Stennis dedicates new EOC

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour and first lady Marsha Barbour were among special guests as officials at NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center cut the ribbon on its new Emergency Operations Center on June 2.

The 78,688-square-foot facility is a giant leap forward in emergency operations and response capabilities, enabling critical integration by consolidating the center's medical clinic, fire department, security services, energy management control system and incident command post. The facility is also on track to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified – a third-party certification program that

See EOC, Page 8

2009 storm season arrives – be prepared

Hurricanes are nothing new to Stennis Space Center. Since the center was established in the mid-1960s, it has been in the direct path of nine major storms. With the 2009 hurricane season under way this month, there is the chance of other storms impacting the center, and Lagniappe is focusing on helping Stennis friends and family prepare. Check inside for a four-page, detachable guide that includes a contraflow map and helpful storm-related information. The guide also details the Stennis storm shelter policy.
Steam billows from an RS-68 rocket engine test at the B Test Stand at Stennis Space Center on June 2. The test was viewed by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour (third from left) and his wife, Marsha, who spent the afternoon at the NASA rocket engine testing center. The governor was joined at the RS-68 test by (l to r) Charles Scales, NASA associate deputy administrator; Jeffrey Wright, Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne site director at Stennis; Gene Goldman, Stennis director; and Jack Forsythe, NASA assistant administrator for the Office of Security and Program Protection. The Mississippi governor and first lady visited Stennis to participate in a ribbon cutting for the site’s new Emergency Operations Center but also took the opportunity to tour other facilities.

“We were both growing older then, and wiser with the years; that’s when I came to understand the course his heart still steers.”

(Jimmy Buffett, “The Captain and the Kid”)

Gladie Woods and I had lunch with Mr. Harry Johnstone last week, just “to listen to the stories he could tell.” He spent a lifetime in the rocket test world, at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., and here, with a career stretching back over 60 years. His experience includes Jupiter, Saturn, the space shuttle’s main propulsion test article, space shuttle main engine and others, plus a host of interesting personalities. He may not have seen it all, but he’s seen a lot, and his eyes still gleam telling about it.

I was interested in lessons learned in the very early days. He was responsible for propulsion testing under Karl Heimberg, one of Dr. Wernher Von Braun’s lieutenants. It was an era of “automatic accountability,” and personal responsibility was a requirement. No one had ever done what they were asked to do. Yet, they had an optimism and confidence in their ability to overcome the unknown that absolutely inspires me. And they enabled a lunar landing “within this decade,” as challenged.

They invented as they went. Without cell phones or Internet, they communicated. They kept faith in each other, learned from what they destroyed, “fixed it” and moved on. As a program, they discovered and resolved some of the greatest technical issues of any day, within an extreme schedule constraint. Belief that they could find a way was their major asset.

We have our own generational opportunity. Activation and operation of the A-3 Test Stand will use old technology on an unprecedented scale. It will take ingenuity and energy not required of us in years. It will try our ability and our patience, but we have the skills. We need “Hell, yes!” responses to the “Can you?” questions, even when we can’t imagine how. We test. As Randy Galloway says, “It’s why they pay us to engineer.”

Preparing to come here in 2006, I asked John Plowden of Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne about the collective center ability. He asserted, “Stennis gets it done.” I was already a believer. I still am. We need all of us to be. Thank you, Sir Harry!

Dream big; work harder! It’s hurricane season again; stay ready.

From the desk of
Gene Goldman
Director
Stennis Space Center

Mississippi governor views test firing
Engineers in the E Test Complex at NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center are completing another round of testing on the chemical steam generator critical to construction and operation of the new A-3 Test Stand.

“We have validated that the design and the reproduction of the hardware are functioning properly,” said Barry Robinson, project manager for the chemical steam generator tests. “We have validated the hardware is making steam at the correct temperature and flow rate. We have shown the system works.”

In the most recent round of testing, engineers ignited a single chemical steam generator can or module. As designed, the A-3 Test Stand will include nine three-module configurations. The nine units will burn isopropyl alcohol and oxygen to superheat and vaporize water, thus producing steam. The steam will create the vacuum that will simulate altitudes of up to 100,000 feet.

Simulating such high altitudes is critical in testing the new J-2X engine being built to help carry humans back to the moon and possibly beyond as part of NASA's Constellation Program. The engine must be capable of firing in the thin atmosphere above Earth's surface.

To enable such testing, A-3 Test Stand designers have focused on proven, reliable hardware from the 1960s. They turned to the E Complex test team at Stennis to show the equipment of choice could be manufactured as specified and perform as needed.

Early subscale testing validated the design. The latest round of testing on the full-sized module validates that the 1960s hardware can be reproduced. Once a three-module configuration is built, E Complex engineers will test it again to make sure the hardware has been reproduced accurately. That testing is expected to get under way by year's end.

It all is part of the E Complex effort to identify and address issues with the chemical steam generator prior to full installation on the A-3 Test Stand.

“This is testing that needs to be done,” Robinson said. “Finding and resolving issues now saves time and money.”

The most-recent tests provided good data for engineers to evaluate the chemical steam generator equipment and performance, Robinson said.

“Now, we’re focused on achieving an optimum level of performance all while minimizing propellant usage and water consumption.”

Engineers already have saved money on the chemical steam generator module’s ignition. Faced with using an expensive spark igniter, engineers found another, less-costly igniter that, with minor modifications, can be used in the high-pressure environment.

Also, the testing provides invaluable experience that can be used on the A-3 Test Stand and to support the facility once it is operational. NASA engineers hope a chemical steam generator unit can be maintained at the E Complex for just that purpose.

“That way, if anything goes wrong on the test stand, we can just go to E Complex and perform tests to figure out what needs to be done,” Robinson said.
John C. Stennis Space Center Director Gene Goldman and NASA Chief of Safety and Mission Assurance Bryan O’Connor presented annual NASA Honor Awards during an onsite ceremony June 4.

Four Stennis employees received NASA’s Exceptional Service Medal. The prestigious medal is awarded for significant, sustained performance characterized by unusual initiative or creative ability that clearly demonstrates substantial improvements or contributions in engineering, aeronautics, space flight, administration, support or space-related endeavors that contribute to the mission of NASA.

Robert S. Harris, deputy procurement officer, received an Exceptional Service Medal for his work in the Office of Procurement in various capacities and his involvement in numerous key actions. After the Columbia tragedy in 2003, Harris provided key leadership and managerial expertise to support Return to Flight efforts at Stennis. A recognized contingency contracting expert, he set the agency disaster recovery benchmark with his efforts during Hurricane Katrina recovery. In another first for NASA, Harris also was the procurement lead for the execution of the $128 million Test Operations Contract, the first to combine rocket propulsion test services across two centers.

William “Kirk” Miller, center operations deputy director, received an Exceptional Service Medal for his contributions to NASA through various roles within the Center Operations Directorate during the last 19 years. He was a critical member of the Hurricane Katrina recovery team. As chief of the Program Management Division, Miller utilized his expertise to position the center to receive much-needed construction of facility and project funding. In 2005, Miller was a catalyst for agencywide support of the Construction Safety Training Initiative. Miller has provided guidance and counsel to “new leaders” across the organization throughout his tenure.

Jon Roth, exchange operations manager in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, received an Exceptional Service Medal for sustained and significant contributions to NASA and Stennis Space Center since 1988. During his tenure, Roth’s efforts in various capacities have been instrumental in improving Stennis operations, as well as the quality of life for employees. Roth has been instrumental in developing the annual Stennis Economic Impact Report. Roth’s work as Exchange operations manager has resulted in increased revenues to the Exchange for major enhancements in local facilities, such as the Child Development Center, the Wellness Center, expanded banking facilities, expanded visitor center retail facilities, and various athletic facilities.

Stanley Warren, test support operations manager in the Center Operations Directorate, received an Exceptional Service Medal for contributions as a 30-year career federal employee with 19 years of service at Stennis Space Center. Warren is responsible for the oversight of daily maintenance and operation activities at the high-pressure industrial water plant and cryogenic propellant storage facility. He also has extensive duties at the high-pressure gas facility. He has resolved various maintenance issues at the facilities through intensive engineering work and adherence to difficult schedules. In doing so, Warren has worked with contractor counterparts to build a team environment and to recognize the work of others.

Deborah Norton, lead of the Integrated Business Management Team in the Office of the Chief Financial Director, received the Exceptional Achievement Award for providing significantly advanced business support to Stennis Space Center as well as the Level II Rocket Propulsion Test Program Office. Her efforts included the utilization and standardization of a business management software package that now integrates and resource loads the Project Directorate’s operating plans. She also worked to assist the Rocket Propulsion Test Program Office at Stennis and other centers to adopt a modified version of the software to use as their primary strategic planning tool.
Paul Rieder, mechanical system design engineer in the Engineering and Test Directorate, received an Exceptional Achievement Medal. Rieder is the J-2X engine test project design lead at Stennis for NASA’s Constellation Program. The goal for the J-2X engine is to evolve the Apollo/Saturn era J-2 engine by substantially increasing its thrust capability and propellant performance; to develop the J-2X nearly two years faster than any other engine in its class; and to ensure it meets stringent safety/performance requirements. Rieder is a key contributor to this historic effort and has successfully completed four major engineering accomplishments central to the project.

One Stennis employee received NASA’s Exceptional Public Service Medal. It is awarded to persons who are not government employees but made exceptional contributions to the mission of NASA.

Michael Gaudin received the Exceptional Public Service Medal for contributions during a 32-year career in the work control area at Stennis. A Jacobs Technology Inc. employee, Gaudin developed expertise in inventory management and work planning/scheduling and served as work control senior specialist and work control supervisor for eight years. He was on the 1994 team that led the Stennis transition to a server system that generates 33,000 work orders annually. Gaudin also has led teams that developed key service systems at Stennis, such as the Facility Operating Services Contract Information System, the NASA Service Request System and the Funds Availability System.

Several other Stennis Space Center individuals and groups also were recognized for service and contributions during the NASA Honor Awards ceremony June 4. These honors included:

**NASA Space Flight Awareness Leadership Award**
Michael J. Blotzer

**Peer Recognition Award Professional Achievement**
Andrew L. “Bo” Clarke

**Length of Service Awards**

- **35 years**
  Robert J. Heitzmann
  Gregory Fletcher

- **30 years**
  James T. Bevis
  Robert C. Bruce
  Samuel D. McCarty
  Kirk V. Sharp
  Stanley C. Warren

- **25 Years**
  Marina L. Benigno
  Nicholas A. Cenci
  Thomas R. Galloway
  Arthur E. Goldman
  Theadore J. Mason
  Eric P. Ross

**Group Achievement Awards**

**Building 1100 Mishap Investigation Board Support Team**
NASA
Paul Foerman
Charles J. Heim
Wendy L. Houser
Jacqueline Wall
Charles M. Willis

**Jacobs Facility Operating Services Contract**
Edward R. Bowman
Harold E. Coleman
Alan M. Phillips
David M. Thomas

REDE Inc.
Mary McCracking

Applied Geo Technologies Inc.
Aaron P. Head
Harold R. Ross

High-Pressure Gas Facility Nitrogen Upgrade Team
NASA
Henry J. Bakker
Scott L. Jensen
Michael A. Kersanac
Thomas G. Nicolaides
John T. Pazos
Peter V. Tran

Jacobs Facility Operating Services Contract
Douglas D. Dike
Andrew B. Hill
Timothy D. Jarrell
Frank Lorusso
Aaron T. Mannion
Billy R. Smith

University of Southern Mississippi
Lawrence H. Haselmaier

Jacobs NASA Test Operations Group
Byron B. Bordelon
Henry H. Breazeale
James J. Cain
Gregory K. Conn
Ronnie J. Dartez
John C. Davis
Jerry J. Duggan
Anthony P. Gallodoro
Frank B. Gill
Fred B. Giveans
Shannon M. Hariat
Robert L. Helveston
Darwin J. Hilsher
Micah L. Jones
Travis D. Kennedy
Jody G. Knight
Lavell Ladner
Roger D. Ladner
Steven Ladner

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AWARDS
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Norberg-Cooper Bessemer Diesel Restoration Team

NASA
Randall R. Canady
Douglas R. McNair
Gary O. Taylor

Jacobs Facility Operating Services Contract
Donna L. Grimsley
Aaron T. Mannion

Jacobs NASA Test Operations Group
James M. Biles
Kirby R. Campbell
Tim Delcuze

Danny E. Ezell
Blake Ford
Peter H. Holzinger
Gerald L. Howard
Ira A. Lossett
James D. McGuire
Carley G. Odom
Todd A. Pearson
Rodney J. Wilkinson

Space Shuttle Main Engine Build Team
NASA
Donna Dubuisson

Defense Contract Management Agency
Roger Cooper
Barbara Faciane
Patrick Herman
Ron Mitchell

Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne
Ed Anderson
David Armbruster
Al Arnold
Delton Bales
Chris Barnes
Jeffrey Barros
Terri Bennett
Gayle Bledsoe
Dean Bourlet
Darlene Bradley
Dallas Brown
Mike Brown
Joe Bryant
Greg Condiff
Karla Condiff
Janine Cuevas
Bill Davis
James Dearman
Jim Dingman
Kenny Dubuisson
Lee English
Glenn Faciane
Una Faciane
Charles Gandy
Joe Gurneck
Andrew Haas (MSFC)

See AWARDS, Page 7
The 2009 hurricane season has arrived – and NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center has prepared this four-page guide as a resource for Gulf Coast residents. The guide offers invaluable information – a hurricane tracking map, storm-rating information and contact numbers for emergency situations. It also serves as an important reminder – for every Gulf Coast resident to be prepared and alert for whatever the 2009 storm season may deliver.

**Stennis Hurricane Shelter Guidelines**

As in previous years, Stennis is partnering with the American Red Cross during the 2009 storm season to maximize effectiveness of the facility and keep it in line with guidelines. Stennis is not equipped to be a primary shelter and only becomes a shelter 12 hours before the impact of any storm. The Red Cross will manage Stennis as a shelter of last resort with meager accommodations. For those who must evacuate to Stennis, the following guidelines will be in place:

- Employee families must be accompanied by a badged employee.
- Bring a minimum of three days of food, water, medicine and other essential personal items. The Stennis Space Center cafeteria and medical clinic will not be operational during the storm.
- Bring personal bedding, not to exceed single-size bedding; no large, inflatable bedding is allowed.
- Evacuees must register with American Red Cross officials stationed at Stennis shelter buildings. Sign in at the reception desk so accurate records can be kept. This also will allow evacuees to be contacted if there is a message or inquiry about their safety. When leaving, please sign out as well.
- Mark/tag luggage and personal belongings and food containers. Stennis Space Center cannot assume responsibility for personal belongings.
- Parents are responsible for the whereabouts and activities of their children.
- For safety reasons, possession or use of alcohol or other potentially harmful substances in any part of the shelter is strictly prohibited. No firearms or flammable liquids are allowed. Prescribed medication should be noted on the registration card. No smoking is allowed inside the shelter.
- No pets or animals are allowed.
- If evacuees have a medical condition that may present a special problem, please notify the shelter nurse or other staff member. Such conditions should be noted on the registration card.
- Do not leave the shelter until notified that it is safe by a shelter official.
- Immediately after the hurricane, the American Red Cross will make long-term shelters available for individuals who cannot return to their homes. Stennis will not operate as a long-term shelter.
- Employees are reminded to discuss their evacuation plans with supervisors so they can be contacted after a storm or to acquire their company/agency policy on contacts after a storm. NOTE: If NASA employees cannot contact Stennis due to downed communications after a storm, they should call 877-776-4654 to report their status.

**Emergency supply kit checklist**

- Flashlight
- Tissues
- Battery-operated radio
- Batteries
- Pencils
- Pocket knife
- Sanitary supplies (toothbrush, shampoo, soap, rubbing alcohol, toilet paper, cleanser, bleach, sponge)
- Garbage bags
- Nonperishable food
- Water (1 gallon per person a day)
- Drinks/juices
- Nuts
- Rice and pastas
- Peanut butter
- Crackers, soups
- Dried beans
- Canned goods
- Can opener
- First-aid kit/handbook
- Medicines
- Towels
- Blankets
- Candles
- Matches
- Clothing
- Portable stove and fuel
- Cooking utensils
- Plastic dishes, silverware
- Aluminum foil

(List not meant to be all-inclusive but offers suggestions for consideration)
In an effort to assist Louisiana in the event of a mandatory hurricane evacuation, the Mississippi Department of Transportation will implement contraflow (lane reversal) for I-59 and I-55 when requested by Louisiana and approved by the governor of Mississippi.

- The decision to contraflow is not automatic and will only be used when absolutely necessary. Citizens should not delay evacuation plans in anticipation of contraflow.
- I-59 contraflow operations will begin in Louisiana, extend into Mississippi and end at mile marker 55, four miles south of U.S. 98 and about 34 miles farther than in previous years.
- I-55 contraflow operations will begin in Louisiana, extend into Mississippi and end near Brookhaven.
- All exits within the contraflowed sections of the interstate highways will remain open as traffic conditions allow. Officers will be present to assist with traffic control.
- Shoulders of both Interstates 59 and 55 should be kept clear for emergency vehicles. To stop, motorists should use the next available exit.
- I-10 East will be closed when contraflow begins. Officials say they want individuals evacuating to the north, not to the east.
- Tune to public broadcasting radio stations for emergency information and road conditions.

# Hurricane strength

**Category One:** Winds 74-95 mph. Storm surge 4-5 feet.

**Category Two:** Winds 96-110 mph. Storm surge 6-8 feet.

**Category Three:** Winds 111-130 mph. Storm surge 9-12 feet.

**Category Four:** Winds 131-155 mph. Storm surge 13-18 feet.

**Category Five:** Winds greater than 155 mph. Storm surge greater than 18 feet.
National Resource Information

American Red Cross ................................................................. 866-GET-INFO (438-4636)
www.redcross.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) ...................... 800-621-FEMA (3362)
www.fema.gov

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) ....... www.noaa.gov
NOAA National Hurricane Center ............................................. www.nhc.noaa.gov
NOAA National Weather Service ............................................ www.nws.noaa.gov
National Weather Service Forecast Office ................................. 504-522-7330
NOAAWatch - NOAA's All-Hazard Monitor .............................. www.noaawatch.gov

Mississippi Resource Information

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (www.msema.org) .......... 601-933-6362
(24 hrs) 800-222-MEMA (6362)
Mississippi Department of Transportation (www.GoMDOT.com) ........ 601-359-7001
(activated only during a disaster) 866-521-MDOT (6368)
Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (www.dps.state.ms.us) .............. 601-987-1212 (*hp from any cell)
Mississippi Board of Animal Health (www.mbah.state.ms.us) .......... 601-359-1170
Governor's Office (www.governor.state.ms.us) ............................ 877-405-0733 or 601-359-3150
Mississippi Insurance Department (www.mid.state.ms.us) ............. 800-562-2957
U.S. Coast Guard (Sector Mobile) .............................................. 251-441-6213
Mississippi Power (www.mississippipower.com) .......................... 800-532-1502
Coast Electric Power (www.coastepa.com) .................................. 800-624-3348

Louisiana Resource Information

Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (www.ohsep.louisiana.gov) 800-256-7036 or 225-925-7500
Louisiana Department of Transportation (www.dotd.state.la.us) ........ 225-379-1232
Louisiana State University Hurricane Center (hurricane.lsu.edu) ........ 225-578-6422
Louisiana State Police (www.lsp.org) ........................................... 225-925-6325 (*LSP from any cell phone)
Louisiana State Police Road Closure Hotline ............................... 800-469-4828
Louisiana Governor's Office (www.gov.state.la.us) .......................... 866-366-1121
Louisiana Department of Insurance (www.ldi.la.gov) ..................... 800-259-5300 or 225-342-5900
U.S. Coast Guard (Sector New Orleans) ....................................... 504-846-6160
Cleco Corporation (www.cleco.com) ............................................ 800-622-6537
Entergy (www.entergy-louisiana.com) .......................................... 800-ENTERGY (368-3749)
Power outages: 800-9OUTAGE (968-8243)
Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative (www.wste.coop) ...... 985-643-6612
Power outages: 866-672-9773
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Greg Haines
Rachel Harrison-Woodard
John Harville
Scotty Herrin
Zack Howard
Reggie Hudson
Kenny Jackson
Kyle Jackson
Bobby Knight
Odie Ladner
Reggie Ladner
Mike Lovell
Diane Luxich
Kevin McCaleb
Sirbrena McMillan
Paul Miller
Vince Moran
Dennis Narcisse
David Osburn
Nick Riesner
Videt Robbins
Jeremy Saucier
James Shows
Pete Taggard
Donnee Walters
Danny Wheat
Jerry Wood
Christine Zeringue

Special Recognition Awards

Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable Transition Team
Crystal N. Balentine
Patricia H. Fairley
Charlene E. Guin
Leslie R. Ladner
Edward J. Toomey

Shuttle Environmental Support Team
Don H. Beckmeyer
Michael J. Blotzer
Cynthia P. Canady
Marco J. Giardino
Carolyn D. Kennedy

Group Achievement Award
High-Pressure Gas Facility Nitrogen Upgrade Team

NASA Budget Execution and Procurement Focal Points Team
Susan D. Dupuis
Robert S. Harris
Rena L. Perwien
Timothy I. Pierce

Fund Balance with Treasury Transition Team
Crystal N. Balentine

NASA Transition Team
Patrick E. Scheuermann
Cynthia P. Canady

Time-Of-Flight Application-Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) Development Team
Curtis D. Armstrong

Space Shuttle Engine Cut-Off System Long-Term Team
David J. Coote

NASA's Business Systems Gap Analysis Team
Kristy J. Thompson
Deborah S. Norton

NASA Shared Services Center Build and Move Team
Michelle K. Craft

Ares I Vehicle Integration PDR Team
Jason R. Adam

Group Achievement Award
Space Shuttle Main Engine Build Team
A weekday security gate for badged employees has opened on Main Line Road entering Stennis Space Center, reported David Del Santo, center security officer.

The gate is open only on weekdays and only from 5:30-8:30 a.m. and 3-6 p.m. Persons must have a Stennis or NASA badge to enter.

The gate will not be open weekends, holidays and in times of hurricane conditions and heightened security alert. However, when open, its use will save travel time for persons using Texas Flat Road to enter Stennis, Del Santo said.

NASA honors Stennis workers for flight safety

Seven NASA John C. Stennis Space Center employees recently were honored by NASA's Space Flight Awareness Program for their contributions to flight safety throughout the year. Stennis Director Gene Goldman presented the awards during an onsite ceremony May 28. As part of the honor, award recipients also traveled to Kennedy Space Center, Florida, to tour the facility and witness the launch of STS-125.

Pictured at the Kennedy launch site are: (l to r) Carolyn Owen (CSC), Wendy Hayward (guest), Robert Hayward (Jacobs Facility Operating Services Contract), Sandra Cooper (guest), B.J. Cooper (Defense Contract Management Agency), Kirby Campbell (Jacobs Technology NASA Test Operations Group) and Tammy Campbell (guest). Not shown are Bill Bivens (Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne), Nestor Torres (Applied Geo Technologies) and David Armbruster (PWR).

EOC
Continued from Page 1

is the national benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

The EOC also showcases a state-of-the-art HazNet Emergency Management System developed through NASA's Innovative Research Program. The EOC is one of only nine federal facilities certified StormReady, a designation given to communities and sites across the country that demonstrate severe-weather readiness.

Gov. Barbour said he was not surprised by the resiliency of Stennis Space Center and its employees following Hurricane Katrina. Stennis served as an incident command post and housed emergency responders. “This facility, the people here, meant so much to the coast. They were such a great asset,” he said.

NASA Associate Deputy Administrator Charles Scales said the new EOC will make Stennis more resilient against the effect of future hurricanes and ensure the continuation of its vital mission amid future weather contingencies.

“When with the new EOC, we can more effectively account for employees, preserve our communications with the outside world, respond more rapidly to sitewide emergencies, and more comprehensively manage all of our emergency response personnel in one location,” said Stennis Center Director Gene Goldman.
Ramona Pelletier Travis, chief of the Innovative Partnerships Program at NASA’s John C. Stennis Space Center, has been elected deputy coordinator for the southeast region of the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer. Travis was elected during the consortium’s national meeting in Charlotte, N.C., in early May. It marks the first time a Stennis employee has been elevated to such a high consortium post. Travis was proposed for the position by the nominating committee for the southeast region. She is going through training and begins a two-year term in October.

“I’m excited about the work ahead,” Travis said after her election in competition with southeast regional representatives from the Army, Navy and Air Force. “I’m looking forward to the opportunity to serve and collaborate with others.”

The Federal Laboratory Consortium was organized in 1974 to strengthen technology transfer within the U.S. and to promote more extensive use of federal research and development. Today, more than 250 federal laboratories, centers and agencies are members of the group.

Forty federal laboratories in nine states are members of the consortium’s southeast region. These include three NASA centers – Stennis, Kennedy Space Center in Florida and Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

As deputy coordinator, Travis will assist the southeast regional coordinator on technology transfer and policy issues and will work to foster communication and coordination between member agencies at the national level.

In her 27-year career with NASA, Travis has served as a NASA research scientist/principal investigator/project manager and as the University Affairs Officer. For the last four years, she has been involved in NASA’s Innovative Partnerships Program at Stennis, first as intellectual property manager and now as chief.

She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Auburn (Ala.) University and a doctorate from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.
Imagine being one of the Apollo astronauts headed to the moon. What are you thinking? What is foremost in your mind?

“T’would be wondering whether I’ll find life when I get there, whether it’s bacterial or in some other form.”
Tom Burke, Naval Oceanographic Office

“I am thinking I am in a dream! Here I am, an African American female heading to the moon. Many were called, but few were chosen. I am one of the chosen.”
Tara Parrish, Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies

“I’m just hoping everything goes as planned – and I’m also extremely elated, ready to make history.”
Caleb Davis, Lockheed Martin

“That those thermal shields better be good and fastened. Other than that, I know what I signed up for; I’m ready.”
Amanda Waltmann, National Coastal Data Development Center
This past week, a friend forwarded a copy of Desiderata. The “Desiderata” – Latin for “essential things” – was written in 1927 by Max Ehrmann. However, the words are as relevant as if written today. While many of us may be familiar with this poem, let’s take time to read and remember it. Profound advice can’t be read too often!

Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love, for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

What is your “Desiderata” – how are you addressing those areas in your life? Are you tolerant of the diversity that makes everyone special? We all need to be careful in considering the impact of our actions, words, and thoughts on others. Let’s continue to cultivate an understanding of each other’s viewpoints even when – especially when – it’s difficult to put ourselves in their place.

Hail & Farewell

NASA bids farewell to the following:

Nickey Raines  Deputy Chief Engineer
Engineering and Test Directorate

And welcomes the following:

Ken Griffey  Information Technology Manager
Project Directorate

Adrianne Peyton  Contract Specialist
Office of Procurement

Daniela Bernal  Student Trainee/Legal
Office of Chief Counsel

Rec Association presents check

Stennis Recreational Association President Don Wilson (right) presents a check for $1,500 to Lydia Saffler, director of the Waveland Animal Shelter. The funds were raised through the association’s recent fishing tournament. Keith Pierce (left) serves as the fishing tournament director.
Stennis welcomes summer students, faculty

Eight students recently arrived at Stennis Space Center as participants in the 2009 NASA Interdisciplinary National Science Project Incorporating Research and Education Experience (INSPIRE) Program. They are: (standing, l to r) Kenneth Vitello, Kedric Bias Jr., Issac Helm, Brad Truxillo and Tyler Krutzfeldt; (sitting, l to r) Corina Minnifield, Kathryn Burns and Colleen Courtwright.

Stennis Space Center recently welcomed a pair of students to participate in the 2009 NASA Achieving Competence in Computing, Engineering and Space Science (ACCESS) Program. They are: (l to r) Michael McCarthy and Sean Young. They are shown with Education Office Student Program Manager Joy Smith.

Stennis Space Center recently welcomed three persons to serve as 2009 NASA Faculty Fellows. They are (l to r): James Elbers, Stephanie Lee and Kristopher Sartin.

Six participants in the 2009 NASA Summer Undergraduate Student Research (USRP) Program recently arrived at Stennis Space Center. They are (l to r): Alex MacCurdy, Paul Patton, Kristin Nevels, Michael Akenhead, Ryan Nazaretsian and Frank Tessier.