

Spaceport News

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NASA sets plan for new exploration vehicle

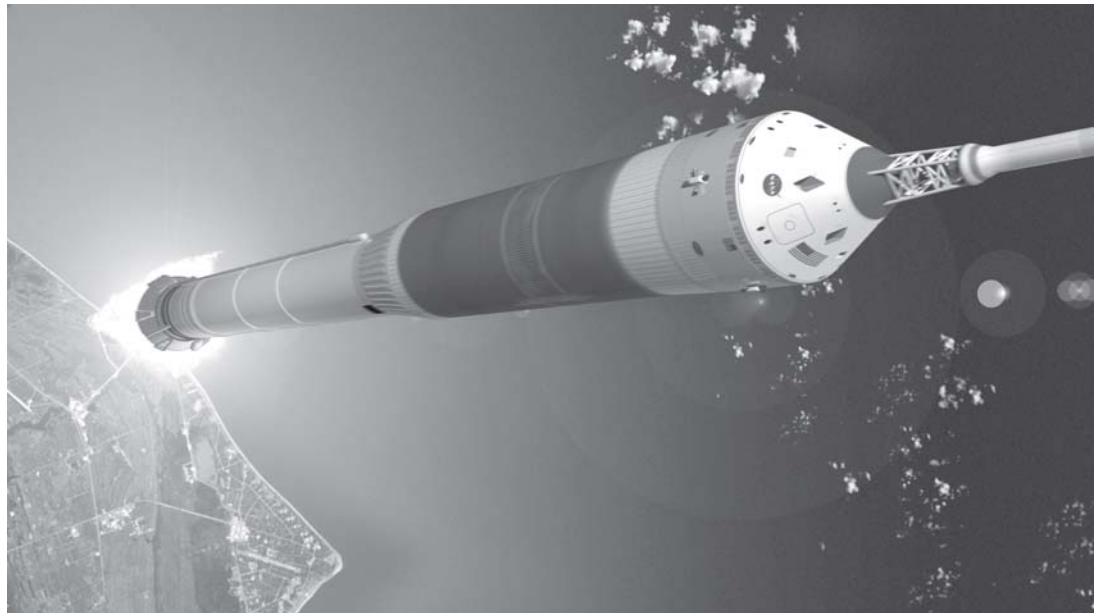
Kennedy Space Center pegged as launch site for future missions

Before the end of the next decade, NASA astronauts will again explore the surface of the moon. And this time, we're going to stay awhile, building outposts and paving the way for eventual journeys to Mars and beyond.

Building on the best of Apollo and shuttle technology, NASA plans to create a 21st-century exploration system that will be affordable, reliable, versatile and safe. The centerpiece of this system is a new spacecraft designed to carry four astronauts to and from the moon, support up to six crewmembers on future missions to Mars, and deliver crew and supplies to the International Space Station.

The new crew vehicle will be shaped like an Apollo capsule, but it will be three times larger.

Kennedy Space Center plays



IN HIS Sept. 19 speech from NASA Headquarters in Washington, Administrator Mike Griffin said the new exploration vehicle will lift off from Launch Pads 39A and B as seen in this artist's concept.

a major part in these future missions, NASA Administrator Mike Griffin said. The new exploration vehicle will lift off from Launch Pads 39A and B.

"Today we are talking to you about how NASA will fulfill the president's vision for exploration, as it was offered to NASA

in a speech on Jan. 14, 2004," Griffin said during a Sept. 19 press conference at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "We believe this architecture, which is the product of an intensive summer of work by hundreds of folks here at the agency, achieves those goals in

the most cost-effective, efficient manner that we could do it. It fits within the available budget without asking for new money, and does so in a timely manner."

The vision calls for NASA to complete the International Space Station in accordance with the

(See VISION, Page 4)

Whitlow returns to Glenn as center director

Dr. Woodrow Whitlow Jr., deputy director of Kennedy Space Center, will be the next director of the John H. Glenn Research Center in Cleveland beginning in January. Whitlow will succeed Julian Earls, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Whitlow values the time he spent at KSC and will have many memories.

"This is a very fun place to work," Whitlow said. "To see everything come together for a mission, perhaps some technology developed a while back that

eventually made its way onto space flight hardware, is very satisfying to me. To have a successful launch and mission, and to know that there are scientists, engineers and researchers who spent their entire careers working on a particular scientific instrument and are now gathering data from their life's work is very exciting and rewarding."

Whitlow joined the U.S. space program in 1979 as a research scientist at NASA's Langley Research Center. He also has served as director of the Critical

Technologies Division of the Office of Aeronautics at NASA Headquarters in Washington and as deputy director of the Aeronautics Program Group, deputy director of the Airframe Systems Program Office and chief of the Structures Division at Langley Research Center. In addition, he has served at Glenn Research Center as director of research and technology. He became deputy director of KSC in 2003.

Whitlow also enjoys the unique opportunities his job as

(See WHITLOW, Page 6)



DR. WOODROW Whitlow Jr. will be the new center director at the Glenn Research Center in Ohio.



Jim Kennedy
Center Director

The Kennedy Update

Greetings, everyone! While I fully realize Hurricane Rita impacted many American's lives, and may continue to do so for years to come, the silver lining is the Johnson Space Center in Houston suffered very minor damage and there are no reports of serious injuries.

That's great news for NASA, and let me once again thank everyone here for the help you've given to fellow Stennis and Michoud employees and all Americans impacted by the storms. Unfortunately, October historically is a very active

hurricane month so please don't let your guard down.

CONGRATULATIONS to our own center Deputy Director, Dr. Woodrow Whitlow, who NASA Administrator Michael Griffin announced will be the next director of NASA's John H. Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. Woodrow has been with us since the fall of 2003 and succeeds Julian Earls, who is retiring at the end of the year.

The Glenn Research Center, with about 3,300 civil service and contract employees, is a research center for aeronautical propulsion, space propulsion,

space power and space communications and microgravity sciences in combustion and fluid physics.

Woodrow – I know I speak for everyone at KSC as we wish you, Michele and your family the best with this new and challenging assignment. You are the perfect person for the job and I know you will make us all very proud!

At the same time, our former center director and my close personal friend Roy Bridges announced his retirement from NASA. Roy left KSC in August 2003 to head up the Langley Research Center. He promised his wife, Bonita, that Langley was "the last stop" and true to his word it was.

I don't have to tell anyone here what Roy Bridges means to the Kennedy Space Center. He directed our center for almost six years and led our team to some of its greatest moments in

history. He also provided the strong leadership needed after the Columbia tragedy.

Roy and Bonita will always be welcome here among the KSC family and I wish them the best as they enjoy their life ahead.

Finally, we have two significant all hands set for next week I hope you will attend.

The first is Tuesday at 9 a.m. as we kick off the annual CFC campaign. This year's KSC chairperson is Ray Lugo and I



CENTER DIRECTOR Jim Kennedy looks on as Roy Bridges Jr. (center), retiring center director of the Langley Research Center, and former 45th Space Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. J. Gregory Pavlovich (right), dedicate the Roy D. Bridges Jr. Bridge in August 2003.

appreciate him providing the leadership for this project.

I'm holding an all hands meeting on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. The main topic is to discuss the recently announced "Exploration Systems Architecture Study" and how the center will be reorganized to accomplish our role in exploration.

Both events will be held in the training auditorium and carried on NASA TV and the KSC Web page if you can't make it. Thanks for your time and have a great week!

September NASA Employees of the Month



The NASA Employees of the Month for September, from left, include: Karen Thompson, Administrative Staff; Allan Jones, Cape Canaveral Spaceport Management Office; Christopher Grubee, Procurement Office; and Debi Caldwell, Information Technology and Communications Services. Not pictured are: Steven Horn, Chief Counsel Office; Janet Parker, Shuttle Processing; Suzanne Dininny, Safety and Mission Assurance; Robert Schmidt, Center Operations; Antonio Pego, International Space Station and Payload Processing; Don Johnson, Launch Services Program (Vandenburg); Jan Zysko, Spaceport Engineering and Technology.

Spaceport employees continue hurricane relief

By Cheryl Mansfield
Staff Writer

At the Space Shuttle Landing Facility, a small group of workers squinted into the blazing-hot afternoon sky as they awaited a landing. But this wasn't the end of a space mission; it was the end of a relief mission.

The roar of the engines announced the arrival of a NASA Gulfstream returning from the storm-ravaged Gulf Coast Sept.

14. Onboard the plane that had just delivered supplies and additional personnel to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina were four Kennedy employees coming home from their work in the disaster zone.

Floridians know hurricanes all too well, and the multiple punches dealt to the state during the 2004 hurricane season makes its residents especially sensitive to the many needs during storm recovery. But even last year's storm experience couldn't prepare these workers for what

they witnessed in Katrina's wake: complete destruction.

"Those folks are going to need our support for many, many years," said returning security agent Linda Maust. "There are towns there that are total, total devastation." She admires the dedication she witnessed among her fellow space workers who remained devoted to their recovery tasks despite their overwhelming personal losses.

The returning Kennedy security and medical staff spent

(See RELIEF, Page 5)

PATTI BELL (left) and Dr. Violette Wahba Salib (center) are greeted by KSC Deputy Director Dr. Woodrow Whitlow Jr. after their return from Stennis Space Center.



New Learning Institute opens, available for training

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

The Kennedy Space Center Learning Institute officially opened during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 16, offering a central location for training activities with many special features.

Jim Norman, Human Resources Development office chief, welcomed more than 70 NASA and contractor employees and other invited guests to the long-awaited event.

Center Director Jim Kennedy said he felt honored to dedicate another new facility at KSC. "Learning is a way of life, and I hope that KSC will always be a place of learning," he said.

The new 6,600-square-foot facility, located south of the Headquarters building, comprises an open meeting area, amphitheater, staff offices and a full kitchen. The facility includes video teleconferencing and distance learning support for approximately 50 people at a time.

"Different people learn in different ways," said Pat Simpkins, Human Resources Office director. "A lot of learning is done informally. This facility is designed to foster that."

Updated network communications will enhance the type of resources available to instructors

and significantly increase the on-site learning opportunities for KSC's evolving work force.

The facility is equipped with DVD and CD players, a VCR, two plasma-screen televisions, a projection screen and Microsoft Office Suite software. Other programs will be made available if scheduled in advance.

The first training class in the new facility will be held in October.

"This facility represents another step in replacing deteriorating and older facilities," said Scott Kerr, Center Operations director.

AJT and Associates of Cape Canaveral served as the design architect and engineer. Construction management was led by Jones, Edmunds and Associates of Titusville, and the contractor was Canaveral Construction Co. Inc. of Titusville.

"We are part of a team," Kennedy said. "We do this together, NASA and contractor alike. This facility will be available to all here at KSC."

Phase two of construction, currently in development, will include four satellite classrooms that connect to the main building.

For information on scheduling the facility, contact facility manager Karen Milford at 867-2082, or assistant facility manager Tammy Bowman at 867-2089.



JIM KENNEDY, center director (above at podium), welcomes employees to the opening of the new Learning Institute. Participating in the Learning Institute ribbon cutting, from left, are: Scott Kerr, Center Operations director; David Nash, Canaveral Construction; George Broadus, Jones Edmunds and Associates; Nazario Escobar, facility project manager; Pat Simpkins, Human Resources director; and Jim Kennedy, center director.

Pego helps invent tools, create solutions for team

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Following the Challenger disaster, Antonio Pego Jr. heard his fellow high school students and others question the space program. Although he was a teenager, he had a deep admiration for the agency and wanted to prove the naysayers wrong. Today, Pego is still supporting NASA as an aerospace technology engineer and shines as a September employee of the month.

"Anyone can criticize, but who's going to step up to the

plate and do it? That motivated me to get involved with NASA," said Pego of the International Space Station/Payload Processing directorate.

He mainly works on station avionics, including communications and tracking, robotic manipulator systems, guidance navigation and controls.

"It's great to be selected as employee of the month," said Pego, who credits his accomplishment to his work with colleagues Dr. Phil Tang, Clinton Wylie and David Crawford.

The team identified an alternative method to inspect

fiber-optic pins after one on Node 2 snapped because it couldn't handle side loads.

"It is very difficult to avoid applying this force, which was less than four ounces," he explained. "We helped develop a whole new tool with Micro Enterprises, Inc. that has virtually no chance of breaking a pin because it never touches it."

Regardless of his work at NASA, he considers being a single father his most important role. As the dad of six-year-old Prisila, he helps other single fathers understand the judicial system and deal with parenting



ANTONIO PEGO Jr. is an aerospace technology engineer.

challenges. He is also pursuing a Master of Business Administration.

New vehicle calls for Apollo, Space Shuttle technology

VISION . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

nation's obligation to its international partners. In order to do so, NASA is scheduled to fly the Space Shuttle until 2010.

The next spacecraft, called the "crew exploration vehicle," should be developed and flown not later than 2014, Griffin said. "We have adopted an internal planning goal of not to exceed 2012, but that will be driven by the availability of funding," he said. "We will return to the moon no later than 2020 and extend human presence across the solar system and beyond."

The Mars payload can be put together in low-Earth orbit in a few months with a few launches, he said.

The proposed new spacecraft has solar panels to provide power, and both the capsule and the lunar lander use liquid methane in their engines. Why methane? NASA is thinking ahead, planning for a day when future astronauts can convert Martian atmospheric resources into methane fuel.

The new ship can be reused up to 10 times. After the craft parachutes to dry land (with a splashdown as a backup option),

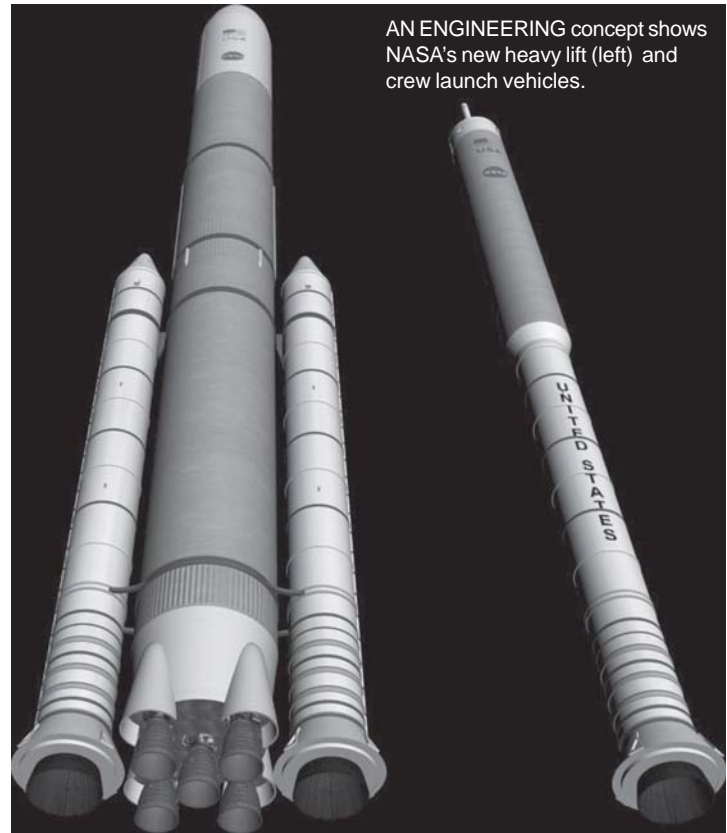
NASA can easily recover it, replace the heat shield and launch it again.

Coupled with the new lunar lander, the system sends twice as many astronauts to the moon's surface as Apollo, and they can stay longer, with the initial missions lasting four to seven days. While Apollo was limited to landings along the moon's equator, the new ship will carry enough propellant to land anywhere on the moon's surface.

Once a lunar outpost is established, crews could remain on the lunar surface for up to six months. The spacecraft can also operate without a crew in lunar orbit, eliminating the need for one astronaut to stay behind while others explore the surface.

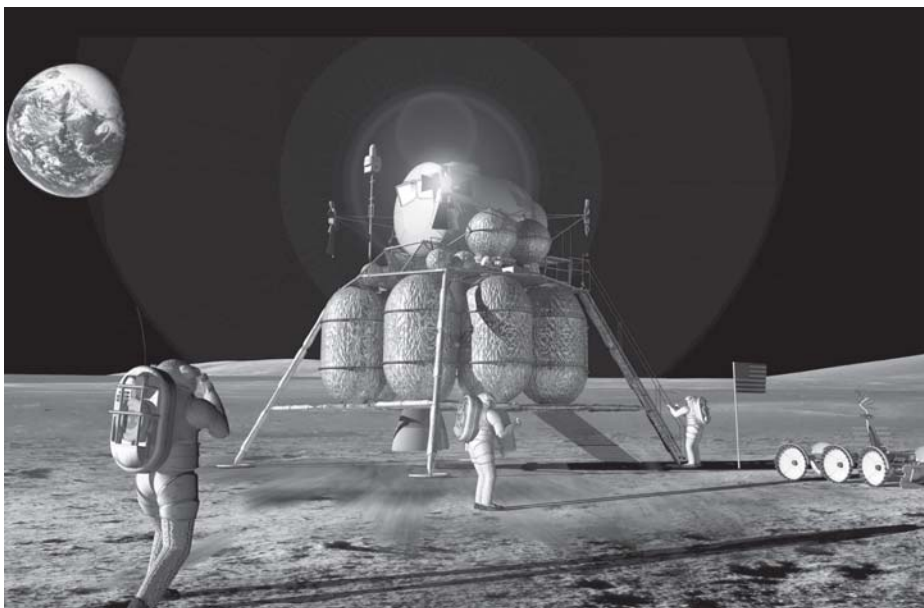
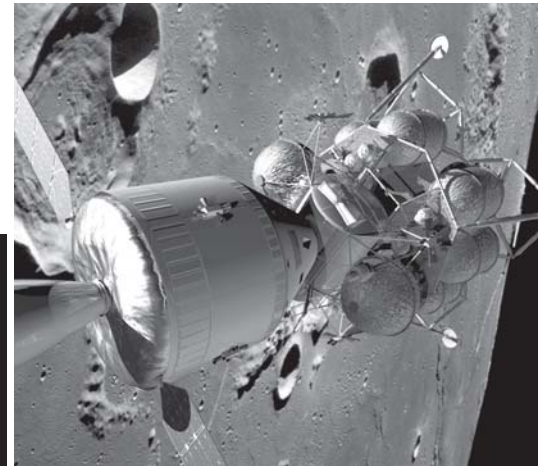
The launch system that will get the crew off the ground builds on powerful and reliable shuttle propulsion elements.

These launch systems should be 10 times safer than the shuttle because of an escape rocket on top of the capsule that can quickly blast the crew away if launch problems develop. There will also be little chance of damage from launch vehicle debris, since the capsule sits on top of the rocket.



AN ENGINEERING concept shows NASA's new heavy lift (left) and crew launch vehicles.

NASA's NEW crew exploration vehicle in lunar orbit (right). Artist concepts by John Frassanito and Associates.



FOUR ASTRONAUTS could land on the moon in the new lander envisioned by NASA. The launch system that will get the crew off the ground builds on powerful shuttle propulsion elements.

How a mission would unfold

A heavy-lift rocket blasts off, carrying a lunar lander and a "departure stage" needed to leave Earth's orbit. The crew launches separately, then docks its capsule with the lander and departure stage and heads for the moon. Three days later, the crew goes into lunar orbit. The four astronauts climb into the lander, leaving the capsule to wait for them in orbit. After landing and exploring the surface for seven days, the crew blasts off in a portion of the lander, docks with the capsule and travels back to Earth. After a de-orbit burn, the service module is jettisoned, exposing the heat shield for the first time in the mission. The parachutes deploy, the heat shield is dropped and the capsule sets down on dry land.

Stennis and Michoud employees receive Kennedy's help



AT THE Shuttle Landing Facility, employees load hurricane relief supplies onto a NASA aircraft bound for Stennis.

RELIEF . . . (Continued from Page 2)

Center in Mississippi and Michoud Assembly Facility near New Orleans. Dr. Violette Salib and Employee Assistance Administrator Patti Bell, both of Kennedy's Occupational Health Facility, were based at the clinic at Stennis, where their priorities included giving immunizations for tetanus and hepatitis and helping workers cope with the pressures of their relief efforts.

When asked what lessons Kennedy personnel could take from what she'd witnessed in the hurricane's aftermath, Salib could sum it up in one word: "Evacuate."

Earlier in the day, the plane

left Kennedy carrying the latest shipment of supplies - including vital electrical equipment - and two NASA security agents to replace the returning agents. The electrical components, in high demand in the disaster area, will be used to help restore power at Michoud. The remainder of the plane's cargo consisted of 17 boxes of medical supplies, clothing and everyday necessities that are in short supply in the region.

But this shipment was not the first. The flow of help from Kennedy began soon after the storm, in the form of personnel, emergency equipment, food,

medical supplies, fuel and generators. Overseeing the effort is Wayne Kee, emergency preparedness officer at Kennedy, who accompanied the personnel and supplies on the trip to Stennis.

"When we have an event like this happen, it doesn't matter which center it happens at - all 10 centers step up," said Kee. "It's a team effort. We're doing

our best to get our brothers and sisters back up into operation."

The two damaged NASA facilities are key to the space shuttle program. Stennis, where shuttle main engines are tested, and Michoud, where external fuel tanks are manufactured, have been closed for normal operations since the storm hit in late August.



MUCH NEEDED supplies for one of the shipments going to the Michoud Assembly Facility near New Orleans included 17 boxes of personal hygiene items, along with boxes of clothing and water.

Rocketdyne group assists Stennis relief efforts

The Kennedy Space Center's 120-member Pratt and Whitney Rocketdyne team also responded to Hurricane Katrina's destruction by rallying to meet the needs of 50 friends and colleagues forced to take shelter within the facilities of Stennis Space Center. The team donated needed capital goods, such as chainsaws, generators and refrigerators. NASA, United Space Alliance and the Coast to Coast trucking company made arrangements to provide a 70-foot truck, which departed KSC

Sept. 9 filled with assorted items. Additionally, KSC's Lackmann Food Services provided many boxed foods.

A second truck departed KSC Sept. 15. This second effort was the result of many donations from employees of NASA, USA, Boeing, Sorensen Moving Lines and the Titusville Warbird Museum. A third truck left for Stennis Sept. 23 with assistance from the West Palm Beach-based Pratt and Whitney facility. A major need of the affected-area has been insect repellent.



IN THE VAB Parking lot on Sept. 14-15, the Rocketdyne group, including Joe Huyck (in truck), James Ness (center) and George Perez, gather donations of items to transport to Mississippi.

Hispanic luncheon celebrates center's diversity

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Kennedy Space Center's diverse work force was highlighted at the 20th annual Cape Canaveral Spaceport Hispanic Heritage Month Luncheon, hosted by the Hispanic Employment Program Working Group (HEPWG), on September 23.

The sold-out event, sponsored by ASRC Aerospace Corp., The Boeing Company, Indyne Inc. and Space Gateway Support, was part of the month-long celebration themed, "Hispanics – Diversifying and Strengthening America," that began Sept. 15 and ends Oct. 15.

While workers enjoyed the colorful table decorations and lively Latin American music, they were also treated to a slide show that featured notable people and landscapes of several Hispanic countries.

HEPWG chairperson Joe Tellado greeted workers from the Cape Canaveral Spaceport and introduced distinguished guests including Captain Winston Scott, executive director of the Florida Space Authority, 45th Space Wing Air Force Col. David Scott, Center Director Jim Kennedy and other partners.

Tellado noted that Hispanics



SYLVIA CACERES, regional director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration in Florida, speaks to guests at the Hispanic Heritage Month Luncheon hosted by the Hispanic Employment Program Working Group.

make up nearly 10 percent of KSC's work force. He also added the start date of Sept. 15 was selected because five Hispanic countries celebrate their independence on that day.

Kennedy welcomed workers and invited guests from the Cape Canaveral Spaceport to enjoy the Latin-American music, food and special speakers. "I do appreciate our Hispanic community," Kennedy said. "To all of you who represent the beauty and diversity of our center, I say 'thank you.'"

During the program, Pedro Carrion, a NASA program analyst in the office of the Chief Financial Officer and a distin-

guished Toastmaster, delivered a patriotic and emotional speech titled, "American, a Privilege." Carrion wrote the speech after the 9-11 terrorist attacks and presented it to the U.S. Senate Toastmasters Club.

The keynote speaker was Sylvia Caceres, regional director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration in

Florida. Her program, "Understanding Hispanics in the U.S.," included an overview of the history, traditions and economics of Puerto Ricans in the United States.

Currently there are 2.7 million Puerto Ricans living in Florida. According to Caceres, the majority of those moving to Florida, and especially to Central Florida, have at least a bachelor's degree.

"In purchasing power, Hispanics bring \$7 billion to the American economy," Caceres said.

The luncheon came to a close with special recognition to the event sponsors and HEPWG committee members. Awards were presented to Caceres, Sam Gutierrez with SGS and Eduardo Lopez del Castillo, the university programs manager in KSC's education office.

Feel the joy of mentoring a disabled student for a day

Dr. Woodrow Whitlow, deputy director of Kennedy Space Center, admits the students he works with during Disability Mentoring Day aren't the only ones who are moved by their time together.

"After meeting the students, I was pretty much inspired by them. We are supposed to inspire the students, but I was inspired by the students and wanted a chance to show them what I do on a typical day," said Whitlow, who recently was named director of Glenn Research Center effective in January.

"This mentoring day gives me an opportunity to convince maybe one student to pursue a course of study leading to a NASA career."

Civil service and contractor employees are encouraged to get involved in Disability Mentoring Day at KSC on Oct. 25. The event

provides students with disabilities the opportunity to spend one day at the spaceport. Employees show the students the activities taking place at the facilities and provide an enriching experience.

When he worked at the Glenn Research Center, he served on the board of directors for the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Cleveland. Whitlow also worked with many students in the High School High-Tech program, which aimed to provide opportunities for disabled students.

This year's mentoring day is a great way for the NASA family to gain an understanding of all that students with disabilities have to offer, identify potential recruiting candidates and demonstrate community and professional leadership. To become involved in this year's event, contact Lisa.R.Arnold@nasa.gov.

WHITLOW . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

deputy director has afforded him.

"You get to do things here you can not do anywhere else," he said. "There's no where else I can sit in the commander's seat of Discovery on the launch pad, inspect the stacked components of the Shuttle system or view the inside of an expendable launch vehicle up close. The people here know what their mission is and are very dedicated to it."

There have also been challenges.

"One of the challenges came after the president announced the vision for space exploration and announced NASA would help

complete the International Space Station, then retire the Space Shuttle," Whitlow said. "The challenge has been, and will continue to be, to transition those programs to the new programs. The senior leadership team here at Kennedy has taken tremendous steps to ensure its progress for these programs, and to make sure it's well postured for the future."

He holds bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in aeronautics and astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Glenn Research Center consists of 24 major facilities and more than 500 specialized research facilities at a 350-acre site.

Parsons, Stafford reunite Russian-born adoptees

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Two adopted Russian children recently were reunited because of an unknown connection they shared with NASA.

Since Stanis "Stas" Norwich was adopted in 2003, he calls Florida home and relies on the steady guidance of his mentor and 2004 school teacher, Amy Parsons. She is married to current Stennis Space Center Director and former Space Shuttle Program Manager Bill Parsons.

She said the 11-year-old boy is a hard worker and role model for classmates, and he makes friends fairly well. On one April day, Norwich was having a particularly bad week.

The Tropical Elementary School fourth-grade teacher talked to Norwich about his concerns and listened to him reminisce about his best friend from the Russian orphanage where they both lived. He also mentioned that his friend shared the name Stas and moved to Oklahoma after being adopted in 2003.

"My mind raced with thoughts of trying to contact this friend, so Stas could contact the one person who might understand what he was going through while adapting to life in America," Parsons said. "All he knew was that a general had adopted his friend and that the general used to be an astronaut.



STANIS "STAS" Norwich, who now calls Florida home after being adopted from Russia, was reunited with a fellow Russian adoptee living in Oklahoma thanks to the efforts of his mentor Amy Parsons.

My mouth dropped. When he said, 'I think Stafford was his name,' I nearly jumped out of my chair."

That evening, Parsons told her husband the story, and he confirmed that Gen. Thomas Stafford and his wife, Linda, adopted two Russian boys: Stas, 10, and Michael, 14. Stafford is a former NASA astronaut who retired from the U.S. Air Force. He also co-chaired the task group that independently assessed NASA's actions to

implement the Columbia Accident Investigation Board recommendations. He has two adult daughters, Dionne Kay and Karin Elaine, from his first marriage.

"The next day, Gen. Stafford called to say they had been looking for more than a year for Stas Stafford's friend, and they couldn't get any information from Russia. I immediately e-mailed the Staffords' information to Norwich's mother and they contacted them," Parsons said.

In May, the boys reunited and

instantly resumed their friendship.

"Gen. Stafford was thrilled about the reunion, and I just think what a miracle it was that all those pieces fit together in such a timely manner," she shared.

Parsons said her husband feels Stafford is an incredible colleague and mentor, but he believes a higher calling put them together for this chance reunion of two children who really needed a friend.

Parsons leads Stennis recovery

NASA named Bill Parsons as the new director of the John C. Stennis Space Center in south Mississippi as of Sept. 13. Parsons succeeds retired U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Thomas Donaldson and returns to the position he held prior to becoming space shuttle program manager in May 2003.

"When Mike Griffin asked me to come back to Stennis as the center director, I was

looking forward to becoming involved and building upon all the great things that have going on since I left two and half years ago," said Parsons. "Of course, I had no idea of the challenge I would be facing after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Mississippi Gulf coast, Slidell and New Orleans. The magnitude of the recovery effort is impossible to capture in just a few words, but it is obvious it will take years to rebuild this area.

"I look forward to being back in my home state and being a part of that rebuilding process with the good people of Mississippi and Louisiana," Parsons said. "I would also like to thank the NASA family for everything they have done, and will do, to aid this effort."



FIRST LADY Laura Bush congratulates NASA officials, including Bill Parsons (left), for a successful launch of mission STS-114.

Expo highlights spaceport business opportunities

By *Corey Schubert*
Copy Editor

More than 175 national and local businesses and government groups are gearing up to showcase their best products and services at the annual "Business Opportunities Expo 2005" on Oct. 18 at Port Canaveral.

The trade show will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Cruise Terminal 3. In its 15th year, the Expo is sponsored by the NASA/Kennedy Space Center Small Business Council, 45th Space Wing and Canaveral Port Authority.

"From year to year, it's one of the largest government trade shows in the state of Florida," said David Wansley, KSC small

business specialist.

Vendors will highlight a variety of product and service areas, such as computer technology, communication equipment and services, and construction and safety products.

Counselors who are ready to talk about their subcontracting opportunities at the event include Space Gateway Support, The Boeing Company, United Space Alliance and the Florida Space Authority. Brevard County businesses and several minority-, women-, veteran-owned and HUBZone companies will also be on hand.

"It's a great networking event that gives small businesses the opportunity to talk to engineers and others in government who have a need for what they're



AT PORT Canaveral, Business Opportunities Expo will give business a chance to highlight their services, such as last year's event shown above.

offering," said KSC industry assistant Gloria Marsh.

The NASA/KSC Small Business Council consists of United Space Alliance, The Boeing Company and Space Gateway Support. The council works with NASA's Central

Industry Assistance Office to provide support to small businesses that want to work with KSC.

Admission to the Expo is free. For more information, call (321) 867-7353 or visit the Web site at <http://expo.ksc.nasa.gov>.

CFC rally set for Oct. 4

The Combined Federal Campaign, the world's largest annual workplace giving program, officially begins Oct. 4 at Kennedy Space Center with a kick-off rally in the Training Auditorium at 9 a.m. The charity event runs through Oct. 31. Ray Lugo, deputy director of the Launch Services Program, has been designated as KSC's chairperson.

This year's campaign slogan is *Launching Dreams of Those In Need*. "Hundreds of thousands of our fellow Americans, including

some of our own NASA employees, are currently suffering great personal hardship," said Center Director Jim Kennedy. "You and I can begin to launch their dreams of rebuilding their lives with our generous contributions to the CFC."

This year's campaign provides employees the opportunity to contribute to a large number of charities. Key solicitors in each organization will share the message of the campaign. The CFC cabinet set this year's goal at \$325,000.



KENNEDY SPACE Center's 2005 Combined Federal Campaign cabinet meets with Center Director Jim Kennedy to discuss the details of this year's charity event. Campaign chairperson Ray Lugo, deputy director of the Launch Services Program at KSC, is pictured to the left of Kennedy.

Tell 'My Story' in your own words


Have you ever wanted to tell your life's story? Well, here's your chance. Beginning in October, *Spaceport News* will publish a feature column called "My Story" and it will be all about you. To participate, simply submit a first-person article to the e-mail address below.

Write as if you're talking to your best friend. Tell us about your family, career and most memorable experiences. Discuss what is important to you. You can also express your hopes and desires. A little bit about your career at KSC will be most interesting, as well.

The *Spaceport News* editorial staff will make the final selections and run one article per issue. Due to space limitations, please keep your article between 400 to 500 words. And, of course, we reserve the right to edit for clarity and length.

Have fun, and I look forward to hearing from you at Bruce.Buckingham-1@nasa.gov.

Bruce Buckingham
Spaceport News Managing Editor



John F. Kennedy Space Center

Spaceport News

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