
vita

1
00:00:00,810 --> 00:00:05,100
“Here’s some of the stories trending This
Week at NASA!”

2
00:00:05,100 --> 00:00:10,940
On Oct. 26, Vice President Mike Pence joined
our Associate Administrator for Science, Thomas

3
00:00:10,940 --> 00:00:16,960
Zurbuchen for a close-up view of the agency’s
Mars InSight spacecraft, during a visit to

4
00:00:16,960 --> 00:00:20,490
the Littleton, Colorado facilities of Lockheed
Martin.

5
00:00:20,490 --> 00:00:25,980
InSight is being prepped for a May 2018 launch
to the Red Planet, with landing targeted for

6
00:00:25,980 --> 00:00:27,669
next November.

7
00:00:27,669 --> 00:00:33,230
The mission will study the deep interior of
Mars, with a primary goal of helping scientists

8
00:00:33,230 --> 00:00:38,190
understand how rocky planets – including
Earth – formed and evolved.

9
00:00:38,190 --> 00:00:43,790
The vice president also visited a Virtual
Reality lab that featured demos of the company’s

10
00:00:43,790 --> 00:00:48,030
human exploration efforts, including our Orion
spacecraft.

11

00:00:48,030 --> 00:00:53,140
Orion will launch on the agency's Space
Launch System rocket, and take humans farther

12
00:00:53,140 --> 00:00:55,770
into the solar system than ever before.

13
00:00:55,770 --> 00:01:02,010
A small, recently discovered asteroid -- or
perhaps a comet -- appears to have originated

14
00:01:02,010 --> 00:01:06,130
from outside the solar system, coming from
somewhere else in our galaxy.

15
00:01:06,130 --> 00:01:11,450
If so, it would be the first "interstellar
object" to be observed and confirmed by

16
00:01:11,450 --> 00:01:15,070
astronomers while traveling through our solar
system.

17
00:01:15,070 --> 00:01:21,710
The object – for now designated A/2017 U1
– is less than a quarter-mile in diameter.

18
00:01:21,710 --> 00:01:27,759
It was discovered Oct. 19 by the University
of Hawaii's Pan-STARRS 1 telescope during

19
00:01:27,759 --> 00:01:31,490
its nightly search for Near-Earth Objects
for NASA.

20
00:01:31,490 --> 00:01:38,289
On Oct. 26, Pope Francis called the International
Space Station from the Vatican for a question

21
00:01:38,289 --> 00:01:43,299

and answer session with Italian astronaut Paolo Nespoli of the European Space Agency,

22
00:01:43,299 --> 00:01:48,500
joined by our astronauts Randy Bresnik, Joe Acaba and Mark Vande Hei and others on the

23
00:01:48,500 --> 00:01:49,500
crew.

24
00:01:49,500 --> 00:01:53,639
The discussion included the crew's activities on the space station, the view of Earth from

25
00:01:53,639 --> 00:02:00,020
orbit, and the value of international collaboration for peaceful purposes.

26
00:02:00,020 --> 00:02:05,159
Two new studies from our Dawn mission suggest that a global ancient ocean existed on the

27
00:02:05,159 --> 00:02:09,840
dwarf planet Ceres – and shed light on what might have happened to it.

28
00:02:09,840 --> 00:02:14,640
One study indicates that most of the ancient ocean can be found in Ceres' crust – which

29
00:02:14,640 --> 00:02:21,290
contains a mixture of ice, salts, and hydrated materials, subjected to past and possibly

30
00:02:21,290 --> 00:02:23,599
recent geologic activity.

31
00:02:23,599 --> 00:02:28,470
The second study suggests residual liquid from the ocean could lie in a softer layer

32
00:02:28,470 --> 00:02:32,680
below the dwarf planet’s rigid crust.

33
00:02:32,680 --> 00:02:38,260
For some time now, NASA scientists have been
able to take a virtual walk on Mars.

34
00:02:38,260 --> 00:02:43,849
Now – you can too – with Access Mars,
a free immersive experience available on all

35
00:02:43,849 --> 00:02:49,720
desktop and mobile devices and virtual reality/augmented
reality (VR/AR) headsets.

36
00:02:49,720 --> 00:02:53,629
You can check it out at https://g.co/accessmars.

37
00:02:53,629 --> 00:02:58,689
Our Jet Propulsion Laboratory collaborated
with Google to produce Access Mars.

38
00:02:58,689 --> 00:03:04,440
It was adapted from JPL's OnSight software,
which uses imagery from our Curiosity rover

39
00:03:04,440 --> 00:03:09,220
to help scientists plan rover drives on Mars.

40
00:03:09,220 --> 00:03:11,129
And that’s what’s up this week @NASA …