



Finance shifts gears as fiscal year closes

**4**



Family support offers cooking classes

**12**



DEOMI members promote hispanic heritage month

**13**



Photo by Jim Laviska

Master Sgt. Jemal Simmons, left, and Senior Airman Jennifer Poulin, 45th Space Communications Squadron radar maintainers tighten the bolts on a new piece of radar equipment Friday. The radar tower was damaged during Hurricane Frances.

## Wing plan brings \$20 million in relief

**By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft**  
*45th SW Public Affairs*

Within two weeks from the day teams were first allowed to return to begin damage assessment of wing facilities, more than \$20 million in Hurricane Frances recovery funds were allocated for repairs and construction at Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Construction has already begun or has already been completed on some buildings, and more repair is on the way. Over 500 housing units and mission-critical buildings are on a wing priority repair list, and will be repaired or rebuilt with the allocated funds.

Because the wing was able to respond quickly and put in requests for funds within two days of initial assessments, funds will be funneled through contracts before the end of the 2004 fiscal year.

"We look at this construction effort as something like a triage unit," said Jack Gibson, 45th Civil Engineer

Squadron deputy commander. "We have to fix the 'bleeding patients first,' so we did things like making sure we got buildings dry first, getting people back into uninhabitable buildings, then we'll move to things like window and carpet replacement."

Repairs to living quarters and quality-of-life facilities are treated just as carefully and attentively as mission-critical buildings that house rocket motors and other launch hardware, said Mr. Gibson. He said the wing post-hurricane plan has worked well so far, and he sees good things for the weeks ahead as repairs and rebuilding continue.

"People are really working as a team and getting things done quickly and safely," said Mr. Gibson. "We are getting things done in hours or days that would normally be given 90 days for allocation of funds and organization of a contract."

**See RELIEF, Page 5**



## From the top

By Col. Mark Owen  
45th SW commander

President Kennedy once said, "Success has many children, but failure is a bastard." Few are as interested in failure as they are success. Yet, if we dissect failure to understand its anatomy, many leadership lessons reveal themselves.

People rarely approach any given day with a goal of failing. Yet, when I find myself faced with a situation in which I have failed, or someone I work with has, I find there are four principle causes.

When a person has failed to perform in their job, one of the main reasons is training. Somewhere along the way the individual was not exposed to the skills necessary to perform their job. On the one hand, it could be a failure in education - the process of mastering concepts and principles. More often, they haven't been taught the particular set of techniques necessary to achieve a repeatable expected result. The antidote? Each of us is responsible for assuring that we have the requisite skills and, in some cases, education, to perform our jobs successfully. Supervisors have a greater responsibility: they are in a position to know those skills needed by their subordinates. Got a new troop? Figure it out and get it for them!

Next, failure shows up as initia-

tive that has fallen short of expectations. For many of us, once we are trained in our new jobs, we are eager to show our stuff. We give our skills some solid effort, have some moderate successes, and then we desire to strive for excellence. But we fail to achieve it. Sometimes, expectations between the supervisor and subordinate are mismatched; each measures success differently. In other cases, the skills simply do not match the enthusiasm.

The antidotes for this class of failure are elemental but often overlooked. Have you and supervisor started the tour off with a performance feedback session in which expectations can be compared and differences reconciled? Has the supervisor branded someone as a failure instead of recognizing first their attempts to reach out test their skill? Failure to reward and encourage initiative is a certain way to kill it. Initiative is essential to success: supervisors are charged to recognize and encourage it; subordinates are charged with comparing notes with the boss and to keep trying. Success will surely follow.

The next pathogens in the anatomy of failure are avenue and access. I have found that AF members want very much to be loyal to their chain of command. Yet, many often they get signals from commanders and supervisors that suggest they shouldn't rock the boat; shouldn't bring up issues. When Airmen feel that they can't bring forward what they believe to be legitimate issues they attempt to circumvent the chain of command with some very unfortunate and avoidable results. The antidote for this form of failure is simple. An open door policy is more than a period of time in a supervisor's day; it is a philosophy

of being accessible and available for your subordinates' issues. The most important piece of information to recognize is that something is not right. Whether or not the issue turns into something fixable, the time spent is a mentoring opportunity, and the AF will be better for it.

Finally, opportunity, and the real or perceived lack of opportunity, is a consistent element of failure. The AF today is approximately one half of the force structure it was in 1997, yet in the face of ever-increasing operational demands; units consistently maintain their standards of performance. People in the AF are working harder than ever before, but AF members stop working supervisors fail to put in the same amount effort in writing EPRs, OPRs, PRF and awards and decorations.

Commanders who fail to be active in the assignment process also garner a similar result. Our efficiency reports, recognition programs and voice in the assignments process are vital to how much the AF values us and shows us how it cares. If supervisors and commanders send an ambiguous or negative signal, there should be little surprise when members begin to fail. The antidote is: work as hard or harder as your unit's members are working for you.

An anatomy of failure reveals many important leadership lessons that can be shared by the rank and file as well as the supervisory and command billets. The next time you find yourself in a failing situation ask yourself who has really failed: the troop or you? It said that, "nothing succeeds like success." If you're faced with failure, address it and learn from it.

### Missileer staff

Col. Mark H. Owen  
45th Space Wing  
Commander

Ken Warren  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs

Sue Walden  
Chief of Internal Information

1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft  
Deputy Chief of Internal  
Information

Airman 1st Class  
Shaun Emery  
Editor

Monique Seaman  
Webmaster

Jim Laviska  
Photographers

David O'Hara  
Graphic Designer

Published by Cape Publications, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB, Fla.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Missileer are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the DoD or the Dept. of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD, the Department of the Air Force or Cape Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 45th Space Wing Public Affairs Office.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

### Cape Publications Advertising Department

P.O. Box 419000  
Melbourne, FL 32941-9000  
Retail: (321) 242-3808  
National: (321) 242-3803  
Classified: (321) 259-5555

### Missileer

1201 Edward H. White II Street  
Building 423, Room C-130  
Patrick AFB, FL 32925  
(321)494-5922

Deadline for submissions is  
2 p.m. the Friday before publication.

## ACTION LINE

### 494-6550

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

#### AAFES

Maurice Joiner  
494-6455

#### Civilian Personnel

Robert Daniel  
494-5238

#### Military Equal Opportunity

Capt. Marlon Johnson  
494-6334

#### 45th Security Forces Squadron

Lt. Col. Lynden Skinner  
494-6202

#### Financial Services

1st. Lt. Andrew Gmytrasiewicz  
494-7171

#### 45th Medical Group

Col. Gilbert Hansen  
494-8100

#### Ground Safety

Chris Olesnevich  
494-4023

#### Inspector General

Lt. Col. Frank Miles  
494-4373



# Space professional development - a look ahead

By **Gen. Lance W. Lord**  
AFSPC commander

Earlier this summer, Under Secretary of the Air Force Peter Teets and I outlined for Congress our strategy to develop the professional Space Cadre the nation needs to acquire and operate future Space systems. We in Air Force Space Command have an aggressive career field tracking plan, matched with an educational plan, to move Spacepower forward. Here's an overview of our first steps, so you can understand how the plan will affect you.

First, we've identified every individual who qualifies as a "space professional," and then created a method to record and track your unique experience that differentiates you from all other AF specialties. Congress initially focused solely on the officer corps, but we quickly expanded the definition to include a Total Force ensemble of enlisted members and government civilians, as well as Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members.

Believe it or not, resolving who is and who is not included has been one of our toughest challenges in moving forward. At this point, we define "space professionals" as all specialties that research, design, develop, acquire, operate, sustain or enhance our space systems. This includes a broad range of career fields such as communications, intelligence, maintenance, logistics, weather and a host of others. A subset of this overall group is referred to as the "Space Cadre" and it consists of the scientists, engineers, program managers and operators who are principally responsible for taking our military Space systems from "concept to employment." This smaller group is the focus of our initial efforts, and so far we have identified nearly 10,000 members. As we continue to evolve, individuals from other career fields may well migrate into the cadre.

Along with identifying who is in the Space Cadre, we developed a process to track people's unique Space expertise, based on nine distinct categories of "Space Experience Codes" or SPECs. The nine SPECs are: Satellite Systems, Nuclear Systems (e.g., ICBMs), Spacelift, Missile Warning, Space Control, Intelligence/Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Kinetic Effects (e.g., Ballistic Missile Defense), Space Warfare Command and Control (e.g., AOCs), and a general category for all other space experience. To date, we have evaluated more than 7,000 active duty officer and enlisted records and documented each individual's history of Space Experience Codes along with their current level of certification.

The next step involved development of a space education continuum,

specifically targeted to members of the Space Cadre and offered at recurring points throughout their careers. Similar to PME, these courses are designed to prepare people for progressively higher levels of responsibility. By periodically bringing members of the cadre together, the space education continuum will also serve to help nurture a stronger sense of "space culture," which was a particular area of concern for the 2001 Space Commission. So far, the catalogue of courses includes Space 100, Space 200, Space 300 and Advanced Space Training for our various operational space systems.

To tie all of these education and training initiatives together, we are moving forward on the standup of a "National Security Space Institute." Our goal is that the institute will transform our existing Space Operations School into a DoD-wide center of excellence for space academic training. In addition, we will partner with a consortium of civilian institutions of higher learning to leverage their existing academic expertise in the areas necessary to develop our space professional community.

We already have space professionals integrated and bringing space capability to the combatant commanders and combat air forces. Approximately 135 individuals have graduated from the Space Weapons Instructor Course at Nellis AFB, Nev. They are integrated throughout the Air Force providing space expertise in and out of theater. We have roughly 500 additional people that have experience with space integration work in theater and we have sent more than 1,600 personnel from AFSPC to the theater for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

That's where we've been and where we are going. We've taken the initiative to step forward smartly, but nothing happens overnight. We've still got a great deal of work ahead of us and it will take everyone's help. Space systems and capabilities are integral to our success in fighting today's battles and the linchpin to all planning and execution for success in tomorrow's battles. Your contribution to the fight, and that of every member of the Space Professional Development community, is vital to our success.

Many of you have already seen the Space Professional Development presentation given by our Headquarters Space Professional team. For those of you who haven't, they'll be coming to your base soon. Please take advantage of this opportunity to ask the tough questions and get on board the Space Professional Development train.

For details on SPECs and school courses, see: [https://halfway.peter-son.af.mil/spacepro/Documents/STW%20Website\\_files/frame.htm](https://halfway.peter-son.af.mil/spacepro/Documents/STW%20Website_files/frame.htm)

## NEWS

# Hurricane hang-ups slow end of year procedures

By **1st. Elizabeth Kreft**  
45th SW Public Affairs

Resource managers across the wing are feeling the squeeze this week from fiscal end-of-year requirements, but recent snags from hurricane recovery are making the already stressful process even more hectic.

The end of the fiscal year typically proves to be a stressful time for squadrons and groups trying to get their final monetary ducks in a row. End of year money, future requirements, last-minute purchases and the distribution of remaining dollars must be accounted for down to the penny. And while the idea of spending money seems appealing and easy enough, the accountability and paperwork involved creates several layers of stress for many in the wing.

With hurricane paperwork slowing normal

production time, the next few days will prove to be fairly rough on all involved.

"The hurricanes add a whole different perspective on time and workload issues," said Lt. Col. Kyle Kuhn, Financial Management commander. "We have a process for end-of-year issues that we follow which we began back in May to allow ourselves enough time to identify requirements, but the storms added a lot to the process."

While finance personnel have arguably taken the most severe hit from post-evacuation paperwork, processing nearly 4,000 travel vouchers within three weeks time, many squadrons are feeling the effects from an abnormally hectic September.

Contracting officials will have the next 10 days to file an extra \$8 million in contracts, and

that's just for hurricane damage and repair projects.

"We lost several weeks of time because of hurricane requirements, but when we have the money and the need, we just have to get it done," said Steve McLaren, 45th Contracting Squadron director of business operations.

"We try to do the worst first, following along with the wing's priority list, but we also utilize tools such as letter contracts to ensure things get done as quickly as possible," said Mr. McLaren.

Members across the wing are grateful for the quick response to monetary requests following the hurricane damage, but finance, contract and resource personnel joke that they would

**See FINANCE, Page 10**

# AEF still an evolving concept

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
*Air Force Print News*

WASHINGTON — While the air and space expeditionary force construct is not new, it is not finished growing yet either, according to the Air Force deputy chief of staff for air and space operations.

"(It is likely) we're not going to fight a war (in the United States)," said Lt. Gen. Ronald E. Keys on Sept. 14 at the Air Force Association's 2004 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition here. "We need to have some concept of getting there and getting back — pick up, pack up, get there, operate, pack up and go home to get ready to do it again."

That is what the AEF does, Gen. Keys said.

Before the AEF construct came along, deployments were done in a sort of "bidding" system, with people raising their hands to fill slots in operations Northern Watch and Southern Watch, the general said. Eventually, though, that system stopped working.

"We needed predictability, not just personal predictability, though that's important if you want to have any sort of family life, but also very important professional predictability," Gen. Keys said.

That concept of predictability worked well until Sept. 11, 2001, when everything changed, he said. A surge in requirements during operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom resulted in the Air Force using Airmen from almost every AEF pair to fulfill requirements. Adjustments were made to the AEF system, and the general said he thinks the Air Force is back on track, but there is still more to be done.

"The really tough part of this is the changing battle rhythm of the Air

Force," he said. "We need something light, lean and lethal, and we have to understand what's available out there."

This means not only adjusting the AEF, but also adjusting training and other programs to better support an expeditionary force, the general said. One area that is already evolving is professional military education.

"We need ways to (enroll people in PME) when they come off AEF, so they can be started right away and don't have to wait," General Keys said. "With Air Command and Staff College, we divided it into three phases that don't have to be done in order."

This allows students to start with the next available class and fit in valuable training during precious down time, he said.

Another change could come in the way Airmen hold Air Force specialty codes, the general said.

"I have some really smart people who at times could be available to fill skills downrange, but the skills they're trained in don't apply," Gen. Keys said.

In career fields where there is not much call for deployment, Airmen could hold a primary and an expeditionary specialty code, he said.

The Air Force is also looking at how to better interface with sister services in a joint environment, Gen. Keys said.

"Eventually there will be a joint expeditionary force, and we will eventually train together that way," he said.

Until then, the Air Force will continue to work on becoming a plug-and-play component, prepared to go in and fight America's wars when called upon, Gen. Keys said.

## War on terror testing, reinforcing Air Force's vision

By Donna Miles  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The war on terrorism is teaching Air Force leaders important lessons and validating others, said Air Force Secretary Dr. James G. Roche.

It is emphasizing the success of the air and space expeditionary force, the importance of joint operations and the critical contribution of the Guard and Reserve in the total force, he said.

Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan underscore the value of the air and space expeditionary force, a highly specialized force Secretary Roche said is "able to respond in an instant's notice to be able to go great distances.

"We used to think that the most important thing was our base back home in the United States," the secretary said. "But increasingly, it is our performance in an expeditionary setting that is the most important thing that we do. And what we do back in the United States is prepare to go and deploy."

Frequent operational deployments keep Airmen in AEFs trained for whatever missions come their way, Secretary Roche said.

Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are helping speed up what Secretary Roche called "a natural evolution" toward joint operations among the military services.

The war on terrorism has caused the services to focus closely on who was doing what and who could do it most efficiently, a process Secretary Roche said helped eliminate duplication.

"You differentiate by the competence of a particular service," he said. "We're continuing to work that through. We're learning from each other and working very well together."

Airmen are already playing key roles supporting land forces, Secretary Roche said, not only in terms of getting the troops to the battlefield, but also in supporting their combat missions.

Besides providing precise, close-air support for ground troops, Secretary Roche said the Air Force works through its air commandos to provide direct, on-the-ground support to Navy SEALs and Army special forces troops. Airmen are also providing combat support to the Army.

He said the Air Force has learned the value of working closely with ground troops.

"Our relationship to land forces is a key to our future," he said. "So we are not just space. ... We have to think and work closely with land forces, special operations forces, Marine Corps (and the) Army so that they recognize that we are there for them."

The war on terrorism is also proving the value of Air Force technology, including unmanned vehicles and remotely piloted aircraft, Secretary Roche said.

"These things bring something to the battle that manned aircraft cannot," he said.

They are able to operate at long ranges and demonstrate "digital acuity," which Secretary Roche said means they do not tire as a human would.

"They're as sharp in the last hour of the mis-

sion as they are in the first hour of the mission," he said. "You can send them (to) very, very long ranges and keep them there."

But one of the most valuable features of unmanned vehicles and remotely piloted aircraft, Secretary Roche said, is that they never come home draped in an American flag.

"You can send them into dicey areas where, if they are shot down, you don't have to write a letter to the mother of a computer chip," he said.

Secretary Roche said close-air support delivered by precision weapons from very high altitudes is another critical asset the Air Force is delivering to the war on terrorism.

"The integration of space as well as air-breathing assets and the information that they all combine to give to the air-component commander was just remarkably better than it had been before," Secretary Roche said. "The air-component commander, land-forces commander and maritime commander all benefited from that."

To keep up with the operational tempo, Secretary Roche said, the Air Force is relying heavily on Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Airmen.

"We have the advantage that over the years, this relationship called the total force has worked so well because we have trained to the same standards," Secretary Roche said. Once guardsmen and reservists come on active duty, he said they quickly integrate alongside their active-duty counterparts.

**RELIEF, from Page 1**

Over the next few days, contracts for repair will be written for Cape facilities like Solid Motor Assembly Building, Patrick buildings such as the education center and structures shop, and off-base assets such as the sports complex.

Col. Mark Owen, 45th SW commander, sees the recent teamwork of the wing as no surprise. "I'm proud of our team's rapid response in the wake of Hurricane Frances. Our ability to get the damage assessed, accounting done, funds allocated and repairs made is amazing.

"These prompt actions allow us to take care of our people and our mission," said Col. Owen.

Though finance, civil engineer and contract personnel are working several extra hours a day to ensure the paperwork and the organization for the repairs stays on track, the end of the 2004 fiscal year is making the efforts significantly harder for the entire wing. For more information on how the hurricane season has affected end-of-year fiscal requirements, see the story on Page (3).

**Neighboring bases assess hurricane damage**

**By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft**  
45 SW Public Affairs

While Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station may not have felt the wrath of Hurricane Ivan, fellow bases in the Sunshine State did.

Ivan hit with full force along the panhandle of Florida, where several military installations find their home. The eye of the hurricane reached shore in Gulf Shores, Ala., with the outer walls of the hurricane reaching as far as 200 miles in each direction. This left several bases in the direct path of the wicked weather.

Eglin Air Force Base and Hurlburt field were the closest Air Force bases to the center of the hurricane. Lying just 80 miles west from where the eye first touched land left them vulnerable to the strongest hurricane winds and rain.

"Land hit with the western quadrant of the hurricane will typically see more damage with this type of hurricane because of the rotation of to the north," said Lt. Col Pete Broll, 45th Space Wing Weather Squadron director of operations.

Eglin officials estimate their necessary repair and recovery funds, with evacuation costs added in, will reach \$86.9 million. Structural and plumbing damage ... radio, radar, telephone and network damage all add



Photo courtesy of AF link

**An outer perimeter fence at Keesler Air Force Base was damaged by Hurricane Frances.**

to the mounting costs of the devastating work of Mother Nature.

Pensacola Naval Air Station, just 40 miles west of the eye, took the brunt of the Ivan beating. Damage estimates have already topped \$100 million.

Tyndall AFB and Keesler AFB, located 150 miles southwest and 100 miles east (respectively) of where the hurricane made landfall, also had several million dollars worth of damage to base facilities from hurricane induced tornadoes and water spouts.

Clean up and restoration efforts continue at each installation, with repair funds being provided swiftly from higher headquarters.

## Planning for civilian retirement takes time

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — As the number of retirement-eligible Air Force civilian employees is expected to double by 2009, officials are encouraging them to begin retirement planning early.

Potential retirees are encouraged to obtain an estimate of retirement pay via the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team Web-based employee benefits information system or automated phone system. Information on benefits and planning is also available.

"Employees should contact BEST at least one year before retirement to receive one-on-one counseling over the phone," said Janet Thomas, a human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "Individual employee information is available to BEST benefits counselors who are able to cover issues from health insurance to options for withdrawal of Thrift Savings Plan accounts."

Those ready to retire should submit their retirement applications to BEST 90-120 days before the effective date of retirement, Ms. Thomas said.

During the process, the potential retirees receive three letters to keep them updated on the status of their application. The first letter acknowledges receipt of the application, and the second notifies the employee of his or her eligibility to retire. The third letter is notification that the retirement application has been sent to the servicing payroll office.

The final stop for the retirement application is the office of personnel management, where the retirement is finalized and retirement payments are started.

Civilian appropriated-fund employees serviced by BEST can obtain additional information on retirement at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/retiring.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/retiring.htm).

For more information, BEST benefits counselors are available weekdays 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. CDT. Employees located in the United States can call toll free (800) 616-3775 (press 2, then 2 again, and follow the prompts). Overseas employees can first dial a toll-free direct-access number for the country they are in, then (800) 997-2378.

Hearing-impaired employees can call TDD (800) 382-0893, or commercial (210) 565-2276 if located within the San Antonio area.

Employees located at the Pentagon, air logistics centers and U.S. Air Forces in Europe bases should contact local civilian personnel offices for retirement counseling and processing information. *Courtesy of AFPC News Service.*

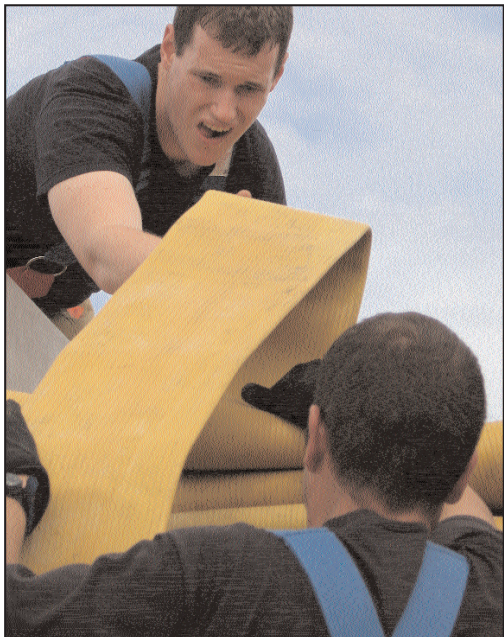


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

### **Job well done**

**Airman Samuel McCallum, left, and Staff Sgt. Andrew Willey, 45th Space Wing firefighters, put away hoses after a training exercise at the Patrick Chapel Tuesday.**



## Tips for Tricare customers contacting regional offices

WASHINGTON — Some beneficiaries of the military's Tricare health care system may experience long wait times when calling their new regional contractors.

But the transition to new contracts "will make a strong program better and ultimately result in higher patient satisfaction," Tricare officials said.

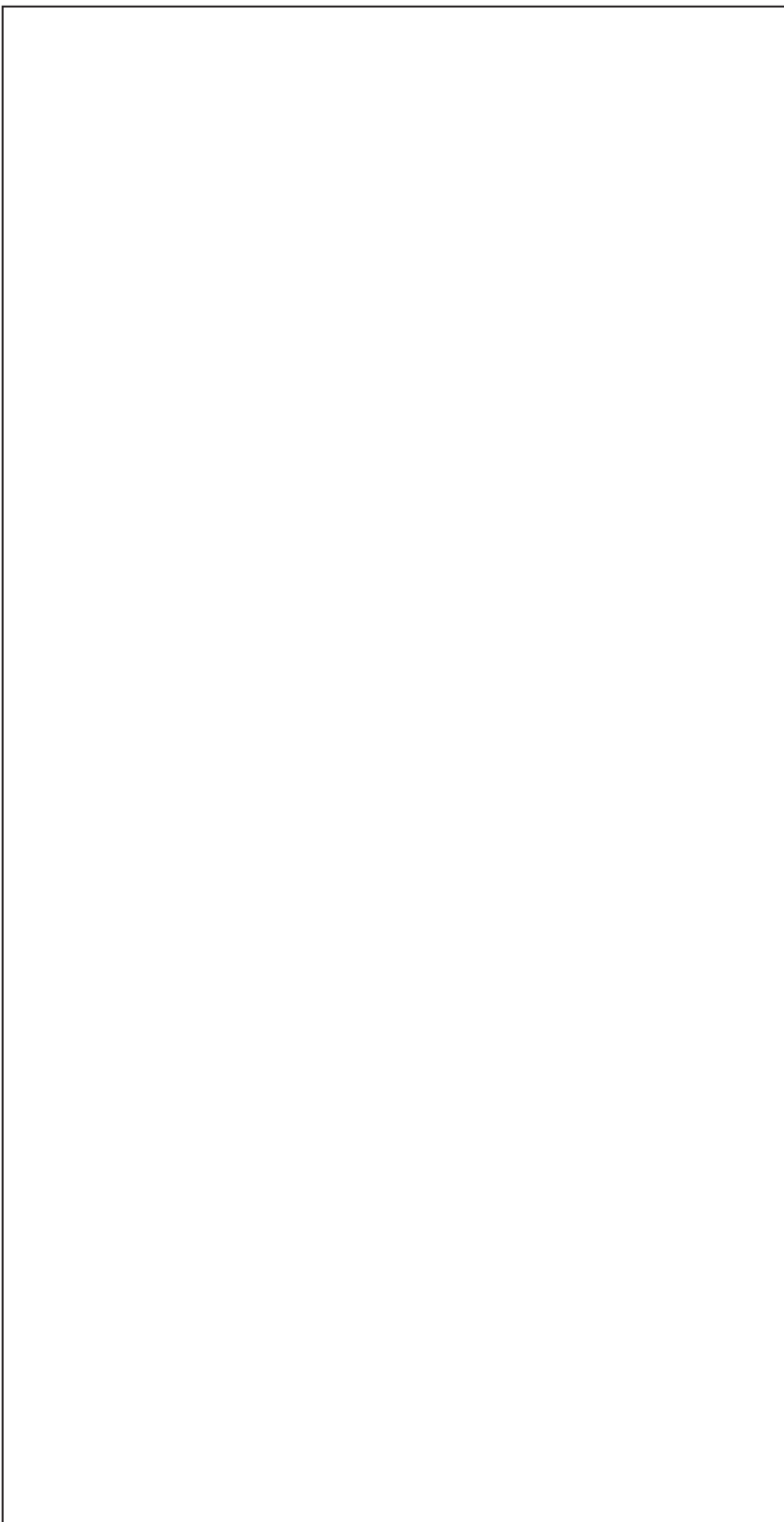
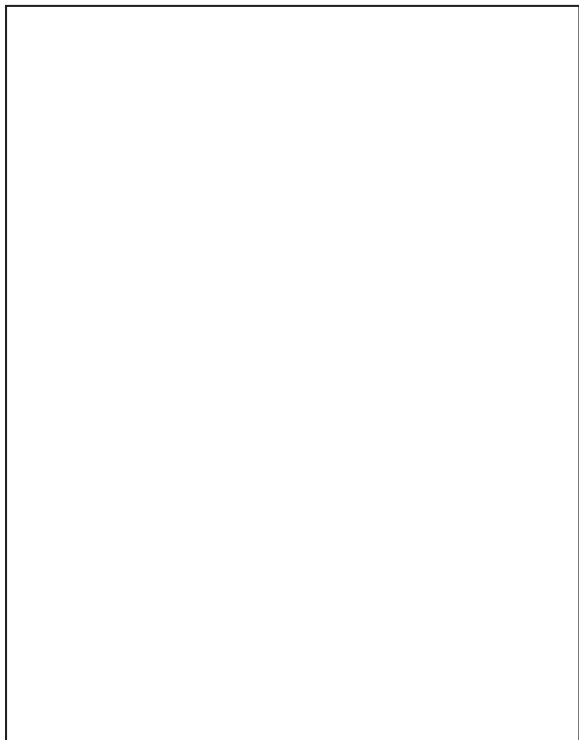
Officials suggest conducting business online whenever possible, calling during non-peak hours and visiting Tricare service centers for face-to-face assistance as ways to beat phone congestion during the transition.

Beneficiaries still may call their regional contractor, officials said, but should understand they might experience longer wait times because of high call volume during the transition.

Since more people call on Mondays than any other day, beneficiaries should try to call on other days if they can, officials suggested. Thursdays and Fridays have the least calls, officials said, making these days the best chance for gaining quick access.

The toll-free regional contractor telephone numbers are:

- ▲ Tricare North: (877) 874-2273.
- ▲ Tricare South: (800) 444-5445.
- ▲ Tricare West: (888) 874-9378.





## SHARKS OF THE WEEK

Left to right, back row: Staff Sgt. Michelle Moisman, Melinda Parisi, Staff Sgt. Jason Brown, Airman First Class Jack Wrobel. Middle row: Senior Airman Jose Garcia, Julia McGuire-Davison, Robert Washington, Airman First Class Alex Richards. Front row: 2nd Lt. Sara Korb, Airman First Class Nishant Patel, Master Sgt. Karen Westing, Emily Focht.



Photo by 1st Lt. Elizabeth Kreft

**Who:** Finance Airmen and civilians from 45th SW, and four honorary sharks deployed to the wing as emergency help for the staff.

**Exceeding the standard:** This 13-person finance team handled the gathering and processing of Hurricane Frances travel vouchers. The team dedicated themselves to taking care of the financial needs of more than 12,900 45th Space Wing, mission partner personnel and their family members following the aftermath of the hurricane. The team collected, computed and processed over 2,400 vouchers in a span of 11 days. They selflessly put the customer ahead of their own needs by devoting countless hours during the duty day and on weekends to ensure customers were paid quickly and accurately. The team 'stepped up' during a difficult time, and took care of the financial needs of our number one asset, our people!"

-1st Lt. Drew Gmytrasiewicz, Financial Services Flight Commander

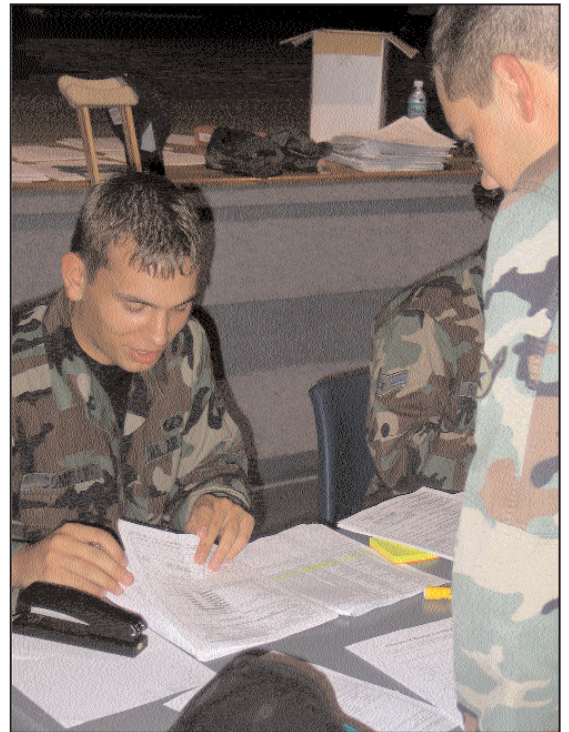


Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

**Airman Keith Connely, 45th Comptroller Squadron, looks over travel paperwork in the Base Theatre Friday. Airman Connely spent three days receiving paperwork from Patrick Air Force Base personnel who were evacuated during Hurricane Frances.**

## **FINANCE, from Page 3**

have liked the funding to take just a few more days.

"If more of the money would have come under fiscal year 2005 funding, we wouldn't be so rushed now," said Mr. McLaren, with a laugh. "Where is the red tape when you need it?"

While the extra pressure is evident, many commanders have only been impressed with the reaction from their people.

"They are simply amazing," said Mr. McLaren. "Just when you think you've saturated them with work, they stand up and volunteer for more."

He said the remarkable thing is people are dealing with hardships with their own homes, yet they continue to punch away at work and get much accomplished for the wing.

With one week left until the wing can take a collective deep breath and relax for a few hours, commanders want to emphasize that everyone has pulled together well and a light is at the end of the crunch-time tunnel.

"Collectively, we've got a lot to accomplish as a wing in the next week, but everyone is extremely motivated and operating with a 'can do' attitude" said Lt. Col. Kuhn. "I didn't think we could top last year's performance in Sept., but so far it is sizing up to be even more impressive."

**Change of command scheduled**

Col. David Dingley will relinquish command of the Department of Defense Manned Space Flight Support Office to Col. John Cherniga in a change of command ceremony Oct. 1, at 10 a.m. at Hangar 750. Also, after 28 years honorably serving in the active duty Air Force, Col. Dingley will retire. Col. Mark Owen will preside over the Change of Command ceremony, and Brig. Gen. (ret.) Gregory Pavlovich will preside over the retirement ceremony.

**Be a mentor**

Mentors are needed for National Disability Mentoring Week, Oct. 18-22. That week high school students with disabilities will shadow the. Those with disabilities are encouraged to be mentors. The high school students are interested in science and technology careers. To be a mentor or to find out more, call Betty Preece at 494-9234 or e-mail her on global.

**Free childcare available**

Military members returning from deployment are entitled to 16 free hours of childcare per child through the Family Child Care program. Deployed personnel must have spent over 30 days in direct support of the Global War on Terrorism. Call 494-8391 for more information.

**O'Club open again**

The Patrick Officers' Club is now open for regular business. Repairs from hurricane season have been made and are still underway, but hours for lunch will resume from Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m. - 1:30 pm, for dinner from 5-8 p.m. and for Sunday brunch from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 494-4011.

**Language class offered**

An English for Speakers of Other Languages class is every Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Family Support Center, this class is open to all speakers of their languages in need of learning English or polishing up their English speaking and writing skills. For reservations or additional information, call Elsa Kekahuna at 494-5675.

**Citizenship class available**

A new citizenship class is planned for October for those interested in becoming an American citizen. Class will be held on Monday nights. Sponsored by the Family Support Center, this class is free and open to active duty, DoD civilians, retirees, NAF, AAFES employees and their eligible family members. For more information or to make reservations, call Elsa Kekahuna at 494-5675.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Kevin Coffman

**Returned to sender**

Staff Sgt. Heather Wical, left, is greeted at the Melbourne Airport Wednesday by co-worker and friend Master Sgt. Melinda Markiwski. Sgt. Wical, along with 12 other 45th Space Wing Security Forces Airmen, returned home safely from a four-month deployment to a deployed location in Southeast Asia.



# COOKING 101

**By Sue Walden**  
45th SW Public Affairs

Lunchtime recipe: A dollop of students, one teacher, a big kitchen and something easy to cook ... and tasty to eat.

The Family Support Center offers a free, monthly cooking class that teaches new and seasoned cooks to whip up a breakfast, lunch, dinner or dessert recipe and receive rave reviews from their family and friends.

"I love to cook and I like to learn new recipes, so that's why we come here," said Kathlyn Potter, a retiree from Viera who has attended the class with her husband, Nolen, for over a year. "We had to come today because he loves anything lemon."

Students learned how to cook a lemon torte Tuesday under the tutelage of Master Sgt. Kelly Halbisen, FSC superintendent. "It's an old fam-



Larry Fulk, FSC Community readiness consultant, helps out during the cooking class by greasing the baking pan.



Photos by Sue Walden

**Master Sgt. Kelly Halbisen, right, Family Support Center superintendent and cooking instructor, talks to the class about how easy her lemon torte recipe is to make Tuesday. Brenda Maizel, left, and her co-worker Patricia Colbary, 45th Contracting Squadron, look on. FSC offers the one-hour, free cooking class every month. The FSC is always seeking cooking instructors.**

ily recipe," Sgt. Halbisen said.

FSC doesn't limit their cooking teachers to their staff. "We have many guest cooking instructors ranging from chiefs around town and a dietician from the University of Florida to anyone who'd like to teach others to cook a recipe," said Sgt. Halbisen.

Larry Fulk, FSC community readiness consultant, said the cooking class is twofold. "Cooking is a life skill that helps the family, plus we like to bring people here and tell them about our other classes and services," he said. "The class will help my family," said Staff Sgt. Al Chavarria, 45th Military Personnel Flight. Tuesday was his first cooking class. "I'm just learning to cook and I need to learn more."

One of the best parts of taking the hour-long class from 11 a.m. - noon is that students eat the finished product.

A recipe on the FSC menu could be classified as "healthy" or not so healthy, according to Sgt. Halbisen. "But, we offer recipes that everyone - from 8 to 80 - can cook. Right now, we're looking for someone who has a good fried chicken recipe," she said.

FSC buys the ingredients for the class. The guest chief just has to bring the recipe and the students an interest in learning and a healthy appetite. The staff even gives away doggy bags.

The class, which is limited to 10 students, has been popular. "We've been doing this 31

times so far - it's quite successful," said Mr. Fulk. "We've got the prettiest kitchen on the base, why wouldn't they want to come here?"

Sgt. Halbisen agreed, "Plus, you can only eat macaroni and cheese for so long."

The next cooking class is Oct. 19, 11 a.m. - noon. The menu: homemade chili. To sign up for the class or to teach a recipe, call FSC at 494-5675.



**The cooking classes offer easy recipes for beginners or seasoned cooks. Students receive the written recipe, sample the meal and, if there's any leftovers, they can take the remainder home.**



# Practicing what they preach

*DEOMI staff members get as much as they give - or more - during Hispanic heritage book reading at the Patrick CDC*

**By Army Master Sgt. Chris Calkins**  
DEOMI Public Affairs

Judging by the huge smiles and the collective, spontaneous laughter that echoed throughout almost every classroom of Patrick's Child Development Center, it was obvious they were all having a great time.

And the kids in the audience they were reading to were having fun, too.

But just not as much as the dozen-or-so members of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute who put their diversity message where their mouth is, and donated a few hours last week reading children's books to help celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the local CDC.

Today, more than 37 million people in the United States are of Hispanic origin, according to Lt Col. Judy Mathewson, DEOMI's Air National Guard liaison and Reserve Component Course program manager.

"Clearly, teaching about the contributions of Latinos can only help to build the self-esteem and the pride of those who identify themselves as Mexican-American, Cuban-American or Puerto Rican-American. But, even more importantly, it is essential that students understand the ethnic diversity that is our country," Mathewson said.

"Developing ethnic literacy fosters pride in one's own culture and a respect and appreciation for the uniqueness of others," she added.

Her "teaching partner" for the day, Navy Chief Petty Officer Kevin Perkins readily agrees.

"Diversity is more than a buzzword, it's a reality in a global society and children live what they learn. They enjoyed seeing someone very different than themselves, so much so most rushed to hug me right after. The small act of simply reading may have an immeasurable impact on their lives," said Perkins, who is a DEOMI instructor for the 15-week Equal Opportunity Advisor Course.

Whether the down-the-road impact is immeasurable or not, the CDC director is thankful to all the people - military and civilian alike - who stop by her center to volunteer.

"Multicultural education is an important part of our curriculum and by having the DEOMI staff here, practicing what they preach, was an important lesson," said director Sue Pollack.

“Clearly, teaching about the contributions of Latinos can only help to build the self-esteem and the pride of those who identify themselves as Mexican-American, Cuban-American or Puerto Rican-American.”

**Lt. Col. Judy Mathewson**

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

"Having a diverse group come and read to the children provided role models that the children may not otherwise experience," she said.

First formed in 1971 as the Defense Race Relations Institute, DEOMI was renamed in 1978. Since that time, DEOMI's sole mission has been to enhance leadership and readiness by fostering Equal Opportunity and Equal Employment Opportunity programs and posi-



Photo by Master Sgt. Chris Calkins

**Sgt. 1st Class Connie Papion, a DEOMI instructor, takes her turn reading to the children.**

tive human relations.

And, as it turns out, to read children's books to a bunch of wide-eyed, appreciative children when time and opportunity permit.

Missions accomplished.



**Navy Chief Petty Officer, Kevin Perkins, a Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute instructor and Lt. Col. Judith Mathewson, DEOMI Air National Guard liaison and Reserve Component Course program manager read to children at the Patrick Air Force Base Child Development Center.**

# New rules highlight flag football season

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

Members of the 45th Space Wing, eager to hit the football field will do so with some new rules designed to open up the playing field.

Under the rules last year, there was no blockin allowed on the line of scrimmage or down the field. With no one to protect the quarterback, players were forced to make quick throws and didn't have the ability to set up plays, said Ralph Robinson, 45th SW Fitness Center intramural sports director.

According to Robinson, many players felt they were our playing catch rather than actual football.

"By adding blocking into the rules, teams will be able to open up their gameplan," said Robinson. "Hopefully it will make the game more competitive."

With the new rule changes, comes a heightened awareness for safety.

"We got away from this style of play because we had some injuries," he said. "But injuries are part of sports."

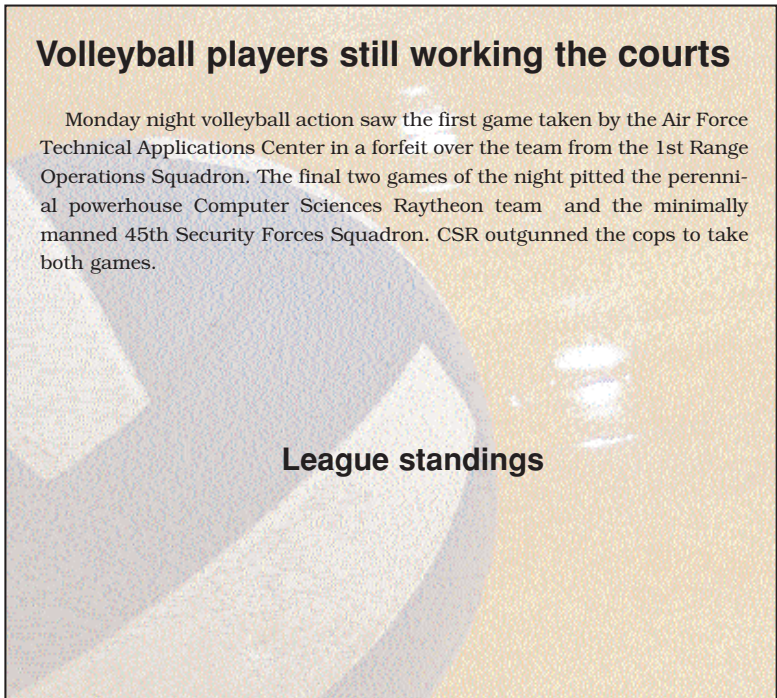
A coaches meeting will be mandatory for teams who want to participate this year. The meeting will allow Robinson to fully explain the new rules and highlight the importance of safety, by informing players of the limitations on blocking.

"I want everyone on the same page," said Mr. Robinson. "That way everyone knows that safety is first."

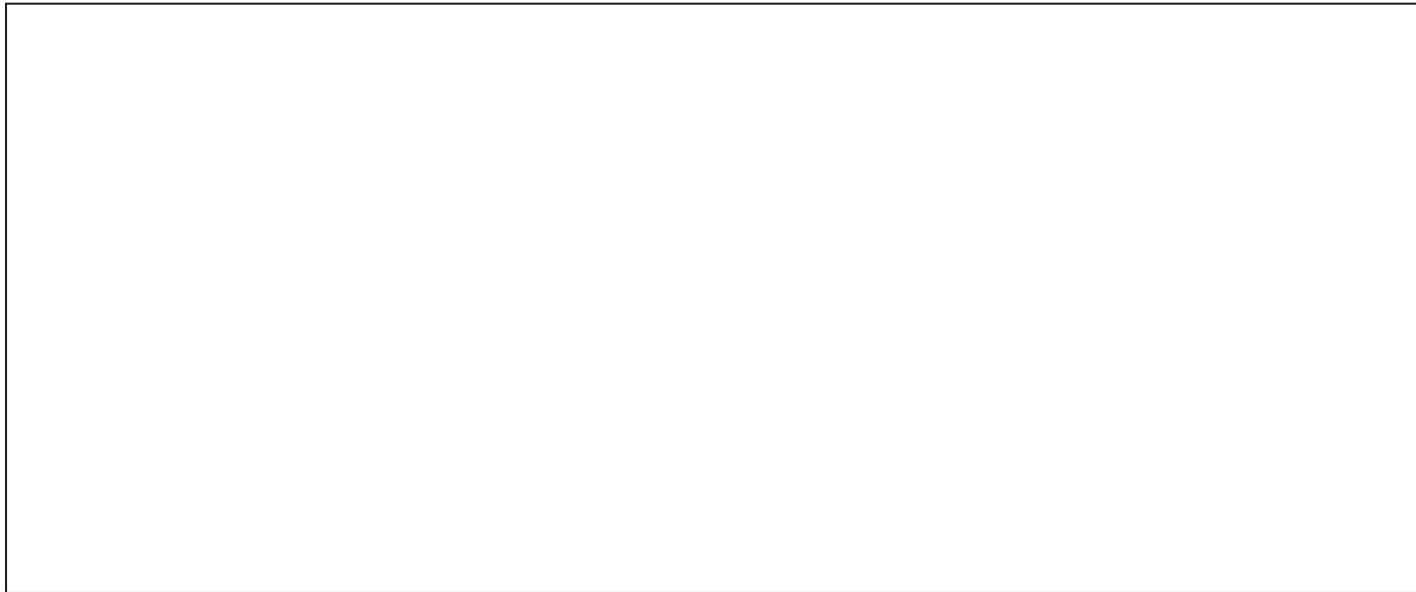
The flag football season is scheduled to start on or about Oct. 18. Any groups interested in forming a team must submit a letter of intent to the Fitness Center no later than Oct. 1. A mandatory organizational meeting to include team coaches or representatives will be held Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center confrence room. Rosters must be submitted prior to the first game being played. For more information or a copy of the new rules, contact Ralph Robinson at 494-3187.

## Volleyball players still working the courts

Monday night volleyball action saw the first game taken by the Air Force Technical Applications Center in a forfeit over the team from the 1st Range Operations Squadron. The final two games of the night pitted the perennial powerhouse Computer Sciences Raytheon team and the minimally manned 45th Security Forces Squadron. CSR outgunned the cops to take both games.



League standings





### Combined Federal Campaign

The 2004-2005 Combined Federal Campaign began Sept. 1 in the continental United States and runs through Dec. 15.

Maj. Rick Koelling is the 45th Space Wing's CFC project officer. He can be reached at 730-1236, or visit the CFC Web site at [www.opm.gov/cfc](http://www.opm.gov/cfc) for more information.

*News News News*  
**Got a story for the Missileer?**

*E-mail the Missileer staff at [missileer@patrick.af.mil](mailto:missileer@patrick.af.mil)  
or call 494-5922*

*News News News*



## SERVICES

## The Calendar

## Saturday

▲ Karaoke Night on the Deck at the NCO Club begins at 7 p.m. Call 494-7491 for information.

## Tuesday

▲ T-Bone Tuesday at the Officers' Club. Dine by candlelight while enjoying the sounds of Sass N Brass. Two steak dinners are \$19.95. This is a members-only program. Call 494-4012 for reservations.

## Oct. 1

▲ Youth Programs registration begins for the Winter Basketball Program. Monday – Friday, 1:30-6 p.m. Registration is open to Youth Center members ages 6-15 of active duty, DoD personnel, NAF employees, retired and contractors. Children must be 6 years old by March 2005 and not turn 16 by the same date to be eligible to participate. The cost is \$40 for current 2004 Youth Center members and \$50 for nonmembers. Player evaluations and team formations are Nov. 1 with practices beginning the week of Nov. 8. All girl teams will be formed for ages 10-15 to participate in a joint league with an off-base program. For additional information, contact the Youth Center at 494-4747 or sports director at 494-3770.

## Oct. 1

▲ Registration begins Oct. 1 for Kids Night Out Oct. 8, 6-11 p.m. Twenty-four slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis for children of active-duty and retired military, DoD and NAF employees, and DoD contractors who have completed any grade K-6. Cost is \$10 per child. Parents must register for the slot and make payment at the Youth Center business office by 5:30 p.m. the Wednesday prior to the night of the event to hold their reservation.

## Oct 19

▲ Registration is due no later than Oct. 19 for the Air Force Family and Teen Talent Contest Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. Family members are invited to sing, dance and perform together in this event. Active duty and retired military, DoD and NAF employees and contractors and their family members can enter in on of 15 categories Videotapes or DVDs of base winners will be submitted for an Air Force-level contest. Registration forms are available at the Youth Center. For more information, call Lynne Phillips at 494-4747.

# FURRY OR NOT, HERE THEY COME

By Theresa Amlong,  
45th Services Squadron

Give Fido a bath because it's time to show him off at the Third Annual Patrick Pet Parade and Yard Sale, Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Outdoor Recreation.

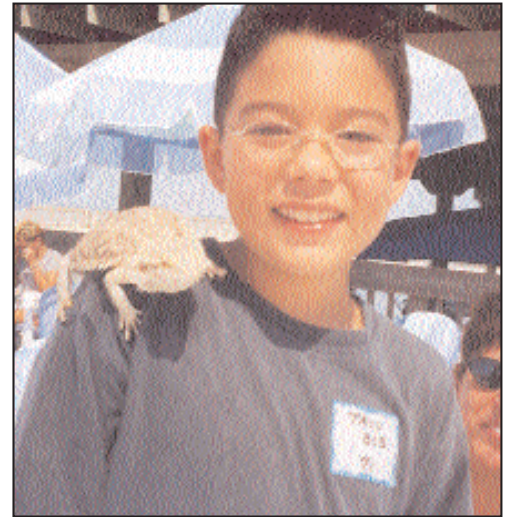
"The Pet Parade is a fun experience in which proud pet owners can participate; it's a chance to show off their animals and shop for treasures at the yard sale," says Terry Hamric, Outdoor Recreation's program director.

"We've been conducting yard sales in conjunc-



Photos courtesy of the 45th Services Squadron

Jenny Green showcases her Great Dane along the patio at Outdoor Recreation.



Elijah Hicks takes his pet lizard, Taco Bob, for a stroll at the annual Patrick Pet Parade

tion with our other activities and find it's a great way for people to buy and sell their items at one location while enjoying further leisure interests."

Last year's Pet Parade showcased everything from a Great Dane to a tiny white kitten. At the first Pet Parade in 2002, 13-year old Elijah Hicks entered Taco Bob, a bearded dragon, into the competition. The unique lizard took several first-place ribbons in different categories. "Taco Bob was the only pet in his

category," said Elijah's mother, Diane Hicks of 45th Services Squadron. "It was so much fun to watch Elijah parade Taco Bob around. We had a blast seeing how everyone pampered their pets and primped them with bows. It is a fun way to spend a Saturday afternoon."

In addition to showcasing pets and white elephants, Outdoor Recreation offers families free boat rides on the Banana River, a moonwalk and free hot dogs. A representative from the base Veterinary Clinic will be there to answer pet questions and offer information on local veterinary services.

"We encourage participants to bring water for their pets before and after the parade," reminds Ms. Hamric. "With great yard sale bargains, good family fun, and the spirit of friendly competition, the Pet Parade and Yard Sale is an event you won't want to miss."

Register your pet by 11:30 a.m. The contest begins at noon. Ribbons are to be given out in each area of competition for each category and one pet becomes the Overall Trophy Winner.

Areas of Competition are:

- ◆ Dogs
- ◆ Cats
- ◆ Other (reptiles, birds, etc.)

Categories are:

- ◆ Best First Impression
- ◆ Personality Pet
- ◆ Pet Plus (Pet with something extra, such as costumes, etc.)
- ◆ Precocious Pet





Friday - *Collateral* A struggling comedy writer named Max, who drives a cab in Los Angeles to earn a living, gradually realizes that the passenger he's been driving around all day is a hit man who has been rubbing out people at every stop. Max has to figure out how to prevent the killer from knocking off his last victim and how to come out of the situation alive. Stars Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx. Rated R for violence and language. 127 min.

Saturday - *Collateral* See Friday's synopsis.

Sunday - *Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement* Princess Mia is ready to begin her duties as princess of Genovia alongside Queen Clarisse, but she soon learns that Clarisse needs her to take over as queen. The catch? Genovian law states that all queens must be married, so the search for the perfect groom begins. Stars Anne Hathaway and Julie Andrews. Rated G. 115 min.

Thursday - *Yu-Gi-Oh! The Movie* After the conclusion of the Battle City Tournament, deep below the sands of Egypt, an ancient evil has awakened. Anubis, who was defeated centuries ago by Yugi's mysterious alter ego - the ancient Pharaoh - has returned for revenge. Wielding the power of the Eighth Millennium Item, Anubis is determined to destroy Yugi and take over the world. Rated PG for scary combat and monster images. 90 min.

Movies are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Adults pay \$2.50; children 12 and under pay \$1.50.

## RIVERSIDE DINING

*Saturday Brunch* - Creole shrimp, doubly-good chicken, **savory baked chicken**, Swedish meatballs

*Saturday Supper* - **Baked fish**, BBQ 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* - **Baked stuffed fish**, pot roast, **roast loin of pork**

*Monday Dinner* - Cannelloni beef, **chili mac**, Southern fried chicken

*Tuesday Lunch* - Salmon cakes, **teriyaki chicken**, veal parmesan

*Tuesday Dinner* - **Country captain chicken**, meat loaf, turkey ala king

*Wednesday Lunch* - Lasagna, spaghetti

with meatballs, chicken cacciatore, Italian sausage, pasta primavera

*Wednesday Dinner* - BBQ spareribs, **lemon-herb chicken**, stuffed pork chops

*Thursday Lunch* - Herbed baked chicken, Southern fried catfish, stuffed cabbage rolls

*Thursday Dinner* - Glazed Cornish hen, Jaegerschnitzel w/mushroom sauce,

**roast loin of pork**

*Oct. 1 Lunch* - Mexican baked chicken, stuffed green peppers, Swiss steak w/tomato sauce

*Oct. 1 Dinner* - Lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian sausage

Menus are subject to change. For more information, call dial-a-menu 494-2845. Items bolded are healthy choice meals.

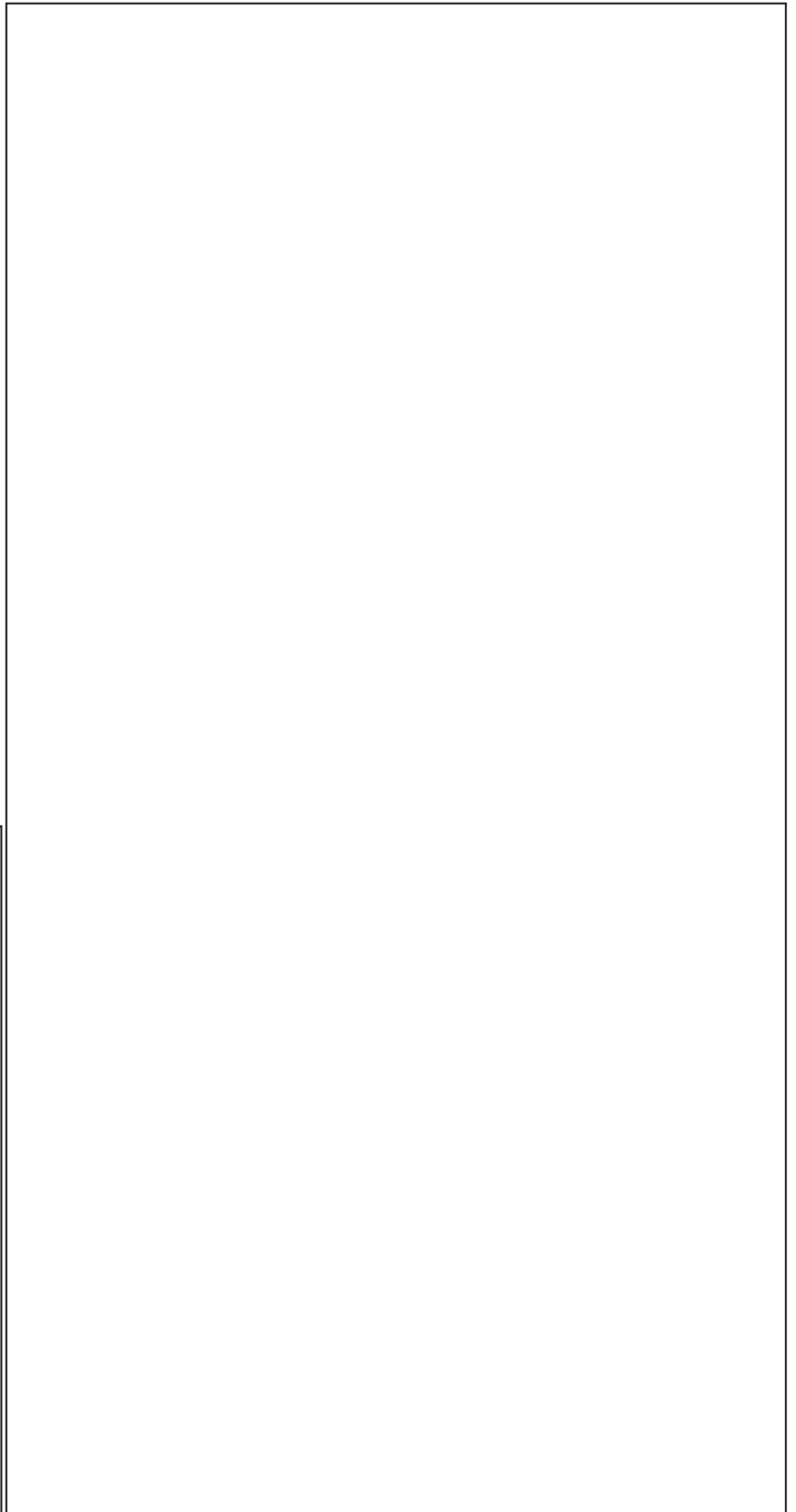
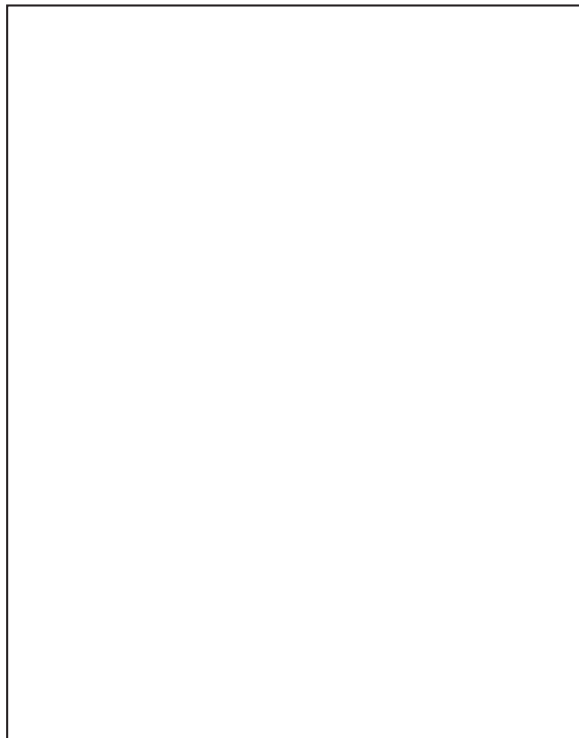




Photo by Airman 1st Class Shaun Emery

## Hard at work

Airman Rafiq Viray installs new water distribution boards on the 45th Space Wing Marina roof after Hurricane Frances brought water damage to the entire facility.



## OUT & ABOUT

### Events

Dixie Cruiser Car Show is from 5-9 p.m., the third Saturday of every month, at the Victoria Square Shopping Center on Merritt Island. The show features vintage, classical, antique, street rod and muscle cars on display, food, entertainment and more. Cost is free. For more information, contact 267-7588.

The 17th annual Autumn in the Park is Oct. 2-3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Riverside Park in Vero Beach. The festival features crafts and artwork, food and activities for children. Call (772) 562-0565 for more information.

CrackerFest is Oct. 2, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Erna Nixon Park in Melbourne.

Celebrate Florida's rich natural history, craftsmen, dancing and live folk music. A presentation of livestock, sheep shearing, native wildlife and more. Cost is \$1. Call 952-4525 for more information.

Friday Family Street Fest, Downtown Melbourne is Oct. 8, from 6 - 9 p.m. and the second Friday of every month except December. The festival will feature food, beverage, craft vendors, a rock climbing wall, face painting, classic cars, children's activities and live entertainment. Admission is free. For more information, call 321-724-174

Children's Spooktacular Breakfast is Oct. 30, 8-11 a.m. at Palm Bay Community Center for children ages 3-11. Tickets are \$3 per person. Children ages 2 and under are free with a paying adult. Continental breakfast is served from 8-10 a.m. There will be door prizes, a children's maze, Halloween crafts and character pictures. For more information call 952-3443, or visit [www.palmbayflorida.org](http://www.palmbayflorida.org).

Palm Bay's House of Terror is Oct. 29-30, 6-10 p.m. at the Palm Bay Community Center. Admission is \$3 for children 12 and older, children under 11 are \$2. Nights will feature psychic readings, character pictures, entertainment, food concession and music. Parental escorts are recommended. Tickets go on sale Oct. 1 at Palm Bay Community Center headquarters. For more information, contact 952-3443 or 3441, or visit [www.palmbayflorida.org](http://www.palmbayflorida.org).

### Music

The 28th Polish American Festival is Oct. 3, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Fox Lake Park in Titusville. The festival features Polish food and music by Rick Piotrowski, the Orlando Polka Magic Band and Marc Bouchard's Orchestra. Cost is \$10; children 12 and under are free. For more information, call 267-0890.



### Catholic

Daily Mass (Mon. - Fri.) at 11:30 a.m. in the Seaside Chapel.

Saturday: 4 p.m. confession, 5 p.m. Mass in the South Patrick Chapel.

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Mass in South Patrick Chapel, and 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Seaside Chapel.

Religious education classes: 10:15 a.m. at the Education Center for pre-K - 6th grade, grades 7-12 Youth Ministry at 6 p.m. at South Patrick Chapel.

### Protestant

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship in the Seaside Chapel.

9:50 a.m. - Adult Sunday School in Seaside Chapel.

10 a.m. - Grades K-12 at South Patrick Chapel. Van transportation provided for base children.

11 a.m. - Contemporary Service in the South Patrick Chapel.

Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner in South Patrick Chapel.





