

GENTLE.NEWS

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"You should never be surprised when someone treats you with respect, you should expect it."

— Sarah Dessen

Four Astronauts Head Home After Space Science Mission

Four astronauts are coming home from space. They lived and worked on the International Space Station. Now their important mission is complete.

The crew included astronauts from three countries. Jessica Meir and Jack Hathaway flew for NASA. Sophie Adenot represented Europe. Andrey Fedyaev came from Russia. Together, they made a wonderful team.

While in space, the crew grew crystals in zero gravity. On Earth, gravity pulls crystals out of shape. In space, they grow more perfectly. Scientists used these crystals to study cancer treatments. This could help doctors find better medicines someday.

The crew also studied tiny, super-cold atoms. In space, these atoms can be watched for longer periods. This helps scientists learn how the universe works at a very small level. The research could lead to better solar cells and computer parts.

Looking out the spacecraft window, the astronauts saw both Earth and the stars. Their work in space helps all of us here on Earth. Scientists learn new things in space that cannot be learned anywhere else. We are grateful for their bravery and hard work. Welcome home!

Bison Help Heal America's Wild Grasslands

Scientists have made exciting discoveries about bison. These large, shaggy animals are helping to heal wild grasslands across America. Researchers studied how bison graze, and the results are wonderful.

Bison are powerful helpers for nature. When they graze, they improve the health of the soil and plants around them. A study at the Grand Canyon found that bison made plants grow better and stronger. This is great news for our national parks and wild spaces.

Scientists also learned something interesting about fences. When bison can roam freely over large areas, they do the most good for the land. Open spaces let bison spread their grazing around. This helps more plants and grasslands stay healthy and strong.

Researchers are also looking at how bison handle dry conditions and wildfires. Bison are tough, adaptable animals. Learning how they survive helps scientists protect them and the land they live on. It is important work for future generations to enjoy.

This research helps the people who care for our public lands make better decisions. Thanks to these scientists, bison may one day roam and restore more wild prairies across the American West. What a hopeful future for these magnificent animals and the lands they call home.

Scientists Discover New Way Ocean Minerals Form

Deep beneath the ocean, something wonderful has been found. Scientists have discovered a brand new way that minerals form on the seafloor. This has never been seen before, and it is very exciting news.

Researchers from the USGS made this discovery near the islands of American Samoa in the South Pacific. They collected rock samples from the ocean floor. What they found inside those samples surprised them.

Hot, mineral-rich water had slowly moved up through old seafloor sediment. Over time, this warm water replaced the original material. It left behind thick layers of a mineral called manganese. Manganese is a shiny metal found in nature. It often collects on the ocean floor in large amounts.

The old sediment had come from tiny sea creatures called foraminifera. These are microscopic animals with shells made of calcium. When they die, their shells sink and pile up on the seafloor. The warm fluids slowly turned those shell layers into rich mineral deposits. This process had never been documented before.

Scientists believe similar deposits may exist in many other places around the world. This discovery helps us better understand the hidden wonders lying deep beneath our oceans. The sea still has many beautiful secrets left to share with us.

America Honors Its Greatest Jazz Musicians

Jazz is a beautiful part of American music. Every year, the country celebrates its finest jazz artists. This year, four wonderful musicians received the top honor in jazz.

The National Endowment for the Arts held its 2026 Jazz Masters celebration in Los Angeles, California. The four honorees were Rhonda Hamilton, Carmen Lundy, Airto Moreira, and Patrice Rushen. Each one has spent decades making jazz music richer for everyone.

The celebration began with a special awards dinner. Family and friends gathered to cheer for each honoree. Every artist received a beautiful commemorative trophy. It was a warm and joyful evening filled with music and love.

The Jazz Masters award has been given every year since 1982. It goes to musicians who have truly shaped jazz. Winning this honor is one of the greatest achievements any jazz musician can receive in their lifetime.

During the visit, arts leaders also toured Los Angeles. They saw the new Lucas Museum of Narrative Art. They also visited the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. It was a wonderful celebration of music, culture, and the lasting joy that jazz brings to people everywhere.

Young Student Builds AI Tools at Science Lab

A young man named Bryan Aleman spent two summers working at a famous science lab. The lab is called Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York. Bryan learned to build computer programs there. It changed his life.

Bryan was a community college student in Illinois. He heard about a special program for students like him. The U.S. Department of Energy runs the program. It lets students work side by side with real scientists.

At Brookhaven, Bryan helped improve computer software. He also helped build a tool using artificial intelligence. That means the computer learns and solves problems on its own. Bryan grew more confident with every project.

Bryan has now graduated from Elgin Community College. He plans to study computer science at a university. His time at the lab made him sure of his path. He now knows he wants to be a programmer.

Stories like Bryan's show how much young people can grow when given a real chance to learn. Programs like this open doors for students from all backgrounds. It is wonderful to see talent bloom in science.

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

SEAFLOOR

STATION

PRAIRIE

HABITAT

INTERN

ORBIT

JAZZ

