

## Community News



Photo courtesy USA

Jerry Roberts, a United Space Alliance employee, recycles office paper earlier this year as part of a joint JSC-USA recycling drive associated with Earth Day.

### *New uses for old numbers*

## JSC offers chance to recycle old home telephone books

Never know what to do with all of those old telephone books when the new ones arrive? Here's your chance to get rid of them and benefit the environment at the same time.

As the new commercial telephone books arrive in June, JSC will have bins on-site from June 22-July 6 to collect the old phone books.

"Quite a few people called or E-mailed me asking for phone book recycling following our recent magazine and newspaper recycling opportunity," said Jo Kines of JSC's Environmental Services Office. "I was really pleased about the interest in recycling."

The recycling bins will be located so that employees can drive by and drop off the phone books from home or the office. One bin will be in the parking lot across from (west of) Bldgs. 46 and 47 near Bldg. 44. The other will be in the parking lot across from (south of) Bldgs. 2 and 13 on Avenue D. Please place *only* telephone books in these recycling bins.

This phone book recycling program is conducted in partnership with JSC, TransWestern Publishing, BFI and International Cellulose.

The newspaper and magazine recycling that was conducted from April 20 through May 11 was a great

success. The effort was sponsored by JSC's Environmental Services Office in partnership with United Space Alliance Houston in celebration of Earth Day 1998. Champion Paper provided the recycling bin and reported that JSC collected almost 2,000 pounds of recyclable materials. Space Center Intermediate School was given credit for what was collected.

An overhead transparency recycling generated a paper box full of transparencies. The transparencies will be mailed to 3M for recycling. Several organizations have asked for transparency recycling to be permanent because so many are generated as a result of weekly briefings.

Information on JSC's paper recycling guidelines (what to recycle and what not to put in the bins), some data about how much has been recycled in the past few years and information on Houston-area recycling locations for those who recycle at home is now available on the Internet. The World Wide Web link is called "JSC Recycling Information" and the address is: <http://stic.jsc.nasa.gov/collections/COD/recycle.htm>

Contact Kines at x33218 if you have any questions about any of these special recycling programs.



**Earthwatch**

## JSC Blood Drive on record-setting pace for donations

JSC's latest on-site blood drive netted a total of 466 units of blood, keeping the center on pace for a record-setting year of life-giving donations to the community.

"That's the best yet outside of the two drives we've done on Safety and Total Health Days (508 at each of the last two year's events)," said drive co-chair Dan Mangieri, who explained that June's total surpassed that of the last drive, 426 units.

JSC's Blood Drive Committee reports statistics that show a steady growth in donations over the past few years, from 380 total donations in 1995 to 1,513 in 1997 and a projected 2,000-plus this year.

"In 1996 we initiated a major effort to redesign and improve JSC's blood donor program by polling our customers, analyzing their feedback, prioritizing their needs, organizing a team to address program changes, moving the drive location, bolstering publicity, and putting innovative promotions in place," Mangieri said. "In the spirit of 'continuous improvement' we've added new promotions and other popular features every year, like our new blood drive website found on the Human Resources home page. It contains scheduling and other useful information for our donors."

JSC's Blood Drive Committee and several high-gallon donors visited St. Luke's Hospital this spring, learning about hospital and blood bank activities and witnessing open heart surgery in progress, which was fascinating, "but made some of us woozy at times."

"The tour was a great experience, and made me more aware of both the need for and the value of giving blood," said Raymond Lee. "One of our tour hosts had received open heart surgery twice, and was a living testimonial to the value of blood donations. Without blood donations, most surgery and many medical procedures would not be possible. There is

research under way to develop a substitute for blood, but currently no substitute exists. So, giving blood really is giving the gift of life."

Nurse Gwen Rangel, helped the group don white "bunny suits" for a visit to the catheterization lab presentation on alternatives to surgery, and Mike McGee, vice president of THI's research administration, allowed the committee to inspect a late-model HeartMate left ventricular assist device. "What an amazing experience this was for me," said Heidi Glaisyer. "As involved as I am with the medical community, being ill, I never honestly realized the impact our blood drives have on our community. I was so impressed with the way they maximize the use of each unit, such a precious commodity."

Glaisyer suffers from end stage renal disease (kidney failure) and had a transplant that eventually failed. During the transplant, she bled severely and needed several units of blood. Thanks to Exploration Programs Office coworkers, she was able to have her own blood blank. She's awaiting another transplant, but in the meantime needs several units of blood a month.

"What has stayed embedded in my mind and heart was the woman having the bypass surgery," Glaisyer said. "But what caught my eye was the cooler of blood, tucked neatly under the table in the event it was needed. In that red container were the generous donations of four individuals which could have made the difference between life and death for this woman. Our donors made that security possible—a 15-minute contribution determined whether this woman had her surgery or not.... My friends here at JSC have always seen that blood is put in my name when I let them know I need it. I feel lucky to have help from my friends—their simple 30-minute contribution literally has saved my life."

The next blood drives will be Sept. 23-24 to coincide with Safety and Total Health Day, and Dec. 15-16.

### Johnson Space Center & St. Luke's Blood Donor Program



## JSC Safety Alert

### Dry Conditions Spark Fire Alert

JSC this month issued a general fire alert for on-site JSC and Ellington Field facilities. Due to the lack of rain, grassy areas have become dangerously dry and are subject to ready ignition. A major grass fire may endanger both life and structures adjacent to open fields.

This general fire alert suspends all nonessential governmental activities, such as model rocketry and model aircraft, and all activities for JSC that operate in or over dry vegetation areas. Normal activities may continue at the Gilruth Center subject to existing policies for use of the facility.

Only essential off-road vehicle activity will be permitted since the high temperature of an exhaust system or a spark can ignite vegetation. Employees are cautioned to use vehicle ash trays rather than discarding ashes or "cigarette butts" outside a vehicle.

JSC will continue to monitor Harris County and the Texas Forestry Service for alert levels. This notice will be rescinded when danger levels diminish.



Members of the JSC Blood Drive Committee don their "bunny suits" for a tour of the St. Luke's Hospital catheterization lab and a presentation on the alternatives to surgery. Mike McGee, Texas Hearth Institute's vice president for resarch administration, showed the group a late-model HeartMate left ventricular assist device that is awaiting Food and Drug Administration approval for use on a long-term basis. The device currently is used only by patients awaiting a donor heart. From left are: Mark Anderson, Lyn Gordon-Winkler, Lois Lenox, Amy Mendez, Gwyn Smith, Brenda Lancaster, Heidi Glaisyer and Rich Delgado.