All signals turn green for GEND child care/partnership school

Department of Energy (DOE) funding is approved, architectural designs are almost wrapped up, and the Pinellas County School Board is ready to ring the bell ... that means everything's full steam ahead for the 1989 grand opening of our GEND Child Care/Partnership School facility. Now all we need are the children to fill the halls with laughter.

'I'm committed to this project and encouraged by our progress to date,' commented Dick Abington, general manager, 'Our intent is to be the role model for other industries by providing outstanding educational and developmental experiences for our children. We have a unique opportunity to provide the best ... best teachers, curriculums, materials, facilities ... the finest quality available.'

Best location scoped out

According to project planner for the facility, Dave Klingenberg, the Partnership School portion of the facility is slated for occupancy by the end of October; and the child care center completed around the end of November. After studying several GEND site alternatives, the facility will be located in the east parking lot area at a safe distance behind the fence lining Belcher Road. Several facets of this location were studied to include environment, security, traffic, accessibility to plant utilities, and zoning board requirements.

'I realize it's hard to believe that a completed building will be standing by October when there's no current sign of construction, but there's a good reason for that. A modular facility will be fabricated off-site, transported to the GEND location, and installed on-site,' explained Dave. 'Phil DiBlasi, manager, resource planning, is looking into the issue of displaced parking and plans are underway to make more employee parking spaces available.'

While the actual Partnership School building may not be complete until October 30, kids won't miss even one day of school which is scheduled to start August 24. While not on-site, the Pinellas County School System is providing classroom space for our kindergarten and first grade children at Southern Oaks Elementary School which is just around the corner on Starkey Road. This is a temporary solution until our GEND building is ready.

Signing the kids up

The next critical step is student enrollment in the Partnership School. This activity is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, and Wednesday, June 7, according to Christie Souder, project coordinator. 'Watch your in-plant mail for more information about this very important enrollment procedure. The Pinellas County School System is asking that each class have a minimum of 20 children. Those of you who have kindergarten-age children and first graders, please consider enrolling them in this outstanding program.'

Costs get a closer look

Because of the numerous approvals and licenses, the Child Care Center will open later than anticipated; and the projections are for a late November ribbon cutting ceremony. In addition, the exact cost of the child care service has not been determined. 'We're seeking to provide the very best in child care professionals to meet our parents' See ACCENT ON BUSINESS, pg. two

Pictured above is an artist's rendering of the GEND Child Care/Partnership School. This sketch is provided to give you a vision of our GEND facility scheduled for total completion by November, 1989.
Security associates carry injured woman five miles to safety

What began as a run-of-the-mill hike for security associates Joe Rose and Bill Detterline turned into an event that was anything but routine. That’s because this pair recently teamed up to boldly help a woman who had been injured while hiking the Sandia Mountains east of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

During a weekend break from classes at the Central Training Academy, Joe and Bill were hiking the LaLuz trail. This eight-mile trail starts at approximately 7000 feet above sea level and proceeds to Sandia Crest 10,400 feet above sea level.

As they proceeded down the trail, they came upon another hiking party. One of the women in the party had what appeared to be a badly sprained ankle. They rendered first aid and assisted her down the trail. After walking a short distance, it was obvious the injured woman could not make her way off the mountain unassisted as the injury was more serious than anticipated. Therefore, Joe and Bill carried the woman approximately five miles to the base of the trail. Hat’s off to Joe and Bill for their prompt and unhesitating assistance.

Substance Abuse Policy on the docket for next week

As communicated in April, the GEND strengthened substance abuse policy will begin next week, Thursday, June 1, to include random testing of all GEND employees.

This policy was revised to broaden its scope and emphasize GEND’s commitment to provide and maintain a safe and secure work environment free from the effects of substance abuse for all employees.

Several questions have been asked about how employees will be notified. The Medical Center will use the Drug Screening Computer Program developed locally to select names from the active payroll file. On the day your name is selected, you will be called to go to the medical center. Then, you will be asked to enter the ‘dry room’ and provide a specimen. This dry room is simply a restroom with no water. The use of this room alleviates the necessity of being observed. The sample will then be given to the Smith Klein Laboratories for testing and storage.

Next week, more information will be communicated about GEND’s company position on the Drug-Free Workplace. In the meantime, if you have any additional questions, feel free to submit them to Communications Programs at mail stop 005; and we’ll get an answer for you.

Cunningham earns GE group award

Terry Cunningham’s sincere dedication and hard work for the crucial issue of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or AIDS earned him special GE recognition recently. Out of 30 nominees across GE Aerospace, our GEND programmer in computer services was selected as one of the three group winners of the GE Phillippe Awards and thus became eligible for the GE Corporate Award final selection.

For his efforts, Terry will receive a Gerald L. Phillippe award and a $1000 check for a non-profit organization of his choice. Terry’s primary volunteer activity deals with the AIDS Coalition Pinellas or A.C.P. (an AIDS service organization) dedicated to helping those infected with the HIV virus, their families, and loved ones. AIDS education and understanding are critical elements in his work in the community.

Reaching out to help others

In addition, Terry is a Trained Buddy; Outreach Center Coordinator; Executive Board Member A.C.P./Treasurer; Bay Area Community AIDS Response Member; Pinellas County AIDS Consortium Member; and A.C.P. Fund Raising Chairman. Terry recently served on the AIDS Memorial Quilt display that was held in Tampa in April which brought the Nobel Peace nominated project to Florida for the first time since its tour began. Currently, he is working on this year’s AIDS Memorial Candlelight Vigil which is to be held May 28th locally at Williams Park in St. Petersburg.

Traveling to GE Aerospace headquarters, Terry will attend a luncheon ceremony in his honor on June 8th and hosted by John Rittenhouse, Senior Vice President, GE Aerospace.

Stacking up against other GE nominees across the company, Terry is now eligible for the GE Corporate Award. Those winners will be invited to GE Corporate headquarters for a special ceremony and gifts; and each will receive an additional $1000 grant to be donated to an organization of his or her choice.
**Hourly, NE salaried employees get big pay boost June 26**

June 26 will be a special day for many employees at GEND. That's when a $900 Special Wage or Salary Payment will become a reality to eligible hourly and nonexempt-salaried employees. Also, hourly and nonexempt-salaried pay rates will go up as a result of a combined general increase and cost-of-living adjustment. This increase will be reflected in checks that employees receive July 7.

The general increase will be 1.5 percent of current rates, and the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will add 16 cents to hourly rates and $6.40 to weekly nonexempt-salaried rates.

The amount of the COLA was determined recently by the government's announcement of April's consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers (CPI-W).

Those employees hired after June 26, 1988 who are still on the progression schedules will have their paid rate adjusted to the same percentage of the new job rate, and will be paid at the appropriate percentage of the assigned job rate until they have completed the initial progression schedule.

The $900 Special Wage or Salary Payment will be paid as a separate check and will apply as earnings credited to the Savings & Security Program and the GE Pension Plan. It is also included in the earnings record for one's Social Security and Workers' Compensation payments.

**Eligibility**

Employees eligible for the Special Wage or Salary Payment are full-time employees who were:

- on the active payroll as of June 1, 1989.
- on active payroll prior to June 1, 1989 and return to active payroll from layoff without loss of service credits or continuity of service by September 1, 1989, or
- absent for medical reasons prior to June 1, 1989 and return to active payroll without loss of service credits or continuity of service by December 31, 1989.

More information on the June 26 pay gains will be provided later.

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**Looking closer at GE's annual report**

Thanks to the Savings and Security Program, most of us are GE share owners and as such have received the 1988 Annual Report. Often times we might take a quick look at it and relegate the report to the magazine rack. That's because many of us view the Annual Report as a technical document of interest primarily to financial analysts and big investors.

The GE Annual Report, however, is much more. It illustrates financial performance, depicts GE strategy, and tells how each business pursues this strategy in its markets. It also explains how GE's diverse businesses and cultures are integrated through shared values and open, candid communication. Let's take a look at some of the information found in the Annual Report. And, if you want to know more, refer to the report's page numbers as listed below.

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**Quick Takes**

*from the 1988 GE Annual Report*

- "...we will run only businesses that are number one or number two in their global markets—or, in the case of services, that have a substantial position—and are of scale and potential appropriate to a $50 billion enterprise."  
  (Page 1)

- "... in addition to the strength, resources and reach of a big company, which we have already built, we are committed to developing the sensitivity, the leanness, the simplicity and the agility of a small company. We want the best of both."  
  (Page 1)

- "We are on the brink of the most exciting and opportunity-rich decade in world business history. We approach it with a strategy that has been both consistent and very successful during the 1980s."  
  (Page 4)

- Consolidated operating profit and net earnings (in billions)

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- "... we've invested some $15 billion in the 1980s on acquisitions. We would argue that some $15 billion of these funds has been very successfully invested."  
  (Page 2)

- "In early 1989, we signed a series of historic agreements with GEC of the United Kingdom that will open the door to increased European participation by four of our 14 businesses—Medical Systems, Appliances, Industrial and Power Systems, and Electrical Distribution and Control."  
  (Page 2)

- "The strong demand for our products around the world helped GE make a $3.1 billion positive contribution to the U.S. balance of trade in 1988, 50% greater than in 1987."  
  (Page 1)

- ""We have businesses ranging from plastics to network broadcasting to the manufacture of jet engines to reinsurance. But the strategy, the management philosophy that drives the Company, is the essence of simplicity."  
  (Page 1)

- "General Electric Company is dedicated to the highest standards of integrity. Integrity is not an occasional requirement but a continuing commitment which is reflected in key written policy statements."  
  (Page 42)

- "There is a continuing emphasis to all employees that even the appearance of impropriety can erode public confidence in the Company and in the government procurement process."  
  (Page 42)
Insurance Claims

Are You Experiencing Problems With Your 1989 Insurance Claims?

As you are aware, we changed insurance carriers on January 1, 1989. Connecticut General now processes all of our 1989 medical claims - both doctor and hospital bills. Remember ... 1989 medical claims should not be submitted to Blue Cross or to Metropolitan.

Jack Greco, manager, accounting operations, has this message for employees:

'Most of the input I have received has been positive about Connecticut General's performance, but I want to be sure that we start out on the right foot and have a good long term relationship with Connecticut General.'

'If you have any issues with Connecticut General's performance, I would like to know about it. What I am looking for is procedural or systems issues that can affect all employees. In discussing problems, it is very helpful, but not absolutely necessary, if you have a copy of the submitted claim and corresponding explanation of benefit from Connecticut General. Also, if your experience with Connecticut General has been good, drop me a note at MS 008 and tell me so I can have an overall accurate feeling of how things are going,' encouraged Jack.

'If you are experiencing concerns, call Eddie Dell on extension 6027 and make an appointment to see me. I will sincerely appreciate any help you give me to ensure that we get our insurance claims processed in a timely and accurate manner.'

Personal Notes

Sincere condolences to Connie Jones upon the passing of her father on Wednesday, May 17.

Sincere condolences to Bill Williams upon the death of his wife, Carolyn E. Olinger, who passed away last week.

Deepest sympathies to Jean and Larry Ellers upon the passing away of Jean's natural father, Walt Backus.

Congratulations to Dave and Lisa Terranova upon the birth of their daughter, Michelle Rachel, who was born Tuesday, May 16th. Michelle weighed in at 8 lbs and 15 ounces.

Words can't adequately convey my heartfelt thanks to all my friends for the cards, gifts, calls, and well wishes. I am at home recuperating after surgery and looking forward to being back soon. God bless you all. Thanks. -- Lee Gross

Sincere sympathies to Horace Woods upon the death of his brother this past weekend.

I wish to thank my co-workers and fellow employees for a great retirement party. I enjoyed the fellowship, snacks, and gifts. I will miss you all. Thank you. God bless. -- Ernie Altopp

My sincere thanks to all for the beautiful plant, flowers, get-well cards and phone calls after my recent surgery. I'm still at home but hope to be back to work soon. -- Boots Edwards

GEEAA Update

GEEAA Volleyball Tournament: The winning team of the GEEAA Volleyball Tournament was Team-5 Men and A Baby, Captain - Gary Matsusky. The championship finals were played between 5 Men and A Baby and Moran Meat's with 5 Men and A Baby coming out victorious. Good job guys. -- Lew Williams, Jr.; Athletic Chairman.

The Board would like to thank all the volunteers that helped with the picnic. We could not have done it without you. We hope everyone had a great time.

Around the Plant

OK KIDS--Spring cleaning? Let OK Kids pick up discards right at your front door -- 596-5424.

Safety Office--Don't forget the safety monitor meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 30, and Wednesday, May 31. These meetings will be held in the new Relations Conference Room.

Credit Union--If you need a Credit Union that issues $5000 IRA C.D.'s .... stop in today at the Suncoast Federal Credit Union or give Joe a call on extension 8057.

Blood bank location change

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 2. The Community Blood Bank is scheduled for GEND from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. However, be sure to note that the location of the blood mobile has changed to the front of the GEND property near the 'old closed' west gate. Look for the mobile behind the visitor parking area just before the west parking lot.

What's cooking

MONDAY: Closed for Memorial Day; TUESDAY: Onion soup, Batter fried shrimp, Baked chicken ala Morrison, Chef's choice, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Green beans, Whole kernal corn, Hot roast beef sandwich w/gravy; WEDNESDAY: Chicken noodle soup, Stuffed peppers w/creole sauce, Country fried steak w/yellow rice, Chef's choice, Grilled cheese, Whipped Potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Broccoli & cheese sauce, Northern beans, Bread ed mushrooms; THURSDAY: Cream of Broccoli soup, Chop steak w/mushrooms & grilled onions, Spaghetti & meat sauce, Chef's choice, Chicken filet on bun, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Baked squash, Turnip greens, Sliced carrots; FRIDAY: New England clam chowder, Fried cod fingers, Beef stew & rice, Chef's choice, Grilled reubin, French fries, Field peas & snaps.

A time to remember ...

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 29

Unclassified ads

FOR SALE

WEIGHT BENCH--Olympic size, $100, 544-7982.

LARGE LOT--Lake Tarpon view, water access, 937-3929.

GLASS SHOWER--New, never used, $100 or best offer, 541-3819.

GE CAMCORDER--Top of the line, like new, $550, 391-2647.

BOY'S BIKE--24 inch Western flyer BMX, excl. cond., $40, 581-0123.

GRANDFATHER CLOCK--$400, 596-7988.

REGISTERED APP, MARE--4 yrs. Gre there, $500, delivered, (904) 799-7276.

DINING ROOM SET--Walnut with glass top, 6 padded chairs, $200, 785-8673.

BOOKCASE WATERBED--Padded sides, $150, auto vibrator, $50, 785-8673.

PENTAX A3000--Full automatic camera, 35 mm, programmable, $350 obo, 393-6619.

SMITH & WESSON GUN--Mod. 19, 357 cal, 2½ in. barrel, perfect, $220, 442-0837.

BOOK SZ TV--Color, never used, $75, 796-3710.