friday of each month for training. TRICARE will be open on these Fridays. Weekend clinic has been suspended until further notice.

Celebrating Black History Month

One giant leap

By Lt. Col. Gus Schalkham
45TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

Many children want to be an astronaut. It's been a dream for many African-American children - a dream for progress shared by Dr. Martin Luther King. This vision has now become reality for 14 African-Americans.

These pioneers have provided the pathway for generations to come. They are astronauts who hail from all across the nation and have risen to become role models.



Col. Buford
First African-American in space

Air Force (retired) Col. Guion Buford was the first African-American to fly in space.

A native of Philadelphia, Penn., he earned a doctorate in aerospace engineering.

He was a decorated pilot who flew more than 144 missions in Vietnam and was selected to be an astronaut in 1979. Col. Buford flew four missions aboard Space Shuttles Challenger and Discovery.

He was 41 on his first flight in 1983. His final trip in space was nine years later.

Dr. Bernard Harris was the first African-American to walk in space. Born in 1956 in Temple, Texas, his academic success led to his becoming a medical doctor.

He was selected by NASA to be an astronaut in 1990. Dr. Harris flew two missions in space. His walk in space took place on Feb 9, 1995.

This same mission was the first flight of the new joint Russian-American

Space Program, including a rendezvous with the Russian Space Station Mir.

"To be the first is great, it really was, but to me it signified there will be many more after me," he said.

Mae Jemison was the first African-American woman to fly in space. She was born in Decatur, Ala., in 1956, but she considers Chicago, Ill., her home.

An academic whiz kid, she entered Stanford University at the age of 16 and went on to earn her doctorate in medicine from Cornell in 1981.

She flew one space flight in 1992, which was a joint effort with Japan to conduct 44 experiments including bone cell research.

Air Force Col. (retired) Frederick Gregory was the first to be a space commander aboard Discovery in November, 1989, and pilot in 1985 on board Challenger.

Born in 1941 in Washington, D.C., he graduated from the USAF Academy and entered the astronaut program in 1978 where he flew three missions.

His last flight was on Atlantis in



1991. Col. Gregory is now the number two man in NASA, serving as deputy administrator.



Col. Gregory
First African-American space shuttle commander

Unfortunately, risk comes with success as three African-American space adventurers paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The first was Robert Lawrence, who died during a 1967 jet training accident. Though he never got the chance to fly into space, he is considered the first African-American astronaut to die in the line of duty.

Astronaut Ronald McNair was the second African-American to perish during a space mission. He died in the Challenger accident in January 1986.

And now, Lt. Col. Michael Anderson, mission specialist on Columbia, has joined them in the stars.

"Many of us possess talents and abilities but do not excel because we don't take the chances or act on the challenges that come our way," said Dr. McNair. "We need to walk to the edge of our abilities and then move beyond that edge."

It's all about taking that giant leap.



Dr. Jemison
First African-American woman in space

Young detectives crack first case



Young sleuths from the Youth Center collect clues at the library's mock crime scene Feb. 7. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

There was a body found at the base library Feb. 7 and 20 young sleuths from the Youth Center rushed over and cracked the case in nearly record time.

No, with recent deployments, the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations hasn't turned their investigative duties over to children. The Patrick Library sponsored a murder mystery party for the Youth Center. A month earlier, Hazel Corbin, Youth Center staff member, asked the library staff if they could come up with an activity that would encourage the older children to appreciate the library.

Shelly Mudgett, library mystery coordinator, has set up a crime scene and two other areas where the sleuths could search for clues.

Youth arrived at the library at 4:10 p.m. and sat down around a table. They weren't sure exactly what was in store. Before they knew what was happening, there was a breaking news flash on the television. A newswoman that looked strikingly similar to Chrissy DeWitte, personal financial manager, stating that a body had been found behind the library.

For the next hour, the students scurried about the library as they searched for clues and sat suspects down under the interrogation lamp. As they munched Oreos and drank apple juice, they sweated a confession out of the culprit.

"Yes," the coach admitted to the detectives. "I killed my star player because he was going to transfer and leave our school with nothing, and we made him the star he is."

The young sleuths growled at the culprit that he should be ashamed of himself as they cracked their first case. Librarians and Youth Center staffers beamed at the enthusiasm the youngsters showed for the subject.

"We thought they'd enjoy it," said Marta Demopoulos, base librarian. "But we never thought they'd be enjoying it so much and they'd be so intensely into it. They were reprimanding the 'culprit' as they were leaving."

The day got the ultimate compliment from the children. "Solving the murder mystery was cool," said Vanessa Matthews, child detective. "It was really great the way they had the crime scene set up and how we were able to investigate the crime scene and the victim's truck for clues."

Ms. Demopoulos and Shelly Mudgett, mystery coordinator, agreed that the mystery is something the staff will do again. "We know we're going to do it again," Demopoulos said. "I'm just not sure when, but I imagine we'll have the young sleuths back in business come the summer-reading program."

The children know one thing for certain. "I can't wait to do it again," Matthews said.

Artifacts collector offers lecture, other activities at Patrick library



Vito Cipolla has a collection of artifacts from China and is offering a lecture in the library's conference room Wednesday at 6 p.m. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)

There's more than crime solving and books at the base library.

Presently, Vito Cipolla will discuss the history of his \$400,000 collection of Chinese artifacts that are on display in the library. Cipolla's lecture is Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the conference room.

The library will offer refreshments. To make reservations for the lecture, call 494-6881.

A personal computer workshop is 10:30 a.m. Feb. 26 in the library conference room.

March 1 is Read Across America



Cipolla

Day. The library will host a family day to celebrate "Read Across America" day in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday from 10:30 a.m. until noon, when they'll offer stories, snacks and other activities. The program is designed for children 4 to 8 years old.

For more information or to register for any of these activities, call 494-

6881 during regular business hours. Yoga every Thursday from noon-1 p.m. and 4:45-6:15 p.m. in the library conference room.



Hail to the chief

The Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray says a few words to Master Sgt. James Brock, 45th Space Wing, Wing Operations Center's NCOIC of Operations, during Chief Master Sergeant's Murray visit here. Murray held an enlisted call attended by more than 400 people. *(Photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Langton)*

Golf playoffs set for Wednesday

By Staff Sgt. Joel Langton
45TH SW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 45th Contracting Squadron held on to the top spot in intramural golf action, to edge the 1st Space Launch Squadron by two points, 98.5-96.5, to win the regular season title.

Now, it's on to the month-long playoffs to see who wins that honor. Qualifying for the playoffs were 45th CONS, 1st SLS, 45th Medical Group, Air Force Technical Applications Center, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron #1, 45th Range Squadron, Operational Test Support Unit #2 and squeezing in by a half of a point was 45th Services Squadron.

The 45th Services Squadron edged 45th Civil Engineer Squadron #2 by half a point, 64.5-64.0 to qualify.

The first round of the playoffs will begin Wednesday when 45th CONS battles 45th Services Squadron: AFTAC plays CES #1; 1st SLS battles OTSU #2 while Med group and 45th RANS walk the links.

Teams will play each Wednesday, with the championship rounds being played March 19.

Magic tix

Magic forward Mike Miller drives in for a layup against the Dallas Mavericks recently. The Magic are offering military, their family and friends seats for \$20 April 12. Along with that, they'll get to meet former Magic player Dee Brown, attend a reception before the game, meet the mascot after the game and go out on the court. Magic officials encourage people to call early to buy seats. The event is open to anyone with any type of Department of Defense identification card as well as their friends and family. For Boston Celtics vs. Orlando Magic ticket information, call (407) 916-2975. (Orlando Magic photo)



Patrick co-ed softball league bolsters camaraderie, fun

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

Like the old saying goes, it's not about whether you win or lose, but how you play the game.

This saying rang true during this year's wing co-ed softball tournament held Dec. 2 through Feb. 5.

This year's winner of the co-ed winter softball championship trophy is the Air Force Technical Applications Center's red team. They won the title in a 23 to 19 win over the 3rd Space Launch Squadron team Feb. 5 at the South Housing Sports Complex.

Other teams involved in the softball season were: AFTAC blue, 45th Contracting Squadron, AFTAC red, 3rd SLS, Medical Group, 45th Mission Support Squadron and Navy.

According to the AFTAC red team's assistant coach and player, Scott Harris, even though it was exciting and an honor to win the championship, the co-ed softball season is based primarily on having fun and building friendships.

"Win or lose, it didn't really matter," he said. "We were out there for the fun. It gives my spouse and me a chance to play a sport we enjoy together. Most of my closest friends have been gained through co-ed softball. People who participate always seem to enjoy it."

According to Mr. Harris, the atmosphere during the games is light-hearted and relaxed. Taking jokes and playing jokes are also a requirement, on the AFTAC red team at least.

"Our team was very loose and always joking around," he said. "You can't be too sensitive when playing on our team because sooner or later everybody is on the receiving end of a barrage of jokes."

Ralph Robinson, sports and fitness director, stated that some rules are waived while others are added and strictly enforced to

make for a greater challenge.

At least three females must play the infield at all times.

Also, the 200-yard rule is in effect. The rule prevents outfielders from coming within 200 yards of the batter until the ball is hit.

"This rule stops players from crowding hitters who cannot hit the ball well," said Mr. Robinson.

Two consecutive games are played one night a week to accommodate parents.

"Many times, spouses have parenting responsibilities that conflict with the game schedules,"

he said. "This way, parents won't have to worry about that."

In order to keep the games regulated and fluid, the rulebook was not thrown out of the window. However, it was certainly thrown into the backseat, said Mr. Robinson.

"Our primary focus was to make sure everyone had a good time," he said. "The rules will be more rigid during the regular softball season."

Mr. Harris commented that the co-ed softball season was a highly enjoyable experience for him. So much so, it has inspired him to play regular season softball too.

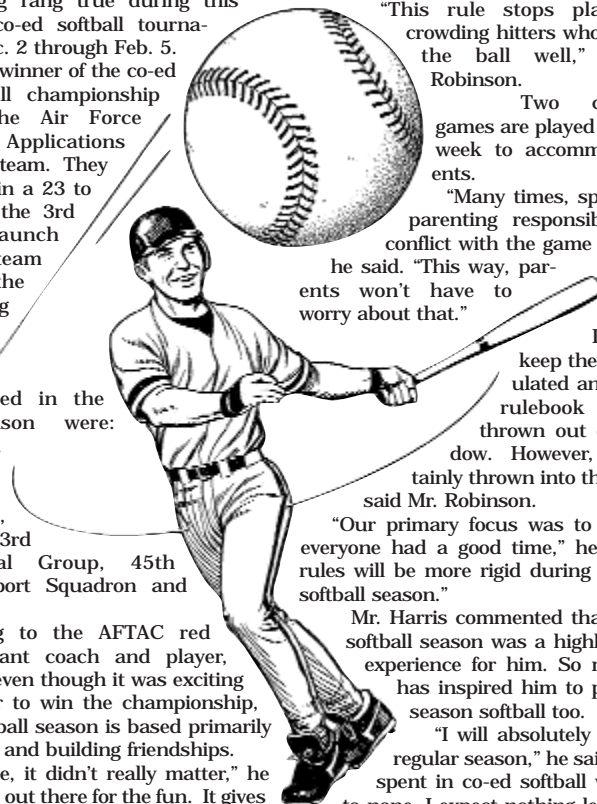
"I will absolutely play in the regular season," he said. "My time spent in co-ed softball was second to none. I expect nothing less from the regular season."

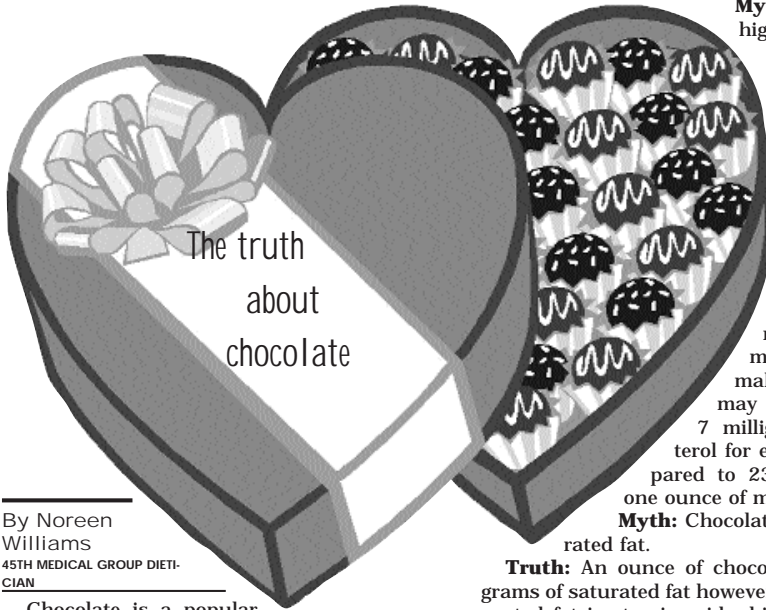
The regular intramural softball season is set to begin at the end of March, which is earlier than normal due to frequent cancelled games last year, according to Mr. Robinson.

"Due to last year's numerous rainouts, we are starting earlier," he said. "With an earlier start, we have a good chance of avoiding our usual rainy season cancellations."

According to John Howorth, AFTAC red team coach and player, the only thing that could make co-ed softball even better would be more participation.

"To me, it is not about who wins, but the chance to get together after work and unwind," he said.





By Noreen Williams
45TH MEDICAL GROUP DIETITIAN

Chocolate is a popular gift during the holidays — Valentine's Day, Easter and upcoming Mother's Day and Administrative Assistant's Day. With all the myths about chocolate, people feel guilty indulging in the candy, but chocolate may not be as bad as it's rumored to be.

Myth: Chocolate is high in caffeine.

Truth: There are about 6 milligrams of caffeine in one ounce of chocolate compared to 36 milligrams in an ounce of coffee.

Myth: Chocolate is high in cholesterol.

Truth: The cocoa bean, the source of chocolate, contains no cholesterol because it comes from a plant. Foods from animals contain cholesterol, such as meat, eggs and milk. The added milk solids used to make milk chocolate may offer up to about 7 milligrams of cholesterol for every ounce, compared to 23.3 milligrams in one ounce of meat.

Myth: Chocolate is high in saturated fat.

Truth: An ounce of chocolate has about 4 grams of saturated fat however, some of the saturated fat is stearic acid which may not raise blood cholesterol as much as other saturated fats.

Myth: Chocolate is high in calories.

Truth: It depends on how much you eat. A candy kiss is about half an ounce and has only 25 calories. A kiss or two a day is not likely the cause of poor health. It's usually caused by poor eating and exercise habits.

Myth: Chocolate contains antioxidants.

Truth: The cocoa bean is a vegetable, and

fruits and vegetables contain antioxidants, along with fiber, but it's not advised to eat chocolate for its antioxidants.

Myth: Chocolate is the worse candy for promoting tooth decay.

Truth: Chocolate promotes tooth decay no more than other candies. Some say it may have less plaque potential, but it is still important to brush your teeth after eating it.

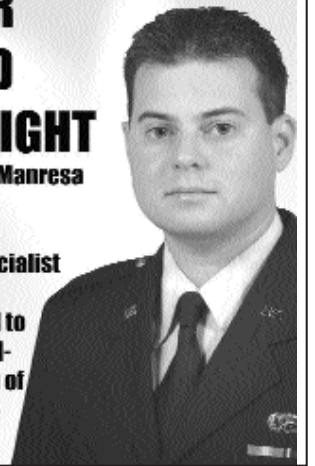
Myth: Chocolate causes acne.

Truth: No studies have found that eating chocolate causes acne. The only study showing that chocolate caused the skin to break out was when it's spread on the face.

HONOR GUARD SPOTLIGHT

2nd Lt. Jorge Manresa
Euless, Texas
Red Flight
Contract specialist
45th CONS

"I'm humbled to fulfill our military tradition of honoring former airmen."



Apply to attend camp

Teen family members of active-duty and retired military members, Nonappropriated Fund and Department of Defense employees and contractors who would like to explore the U.S. Air Force Academy as a possible choice for college may apply to attend a Teen Aviation Camp at the Air Force Academy from May 31 to June 6.

To be eligible, applicants must be a sophomore or junior in high school during the 2003 or 2004 school year.

Teens will participate in a wide variety of outdoor and classroom activities at the six-day camp. The Air Force will cover meals and lodging expenses. The parent/guardian is responsible for air travel expense to and from Colorado Springs.

Applications are available at the Patrick Youth Center. The application process, which includes school and other verifying official signatures, might require several days to complete.

Forms must be completed and returned to the Youth Center no later than Feb. 28. Applicants must complete an interview with youth program staff at the time the application is turned in. Contact the Youth Center for more information.

Fish the Banana River

Outdoor Recreation wants to help avid or beginning anglers enjoy the sport of fishing.

Once a month, a fishing trip heads out with a guide and three anglers per boat. Cost for this special hands-on trip up the Banana River is \$20, which includes bait, tackle, rod and reel. Call for a seat on the next trip scheduled for Feb. 23.

Muscles compete

The Cape Fitness Center's Second Annual Bench Press Competition is Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. in the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Fitness Center. Call 853-3966 to register and for more information.

Dental Clinic visits center

Staff members from the Dental Clinic will visit the Preschool Program Wednesday starting at 9 a.m. The Dental Clinic will teach them how to properly brush their teeth and the importance of brushing and eating healthful foods.

Certify for child care

Anyone caring for children in base quarters for more than 10 hours per week on a regular bases must be licensed.

Family Child Care provider certification training classes are March 4-7 at the FCC office in Bldg. 1391. Classes are 8:15 a.m. - 5 p.m. and convene in the FCC break room.

Base housing residents who provide unlicensed child care are subject to administrative actions. For more information, call Tina Washington at 494-8381.

The Extended Duty Child Care Program assists military families working extended hours by increasing the hours of care available in Air Force licensed Family Child Care homes. The program offers care in FCC homes beyond the standard 10-hour child care day or five-day workweek.

This special program provides child care that is more accessible to military members as they perform their mission during contingency or high OPS tempo operations. It is designed to help families that need more care because they have to work longer hours, evenings, weekends, and/or are experiencing a temporary shift change.

To be eligible for this program, at least one parent must be active-duty; Reserve or Guard member on active duty; dual employed; or DoD civilian employee.

Under special contract, the Air Force pays to have specified FCC homes available for parents who need extended duty child care. Parents currently using the CDC or School Age Program pay a pro-rated per hour rate based on their current weekly fee, not to exceed \$2 per hour.

All other parents pay \$2 per hour/per child for the Extended Duty Child Care; the Air Force pays the remainder of the cost. Payments are made to the Child Development Center (not the provider).

Tops In Blue entertains

Enjoy a medley of songs with the U.S. Air Force's Topd In Blue free night of family entertainment at the Cocoa Village Amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 26. Celebrate the "Spirit Of America," and take a 90-minute virtual musical journey across the country.

The show includes big-band swing, hot Latin sounds, down home country music, hip-hop and pop and the ever-popular finale featuring "God Bless the U.S.A."

Patrons may bring their lawn chairs or blankets for this performance. General parking areas are available throughout Cocoa Village. No coolers are allowed.

For more show information, contact Marla Holbert at 494-2630 or Mary Bell at 494-4375.

Upgrades in works

A number of construction and purchase projects are in the works as the 45th Services Squadron responds to their customers needs.

Recent upgrades have been purchased for the Auto Skills Center, Outdoor Recreation, Aero Club and other Services facilities, which will modernize the fleet and offer customers

the latest in technology, recreational equipment and program capabilities.

Computer Workshop

The library sponsors a computer workshop from 10:30 a.m. to noon on, Feb. 26.

Library Systems Administrator Ron Baker will be continuing his series on basic computer operations.

Coffee and light refreshments will be available. For more information or to sign up, call the library at 494-6881.

Call for story

In the mood for a good story? Call the Dial-a-Story at 494-6882 anytime to hear a great tale.

Share your talent

Instructors are needed to teach a variety of art and crafts classes. Call Nancy Wilberg at 494-4270.

Framing classes held

Frame classes will be held on designated Monday's from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and designated Tuesday and Wednesday from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Contact the Skills Center at 494-4270 for details.

Enjoy Horseback riding

Outdoor Recreation is sponsoring a bus trip to the Ace of Hearts Ranch for a morning trail ride and picnic lunch on Saturday.

Adults pay \$35 and children pay \$20. The bus leaves Outdoor Recreation at 9 a.m. and returns at 2 p.m. Space is limited. Call 494-9692 or 494-9625 for details.

Renew your membership

Participation in Youth Programs is available on either a member or nonmember basis. Membership runs January through December.

Cost is \$24 per year for one child or \$48 for two or more children. Members enjoy lower fees for participation in programs and activities.

In accordance with AFI 34-249, participation in Youth Programs is allowed for family members ages 5 to 18 of active duty, retired military, DoD and NAF personnel, and DoD contractors.

Contact the Youth Center at 494-4747 for more information.

Cape Trip

Take a tour throughout Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Feb. 22, where the space program celebrated its early beginnings.

Adults pay \$10; Children pay \$5. The tour leaves at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22 and returns to Patrick at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Call 494-2042 for reservations.

Riverside Dining Facility

Saturday brunch - Creole shrimp, doubly-good chicken, #savory-baked chicken, Swedish meatballs; **Saturday supper** - #Baked fish, bar-becue chicken, doubly-good chicken, Hungarian goulash; **Sunday brunch** - Cantonese spareribs, grill mustard chicken, oven-fried fish; **Sunday supper** - Steak loin strip, stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets; **Monday lunch** - Steamship round, Southern-fried catfish, Dijon chicken; **Monday dinner** - Roast turkey, baked ham, fish and fries; **Tuesday lunch** - Salmon cakes, #teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan; **Tuesday dinner** - #Country-captain chicken, meat loaf, turkey a la king; **Wednesday lunch** - Chalupa, burritos, Mexican chicken breast, chicken enchiladas; **Wednesday dinner** - Barbecue spareribs, #lemon-herb chicken, stuffed pork chops; **Thursday lunch** - Southern-fried chicken, Southern-fried catfish, bar-becue spareribs, baked ham, baked fish



Brig. Gen. Greg Pavlovich
45th SW commander

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. John 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

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 global at 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.

Q: I drove around for 20 minutes in the Mini Mall parking lot before I was able to find a parking spot. A couple of the drivers gave up in defeat and left. The spot that opened was not one of the 30-minute parking spots. I think people are parking in these spaces more than 30 minutes.

A: Thank you for your concern. Mini-Mall parking is often limited due to the high volume of traffic in the area, which includes dorm residents, post office customers, employees of Bldg. 425 and Mini-Mall customers. As you recently found, it

can be difficult to find a close parking space especially during high traffic times. The 30-minute parking spots were created to provide customer-friendly parking for short-term customers. Thirty minutes is a reasonable amount of time to take care of business. Reducing the parking spaces to 15 minutes makes it difficult to handle such business.

Our Security Forces are policing the area and those found in violation of the timed parking spots are issued a citation. If someone is parked in one of the spaces for more than 30 minutes, call the law enforcement desk at 494-2008.



**Friday
Antwone
Fisher**

Antwone is ordered to see a Navy psychiatrist to learn to control the anger impulses that cause him to fight with shipmates. His therapy inspires him to seek out the family that abandoned him as a child. Stars Derek Luke, Denzel Washington. (PG-13 for violence, language and mature thematic material involving abuse)

Saturday *Catch Me If You Can* Frank lived a life of crime using his abilities of forgery and escape. FBI agent Shaye repented his abilities so much that he eventually worked out the deal that got him out of prison after just five years. Stars Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks (PG-13 for some sexual content and brief language)

Sunday *Catch Me If You Can* See above synopsis

Thursday *Antwone Fisher* See Friday's synopsis

Movies start at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 11.



Festivals

Feb. 22 Celebrate Mardi Gras in the streets of Cocoa Village as its transformed into New Orleans' French Quarter. It features jazz, blues, Cajun and Dixieland music plus Cajun and Creole food. Call 633-0806.

Saturday, Sunday Jumbalaya Jam at Wickham Park Pavilion, Melbourne. It features Cajun music and food. Enjoy various bands, a crawfish-eating contest, crawfish races, rides and games. Call 633-4028.

Art Exhibits

In celebration of Black History Month, the Brevard Community College Cocoa campus features artwork called "Africa Africa Africa" by Strawbridge Art League during February. The art is on display during library hours. The event is free.

The Liberty Bell Memorial

Museum in Melbourne presents a Black History Month Exhibit.

It's open Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call 727-1776.

Theater

Friday, Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; 2 p.m. Sunday "The Diary of Anne Frank" is presented by The Rising Stars youth theatre program at the Titusville Playhouse, 301 Julia St. Call 268-1125 or visit www.nbbd.com/godo/tpi.

Now through March 9 Cocoa Village Playhouse presents "Fiddler on the Roof" every Thursday - Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 636-5050.

Friday - March 8 Phoenix Theater in Melbourne presents "Boy Gets Girl." Call 952-5717.

Outdoors

Feb. 22, March 8, 22, April 12 and 26 The Space Coast Nature Tours provides 90-minute guided tours of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Rookery Island at 10 a.m. and noon. A percentage of proceeds go to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Call 267-4551 or visit www.spacecoastnaturetours.com.



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
11:30 a.m. Mass in the Seaside Chapel.

Protestant

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. traditional worship in the Seaside Chapel.

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School in Seaside Chapel. 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.

For more information about the Chapel, call 494-4073. The office is on Patrick Air Force Base, Bldg. 439.

