
AMES
ARMSTRONG
GLENN
GODDARD
JOHNSON
JPL
KENNEDY
NASA

1
00:00:00,140 --> 00:00:01,939
Getting back to the business of NASA …

2
00:00:01,939 --> 00:00:05,459
An update on our Commercial Crew Program …

3
00:00:05,459 --> 00:00:12,200
And, our mission to the Sun is in full swing
… a few of the stories to tell you about

4
00:00:12,200 --> 00:00:15,460
– This Week at NASA!

5
00:00:15,460 --> 00:00:19,770
Our administrator Jim Bridenstine held an
agency-wide town hall at our headquarters

6
00:00:19,770 --> 00:00:25,529
on Jan. 29 to welcome employees back to work
following the partial government shutdown

7
00:00:25,529 --> 00:00:26,529
and to say …

8
00:00:26,529 --> 00:00:32,349
“Thank you for your patience and for your
commitment to this agency and to the mission

9
00:00:32,349 --> 00:00:33,960
that we all believe in so dearly.”

10
00:00:33,960 --> 00:00:38,590
The administrator pointed to some significant
exploration milestones during the shutdown

11
00:00:38,590 --> 00:00:43,970
the NASA workforce helped make possible … like
the OSIRIS-REx sample return mission’s arrival

12
00:00:43,970 --> 00:00:45,359
at asteroid Bennu.

13
00:00:45,359 --> 00:00:49,620
“We’re now in orbit around the smallest
object in space that we’ve ever been able

14
00:00:49,620 --> 00:00:55,269
to orbit – and we’re getting new scientific
information that’s going to be transformative.”

15
00:00:55,269 --> 00:01:01,199
And the New Year’s Day flyby of Kuiper Belt
Object Ultima Thule by our New Horizons spacecraft.

16
00:01:01,199 --> 00:01:06,100
The encounter – some 4 billion miles from
our Sun – is the farthest exploration of

17
00:01:06,100 --> 00:01:09,259
a celestial object by any spacecraft in history.

18
00:01:09,259 --> 00:01:16,250
“Flying by Ultima Thule is not a once in
a lifetime opportunity, it’s a once in humanity

19
00:01:16,250 --> 00:01:17,250
opportunity.”

20
00:01:17,250 --> 00:01:22,670
The town hall wrapped up with a “video look-ahead”
to 2019 and the many missions and projects

21
00:01:22,670 --> 00:01:24,490
the agency is working on.

22
00:01:24,490 --> 00:01:27,659
You can check out that video for yourself,
by visiting nasa.gov/next.

23
00:01:27,659 --> 00:01:35,960
SpaceX, who along with Boeing, is one of our
partner companies developing spacecraft to

24
00:01:35,960 --> 00:01:41,329
restore launches of American astronauts from
American soil – recently performed checkouts,

25
00:01:41,329 --> 00:01:46,370
including a static firing, with its Falcon
9 rocket and Crew Dragon spacecraft at our

26
00:01:46,370 --> 00:01:48,469
Kennedy Space Center, in Florida.

27
00:01:48,469 --> 00:01:53,120
The checkouts are in preparation for Demo-1,
the inaugural, uncrewed flight of the Crew

28
00:01:53,120 --> 00:01:54,120
Dragon.

29
00:01:54,120 --> 00:01:59,240
Meanwhile, our Mike Fincke has been named
to replace Eric Boe on the crew of the Boeing

30
00:01:59,240 --> 00:02:02,190
CST-100 Starliner’s Crew Flight Test.

31
00:02:02,190 --> 00:02:05,870
Boe is unable to fly due to medical reasons.

32
00:02:05,870 --> 00:02:10,009
This flight test, targeted for launch later
this year, will be the first launch of the

33
00:02:10,009 --> 00:02:12,620
new spacecraft with humans on board.

34
00:02:12,620 --> 00:02:18,709
Fincke joins our Nicole Mann and Boeing’s
Chris Ferguson on the crew.

35
00:02:18,709 --> 00:02:23,620
Our Parker solar Probe spacecraft, which recently
completed its first orbit of the Sun, has

36
00:02:23,620 --> 00:02:28,760
now begun the second of 24 planned orbits,
on track for its second closest approach to

37
00:02:28,760 --> 00:02:31,780
our solar system’s star, on April 4.

38
00:02:31,780 --> 00:02:37,110
With all systems online and operating as designed,
the spacecraft has been delivering data to

39
00:02:37,110 --> 00:02:39,819
Earth via the Deep Space Network.

40
00:02:39,819 --> 00:02:44,680
Data from the mission will help answer questions
about the Sun’s fundamental physics — including

41
00:02:44,680 --> 00:02:51,220
how particles and solar material are accelerated
out into space at such high speeds and why

42
00:02:51,220 --> 00:02:55,650
the Sun’s atmosphere, or corona, is so much
hotter than the surface below.

43
00:02:55,650 --> 00:02:59,430
That’s what’s up this week @NASA …