

“Creative thinking inspires ideas. Ideas inspire change.” Barbara Januszkiewicz



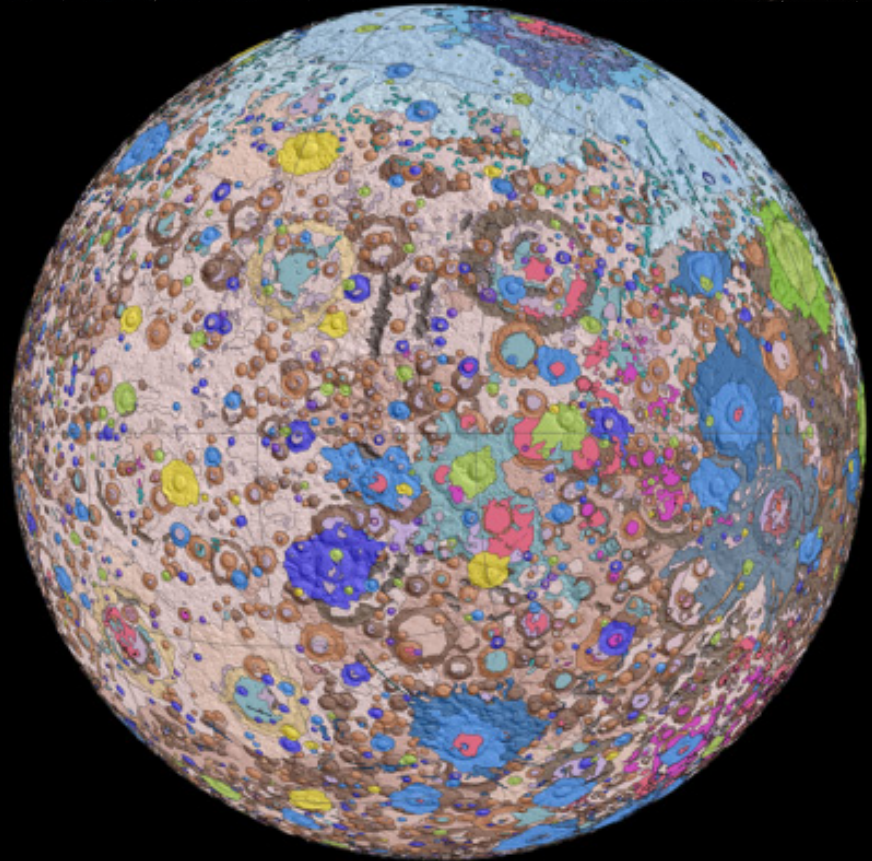
Astro

Volume 13, Issue 7

30 April, 2020

CONTENTS

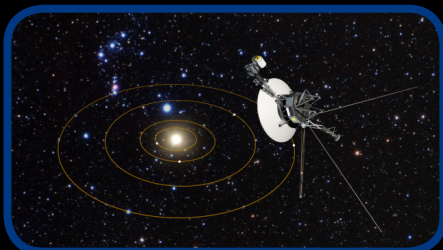
- What's Next for NASA's
Interstellar Probes? 1
- First-Ever Comprehensive
Geologic Map of the Moon ... 1
- Comet ATLAS Disintegrates
Into Pieces 2
- NASA Scientists Will Measure
Moonquakes 2
- China Builds Asia's Largest
Steerable Radio Relescope ... 3
- Next Mars Rover Could Preserve
Evidence of Past Life 3



First-Ever Comprehensive Geologic Map of the Moon

For the first time, the entire lunar surface has been completely mapped and uniformly classified by scientists from the USGS Astrogeology Science Center, in collaboration with NASA and the Lunar and Planetary Institute. To create the new digital map, scientists used information from six Apollo-era regional maps along with updated information from recent satellite missions to the moon.

The existing historical maps were redrawn to align them with the modern data sets, thus preserving previous observations and interpretations.



What's Next for NASA's Interstellar Probes?

Thousands of years from now, Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 will leave our solar system. But their instruments will stop working long before that happens. But these probes haven't stopped scouting the outer solar system. Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 are still functioning today, making them the longest-running and most-distant space mission in history. Though they are each taking different paths, both spacecraft are still screaming their way out of the solar system. And they still have a long way to go.

Comet ATLAS Disintegrates Into Pieces as Hubble Telescope Watches



Comet ATLAS (formally known as C/2019 Y4) has disintegrated before our very eyes, and two new images from the Hubble Space Telescope show the comet has crumbled into 25 pieces. After the comet was discovered on Dec. 29, 2019 by the ATLAS (Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System) robotic survey system, it started to quickly brighten. However, in mid-March the comet started to abruptly dim and, as ATLAS later confirmed, its icy core started to break apart and disintegrate 91 million miles (146 million kilometers) from Earth.

Space.com

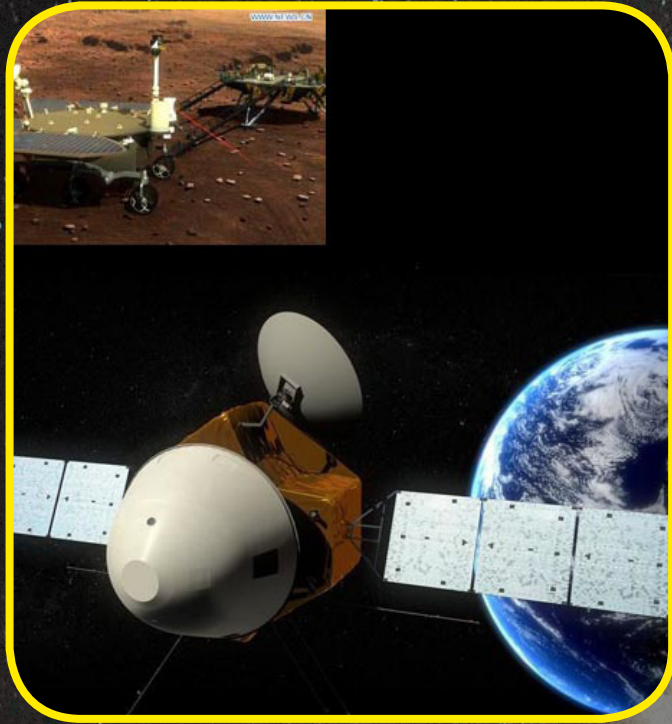
NASA Scientists Will Measure Moonquakes

NASA hasn't measured moonquakes since Apollo astronauts deployed a handful of measuring stations at various locations on the lunar surface and discovered unexpectedly that Earth's only natural satellite was far from seismically inactive. If Terry Hurford, a geophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, has his way, a next-generation, highly rugged seismometer that he is now developing with his Arizona State University partner will be one of the innovative new technologies and systems that NASA uses to explore the Moon in greater detail under its Artemis program.



Phys.org

China Builds Asia's Largest Steerable Radio Telescope for Mars Mission



China is constructing the largest steerable radio telescope in Asia with a 70-meter-diameter antenna to receive data from its first Mars exploration mission which is expected to be launched this year. China aims to complete orbiting, landing and roving on the red planet in one mission, which has been named Tianwen-1. The telescope, with an antenna the size of nine basketball courts, was built by the National Astronomical Observatories of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Wuqing District of northern China's Tianjin.

SpaceDaily.com

Destination of NASA's Next Mars Rover Could Preserve Evidence of Past Life

Scientists have speculated that the Jezero crater on Mars – the site of the next NASA rover mission to the Red Planet – could be a good place to look for markers of life. A new analysis of satellite imagery supports that hypothesis. Findings from Jezero crater could aid our understanding of how life evolved on Earth. If life once existed there, it likely didn't evolve beyond the single-cell stage, scientists say. That's because Jezero crater formed over 3.5 billion years ago, long before organisms on Earth became multicellular.

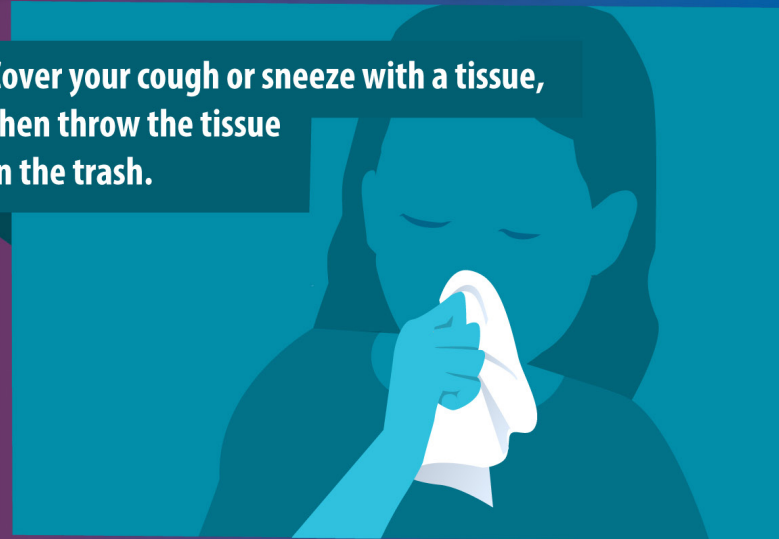


How to Protect Ourselves?

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.





Astronomy Picture of the Day

Andromeda "Island Universe"

Image Credit & Copyright: Yuzhe Xiao

The most distant object easily visible to the unaided eye is M31, the great Andromeda Galaxy some two and a half million light-years away. But without a telescope, even this immense spiral galaxy - spanning over 200,000 light years - appears as a faint, nebulous cloud in the constellation Andromeda. In contrast, a bright yellow nucleus, dark winding dust lanes, expansive blue spiral arms and star clusters are recorded in this stunning telescopic image. While even casual skygazers are now inspired by the knowledge that there are many distant galaxies like M31, astronomers debated this fundamental concept 100 years ago. Were these "spiral nebulae" simply outlying components of our own Milky Way Galaxy or were they instead "island universes", distant systems of stars comparable to the Milky Way itself? This question was central to the famous Shapley-Curtis debate of 1920, which was later resolved by observations of M31 in favor of Andromeda, island universe.

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