



1
00:00:00,789 --> 00:00:05,060

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

2
00:00:05,060 --> 00:00:10,230

The stars were out for the second-ever White House Astronomy Night on Oct. 19. Attendees

3
00:00:10,230 --> 00:00:15,830

included NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden, Deputy Administrator Dava Newman and Associate

4
00:00:15,830 --> 00:00:20,810

Administrator for Science, John Grunsfeld. President Obama hosted the event to give students

5
00:00:20,810 --> 00:00:26,200

an opportunity to stargaze and to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

6
00:00:26,200 --> 00:00:31,849

or (STEM) education. NASA’s commercial crew astronauts, who are training for future spaceflights

7
00:00:31,849 --> 00:00:36,640

from American soil on commercial spacecraft, also participated in the event.

8
00:00:36,640 --> 00:00:43,060

“Congratulations to you and to Kjell and everybody at NASA. I hope more young people

9
00:00:43,060 --> 00:00:45,360

get to see some of the incredible things that you’re doing.”

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00:00:45,360 --> 00:00:49,620

Several hours before Astronomy Night, the President talked with NASA astronauts Scott

11
00:00:49,620 --> 00:00:55,030
Kelly and Kjell Lindgren aboard the International
Space Station about Kelly's one-year mission

12
00:00:55,030 --> 00:01:00,360
and the upcoming anniversary of 15 years of
continuous human presence aboard the station.

13
00:01:00,360 --> 00:01:03,399
"We're doing a lot of great science up
here... a lot of those are

14
00:01:03,399 --> 00:01:07,670
to getting us on this journey to Mars."

15
00:01:07,670 --> 00:01:11,900
Earlier that same day at NASA headquarters,
Suni Williams and Bob Behnken, two of the

16
00:01:11,900 --> 00:01:17,600
four NASA commercial crew astronauts, fielded
questions during a social media chat about

17
00:01:17,600 --> 00:01:22,510
their training, the importance of the Commercial
Crew Program and the work NASA is doing to

18
00:01:22,510 --> 00:01:26,600
advance efforts to send humans to Mars in
the 2030s.

19
00:01:26,600 --> 00:01:32,920
An Oct. 22 news briefing at NASA's Johnson
Space Center in Houston previewed two upcoming

20
00:01:32,920 --> 00:01:39,270
spacewalks aboard the space station. On Oct.
28 and Nov. 6, NASA's Scott Kelly and Kjell

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00:01:39,270 --> 00:01:44,110

Lindgren will perform a variety of upgrades and maintenance work on hardware outside the

22

00:01:44,110 --> 00:01:48,830

station. The spacewalks – the first ever for both astronauts – will “bookend”

23

00:01:48,830 --> 00:01:54,880

the station’s 15th anniversary of continuous human presence, which is Nov. 2.

24

00:01:54,880 --> 00:01:59,600

NASA’s Space Launch System (SLS) rocket has completed all steps needed to clear a

25

00:01:59,600 --> 00:02:05,070

critical design review (CDR). SLS is the first vehicle designed to meet the challenges of

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00:02:05,070 --> 00:02:11,370

the journey to Mars and the first exploration class rocket since the Saturn V. SLS will

27

00:02:11,370 --> 00:02:16,209

be the most powerful rocket ever built and, with the agency’s Orion spacecraft, will

28

00:02:16,209 --> 00:02:22,219

launch America into a new era of human space exploration to destinations beyond Earth’s

29

00:02:22,219 --> 00:02:26,919

orbit, including an asteroid and Mars.

30

00:02:26,919 --> 00:02:31,260

Engineers at NASA’s Ames Research Center in Silicon Valley, California successfully

31

00:02:31,260 --> 00:02:36,790

tested a heat shield in heating conditions
that simulate a landing on Mars. The flexible

32

00:02:36,790 --> 00:02:42,269

Adaptive Deployable Entry and Placement Technology
(ADEPT) opens like an umbrella and could help

33

00:02:42,269 --> 00:02:47,499

engineers provide the larger heat shields
needed to protect spacecraft from the extreme

34

00:02:47,499 --> 00:02:52,059

heat experienced during landings on Mars.

35

00:02:52,059 --> 00:02:59,430

Oct. 18-24 was Exoplanet Week for NASA -- marking
the 20th anniversary of the discovery of 51

36

00:02:59,430 --> 00:03:06,180

Pegasi b -- the first planet spotted outside
our solar system orbiting a Sun-like star.

37

00:03:06,180 --> 00:03:11,599

Since that discovery in 1995, we've found
thousands of confirmed planets and planet

38

00:03:11,599 --> 00:03:16,870

candidates beyond our solar system, including
the discovery earlier this year by NASA's

39

00:03:16,870 --> 00:03:20,379

Kepler spacecraft of a bigger, older cousin
of Earth.

40

00:03:20,379 --> 00:03:23,999

And that's what's up this week @NASA ...