



1

00:00:00,710 --> 00:00:04,149

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

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00:00:04,149 --> 00:00:10,540

A SpaceX Dragon cargo spacecraft launched aboard a Falcon 9 rocket on April 8, from

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00:00:10,540 --> 00:00:16,359

Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida to resupply the International Space Station.

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00:00:16,359 --> 00:00:21,949

Among the almost 7,000 pounds of science research, crew supplies and hardware being delivered

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00:00:21,949 --> 00:00:26,009

is the Bigelow Expandable Activity Module, or BEAM.

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00:00:26,009 --> 00:00:30,489

This technology demonstration will study the radiation protection, thermal performance

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00:00:30,489 --> 00:00:35,889

and operations of expandable habitats for possible use on future deep space missions

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00:00:35,889 --> 00:00:38,230

– including the journey to Mars.

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00:00:38,230 --> 00:00:43,050

This is SpaceX’s eighth contracted mission to the station under NASA’s Commercial Resupply

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00:00:43,050 --> 00:00:46,100

Services contract.

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00:00:46,100 --> 00:00:51,070

NASA Deputy Administrator Dava Newman and astronaut Cady Coleman were among those invited

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00:00:51,070 --> 00:00:56,230

to help First Lady Michelle Obama plant the White House Kitchen Garden on April 5.

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00:00:56,230 --> 00:01:01,059

Newman and Coleman planted the same variety of "Outredgeous" romaine lettuce grown, harvested

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00:01:01,059 --> 00:01:05,340

and eaten by astronauts onboard the International Space Station.

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00:01:05,340 --> 00:01:09,159

This is the eighth year Michelle Obama has welcomed students and others to help plant

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00:01:09,159 --> 00:01:10,790

the garden.

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00:01:10,790 --> 00:01:16,000

NASA's Associate Administrator for science and astronaut John Grunsfeld announced on

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00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:21,799

April 5 he will retire from the agency April 30 -- capping nearly four decades of science

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00:01:21,799 --> 00:01:24,360

and exploration with the agency.

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00:01:24,360 --> 00:01:29,680

Grunsfeld has directed NASA's Earth and space science activities since 2012 – managing

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00:01:29,680 --> 00:01:34,680

more than 100 missions – many that have produced groundbreaking findings and discoveries.

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00:01:34,680 --> 00:01:39,580
He also was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame in 2015.

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00:01:39,580 --> 00:01:44,820
His five space shuttle flights include the last Hubble Space Telescope servicing mission,

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00:01:44,820 --> 00:01:46,060
in 2009.

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00:01:46,060 --> 00:01:51,090
On that flight Grunsfeld helped to successfully upgrade Hubble and became the last human to

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00:01:51,090 --> 00:01:54,930
touch the iconic telescope.

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00:01:54,930 --> 00:01:59,229
Engineers at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, recently began a series

28
00:01:59,229 --> 00:02:04,729
of water drop tests to understand conditions the agency's Orion spacecraft and crews

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00:02:04,729 --> 00:02:10,030
onboard may experience while landing in the Pacific Ocean, after returning from deep space

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00:02:10,030 --> 00:02:11,360
missions.

31
00:02:11,360 --> 00:02:16,640
Specially instrumented crash test dummies in the Orion test vehicle will gather data

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00:02:16,640 --> 00:02:22,890

to help engineers ensure astronauts will be protected from injury during future splashdowns.

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00:02:22,890 --> 00:02:28,040

Each test in the series simulates different wind conditions, velocities and wave height

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00:02:28,040 --> 00:02:35,080

scenarios that Orion may experience during parachute-assisted landings in the ocean.

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00:02:35,080 --> 00:02:40,010

At NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans final welding was completed recently

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00:02:40,010 --> 00:02:45,910

on a liquid oxygen tank "confidence" article for NASA's new Space Launch System (SLS) rocket.

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00:02:45,910 --> 00:02:51,550

The rocket's 200-foot-tall core stage includes a liquid oxygen and a liquid hydrogen tank

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00:02:51,550 --> 00:02:54,460

to feed the rocket's RS-25 engines.

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00:02:54,460 --> 00:02:59,210

"Confidence" hardware verifies weld procedures are working, as planned.

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00:02:59,210 --> 00:03:03,870

All welding for the core stage is expected to be completed this summer in preparation

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00:03:03,870 --> 00:03:09,990

for the rocket's first un-crewed test flight with Orion in 2018.

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00:03:09,990 --> 00:03:15,011

During a recent visit to Ames Research Center

at Moffett Field, California, NASA's Associate

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00:03:15,011 --> 00:03:20,060
Administrator for aeronautics Jaiwon Shin
was briefed on some of the work at the center

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00:03:20,060 --> 00:03:26,160
helping to advance green aviation technologies
and concepts that support the agency's Environmentally

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00:03:26,160 --> 00:03:28,770
Responsible Aviation (ERA) project.

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00:03:28,770 --> 00:03:34,040
Shin also handed out awards during a ceremony
to honor employees who have distinguished

47
00:03:34,040 --> 00:03:38,240
themselves with their work ethic during fiscal
year 2015.

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00:03:38,240 --> 00:03:44,390
A recent open house and membership drive sponsored
by the Women of NASA (WON) Headquarters featured

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00:03:44,390 --> 00:03:50,790
remarks from Deputy Administrator Newman,
Chief Scientist Ellen Stofan, Brenda Manuel,

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00:03:50,790 --> 00:03:54,580
associate administrator for Diversity and
Equal Opportunity, and others.

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00:03:54,580 --> 00:03:59,710
The new headquarters employee resource group
seeks to encourage diversity, inclusion and

52
00:03:59,710 --> 00:04:05,070
equity in the workplace, and support the advancement
and professional growth of women in federal

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00:04:05,070 --> 00:04:08,250
service at NASA headquarters and throughout
the agency.

54
00:04:08,250 --> 00:04:11,870
And that's what's up this week @NASA ...