



Patrick and the Cape begin to recover

**3**



Atlas booster arrives in the nick of time

**7**



Base Education Center takes a hit from Jeanne

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

Members of the 45th Space Wing salute the flag as it's raised Tuesday morning, to reopen the base after Hurricane Jeanne.

## Back in business after Hurricane Jeanne

**By Ken Warren**  
*45th SW Public Affairs*

The U.S. flag was raised on the Patrick AFB flagpole early Tuesday in a symbolic ceremony marking the return of Airmen to the base after evacuating for Hurricane Jeanne.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Col. Susan Helms, 45th Space Wing vice commander, said to the dozens of Airmen in formation, "The 45th Space Wing is back in business."

The colonel and these Airmen were among the thousands of personnel and

family members evacuated from Patrick and Cape Canaveral AFS for the second time in less than a month because of an approaching hurricane. First it was Hurricane Frances, which made landfall on the east Florida coast Sept. 5. This time it was Hurricane Jeanne, which struck Sept. 26. The bases were evacuated for Jeanne on Sept. 25. The "all clear" order came late Monday.

Much like the aftermath of Frances, Patrick and the Cape suffered widespread damage to facilities, rang-

ing from minor to severe. A building under construction at Patrick that was to house the wing's simulator to train air traffic controllers was decimated. Several buildings have damaged roofs and water intrusion. Trees and signs were down. But fortunately, there were no reports of personnel or families members lost or injured due to the storm. Power, water and communications are up and running. The three space launch vehicles stacked on pads

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## From the Top

By Col. Mark Owen  
45th SW commander

Sharks and mission partners, welcome back from yet another hurricane! In a way, it is a shame to say that we are getting good at hurricane preparation and evacuation but I know you join me in hoping that we will not have to run the HURCON checklist again! Reports indicate that Hurricane Jeanne was at least as severe if not more so than Hurricane Frances.

The awesome 45th Space Wing weather professionals recorded nearly 20 hours of wind gusts above 55 mph with a max wind gust of about 70 mph here at Patrick AFB and about 5 mph less seen at Cape Canaveral AFS. Nearly four and half inches of rain fell as well. While Jeanne was more severe than Frances, early indications show that by and large the base fared better. I credit you, members of the 45th Space Wing for making that happen.

You are simply amazing. I watched the wing, its mission partners and the surrounding community receive the news of Jeanne's pending arrival. No one was happy and most of us were still exhausted from recovery actions, still not completed,

from Frances. Yet, every organization on PAFB, Jonathan Dickinson Missile Tracking Annex and CCAFS, uniformed, AF civilian and contractor rolled up sleeves and set to work. You applied valuable lessons learned from previous storms to your preparation designs and priorities. You stayed longer, working to get our mission hardware and facilities ready leaving only but a shorter amount of time to prepare yourselves and families. Your families shouldered much of the preparation load on the home front. Then at the last minute you, with one last check, secured the wing and your homes and in an efficient orderly fashion once again evacuated.

Immediately after Jeanne's passing, the hurricane response teams went to work in checking and repairing electrical lines, sewage systems and structures and facilities. In a much shorter time, the wing was ready to open its doors.

I compliment you on your cooperation with regard to waiting patiently until the base was safe and secure and returning in an orderly fashion. You are true professionals and again I'll point out that your preparation paid off.

During Hurricane Jeanne the base did not lose electricity but in a few isolated places and no infrastructure was lost. Most importantly, there were no injuries and the wing, thankfully, did not lose any of its members.

Like the crises that preceded Hurricane Jeanne there are many heroes in your organization; many sad and happy stories as well.

It only takes a casual look around to our surrounding commu-



Photo by 2nd Lt. Kevin Coffman

Members of the hurricane ride-out team fold the flag in high winds Saturday before heading to Kennedy Space Center where base command and control were located.

nities to see that many of our friends and neighbors are suffering far greater consequences. I'm already hearing stories of AF members and our contractor team members standing tall to meet local needs. I extend my personal thanks to you for helping out.

Through this past month of storms and launch, range and support operations, you have lived up to and exceeded your reputation: Outstanding for the Sharks is truly just the start. Thanks for another job well done and keep up the good work. I'm proud to command and be a member of the 45th Space Wing.

## 494-6550

## ACTION LINE

The Action Line is your direct link to the 45th Space Wing commander, Col. Mark Owen, and provides a valuable source of information on ways 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, Commander'sline@patrick.af.mil or click global at Commander's 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. Edwin Swedberg  
494-6607  
**45th Civil Engineer Squadron**  
Jack Gibson  
494-4041  
**North and Central Housing**  
Caroline Jamba  
494-2593  
**Pelican Coast**  
Carol Farmer  
777-8282  
**45th Services Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Mark McCullohs  
494-8081  
**Military Personnel**  
Maj. Dianne Dzialo  
494-2035  
**Commissary**  
Ronald Rogers  
494-4060  
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Maurice Joiner  
494-6455

**Civilian Personnel**  
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Capt. Marlon Johnson  
494-6334  
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Lt. Col. Lynden Skinner  
494-6202  
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1st. Lt. Andrew Gmytrasiewicz  
494-7171  
**45th Medical Group**  
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494-8100  
**Ground Safety**  
Chris Olesnevic  
494-4023  
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# Engineer crews hard at work after Jeanne

*Remnants of Hurricane Frances along with damage from Hurricane Jeanne keep workers going around the clock*

**By Airman 1st Class  
Shaun Emery**  
45th SW Public Affairs

A total team concept is keeping the outlook high on damage and repairs at Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canveral Air Force Station.

"From the major command to financial management to civil engineering, everyone has been working together to assess the damage and come up with plans and programs to allocate funds and get repairs under way," said Maj. Shannon O'Boyle, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

"None of the damage we sustained will affect the overall mission of the wing," she added.

Unlike Hurricane Frances, which tore apart the 45th CES structures building and leveled the 920th Rescue Wing's wash hangar, Hurricane Jeanne left mostly superficial damage, said Jack Gibson, 45th CES deputy commander.

Jeanne damaged roofs and caused water intrusion in some buildings, Mr. Gibson said.

But according to Mr. Gibson, things could have been much worse.

"Over the past year, we've replaced a lot of roofs with new ones that had new standards for high winds. Of those roofs, we didn't find any damage."

Members of the 45th CES who were part of the Hurricane Recovery Team were working as soon as Sunday, said Gibson.

Assessment teams worked around the clock, inspecting and documenting damage inside and outside of buildings.

After completing assessments, the teams reported back to the Disaster Control Center, where it was decided how best to deal with repairs.

"Some areas need attention quickly," said Mr. Gibson. "Others go to our plans and programs department so they can be put on a timeline for repairs."

The head of the 45th CES Plans and Programs office, Cecil O'Bryan, said contracts are already being established to repair damages.

Along with the HRT members, many civilians came back as soon as they had a chance, to lend a hand to the depleted squadron, which has between 25-30 percent of its military members deployed overseas.

"Without them we can't do what we do," said Maj. O'Boyle. "There just isn't enough military to go around and these individuals really stepped it up."

"A lot of our people showed great commitment," said Mr. Gibson. With phone lines down, and cell phones unreliable, many of our folks were just showing up to see if they could lend a hand."

Ensuring repairs and contracts are ready to go, the 45th CES, along with their financial management counterparts are looking for a speedy recovery to a storm-damaged base.

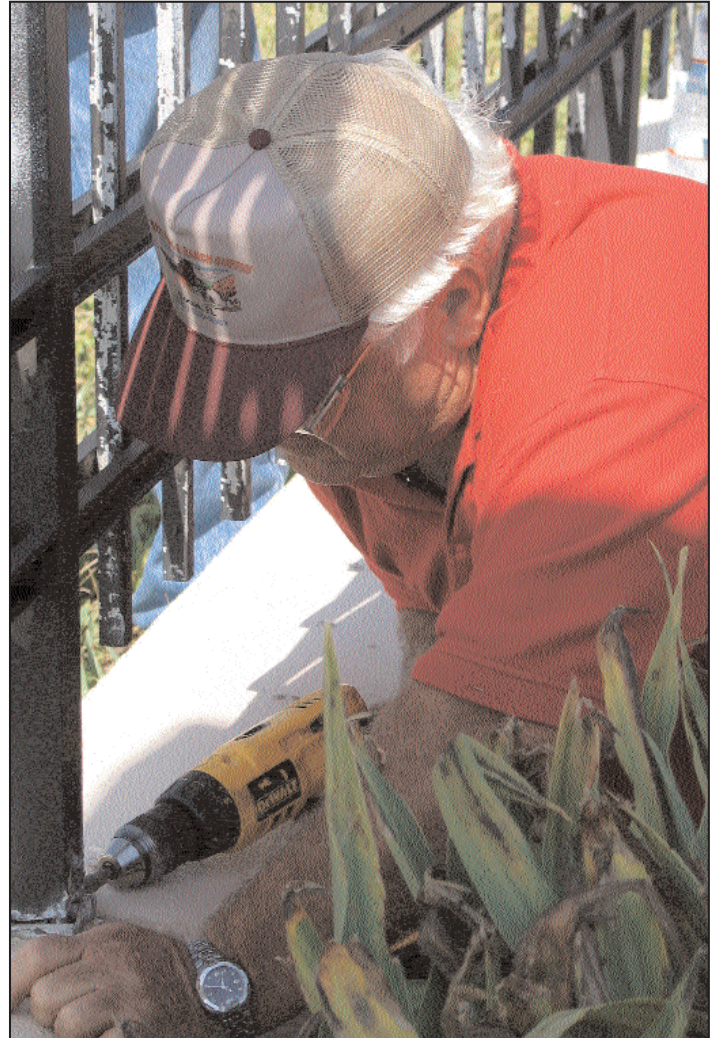


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

Richard White, 45th Civil Engineer Squadron structures engineer, screws a piece of fence in place at the Patrick Main Gate. Strong winds from Hurricane Jeanne knocked over many sections of the outer barrier. It's just one of many repairs the 45th CES is making as the base recovers.

## EOD inspects historical items uncovered by hurricane

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft  
45 SW Public Affairs

Beachcombers have discovered some strange and fascinating objects along the coast in the days following Hurricane Jeanne, strange enough to notify the 766th Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit for inspection and potential removal.

Several rust-laden items have been swept up to the shore or had been uncovered by the pounding waves, and the items have been described as looking like anything from old warship cannons to 500-pound bombs.

The EOD team is a first responder for off-base incidents for any item that might be explosive in nature, no matter how ancient or dilapidated it seems to be. The team is part of a joint response plan with local fire and sheriff's departments because they are the only group qualified to inspect, remove and dispose of potentially-explosive materials.

And because the team is the only one of its kind in Florida, they respond to calls on strange

objects from the Florida Keys to Tallahassee.

Two items created enough curiosity among local residents Tuesday to have the EOD team respond to both Ormond and Vero Beach. The first call was reported to be "an old warship cannon" and the second was described on first account as a "huge bomb."

"We answer each call as quickly and as carefully as possible no matter how strange it sounds," said Sergeant 1st Class Jake Holland, explosive ordnance operations coordinator. "Sometimes what we see at the scene is much different from what is originally described to us, but that just makes it interesting."

The call to Ormond Beach revealed an old boiler instead of a cannon, yet it is was just as historically interesting.

"The boiler came from a steam ship that sunk in 1892," said Sgt. Holland.

The call to Vero Beach brought the team to the site of a washed-out driveway and a partially exposed Semi Armor Piercing warhead. Inch by inch the team revealed more of the modified 10-foot M1 Mod 0 "Tiny Tim" rocket.

"This rocket was something used in the World War II era," said Sgt. Holland. "This area used to be a preparation and rehearsal ground for the D-Day invasion, so this ammunition was probably used in that training."

While the responses turned out to be very different from the original descriptions, the team still appreciated the opportunity to answer calls like these, and to recover potentially hazardous and historical material.

"We don't typically get stuff this big," said Sgt. John Mason, explosive ordnance team leader. "It is always much more interesting to work with stuff that has historical significance."

The team will undoubtedly answer calls for several weeks due to random pieces of material washed ashore by the numerous hurricanes this season. But the work is what this team looks forward to.

"This is a great job and a great opportunity," said Sgt. Mason. "We keep extremely busy, but it is well worth it."

Tuesday's Pelican Coast meeting is cancelled due to issues with Hurricane Jeanne.

# Finance prepares for second round

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft  
45 SW Public Affairs

Finance personnel are once again gearing up for the onslaught of entitlement paperwork that military personnel will need to file for travel reimbursement.

While the number of evacuated personnel should be less than after Hurricane Frances, there are still many people who were forced to leave their residences.

Before rushing down to the finance office, each person who plans to file a compensation voucher should consider the following points to ensure speedy and thorough repayment.

According to 1st Lt. Andrew Gmytrasiewicz, 45th Space Wing financial services flight commander, the final details as to when or if there will be a mass filing for personnel.

"Right now we're looking into the fastest and most convenient way to service our customers."

Members, spouses and family members 12 years or older are each entitled to 100 percent of the per diem rate for the area they evacuated to within the authorized area -- the State of Florida. If the member or family evacuated outside of the authorized area, the standard continental United States per diem rate will be used to calculate repayment (\$55 maximum rate for lodging and \$31 for meals).

Children 12 and younger are eligible for 50 percent of the per diem rate.

To properly document and substantiate a voucher, the traveler must produce the following items:

- A copy of the evacuation travel order provided by the unit orderly room
- A copy of the list of evacuated personnel (military and civil service) and family members validated and provided by unit orderly rooms
- Receipts for lodging, commercial travel, and any expense over \$75.
- A completed travel voucher (DD Form 1351-2\*\*). If member and family members evacuated to different locations, separate travel voucher must be filed for EACH location.
- A completed routing form (FMS Form 2231\*\*) with bank account information and Electronic Funds Transfer information (i.e. bank routing and account number).



# Visiting cops greeted by hurricane

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft  
45 SW Public Affairs

While they might be accustomed to plenty of snow, 13 Security Forces augmentees got their fill of another type of precipitation in a form quite more common to the Space Coast.

The visiting Airmen from Malmstrom, Minot and Peterson AFBs came to the wing as relief for the deployment-strained Security Forces Squadron here. The SF troops were welcomed to the base Sept. 22, just hours before Hurricane Jeanne came ashore. They were thrown directly into the busy preparation schedule, and immediately began doing things like sandbagging and organizing for evacuation security.

"When I agreed to come down here and help, I was looking for a different experience, and this was definitely different," said Senior Airman Jonathan Kufahl, Minot AFB security forces member.

Within days of their arrival, three of the temporary troops evacuated with the Hurricane Recovery Team, and the rest went with the Hurricane Evacuation Site Security team. Each visiting member had the ability to do security and law enforcement activities not required in their positions back home.

"It was a totally new experience for me," said Airman 1st class Cathyanne Gay, Malmstrom security forces member. "It was a little scary and new to me, but I really felt like I was given the opportunity to help people and see a different side of the security forces career field."

The troops temporarily assigned to the 45th Space Wing were looking forward to some time in the Florida sunshine as they came to help the security teams here. Instead, they were greeted with hurricane level winds and rain.

“It was a little scary and new to me, but I really felt like I was given the opportunity to help people and see a different side of the security forces career field.”

Airman 1st Class Cathyanne Gay  
MALMSTROM AFB SECURITY FORCES

"Even with the hurricanes I'd still like to be able to eventually come to a base like this," said Airman Kufahl. "The hurricane brought some damage and was tough to deal with, but I think we are so used to bad weather up north that this was more of an interesting experience than anything else."

Six of the security troops are from Malmstrom AFB, located in Great Falls, Mont. This city averages more than 58 inches of snowfall per year, and yet the weather thrashing that the members are used to pales in comparison to the quick destruction caused by the hurricane.

"These visiting security forces members were thrown into an environment they were completely unfamiliar with, but they kept a positive outlook through the entire experience," said 2nd Lt. Dave Baumann, 45 SFS resource and training flight commander. "For some of these troops it was their first TDY experience away from their home station, and they all showed a good attitude in the face of the hurricane."

The 13 SF troops are scheduled to be here for approximately 12 days. Hurricane season doesn't end until Nov. 30, but hopefully the bases here – and the visiting security members – have seen the last of the torturous weather for this season.

## Important contact numbers

\* Federal Emergency Management Agency: 1-800-621-3362 TTY:1-800-462-7585

\* State of Florida Emergency Information 24-hour hotline: Call for road information, airports, etc: 1-800-342-3557

\* State Volunteer and Donations

Hotline: 1-800-354-3571

\* Elder Affairs: 1-800-963-5337

\* Florida Power and Light: 1-800-468-8243

\* Department of Financial Services Insurance Claim Hotline: 1-800-227-8676

\* Attorney General's Price Gouging Hotline: 1-800-646-0444

\* Agricultural and Consumer Services Price Gouging Hotline: 1-800-435-7352

\* Agency for Workforce Innovation Unemployment Claims: 1-800-204-2418

\* Salvation Army Donation Helpline: 1-800-725-2769

\* American Red Cross: 1-800-435-7669

\* FEMA: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

# Family support reopens FAC

Individuals with financial assistance needs are encouraged to visit the Family Support Center as soon as possible.

The Family Support Center has been operating under emergency conditions as of Sept. 29, reinstating the Family Assistance Center.

"The FAC is here to assist all our active duty members, activated reservists and their family members," said Master Sgt. Mercedes Morris.

Financial assistance for all branches of service (interest free loans) is offered on an emergency basis to those who were affected by Hurricane Jeanne. A needs assessment will be conducted on a case-by-case basis.

The FAC will run until 4:30 p.m., and the FSC is scheduled to return to normal operations Monday. The FSC will still provide emergency assistance as needed.

1) If you've received any damage to your home contact your insurance company.

2) If you're concerned about paying the deductible on your insurance, contact FEMA (1-800-621-FEMA) or you may apply for an emergency loan through the Family Support Center.

3) If you have bills that are due, such as car, loan, credit card payments, contact the creditor immediately and ask for a deferred payment because of Hurricane Frances. Remember to write down the name of the person you speak with.

The Family Support Center is also available for crisis/grief counseling and general information and referral. Those needing assistance or who have any questions or concerns, contact the Family Support Center at 494-5675 or 5676.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan Horton

Master Sgt. Bill Shelden records tank pressures prior to the roll-out of the Centaur rocket stage of an Atlas V.

## Lockheed-Martin and 5SLS race to unload Atlas

By Master Sgt. William Shelden  
5th Space Launch Squadron

Described by Lt. Col. Robert Atkins, 5th Space Launch Squadron commander, as a great example of teamwork, the spacelift professionals from Lockheed-Martin and the 5th SLS successfully offloaded an Atlas V booster from an Antinov AN-124 aircraft, and transported it to the Atlas Spaceflight Operations Center with Hurricane Jeanne bearing down on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

It was the second time in just a few weeks that this team performed a risky, difficult task in the face of a hurricane – an Atlas IIAS was successfully launched just days before Hurricane Frances hit the Space Coast.

“The task is very complicated, and you never want to rush an operation with flight hardware, but Lockheed-Martin and our folks in the 5th got it done, and done well,” said Master Sgt. Rob Miller, 5th SLS Atlas flight superintendent.

The massive booster was rolled out of the aircraft on specially built rails. From there it was raised on hydraulic jacks while Lockheed crewmembers installed wheel trucks and hitched the booster to a tractor-trailer rig. The rocket was hauled over the road in a convoy to the ASOC, where it was promptly secured against hurricane effects.

“Once you start an operation like this, you can’t stop, so it became extremely important to be aware of the time we had left. We were already in HURCON III. Everyone did a great job getting the booster off the plane and into the high bay, despite the natural urge to worry about preparing their homes and family for the hurricane,” said Sgt. Miller.

Just days before the booster arrival, the same team offloaded an Atlas V Centaur rocket stage in the same manner. Now a nearly complete Atlas V is on-hand at the Cape for mission AV-005, scheduled for launch in December.

The job done by the team was validated when the Lockheed and 5th SLS damage assessment teams found no problems after Hurricane Jeanne passed.



Photo by Master Sgt. Rob Miller

An Atlas V booster rolls of an Antinov AN-124 aircraft on the Skid Strip at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Members of Lockheed-Martin workers and members of the 5th Space Launch Squadron unloaded the booster as Hurricane Jeanne approached the Florida coast.



# Lesson learned: Don't mess with Hurricane Jeanne

By Airman 1st Class  
Shaun Emery  
45th SW Public Affairs

Hurricane Frances taught members of the 45th Space Wing about the damage a powerful storm can leave behind.

In the wake of two major hurricanes in three weeks, the education center lost nine of their 23 classrooms to wind and water damage.

"It's an unbelievable sight," said Scott Russell, education technician at the center.

"The damage is extensive and right now our main concern is getting our folks back in their classes, whether that be here or in another location."

Walking through classrooms, ceiling tiles litter the floor. Standing water can be seen soaked into rugs

and in puddles.

Along with damage to classrooms, the auditorium also sustained water intrusion.

"There aren't many parts of this building that weren't affected by the storms," said Mr. Russell.

Most frustrating for Education Center workers is the impact on classes, said Mr. Russell.

This base spends over \$1.2 million on tuition assistance for military members to take classes, explained Mr. Russell.

"That doesn't even add the number of civilians we have enrolled," added Mr. Russell.

The first step the center will take is seeking to relocate classes.

"The most important thing people can do right now is to make sure they stay in contact with us and with the schools to stay updated on the situation."

Contact the education office at 494-2071.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

Crews have spent many hours over the past two weeks repairing roof damage at the Patrick Air Force Base Education Center. Damage caused by Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne forced the center to delay classes.



Insulation hangs where the weight of the water was too much for ceiling tiles. Two wings of the Education Center were badly damaged.



Pieces of ceiling tile and water cover the floor of Education Center classrooms due to the hurricane.

# Legal helps with damage claims

**By Maj. Christopher Leavey**  
*45 SW Legal Office*

The 45th Space Wing Claims Office is prepared to assist military members, their family members, retirees, and DoD civilians in filing claims for damage to personal property as a result of Hurricane Jeanne. The Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act allows for compensation for personal property damage caused by a hurricane incurred on base or otherwise incident to service.

If on-base residents have significant damage, call the Claims Office 494-7723 so a team can inspect the damage.

If an individual has private renters insurance, a claim must be filed with that company first. For those living in Pelican Coast (formerly South Housing), the landlord has a team ready to receive claims for property damage, and their representatives may be reached at 777-8282. For those living elsewhere, check renter's or homeowner's insurance to identify your rights.

In preparation for filing a claim, the claims office provides the following information and suggestions:

- ◆ Document, document, document. A picture or video is always the best evidence.
- ◆ Food may or may not be spoiled.

Here on base, we experienced only a short power outage in some areas. Other areas maintained power throughout the storm. Sitting in an unopened refrigerator or freezer, most foods will remain fresh despite a power loss of up to 24 hours. If you believe your food is spoiled and intend to file a claim, do not throw it out and call the Claims Office immediately.

◆ Do not throw damaged items away until an insurance adjuster or a claims representative has documented the items and authorized disposal. The only exceptions are those items presenting a continuing danger (shattered glass) and spoiled food with strong supporting evidence as to its cause and condition – even then a quick call to the claims office would be a prudent measure.

◆ File soon. Substantiating an old claim can be very difficult.

The legal office wants to help obtain the maximum recovery each person is entitled to. Call the claims office at 494-7723 or visit us at Bldg. 562 (642 O'Malley Road) with questions. Additional claims information can be found at <https://www.patrick.af.mil/45sw/45ja/claims.htm>.

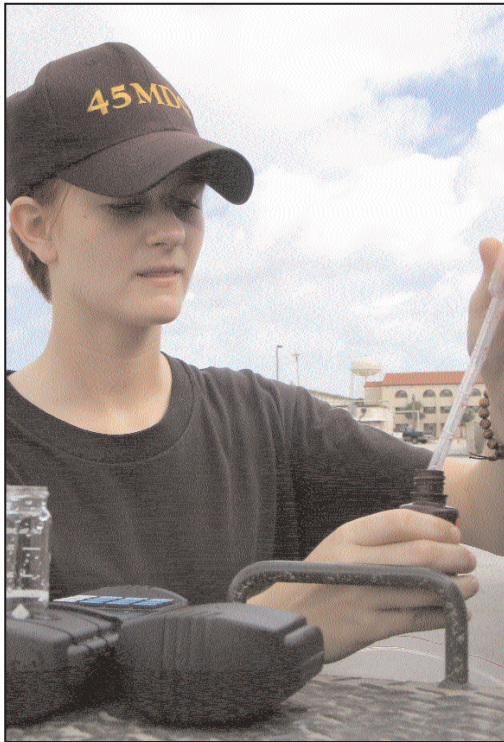


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

## High quality H<sub>2</sub>O

Staff Sgt. Heather Aldridge, 45th Medical Group bio-environmental engineer, tests the water at Patrick Air Force Base following Hurricane Jeanne.

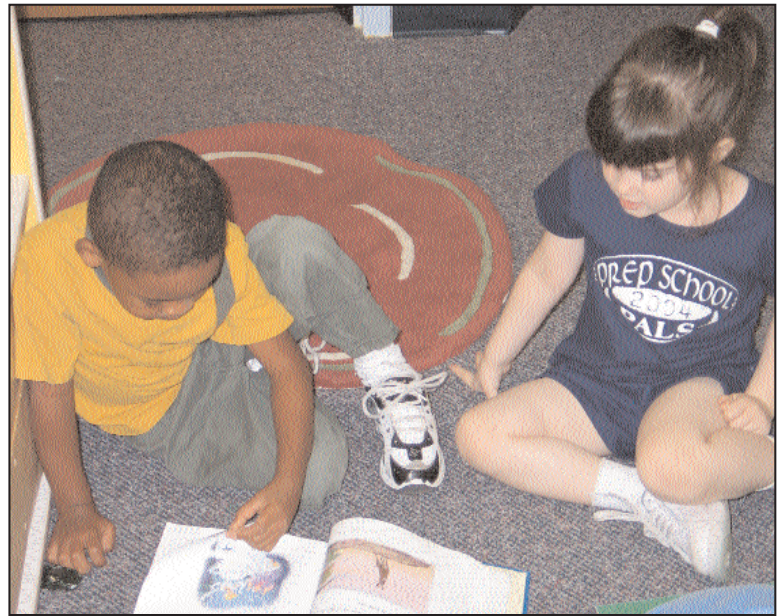


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

## Back to fun and games

Preston White, left, and Dharma Schofield, look at a book together at the Patrick Air Force Base Child Development Center Wednesday. The CDC opened its doors Tuesday for children whose parents were at Patrick to recover from Hurricane Jeanne. According to workers at the CDC, it was important to have the doors open as mission essential members began coming back to work.

## JEANNE, from Page 1

at the Cape, as well as the Eastern Range instrumentation, appear to have gotten through the storm intact. The only clear probable impact to the Eastern Range launch schedule looks to be the likely delay of the launch of a Delta II rocket carrying a global positioning system satellite into orbit. The planned launch date for that mission was Oct. 8.

Clean up and repair activities are ongoing. Base officials say that while fixing the damage will probably cost millions, none of the wing's critical facilities were knocked out by the storm. So, the prognosis for returning to full mission capable status for the 45th SW and its mission partners will happen sooner rather than later.

"We're fortunate in that we took no major hits. But many of our neighbors were wiped out or are still without power. Although we're in pretty good shape at both our bases, we cannot forget the thousands along the Space Coast who are still reeling - some of whom are people in our workforce," said Col. Mark Owen, 45th SW commander.

He stressed that taking care of people is his top priority, especially under these circumstances. "If you know anyone who needs help, make sure they know how to get it. Our Family Support Center, Medical Clinic and Chaplain are just a few of the available avenues," said Col. Owen.

## Got a hurricane story?

Let the missileer staff know about it by calling 494-5922, 5923 or write to the Missileer at [Missileer@patrick.af.mil](mailto:Missileer@patrick.af.mil)