Exceptional high school students locally and from across the nation are experiencing the “real world” at NASA.

The agency has launched its 2004 NASA Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) in which a group of high-achieving students are selected from a nationwide pool of applicants to serve as apprentices in a variety of professions. Selected students represent nearly every state in the country, as well as the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and American Samoa. In addition, NASA Wallops Flight Facility is partnering with the National Space Club, Washington, D.C., to provide internships to local students.

Four local students were selected to participate in the eight-week SHARP program and five students were selected to participate in the six-week National Space Club Scholars Program.

The SHARP students are:

Melissa Waterfield, Arcadia High School, Oak Hall, Va.; Katrina LaCurts, Pocomoke (Md.) High School; and Samuel Arumala and Jennifer Higgins, Parkside High School, Salisbury, Md.

The National Space Club Scholars are:

Andrew Cropper and Joshua Barnes, Nandua High School, Onley, Va.; Rachel Patterson, Broadwater Academy, Exmore, Va.; and Andrew Bratten and Kyle Shah, James M. Bennett High School, Salisbury, Md.

SHARP’s synergistic approach to learning provides students with research-based mentoring focused on NASA’s mission, facilities, human resources and varied research components. The annual summer program advances NASA’s goal of engaging under-represented students in research opportunities and reinforces educational excellence in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and geography. The program also seeks to enrich and inspire students during the eight-week period by promoting interaction within their academic, workplace and social environments.

“NASA is committed to inspiring the next generation of explorers, as only NASA can,” said Deborah Glasco, Program Manager, Elementary and Secondary Education Division, Office of Education. “SHARP is a direct extension of this commitment, dedicated to academically and professionally motivating a diverse group of youth,” she said.

The National Space Club Scholars Program provides high school students with an opportunity to experience how research and development organizations operate on a day-to-day basis in direct support of NASA’s mission to inspire the next generation of explorers.

Both programs are designed to increase, strengthen and diversify the pool of students for mathematics, science and engineering college majors and careers. The summer students participate in and conduct meaningful research and are involved in many educational and professional activities.

For more information on NASA education programs, visit the Internet at: http://education.nasa.gov

Student Rocket Takes Flight

On July 17 students from Ohio and Wyoming saw the moment of truth for their efforts and hard work when their rocket lifted off the launch pad on Wallops Island.

The University of Cincinnati Pathfinder rocket was 8 inches in diameter and about 19 feet in length. Through the project, students gained hands-on experience in every aspect of engineering and launching a rocket.

Roger Rovekamp, Pathfinder project lead and project manager of the Cincinnati team, said, “I learned how to manage a project with minimal funding, varying levels of commitment and strict design requirements, as well as how to design, build, test and launch a high powered sounding rocket.”

Students from the University of Cincinnati designed and built the payload.

They worked in conjunction with Casper College, Natrona County School District and Wickman Propulsion and Space, all in Wyoming, in the design and fabrication of the motor.

NASA supported the project through the Sounding Rocket Program’s Student Rocket Flight Demonstration Initiative.

The initiative is designed to give universities the opportunity to fly student designed rockets in a safe and controlled environment.

NASA Wallops Flight Facility provided design consultation, launch range and safety support.
Hawaiian Luau

WHEN: Friday, July 30
WHERE: Cropper Center on Kearsarge Circle

TIME: Social Hour - 6 to 7 p.m.
Dinner Buffet by Mallards Catering - 7 to 8:30 p.m.

MENU
“North Shore” chicken skewers with a mango and avocado chutney
Pan seared mahi-mahi w/coconut and almond crust, served w/honey lime cream sauce
Waikiki skirt steak w/fiery “volcanoes lava” sauce
Rainbow rice pilaf w/mixed peppers, carrots, red onions and macadamia nuts
Purple potato salad w/roasted red peppers and a cool cucumber dressing
Mixed greens salad w/papaya sesame dressing
Assorted rolls w/sugar cane honey butter

Dessert Selection
Authentic Hawaiian Show by Hawaiian Enterprises of Virginia Beach begins at 8:30 p.m. and features island songs and dances by native Polynesians
Contests (limbo, hula, taliest Hawaiian shirt, most authentic dress)

Tickets are $20 each ($15 for retired military and their spouse). Call Jill Jester at x1692 or Tammy Hudson at x2476 for tickets or further information.

Apollo 11: 35 Years Later

On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy said, “I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to earth.” Although Kennedy was assassinated in 1963, the United States and NASA strived to reach his goal — and succeeded.

More than eight years after Kennedy’s announcement, on July 20, 1969, one event ignited the United States space program and left other countries actively chasing the United States in milestone space achievements. Apollo 11 reached and won the race to the moon, with its landing at 4:17 p.m. EDT on July 20 and the announcement, “the Eagle has landed.”

Three veteran astronauts were onboard Apollo 11 on July 16, 1969, when a Saturn V rocket launched it into orbit from Cape Kennedy, Fla. Its destination, the moon, was 238,000 miles away.

The crew, which also had previously flown on Gemini missions, consisted of Commander Neil A. Armstrong, Lunar Module Pilot Edwin E. “Buzz” Aldrin Jr., and Command Module Pilot Michael Collins. The first astronaut to step out onto the surface of the moon was 38 year old, Neil Armstrong.

When stepping out onto the moon, Armstrong said the infamous words, “one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” Armstrong’s first task was to unveil a plaque signed by the astronauts on the mission, as well as then President Richard Nixon. The plaque became a permanent fixture to the lunar surface as it was attached to the descent stage of the lunar module. The second man to walk on the moon, Buzz Aldrin, assisted Armstrong in erecting an American flag on the moon’s surface. Collins remained in the command module and continued to orbit the moon.

The crew of the Apollo 11 launched the start of space exploration not only for the United States but other countries as well. The work and immense successes of the Apollo 11 mission “inspired the next generation of explorers,” as people both young and old became interested in NASA and space.

Apollo 11 was just the beginning of space exploration and the beginning of future space endeavors. Apollo 11 was “…one giant leap for mankind.”

Wallops Shorts........

In the News

Business Aviation
“NASA Teams with Gulfstream on Advanced Vision Research”

The Cincinnati Enquirer
“UC Students Make a Path to the Heavens. 2 Year Rocket Building Project to End Friday when Pathfinder is Launched”

The Associated Press
“Students Await NASA Launch of Rocket”

The Cincinnati Enquirer
“NASA Launches Student-Built Rocket”

Massage Therapy Returning to WFF
Certified Massage Therapists from Massage for Wellness, Salisbury, MD will be here -

WHEN: July 28, 2004
WHERE: Building E-2 Training Room
TIME: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The therapist’s have requested 15 minute appointments only on this day.
Payment of $1 per minute is required at the time of your appointment.

Call the Health Unit at x1766 to schedule an appointment.

EAP Lunch & Learn
with Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselor, Tom Northam.

WHEN: Tuesday July 27, 2004
WHERE: Williamsburg Room, Building E-2
TIME: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Addiction revisited: Come learn about the concepts of universal and core addictions. We all have them and can operate from unhealthy paradigms if we’re unconscious about what’s driving us. Core addictions are: Security, Power and Control, Sensation, and Suffering. Universal addictions are: Intensity, Perfection, The Addiction to the Need to Know, and The Addiction to Being Fixated on What’s Not Working Rather Than What is Working.