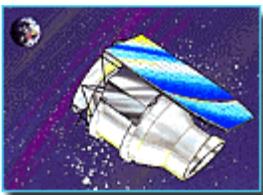


JPL briefing at KSC to inform employees about SIRTf, to launch in April



KSC RehabWorks, Fitness Center seek input on new exercise program for disabled



▲ **ELV Update: A SIRTf Mission Briefing is being held Friday, March 14.** The Space Infrared Telescope Facility will be launched aboard a Delta II vehicle on April 15. JPL management will describe the project and its mission

to the KSC workforce during the all-hands briefing. All employees, NASA and contractors, are invited to attend this briefing at noon in the O&C Mission Briefing Room. For more information, contact JPL at 867-3731 or send e-mail to AntonJF@kscems.ksc.nasa.gov

▲ **Exercise Program For Individuals With Disabilities:** An adapted exercise program for Individuals with Disabilities is being developed as a joint effort between the KSC Fitness Center and the KSC RehabWorks Program. In order to make this program successful and to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities, any interested persons should plan to attend one of two focus group sessions on Thursday, March, 13, at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., in the O&C Building, Room 1055. Please contact the Disability Program Coordinator at 867-6923 or send e-mail to debbie.c.houston@nasa.gov if you are interested in participating.

◆ **Audit Your Home for Energy Savings** -- Determine which parts of your home use the most energy, and how you can best reduce your energy costs, by performing an energy audit. You can contact your local utility, or call an independent energy auditor for a more comprehensive examination. To conduct a simple audit yourself: 1) Check your home's insulation levels, and check for open fireplace dampers. 2) Look for holes or cracks around doors, light and plumbing fixtures, and other places where air may leak into or out of your home. 3) Make sure your appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained. 4) And study your family's lighting needs and use patterns, paying special

attention to high-use areas. Once you've determined where your home is losing energy, assign priorities to your energy needs; Make smart purchases and home improvements that maximize energy efficiency and save the most money. For more information on home energy audits, visit the Web site http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumerinfo/energy_savers/energyuse.html.

◆ **Blood drive sponsored by ELVIS Team** -- The ELVIS Contractor Team, consisting of Analex, ai solutions, Swales and SAIC, is sponsoring a blood drive at the O&C Building Wednesday, March 12, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Space Coast Blood Bank will be parked just outside the O&C on the north side. Donate and get a **free** commemorative T-shirt with a picture of a launching shuttle and an American flag. Give the gift of life and promote this life-saving cause. For more information, send e-mail to Pamela Pugmire at pamela.pugmire-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

◆ **Reminder: Educator Astronaut Program** -- The Educator Astronaut Program deadline is soon approaching. All nominations and applications for the program are due by April 30. Thousands of teacher nominations and applications have already been received. For more information about the program or to nominate a teacher, please visit the site: <http://edspace.nasa.gov>.

◆ **Did You Know?** The 40th Space Congress has been set for April 28 - May 2 at the Radisson Resort in Cape Canaveral. This year's annual event will celebrate the theme "Linking the Past to the Future" and recognize NASA's 40th anniversary. Space Congress is held by the Canaveral Council of Technical Societies, which uses proceeds to present annual achievement and technical awards, conduct an annual career night and sponsor or support local educational programs for Space Coast schools and groups.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail – Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 321-867-2815

Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2002.htm>