



MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Oct. 1, 2009

New online contribution system for employees

Combined Federal Campaign 2009 under way

As the Marshall Space Flight Center kicks off its 2009 Combined Federal Campaign this week, NASA employees have a new online system for contributing to the annual charitable fundraising drive.

Civil service employees now will make contributions using Employee Express instead of WebTADS.

Contractors may continue to contribute by check or cash.

If employees do not yet have an active account, they should visit <https://www.employeeexpress.gov> to set up a user name and password. For assistance, contact the Employee Express



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At the Health & Safety Expo



The Marshall Space Flight Center hosted its ninth annual Health & Safety Expo on Sept. 23, featuring a vendor fair, five-kilometer run and a presentation by a Mayo Clinic physician. At the vendor fair, Cynthia Freese, right, a consultant from Ruth's Nutrition in Huntsville, shows health products to, from left, Melissa Walden, Anna Sexton and Candee Martini, all of Marshall's Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate. For more photos from the expo, please see page 5.



Recruiting a new generation of engineers

Erika Alvarez, left, an engineer in the Propulsion Systems Department of the Marshall Space Flight Center's Engineering Directorate, uses balloons and paper cups to demonstrate the physics of propulsion to students attending the 2009 Hispanic Youth Conference in Huntsville Sept. 25. More than 100 Alabama Hispanic high school students participated in the annual event at the offices of event cosponsor Redstone Federal Credit Union. The day-long series of workshops and seminars was cosponsored by Marshall, the Mi Futuro program at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa and the North Central Alabama Boy Scouts of America.

Facilities Management Office works around the clock to support mission success

By Megan Norris Davidson

Ever wonder what it takes to operate and maintain more than 140 heating units, eight miles of pipes, 60 elevators and 250 buildings?

That's what team members in the Marshall Space Flight Center's Facilities Management Office do each day – and more – with one goal in mind: "Our team works around the clock to provide the Marshall Center with facilities and infrastructures that are safe, reliable and effective to support mission success," said Tim Corn, manager of the office.

Part of Marshall's Office of Center Operations, the organization includes 55 civil service employees and more than 400 contractors who provide a wide range of services, including building modifications, design and construction projects, and grounds and custodial support. Facilities Management is structured into four offices: Planning & Facilities Utilization; Facilities Engineering; Facilities Construction; and Operations & Maintenance.

"The four offices within the organization work diligently to provide integrated projects and services for our customers," said Barbara Feaster, Facilities deputy manager.

Preparing for the future is the crucial focus of the Planning & Facilities Utilization Office, and its team is making sure Marshall is ready for the road ahead – more than 20 years ahead, in fact. "By plotting out a 20-year vision for Marshall, we provide a steady institutional path to meet NASA's mission requirements," said Roslin Hicks, lead for the Planning & Facilities Utilization Office. The team also maintains facility and equipment databases, including the Facilities Geographical Information System. The system, available at <https://facgis.msfc.nasa.gov/>, allows users to conduct building and people searches, and provides maps of their location. It also has links to facility information and the status of work requests.

Once plans are in place, the Facilities Engineering Office provides budgeting, design and construction expertise for Marshall's projects. Some of its recent tasks include construction of three "green" facilities: Buildings 4600, 4601 and 4602 – the engineering complex at the intersection of Martin and Rideout roads. Buildings 4600 and 4601 were designed and built according to efficient energy and water principles. Building 4600 is certified with the U.S. Green Building Council for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED®. The certification process is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable structures. Building 4601 has been submitted for LEED certification.

Building 4602, now under construction, is scheduled for completion and will be submitted for LEED certification in November 2010. The buildings are included in the planned Marshall Capital Improvement Program, managed by the Facilities Engineering Office. The program encompasses the design and construction of projects that exceed \$500,000 in construction costs. "We take great pride in providing Marshall team members with energy-efficient, environmentally conscious places to work," said Jimmy Guarin, Facilities Engineering Office lead.

The Facilities Construction Office manages all facility design and construction at Marshall for projects less than \$500,000. It also oversees some 15 construction contractors that perform between 250 to 300 projects per year. "Our goal is to provide quality products to our

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The Facilities Management Office oversees construction of Building 4602, the Marshall Center's fourth facility designed and built according to efficient energy and water principles.

Chandra's First Decade of Discovery



Chandra celebrates 10 years of science

The Chandra X-ray Observatory has been giving us a close-up view of X-ray emissions from galaxy clusters, exploded stars and the areas around black holes for a decade. On Sept. 21-25, scientists arrived in Boston to celebrate the space telescope's 10th anniversary with a four-day symposium.

The Marshall Space Flight Center manages the Chandra program for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

About 200 scientists gathered to describe, discuss and dissect the past 10 years of Chandra science. The symposium, entitled "Chandra's First Decade of Discovery," had some exciting happenings. First, astronauts from STS-93, the space shuttle mission that launched Chandra into orbit in July 1999, were on hand to participate

in a session called "The History of Chandra."

Marshall's own Dr. Martin Weisskopf, project scientist for Chandra, led the session about the observatory's history. "The development of Chandra was a long process taking two decades or more, depending on the definition of the beginning," said Weisskopf. "However, when I saw the first image, I knew that the dream had been realized. Chandra's discoveries are truly astonishing and have made dramatic changes to our understanding of the universe and its constituents."

During the week, there were talks, posters and informal chats about the discoveries Chandra has made, including a presentation by Nobel Prize winner Riccardo Giacconi. A

key scientist responsible for Chandra, Giacconi won the Nobel in physics for his work in the field of X-ray astronomy.

There also were ideas and discussions about what Chandra might be able to accomplish – both on its own and in concert with other telescopes – in the future. An informal session was held with some of the brightest young scientists in X-ray astrophysics. They talked about their areas of research, why they thought it was interesting and important, and also what they might want to do in the next decade.

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., controls science and flight operations from the Chandra X-ray Center.

Facilities *Continued from page 2*

customers at a reasonable cost and in a timely manner to support the mission of the center and the agency," said Rick Melson, Construction Office lead. One significant project the office recently completed is the foundation for the Multipurpose Machining Center, located in the Building 4705 high bay area. It will be used for the finish machining of various components of the Ares I rocket – the vehicle that will help carry astronauts to the moon and beyond.

All facilities need upkeep, which is the responsibility of the Operations & Maintenance Office. Team members respond to some 25,000 trouble calls and perform around 80,000 preventive maintenance tasks annually. The office also is

responsible for custodial services, grounds maintenance and operation of Marshall's Utility Control System. The system provides building automation capabilities and 24-hour, centralized remote monitoring of facility environmental and support systems, like heating and cooling, throughout the center. "This system is vital to the successful operation and maintenance of Marshall's facilities and in conserving energy," said Bobby Miller, Operation & Maintenance Office lead.

For more information about the Facilities Management Office, visit <http://co.msfc.nasa.gov/ad20/>.

Davidson, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Obituaries

William T. Hooker Sr., 81, of Decatur died Aug. 18. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 as an electronics technician.

Spencer Eugene Smith, 83, of Austin, Texas, died Aug. 28. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 as deputy

director of the Electronics and Control Laboratory. He is survived by his wife, Joan Young Smith.

Help Desk via e-mail at EEXHelp@opm.gov or call 1-883-353-9450.

The CFC module within the online system is designed to be user friendly and incorporates more extensive search capabilities.

For complete instructions on using the CFC module in Employee Express, visit the NASA Shared Services Center Web site at <https://www.nssc.nasa.gov/portal/site/customerservice>. Click on the "Employee Notices" link on the left side of the page to find information on CFC

Order CFC T-shirts online

Marshall Space Flight Center team members are encouraged to order a 2009 NASA CFC T-shirt.

Small, medium, large and extra-large shirts are \$10; 2XL shirts are \$12.50; and 3XL shirts are \$13.50.

Visit http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov/t-shirt_order.pdf, print and fill out the form and deliver it, with payment, to the Space Shop in Building 4203.

The deadline to order T-shirts is Friday, Oct. 9, at 1 p.m. Shirts will be available for pickup Oct. 19. The pickup location will be announced on Inside Marshall and in an upcoming edition of the Marshall Star.

donations and the Employee Express service.

The 2009 campaign runs through

Dec. 11. For more information about the campaign, visit http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/cfc_info.html.

Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to "Employee Resources," and click on "Employee Ads — Submit Ad." Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, Oct. 8, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1.

Miscellaneous

Delta small truck tool box, heavy-duty locks, \$175. 830-6584

Leaf net cover for 16x32-foot pool, \$75. 883-2653

Washer/dryer, electric, \$100 pair. 313-655-7966

Three Ponsness-Warren shotshell reloaders, 20, 28, .410, \$200 each or \$500 for set. 656-2951

Lily Flagg pool membership, includes 2009 workday, \$500. 656-2951

Schwinn StingRay Chopper bicycle, \$75. 881-0551

Xbox 360, two controllers, games, \$200. 325-6000

Onkyo 7.1 home theater system, \$350. 457-5173

Fisher Price work bench, Lego table, Cozy Coupe car, Little Touch Leap Pad with books. 216-1039

Sylvan diagnostic assessment, expires Oct. 31, \$85; Hooked on Phonics Advanced Reading, ages 7-8, \$15. 426-3697

Futon bunkbed, both mattresses, bolsters, custom cover,

dark oak finish, \$650. 881-0551

Dropleaf table, four chairs \$300; coordinating slate top cabinet server on wheels, \$200. 883-9509

Two Amy Grant concert tickets, BJCC, Nov. 13, tier level, row AA, \$125. 882-8993

Boy's bicycle, Diamondback model, 24 inches, 21 speeds, \$40. 885-2448

Golf collectible Myrtlewood wooden touch putter, display case, \$150. 683-3397

Yamaha YAS-23 alto saxophone, Pro-Tec case, NeoTech neckstrap, mouthpiece with Rovner ligature, \$450. 714-3768

Tailgater Thermos Fire & Ice, Grill-2-Go rollaround grill/cooler, \$100. 777-3989

Various dinner and coffee sets. 536-5615

Two tickets, Alabama vs. South Carolina, Oct. 17, Tide Pride, Section N-2, lower level. 230-0762

Coffee table and TV stand, mahogany, best offer. 882-1382

Two U2 tickets, Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Oct. 6, section 211, row 3. 771-1960

Vehicles

2006 Sylvan 8522 cruise pontoon boat, 22' long, 115HP

Yamaha outboard motor, sundeck, \$18,200. 527-6958

2005 G3 boat 14' V-hull, 25HP four Stroke Yamaha, factory camouflaged with blind, \$4,000. 508-8358

2005 Pontiac Grand Am, white, four door, V6, power, cruise control, 78k miles, \$4,000. 975-0227

2001 Cadillac SLS, new tires, gray, leather, Bose system, 98k miles, \$8,000. 931-433-1626

1998 Stingray boat, RS180, new 140HP engine, Bimini top, extras, ski equipment, \$10,000 obo. 640-6427

1997 Honda 250 Recon TRX 4-Wheeler, tuned up battery, \$1,200. 655-6348

1997 Ford F150 extended cab, power, am/fm cassette, 6 CD changer, bedliner, 18MPG, 155kmiles, \$4,000. 586-3061

1995 Mazda Protege DX, cold A/C, auto, 195k miles, \$950 obo. 509-0362

1985 4-Runner EFI, straight front axle, automatic, 200k miles, \$2,250 obo. 658-8241

1978 28-foot Holiday Rambler camper trailer, \$1,200 obo. 859-2975 or 651-6454

Wanted

Three tickets, seats must be all together, Tennessee vs. Auburn game, Oct. 3. 426-2417

Electrical work to do, wiring houses, garages, yard lights, adding/removing switches, plugs, lights. 468-8906

Houses/offices to clean, available evenings/weekends, gift certificates available. 777-8595 please leave message

Camping supplies, tent, stove, more. 417-5334

Free

4-year-old adult male indoor cat, neutered, shot records available. 864-1946 after 6 p.m.

Three kittens, all females, different colors, litter trained. 859-0237

Fun and learning events at Health & Safety Expo

As keynote speaker at this year's Health & Safety Expo on Sept. 23, Dr. Philip Hagen, medical director of the EmbodyHealth Program at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., speaks about the best ways to get healthy and stay healthy. The expo was cosponsored by the Marshall Space Flight Center's Environmental Engineering and Occupational Health Office and the Industrial Safety Branch of Marshall's Safety, Quality & Management Systems Department – part of the Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate.



Doug Stoffer/MSC



Emmett Green/MSC

Participants in the Health & Safety Expo's five-kilometer race keep a steady stride during their run around the Marshall Center. Some 63 Marshall team members joined in the race. Top runner in the men's category was Josh Whitehead, an ATK Space Systems employee supporting the Ares Projects First Stage Office. Jane Reneau, a Jacobs Technology employee supporting Ares Projects Upper Stage Office, placed first in the female division.

Laura Chase, left, of Millar Chiropractic & Nutrition Center of Decatur, explains the importance of proper posture to Nichole Benson, center, and Coastal International Security employee Janine Wilson, both of Marshall's Protective Services Office. Millar was one of 70 companies and organizations participating in the Health & Safety Expo's vendor fair in Activities Building 4316.



Doug Stoffer/MSC

• “Americans across the country know that the best ideas often come from
 • workers—not just management. That’s why we’ll establish a process
 • through which every government worker can submit their ideas for how
 • their agency can save money and perform better.”

—President Barack Obama



The President’s **SAVE** Award

Have a smart idea for how your agency or department can trim costs and save taxpayer dollars? Submit your cost-saving initiative for potential inclusion in the President’s Budget and be the first-ever SAVE Award winner.

The contest is open to all Federal employees and is part of the President’s commitment to restore fiscal discipline and reduce wasteful spending.

The winner will meet with President Obama at the White House. Participating is easy. Just visit www.SaveAward.gov and submit your proposal.

SECURING
 AMERICANS
 VALUE
 EFFICIENCY

Key dates

**Wednesday,
 October 14, 2009**

Deadline for submissions to be considered for the FY 2011 Budget

November 2009

Announcement of SAVE Award winner

Questions? Email SaveAward@omb.eop.gov

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