this week at NASA

President Obama and family members arrived Friday afternoon at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station aboard Air Force One for a visit to NASA's Kennedy Space Center the first family boarded the marine one helicopter and headed to the orbiter processing facility at KSC for a tour inside the OPM the Obamas were given a close-up look at orbiter Atlantis which is undergoing pre-flight preparations for its and the shuttle programs final mission sts-135 that flight has been targeted for late June
the president also visited Kennedy's
Launch Control Center where he briefly met and talked with endeavour commander
Mark Kelly and the five other sts-134 crew members less than three hours after their arrival the Obamas were bound for Miami where the president was scheduled to deliver a commencement address the scheduled launch of space shuttle Endeavour around which the president's visit had been planned was scrubbed due to a heater problem on one of the orbiters three auxiliary power units today the orbiter is not ready to fly
and as we always say in this business we will not fly before we're ready and so that's the case when today

the APU provide hydraulic power to steer the shuttle during ascent and entry

heaters keep the EP use hydrazine from freezing on orbit nASA has joined forces with the US Agency for International Development to collaborate on helping find scientific and technological solutions to worldwide problems the two agencies sealed their partnership with the signing of a Memorandum of

Understanding at a ceremony held in
under this formal agreement NASA and USAID will tackle challenges like global health climate change food security and disaster mitigation and response. A new MOU will serve to document our mutual commitment to expanding our efforts in this and other important programs. NASA and USAID are also working to turn breakthrough science and technology innovations into real applications of benefit to both agencies and most importantly to people around the world. To bring together NASA representing all of what we can do.
when we put our minds together and try
to solve tough problems and US aid
representing our challenge of getting
our values and our core compassion and
commitments transmitted to the farthest
corners of the globe is just a very
special and unique opportunity for me to
join highlighted were severe and launch
to NASA USAID programs already working
to improve life on our home planet NASA
and USAID employ innocent were joined in
the audience by area high school and
university students first time we ever
put anybody into space and I was a good
person to represent us on that he was outstanding and he deserved it we're always proud of him Alan B Shepard jr. the first American in space was posthumously honored with NASA's ambassador of exploration award during a ceremony held at the u.s. Naval Academy Museum in Annapolis Maryland Shepard graduated from the Naval Academy and in April 1959 was selected as one of NASA's original seven mercury astronauts on may 5th 1961 he launched from Cape Canaveral Florida aboard the freedom 7 spacecraft on a 15 minute suborbital
flight carried him to an altitude of 116

miles and into the history books

that was part of my life was the

challenge and here you had yes a new

evironment but you know for fighter

pilots who fly upside down a lot of the

time see how gravity wasn't that big a

deal

Sheppard's family was presented with the

award a moon rock encased in music Julie

Alice and I take great pride in

presenting nasa's ambassador of

exploration award to the united states

naval academy for display in the Naval
Academy Museum the sample was among the

842 pounds of lunar material collected during six Apollo missions from 1969 to 1972 during Shepards second spaceflight as the commander of Apollo 14 he and crew mate Edgar Mitchell activated a number of scientific instruments and collected and returned to Earth almost 100 pounds of lunar samplings the ambassador of exploration award recognizes the sacrifices and dedication of the apollo gemini and mercury astronauts and others who supported americas journeys to the moon Shepards freedom seven flight was among the key
moments in human spaceflight history

celebrated and discussed at a symposium

at NASA headquarters sponsored by the

agency's history program and the

Smithsonian's National Air and Space

Museum division of space history the

joint event focused on 50 years of human

space flight using 1961 and 1981 as

focal points for broader investigation

and dialogue after more than 30 years of

space travel NASA's twin voyagers drift
closer to the edge of our solar system

scientists and flight managers talked

about what the two spacecraft are
exploring right now and their impact on history during a special science update at NASA headquarters every three years Voyager one travels 1 billion miles so we shouldn't have too many more years to wait before we pass the next major milestone in this humanity's farthest journey jurors 1 & 2 were launched in September and August of 1977 they continued to operate and returned data from a full complement of science instruments scientists believe that both spacecraft may have an of electrical power and
propellant to continue their mission through 2025 poised to enter the area known as interstellar space just a few short years from now the voyagers are more than nine billion miles from our Sun and now centerpieces promoting student participation in STEM science technology engineering and math courses and careers got a boost from recording artist Pharrell Williams who along with NASA hosted an education event at Williams farm park in Virginia Beach Virginia designed to encourage students to pursue these fields Williams at
Hampton Roads Virginia native and Leland

Melvin NASA's associate administrator for education and former astronaut spoke during the program and encouraged students to follow their dreams stem stands for science technology engineering and math you guys are the future and there's nothing that you can't do it takes action it takes hard work takes dedication it takes belief in yourself more than 5-hundred Hampton Roads area students who were part of NASA's inaugural summer of innovation camps last year took part in the day's
activities which featured NASA exhibits and showcase student accomplishments completed during the camp along with NASA the event was sponsored in part by Williams charitable organization from one hand to another in 2013 if all goes as planned the Williams Farm Park will be the site of the charities Future Resource Center which will feature academic enrichment programs and engage youth in STEM ex at ease NASA's summer of innovation is a to innovate campaign launch to keep
middle school students engaged during school breaks and that’s this week @nasa

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