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GENTLE.NEWS

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"One of the advantages of being disorganized is that one is always having surprising discoveries."

— A.A. Milne

America's Giant Machine Will Unlock Secrets of Matter

Scientists in America are building a remarkable new machine. It is called the Electron-Ion Collider, or EIC. This giant machine will help us learn about the tiniest pieces of matter.

The machine will be built at a laboratory in New York. Scientists from all over the world are working together on it. It is a true team effort across many countries.

Everything around us is made of tiny particles. We mean everything — butterflies, trees, and even distant galaxies. The EIC will help scientists understand these particles better than ever before.

The project is already doing something wonderful. It is teaching young people to become scientists and engineers. Students and interns are joining the team right now. Three generations of scientists are working side by side.

The machine will take about ten years to finish. But the learning and discovery have already begun. One day, this great machine may answer some of the biggest questions about our universe. It is an exciting time for science!

Source: Brookhaven National Laboratory

Desert Bursts Into Bloom After Rare Rains

One of the driest places on Earth recently turned into a garden of color. The Atacama Desert in South America was covered in red, purple, green, and white flowers. It was a truly stunning sight.

This special event is called the "flowering desert." Scientists say it may be the biggest one ever recorded from space. NASA satellites captured beautiful photos showing the change.

It all started with extra rainfall brought by El Niño. El Niño is a natural weather pattern in the Pacific Ocean. It can change rainfall across the whole world. This time, it sent heavy rains and even snow to a desert that rarely sees either.

The rain woke up seeds that had been sleeping in the dry soil for years. Some seeds can wait a very long time for the right conditions. When the rain finally came, they bloomed all at once. The desert went from bare and brown to brilliantly colorful in just weeks.

NASA took pairs of satellite photos in September and October. The pictures show just how much the desert changed. Nature has a wonderful way of surprising us. Even the driest places on Earth can burst into life when given a little water.

Source: NASA

Families Help Recover Lost History of Georgian Region

A small region in the country of Georgia has a remarkable past. It is called Guria. It sits beside the beautiful Black Sea. For a long time, its history was hidden or forgotten.

Back in 1904, the people of Guria did something brave and special. They created their own republic. This meant ordinary people governed themselves. It was an early and inspiring experiment in democracy.

For many decades, that proud history was lost. An organization called Komli Initiative is now helping people rediscover it. They are collecting family stories and old memories from local people.

By gathering these personal stories, Komli is helping communities learn who they truly are. People are discovering a rich tradition of civic pride in their own families. It is like finding a hidden treasure right in your own home.

This work shows how powerful stories can be. Sharing memories keeps history alive for future generations. The people of Guria are reclaiming their past with great pride and joy.

This story originally appeared on Global Voices

College Students Feeling Happier and Healthier

Good news is coming from college campuses across America. Young students are feeling better about their mental health. A large national study shows real improvement over the past few years.

The study surveyed over 67,000 students at 107 colleges. It found that fewer students are struggling with depression and anxiety. These numbers have been going down for several years in a row.

Even better, more students are thriving in positive ways. Researchers measured things like self-esteem, friendships, and hope for the future. That number jumped from 36% to 43% in just one year. That is a big leap forward.

One lead researcher called the results "truly encouraging." He said it is rare to see both problems decrease and happiness increase at the same time. He works at the University of Michigan and studies health and well-being.

Experts say more young people are also reaching out for help when they need it. Over 60% of students with depression or anxiety received some kind of support. Counseling and care are becoming more accepted on campuses. This is a hopeful sign for the next generation.

Source: Futurity.org

Tiny Newt Gets Big Help at Oregon's Crater Lake

A very special little animal needs our help. The Mazama newt lives only in one place on Earth. That place is Crater Lake in Oregon. Scientists are working hard to protect it.

This small newt has lived at Crater Lake for about 7,000 years. It makes its home in the lake's cold, deep waters. The newt is also called the Crater Lake newt. It is a truly unique creature.

Some fish and crayfish were brought to the lake long ago. These animals eat the newts and their eggs. Because of this, the number of newts has gone down. Scientists noticed and decided to act.

Two wonderful programs are now helping the newts. The High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon is raising young newts. The Oregon Zoo is also caring for them. In 2026, the zoo had great news. Their newts laid eggs for the very first time! That was a big, exciting moment.

Crater Lake National Park is also helping. Workers are carefully removing the fish and crayfish from part of the lake. This gives the newts a safer place to live and grow. With so many people working together, there is real hope for this tiny treasure.

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

REPUBLIC COLLIDER GALAXY SALMON

BLOOM RAIN SNOW

R	S	U	X	F	M	L	B	H	Z	O
S	E	Y	X	B	P	S	N	O	W	Q
N	S	U	I	K	Z	W	Q	S	P	V
B	A	B	B	N	O	B	W	N	L	M
L	L	Z	R	A	I	N	B	O	E	P
O	M	W	G	L	D	U	B	X	D	I
O	O	A	J	M	R	A	Z	D	M	C
M	N	E	A	G	A	L	A	X	Y	Y
Y	C	O	L	L	I	D	E	R	T	K
Z	R	E	P	U	B	L	I	C	Y	U
G	J	K	X	K	N	A	S	S	S	X