

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

Salmon Make a Stunning Comeback in California Rivers

Something wonderful happened along the California coast. A record number of salmon returned home last year. Nearly 30,000 coho salmon swam back to rivers near Mendocino. These fish had been endangered for a long time. Seeing so many return is truly exciting news.

Coho salmon are special fish. They are born in rivers, then swim out to the ocean to grow. Years later, they find their way back to the very same rivers. Scientists worked hard to help make this comeback possible.

People from many groups worked together to help the salmon. They helped clean up rivers and restore healthy habitats. Healthy rivers give salmon the cool, clean water they need. All that hard work is now paying off.

Young workers also helped this summer. Four interns spent their summer working to protect important waterways. They learned how to care for rivers, fish, and wildlife. These young people are learning to be tomorrow's caretakers.

Healthy rivers are a gift for everyone. They give us clean water and beautiful places to enjoy nature. When fish thrive, whole communities benefit too. Stories like this remind us that nature can heal with a little help.

Scientist Uses AI to Help Trees Survive Hard Times

Trees are amazing survivors. They cannot move when the weather turns harsh. They must endure whatever comes their way. A scientist named Mengjun Shu wants to help them do that better.

Shu works at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the United States. She studies the hidden secrets inside trees. She looks at their genes, their chemistry, and the tiny living things that share their roots. All of these things help trees stay strong.

She uses computers and artificial intelligence to study trees. AI is a smart computer system that finds patterns in huge amounts of information. Shu uses it to learn which trees are the toughest and why. This helps scientists grow stronger trees for the future.

One tree she studies is the poplar. Poplars grow fast and are very useful. Shu looks at how they handle dry conditions. She also studies how they change with the seasons. Special cameras help her see things inside the trees that our eyes cannot.

Her goal is to grow trees that can survive a changing world. Stronger trees mean cleaner air and healthier forests for everyone. Shu believes that understanding nature deeply is the key to protecting it. Her work gives us all reason to hope.

NASA Sends Two New Spacecraft to Orbit the Moon

NASA is planning an exciting new mission to the Moon. Two small spacecraft will travel to lunar orbit in 2027. They will test new tools and skills needed for future space exploration.

The mission is called CAPSTONE 02. The two spacecraft will practice flying close together in space. They will also test new ways of talking to Earth from near the Moon. This helps NASA learn how to build a permanent base on the Moon one day.

This is not NASA's first CAPSTONE mission. The first one made history as the very first U.S. commercial spacecraft to reach the Moon. It successfully tested navigation and communication systems all on its own. That earlier mission proved that small spacecraft can do big jobs in space.

The new mission builds on those proud achievements. NASA is working with a company called Advanced Space to make it happen. Together, they are turning difficult challenges into lasting tools for exploration. Each mission teaches NASA something new and valuable.

Scientists believe that testing step by step is the best way forward. These spacecraft will help pave the way for astronauts and future Moon bases. It is an exciting time for space discovery. The dream of humans living and working on the Moon is getting closer every year.

Big Computer Buildings Bring Jobs to Local Towns

Giant computer buildings called data centers are popping up all across America. These huge buildings store and process information for businesses and people everywhere. Scientists wanted to know if they help the towns where they are built.

Researchers at Georgia Tech studied what happens when a new data center opens nearby. They looked at jobs, wages, and business activity. Their findings brought some very good news for many communities.

On average, towns with a new data center see real improvements. In the first three years, more jobs appear and wages go up. Local businesses grow too. Household incomes rise as well. That is a meaningful boost for everyday families.

The researchers found that geography matters a lot. Towns that already have strong local economies tend to benefit the most. But even smaller communities often see positive changes after a data center opens.

There are more than 2,700 data centers across the United States today. Each one can cost over one billion dollars to build. That is an enormous amount of money flowing into local communities. Scientists will keep studying these buildings to help towns make the most of this exciting new wave of growth.

Young Students Help Protect the Chesapeake Bay

This summer, four young students are doing something wonderful. They are working to help protect the beautiful Chesapeake Bay. This large bay is home to many fish, crabs, and other sea creatures.

The students are called interns. They work for 12 weeks and earn a paycheck. Each one has a caring mentor to guide them. A mentor is an expert who helps them learn. They also meet other young people doing similar good work nearby.

One intern is named Kate. She studies the environment at New York University. Kate grew up in Oregon, loving the ocean and mountains. Now she is finding ways to show how valuable oyster reefs are. Oysters help keep the bay clean and healthy.

Kate wants leaders to understand why oyster reefs are worth protecting. Healthy reefs help fish and crabs find safe homes. They also help clean the water naturally. Her work could help bring in money to protect these special places for years to come.

It is wonderful to see young people care so deeply about nature. Their hard work this summer gives us all reason to feel hopeful. The Chesapeake Bay is lucky to have such dedicated young helpers looking out for it.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

HABITAT

ESTUARY

OYSTER

WAGES

ROOTS

GENES

JOBS

