

GENTLE.NEWS

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"The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."

— Alice Walker

NASA Teams Up to Send Americans Back to the Moon

America is working hard to send people back to the Moon. NASA has teamed up with a company called Blue Origin to help make that dream real.

Together, they will test powerful rocket engines at a special facility in Mississippi. It is called the Stennis Space Center. Scientists have tested rockets there for many decades.

The test stand they will use is called B-2. It was built in the 1960s. Back then, it helped test the rockets that carried astronauts to the Moon during the famous Apollo program. Now it will help with the next chapter of Moon travel.

The new program is called Artemis. It aims to send American astronauts to the Moon in 2027 and beyond. Testing the engines carefully helps keep the crew safe. Stennis is one of the best places in the world to do this important work.

It is exciting to think that the same place that helped send the first humans to the Moon is helping again today. America's space story is still going strong, and the best chapters may be yet to come.

Scientists Map a Hidden Underwater Volcano Ridge

Far off the coast of Oregon and California, something amazing lies deep under the ocean. It is called Escanaba Trough. It is a chain of underwater volcanoes buried under thick mud and sand.

Most underwater volcano ridges are easy to study. Their rocky surfaces sit open on the ocean floor. But Escanaba Trough is different. Rivers from land have poured mud and sand over it for millions of years. The volcanoes are hidden under 500 meters of sediment.

Scientists have now found a way to see through all that mud. They used special tools that can sense magnetic forces deep in the earth. This let them build a detailed map of the buried volcanoes below.

The map showed something wonderful. Hot water from deep inside the earth bubbles up through the mud. This warm water creates a special home for tiny creatures that live without sunlight. These animals use heat and chemicals from the earth to survive.

This discovery helps us understand our amazing planet better. The ocean floor is full of surprises. Scientists are still learning new things about the deep sea every day. It is exciting to think about what else may be hiding down there.

Team Rescues Tangled Humpback Whale in Monterey Bay

A humpback whale got a second chance at life thanks to some very caring people in California.

The whale had been tangled in fishing ropes for over a month. The ropes were wrapped tightly around its tail and were hurting it badly.

Whale watching boats spotted the whale in late May. The captains took careful photos and shared them with a rescue team. The team is called Marine Life Studies. Their leader, Peggy Stap, said the whale watchers were wonderful helpers. "We could not do it without them," she said warmly.

On July 11, the whale appeared near the rescue team's offices. This gave them their chance. Trained rescuers moved quickly and carefully cut the ropes away. The whale was finally free! Scientists, marine labs, and wildlife experts all worked together to make it happen.

Humpback whales are gentle giants of the sea. Seeing one swim freely is a beautiful sight. This story shows what people can do when they work as a team. Thanks to their hard work and big hearts, one magnificent whale is now swimming safely through the wide blue ocean.

Scientists Win Big with Smart Computer Research

A famous science lab in New York has some wonderful news. Brookhaven National Laboratory just won seven special awards for important research projects.

The awards come from the U.S. Department of Energy. They will help scientists do exciting new work using artificial intelligence. People often call this "AI." AI means computers that can think and learn.

These seven projects will explore many areas of science. Some will look at tiny electronic parts. Others will study the atmosphere and energy physics. The work could lead to big breakthroughs for all of us.

Brookhaven's director, John Hill, said he is very proud of his team. "This reflects our deep expertise and the ingenuity of our teams," he said. The lab is known around the world for its brilliant scientists.

This effort is part of something called the Genesis Mission. It brings together universities, businesses, and government to solve big problems. By combining AI with supercomputers, scientists hope to make life better for everyone. Brookhaven Lab is right at the heart of this exciting work.

History & Heritage

A Wild Place Turns 125 Years Old

A special wildlife refuge in Oklahoma is celebrating a big birthday. The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is 125 years old this year. President William McKinley created it back in 1901 to protect nature.

Today, it is part of a group of nearly 600 wildlife refuges across America. These refuges protect beautiful animals and wild lands. They are some of the best places on Earth to watch wildlife in their natural home.

In June, the refuge held a celebration for everyone. People gathered at a brand-new headquarters building. There was a special film, warm speeches, and a very exciting discovery. A time capsule from 100 years ago was found and opened for the first time.

The old time capsule had been buried in 1926 by people from a nearby town. Two refuge workers, a father and his son named Grover and Kaylon Fuqua, helped dig it up and open it. Inside, they found an old newspaper. What a wonderful surprise from the past!

Refuge Manager Amber Zimmerman said it was inspiring to see so many people come together. She said this land clearly means a great deal to many hearts. Workers are proud to protect it for future generations to enjoy.

Activity Time - Word Search

Find the words below in the puzzle. Words go across or down only.

Words to Find:

CAPSULE

ENERGY

ROCKET

NATURE

WHALE

BISON

MAGMA

