



# MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Feb. 28, 2008



Atop the mobile launcher platform, space shuttle Endeavour rests on the launch pad at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., where it is undergoing processing before launch.

## ***Space station going global Next shuttle mission will deliver Japan's logistics module, Canada's robotic arm to station***

*By Sanda Martel*

**W**ith the successful Atlantis mission recently completed, preparations are under way for space shuttle Endeavour's launch on the 16-day STS-123 mission to the International Space Station. The mission will feature five spacewalks.

A Flight Readiness Review to assess readiness for launch will be held Feb. 28-29 at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla. The planning date for launch is March 11 at 1:28 a.m. CDT.

Endeavour rolled out to the launch pad Feb. 18, two days before Atlantis' 13-day mission to the space station was complete. Atlantis' STS-122 mission began Feb. 7, with landing Feb. 20 at the Kennedy Center.

Endeavour's flight crew includes Commander Dominic Gorie, Pilot Gregory Johnson and mission specialists Rick Linnehan, Robert Behnken, Mike

*See STS-123 on page 5*

## **NASA updates shuttle target launch dates**

*From combined reports*

NASA is targeting May 25 for the launch of space shuttle Discovery on the STS-124 mission to the International Space Station. The flight originally was targeted for April 24.

Fuel sensor system repair work on external tanks for STS-122 and STS-123 delayed final preparation of Discovery's fuel tank, ET-128, which is expected to arrive at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., in early March.

The shuttle cannot launch to the space station between May 7 and May 25 because the angle of the sun, with respect to the plane of the station's orbit, is too high to generate sufficient solar power for the mission. The move of Discovery's launch date will not affect

the remainder of the shuttle manifest.

Remaining shuttle missions in 2008 include Atlantis' STS-125 mission to service the Hubble Space Telescope, targeted to launch Aug. 28; Endeavour's STS-126 mission to deliver equipment to the station, targeted to launch Oct. 16; and Discovery's STS-119 mission, which will deliver the final set of solar arrays to the station, targeted for a Dec. 4 launch.

The shuttle launch manifest is available at [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/station/structure/iss\\_manifest.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/structure/iss_manifest.html).

For details on upcoming shuttle missions and their crews, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

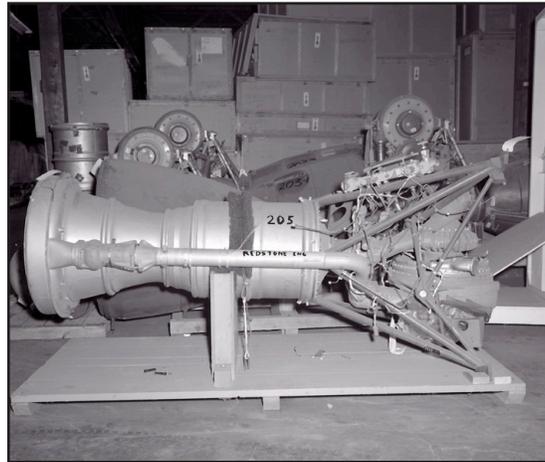
# Celebrating NASA's 50 years of accomplishments

## Huntsville had key role in launching Mercury-Redstone project

This year marks the 50th anniversary of NASA, which also highlights the agency's announcement only a few days after it opened that it intended to place a manned space capsule in orbital flight around the Earth.

NASA was created Oct. 1, 1958, and on Oct. 7, 1958, NASA formally organized "Project Mercury," intended to investigate man's reaction to space, and then recover the capsule and the pilot safely.

In October 1958, the creation of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville was still almost two years away. However, the engineers and scientists who later formed the nucleus of the center worked on Project Mercury before Marshall opened. They were part of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency — or ABMA — rocket team in Huntsville that got the assignment Jan. 8, 1959, to provide a series of Redstone-type



**Pictured is the engine for the Redstone rocket. The Redstone ballistic missile was a high-accuracy, liquid-propelled, surface-to-surface missile developed by the Army Ballistic Missile Agency under the direction of Wernher von Braun.**

launch vehicles for Project Mercury development flights.

Dr. Wernher von Braun, head of the ABMA team responsible for Project Mercury, became the first director of the Marshall Center when it opened in July 1960. The Army, and later Marshall, would fashion the launch vehicle for a Mercury capsule from the original Redstone rocket developed in Huntsville in the 1950s. Von Braun recalled: "Our people at ABMA began to assemble two Mercury-Jupiter vehicles, but this work was ended in mid-1959 by the NASA decision to 'man-rate' only the 'old reliable' Redstone, chosen for suborbital manned space flight because of its

demonstrated reliability and flight stability."

*Mike Wright, Marshall historian, constructed this story from reports.*

## Army and Marshall modified Redstone rocket for Mercury

For Project Mercury — which was intended to investigate man's reaction to space, and then recover the capsule and the pilot safely — the Redstone rocket propellant tank was lengthened by 6 feet and the standard Redstone engine thrust was increased to 78,000 pounds. In mid-1960, with von Braun still at the helm, responsibility for Mercury-Redstone passed from the Army Ballistic Missile Agency to the Marshall Center where the progress continued.

By October 1960, a status report on Marshall's involvement in Mercury noted that the first two Mercury-Redstones vehicles had been assembled by the Marshall Center with many of the components fabricated at the center. The Chrysler Corporation had assembled an additional six vehicles. The first four of the eight Mercury-Redstone vehicles had been static fired, and the first Mercury-Redstone was on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla., after a capsule-booster compatibility checkout in Huntsville. In addition, a unique rocket-borne television system designed to provide scientists and engineers with vital in-flight data on space vehicles had been prepared at Marshall for the Mercury-Redstone boosters. The Redstone tests conducted in Huntsville helped pave

the way for what the Marshall Star called "a giant stride toward manned orbital flight." On Dec. 19, 1960, a Mercury-Redstone, furnished by the Marshall Center, successfully launched an instrumented spacecraft.

Although Project Mercury was under the direction of NASA's Space Task Group at Langley Field, Va., the Marshall Center was responsible for providing and launching the rocket from Cape Canaveral. The first flight of the Mercury-Redstone on Dec. 19, was a booster-spacecraft test flight. On Jan. 31, 1961, a Redstone lifted a Mercury spacecraft carrying "Ham," the chimpanzee, who was recovered safely after helping NASA test the spacecraft's life support system. On May 5, 1961, another Redstone lifted a Mercury capsule carrying astronaut Alan Shepard, the first American in space. Then, on July 21, a Redstone launched a Mercury capsule carrying astronaut Virgil I. Grissom on a flight that marked the end of the Mercury-Redstone Program, and the beginning of the next step in the U.S. manned spaceflight program, the orbital flight of a more powerful vehicle, the Mercury-Atlas.

*Mike Wright, Marshall historian, constructed this story from reports.*

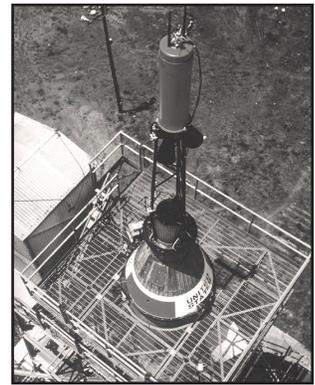
50 years of accomplishments continued

## Von Braun team ground tested Redstone vehicle

Project Mercury was directed by NASA's Space Task Group at Langley, Va. The engineers designed the capsule while Dr. Wernher von Braun's group in Huntsville modified and tested the Army Redstone missile. Between April 1959 and July 1960, von Braun's engineers ground tested the Redstone's propulsion systems more than 200 times. Unfortunately, they failed to uncover a problem with faulty circuitry in the tail section of the rocket.

At its launch in Florida on Nov. 21, 1960, the unmanned Redstone rocket wobbled slightly on its pedestal and settled back on its fins after, at the very most, a 4- or 5-inch liftoff. The astronaut escape tower on top of the Mercury capsule blew off and climbed 4,000 feet, landing about 400 yards from the launch site. Those who had gathered to watch what was supposed to be a rocket launch ran for cover. Already under pressure from newspapers and politicians reminding them of the progress the Russians were making in regard to putting a human in space, von Braun and his engineers went to work on the technical problems that had beset the launch, finally orchestrating a successful launch of an unmanned Mercury-Redstone vehicle on Dec. 19, 1960, and yet another on Jan. 31, 1961.

*Mike Wright, Marshall historian, constructed this story from reports.*



This photograph depicts installation of the Mercury capsule and escape system on top of a booster prior to test firing of the Mercury-Redstone launch vehicle at Marshall.

## NASA selects new deputy associate administrator of strategic partnerships and Space Shuttle Program manager

NASA announced the selection of N. Wayne Hale Jr. as NASA's deputy associate administrator for strategic partnerships Feb. 22. John Shannon, a Mission Management Team chairman and Hale's deputy since November 2005, will succeed him as the Space Shuttle Program manager.

"Wayne has done so much for the human spaceflight program and built a strong team. The momentum he created will continue," said Bill Gerstenmaier, associate administrator for Space Operations, NASA Headquarters, Washington. "We know John will do an outstanding job as the program manager after his tremendous leadership as Wayne's deputy."

Hale has served as the manager of the Space Shuttle Program since September 2005. In his new position, he will work in Houston as a senior NASA official in the Space Operations Mission Directorate, providing strategic leadership to foster cooperative partnerships that help achieve NASA goals, build alliances across the public and private sectors, and improve U.S. competitiveness and economic growth.

As the Space Shuttle Program manager, Hale led the shuttle's Return to Flight missions, along with six subsequent flights that successfully continued construction of the International Space Station.

"John Shannon is completely ready to take the reins in NASA's most critical program," Hale said. "His leadership skills are well established, and the shuttle program will do well under his care."

As the manager of the shuttle program, Shannon will be

responsible for overall management, integration and operations. He began his NASA career as a flight control officer in the Mission Control Center in 1988.

Shannon was selected as the head of Space Shuttle Guidance, Navigation and Flight Control in 1992 and became a space shuttle flight director in 1993, supporting 58 shuttle missions. He holds the distinction of being the youngest flight director in NASA history. After serving as deputy director of the Columbia Task Force in 2003, Shannon was selected to create the Space Shuttle Program's Flight Operations and Integration Office.

Hale's new job is the latest in a career of more than three decades at NASA.

Before becoming the manager of Space Shuttle Program, Hale served as the program's deputy manager following the Columbia accident and chaired the program's Mission Management Team. Before that, he was the launch integration manager at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla.

Hale began his career with NASA in the Propulsion Systems Section of Flight Operations at NASA's Johnson Space Center, Houston, in 1978. He became a lead propulsion systems officer in Mission Control and later headed the Propulsion Systems Section from 1985 to 1988. Hale also oversaw flight control teams in Mission Control during all aspects of 40 space shuttle missions, including 28 overseeing the critical ascent and entry phases. His last two years as a flight director were spent as deputy chief flight director for shuttle operations.

# 33 selected for Space Flight Awareness honors

Thirty-three Marshall Center employees and contractors are being honored for their significant contributions to the space program. The honorees are attending a special recognition event in Orlando,

Fla., on March 8. There will be an awards ceremony in their honor, and they will tour Kennedy Space Center and view the launch of STS-123, targeted for March 11.



**Shawn Breeding**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Barry W. Britnell**  
*Freedom Information Systems*



**Chris Calfee**  
*Ares Projects*



**Marilyn D. Davis**  
*Office of the Chief Information Officer*



**Allan V. Day**  
*Office of Diversity & Equal Opportunity*



**Michael R. Fiske**  
*Jacobs Engineering*



**Stephen W. Gaddis**  
*Science & Mission Systems Office*



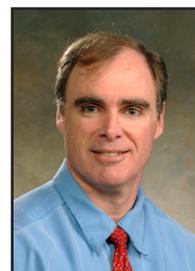
**Cynthia J. Guffey**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Elaine W. Hamner**  
*Office of Procurement*



**Emily O'Neal Kendall**  
*Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications*



**Rodney B. Key**  
*Science & Mission Systems Office*



**John W. Kress**  
*Shuttle Propulsion Office*



**Mark E. Krome**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Kathryn L. Kynard**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Robert M. Linner**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Lori D. Manis**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Jane McBay**  
*Office of Human Capital*



**Margaret M. McMullins**  
*Mainthia*



**Randy E. Miller**  
*Teledyne Brown Engineering*



**George S. Mitchell**  
*Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate*



**Lloyd J. Moore**  
*Office of Center Operations*



**Melinda H. Naderi**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**Andrew J. Nichols**  
*Shuttle Propulsion Office*



**Patrick Kevin O'Neill**  
*SAIC*

*See Space Flight Awareness on page 5*

*Space Flight Awareness honors  
continued from page 4*



# Space Flight Awareness

NASA  
Marshall Space Flight Center



**Donna K. Patterson**  
*Digital Fusion*



**Robert L. Pitts**  
*Computer Sciences  
Corp.*



**Katherine J. Preston**  
*EG&G Logistics Services*



**Mark B. Shelton**  
*Teledyne Brown  
Engineering*



**Michael W. Suits**  
*Engineering Directorate*



**T. Wayne Tankesley Jr.**  
*Office of the Chief  
Financial Officer*



**Gina Walker-Klinzak**  
*COLSA*



**Ronnie Weaver**  
*Bastion Technology Inc.*

## STS-123

*Continued from page 1*

Foreman, Garrett Reisman and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's Takao Doi.

Reisman will join Expedition 16 as flight engineer on the space station, replacing the European Space Agency's Leopold Eyharts, who rode to the station with the STS-122 astronauts and will return with the STS-123 crew.

The astronauts will deliver the first section of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's laboratory, marking the beginning of the agency's presence on the station. The Japanese experiment logistics module's pressurized section will contain critical avionics and serve as a storage area for experiment materials. At 14.4 feet in diameter and 12.8 feet in length, it is the smallest of two pressurized Japanese modules. Combined with other elements, they will make up Kibo, the station's Japanese complex, named for the Japanese word for hope. Kibo's main facility and robotic arm are scheduled to launch on the following shuttle mission, STS-124.

STS-123 also will deliver the Canadian Space Agency's two-armed robotic system, the Special Purpose Dexterous Manipulator. Dubbed

Dextre by a Canadian naming contest, the robot, with its two small robotic arms, will attach to the station's robotic arm, Candarm2, and allow astronauts to replace hardware outside the station without a spacewalk.

Endeavour is launching with the expectation of staying in space for 16 days, with extra days set aside in case weather or a technical problem delays landing. This is the first flight preplanned to take full advantage of the station to Shuttle Power Transfer System which allows the docked shuttle to draw electrical power from the station and extend its stay at the orbital complex. Other shuttle flights have used the system to glean extra power from the station and extend their flight duration, but that decision was always made after the shuttle was in orbit.

For more information about the shuttle program, visit [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/shuttle/main/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/main/index.html). For more information about the STS-123 mission, visit [http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/shuttle/shuttlemissions/sts123/mission\\_overview.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/shuttlemissions/sts123/mission_overview.html).

*Martel, an ASRI employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis and Communications.*

## THE FACE OF MISSION SUCCESS IS:

# Randy Stephens

*Deputy branch chief of the Experimental Fluids and Environmental Test Branch*

Creating a space environment here on Earth may seem like an oxymoron, but this happens all the time at Marshall. Randy Stephens — deputy branch chief of the Experimental Fluids and Environmental Test Branch — and the team at the Environmental Test Facility in Marshall's Engineering Directorate make sure space hardware can withstand the radical environments of space on our planet before it's launched out of this world.

### What is your education background?

I am a 1973 graduate from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

### What are the key responsibilities of your position?

As deputy branch chief, I assist the branch chief in managing Marshall's Experimental Fluids and Environmental Test Branch. The Environmental Test Facility team provides simulated environments for development, qualification and research testing of spaceflight hardware, such as hardware for the space shuttles or the International Space Station. Equipped with 26 test chambers to provide thermal vacuum, thermal humidity, thermal altitude and salt fog testing for the development and qualification testing, we aim to maintain safety while creating a high quality test environment for testing space hardware products.

In addition, we develop and review quotations and procedures for tests to make sure that the customer's requirements are met in the most professional and efficient manner. We also assist in balancing the distribution of work in the facility, and make sure we have the right people doing the right things to ensure the safety of personnel, hardware and test facilities. I've been here for 28 years, so I often act as a point of contact for technical advice and mentor the newer folks.

### What services does your job provide in support of the center's mission and NASA's goal of exploration?

Our main function is to provide a safe, quality environment for testing space hardware — services we provide for all Marshall programs. These services are also available to all NASA

organizations, U.S. government entities, commercial customers and education researchers. Our primary test function is thermal vacuum testing. We'll take a test article and insert it into an environmental test chamber, which provides a simulated environment that the test article will experience in space. When the environmental conditions are met, the test article is put through its normal performance function that it would be providing in space. By testing in this

simulated environment, we verify if it will work as designed in space. This testing will identify any inherent problems with the piece of hardware so that they can be corrected before the article is launched. The other team in our branch, the Experimental Fluids Team, provides wind tunnel, turbine flow, valve flow and other environmental testing.

### What do you hope to accomplish in your role this year?

We're gearing up for Ares testing and upgrading several of our test chambers for what we think is going to be a very busy workload.

We're working on installing another midsize vacuum chamber to hopefully ease any test schedule conflicts that we have had in the past with our Sunspot vacuum facility. Our Sunspot thermal vacuum chamber, which is probably one of the most used vacuum facilities at Marshall,

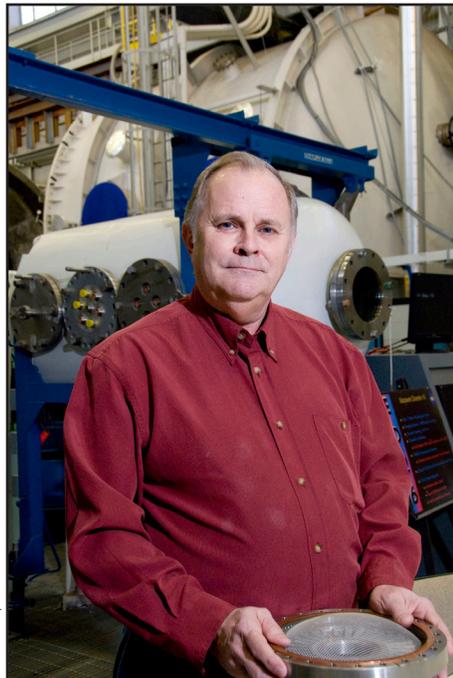
will continue to be utilized heavily for many Marshall programs. This chamber is very popular because it is an ideal size for many types of space hardware. To make our facilities available for more customers and to hopefully prevent test schedule conflicts, we got a chamber that has been around Marshall for years, but it had been exceeded. We are in the process of installing a state-of-the-art type technology such as a cryogenic and turbomolecular pumping system and a cryogenic shroud onto this chamber, so that it can work in conjunction with the Sunspot facility.

### Away from work, how do you like to spend your personal time?

My wife, Karen, and I have a 26-year-old son, Jonathan, who works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Huntsville. Jonathan and I like to golf. We usually play a few rounds when we can on the golf course at The Links at Redstone.

My wife and I enjoy gardening. We have a 2.5-acre garden full of

*See Stephens on page 7*



Emmett Given/MSFC

Randy Stephens

# Stephens

*Continued from page 6*

plants such as daylilies, hostas, hydrangeas and Japanese maples. We became members of the American Hemerocallis Society, which is a daylily association. Our garden is a Hemerocallis Society Display Garden and Historic Display Garden. To become a display garden, we had to include a wide variety of daylilies and in a garden setting that displays the daylilies in a favorable environment. As a condition of achieving display garden status, we had to make

the garden available for people to come out and take a look at the plants, educating visitors about historic daylily species and cultivars, and how they can be used effectively in landscapes. We have hosted several regional and local garden events in our garden. It has been featured in several publications including the "Alabama Gardener." This hobby is a really good stress reliever.

*Jessica Wallace, an ASRI employee and Marshall Star editor in the Office of Strategic Analysis and Communications, contributed to this article.*

## 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, March 6, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28.*

### Miscellaneous

- Pottery Barn Kids bed set, twin bed quilt, pillow, quilted shams, bed skirt, slipcover, \$75. 466-0723
- Reebok Elliptical, \$400; Bowflex Sport, \$500. 683-5030
- Nokia cell phone, \$75; Samsung cell phone, charging accessories, ready to connect, \$35. 586-7297
- Jeff Zimmerman floral designer sofa, \$1,000 obo. 536-5132
- 10'x10'x4' chain-link dog pen, house, \$100. 205-914-5727
- Diablo Punx drum set, five pieces, red, \$250. 325-3225
- Four OZ Prodrive gold alloys, Avon Tech M500 275/45/ZR17 tires, fit Subaru WRX, \$1,200 obo. 880-8998
- 35 canning jars and lids, \$9; full bed, headboard, foot board, mattress, boxsprings, \$300. 655-6348

- Broadway Theater League, "Moving Out," March 7, two tickets, row M, seats 24-25, \$100. 881-4335
- 1/2 carat diamond band, yellow gold, \$250. 426-7862
- Broyhill kitchen hutch, glass sides, doors, shelves, \$575; wood kitchen table, four chairs, \$375. 975-1667
- 32-inch Proscan TV, manual, cabinet stand, VCR, \$450. 694-0116
- White/natural solid oak table, leaf, four chairs, \$500. 508-0509
- Kenmore 15-cubic foot chest freezer, lockable, \$150. 858-5552
- Baldwin Acrosonic piano, \$700. 837-3762
- Two tickets, "Moving Out," March 9, section ORCH2, row B, seats 3-4, \$120. 698-0289

### Vehicles

- 2007 Chrysler Pacifica Limited, black, all power, leather, DVD, 2,400 miles, \$24,000. 394-1054
- 2007 Toyota Corolla S, silver/black, automatic, all power, 24k miles, \$14,200. 830-9507
- 2006 Nissan Armada LE, technology package options, custom grill, new tires, 30k miles, \$32,000. 652-5177
- 2005 Kawasaki Concours Sport Touring motorcycle, factory warranty, 10k miles, \$6,200. 489-8031
- 2004 Chrysler PT Cruiser Touring Edition, AM/FM/CD, moonroof, rear spoiler, red, 28k miles, \$9,400. 714-8496
- 2004 F-150 Supercrew, lariat, leather, sunroof, tow package, 48k miles, \$18,000. 426-1822

- 2003 Chevy Tahoe, 4WD, burgundy, loaded, third-row seating, 121k miles, \$11,750. 865-384-4616
- 2003 Yukon XL, SLT, loaded, 107k miles, \$13,500. 468-3803
- 2003 Tahoe, leather, third-row seats, rear air, XM, CD, 61k miles, \$15,500. 468-0854
- 2001 Ford Taurus SES, 3.0L V6, new tires/battery, 84k miles, \$5,000. 682-8795
- 2001 Volvo S40, four door, sedan, blackberry, four cylinder, turbo, AM/FM, cassette/CD, \$4,000. 468-6016
- 1999 Toyota 4-Runner Limited Edition, white, brown interior, sunroof, CD, A/C, \$7,000. 694-1260
- 1998 Nissan Frontier King Cab pickup, many options, service records, 124k miles, \$5,950. 489-8031

### Wanted

- Horse, 5-10 years old, for recreational riding. 694-9184
- VW bug or VW van. 341-8656
- Fuser for HP LaserJet 5 printer. 883-2757
- Wedding gown seamstress, take in, add sleeves, experience mandatory. 783-8713
- Four large cedar trees, 15 feet or higher. 653-2044
- Row boat, oars. 486-4400

### Free

- Camper shell, for 8-foot Chevy pickup, window on each side. 489-5318
- Male cat, affectionate, doesn't get along with other cats. 426-5038
- 6-month-old lab. 586-2994

## Obituaries

**Paul Edward Thomas**, 86, of Huntsville died Feb. 10. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1983 as an engineer.

**Charles H. Clark Jr.**, 85, of Hampton Cove died Feb. 11. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1973 as an engineer. He is survived by his wife, Vivian Montgomery Clark.

**Earle Gaines Harris**, 83, of McBurg, Tenn., died Feb. 11. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1986 as an aerospace engineer.

**Johnny Clifton Clark**, 84, of Minchester, Tenn., died Feb. 16. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1975 as an aerospace engineering technician. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy J. Clark.

# HSPD-12 badging process moves into second phase at Marshall

The second phase of implementing the new federal government identification system is now under way at the Marshall Center.

The Protective Services Office, part of Marshall's Office of Center Operations, has almost completed enrollment for new employee badges. Employees who have not enrolled need to do so no later than March 31. The initiative is part of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, or HSPD-12, directing all federal government departments and agencies to adopt a single standard for badging its employees and contractors.

Employees will be notified by e-mail or by their company's representative when and where to pick up their new badge. The anticipated deadline to issue new badges is June 30.

The badge exchange process involves verifying an employee's identity by matching their fingerprint to the fingerprint electronically stored in the new badge. A Personal Identification Number consisting of six to eight digits must also be selected by the employee. Then the old badge will be traded for a new one.

As with previous badges, printed information will include an employee's name, badge number, affiliation, badge expiration date and NASA center designation. However, there will be a few

changes. The badge also will have a unique identification number, a digital certificate and two fingerprint templates in electronic form. Numerous laws and regulations govern the use and protection of employee personal information that has been collected and stored as part of the personal identity verification process.

Civil service employees will no longer have gold on their badges, which will be replaced with white. Contractor badges will have a green strip across the employee's name on the front of the badge. Foreign national badges will have a blue strip. Holes will not be permitted in the new badge, so a clear sleeve will be provided to each employee at pickup.

Initially, the new badge will be used in much the same way as the existing NASA badge, allowing access to NASA facilities. The badge can be used immediately when issued, but it does not grant any access privileges to facilities that an employee is not currently authorized to have.

Also, there are projects under way that will upgrade and add electronic security measures, such as door and hand-held badge readers, as well as use of the badge at the computer desktop.

For questions about the badging process, contact Becky Hopson, Marshall's badge issuance officer, at [rebecca.b.hopson@nasa.gov](mailto:rebecca.b.hopson@nasa.gov), or visit <http://hspd12.nasa.gov>.

## U.S. Rep. Artur Davis addresses Marshall team

U.S. Rep. Artur Davis of Montgomery, Ala., speaks to Marshall Center team members Feb. 19, emphasizing the values and shared experience that unite all Americans, regardless of race, creed or gender. Davis, who represents Alabama's 7th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, was the keynote speaker at Marshall's annual Black History Month event. He applauded Marshall for its diverse workforce and commitment to equal opportunity for all employees.



David Higginbotham/MSC

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