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00:00:00,630 --> 00:00:05,100

"Here's some of the stories trending This Week at NASA!"

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00:00:05,100 --> 00:00:10,260

On Wednesday, NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden and White House Science Advisor John Holdren,

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00:00:10,260 --> 00:00:14,540

announced that the Obama administration is extending usage of the International Space

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00:00:14,540 --> 00:00:17,550

Station to at least the year 2024.

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00:00:17,550 --> 00:00:23,009

In his blog, Bolden noted that NASA is hopeful and optimistic that our ISS partners will

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00:00:23,009 --> 00:00:29,099

join this extension effort and enable continuation of the groundbreaking research being conducted

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00:00:29,099 --> 00:00:32,770

on the unique orbiting laboratory.

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00:00:32,770 --> 00:00:37,410

The following day Bolden joined Holdren and the heads of more than 30 space agencies from

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00:00:37,410 --> 00:00:42,220

around the world for the first International Space Exploration Forum held at the State

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00:00:42,220 --> 00:00:44,610

Department in Washington, DC.

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00:00:44,610 --> 00:00:49,760

The multi-lateral summit highlighted the importance

of international cooperation in human and

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00:00:49,760 --> 00:00:53,770

robotic space exploration.

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00:00:53,770 --> 00:00:58,190

Extending the use of the station could mean more launches to the ISS by NASA's commercial

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00:00:58,190 --> 00:00:59,270

partners.

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00:00:59,270 --> 00:01:04,539

Orbital Sciences, one of those partners, launched a Cygnus spacecraft from Wallops Flight Facility

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00:01:04,539 --> 00:01:08,610

-- on the company's first contracted resupply mission to the station.

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00:01:08,610 --> 00:01:14,780

The Cygnus is loaded with more than 27-hundred pounds of supplies for the Expedition 38 crew.

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00:01:14,780 --> 00:01:20,359

– including experiments, hardware, spare parts and a number of student experiments.

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00:01:20,359 --> 00:01:25,729

Commercial resupply missions by NASA partners ensures a robust national capability to deliver

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00:01:25,729 --> 00:01:29,659

critical research to the orbiting laboratory.

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00:01:29,659 --> 00:01:35,020

A wide range of new findings made possible by NASA's astrophysics spacecraft were discussed

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00:01:35,020 --> 00:01:38,880

at the annual meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

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00:01:38,880 --> 00:01:43,340

The noteworthy news included the first of a set of unprecedented, super-deep views of

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00:01:43,340 --> 00:01:48,590

the universe from the Hubble Space Telescope and a collaborative program called The Frontier

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00:01:48,590 --> 00:01:49,960

Fields.

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00:01:49,960 --> 00:01:55,240

The long-exposure image – the deepest-ever of a cluster of galaxies – also contains

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00:01:55,240 --> 00:02:01,020

nearly 3,000 images of some of the faintest and youngest galaxies ever seen.

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00:02:01,020 --> 00:02:05,549

During the five-day event at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Maryland,

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00:02:05,549 --> 00:02:11,170

NASA also provided updates on the agency's astrophysics mission and engaged those interested

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00:02:11,170 --> 00:02:12,780

in astrophysics.

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00:02:12,780 --> 00:02:22,310

For more details on findings by other NASA spacecraft visit www.nasa.gov/aas.

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00:02:22,310 --> 00:02:27,780

Activities co-hosted by NASA at the Smithsonian's

National Air and Space Museum recently are

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00:02:27,780 --> 00:02:32,530
among several celebrations around the country
this month celebrating 10 years of the Spirit

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00:02:32,530 --> 00:02:35,180
and Opportunity rovers on Mars.

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00:02:35,180 --> 00:02:40,060
A new exhibit at The Museum features more
than 50 mosaic and panoramic images taken

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00:02:40,060 --> 00:02:41,560
by the rovers.

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00:02:41,560 --> 00:02:46,380
During a panel discussion, NASA participants
reflected on the scientific successes of the

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00:02:46,380 --> 00:02:51,370
Mars Exploration Rover program and talked
about the agency's efforts toward a human

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00:02:51,370 --> 00:02:54,370
mission to Mars in the 2030s.

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00:02:54,370 --> 00:03:00,340
Spirit landed on Mars Jan. 4, 2004 Pacific
Standard Time and Opportunity, which is still

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00:03:00,340 --> 00:03:06,440
collecting science data, arrived on Jan. 25
Pacific time.

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00:03:06,440 --> 00:03:11,140
Members of the media were presented with a
photo-op of NASA's TDRS-L satellite during

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00:03:11,140 --> 00:03:14,130

its pre-launch processing near Kennedy Space Center.

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00:03:14,130 --> 00:03:19,160

Scheduled for launch January 23 from Florida's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, TDRS-L,

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00:03:19,160 --> 00:03:25,330

is the second of three next-generation satellites designed to ensure vital operational continuity

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00:03:25,330 --> 00:03:30,900

for the NASA by providing tracking, telemetry, command and other data services for various

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00:03:30,900 --> 00:03:34,520

science and human exploration missions.

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00:03:34,520 --> 00:03:39,460

The final three primary mirrors of the James Webb Space Telescope arrived at Goddard Space

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00:03:39,460 --> 00:03:40,990

Flight Center recently.

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00:03:40,990 --> 00:03:47,980

Webb's 18 hexagonal primary mirror segments will work as one 21.3-foot mirror, the largest

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00:03:47,980 --> 00:03:49,930

ever flown in space.

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00:03:49,930 --> 00:03:54,760

Set to launch in 2018, the Webb telescope will be the most powerful space telescope

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00:03:54,760 --> 00:04:00,280

ever with ability to detect the light from the first galaxies ever formed.

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00:04:00,280 --> 00:04:04,580
The six-week FIRST Robotics 2014 build season is underway.

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00:04:04,580 --> 00:04:08,930
The NASA Robotics Alliance Project plays a significant role in the student competition

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00:04:08,930 --> 00:04:15,340
-- providing grants to over 300 teams and sponsoring four regional student competitions,

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00:04:15,340 --> 00:04:19,690
including one near Washington, DC March 27-29.

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00:04:19,690 --> 00:04:25,070
Teams competing in FIRST use identical parts to build the best-designed robots to complete

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00:04:25,070 --> 00:04:26,840
a specific challenge.

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00:04:26,840 --> 00:04:32,130
Through public access to robotics programs, NASA is encouraging young people to investigate

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00:04:32,130 --> 00:04:36,620
careers in science, technology, engineering and math.

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00:04:36,620 --> 00:04:38,500
And that's what's up ... This Week at NASA.