



michoud messenger

Volume 2, Issue 1 | June 1, 2010

USCG Opens Administration Building at MAF



Left to right: Capt. Mark Carmel, Rear Adm. Thomas Ostebo and Cmdr. Eric Johnson cut the ribbon during opening ceremonies May 12. The \$90 million administration building at Michoud represents the largest single facility contract in U.S. Coast Guard history. The new facility includes an 85,000 square foot admin and berthing building, a new industrial, shipping and receiving building totaling 49,000 square feet and an additional 7,200 square feet of covered storage. Waterfront facilities include a pier, wharf and flood gate. The Coast Guard command at MAF is responsible for financial, work-life, civil rights, housing, industrial, facilities engineering and medical and dental support to the more than 900 personnel assigned to the Eighth District Coast Guard region's various units.

Hurricane Season is here – Be Prepared

The 2010 Hurricane Season is upon us and history has taught us that a lack of hurricane awareness and preparation are the common threads among all major hurricane disasters. By knowing and understanding your vulnerability and what actions you should take, you can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster on you and your family.

During each hurricane season an average of eleven tropical storms develop over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico. Many of these storms remain over the ocean and never impact the U.S. coastline. About six of these storms become named hurricanes each year.

In an average 3-year period, five hurricanes typically strike the US coastline anywhere from Texas to Maine killing approximately 50 to 100 people. Of these five storms, two are generally “major” or “intense” hurricanes (a category 3 or higher storm on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale).

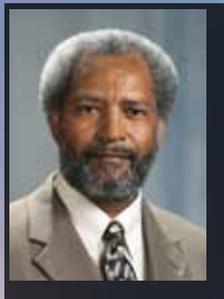
Hurricane hazards can arrive in many forms including: storm surge, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding. This means that it is vital for your family to have a plan that includes all of these hazards. Look carefully at the safety actions associated with each hazard and prepare your family plan accordingly. But

Continued on page 2

STS-132 Honorees



**Eric
Stack**



**Rodney
Dominique**



**Ryan
Rudewick**

As Space shuttle Atlantis soared toward the International Space Station, Space Flight Awareness Honorees Eric Stack, Rodney Dominique, and Ryan Rudewick witnessed STS-132 reach outer space. The Space Flight Awareness award is the highest form of recognition given to an employee by NASA's Space Flight Awareness Program. The spacecraft took off from NASA Kennedy Space Center's Launch Pad 39A at 2:20 p.m. EDT May 14. STS-132 is the 132nd shuttle flight, the 32nd for Atlantis and the 34th shuttle mission dedicated to station assembly and maintenance.

Hurricane Continued...

remember this plan is only a guide. The first and most important thing anyone should do when faced with a hurricane is to use common sense. Before a hurricane threatens you should consider the following information that could affect your family:

- Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding, and wind. Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.
- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- Have an out-of-state friend as a contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.
- Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.
- Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit.
- Use a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio. Remember to replace its battery every six months, as you do with your smoke detectors.
- Take first aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

It is imperative to remember that in a major disaster, emergency workers may not be able to reach everyone right away, and in some cases it may take three or more days for help to arrive. What would you do if you had no electricity, gas, water and telephone service? Planning ahead for your family and their needs will help ensure their safety and comfort during these difficult times.

Next month we will dig a little deeper into developing a simple but successful game plan for your family. This includes how to develop a checklist to help you prepare and ensure the safety and well-being of you and your loved ones.

- Forrest Davis, MAF Emergency Operations Coordinator

MAF Joins Students at Einstein Charter Fest

Within the shadows of Michoud Assembly Facility lies a center of learning for youngsters called Einstein Charter, a pre-kindergarten through eighth grade school that focuses on math and science. On May 22 students, faculty and friends of Einstein Charter gathered on their campus to celebrate learning and a MAF employee was there to help. Hundreds of people showed up for food, music and games during the event dubbed Einstein Family Fest.

MAF's Steve Seipel talked about space exploration and handed out NASA stickers, posters and patches. "Did you know a NASA facility was in your backyard?" Seipel would ask students. Most kids and parents would reply yes, but a few said no. That's when Seipel would launch into an explanation of the benefits of studying math and science and how that applies to space exploration. "I enjoy this kind of stuff," added Seipel, a



MAF employee Steve Seipel hands out goodies to students during the Einstein Family Fest May 22.

photographer at MAF.

MAF's participation in the event was part of a community outreach initiative, an innovation that supports NASA's community outreach

efforts by providing hands-on support to educational activities. MAF employees have participated in more than 50 outreach events since May 2009.

Robotic Weld Tool Installed



University of New Orleans and Boeing workers stand in front of the new Robotic Weld Tool (RWT) recently installed to work on the Ares I Upper Stage.

Asian Luncheon a Great Success



Dozens of MAF employees enjoyed Asian food May 12 in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

School Visits MAF



Students from Dreaux Elementary toured MAF May 6. Nearly 500 students from area schools have toured Michoud this year.

MEF Teachers Receive Award



Left to right: Ian Binns, Donna Frank, Margaret Piazza, Mark Hazlett, Pam Blanchard, Steve Turner and Paulette Perrin attended the Michoud Education Fellows (MEF) out-briefing May 12. Frank, Piazza and Hazlett received space shuttle models as part of their year-long participation in the fellowship, which is sponsored by NASA.

Employee Spotlight

This month's spotlight is on MSFOC employee Shannon Powell, who recently received her bachelors degree in business entrepreneurship from Southern University in New Orleans. Powell has juggled work and school for the past four years but said the hard work paid off.



Shannon Powell

"The last four years flew by so fast and I have learned so much, through classes, extracurricular activities, my job here at Michoud and having the support of family and friends," said Powell.

Powell was able to take advantage of the Jacobs Employee Educational Assistance program and she expressed an appreciation for those at MAF who have helped. "I enjoy the people I work with," added Powell. "It's a friendly and fun atmosphere and I actually enjoy going into work every morning."

When away from the job, Powell enjoys being with family, reading, football and basketball, movies and traveling.

If you know of someone who should be in the spotlight, email john.filostrat@nasa.gov.

STS-131 Crew Visit

June 3 at 10:15 a.m. in building 103.

ET-138 Rollout Ceremony

June 29 at 9 a.m. in front of building 420.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Michoud Assembly Facility
13800 Old Gentilly Rd.
New Orleans, LA 70129
<http://maf.msfc.nasa.gov>

www.nasa.gov

michoudmessenger

Volume 2, Issue 6 | June 1, 2010

Acting MAF COO: Steve Doering

Editors: John Filostrat and Angela Storey

Layout/Design: Shannon Jurado

Photographers: Chip Howat and Steven Seipel

