

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER'S SPACEPORT MAGAZINE CONTENTS

- 4.....OSIRIS-REx Spacecraft arrives
- 8.....Weld points will protect astronauts during launch phases
- 10.....Thornton leads upgrade of Ground Special Power
- 14.....Tests simulate Space Launch System platforms
- 18.....College students help NASA on its journey to Mars
- 23.....Alabama team takes top robotic honors
- 24.....Upgrades to Launch Pad 39B flame trench
- 27.....Engineer employs art, science to design cockpits
- 30.....Starliner test article joined to complete first hull
- 32.....Students develop innovative robots in first Swarmathon
- 36.....Students trade school day for workday at KSC
- 38.....TOSC Safety Week focuses on culture of caring
- 44.....Hall of Fame welcome pair of space shuttle astronauts
- 49.....Gemini IX crew finds 'Angry Alligator' in Earth orbit

Front Cover: NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft begins to rotate on a spin table during a weight and center of gravity test inside the Payload Hazardous Servicing Facility at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The spacecraft is being prepared for its upcoming launch, targeted for Sept. 8 aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket.

Back Cover: "Views of Our Planets" Forever stamps featuring iconic images of the planets in our solar system, including the well-known "Blue Marble" photo of Earth are now available at a post office near you!. Also, new "Pluto Explored" Forever stamps commemorating the July 2015 flyby of Pluto by NASA's New Horizons spacecraft also are being issued for online purchase.

To get the latest Kennedy Space Center updates, follow us on our **Blog, Flickr, Facebook and Twitter.**



THE SPACEPORT MAGAZINE TEAM

Editorial	Writers Group	Creative Group
Editor.....Frank Ochoa-Gonzales	Anna Heiney	Bob Granath
Assistant Editor.....Linda Herridge	Kay Grinter	Linda Herridge
Copy Editor.....Kay Grinter	Steven Siceloff	Richard Beard
		Amy Lombardo
		Lynda Brammer
		Matthew Young
		Greg Lee

NASA'S LAUNCH SCHEDULE

Date: June 18, 5:10 a.m. EDT
Mission: Undocking and Landing of Expedition 47 Crew
Description: Undocking of the Soyuz TMA-19M spacecraft from the Rassvet module and landing in Kazakhstan of the Expedition 47 crew.
<http://go.nasa.gov/rpDbqR>

Date: June 24, 2:42 a.m. EDT
Mission: Launch of Expedition 48 Crew
Description: Launch of the Expedition 48 crew on the Soyuz MS-01 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan to the International Space Station.
<http://go.nasa.gov/1VHuSAV>

Date: July 16, 1:32 a.m. EDT
Mission: SpaceX CRS-9 Launch
Description: An uncrewed SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, carrying crew supplies and station hardware, will lift off on a Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

Date: Sept. 8
Mission: OSIRIS-REx
Description: The mission will study Benu, a near-Earth asteroid that is about one-third of a mile across. OSIRIS-REx will bring a small sample back to Earth for study. As planned, the spacecraft will reach its asteroid target in 2018 and return a sample to Earth in 2023.
<http://go.nasa.gov/1ItsRkl>

Date: Oct. 14
Mission: Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R Series (GOES-R)
Description: The advanced spacecraft and instrument technology used on the GOES-R series will result in more timely and accurate forecasts and warnings.
<http://go.nasa.gov/1YubP2g>

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

I am KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

ALI SHAYKHIAN

I am a customer relationship manager in the IT Technical Integration Office, supporting the Engineering Directorate. In my role, I have the opportunity to review customers' IT needs, requirements, issues or challenges, then offer ideas and insights to achieve the best possible solutions. I started my career as a University of Central Florida professor, then worked as a NASA contractor, and finally joined NASA in April 2000. In 2003, I was elected as a National Administrator Fellowship Program (NAFP) fellow. My fellowship involved conducting STEM-related research and helping minority students in science and technology at Bethune-Cookman University. In addition to my regular responsibilities, I am an active member of the KSC Speakers Bureau. Through the bureau, I am able to bring the space program into classrooms. I have witnessed many K-12 students' excitement and enthusiasm firsthand, and it is constant encouragement to me and is why speaking to students is a priority in my life. I often receive handwritten notes from students after my visit. Here are a few excerpts: "Dear Dr. Ali, thanks for letting every one shoot rockets. I can't wait for you to come back again. Sincerely, Evan." "Thank you Dr. Ali for the fun rocket experiment. I liked when we built the rocket and I think it was fun and awesome. Love, Monica." I have received hundreds of notes like this that reflect the importance of how NASA impacts students' lives in small ways that can grow into life-changing moments. I encourage all of us to reach out to students and ignite that spark in the next scientist, engineer or astronaut. I am delighted to share what I do with the community. Working for NASA has been the most enjoyable experience in my professional life.

