



MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Oct. 10, 2002

Marshall tops at Redstone and statewide in blood donations

by Jonathan Baggs

Is a child's life worth a pint of blood? Somewhere in the United States, blood is needed every two seconds and it takes 34,000 units of blood just to meet daily medical demands. A lot of these demands are for children.

When the call comes to give blood, Marshall Center employees are known to roll up their sleeves without hesitation. It is just this kind of response that demonstrates the Marshall Center's Core Values – one of which is "people." At Marshall, need is recognized, and the call heeded.

Not only did the Marshall Center have the highest donor rate for the most recent blood-drive year of July 2001-June 2002 among 13 participating organizations
*See **Blood** on page 3*



Silas Lee, right, of the American Red Cross preps Randy Anderson of EG&G during the September blood drive at the Marshall Wellness Center.

Marshall Imaging Services



Photo by Emmett Given, NASA/Marshall Center

An uplifting experience

Marshall team members filled Morris Auditorium on Monday to experience a unique view of the Space Shuttle Atlantis during its successful liftoff thanks to a camera mounted on the External Tank. This is the first time that live video of a Shuttle launch from this angle has been broadcast. The Marshall Center helped coordinate the installation of the camera and manages the External Tank Project.

Education programs help Harvard student determine his future

by Grant Thompson

Students who returned to classes this fall may find themselves writing about what they did during summer vacation.

For Huntsville native Brian Barnes, the answer was the same as the past four years — just another summer in the classroom.

But for Barnes, a participant in NASA educational internship programs, his summer "classroom" was at the Marshall Center. And there's no place he'd rather be.

For five summers, Barnes, a 2002 graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, has participated in three NASA educational internship programs at the Marshall

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Harvard

Continued from page 1

Center. Coming up through these programs has helped convince him to make a career out of the classroom — trading the role of student for that of educator. This fall, he will begin pursuing a graduate degree in education from Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. Part of the credit for his achievements, Barnes says, goes to NASA.

“I’m very excited about this opportunity,” Barnes said. “My NASA experiences have helped greatly in setting the goals I want to accomplish when I’m a teacher in the classroom. At Harvard, I know I’ll be getting the best instruction to become a professional educator.”

While honing his keen talents for math and science at Lee High

School in Huntsville, Barnes became involved in NASA’s Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program, called “SHARP” for short. The annual internship program, introduced in 1980, is designed to attract a diverse group of high school students to aerospace careers. During the summer, students work with scientists and engineers, performing assignments under the supervision of NASA mentors. As a SHARP intern, Barnes worked in the astrophysics and propulsion facilities at Marshall.

As a math major at Morehouse, Barnes moved out of the SHARP program, becoming a Ronald E. McNair Scholar at the Marshall Center for three summers. The award honors McNair, the second African-American in space and a member of the Space Shuttle crew that died during the 1986 Challenger accident. NASA’s McNair Scholars program is administered through Morehouse College to encourage male students who show an interest in math and science. As part of his scholarship, Barnes continued his work with mechanical engineers in the Marshall Center’s propulsion facilities. He also assisted in the development of the Center’s Freedom of Information Act Web site, as well as summer internship Web sites.

This summer - Barnes’ last at Marshall — he was involved with NASA’s Visiting



Marshall Imaging Services

Check Point recognized

Check Point Software Technologies received a commendation in September for exceptional technical support during the past two years. Dr. N. Jan Davis, director of Marshall’s Flight Projects Directorate, said Check Point provides “exceptional technical support and outstanding performance” and “exhibits and exemplifies the Marshall Center’s Core Values of ‘People, Customers, Excellence, Teamwork and Innovation.’” Accepting the commendation from Davis are, from left, Brian Kovatch, Todd Gandy and Glenn Barlow.

Researcher Exchange and Outreach Program, designed to promote collaboration between NASA, industry, and colleges and universities. Barnes spent the summer working at NASA’s Educator Resource Center in Huntsville. The Educator Resource Center is a NASA facility that provides space-related information for educators. He planned and presented numerous workshops for Huntsville and surrounding area math teachers, showing them how to use NASA’s vast education resources to support their efforts in the classroom.



Barnes

Barnes not only provided motivation and information to teachers.

Some of their enthusiasm rubbed off on him as well. “The exchanges with the teachers motivated me the most,” he says. “It let me see first-hand that there’s a broad scope of people nationwide, even

worldwide, that are committed to education.”

And teachers are not the only group Barnes was able to motivate. During the summer, he took NASA’s educational message to the Huntsville community — and the next generation of students. He has spoken to church and youth groups about opportunities available with NASA, as well as his own experiences in internship programs at the Marshall Center.

“Brian has been a real inspiration to follow through all these programs,” said Alicia Beam of NASA’s Education Programs Department. “He has taken full advantage of the opportunities available to him and they have taken him very far.”

Given Barnes’ track record and passion for education, it’s no surprise that his mother and two uncles are professional educators. Barnes has learned — from his family, teachers and mentors at NASA — the importance of education and the value of leading by example. Soon, he may be the one asking his students that daunting question: “What did you do for your summer vacation?”

The writer, employed by ASRI, supports the Media Relations Department.

Blood

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on Redstone Arsenal, but it also had the highest number of donations of any donor group in Alabama. Marshall team members contributed 1,142 units of blood during the year.

The Center was recognized in September for its accomplishment during the annual Blood Services Awards Ceremony hosted by Redstone Arsenal and the American Red Cross. The awards recognize the participating blood donor organizations on the arsenal, and have been presented for more than 15 years. This is the first time the Marshall Center has collected the highest total number of donated blood units.

Nancy Jane Fitzgerald, Marshall's blood drive coordinator, accepted an award on behalf of the Marshall Center for its outstanding dedication and continued support of the Redstone Blood Program, and also for her work coordinating monthly blood drives at the Center. Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, commander of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, and Mark Beddingfield, chief operating officer for the American Red Cross, presented the awards. Fitzgerald is a member of Marshall's Human Resources Department.

The Sparkman Center had the second-highest total for the year at 849 units, while the U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command had the third-highest donation with 383 units.

Fitzgerald said that a healthy person can donate blood every 56 days. A little less than one pint of blood is taken from a donor. Stored blood only lasts 42 days. Donated blood stays in the

surrounding communities for medical use, but it can be sent wherever the need is greatest.

"Five percent of the population needs blood every year," Fitzgerald said. "The average medical patient needing blood will

receive two-to-six pints of red blood cells, four units of plasma and platelets, which is typical for an open-heart surgery patient."

Blood platelets are minute protoplasmic disks of vertebrate blood that assist in blood clotting.

But children need donated blood too, perhaps more often than most people realize.

The awards luncheon featured Lesley Burnett, who

spoke about her 15-month-old daughter, Katie Mae, who was diagnosed with a rare blood disease that keeps her body from manufacturing red blood cells.

"Since Katie Mae was 6 months old, she's made the trip to Children's Hospital in Birmingham every three or four weeks for a blood transfusion," Fitzgerald said. "She typically gets one-to-two pints of blood, depending on her blood count. There is always a room full of children waiting to get transfusions to battle various diseases."

Katie Mae's mother is hopeful that one day her daughter will receive a bone marrow transplant that may cure the disease. In the meantime, Katie's life depends on the blood supplies that are made available through the American Red Cross and donors all over the region – donors like those at the Marshall Center.

The writer, employed by ASRI, is the editor of the Marshall Star.



Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, left, and Mark Beddingfield of the American Red Cross, right, present an award to Marshall's blood drive coordinator, Nancy Jane Fitzgerald, for the Center's support of the Redstone Blood Program.

Marshall Imaging Services

NASA selects minority-owned firm to construct space flight products

Marshall news release

Sierra Lobo, Inc., a small, minority-owned enterprise based in Fremont, Ohio, has been awarded a contract by the Marshall Center to provide fabrication of research and development (R&D) space flight and associated hardware in connection with Marshall projects.

The contract began Oct. 1, with a one-year base period, followed by four one-year options that may be exercised at

NASA's discretion. It is a performance-based, cost-plus-incentive-fee contract with an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) provision. If required, the IDIQ provision provides for additional manufacturing capacity or capability. The contract has a minimum value of \$29 million and a maximum value of up to \$33 million if all options are exercised.

Under the contract Sierra Lobo, Inc., will operate a high-precision machine

shop capable of performing a wide range of R&D fabrication and assembly work. This activity includes such things as components and hardware integration for the International Space Station Environmental Control & Life Support System. In addition, Sierra Lobo will provide work planning, inspection and production control, as well as associated tool-crib, controlled storage-room and tool-room bar-coding operations.

Flu shots available for Marshall workers

From the Marshall Medical Center

The Marshall Medical Center will again offer flu shots for civil service and contractor personnel.

You must have a NASA-issued badge or you will be refused service. Retirees are not included in this offer.

Shots will be offered from noon-3 p.m. Oct. 24 in Bldg. 4200, Room G13D and from noon-3 p.m. Oct. 29 in Bldg. 4610, Room 1054. Marshall team members wanting a flu shot should wear short sleeves.

The possibility exists that an emergency call may occur during administration of these shots. Since the HEMSI paramedics are integral to administering flu shots but also are required to respond to an emergency, there may be delays in receiving a shot should an emergency call occur.

There will be limited staff at the Medical Center during the time the shots are administered. Please arrange any non-emergency visits and routine allergy injections around these times. Any scheduled appointments will still be kept.

Opportunities for shots at the Medical



Photo by Dennis Olive, NASA/Marshall Center

First corner laid for Propulsion Research Laboratory

Construction crews pour the first corner of concrete for the Marshall Center's Propulsion Research Laboratory. The 108,000-square-foot facility will provide office and laboratory space for propulsion research and small-scale experiments supporting more efficient access to space. Construction is expected to be completed by April 2004.

Center will be announced after Oct. 29 when the amount of vaccine left will be known.

You should not donate blood after receiving a flu shot for about two or three months, as a false-positive reading for the HIV virus is possible. Check with the American Red Cross concerning its latest

policy in regards to the length of time allowed between receiving a flu shot and being able to donate blood.

Job announcements

MS02C0230, Executive Support Assistant, GS-303-08. Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Competitive placement plan. Closes Oct. 11.

MS03C0002, Management Support Assistant, GS-303-06 with promotion potential to GS-07. Office of the Chief Financial Officer, MSFC Accounting Operations Office. Closes Oct. 16.

MS03C0003, Budget Analyst (Team Leader) -- three vacancies. GS-560-13 with promotion potential to GS-14. Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Institutional Operations Office. Closes Oct. 10.



Photo by Dennis Olive, NASA/Marshall Center

Space Shop winners

Elois Gardner, TD54, left, and Martin Burkey, CD70, right, were the lucky winners in a drawing held during the Space Shop's sale in September at Bldg. 4203. Gardner won a print while Burkey won a signed John Glenn commemorative flight cover.

Child and adult care food program open

The Marshall Child Development Center is sponsoring the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Meals will be available at no separate charge to enrolled participants at the Center and will be provided without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. For more information, call Kelli Brott at 544-8609.

Household Size	Eligibility Scale for Free Meals			Eligibility Scale for Reduced-Price Meals		
	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week	Per Year	Per Month	Per Week
1	11,518	960	222	16,391	1,366	316
2	15,522	1,294	299	22,089	1,841	425
3	19,526	1,628	376	27,787	2,316	535
4	23,530	1,961	453	33,485	2,791	644
5	27,534	2,295	530	39,183	3,266	754
6	31,538	2,629	607	44,881	3,741	864
7	35,542	2,962	684	50,579	4,215	973
8	39,546	3,296	761	56,277	4,690	1,083

For each additional family member add +4,004 +334 +77 +5,698 +475 +110

Center Announcements

All-Hands meeting is Wednesday

An All-Hands meeting on the Integrated Financial Management Program will be from 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, in Bldg. 4200, Morris Auditorium.

CFC Community Service Days activities and bus tour open

Volunteers can sign up to work with the Salvation Army and United Cerebral Palsy during Combined Federal Campaign Community Service Days. For more information, go to <http://ntf-2.msfc.nasa.gov/cfc2002.nsf/csd>. To register for the Combined Federal Campaign bus tours set for Tuesday-Thursday, go to <http://ntf-2.msfc.nasa.gov/cfc2002.nsf/bus>.

AUTOTESTCON conference begins Tuesday

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers is sponsoring AUTOTESTCON 2002 -- an international conference that gathers the military/aerospace automatic test industry together to share new technologies, discuss innovative applications and exhibit products and services. This year's event is Oct. 15-17 in the South Hall of the Von Braun Center. Admission on Oct. 16 is free to anyone with a Marshall Center or Redstone Arsenal badge. For more information, go to <http://autotestcon.com/2002/2002.htm>.

Safety Day meal tickets on sale

Meal tickets for the Oct. 23 Safety Day at the Marshall Center are on sale for \$3 each through each organization's administrative office. Meals are a Chick-fil-A sandwich, chips, brownie, drink plus a coupon for a free Chick-fil-A sandwich. Safety Day activities run from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. For a schedule of events, go to "Inside Marshall."

Travel Manager system open

The Travel Manager system is now open. The new URL is <https://ifmptm.ifmp.nasa.gov/prod>. Be sure to delete the old URL and replace it with the

new one. Any documents entered in the old URL will not be processed because it is not integrated to the new NASA accounting system. If you have problems with your Travel Manager password/signature pin, call the Help Desk at 544-4357, option "0." For more on the enhancements to the new system, go to "Inside Marshall." For more information, call the Travel Office at 544-7312.

Maxiflex tour information available

Marshall employees now have the option of using the new maxiflex tour schedule. The maxiflex tour is intended to increase an employee's flexibility in completing the basic 80-hour pay period. For more information, go to http://hrd.msfc.nasa.gov/maxiflex_info.html.

Breast Cancer Fund walk set for Oct. 16

A walk to benefit the Liz Hurley Breast Cancer Fund administered by the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, which is a Combined Federal Campaign agency, will be Wednesday at Parkway Place Mall in Huntsville. Cost to register is \$10. The walk will coincide with the new mall's ribbon-cutting ceremony. For more details, go to www.parkwayplacemall.com or www.waff.com.

Thrift Savings Plan open season begins Oct. 15

The next Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP, open season is from Oct. 15-Dec. 31. During the open season, employees may contribute to the TSP or change the amount of their contributions. Employees covered by FERS may contribute up to 13 percent of their basic pay each pay period. Those covered by CSRS may contribute up to 8 percent of their basic pay each pay period. To make a contribution, submit Form TSP-1 (Election Form) to the Human Resources Department. A form can be obtained at www.tsp.gov or from Human Resources.

Ballroom dance lessons offered

The MARS Ballroom Dance Club lessons will be each Monday in October at St. Stephens Episcopal Church on Whitesburg Drive in Huntsville. Cost is \$7 per lesson. Intermediate lessons will be from 7-8 p.m. and beginner lessons from 8-9 p.m. For more information, call Woody Bombara at 650-0200.

Education programs seek mentors

The Higher Education Team from the Education Programs Department is seeking mentors and advisors to work with students. Several student programs are open for participation by Marshall civil service or contractor personnel involved in engineering, mathematics, computer science or physical and life science. Workshops on how to become involved are from 9-10 a.m. and 2:45-3:45 p.m. Oct. 30, and from 9-10 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. Oct. 31, in Bldg. 4200, Room 211. To register, go to <http://ntf-2.msfc.nasa.gov/cd60workshop.nsf/> or call Julie Mills at 544-5489.

Assistance Program offered

The Marshall Center is offering Employee Assistance Program services for after-hours and weekends. This service is through a professional counseling service that will be able to assist callers through a crisis event and will be able to offer assistance on other issues. For assistance, call 1-888-438-3115.

New Test Area access procedures

New access control measures are in effect for the east and west test areas at Marshall. All personnel who do not have keycard access must register at the Security Checkpoint on Dodd Road at Saturn Road. Any work performed after hours by personnel without keycard access must be pre-approved. "After hours" is defined as 4:30 p.m.-7 a.m. on weekdays and as all day on weekends. To request pre-approval for after-hours work, go to <http://co.msfc.nasa.gov/ad50/> or call 544-1188 or 544-1455 for more information.

Employee Ads

Miscellaneous

- ★ OSB "wafer" board, 1/2", \$5 per sheet; 3/4" T&G \$10 per sheet. 851-1854
- ★ Mink stole/cape, \$600. 971-0499
- ★ Hickory Chair Company Mahogany Mt. Vernon reproduction tea table, serpentine apron, figured top, \$525. 882-1097
- ★ P3-500MHz CPU, \$50; 128MB SDRAM, \$20; 8 MBAGP video card, \$20; 300W PS, \$10. 772-8712
- ★ Two car seats, \$20 each; playpen, \$25; baby jumper, \$5. 961-9650
- ★ 1997 Sea-Ray boat, 16', 120HP, cover top, trailer, 5 hrs. use, \$7,500 obo. 256-582-5210
- ★ Pool table, 3.5x7 marble slate Brunswick, sticks, balls, wall rack, green tablecloth, \$500. 864-0413/Tim
- ★ Oak bedroom set, \$500; Magnavox 46" TV, \$500; side-by-side refrigerator w/ice maker, \$400. 651-8224/Ken
- ★ 1990 Suzuki Katana 750, new tires and chain, two hjc helmets, \$3,000 obo. 679-0694
- ★ Area rug, 8'x12', burgundy w/hunter green & cream, 6" borders, \$120; Oak coffee table, \$110. 772-8587
- ★ Gulbransen piano w/bench, mirrored top, \$600; heating/cooling unit, 3-ton Sears Kenmore, \$700. 859-1947
- ★ Aluminum swing set, already disassembled, ready for transport. 830-5039
- ★ Bose 901 speakers, stands, pre-amp., \$975 obo. 922-1424
- ★ Ping I3, 3-PW, UW, SW green dot reg. Flex steel, \$450; 10 irons. 337-4180
- ★ Longaberger Family Traditions baskets, set of 5, new, \$1,000. 837-5035
- ★ Two Bama vs. Tennessee football tickets. 837-2824
- ★ Queen size hide-a-bed, fabric, brown & tan plaid, \$400. 722-8004 after 5:30 p.m.
- ★ Pony size training cart w/bicycle wheels, metal w/long shafts, light weight, \$100. 420-8101
- ★ Older Packard Upright piano, \$150 firm. 828-4564
- ★ Bedroom suite: dark men/boys full headboard, footboard, metal rails, chest, mirrored dresser, \$450. 256-498-6568

- ★ Painted wooden desk w/7 drawers, top area 18"x42", \$50. 533-4824
- ★ Yamaha Classic 6-string guitar, \$70; Yamaha Classic 12-string guitar w/pickup, \$100. 461-8369
- ★ Dishwasher, black, under counter, 10 yrs. old, works, \$50. 895-6863
- ★ 1995 Yamaha YZ-125 motocross bike, new top end, rear tire, \$1,500 obo. 256-498-5911
- ★ Software: Norton Antivirus 2002, \$7.50; Norton personal firewall 2002, \$7.50; Microsoft Money 2002, \$5. 683-7683/837-0625
- ★ Warren & Sweat climbing tree stand, 3 yrs. old, \$80. 961-1291/Ted
- ★ Multi-blue w/wood trim sofa and love seat w/4 throw pillows, \$50. 895-6863
- ★ Bach Stradivarius trumpet, \$1,300; Epiphone Stratocaster guitar, \$100; Parador P-14 pistol, 45ACP, \$675. 851-8085
- ★ Dirt Devil Deluxe upright vacuum w/ attachments, \$45. 461-8369
- ★ Kenwood component stereo system, receiver, CD player, dual cassette deck, equalizer, speakers, cabinet, \$400. 325-7542
- ★ HO steam engine. AHM by Rivarossi. 0-8-0 Indiana Harbor Belt. Orig. box/insert. \$55. 306-0700

Vehicles

- ★ 1993 Lexus GS300, 12 disk CD, maroon/tan, high miles, \$9,750. 837-2162/508-1814
- ★ 2000 Chevrolet S10, extended cab, 51K miles, 4-cyl., automatic, air, CD, blue, bedliner, \$9,500. 771-7799
- ★ 1993 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo, 4WD, 6-cyl., auto, 140K miles, one-owner, towing pkg., \$5,500. 895-6640
- ★ 1986 Toyota Camry, blue, 4 cyl., auto, one-owner, 127K miles, \$900. 837-3143
- ★ 1995 Dodge Neon, green sport, AM/FM/CD, \$2,000 firm. 509-0196
- ★ 1998 Ford Escort SE wagon, 38K miles, no damage, loaded, \$5,500 obo. 931-363-8217
- ★ 1995 Volvo 850 station wagon, 48K miles, fully loaded, \$8,500. 882-9361
- ★ 1974 VW SuperBeetle, tan, new tires, many new parts, \$2,450. 828-3128
- ★ 1986 Mercedes Benz 300E, 155K miles, new tires & paint job, \$4,500. 551-0276

- ★ 1995 Pontiac Grand Am SE, red, 4-door, tilt/cruise, \$3,500 obo. 256-726-8686
- ★ 2002 Jeep Liberty Limited, 4x4, 25K miles, fully loaded, sunroof, extended warranty, \$22,500. 256-931-4678
- ★ 1998 Accura, 3.2TL premium, 57K miles, one-owner, pearl white, leather, CD/cassette, cruise, sunroof, \$14,000. 883-0541
- ★ 1995 GMC Sierra Z71, ext. cab, loaded, \$10,000. 931-937-6518
- ★ 1999 Chevy Camaro, teal, new tires, loaded, \$12,500. 256-656-5552
- ★ 1996 Mazda Millenia, champagne, moonroof, CD changer, all-power, 82K miles, \$7,500. 880-9025
- ★ 1992 Nissan King-cab pickup, red, 4x4, 5-speed, a/c, 83K miles, \$6,500 obo. 489-8421
- ★ 1998 Ford Explorer Sport, loaded, black w/gray leather interior, \$8,750. 852-8320
- ★ 1993 Ford Taurus, 105K miles, all-power, \$1,750 obo. 230-6819

Wanted

- ★ Five or six tickets to Alabama vs. Tennessee football game. 256-586-7555
- ★ King trombone in good condition, suitable for beginner, reasonable. 256-232-5552
- ★ White solid wood chest and dresser w/mirror for girl's room. 859-1254
- ★ Two tickets to Alabama vs. Mississippi State football game. 883-2757
- ★ Frost free refrigerator, full size, ice maker optional, reasonably priced. 885-0745, Ext. 18
- ★ Home type dehumidifier in good condition. 931-433-5108

Free

- ★ Concrete slab, all sizes, for landscaping, fill and erosion control. 880-6335/Keith
- ★ Two AKC Registered Collie dogs to good home w/large fenced yard. 837-4173

Found

- ★ Diabetic test kit, near Bldg. 4200. Call 544-3623 to claim/identify.

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