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GENTLE.NEWS

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"Let our scars fall in love."

— Galway Kinnell

NASA's Space Center Turns 65 — A Golden Journey

A very special birthday is being celebrated in Houston, Texas. NASA's Johnson Space Center is turning 65 years old! This amazing place has been the heart of America's human spaceflight program for over six decades.

It all began with a dream. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy made a bold promise to the nation. He said America would send a man to the Moon and bring him home safely. That dream needed a home — and Johnson Space Center became that home.

Over the years, this remarkable center has done so much. It is where astronauts live and train. It is where Mission Control guides spacecraft safely through the skies. Some of humanity's greatest moments in space were led from here.

Today, Johnson Space Center is busier than ever. Teams there are working on missions to the Moon and beyond. They are also helping keep astronauts healthy on long journeys into space. The future of space exploration is bright!

Sixty-five years of reaching for the stars — and the best may still be ahead. Johnson Space Center continues to inspire us all with courage, curiosity, and the wonderful human spirit of discovery.

Source: NASA

Scientists Map Hidden Treasures Beneath Texas Ground

Scientists are exploring what lies deep beneath Texas. They are using special airplanes to study the ground below. The planes fly low and use technology to "see" through the earth. It is like giving the land an X-ray!

A team from two science groups is working together. One is a national science agency. The other is based in Texas. They are making new, detailed maps of the rocks and minerals underground. These maps will help everyone for many years to come.

The area they are studying is called the Llano Uplift. It sits in the heart of central Texas. This region holds many valuable minerals hidden beneath the surface. Some of these minerals are used to make modern batteries for cars and devices.

The minerals found here are very important for our country. Things like graphite and rare earth elements are buried in this region. Finding them closer to home is wonderful news. It means we may not need to look as far away for these materials.

The new maps will also help scientists understand water supplies. They will help people plan safely around natural hazards too. All of this knowledge will be shared freely with the public. It is exciting to think about what discoveries may still be waiting underground!

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Scientists Track Crabs to Help Them Thrive

Red king crabs are amazing creatures that live in the cold waters of Bristol Bay, Alaska. These large, spiky crabs can grow as big as a dinner plate. Scientists have been working hard to learn more about them.

Researchers attached special satellite tags to mature male red king crabs. These tiny devices tracked where the crabs traveled over several years. The study ran from 2021 to 2024.

The tags revealed something fascinating. Each fall, the crabs moved west into deeper, cooler water. In warmer years, they traveled even farther west. The crabs were searching for the right temperature to stay healthy.

This discovery is very helpful. Knowing where the crabs go helps scientists protect them better. Officials can now make smarter decisions about which ocean areas to keep safe. This gives the crabs the best chance to grow and multiply.

Scientists plan to keep tracking the crabs through winter and spring too. Those seasons are when crabs mate and shed their shells. Learning about those months will make the picture even more complete. Good science like this gives these wonderful creatures a bright future.

Source: NOAA Fisheries

The Woman Helping Build America's Biggest Science Machine

A scientist named Jameela Middleton has a very special job. She helps teams of people work together on one of the biggest science projects in the world.

Jameela works at Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York. Scientists there are building a giant machine called the Electron-Ion Collider. It will be the only machine of its kind in the whole world.

This amazing machine will help us learn what everything is made of. It works by sending tiny particles speeding around a huge ring. The ring is two and a half miles around. The particles travel almost as fast as light itself.

Jameela's job is to help everyone work as a team. Engineers, builders, and scientists all need to talk to each other. Jameela makes sure they share information and solve problems together. She says the best part of her job is finding smart solutions.

When this great machine is finished, it will teach us things we have never known before. Scientists from all around the world will use it. It could lead to wonderful new discoveries for everyone.

Source: Brookhaven National Laboratory

One Man's Mission to Bring Hawaii's Fish to Your Table

Have you ever wondered where your fish comes from? A man named Caleb McMahan wants to help you find out. He now leads the Hawaii Seafood Council. His job is to connect people with the fresh fish caught right off Hawaii's shores.

Caleb's story began in a surprising way. In college, he felt restless and unsure of his path. Then one Halloween night, he met a fisherman from Alaska. That chance meeting changed his life forever. Just after Christmas, young Caleb boarded a fishing boat in Alaska. He was only twenty years old and had never sailed the ocean before.

Caleb spent four years as a commercial fisherman in Alaska's cold waters. It was hard work, but it shaped who he is today. He made lifelong friends and found his purpose. He says those years gave him an incredible gift that he can never fully describe.

Over the years, Caleb took on many different roles in the seafood world. He managed fishing boats and worked at the famous Honolulu Fish Auction. He also taught others about responsible fishing. Each job taught him something new and valuable.

Now Caleb brings all that knowledge to Hawaii. He wants families to enjoy fresh, local seafood. He also works to protect island fishing jobs for future generations.

Source: NOAA Fisheries

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

DETECTOR GEOLOGY MISSION FISHING

HARVEST SURVEY PROTON

F	K	Y	F	Y	P	R	O	T	O	N
I	Z	U	G	I	U	Q	X	W	D	R
S	T	Q	E	U	P	M	K	L	Y	H
H	E	Q	G	P	I	A	H	E	T	N
I	M	T	S	H	N	F	Z	O	C	J
N	Z	Q	D	E	T	E	C	T	O	R
G	P	J	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	O
R	P	R	G	E	O	L	O	G	Y	G
S	U	R	V	E	Y	G	J	U	R	Y
Z	K	B	S	C	F	L	I	A	R	R
L	A	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	K	T