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Spaceport News

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http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/snews/snewstoc.htm John F. Kennedy Space Center

KSC gives most money in CFC's history

By Jeff Stuckey
Editor

Federal employees at Kennedy Space Center contributed the largest sum in the history of the Combined Federal Campaign, totaling more than $389,000 in donations in their recent fund-raising drive.

The landmark achievement far surpassed the goal of raising $294,000 for the annual campaign, which is run by federal employees and military personnel nationwide to help thousands of non-profit charities. More than 82 percent of KSC's employees participated in the fund-raiser.

"I am extremely proud of the KSC family," said Center Director Jim Kennedy. "With the recent hurricanes and the damage and hardships many endured, the generosity and caring displayed by KSC employees is overwhelming."

There are countless examples of ways the CFC has changed lives.

It was 13 years ago when KSC employee Cynthia Pettiford and her husband were stationed in Sembach, Germany, a small town of approximately 800 military personnel, and she was working for the 1st Combat Communications squadron. While working for the squadron, the commander asked for a point of contact to work the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and Pettiford volunteered. Little did she know just how much the CFC would play a major role in this chapter of her life.

Her eldest sister became gravely ill with ovarian cancer and, when Pettiford's mother called to say her sister didn't have long to live, she was faced with a decision: catch a plane back home immediately while her sister was still alive or wait for her funeral.

"My sister did not have any type of insurance whatsoever, and because my husband was in the military, he was only allowed to take one trip back to the U.S. and it had to be at his own expense," Pettiford said. "This is where the CFC came in."

CENTER DIRECTOR JIM KENNEDY, shown here participating in last year's Combined Federal Campaign "Days of Sharing," is proud of this year's effort.

She wrote a letter to the Red Cross and the organization generously paid for the couple's trip home.

"I swear, if it wasn't for

(See CFC, Page 7)

Wynn's commitment to NASA makes her a standout

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Imagine being involved in documenting every procedure at Kennedy Space Center.

That's one of the responsibilities of Cheri Wynn, whose commitment and expertise in process development earned her the 2004 NASA Employee of the Year award from the Independent Technical Authority (ITA) and Systems Management Office (SMO).

As the process development and directives manager for KSC, Wynn oversees all official policies signed by Center Director Jim Kennedy and all Center procedure requirements. She ensures documents on policies and procedures are kept current.

Wynn supports the audit programs for the KSC business management system and assists in developing business system processes. Her work involves interaction with many people across the Center, including contractor organizations and at times across the Agency.

"Cheri has tremendous knowledge and expertise of our business systems and she routinely shares that knowledge and expertise with the Center's organizations and Headquarters," said Oscar Toledo, ITA and SMO director. "She is always willing to go the extra mile to help the team and it is a pleasure to work with her."

Wynn's career spans more than 30 years and she has worked with

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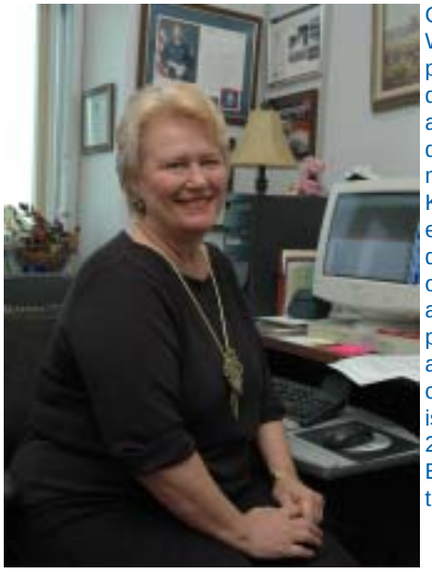


CHERI WYNN, a process development and directives manager for KSC, ensures documents on policies and procedures are kept current. She is also a 2004 NASA Employee of the Year.

The Kennedy Update

Jim Kennedy
Center Director

Happy Thanksgiving! I know it's a few days early, but let me be the first to wish you a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. It's hard to believe 2004 has rushed by and there are only 42 days until we welcome a new year. It just shows time flies when you are working hard and having fun.

There is no group of harder working people anywhere than at KSC. I'm proud to work everyday along side all of you; it's an honor and privilege.

As this column was heading to print, our Swift spacecraft stood poised on Pad 17A at Cape Canaveral AFS ready to blast off into space. Swift will allow scientists to study gamma-ray bursts.

This knowledge will be extremely important as we work to advance the Vision for Space Exploration sending humans back to the Moon, then to Mars and beyond.

I want to wish the entire SWIFT team and our Launch Services Program the best of luck with the launch and the future success of this spacecraft. And since luck is nothing more than preparation meeting opportunity, I know it'll be another great chapter of success in our Agency's history.

It's been a super year for NASA in the unmanned spacecraft arena, ranging from the success of the Mars rovers in January to the launches of Gravity Probe B, Aura and Messenger during the spring and summer. It doesn't stop with Swift, as 2004 will go out on a high note with the launch of the Deep Impact mission set for Dec. 30. SUPER JOB, everyone!

This week marked a major milestone for our Space Shuttle program as it marches toward its May-June 2005 launch window. The program began stacking the first segment of the Shuttle's Solid Rocket Boosters in the Vehicle Assembly Building. Our congrats to the Shuttle Program on this very visible and significant event.

I want to add my congratulations to George Diller in our Public Affairs Office for earning the Harry Kolcum Memorial News and Communication Award for 2004. Given by the Florida Chapter of the National Space Club, this award recognizes the top government Public Affairs Officer who did the most to promote space during the year. Everyone knows George as the voice of mission control from his numerous commentaries for both Space Shuttle and unmanned vehicle launches.

George was also instrumental this year as the "ride-out" PAO for our three hurricanes, ensuring the status of the Center was constantly updated through the media to our work force. George, congratulations. It's well deserved. I was proud to attend your luncheon Tuesday. In reality, this award recognizes your 20 years of service to NASA and KSC. SUPER JOB!

Once again, Happy Thanksgiving everyone and I hope you have a wonderful holiday. Afterward, we'll only have a month left in 2004, so let's make it the best of the year.

I hope you will have some quality time with family and friends during the holiday season. Our extended NASA Family is truly important to us all and makes life special. Have a great week!

IN THE MOBILE SERVICE TOWER on Launch Pad 17-A at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Boeing technicians attach the Swift spacecraft (above) to the Delta II second stage. Swift was set to launch Nov. 17 at press time.

November Employees of the Month

STANDING IN THE BACK ROW, from left, are: Chuck Klein, Launch Services Program; Javan Banks, Information Technology and Communication Services; George Diller, External Relations; Lee Leland, Spaceport Services; and Greg Katnik, Space Shuttle Program Management Office. Sitting in the front row, from left, are: Jacqueline Brooks, Procurement Office, Kenneth "Skip" Williams, Shuttle Processing; and Brenda Willis, Safety and Mission Assurance.

Second Annual Brevard Space Week

More than 6,000 Brevard County sixth graders visited Kennedy Space Center to learn more about the United States space exploration program and the importance and fun of math and science as part of Brevard Space Week. Each day 1,200 students participated in space-related activities.

Hard work helps Willcoxon become leader

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Seeking opportunities and developing fresh approaches to projects may seem like classic suggestions found in business course textbooks. However, Rita Willcoxon confirms for the Kennedy Space Center work force that adopting these practices helps produce professionals and molds them into dynamic leaders.

"I just do the best I can do. If a challenging thing needs to be done, I step up," she said. "I also try to anticipate what needs to be done instead of waiting to be asked."

Her proactive method of leadership and record of success has resulted in numerous awards and recently earned Willcoxon the role of Spaceport Engineering and Technology's (SE&T) deputy director. Today, along with her director, James Heald, she leads about 280 civil servants and two contracts.

RITA WILLCOXON, deputy director of Spaceport Engineering and Technology

Willcoxon joined the Agency in 1988 in the Payload Operations directorate. Her roles have included Spaceport Technology associate director, deputy chief for several offices and Jet Propulsion Laboratory resident office manager.

Aside from her chief duties, Willcoxon leads the development of the Agency's Capability Roadmaps. "I've gained an appreciation for other centers and how we can partner with them to broaden our abilities at Kennedy," she said.

When selected in 2002 to direct the Station and Shuttle Utilization Reinvention team, she became one of only a few people from KSC ever chosen to lead an Agency team. "I had a lot of interaction with all the center directors," Willcoxon said. "I was able to show people my leadership abilities outside of KSC."

As NASA's vision evolves, SE&T grows too. According to Willcoxon, it's beneficial to serve in a development-oriented role at an operations center. "We have to make the new vision a reality, and determine what role this organization should be involved in and how to make it happen," she said.

Willcoxon explained that the developmental organization faces the new challenge of producing new ideas while marketing the concept and winning funds.

"Our focus is on balancing and optimizing the work force of this organization for all the projects we do and to satisfy those customers so they come back," she said. "An exciting part is that we have proposals in areas not traditional to KSC - other centers are accepting us as partners."

She contributes her success to hard work, dedication, great mentors and a family support system. "My love for math led to an interest in engineering," said Willcoxon, who's been married

(See WILLCOXON, Page 5)

NASA Values: Defining moments of the NASA family

To stress the importance of NASAís commitment to the shared values of safety, the NASA family, excellence and integrity, the Kennedy Space Center Star Alignment Team held an essay contest encouraging employees to submit what one of these values meant to them and to give examples of how it is demonstrated at the Center. This winning essay addresses the NASA family:

By Ronnie Goodin
Safety and Mission Assurance

Where else does imagination unite with reality except in our space program? And where else in business do nations put aside differences and come together except in the NASA-led space program?

The heart of the NASA family is reflected through a determination within each spirit united by the whole. It's of little wonder that people around the globe envy our place in this world.

Wallace Stevens summed it up: Our function is to make our imagination that of the people, and we fulfill ourselves only as we see our imagination become the light in the minds of others.

Hurricane Erin landed on KSC August 1, 1995 - another test for the NASA family. Offload of the SOHO spacecraft commenced at the Shuttle Landing Facility hours before Erin did an about-face, shifting its direction toward KSC.

Even though the Center released everyone at midday, the KSC payload team held fast. The situation spiraled beyond conventional management.

The NASA-McDonnell Douglas/EG&G team worked continuously, with no lunch and no breaks, for 11 hours until the spacecraft was safely put away. The KSC payload family shut the doors of the Vertical Processing Facility 35 minutes before the center of the storm hit.

All customers had long before retreated to safety. But the KSC payloaders suffered not alone in this defining moment. The KSC NASA-Lockheed Space Shuttle team stood strong and proud, as well.

Watching the Space Shuttle creep toward the Vehicle Assembly Building in the terrible tempest of wind and rain minutes before the eye of the storm landed is eternally etched in memory. The grit and gumption of the KSC family shined in our finest hour.

RONNIE GOODIN, an employee in NASA's Safety and Mission Assurance directorate, has seen the NASA family shine in many ways.

Workshop excites educators about Return to Flight

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

All students learn in different ways and benefit from experiences outside the classroom. For educators who provide diverse learning opportunities, Kennedy Space Center welcomed professionals to the Return to Flight Workshop for Informal Education Specialists Nov. 7-10.

The four-day event offered activities from dawn to dusk for the participants who work at museums, amusement parks, libraries and more. To break the ice, Apollo 15 astronaut Al Worden greeted the educators at the Apollo Saturn V Center Nov. 7.

Later, NASA Informal Education Division director Jim Stofan, Agency historian Dr. Steven Dick and retired Space Shuttle launch director Bob Sieck offered insight regarding educational, exploration and Return to Flight goals.

The group also investigated the Rocket Garden, Exploration Station and Educator Resource Center, and learned from demonstrations and discussions at the Astronaut Hall of Fame.

On Nov. 9, speakers Astronaut Gregg Johnson, deputy director of International Space Station/Payloads and Processing Russell Romanella, and Doug Goforth of Johnson Space Center's Digital Learning Network summarized the Space Shuttle Return to Flight process and completion of the Space Station.

'Your organizations collectively interfaced with 8 million people last year," Kennedy said. "I hope we inspire you to appreciate and understand the beauty of space exploration."

The Nov. 8 activities at the KSC Visitor Complex Debus Facility concentrated on early space flight and Space Shuttle missions through the STS-107 mission.

Center Director Jim Kennedy recognized the representatives from visiting NASA centers and thanked Education Programs and University Research Division chief Pamela Biegert and her team for their effort in the workshop's production.

"Your organizations collectively interfaced with 8 million people last year," Kennedy said. "I hope we inspire you…to understand and appreciate the beauty of space exploration. I am so proud that you are here in person to learn about our story so that you can go inspire these 8 million people a year you interface with."

Kennedy referred to a famous saying: mediocre teachers tell, good teachers explain, superior teachers demonstrate, and the truly great teachers inspire.

"I think you are truly great people and (it shows in) the work you've chosen to do with your life, and I want you to go home and continue inspiring people," Kennedy said.

Tours of the Orbiter Processing Facility, Vehicle Assembly Building and launch pad area offered the visitors a behind-the-scenes look. Participants also spent time developing proposals suggesting ways their organizations can partner with NASA.

The final day of events looked toward the future. Expendable Launch Vehicle and Payload Carriers Program deputy director Ray Lugo discussed how the program serves as a bridge between the past and present. Marshall Space Flight Center's Mark Fisher summarized the Vision for Space Exploration before Dr. Phil Scarpa presented the medical issues related to space flight.

SWIFT mission scientist Dr. Neil Gehrels of Goddard Space Flight Center offered an expert overview of the mission.

Even the day's mealtimes were informative. Alicia Mendoza, processing engineer for the STS-114 Discovery vehicle, explained the duties related to her position. Astronaut Don Pettit addressed the crowd during the closing banquet.

EDUCATORS PARTICIPATING in the Nov. 7-10 Return to Flight Workshop for Informal Education Specialists tour the Orbiter Processing Facility (above). Astronaut Gregg Johnson (below) addresses the educators Nov. 9 at the Dr. Kurt H. Debus Center in the Visitor Complex.

THE EDUCATOR GROUP also investigated the Rocket Garden (left), Exploration Station and Educator Resource Center, and learned from demonstrations at the Astronaut Hall of Fame. The four-day event offered a variety of activities for the participants who work at museums, amusement parks, libraries and more.

Researchers test new radiation shield technology

Findings may lead to developing radiation shields for future spacecraft

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

The line is blurring between fact and fiction. In the latest incarnation of "Star Trek Enterprise," a space vehicle is protected by a "polarized hull" to carry humans safely to other planets. Could new research at Kennedy Space Center result in the same remarkable technology?

Researchers at the Applied Physics Lab recently completed the first phase of testing on a new form of radiation shielding for interplanetary spacecraft. According to Philip Metzger, NASA physicist in the Spaceport Engineering and Technology directorate, the new method uses an electrostatic field of a special configuration.

In computer simulation testing, the new technology theory showed promising results in deflecting both positively- and negatively-charged particles.

About two years ago, NASA asked KSC to reassess existing information about radiation shielding to see if it would be a viable way to protect space vehicles from radiation particles on long-duration interplanetary missions.

"This research into electrostatic shielding is one of the least complicated, but most controversial, of the active methods and, if successful, could resolve this important problem," said Dr. Robert Youngquist, NASA lead and principal investigator.

THE TEAM OF DEVELOPERS for the Radiation Shield project include, from left: Mike Nurge, NASA physicist; Dr. John Lane, ASRC applications scientist; Dr. Robert Youngquist, NASA physicist; Curtis Ihlefeld, NASA electrical engineer; and Philip Metzger, NASA physicist. Not pictured is Douglas Willard, NASA physicist.

"It is likely that interplanetary radiation will limit the time humans can spend in space and that passive or material shields will not be able to provide adequate protection," he said. "Consequently, there is increasing interest in biological and active shielding approaches that will allow us to move safely between the planets."

The research involves studying how to deflect the particles rather than stop them.

One theory for electron radiation shielding comprises two booms or outriggers extending from each end of a vehicle, with inflatable spheres that would be charged at approximately 600 million volts. The software used during the simulation test was designed and written by John Lane of Arctic Slope Regional Corp.

Other NASA Centers are working on further segments of the project. These include Langley Research Center for material development; Marshall Space Flight Center for project management; and Johnson Space Center for spacecraft architecture analysis.

KSC was awarded $1.2 million by NASA's Moon/Mars program to continue the project and begin work on a proposed design.

"We're interested in energy of particles in far Earth space," said Metzger. "The real testing needs to be done in space."

The second phase of the project will also investigate a process called beamed propulsion.

In the future, a prototype vehicle will be used with the radiation shield in place. High-energy particles will be beamed at the vehicle to push it through space.

Enterprise on display in Washington, D.C. Enterprise, the first Space Shuttle Orbiter, is the centerpiece of the new McDonnell Space Hangar at the National Air and Space Museumís Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center.

WILLCOXON . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

to her husband, Jim, for 22 years and is the mother of Erica, 15, and Grant, 10.

While working for the Department of Defense in the 1980s, she developed a love for aeronautics and decided she'd become part of the space family. "I love what we do. I can't imagine working anywhere else," Willcoxon said. "It's rewarding because the public really appreciates what we do." This was especially evident during the return to flight following the Challenger disaster. A new employee at that time, Willcoxon was emotionally overwhelmed by the traffic. "I was touched to see that the Space Program means so much to so many people."

Upgrades to Space Shuttle fleet continue

Technicians have completed more than half of **Discovery's** powered-up system testing for its Return to Flight mission, designated STS-114, to the International Space Station (ISS). System testing is continuing with the new Multi-functional Electronic Display System, or "glass cockpit," closed-circuit television system heater checks and orbiter docking system voltage tests.

The end effector, or grappling end, of the Space Shuttle robotic arm saw an unexpected temperature increase during previous testing and has been removed and replaced. The retest was successful.

Main Propulsion System flow liner slot polishing is complete on all three engines. The polishing was performed to decrease the likelihood of microscopic cracks initiating in the flow liner.

Last month's first full-scale Space Shuttle flight rehearsal focused on Discovery's rendezvous and docking with the ISS. That simulation included practicing the flip the Shuttle will perform as it approaches to allow Station crewmembers to photograph its heat-shielding tiles to check their condition.

The second flight rehearsal focused on inspections of the Shuttle's thermal protection tiles and wing leading edges using Discovery's robotic arm and a 50-foot extension with a camera and laser imaging system.

Space Shuttle Atlantis

Final power-down work continues in the Orbiter Processing Facility prior to the scheduled power up of Atlantis. During the extensive power-down period, technicians performed Return to Flight modifications including wiring installation for the External Tank separation camera, wing leading edge sensors and relay units, and the Orbiter Boom Sensor System.

Fuel cell installations are also under way, including fuel cells No. 1, 2 and 3. Fuel cells use oxygen and hydrogen to provide electrical power during a mission.

Space Shuttle Endeavour

Space Shuttle Endeavour is in its Orbiter Major Modification period, which began in December 2003. Electrical modifications continue in the crew module. Three-String Global Positioning System wire routing in the avionics bay and flight deck continues.

The left outboard elevon actuator is installed. Left-hand wing leading edge eddy current tests continue. Eddy current is a form of non-destructive evaluation that would reveal any microscopic flaws or cracks on the wing surface.

IN THE Orbiter Processing Facility (above), the Remote Manipulator System is moved toward Discovery's payload bay for installation. The RMS is used to deploy and retrieve payloads and to aid the flight crew members in viewing surfaces of the orbiter or payloads. Technicians at the Space Station Processing Facility (below) perform a fit check of the Thermal Protection System Sample Box on the Lightweight Multi-Purpose Experiment Support Structure Carrier.

WYNN . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

every KSC Center director.

She began in resources and budgeting and then moved on to contract management on the Base Operastions Contract and served on the Liquid Hydrogen Source Board in 1983. She moved to lead a co-located office in procurement in the administration office before returning to contract management.

Wynn started working in 1997 in the Business Innovation group, where she helped to get KSC the coveted ISO Certification.

In 2000, she served on the business system cross-cutting team supporting the KSC reorganization. She recently served the cross-cutting team again and supported the Organizational Implementation Team for the new Safety and Mission Assurance directorate.

Wynn enjoys serving KSC interests in other ways. She served on KSC's Exchange Council in various capacities, including morale and employee activities, for 22 years.

In her spare time, she also enjoys supporting the External Relations directorate by helping to schedule volunteers for the Protocol Office and has served as a tour guide to special guests during Space Shuttle launches since 1981. "I'm looking forward to when we get back to flight," Wynn said.

Among the many memories she has at KSC, Wynn especially remembers the first Space Shuttle launch and serving as a tour guide to such guests as scientist Jacques Cousteau and actors John Travolta, June Lockhart and Gary Sinise.

She likes to travel, read and do craftwork. Her favorite craft is sculpting old world Father Christmas faces.

Is there a better way to handle waste in space?

By Anna Heiney
Staff Writer

Yuck! If that's how you feel when your garbage can overflows, imagine what it's like for astronauts when they find themselves with a lot of garbage and only a little room to store it.

Researchers at Kennedy Space Center are using biology to hunt for a way to reduce the amount of space taken up by solid waste, primarily food waste. They also want to extract nutrients that might be used to grow plants in space.

"We want to regenerate and recycle as much as we can," said Dr. Richard Strayer, a microbial research scientist with Dynamac at KSC. "The best system wouldn't take up much space, power or crew time."

On the International Space Station, for example, solid waste is stored in bags and containers until a Russian Progress module arrives. Once the unmanned Progress is emptied of fresh supplies, the module is packed with trash and sent back to Earth, where it is incinerated over the ocean during a controlled re-entry.

There are other ways to manage waste in space, but none are ideal. Burning uses valuable oxygen. Waste can be sterilized or dehydrated until it can be disposed of, but it will become a problem again if it ever gets wet or comes into contact with germs.

DR. RICHARD STRAYER, a research scientist with Dynamac, demonstrates the Research Space Bioconverter, a composter consisting of a rotating drum.

A few years ago, KSC scientists participated in a study to see what Shuttle trash typically is made of and to determine the amounts of its components. The study allowed researchers to replicate the typical waste load in order to improve the process.

One of the methods now in testing is the Research Space Bioconverter (RSB), a composter consisting of a rotating drum that contains waste for decomposition. Linked to a computerized data collection system in KSC's Space Life Sciences Lab, it's nothing like your backyard compost heap.

Its goal is to find an efficient way to break down waste while extracting as many nutrients as possible.

Strayer's team uses a regular food processor to create mock waste, or biomass, similar to what might be found on a spacecraft. Inside a rotating metal bioreactor, a microbial brew is mixed with the waste.

Microbes need oxygen to do their decomposition work, but oxygen should be spent on the crew instead of waste. However, composting anaerobically - without oxygen - can cause nasty smells.

Fortunately, some organisms use nitrate instead of oxygen. In the RSB, Strayer is experimenting with a process called denitrification, in which organisms use nitrate instead of oxygen to break down the waste and produce nitrogen as a byproduct.

This process, anaerobic respiration using nitrate, has never been tried in composting and is achieving promising results.

The RSB is intended for use in microgravity. But waste management in a low-gravity environment and on long missions will become increasingly important as NASA prepares to send humans to the Moon, Mars and beyond as part of the Vision for Space Exploration.

So, the next time you take out the garbage or toss a leftover sandwich into the kitchen trash, be thankful it's that simple on Earth. With research projects like the RSB under way, future spacefarers may find it almost as easy.

CFC . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

average citizens in the great old United States giving just a little, I would not have had a chance to say goodbye to my dear sister and see her smile just one more time," Pettiford said. "The expense for her lab work, medications, hospice stay, and yes, her final arrangements, were paid by the Red Cross, as well as some national charities.

"Not only did this experience shine a whole new light on what the CFC is all about, but what it means to me," she said. "I now know that every dollar I give is going to someone, or maybe an entire family, that stands in need."

Napoleon Carroll, chief financial officer and CFC chairperson, thanks the CFC planning team for putting together a solid plan for the campaign this year. "The group is made up of people who really believe in what they are doing and they do it well," Carroll said.

"As an illustrious history is being written here at KSC for our exploration exploits, let it be known that we care about our fellow man," Napoleon Carroll said.

Carroll said the real winners in this year's campaign are the people in need who will be helped by the funds. "As an illustrious history is being written here at KSC for our exploration exploits, let it be known that we care deeply about our fellow man," Carroll said.

Shuttle Processing employee Christine Weaver's niece, Rayna, receives huge support from the Shriners Hospital in Tampa, another organization involved in the CFC. "It all started when Rayna was 18 months old and we realized she needed supports in her shoes," Weaver said. "Her dad's insurance would not pay for the supports, which are very expensive, so my sister went through the procedure to receive help from Shriners."

Weaver's niece is now 5 years old, and she not only gets her shoe supports from the organization, but she also wears a full back brace that helps with her scoliosis. The Shriners did not stop there.

"Six months ago, Rayna broke her leg and the only doctor in the area qualified to set her leg was in another country doing volunteer work. So, my sister called Shriners and they took care of her broken leg, as well," Weaver said. "I am thankful for the Shriners for so many reasons. They treat my niece with love and care."

One NASA workshop discusses KSC's role in Agency

The KSC One NASA Team is hosting a workshop featuring several Agency leaders at 10 a.m. Dec. 16 in the Visitor Complex's IMAX Theatre II.

This is an opportunity for everyone in the NASA family at KSC to learn more about the Agency's ongoing transformation activities and the Center's role in the Vision for Space Exploration.

The workshop is open to the entire NASA family; however, seating in the IMAX Theatre is limited, so contractor and directorate seat allocations will be provided.

It will be broadcasted on KSC TV, channel 7, and webcasted for those who are not able to attend in person.

The program will include:

•An update by Fred Gregory, NASA deputy administrator, on Agency transformation decisions and implementation strategies regarding alternative organizational models, competency roadmap development and other transformation topics.

• A presentation by Rear Adm. Craig Steidle, associate administrator for Exploration Systems, on the Agency's progress toward achieving the Vision for Space Exploration and an outline of KSC's role in Exploration Systems.

• Presentations by Lynn Cline, deputy associate administrator for Space Operations, and Jim Kennedy, Center director, who will provide updates on current and future missions and how they plan to coordinate with other Centers and mission directorates.

• A question-and-answer panel featuring the above speakers. Questions may be submitted in advance of the workshop until Dec. 10 to **KSCOneNASALLWS@nasa.gov**.

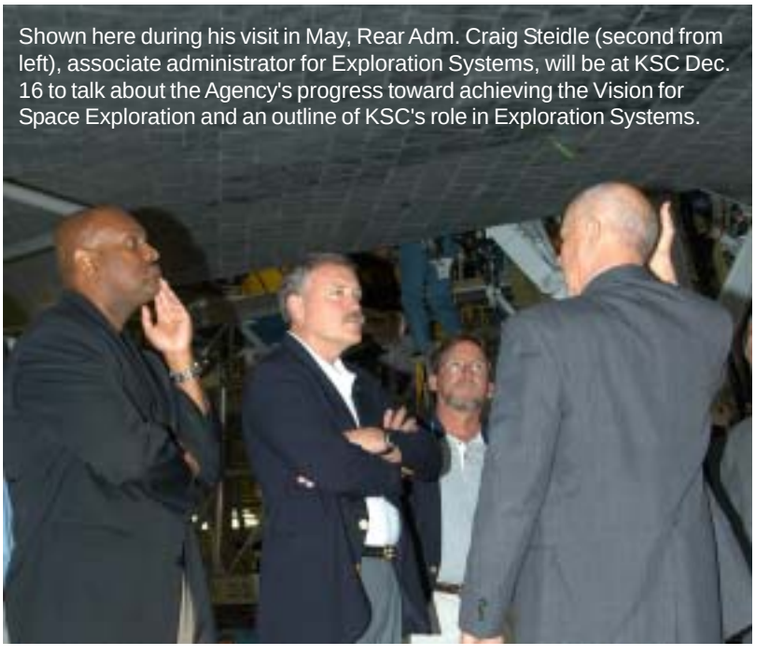
The morning workshop will be followed by a catered luncheon in the Debus Center. Mary Kicza, associate deputy administrator for Systems Integration, will serve as the speaker during lunch. This will be followed by an opportunity to attend two of three workshops. The workshop topics are:

• A discussion of human capital management activities with Vicki Novak, associate administrator for Human Resources.

• An update on Agency strategic and capability roadmaps with Mary Kicza, associate deputy administrator for Systems Integration.

• An interactive workshop on NASA Values with Phil Meade, KSC change manager, and Michael Bell, KSC benchmarking manager.

For more information about the Agency's transformation, visit **www.insidenasa.nasa.gov** where you can join the ongoing dialogue forums to discuss transformation topics with other members of the NASA family.



Shown here during his visit in May, Rear Adm. Craig Steidle (second from left), associate administrator for Exploration Systems, will be at KSC Dec. 16 to talk about the Agency's progress toward achieving the Vision for Space Exploration and an outline of KSC's role in Exploration Systems.

Workers mentor America's future

Chief Financial Officer Napoleon Carroll (standing at left) and other KSC employees held an informal panel discussion geared toward giving upcoming graduating students from the Bethune-Cookman College's Division of Business insight on what to expect as they enter the work force. The group discussed the pros and cons they have experienced throughout their careers and advice on how to obtain goals in life. Pictured standing, from left, are Carroll, Thomas Cooper, chief financial office; Patricia Leonard and Cassandra Black, External Relations. Pictured sitting, from left, are interns Asha Reavis, Pierre Mason, Tiffany Phillips and LaTasha Jones.

It's time to play Santa

JBOSC team members are joining with the Department of Children and Families in sponsoring the Adopt-A-Child program.

Last year, the group provided gifts for 656 children and 29 senior citizens and the team hopes to do so again. Both children and seniors need us in making their holidays special. The deadline is Dec. 3.

Team point of contacts who have the children's "Wish List" include: Jeanne Madden, 867-1525 (HQ 1525); Mary Russell, 867-4977 (BOB 2203); and Joy Antonucci, 867-7660 (CIF 218). Each child receives three wishes, but you don't need to buy all of the gifts. Highlight and initial the gift(s) you want to purchase so there are no duplications. Hopefully, every child will get at least one gift. All gifts should have safety in mind.

Since this is such a large undertaking, do not wrap any gifts. Remove the price tag and attach a gift tag securely in the upper left corner of the gift, if possible. If a child receives more then one gift, bag them together, if possible, but place a tag on each item.

John F. Kennedy Space Center

Spaceport News

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