



1
00:00:00,630 --> 00:00:05,290

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

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00:00:05,290 --> 00:00:07,779

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On April 24 aboard the International Space

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00:00:07,779 --> 00:00:12,889

Station, NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson set a new record for cumulative time spent in

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00:00:12,889 --> 00:00:18,500

space by a U.S. astronaut.
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00:00:18,500 --> 00:00:22,710

President Donald Trump marked the milestone with a call from the Oval Office, with First

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00:00:22,710 --> 00:00:27,929

Daughter Ivanka Trump, and NASA astronaut Kate Rubins – to the station, where Whitson

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00:00:27,929 --> 00:00:30,050

was joined by NASA's Jack Fischer.

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00:00:30,050 --> 00:00:37,000

"That's an incredible record to break. And on behalf of our nation and, frankly on behalf

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00:00:37,000 --> 00:00:40,410

of the world -- I'd like to congratulate you."
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00:00:40,410 --> 00:00:47,990

"It's an honor for me, basically to be representing all the folks at NASA who make this spaceflight

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00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:51,899

possible and who make me setting this record feasible."

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00:00:51,899 --> 00:00:55,070

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Whitson, who in 2008 became the first woman

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00:00:55,070 --> 00:01:01,420

to command the space station, also holds the record for most spacewalks by a female astronaut.

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00:01:01,420 --> 00:01:06,359

NASA worked with the Department of Education, on behalf of the White House, to make the

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00:01:06,359 --> 00:01:11,119

president's call to the station available to schools across America. Whitson encouraged

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00:01:11,119 --> 00:01:15,649

students to think about how the steps they take in the classroom today could someday

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00:01:15,649 --> 00:01:19,329

help NASA make the next giant leap in space exploration.

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00:01:19,329 --> 00:01:22,329

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"Real steps are going to be taken in a few

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00:01:22,329 --> 00:01:27,999

years, and so by studying math, science, engineering -- any kind of technology, you're going to

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00:01:27,999 --> 00:01:30,129

have a part in that and that will be very exciting."

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00:01:30,129 --> 00:01:35,149

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On April 26, Whitson and Fischer were also\hinvolved

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00:01:35,149 --> 00:01:40,799

in another spaceflight first -- the first
live ultra-high definition, or 4K downlink

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00:01:40,799 --> 00:01:46,549

from space. During the event, which was streamed
via Amazon Web Services (AWS) to the 2017

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00:01:46,549 --> 00:01:52,049

National Association of Broadcasters\hConference
in Las Vegas, Whitson spoke with Sam Blackman,

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00:01:52,049 --> 00:01:57,389

chief executive officer and co-founder of
AWS Elemental. The conversation was part of

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00:01:57,389 --> 00:02:02,849

a panel discussion about how advanced imaging
and cloud technologies are taking scientific

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00:02:02,849 --> 00:02:07,329

research and filmmaking to the next level.

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00:02:07,329 --> 00:02:11,860

The day after participating in the White House
congratulatory call to Peggy Whitson on the

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00:02:11,860 --> 00:02:16,970

space station, NASA astronaut Kate Rubins
visited the National Institutes of Health

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00:02:16,970 --> 00:02:22,510

in Bethesda, Maryland for a series of events
related to her 115-day mission aboard the

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00:02:22,510 --> 00:02:28,360

station last year. Rubins, who became the first person to sequence DNA in space while

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00:02:28,360 --> 00:02:35,080

onboard the station, participated in an NIH-Twitter chat for DNA Day and she toured laboratories

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00:02:35,080 --> 00:02:40,920

at the institution. Rubins and her Expedition 48-49 crewmates contributed to hundreds of

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00:02:40,920 --> 00:02:47,300

experiments in biology, biotechnology, physical science and Earth science, while on the station.

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00:02:47,300 --> 00:02:52,290

They returned to Earth in October 2016.

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00:02:52,290 --> 00:02:57,840

On April 26th, NASA's Cassini spacecraft made its first dive through the narrow gap between

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00:02:57,840 --> 00:03:03,480

Saturn and its rings. This is one of 22 dives Cassini will make through an unexplored region

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00:03:03,480 --> 00:03:09,700

so close to the planet. During the risky maneuvers, the spacecraft is expected to gather unprecedented

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00:03:09,700 --> 00:03:15,820

scientific data that might reveal new details about the planet and its system. Mission controllers

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00:03:15,820 --> 00:03:20,010

were not in touch with Cassini during the dive because the spacecraft's dish-shaped

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00:03:20,010 --> 00:03:26,060

antenna was used as a protective shield against planetary debris. But when communication was

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00:03:26,060 --> 00:03:31,470

reestablished, the spacecraft returned these images -- the first ever from within the space

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00:03:31,470 --> 00:03:37,000

between the planet and its rings. This first dive marks the start of the mission's Grand

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00:03:37,000 --> 00:03:45,350

Finale. The mission will conclude with a science-rich plunge into Saturn's atmosphere on Sept. 15.

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00:03:45,350 --> 00:03:49,231

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NASA scientists participated in the 2017 Astrobiology

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00:03:49,231 --> 00:03:56,760

Science Conference, April 24-28 in Mesa, Arizona. NASA held a town hall meeting to solicit feedback

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00:03:56,760 --> 00:04:02,450

from the astrobiology community about a recent report on the potential science value of a

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00:04:02,450 --> 00:04:07,920

lander concept for a mission to Jupiter's icy moon Europa. The conference is a forum

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00:04:07,920 --> 00:04:13,220

to present the latest findings and perspectives on topics ranging from the origins and evolution

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00:04:13,220 --> 00:04:18,320

of life on Earth, to the search for habitable environments and life in our solar system

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00:04:18,320 --> 00:04:19,320

and beyond.

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00:04:19,320 --> 00:04:22,970

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