

# GENTLE.NEWS

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*"The very least you can do in your life is figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof."*

— Barbara Kingsolver

### Smart Computers Help Build New Science Machine

Scientists are using smart computers to build an amazing new machine. The machine will help us learn more about tiny pieces of matter.

The new machine is called the Electron-Ion Collider. It will be built at a science lab in New York. Scientists from over 300 places around the world are helping to build it.

This is the first machine of its kind to use smart computer help from the very beginning. The computers can think and learn like people do. They help make the machine work better and faster.

The smart computers have already been tested on other machines. They can control the machines as well as human experts can. This makes the work easier and more reliable.

When finished, the new machine will be almost three miles around. It will help scientists discover amazing new things about our world. The timing is perfect because smart computer tools are now ready to help with this big project.

## **Animals & Wildlife**

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### **Tiny Moth Gets New Home in Kentucky**

A very small moth is getting a big helping hand in Kentucky. The rattlesnake-master borer moth is a tiny creature with an important job. It helps show when grasslands are healthy and happy.

This little moth has a special need. It can only live on one type of plant. The plant is called rattlesnake master. It loves sunny, open spaces like prairies and grasslands.

Sadly, only two groups of these moths are left in Kentucky. But good news is coming! Many caring people are working together to help. The Nature Conservancy and other groups joined hands to save the moth's home.

The problem was that too many trees and bushes were growing. They blocked the sunlight that the special plant needs. So the helpers carefully removed extra plants and used controlled fires to clear the land.

The plan worked wonderfully! More sunlight now reaches the ground. The rattlesnake master plant is growing better than ever. Many other plants and animals are doing well too. The tiny moth now has a brighter future in its Kentucky home.

### **NASA Tests Space Gas Stations for Moon Trips**

NASA is working on an exciting new project. They want to build gas stations in space! These special stations would help spaceships travel to the Moon and Mars.

The project is called LOXSAT. It will test how to store super-cold rocket fuel in space. This is tricky because there is no gravity up there. The fuel behaves differently than it does on Earth.

A company in Florida built the test equipment. Another company will launch it into space on a rocket. The launch will happen from New Zealand sometime after July 17th.

For nine months, the equipment will run 11 different tests. Scientists will learn how to keep the fuel cold and move it between tanks. They will also learn how to measure how much fuel is left.

This could change space travel forever. Spaceships could stop at these space gas stations to refuel. Then they could travel much farther into space. It would be like having rest stops on a long car trip, but in space instead!

### **Astronauts Get Fresh Food Delivery in Space**

Astronauts living on the space station got a special treat this week. A cargo ship brought them fresh oranges, apples, onions, and peppers.

The crew was so excited about the fresh food! They took fun photos floating around with their new fruits and vegetables. In space, everything floats because there is no gravity.

The astronauts don't get fresh food very often. Most of their meals come in packages or cans. Fresh fruits and vegetables taste so much better than dried food.

The same cargo ship also brought new equipment for the astronauts to use. They received exercise machines to help them stay strong in space. The ship also carried supplies to help fix their spacesuits.

Scientists on Earth sent special experiments too. The astronauts will use these to learn new things about keeping people healthy. Their discoveries in space might help doctors treat patients back on Earth.

### **America Protects Ocean Fish for 50 Years**

Fifty years ago, America made an important promise to protect ocean fish. Leaders created a special law to help fish thrive in our waters.

Back then, big fishing boats from other countries came close to America's shores. They caught huge amounts of fish from our waters. These giant boats took so many fish that there weren't enough left. American fishermen had trouble finding fish to catch.

The boats were like giant vacuum cleaners in the ocean. They would catch all the fish in one area, then move somewhere else. Many of these fish were sold back to American families after being processed far away.

Smart leaders decided this had to stop. They worked together to create new rules. The law said America now controls fishing in a large area around our coasts. This area stretches 200 miles out into the ocean.

Now American waters have more fish than before. Families can enjoy fresh seafood, and fishermen have good jobs. The ocean is healthier and fish populations are growing strong again.

## Activity Time - Word Search

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Find the words below in the puzzle. Words go across or down only.

### Words to Find:

ORANGES

MACHINE

APPLES

ROCKET

SPACE

FISH

FUEL

