Friday, November 06, 2026

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GENTLE.NEWS

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"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."

— T.S. Eliot

A River That Loops and Twists Through Ancient Rock

Deep in the state of Utah, a river has carved something truly amazing. The San Juan River twists and turns through stone that is 300 million years old. The winding curves it makes are called "goosenecks." It is easy to see why when you look at their shape!

Long ago, this river flowed across a wide, flat plain. It wandered slowly, like a path through a meadow. Then, over millions of years, the land slowly pushed upward. The river began to flow faster and cut deeper into the rock beneath it.

Today, the river runs through a canyon 1,000 feet deep. In some spots, it nearly loops back on itself. One stretch of river travels 5.5 miles to cover a distance of just 1.3 miles in a straight line. The river takes the long way around every time!

An astronaut on the International Space Station took a photo of this wonderful place. From high above Earth, the loops and bends of the river look breathtaking. The golden desert rock glows beautifully in the sunlight.

You can visit this peaceful place at Goosenecks State Park in Utah. It is a reminder of how powerful nature can be, working slowly over millions of years to create something truly beautiful.

Source: NASA

Young Worker Helps Protect Alaska's Wild Waters

A young wildlife worker named Keaton Newton took a job in Alaska. He worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His job was to check boats at the border between Alaska and Canada.

Keaton met many wonderful people in his work. He spoke with Alaskans, retirees, and travelers from faraway places like Europe. They all had exciting stories to share. And nearly everyone agreed that protecting Alaska's wild places is very important.

But why check boats? The answer involves tiny creatures called zebra mussels and quagga mussels. These small shellfish can hitchhike on boats. They travel from one waterway to another without anyone noticing. Once they arrive somewhere new, they can cause great harm to local fish and plants.

Alaska's lakes and rivers are still safe and healthy. Keaton and his team want to keep it that way. By asking simple questions and checking each boat, they help stop these little stowaways from spreading.

Keaton did not expect to find such important work so far from any big city. But he found great purpose in his job. Every boat he checked was one more way to keep Alaska's beautiful wild waters protected for everyone to enjoy for years to come.

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

U.S. Labs Team Up to Build Better Computer Chips

Scientists at two big American research labs have exciting news. They are working together to make better computer chips. These tiny chips power our phones, computers, and many other devices we use every day.

The two labs are Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California. They have joined with a research group called NY Creates. Together, they hope to build chips that are faster and smarter than ever.

Computer chips are very small but very important. They are like the brains inside our devices. Better chips can help doctors, scientists, and many others do their work more easily.

The teams met in Albany, New York, to get started. Scientists and chip makers shook hands and shared ideas. When lab experts and industry workers join forces, great things can happen.

America has some of the best scientists and tools in the world. This teamwork brings them all together. It is a proud moment for U.S. science, and the future looks very bright.

Source: Brookhaven National Laboratory

Promising New Drug Approved for Head and Neck Cancer

Good news for cancer patients. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved a powerful new medicine. It is called Rybrevant. It treats a serious type of head and neck cancer.

This is a big step forward. No new drug had been approved for this cancer type in ten years. Now doctors have a fresh option to offer their patients. That is very exciting news.

The results from medical trials were very encouraging. Twice as many patients responded to this new drug. That is compared to older treatments that were already available. Doctors and patients are hopeful about what this means.

A top FDA doctor shared his excitement. He said this new therapy could make a real difference in people's lives. He added that treatment choices for this cancer had long been limited. This approval changes that for the better.

The FDA is continuing to study the drug's long-term results. Scientists want to confirm it helps patients live longer and feel better. For now, this new medicine gives many patients and their families fresh hope for the future.

Source: U.S. FDA

How a Tiny Island Grew From the Ocean Floor

Long ago, the island of Cyprus did not exist at all. About 90 million years ago, hot melted rock poured up from the bottom of the sea. It cooled and hardened into solid rock. Over millions of years, this rock was slowly pushed upward by powerful forces deep in the earth. The rock rose above the water and became a rugged island.

This ancient rock has a beautiful green and spotted look. People say it resembles the skin of a snake. Scientists call it ophiolite. You can still see this dark, old rock today in the Troodos Mountains on the island of Cyprus.

Over time, younger rock layers built up around the island. A second, smaller island formed nearby to the south. Then rivers carried sand and sediment down into the gap between the two islands. Slowly, the sediment filled in the space. The two islands joined together into one peninsula.

That joined piece of land is now called the Akrotiri Peninsula. It is the very southern tip of Cyprus today. A beautiful salt lake sits there between the two joined sections. It was once part of the Mediterranean Sea.

A NASA satellite called Landsat 8 took a photo of this area in October 2026. The picture showed the sandy shores and the lake beginning to fill with seasonal rains. It is wonderful to see nature's slow, patient work from above.

Source: NASA

Activity Time - Word Search

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

Words to Find:

RESEARCH THERAPY DESERT LAPTOP

SNAKE CHIP SALT

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