accelerating a human return to the moon

wrapping up testing of our Space Launch System rocket engines and curiosity

captures eclipses on Mars a few of the stories to tell you about this week at NASA

it was a busy week for NASA

Administrator Jim Bridenstine that included plenty of discussion about our new accelerated goal of putting humans on the moon by 2024 the administrator testified during an April 2nd House of Representatives hearing on NASA's 2020 budget request and he responded to
questions comments and concerns from our workforce during an agency-wide town-hall of the day before although a human return to the moon within five years is a challenge the administrator noted this is what I know throughout history when this agency is given a task by the President of the United States and it is also given the resources and the tools this agency can deliver the agencies working details of how to meet this accelerated return of humans to the moon including the resources required to do it a new moon to Mars Mission
Directorate will be established to lead lunar exploration development activities.

NASA plans to meet the 2024 date by all means necessary to ensure mission success. We're going to the moon and we're going fast, and we're going with international and commercial partners. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I hope everybody here takes that away. I believe it's possible absolutely why because you're here, you're the ones that are going to make it possible. The April 4th hot fire test of an RS-25 engine at our Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.
capped off more than four years of testing with the former Space Shuttle main engines that will be used to help power the first four missions of our new Space Launch System rocket or SLS all 16 engines have undergone acceptance testing and have completed developmental and acceptance testing for new engine controllers the brain of the engine that also communicates with the rocket the test series also demonstrated the rs.25 engines can perform at the higher power level needed to launch the super heavy lift SLS the SLS will use four of the engines to launch astronauts
aboard our Orion spacecraft on missions
to the moon and beyond this series of images captured by our curiosity Mars rover shows the Martian moon Phobos as it crossed in front of the Sun on March 26th the images were captured by the rover's telephoto lens camera called mast cam which is equipped with solar filters that allow it to stare directly at the Sun mastcam also captured Mars as other moon Deimos passing in front of the Sun on March 17th both images have been sped up by a factor of 10 a Russian progress cargo ship launched April 4th
from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan with three tons of food fuel and supplies for the crew aboard the International Space Station the progress arrived at the station later that same day it will remain at the orbital outpost until late July the latest edition of our annual spin-off publication is now available online it features dozens of commercial technologies developed or improved by the agency's space program that now benefit people everywhere print and digital versions of the latest issue of
spin-offs are available at spin-off

nasa.gov that's what's up this week

@nasa

for more on these and other stories

follow us on the web at nasa.gov slash

Tuan