



1

00:00:00,630 --> 00:00:05,310

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

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00:00:05,310 --> 00:00:10,121

Following unanimous confirmation by the Senate on April 27, the appointment of MIT Professor

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00:00:10,121 --> 00:00:15,580

Dava Newman as NASA’s next deputy administrator will become official when signed by President

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00:00:15,580 --> 00:00:16,580

Obama.

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00:00:16,580 --> 00:00:21,960

Newman, a professor of Astronautics and Engineering Systems, has been on the MIT faculty since

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00:00:21,960 --> 00:00:22,960

1993.

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00:00:22,960 --> 00:00:27,890

In a statement, Administrator Charlie Bolden said he was ecstatic to welcome her aboard

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00:00:27,890 --> 00:00:33,180

at such a busy and exciting time – as the agency continues making extraordinary strides

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00:00:33,180 --> 00:00:36,960

on the Journey to Mars.

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00:00:36,960 --> 00:00:41,630

For the first time, images from NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft are revealing bright and

11

00:00:41,630 --> 00:00:46,950

dark regions on the surface of faraway Pluto

– the primary target of the spacecraft's

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00:00:46,950 --> 00:00:48,940

close flyby in mid-July.

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00:00:48,940 --> 00:00:54,220

The images were captured in early to mid-April from within 70 million miles using the telescopic

14

00:00:54,220 --> 00:00:59,350

Long-Range Reconnaissance Imager or (LORRI) camera on New Horizons.

15

00:00:59,350 --> 00:01:05,140

A technique called image deconvolution sharpens the raw, unprocessed images beamed back to

16

00:01:05,140 --> 00:01:06,420

Earth.

17

00:01:06,420 --> 00:01:10,819

Mission scientists interpreted the data to reveal the dwarf planet has broad surface

18

00:01:10,819 --> 00:01:17,149

markings – some bright, some dark – including a bright area at one pole that may be a polar

19

00:01:17,149 --> 00:01:19,270

cap.

20

00:01:19,270 --> 00:01:24,329

After more than 10 years in space, NASA's MErcury Surface, Space ENvironment, GEOchemistry,

21

00:01:24,329 --> 00:01:29,159

and Ranging or MESSENGER mission concluded on April 30 with the planned collision of

22

00:01:29,159 --> 00:01:31,770

the spacecraft into the planet Mercury.

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00:01:31,770 --> 00:01:38,020

Since being launched in August 2004, the 4.9 billion miles MESSENGER has traveled included

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00:01:38,020 --> 00:01:42,399

15 trips around the sun and flybys of Earth and Venus.

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00:01:42,399 --> 00:01:47,820

The mission collected unprecedented images, observations and other data that will be analyzed

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00:01:47,820 --> 00:01:53,039

for years, possibly revealing more science discoveries.

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00:01:53,039 --> 00:01:58,499

Shortly after the April 28 launch of an autonomous Russian Progress cargo spacecraft to the International

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00:01:58,499 --> 00:02:04,100

Space Station from Kazakhstan, Russian flight controllers began experiencing telemetry problems

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00:02:04,100 --> 00:02:09,900

related to deploying of navigational antennas and issues with the propulsion system.

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00:02:09,900 --> 00:02:15,420

On April 29 after multiple attempts were made to recover command capability, Russian flight

31

00:02:15,420 --> 00:02:20,170

controllers confirmed the Progress wouldn't be able to dock to the space station.

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00:02:20,170 --> 00:02:24,860

The craft, which is loaded with more than three tons of food, fuel and supplies, now

33  
00:02:24,860 --> 00:02:30,510  
is expected to reenter the Earth's atmosphere and burn up in the next few weeks. The six

34  
00:02:30,510 --> 00:02:35,530  
station crew members remain safe and are continuing regular operations with sufficient supplies

35  
00:02:35,530 --> 00:02:37,560  
currently onboard.

36  
00:02:37,560 --> 00:02:43,880  
A video message from NASA astronaut and retired Navy Captain Scott Kelly, shown at an April

37  
00:02:43,880 --> 00:02:49,620  
27 Joining Forces event at the Vice President's Residence at the Naval Observatory, emphasized

38  
00:02:49,620 --> 00:02:54,960  
how Science, Technology, Engineering and Math or STEM courses, helped Kelly fulfill his

39  
00:02:54,960 --> 00:02:58,070  
dream of becoming a Navy pilot and astronaut.

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00:02:58,070 --> 00:03:03,230  
Started four years ago by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, the Joining Forces

41  
00:03:03,230 --> 00:03:07,760  
initiative helps service members, veterans, and their families gain the skills they need

42  
00:03:07,760 --> 00:03:13,370  
to succeed -- including fostering strong STEM skills in military-connected students whose

43  
00:03:13,370 --> 00:03:18,040  
parents may be re-assigned during the school year.

44  
00:03:18,040 --> 00:03:23,150  
NASA Administrator Bolden attended an April 27 ceremony at the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space

45  
00:03:23,150 --> 00:03:28,360  
Museum in New York during which the space shuttle Enterprise was dedicated to the Apollo

46  
00:03:28,360 --> 00:03:30,930  
1, Challenger and Columbia crews.

47  
00:03:30,930 --> 00:03:36,710  
Those heroic crews and Enterprise, NASA's first shuttle flight test vehicle, contributed

48  
00:03:36,710 --> 00:03:42,220  
significantly to the cause of space exploration and serve as inspiration to new generations

49  
00:03:42,220 --> 00:03:43,800  
of explorers.

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00:03:43,800 --> 00:03:49,700  
About 300 future explorers were at the Intrepid the same day to highlight a STEM related contest

51  
00:03:49,700 --> 00:03:54,050  
to design experiments to be flown to space.

52  
00:03:54,050 --> 00:03:55,920  
And that's what's up this week @NASA ...