“Here’s some of the stories trending This Week at NASA!”

Vice President Mike Pence spoke to employees on July 6 at our Kennedy Space Center in Florida, highlighting the public/private partnerships transforming the center into a multi-user spaceport, and changing the way we do business in low-Earth orbit.

“Extending our nation's leadership in space is one of the greatest challenges of our day, and just as we have risen to the challenges that came before, so to we will rise to meet the new challenges that lie ahead.”

Acting Administrator Robert Lightfoot and Kennedy Director Bob Cabana accompanied the Vice President on tours of several facilities currently being leased by private space companies. The tour showcased hardware, systems and infrastructure, that will soon facilitate U.S. based astronaut launches and eventual missions to deep space.

On July 3, our astronauts Jack Fischer and
Peggy Whitson released the SpaceX Dragon cargo spacecraft -- from the Space Station -- for its return trip to Earth.

The 4,100 pounds of cargo returned by Dragon included science samples from human and animal scientific research, biotechnology studies, physical science investigations and education activities.

Whitson and Fischer celebrated the Fourth of July on the station by snapping photos while decked out in stars-and-stripes.

It was one of several space-related milestones of note on the 4th.

These included the 20th anniversary of the Mars Pathfinder and Sojourner rover’s landing on the Red Planet.

The one year anniversary of our Juno spacecraft’s arrival at Jupiter, Space Shuttle Columbia’s 1982 landing at Edwards Air Force Base – attended by President Ronald Reagan, as well as the 2006 launch of STS-121-- the second Space

13
00:00:55,340 --> 00:00:59,400

14
00:00:59,399 --> 00:01:05,109

15
00:01:05,109 --> 00:01:11,599

16
00:01:11,599 --> 00:01:12,599

17
00:01:12,599 --> 00:01:17,250

18
00:01:17,250 --> 00:01:19,750

19
00:01:19,750 --> 00:01:24,379

20
00:01:24,379 --> 00:01:29,560

21
00:01:29,560 --> 00:01:30,560

22
00:01:30,560 --> 00:01:36,420

23
00:01:36,420 --> 00:01:42,728

24
00:01:42,728 --> 00:01:48,859
Shuttle Program return to flight mission,

25
00:01:48,859 --> 00:01:55,140
and our Deep Impact spacecraft’s encounter
with comet Tempel-1 in 2005.

26
00:01:55,140 --> 00:02:00,170
More than $200,000 has been awarded to teams
of citizen inventors that have completed the

27
00:02:00,170 --> 00:02:06,180
latest milestone in our 3D-Printed Habitat
Challenge – a joint effort of our partner
Bradley University and several corporate sponsors.

28
00:02:06,180 --> 00:02:09,688
The challenge seeks to advance the construction
technology needed to 3-D print sustainable

29
00:02:09,688 --> 00:02:14,539
housing solutions for Earth and beyond, using
recyclables and simulated Martian soil.

30
00:02:14,539 --> 00:02:21,818
And that’s what’s up this week @NASA …

31
00:02:21,818 --> 00:02:23,869
For more on these and other stories follow
us on the web at www.nasa.gov.