



1

00:00:00,669 --> 00:00:04,609

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

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00:00:04,609 --> 00:00:10,160

NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden was back on Capitol Hill during the week of March 13

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00:00:10,160 --> 00:00:15,780

for more Congressional hearings on the agency's \$19 billion dollar Fiscal Year 2017 budget

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00:00:15,780 --> 00:00:17,140

proposal.

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00:00:17,140 --> 00:00:23,279

On Tuesday, Bolden testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,

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00:00:23,279 --> 00:00:27,730

Science and Related Agencies, and on Thursday, the administrator responded to questions from

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00:00:27,730 --> 00:00:30,540

the House Science Subcommittee on Space.

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00:00:30,540 --> 00:00:35,760

The budget proposed by President Obama will fund NASA initiatives to send American astronauts

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00:00:35,760 --> 00:00:41,269

to Mars in the 2030s, expand our knowledge about our universe, and improve the quality

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00:00:41,269 --> 00:00:46,420

of life on Earth, as well as the health of the planet itself.

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00:00:46,420 --> 00:00:51,920

On March 18 Eastern time, a Soyuz spacecraft launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan,

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00:00:51,920 --> 00:00:54,649

toward the International Space Station.

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00:00:54,649 --> 00:01:00,730

Onboard -- NASA Astronaut Jeff Williams and his Expedition 47/48 crewmates Alexey Ovchinin

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00:01:00,730 --> 00:01:06,020

and Oleg Skripochka, both of the Russian space agency Roscosmos.

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00:01:06,020 --> 00:01:10,799

Following their six-hour trip to the orbiting laboratory, the trio was welcomed aboard by

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00:01:10,799 --> 00:01:17,110

Expedition 47 Commander Tim Kopra of NASA and the other crew members already onboard.

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00:01:17,110 --> 00:01:21,640

The six-month mission will see Williams set the American record for cumulative days in

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00:01:21,640 --> 00:01:28,119

space, with 534 -- surpassing the record set by Scott Kelly during Expedition 46.

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00:01:28,119 --> 00:01:33,990

This is the third space station expedition for Williams, which also is a record.

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00:01:33,990 --> 00:01:39,799

NASA's Spacecraft Fire Experiment, or Saffire-1 -- is one of several science payloads scheduled

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00:01:39,799 --> 00:01:45,201

to fly aboard Orbital ATK's Cygnus cargo

spacecraft on its next resupply mission to

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00:01:45,201 --> 00:01:47,400

the International Space Station.

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00:01:47,400 --> 00:01:52,619

The Saffire experiment, developed at Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, is designed

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00:01:52,619 --> 00:01:57,649

to help researchers better understand how fire behaves aboard a spacecraft outside of

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00:01:57,649 --> 00:01:59,530

Earth's atmosphere.

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00:01:59,530 --> 00:02:04,310

The mission also is scheduled to deliver the second generation of the 3-D printer currently

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00:02:04,310 --> 00:02:06,189

being used on the ISS.

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00:02:06,189 --> 00:02:12,420

The Orbital ATK CRS-6 mission is scheduled to launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station

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00:02:12,420 --> 00:02:19,000

in Florida on March 22 at 11:05 p.m. EDT.

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00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:24,600

On March 16, NASA, in partnership with the White House Council on Women and Girls, celebrated

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00:02:24,600 --> 00:02:28,610

Women's History Month with a program at Goddard Space Flight Center called, "NASA

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00:02:28,610 --> 00:02:29,980

Women in Action”.

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00:02:29,980 --> 00:02:35,739

It focused on women making an impact in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)

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00:02:35,739 --> 00:02:36,739

careers.

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00:02:36,739 --> 00:02:41,840

The event featured NASA Deputy Administrator Dava Newman, NASA Deputy Associate Administrator

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00:02:41,840 --> 00:02:47,590

Lesa Roe, Ellen Stofan, the agency’s Chief Scientist, Johnson Space Center Director and

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00:02:47,590 --> 00:02:53,970

former astronaut Ellen Ochoa, and guest speaker Jo Handelsman, Associate Director for Science,

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00:02:53,970 --> 00:02:56,840

White House Office of Science & Technology Policy.

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00:02:56,840 --> 00:03:01,860

Goddard’s Deputy Director for Technology and Research Investments, Christyl Johnson,

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00:03:01,860 --> 00:03:04,670

served as the moderator.

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00:03:04,670 --> 00:03:09,709

The European Space Agency’s ExoMars 2016 mission launched from Kazakhstan on March

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00:03:09,709 --> 00:03:15,360

14, with two NASA radios onboard that are designed to provide communication relay service

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00:03:15,360 --> 00:03:17,910

for rovers and landers on Mars.

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00:03:17,910 --> 00:03:22,480

Even though the spacecraft will take about seven months to reach Mars, the first in-flight

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00:03:22,480 --> 00:03:27,689

test of the twin Electra ultra-high frequency (UHF) radios is scheduled to take place in

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00:03:27,689 --> 00:03:29,310

about six weeks.

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00:03:29,310 --> 00:03:33,780

NASA is on an ambitious journey to Mars that includes sending humans to the Red Planet

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00:03:33,780 --> 00:03:39,430

– and international partnerships such as this will help strengthen and extend infrastructure

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00:03:39,430 --> 00:03:43,340

in advance of those human missions.

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00:03:43,340 --> 00:03:48,730

Jason-3, the U.S.-European oceanography satellite mission with NASA participation that launched

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00:03:48,730 --> 00:03:54,519

in January, has produced its first complete science map of global sea surface height.

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00:03:54,519 --> 00:03:59,250

The map, which includes data collected from the first 10 days of observations after the

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00:03:59,250 --> 00:04:04,680

satellite reached its operational orbit, shows

the state of the ongoing El Niño event that

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00:04:04,680 --> 00:04:06,700

began early last year.

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00:04:06,700 --> 00:04:11,840

Jason-3 will enable more accurate weather,  
ocean and climate forecasts, and help global

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00:04:11,840 --> 00:04:17,110

weather and environmental agencies more accurately  
predict the strength of tropical cyclones.

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00:04:17,110 --> 00:04:20,970

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