

Welcome to the January 11th, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

This has been the week of hell around Casa Bolgeo. Last Wednesday, Beth, Destroyer of Worlds, was staying over for a few hours and was going to take a shower down in my bathroom. She called up that the shower was filling up with water. Yep, it started to back up. Well, we got a plumber out that night and he said that the septic tank was filled. Well, that was kind of strange since we got the system pumped out about 1.5 years ago. Well, it was slowly draining so we decided to try to live with it until we could get a pump truck out the next day. Then the threat of snow hit and nothing was traveling on Thursday. Then the whole system plugged up all the way. By Friday, Casa Bolgeo was unlivable, so I packed up SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED, Popee (my 92 year old father-in-law, and myself and we headed over to Brandy's house to spend the weekend. I slept in a recliner, SWMBO on the couch and Popee in a bedroom. We enjoyed staying with Brandy and the kids, but it's not home.

On Monday, we got a pump truck out to pump the septic tank. According to the company who did the work, the people who did it before didn't get the muck all out of the bottom of the tank the last time. Also, we are having trouble with our field lines. Who would have thought that since the house is only 42 years old? They recommended new field lines in the spring so that is just another expense to look forward to for us. One we got it all pumped out, it still would flush. Apparently we had another blockage in the lines in the house caused by the back up. We got plumbers out and they snaked out the lines and got them cleaned out. The funny part of that one was the plumbers were two brothers who used to play baseball with my son, Jason, the Deposed Emperor, back when he was a kid. Well, the house is slowly back to normal and we are back home.

Even though I love my daughter and grandchildren, there house is not my home and getting to sleep in my own bed last night was a dream beyond measure. Also getting to watch the BCS championship game between Alabama and Clemson was a treat on my 60" TV. I routed for Alabama, but I wasn't upset that Clemson won the game. It was a great game and I am happy for the victors.

So on that "Happy Note", why don't y'all sit back and relax because here's the best in gossip, jokes and science for your reading pleasure!

Uncle Timmy

<G>~<O>~<S>~<S>~<I>~<P>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<S>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>~<I>

TENNESSEE VALLEY INTERSTELLAR WORKSHOP ANNOUNCES COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Jan. 10, 2017

TENNESSEE VALLEY INTERSTELLAR WORKSHOP ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR RISING COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATES, GRADUATE STUDENTS

OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE -- The non-profit Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop, now preparing for its fifth aerospace symposium in October 2017, has announced a new program to annually provide two undergraduate scholarships and one graduate-student scholarship for qualifying students.

The January 11th, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

Page 2 of 39

The \$2,500 scholarships, sponsored by TVIW supporters Baen Books and Digital Oilfield Solutions, are merit-based, and require applicants to complete an essay with their application forms. The deadline for all applications is May 15.

Applicants for the undergraduate scholarships must be high school seniors in the southeast United States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina or Virginia) who plan to pursue their first undergraduate degree in mathematics, engineering or science at any accredited, four-year American college or university. Applicants for the graduate scholarship must be full-time college or university students majoring in math, engineering or the physical or social sciences, and must plan to seek a graduate degree in science from an accredited college or university in any of the nine southeast American states.

"The Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop was created to foster and assist the study, research and experimentation necessary to make human interstellar travel a reality, with untold benefits to life on Earth," said TVIW President John Preston. "We can imagine no better way to demonstrate that goal than the creation of these scholarships, helping new generations of thinkers, builders and explorers to set their sights on the stars."

For more information about the new scholarships, including application guidelines, visit:

<https://tviw.wordpress.com/scholarships>

To learn more about TVIW scholarship sponsors, visit:

<http://www.baen.com>

<http://www.digitaloilfieldsolutions.co.uk>

More about TVIW

The fifth TVIW symposium, "Step By Step: Building a Ladder to the Stars," is set for Oct. 4-6, 2017, in Huntsville, Alabama. The symposium, in partnership with Starship Century and Tau Zero Foundation, seeks to unite aerospace technologists, communicators, psychologists, anthropologists, and other researchers and visionaries to chart the future of humanity's interstellar adventure. TVIW 2017 is seeking proposals for papers, seminars and workshops. For details, visit:

<https://tviw.wordpress.com/submissions>

Connect with TVIW organizers and participants via social media:

Web: <https://tviw.wordpress.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TNValleyInterstellarWorkshop>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/tviwus>

YouTube: <http://youtube.com/tviw>

CONTACTS: John Preston john.preston@tviw.us

Martha Knowles knowlesme@tviw.us

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2017 BAEN FANTASY ADVENTURE AWARD

From: "Andrew Porter"

Fourth Annual Contest for Best Original Fantasy Adventure Story

Baen Books announce the fourth annual Baen Fantasy Adventure Award, recognizing the best original adventure fantasy short story. The contest opens for submissions January 15th; all entries must be received by midnight on April 1st, 2017. They want "blood-pounding, heart-stopping action with heroes you want to root for and villains you love to hate; whether your heroes win the day with swords or sorcery, fireballs or flamethrowers—or even by their wits alone—all are welcome. Modern, medieval, and otherworldly settings are all acceptable, as long as you tell a rip-roaring good tale with a fantastical element!"

Each entry is limited to a short story of no more than 8,000 words, and only one entry per author. Entries will be judged by Baen editors and the award will be presented by Larry Correia at the Writer's Symposium at GenCon, August 17-20, 2017 in Indianapolis, IN.

"Working with the Writer's Symposium at GenCon has been an absolute delight, and we're thrilled to again present this award at their event," said Baen executive editor Jim Minz. "We appreciate the deep historical link between gaming and adventure fantasy, and GenCon is the perfect melding of these forms."

For more information or to read last year's winning entry visit:

<http://www.baen.com/baenfantasyaward2017.asp>

e-mail baenfantasyaward@baen.com, or call 1-800-ITS-BAEN.

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CHROMOSPHERE PRESS ANNOUNCES THE LATEST FROM STEPHANIE OSBORN!

2 January 2017 — Huntsville, AL

Stephanie Osborn, aka the Interstellar Woman of Mystery, former rocket scientist and author of acclaimed science fiction mysteries, goes back to the urban legend of the unique group of men and women who show up at UFO sightings, alien abductions, etc. and make things...disappear...to craft her vision of the universe we don't know about. Her new series, Division One, chronicles this universe through the eyes of recruit Megan McAllister, aka Omega, and her experienced partner, Echo, as they handle everything from lost alien children to extraterrestrial assassination attempts and more.

Dr. Megan McAllister was already a pretty unique human — NASA astronaut, professional astronomer, polymath — when she encountered the man in the black Suit that night in west Texas. What Division One Agent Echo didn't know, when he recruited her to the Agency, was that she was even more special.

But he'd find out, soon enough.

Award-winning author Osborn is a 20+-year space program veteran, with multiple STEM degrees. She has authored, co-authored, or contributed to more than 30 books. She

currently writes the critically-acclaimed Displaced Detective Series, described as “Sherlock Holmes meets The X-Files,” and the Gentleman Aegis Series, a Silver Falchion winner. She “pays it forward” through numerous media including radio, podcasting and public speaking, and working with SIGMA, the science-fiction think tank. Osborn’s website is <http://www.stephanie-osborn.com>.

Division One series Book One, Alpha and Omega, will be released in ebook formats on 10 January, 2017, and in trade paperback format on 24 January. Additional installments in the ongoing series are anticipated later this year.

ISBN:

978-0-9982888-0-2 (ebook)

978-0-9982888-1-9 (print)

The ebooks are available for preorder at:

Amazon (Kindle): https://www.amazon.com/Alpha-Omega-Division-Stephanie-Osborn-ebook/dp/B01MXNQTFJ/ref=sr_1_1?s=digital-text&ie=UTF8&qid=1483394401&sr=1-1

Barnes-Noble (Nook): <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/alpha-and-omega-stephanie-osborn/1125168253?ean=9780998288802>

Other formats, and trade paper, will be available from your favorite bookseller!

Ebook release on 10th Jan, print book release 24th Jan.

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WISDOM FROM MY INTERNET PAPERBACK – JANUARY 4, 2017

by Michael Z. Williamson (Author), Jessica Schlenker (Editor)

Paperback \$5.501 New from \$5.50

You learn some amazing things on the internet. The War of 1812 was just a dispute over labor and hiring practices. Pico de Gallo was not a conquistadore. Hugo Chavez is not a line of clothing. There was no medieval siege engine called the Battering Lamb. Americans apparently like debt--they keep voting for more of it. Join SF writer and satirist Michael Z. Williamson for a collection of snark, comments, random typings and alcohol-fueled puns that is worth at least half the cover price. A 2015 Hugo award finalist.

Now available in trade paperback format

https://www.amazon.com/Wisdom-My-Internet-Michael-Williamson/dp/1943801053/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1484067418&sr=8-1&keywords=WISDOM+FROM+MY+INTERNET

<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

Re: Evil Overlord Rules:

From: "Brayman, Frank" afranklin3@gmail.com

"12. One of my advisors will be an average 5-year-old child. Any flaws in my plan that he is able to spot will be corrected before implementation."

Napoleon had a bodyguard in his entourage, an old "moustache" who was illiterate and none too bright. Before dispatching orders to his subordinates, the Emperor would read them to this man. If the man didn't understand the order, Napoleon re-wrote it until he did.

<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

SPOILER ALERT: IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ROGUE ONE YET, DO NOT READ PAM'S COMMENT ON THE MOVIE.

Re Rogue One.

From: "Pam Adams" pamcrippenadams@gmail.com

Re Rogue One. I'm imagining the poor scriptwriters when they realized they couldn't let ANYONE live.

Just finished a great book. Becky Chambers, *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet*. Space ships and a galaxy filled with humans, aliens, and sentient AI- exactly what I wanted to read. Unfortunately, I started it the night before going back to work. (and finished it at 5 am!) <http://www.otherscribbles.com/>

Happy New Year to all!

<S><A><M><E><><S><U><J><E><C><T>

SPOILER ALERT: IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ROGUE ONE YET, DO NOT READ DAVE'S COMMENT ON THE MOVIE.

From: "David Watson" thewatson@hotmail.com

Happy New Year. I personally didn't think they needed to kill everyone in the movie who had a speaking line, but who am I to say. But it did seem un-necessary. Maybe the producers and actors were liberals and they were expressing their feelings about the recent election.

<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

Re: Sherlock Holmes Quiz

From: Stephanie Osborn

I missed one that was about Doyle, not Holmes, and one which I disagree strongly (Holmes' ability on the violin), for 23/25.

<S><A><M><E><><S><U><J><E><C><T>

Re: Sherlock Holmes Quiz

The January 11th, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!

Page 6 of 39

From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

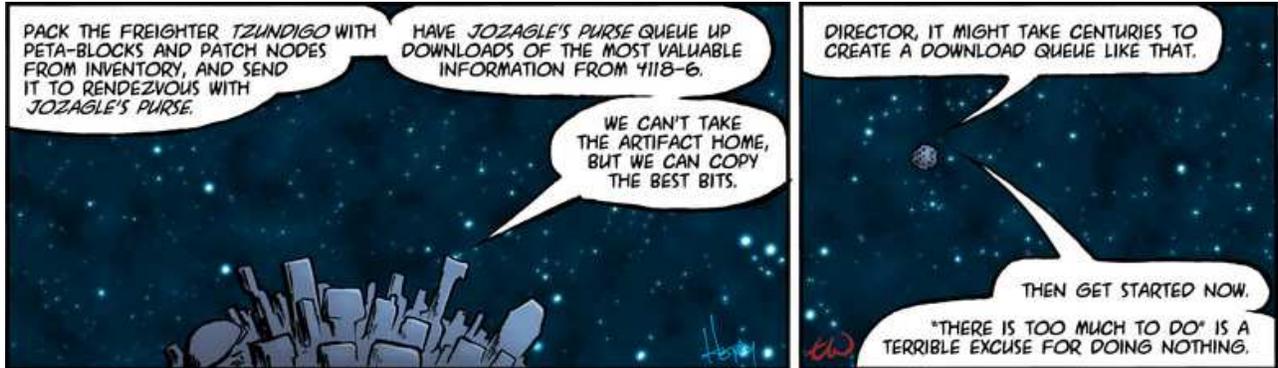
Holmes quiz: 12/25. I guess I'm not the Holmesian.

<T>~<H>~<E>~<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>

From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

"There is too much to do" is a terrible excuse for doing nothing.

-- Howard Tayler



Wednesday January 4, 2017

<http://www.schlockmercenary.com/2017-01-04>

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

MAKING CLIMATE CHANGE HAPPEN (ATTACHED PHOTO)



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>



"I used to think I was just a regular guy, but . . . I was born white, which now, whether I like it or not, makes me a racist. I am a fiscal and moral conservative, which by today's standards, makes me a fascist. I am heterosexual, which according to gay folks, now makes me a homophobic. I am non-union, which makes me a traitor to the working class and an ally of big business.

I am a Christian, which now labels me as an infidel. I believe in the 2nd Amendment, which now makes me a member of the vast gun lobby. I am older than 70, which makes me a useless old man. I think and I reason, therefore I doubt much that the main stream media tells me, which must make me a reactionary. I am proud of my heritage and our inclusive American culture, which makes me a xenophobe.

I value my safety and that of my family and I appreciate the police and the legal system, which makes me a right-wing extremist. I believe in hard work, fair play, and fair compensation according to each individual's merits, which today makes me an anti-socialist. I believe in the defense and protection of the homeland for and by all citizens, which now makes me a militant.

Now, a sick old woman is calling me and my friends a basket of deplorables. Please help me come to terms with the new me . . . because I'm just not sure who I am anymore! I would like to thank all my friends for sticking with me through these abrupt, new found changes in my life and my thinking! I just can't imagine or understand what's happened to me so quickly! Funny . . . it's all just taken place over the last 7 or 8 years! As if all this crap wasn't enough to deal with. I'm now afraid to go into either restroom!"

In God, We Trust.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Mike Waldrip" waldripk@gmail.com

BRITISH DECORUM

The British have such a command of decorum and aplomb to which we can only aspire. This message is for my friends who appreciate the finer points of the English language used correctly.

His Lordship was in the study when the butler approached and coughed discreetly. "May I ask you a question, My Lord?"

"Go ahead, Carson," said His Lordship.

"I am doing the crossword in The Times and found a word the exact meaning of which I am not too certain."

"What word is that?" asked His Lordship.

"Aplomb," My Lord.

"Now that's a difficult one to explain. I would say it is self-assurance or complete composure."

"Thank you, My Lord, but I'm still a little confused about it."

"Let me give you an example to make it clearer. Do you remember a few months ago when the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge arrived to spend a weekend with us?"

"I remember the occasion very well, My Lord. It gave the staff and myself much pleasure to look after them."

"Also," continued the Earl of Grantham, "do you remember when Wills plucked a rose for Kate in the rose garden?"

"I was present on that occasion, My Lord, ministering to their needs."

"While Will was plucking the rose, a thorn embedded itself in his thumb very deeply."

"I witnessed the incident, My Lord, and saw the Duchess herself remove the thorn and bandage his thumb with her own dainty handkerchief."

"That evening the hole the rose made in his thumb was very sore. Kate had to cut his venison for him, even though it was extremely tender."

"Yes, My Lord, I did see everything that transpired that evening."

"And do you remember the next morning while you were pouring coffee for Her Ladyship, Kate inquired of Will in a loud voice, 'Darling, does your prick still throb?'"

And you, Carson, did not spill one drop of coffee?"

That, Carson, is complete composure, or aplomb."

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

VACUUM PROBLEMS

A retired guy sits around the house all day, so one day his wife says, "Ed, you could do something useful, like vacuum the house once a week."

Ed gives it a moment's thought and says: "Sure! Why not. Where's the vacuum ?" Half an hour later, Ed comes into the kitchen to get some coffee.

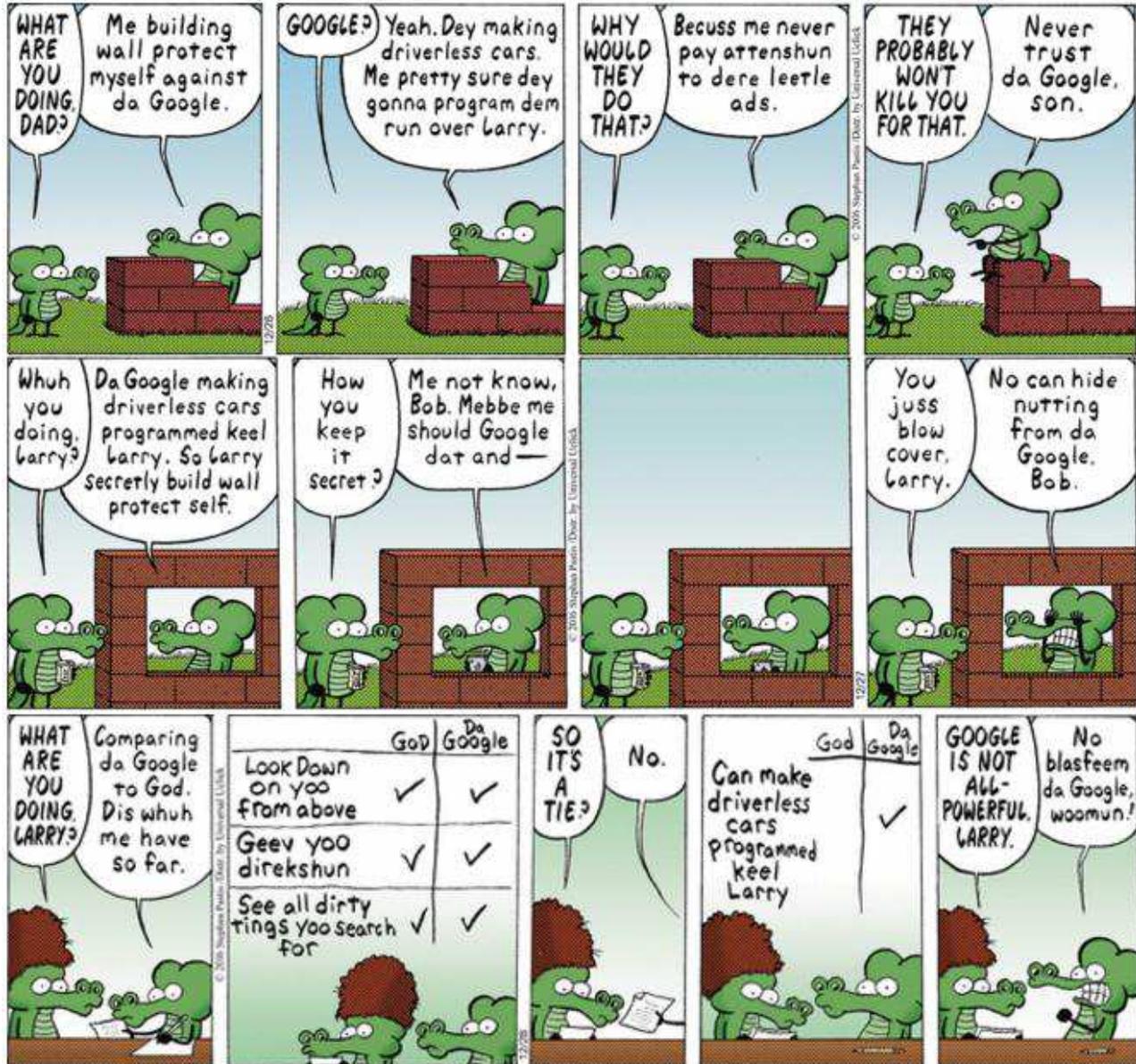
His wife says, "I didn't hear the vacuum running: I thought you were going to do the vacuuming ?" Exasperated, Ed answers, "The stupid thing is broken: it won't start. We need to buy a new one."

Really ?" she says, "show me -- it worked fine the last time." So he shows her.

http://videos.files.wordpress.com/Xblfe4qf/retired-vacuum-cleaner_dvd.mp4

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

This is one of my favorite comic strips. The "cros" show up every once in a while and are always good.



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

STRONGEST MAN AROUND

The local bar was so sure that its bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing \$1000 bet.

The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and hand the lemon to a patron. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money.

Many people had tried over time (weight-lifters, longshoremen, etc.) but nobody could do it.

One day this scrawny little man came into the bar, wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit, and said in a tiny squeaky voice "I'd like to try the bet."

After the laughter had died down, the bartender said OK, grabbed a lemon, and squeezed away. Then he handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little man.

But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his fist around the lemon and six drops fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the \$1000, and asked the little man, "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, a weight-lifter, what?"

The man replied, "I'm an IRS agent."

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

A FRICKAN ELEPHANT



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

STATUES

For decades, two heroic statues, one male and one female, faced each other in a city park, until one day an angel came down from heaven.

"You've been such exemplary statues," he announced to them. "That I'm going to give you a special gift..."

"I'm going to bring you both to life for thirty minutes, in which you can do anything you want."

And with a clap of his hands, the angel brought the statues to life.

The two handsome figures approached each other a bit shyly, but soon dashed for the bushes, from where shortly there could be heard a good deal of giggling, laughter, and shaking of branches...

Fifteen minutes later, the two statues emerged from the bushes with wide grins on their faces.

"You still have fifteen more minutes," said the angel, winking at them.

Grinning even more widely, the female statue turned to the male statue and said:

"Great! Only this time you hold the pigeon down and I'll crap on its head."

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Leon Jester" rmlwj1@gmail.com

Senior Moments by Golf Brooks - with Lyrics Closed Captioned

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xv1tMioGqXI>

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From Leif Rebstock's Facebook Page

VIDEO: WHEN YOUR FLIGHT IS DELAYED

https://www.facebook.com/tim.bolgeo?sk=approve&highlight=10209068271638125&log_filter=review#10209068271638125

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

ISLAMIC GUARDS TRY TO BOOT GUIDE FOR SAYING 'TEMPLE MOUNT' ON TEMPLE MOUNT

Waqf officials haul Israeli archaeologist in front of Israeli police for not using term 'Haram al-Sharif' during historical tour of site; police advise him to refrain from saying 'Temple Mount' for rest of visit

BY ILAN BEN ZION January 3, 2017, 3:39 pm 149

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/islamic-guards-try-to-boot-guide-for-saying-temple-mount-on-temple-mount/>



Archaeologist Gabriel Barkay (right) talks with American university students from UCLA on the Temple Mount on January 1, 2017. (Ilan Ben Zion/Times of Israel)

Islamic authorities managing the Temple Mount attempted to have a veteran Israeli archaeologist ejected from the Jerusalem flashpoint holy site on Sunday for using the term "Temple Mount" in a lecture to American students. Waqf guards brought him to Israeli police at the site to complain, and the police, while saying there were no legal grounds to eject him, advised him to refrain from using the phrase "Temple Mount" for the rest of the group's visit.

A multi-faith group of students from the University of California, Los Angeles, was visiting the Temple Mount as part of a trip to Israel and the Palestinian territories to understand facts on the ground. Dr. Gabriel Barkay was brought in to explain the archaeological history of the site.

Barkay, a veteran Israeli archaeologist, devotes much of his time in recent years to sifting through tons of fill illegally excavated from the Temple Mount by the Waqf — the Islamic endowment charged with administering the flashpoint holy site — in the 1990s.

The incident, which was witnessed by this reporter and which other tour guides said was not without precedent, highlighted ever-present tensions over the nomenclature used at the site, months after Israel furiously protested a UNESCO resolution that refers to The Temple Mount and Western Wall as solely Muslim sites.



Archaeologist Gabriel Barkay (right), flanked by Waqf guards, talks with Israel Police on the Temple Mount on January 1, 2017. (Ilan Ben Zion/Times of Israel)

The American students were gathered around Barkay just to the northeast of the Al-Aqsa mosque as he was explaining some of the history of the contested holy site, inevitably using the words “Temple Mount” now and again, when he was abruptly interrupted by a man in a black zip-up jacket.

The man was one of two Waqf guards who had been hovering near to the group. A patch on his arm was emblazoned with the gold Dome of the Rock and the words “Guard of Alqsa Mosque.” A burst of Arabic punctuated with English got his message across: Don’t use the term Temple Mount, the guard barked at Barkay.

The two Waqf guards stayed a couple of meters behind the cluster of students. Barkay, who was seated on a low wall, continued to speak, addressing the history of the site during the Byzantine period, the centuries preceding the Islamic conquest of the region.

In passing, he once again referred to the site as the Temple Mount; its Arabic name is Haram al-Sharif, the Noble Sanctuary. Incensed, the guards interrupted once more, ordered 72-year-old Barkay to stand, and marched him over to a cluster of Israel Police officers who were standing beneath a clutch of pines.

The Waqf guards protested Barkay’s use of Temple Mount, the term routinely used by Jews and Christians to refer to the area — a platform built by Herod in the first century BCE to house a refurbished Jewish Temple. The Waqf guards made clear they wanted the police to eject Barkay from the site.

While the Jordanian-run and Palestinian-staffed Waqf manages the Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem, it has no authority over who enters the Temple Mount compound, which is guarded by Israeli police.

The nomenclature of the contested holy site has been a fraught subject in recent months, after the UN’s culture and education body passed a resolution referring to it exclusively by its Muslim names: Haram al-Sharif and the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

But the issue is not new.

The Palestine Liberation Organization issued a statement in November 2014 exhorting journalists to refrain from using the term “Temple Mount,” saying reporters should “adhere to international law and correct any other existing terminology used.”

**Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock
(Ilan Ben Zion/Times of Israel)**

Jews consider the site the holiest in the world, where two temples stood in antiquity; Muslims regard it as the third holiest after Mecca and Medina.

The police made clear to the Waqf guards that there was no legal reason for them to take action against Barkay. But the cops advised Barkay to refrain from using the term during the rest of his and the groups visit. For the rest of the tour he simply referred to it, a bit confusingly, as "TM."



"Everyone was sort of thrown off by the incident," Nima Ostowari, one of the UCLA students on the 10-day trip, said. The trip aims to show the history of the different religions and peoples and their ties to the region, and the Waqf guard's aggressive interjection was "unsettling" to many of its participants, he said.

"The man just coming up and saying that we couldn't use the words 'Temple Mount' was, in a way, saying that the Jewish people don't have a connection to the land, which I think borders on problematic," Ostowari said.

An Israel Police spokeswoman said there was no policy banning the use of the term Temple Mount in Hebrew or English while in the holy site compound, nor was she aware of any formal complaints by the Waqf against tour guides who employ that terminology.

An Islamic Waqf spokesman wasn't available for comment about the incident.



Knesset members from the Joint (Arab) List walk outside the Dome of the Rock at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 (courtesy)

Sunday's altercation between Waqf staff and Barkay doesn't appear to be a solitary incident. Yanay Cohen, who has worked as a tour guide in Israel for eight years, said he had two similar experiences while

leading groups around the site in the past several months.

“The most serious thing that happened to me,” he recalled over the phone, was an argument started with him by Waqf guards over a National Geographic illustration of the history of the Temple Mount, showing its appearance during the First Temple period, Second Temple period, and Islamic period until present.

“It’s the most historical; there’s nothing provocative; in my opinion the most neutral,” he said of the poster produced by the magazine in 2008.

He started explaining the history of the site to his group using the poster when he was approached by a man who insisted he put it away, without giving a reason. The man began arguing with Cohen and tried to take the poster from him, and some Waqf guards hurried over and demanded Cohen give them the poster. Only when he put it away in his backpack did they leave him be. Another guide, he said, recalled another recent incident in which Waqf guards protested the use of a timeline of the historic site with accompanying illustrations.

In another recent incident, Cohen’s group was shadowed by Waqf personnel, who “heard me say ‘temple’ and started in with me.”

Cohen said he tries to avoid taking tourist groups onto the Temple Mount. “If they really insist, I’ll go,” he said, but the long lines for security, severely limited visiting hours, modesty regulations apparently changed arbitrarily and occasional harassment by Waqf guards make it an unsavory experience.

<?>~<YOU JUST CAN’T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!>~<?>

4 IN CUSTODY AFTER MENTALLY DISABLED MAN TIED UP, TORTURED ON FACEBOOK LIVE

Chicago investigators are questioning four African-Americans after a Facebook Live video shows a group of people torturing a white mentally disabled man while someone yelled “F*** Trump!” and “F*** white people!”

By: Lisa Chavarria, FOX 32 NEWS – JAN 04 2017
<http://www.fox32chicago.com/news/crime/227116738-story>

Chicago police were made aware of the video Tuesday afternoon. A young African American woman streamed the video live on Facebook showing at least four people holding the young white man hostage.

“The video is reprehensible,” said police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi.

4 in custody after mentally disabled man tied up, tortured on Facebook Live

“It’s sickening. You know it makes you wonder what would make individuals treat somebody like that,” Police Supt. Eddie Johnson added.

Throughout the video, the victim is repeatedly kicked and hit, his scalp is cut, all while he is tied up with his mouth taped shut.

At one point, the victim is held at knife point and told to curse President-elect Donald Trump. The group also forces the victim to drink water from a toilet.

The suspects can be heard saying they want the video to go viral.

Detectives think the victim, who lives in the suburbs and appeared to be in his late teens or early 20s, met some acquaintances in northwest suburban Streamwood and they drove him to Chicago in a stolen vehicle, Guglielmi said.

The victim is then believed to have been held hostage and tortured in an apartment in the 3400 block of West Lexington on the West Side, Guglielmi said.

On Tuesday afternoon, police officers spotted the victim walking on a street on the West Side wearing shorts, Guglielmi said. Because it was unusual to see a man in shorts in the cold weather, the officers stopped to talk to the man, who appeared disoriented, and he was taken to a hospital to be treated for his injuries.

Toxicology tests were performed at the hospital to determine if the victim was under the influence of anything.

Police said the victim was a classmate of one of the suspects. He was held hostage for at least 24 hours and as long as 48 hours.

"It's quite a possibility that this is a kidnapping and that's certainly one of the charges we'll be seeking if it turns out to be that. But, he's traumatized by the incident and it's tough to communicate with him at this point," said Chicago Police Commander Kevin Duffin.

Community activist Andrew Holmes was made aware of the disturbing video, which he is calling a "hate crime."

Although President-elect Donald Trump was mentioned, Chicago Police do not believe the crime was politically motivated.

"I think some of it is just stupidity, people just ranting about something that they think might make a headline. I don't think that at this point we have anything concrete to really point us in that direction, but we'll keep investigating and we'll let the facts guide us on how this concludes," Supt. Johnson said.

Charges are expected to be filed in the next 24 hours.

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YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Mike Williamson" mzmadmike@gmail.com

Police Scotland approves hijab as official uniform to boost number of Muslim women joining force

Move comes 15 years after Metropolitan police introduced optional hijabs for officers in London

Harry Cockburn, Wednesday 24 August 2016, The Independent Online

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/police-scotland-hijab-official-uniform-muslim-women-islam-muslims-veil-a7207106.html?cmpid=facebook-post>



Woman wearing a hijab iStock

Police Scotland has announced that the hijab will become part of its official uniform as it aims to create a more diverse force.

The force said they hope the move will “encourage women from Muslim communities, who may previously not have seen policing as a career option, to reconsider”.

In the past, Muslim police officers in Scotland were allowed to wear the hijab, but only once it was approved by senior staff members.

In a statement, chief constable Phil Gormley said: “I am delighted to make this announcement and welcome the support from both the Muslim community, and the wider community, as well as police officers and staff.

“Like many other employers, especially in the public sector, we are working towards ensuring our service is representative of the communities we serve. I hope that this

addition to our uniform options will contribute to making our staff mix more diverse and adds to the life skills, experiences and personal qualities that our officers and staff bring to policing the communities of Scotland.”

The hijab is officially part of the uniform for Mounties in Canada

The announcement was welcomed by the Scottish Police Muslim Association (SPMA), a group that aims to build links between Muslim communities in Scotland and the police.

Fahad Bashir, chair of the SPMA said: “This is a positive step in the right direction, and I am delighted that Police Scotland is taking productive steps in order to ensure that our organisation is seen to be inclusive and represents the diverse communities that we serve across Scotland.

“No doubt this will encourage more women from Muslim and minority ethnic backgrounds to join Police Scotland.”

Police Scotland’s diversity drive follows statistics from the Scottish Police Authority released earlier this year which showed just 127, (2.6 per cent) of the 4,809 applications to join the force were from people with ethnic backgrounds.

The report said: “If the black and minority ethnic groups (BME) national average of 4 per cent is to be met within the organisation, an additional 650 BME recruits are required across all areas of the business.

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From: “Tim Bolgeo” tbolgeo@epbfi.com

WHAT THE SNAPDRAGON 835 CHIP MEANS FOR YOUR NEXT SMARTPHONE

AUTHOR: BRIAN BARRETT. BRIAN BARRETT, 01.03.2017

<https://www.wired.com/2017/01/qualcomm-snapdragon-835/>



From left, last year’s Snapdragon 820, this year’s Snapdragon 835, and a teeny tiny penny. QUALCOMM

THE SMARTPHONE UPGRADE wishlist has remained largely unchanged over the last several years. Our handsets should be faster, and thinner, and eke out as much battery life as physics will allow. Qualcomm’s latest processor, the Snapdragon 835, lets device manufacturers check all of those boxes, but it also adds a healthy dollop of future to the mix. This is a processor built for next-generation connectivity,

photography, and virtual reality—and it's not just for smartphones.

Announced at CES, the 835 is the latest in Qualcomm's line of industry-dominant processors (Qualcomm chips are inside scores of Android phones, but not the iPhone, which Apple powers with its its homegrown guts.) And while its iterative improvements are certainly welcome, it's the broader applications that may end up mattering most.

SUPERCHARGED SMARTPHONES

The Snapdragon 835's secret sauce is its 10-nanometer process, a method of chip fabrication just making its way into the microprocessor industry. Using this new process, Qualcomm has been able to add performance and reduce battery drain in a package that's 35 percent smaller than its predecessor, the 820. The exact speed gains aren't clear, and will vary depending on the devices the chips end up in, but Qualcomm does claim up to 25 percent better 3-D graphics rendering compared to its previous flagship.

The company's a little more clear on battery life, although your mileage there will vary as well. Qualcomm says the 835 slurps 25 percent less power than the 820, which means manufacturers can either slim down future smartphones without sacrificing longevity, or stand pat on the battery size but squeeze a precious few additional hours out of it.

If these promises sound familiar, it's because they're roughly the same every year. They also don't necessarily always translate into noticeable gains. As smartphones mature, operating systems and apps demand more of them, and often internal improvements derive most of their value from simply keeping up.

That's also what makes the Snapdragon 835's other gains altogether more intriguing, if not necessarily impactful for many Android smartphone owners in the near term.

FUTURE FOCUS

Augmented and virtual reality hasn't quite yet broken into the mainstream, and there's always the chance that it'll join 3D televisions in the ever-widening heap of Next Big Things that never were. If it's going to have a chance with consumers, though, chips like the 835 will be a major part of its success.

In addition to the 3-D graphics rendering improvements, the 835 supports 60 times more colors than its predecessor, object and scene-based 3D audio, and motion tracking that includes six degrees of freedom, the same number that you'll find in an Oculus Rift head-mounted display. In practice, all of that translates to what you see on the screen lining up more seamlessly with your head movement, which helps minimize those queasy feelings.

There are camera improvements as well, with the usual promises of faster auto-focus and better HDR coupled with support for either a single 32-megapixel camera or two 16MP shooters. Qualcomm's also boosted its QuickCharge capabilities, claiming 20 percent faster charging than last year's version, but given Google's open dislike of QuickCharge—it prefers USB-PD, a rival fast-battery-filling standard—it's unclear how many devices will actually take advantage.

And in one last eye-popping spec, the 835 will support Gigabit LTE. Yes, Gigabit. As in, way faster than what most people's home Wi-Fi can manage. Those networks haven't rolled out

in any significant way yet, but when they do, they're going to be critical for enabling VR and AR on the go. They'll also, uh, obliterate your data plan. The future!

THINKING OUTSIDE THE PHONE

Part of enabling all of these future-focused features is working with futuristic hardware. At least, that's the thinking behind one of the first non-smartphone Snapdragon 835 partners Qualcomm has announced.

A company called ODG has put the mobile chip inside two pairs of smart glasses. The R-8 and R-9 split the difference between Google Glass and something you'd actually want to wear, but it's maybe best to think of them as a sort of Hololens for the not-quite-masses.

QUALCOMM

With the R-8, you can watch movies, read books, and play games not with your phone but with a faceputer, in high-definition and a field of view that's greater than 40 degrees. It will cost "less than \$1,000" when developer units ship in the second half of this year, which may sound expensive but isn't, really, next to the \$1,800 R-9.



The R-9 offers a 50-degree field of view, 1080p resolution, and seems intended for enterprise destinations rather than your living room when it ships in the second quarter of this year.

There are lots of roadblocks to the R-8 and R-9 catching on, from price to developer support to competition from major players like Microsoft to the still unproven notion that people are willing to look like Demolition Man extras to put a nature documentary extra-close to their eyeball.

As a showcase for what the Snapdragon 835 can do, though, it's pretty interesting. It's a testament to what the combination of small size, long battery life, and horsepower can pull off, even if the end result looks a little goofy. If it can do that much in a pair of sunglasses, though, just imagine what it can do for your next smartphone.

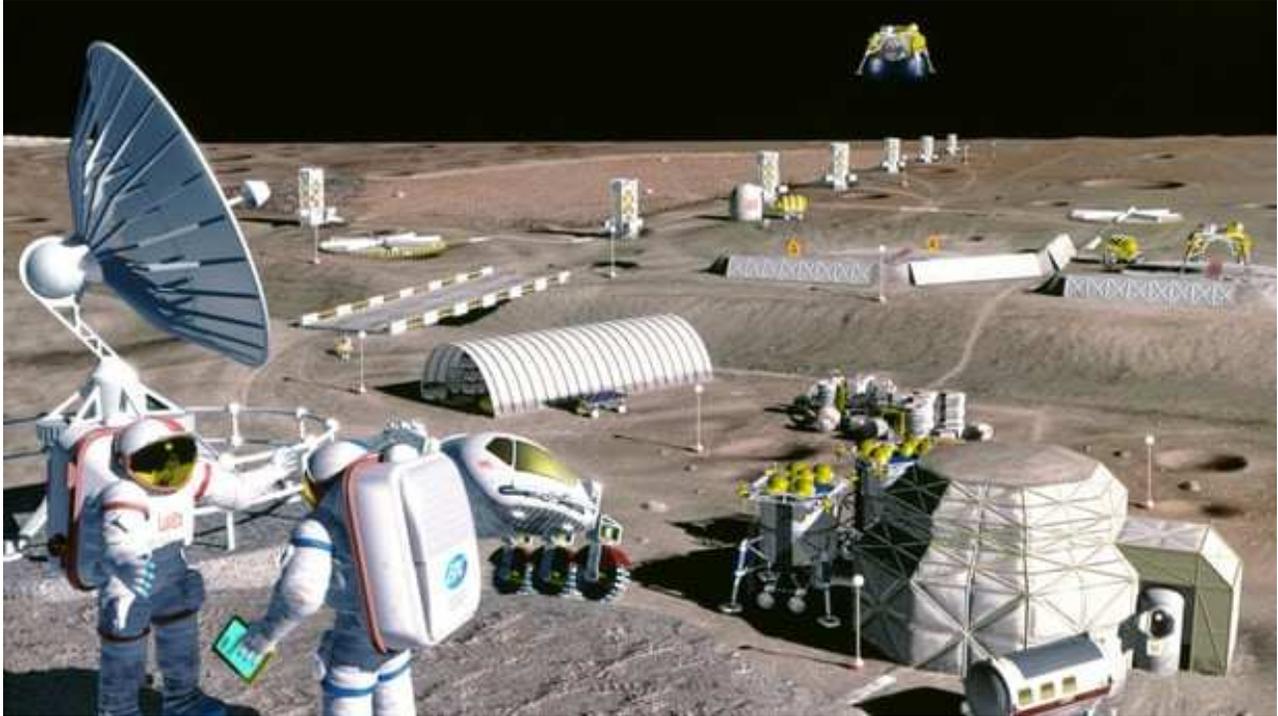
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NEW FRONTIERS: THE YEAR AHEAD IN SPACE

David Szondy, January 2nd, 2017

<http://newatlas.com/space-exploration-2017/46888/>

2016 was a busy year in space, and things aren't going to slow down in 2017. It's a year that will see new US space priorities, a dramatic ending to a veteran space probe, new missions launched, an orbital cliff hanger, and a free space spectacle for if you happen to be in the US in August. New Atlas looks at the highlights of the coming year in space exploration.



2017 may see more of an emphasis on lunar exploration(Credit: NASA)

NEW US PRESIDENT, NEW US POLICIES

One of the peculiarities of the US space program is the effect that a change of administration has on it. John F Kennedy set America on the road to the Moon in 1962, Richard Nixon authorized the building of the Space Shuttle while canceling the Mars mission it was meant to support, and Ronald Reagan gave it a new destination with what later became the International Space Station.

Just as the election of Barack Obama put paid to much of George W Bush's space ambitions, the incoming Trump administration promises new goals for NASA in 2017. Though no official policies will be set until after the inauguration, Mr Trump has already expressed interest in moving NASA away from its emphasis on low-Earth orbit missions in favor of deep space exploration, and handing over Earth science projects to other federal agencies. In addition, his appointment of Nanoracks businessman and Moon colony supporter Charles Miller could see NASA may abandon its Journey to Mars initiative and turn its attention to establishing a lunar outpost.

LAST DAYS OF CASSINI

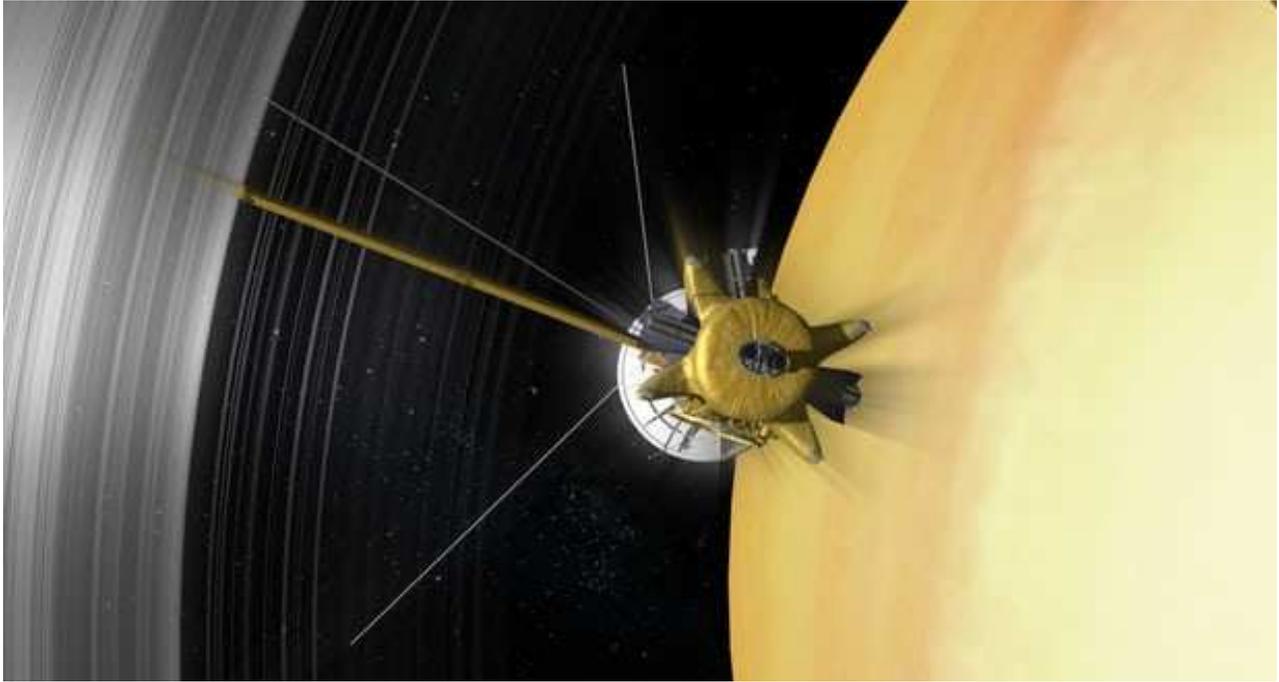
On September 15, 2017 at 8:07 am EDT, the space agency's Cassini Saturn orbiter mission will come to a dramatic close. After 20 years, the unmanned nuclear-powered deep space probe will plunge into the atmosphere of Saturn, where it will burn up to ensure that none of the moons of the gas giant are contaminated by Earth microbes.

This swan song will be the climax of a busy year. In its "Grand Finale" Cassini will spend make detailed maps of Saturn's gravity and magnetic fields to gain a better understanding

The January 11th, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!

Page 22 of 39

of the planet's interior, continue a series of close flybys of the famous rings, sample icy ring particles, and take ultra-close images of the rings and clouds of Saturn.



EXOMARS



In a maneuver taking longer than it took to get to Mars, the Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) of the joint Russo-European ExoMars 2016 mission will spend this year carrying out an elaborate aerobraking maneuver to place it into its final orbit around the Red Planet.

Since its arrival in October the TGO has been in a highly eccentric orbit between an altitude of 250 km (155 mi) and 98,000 km (60.895 mi) with a period of four Earth days. ESA wants it to be in a circular orbit of 400 km (250 mi). To achieve this, the orbiter will spend the year making a series of intricate maneuvers, where it will graze the outer reaches of the Martian atmosphere to slow it down and alter its orbit while expending very little fuel.

DRAGON TEST FLIGHTS



Back on Earth, SpaceX is looking forward to sending its Falcon 9 launcher back into space after being grounded for the last quarter of 2016 due to a spectacular launchpad explosion. Having just been cleared for flight, the company is prepping for an Iridium satellite launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California on January 8.

In the meantime, the Falcon 9 accident is having knock-on effects. Though the company still expects to make an orbital flight of its Crew Dragon capsule this year, a manned mission has been set back until 2018.

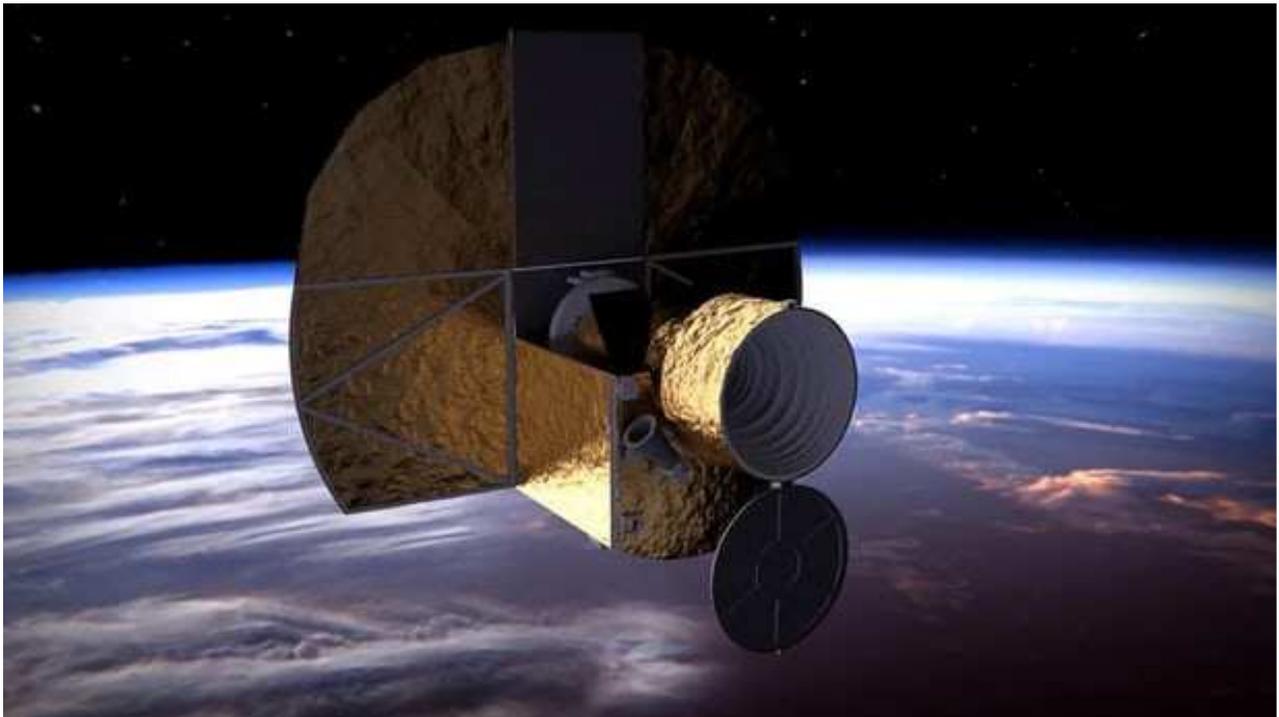
TESS

Exosolar planet hunters will get a boost in December 2017 when NASA launches the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS). Placed in a high-Earth orbit, TESS will carry out exoplanet surveys similar to those conducted by the Kepler Space Telescope, except that Tess will use wide-field cameras for all-sky surveys instead of concentrating on one segment of the sky.



The focus will be to seek out small, rocky Earth-like planets orbiting the nearest and brightest main sequence stars, which will then be more closely examined by the James Webb Space Telescope.

CHEOPS



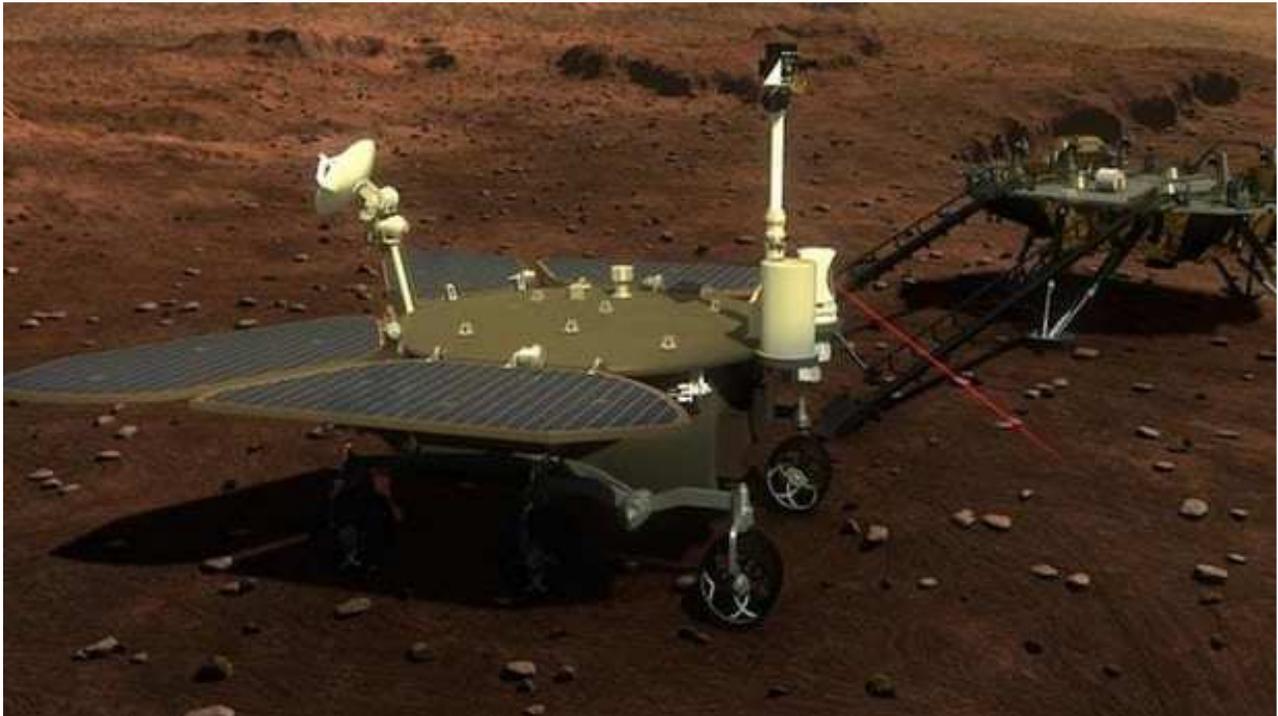
Also launching in December 2017 will be ESA's CHaracterising ExOPlanet Satellite(CHEOPS), which is similarly tasked with seeking planets beyond our Solar System. The first of the space agency's "small" missions, the joint venture by ESA and the Swiss Space Office will work in cooperation with ground stations to measure dips in the light from nearby bright stars that could indicate the presence of orbiting planets.

TIANGONG-1

Meanwhile, there's some nail biting going on in the People's Republic of China as theTiangong-1 space lab continues to orbit the Earth out of control. In 2016, China admitted that it had lost the ability to control the trajectory of the 8.5-ton space stationas it circles the Earth at an altitude of 370 km (230 mi) in a rapidly deteriorating orbit.

Officials say that the spacecraft, which has been in service for almost five years, will enter the Earth's atmosphere sometime in 2017. Unfortunately, there is no way to predict when this will happen, where, or if any debris will survive re-entry to reach the ground.

CHANG'E 5



On a more positive note, China plans to launch its latest lunar mission in 2017. TheChang'e 5 is slated to land on the surface of the Moon, collect samples, and then send them back into lunar orbit, where a return module will intercept them and carry them back to Earth for analysis.

GOOGLE LUNAR X PRIZE

It looks like the Moon could get a bit crowded this year. 2017 marks the launch date for the US\$30 million Google Lunar X-Prize's 16 teams to send their missions to our satellite where they will be expected to land a spacecraft on the lunar surface, deploy a rover to travel 500

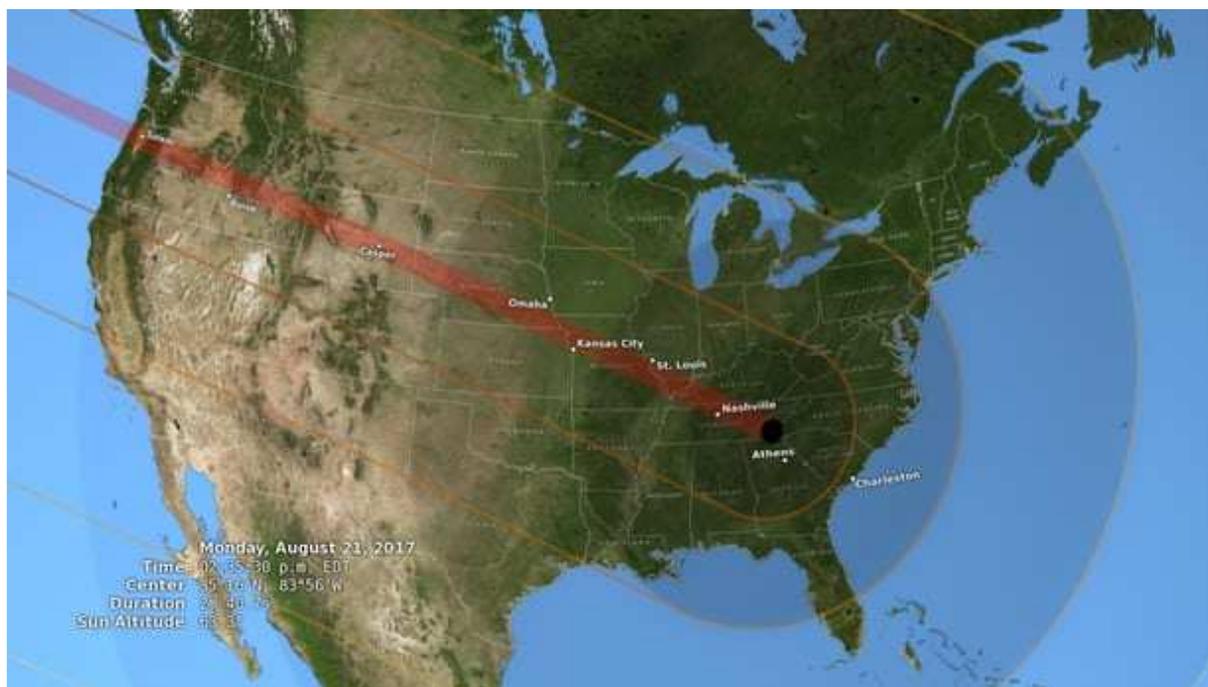
The January 11th, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!

Page 26 of 39

m (1,600 ft), and send back high-resolution images. It's a deadline that's already been pushed back before, but fingers crossed this year.



TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE, USA



One event that won't be pushed back is the total solar eclipse that will pass over the continental United States from Oregon to South Carolina on August 21. The cosmic show will pass over several metropolitan areas, including Kansas City, St Louis and Nashville, and the path will certainly be dotted with telescopes from around the world as well as crisscrossed by scientific and chartered chase planes.

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NEW ARTIFICIAL LEAF TURNS SUNLIGHT INTO HYDROGEN FUEL

UPI Science News, January 4, 2017

[http://www.energycentral.com/news/new-artificial-leaf-turns-sunlight-hydrogen-fuel?utm_source=2017_01_05&utm_medium=eNL&utm_content=93924&utm_campaign=DAILY NEWS](http://www.energycentral.com/news/new-artificial-leaf-turns-sunlight-hydrogen-fuel?utm_source=2017_01_05&utm_medium=eNL&utm_content=93924&utm_campaign=DAILY_NEWS)

A team of researchers from Germany and South Korea have developed a new, more efficient artificial leaf, capable of turning sunlight into hydrogen fuel.

The leaf's design replicates the process of underwater photosynthesis used by aquatic plants, splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen. Sunlight is harvested by dual photoelectrodes in which a pair of photoanodes absorb solar energy.

The free electrons, excited by the sun's rays, are carried through a semiconductor and used to catalyze a water-splitting chemical reaction. The end result is cheap and stable hydrogen fuel, which can be burned without contributing CO2 emissions. Scientists believe hydrogen fuel is key to a reduction in global carbon emissions.

The new leaf and its dual photoanodes are designed to absorb only specific wavelengths of light -- a specific bandgap for each anode -- just as aquatic plants focus their efforts on capturing the energy of only the spectral wavelengths that penetrate through the water.

The device currently boasts a water splitting efficiency of 7.7 percent, still short of the threshold for a commercially viable solar-hydrogen production.

"We aim to achieve 10 percent enhanced light harvesting efficiency within three years," Jae Sung Lee, a chemical engineer at the Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology, said in a news release. "This technology will greatly contribute to the establishment of the renewable-energy-type hydrogen refueling station by supplying cheap fuel for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles."

Researchers detailed their new fuel-producing leaf in the journal Nature Communications.

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ISRAEL HARNESSING SUNSHINE WITH WORLD'S TALLEST SOLAR TOWER

Geir Moulson, Associated Press writer, January 5, 2017

[http://www.energycentral.com/news/israel-harnessing-sunshine-worlds-tallest-solar-tower?utm_source=2017_01_06&utm_medium=eNL&utm_content=93924&utm_campaign=DAILY NEWS](http://www.energycentral.com/news/israel-harnessing-sunshine-worlds-tallest-solar-tower?utm_source=2017_01_06&utm_medium=eNL&utm_content=93924&utm_campaign=DAILY_NEWS)

ASHALIM, Israel — In sunny Israel, solar energy supplies only a small percentage of the nation's power needs, leaving it far behind countries with cloudier and colder climates.

Now the fledgling solar industry is trying to make a leap forward with a large-scale project boasting the world's tallest solar tower, as a symbol of Israel's renewable energy ambitions.

With Israel traditionally running its economy on fossil fuels, renewable energy has long been hobbled by bureaucracy and a lack of incentives. But the country is starting to make an effort, setting a goal of generating 10 per cent of its energy from renewable sources by 2020, up from the current 2.5 per cent.

The Ashalim project, deep in the Negev desert, is made up of three plots, with a fourth planned for the future, each with a different solar technology. Together, the fields will be Israel's largest renewable energy project when completed by 2018. They are set to generate some 310 megawatts of power, about 1.6 per cent of the country's energy needs — enough for about 130,000 households, or roughly 5 per cent of Israel's population, according to Israel's Electricity Authority.

"It's the most significant single building block in Israel's commitment to CO2 reduction and renewable energy," said

Eran Gartner, chief executive of Megalim Solar Power Ltd., which is building one part of the project.

The centerpiece is a solar tower that will be the world's tallest at 250 metres (820 feet).

Solar towers use a method differing from the more common photovoltaic solar panels, which convert sunlight directly into electricity. Instead, towers use a solar-thermal method: Thousands of mirrors focus the sun's rays onto the tower, heating a boiler that creates steam to spin a turbine and generate electricity.

Encircling the Ashalim tower are 50,000 mirrors, known as heliostats, in a shimmering blanket of glass over the desert. The tower is so tall because the panels were squeezed together to maximize use of the land — and the closer the panels are the taller the tower must be, Gartner explained.

Another solar-thermal plot at Ashalim will be able to store energy even when the sun goes down. A third plot will use photovoltaic solar technology to produce energy.

Yaron Szilas, CEO of Shikun & Binui Renewable Energy, the lead developer of the second solar-thermal plot, said combining the three technologies was a wise move because each has its own advantage. The amount of electricity it produces will be comparable to large-scale solar fields in California and Chile.

There are around a dozen solar tower fields around the world, the largest being the Ivanpah plant in California with some 170,000 heliostats around three 140-meter-tall (460-foot) towers.

Israel has developed some of the world's most advanced solar energy equipment and enjoys a nearly endless supply of sunshine. But Israeli solar companies, frustrated by government bureaucracy, have mostly taken their expertise abroad.

Countries with cooler climates have outpaced Israel. Germany, for example, gets nearly 30 per cent of its energy from renewable sources.

"Israel has a potential to be a sunshine superpower," said Leehee Goldenberg, director of the department of economy and environment at the Israel Union for Environmental Defence, a non-governmental organization. Despite some steps in the right direction, "Israel's government hasn't really been pushing to reach its small goals regarding solar energy."

Israel has often been reluctant to hand out huge parcels of land, a necessity for large-scale solar power production, Gartner said. Large projects also demand access to state-owned infrastructure like gas, water and electricity, and connecting to those utilities out in remote plants in the Negev desert often takes time.

Israel's Finance Ministry said the price of generating solar power in Israel has come down, and the ministry has pushed new laws to promote the industry. Recent legislation has also provided incentives and cut down some of the bureaucracy for Israelis wanting to install solar panels on their roofs.

The ministry said if Ashalim is successful, it will aim for more such facilities.

After the discovery of major natural gas deposits offshore, Israel now gets 70 per cent of its energy from cleaner-burning gas. That discovery was welcome, Szilas said, but it has also delayed the impetus for promoting renewable energy.

The developers in the Ashalim project say they want Israel to step up its renewable energy goals.

"With all the sun that we have and how progressed we are in technology, these goals are very, very, very modest," Szilas said. "But these are the goals that were set, and we are working toward it."

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A COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT IN INDIA IS TURNING CARBON DIOXIDE INTO BAKING SODA

But most impressive of all, it's running without subsidies.

by Jamie Condliffe, January 4, 2017

https://www.technologyreview.com/s/603302/a-coal-fired-power-plant-in-india-is-turning-carbon-dioxide-into-baking-soda/?utm_campaign=internal&utm_medium=homepage&utm_source=top-stories_2&set=603299

In the southern Indian city of Tuticorin, locals are unlikely to suffer from a poorly risen cake. That's because a coal-fired thermal power station in the area captures carbon dioxide and turns it into baking soda.



Carbon capture schemes are nothing new. Typically, they use a solvent, such as amine, to catch carbon dioxide and prevent it from escaping into the atmosphere. From there, the CO2 can either be stored away or used.

But the Guardian reports that a system installed in the Tuticorin plant uses a new proprietary solvent developed by the company Carbon Clean Solutions. The solvent is reportedly just slightly more efficient than those used conventionally, requiring a little less energy and smaller apparatus to run. The collected CO2 is used to create baking soda, and it claims that as much as 66,000 tons of the gas could be captured at the plant each year.

Its operators say that the marginal gain in efficiency is just enough to make it feasible to run the plant without a subsidy. In fact, it's claimed to be the first example of an unsubsidized industrial plant capturing CO2 for use.

It's a glimmer of hope for the clean coal industry. A string of U.S. problems, among them the wildly expensive Kemper power plant and the folding of Peabody Energy, which bet heavily on clean coal, have served to demonstrate that baking carbon sequestration in from the get-go is economically challenging. But successes of retrofitted systems, such as the W.A. Parish Generating Station in Texas and the Tuticorin scheme, demonstrate that adding capture systems can prove feasible.

Bloomberg New Energy Finance predicts that solar power may, on average, be cheaper than coal by 2025—so coal's future as a means of generating power could be limited. But we may still be able to clean up existing plants—and bake some nice cakes along the way.

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INTEL'S COMPUTE CARD IS A PC THAT CAN FIT IN YOUR WALLET

Compute Card is intended as a more versatile replacement for the Compute Stick.

Andrew Cunningham - 1/5/2017, 12:00 PM

<http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2017/01/intels-compute-card-is-a-pc-that-can-fit-in-your-wallet/>

A concept render of Intel's Compute Card. Intel

Intel mostly missed the boat on smartphones, but the company is trying to establish a firm foothold in the ever-broadening marketplace for connected appliances and other smart things. Intel's latest effort in this arena is its new "Compute Card," a small 94.5mm by 55mm by 5mm slab that includes a CPU and GPU, RAM, storage, and wireless connectivity.



The thinking with the Compute Card is to separate the smarts of various computers and appliances—all-in-ones, smart TVs, fridges, digital kiosks or signage screens, commercial equipment—from the rest of the hardware. You might want to keep a TV around for the better part of a decade, but the processing hardware inside it could start to feel slow three or four years in. With the Compute Card, one could simply eject the old card and slide in a new one instead of replacing the whole thing.

Intel hasn't given us specific information about the specs and speeds of its first Compute Cards, but you can expect the fastest ones to approach the performance of high-end fanless laptops like Apple's MacBooks. Intel told us that processors with a TDP of up to 6W could fit inside the Compute Cards, which covers both low-power Atom chips like those that powered early versions of Intel's Compute Stick to full Core M and Y-series Core i5 and i7 CPUs like the ones you find in laptops.

Intel says that the card uses a variant of the USB-C port called "USB-C plus extension" to connect with the systems it's plugged into. That connector gives devices direct access to the USB and PCIe buses as well as HDMI and DisplayPort video outputs. The company considers the Compute Card to be a replacement of sorts for the Compute Stick, which Intel says will probably disappear from its roadmap in 2018 or so.

The issue with the Compute Stick from Intel's perspective is that its input and output ports were unnecessarily limiting—it could only connect to HDMI ports and could only accept a limited number of USB inputs. The Compute Card can be slid into a wider variety of enclosures that can use all kinds of ports and display interfaces, and Intel says the Card will also offer a large array of performance and storage options, unlike current Compute Sticks.

While these cards could conceivably solve the hardware end of the problem for some smart devices, the software side is still a big question mark. As x86-based PCs, Intel told us that the Compute Card will be able to run Windows and Linux and any other operating system you can currently run on a low-end PC. Depending on the operating system they use, it may

still be up to OEMs to provide software updates for Compute Card-based appliances, and they'll also need to figure out the best way to reload that software on new Compute Cards if users try to upgrade them by themselves.

Intel will be revealing more information on specs, availability, and pricing in June of 2017, and the cards themselves will be available in "mid-2017." Intel's Compute Card partners, including Dell, HP, Lenovo, and Sharp on the computing side and Seneca Data, InFocus, DTx, TabletKiosk, and Pasuntech on the commercial side, will all be making their own announcements and releases separately.

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THIS ASTONISHING 'SKINGUN' HELPS BURN VICTIMS QUICKLY REGROW SKIN

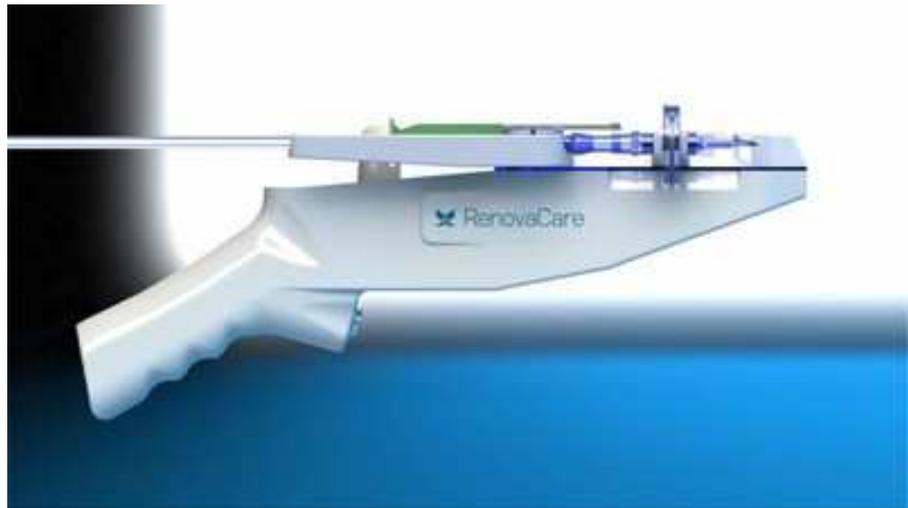
By: Nidhi Goyal | January 8th, 2017

http://www.industrytap.com/astonishing-skingun-helps-burn-victims-quickly-regrow-skin/40188?utm_source=Industry+Tap&utm_campaign=22627b0c94-Industry+Tap+Volume+3801+9+2017&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_05d6224fe0-22627b0c94-44103165

Image courtesy
renovacareinc.com/

RenovaCare, a company in New York, is developing a revolutionary technology that would offer hope to patients who have suffered a severe burn.

RenovaCare has expertise in stem cells and organ regeneration, and now they are going to use these skills in wound care.



Usually, serious burns are treated with laser therapy, radiotherapy or skin needling, which involves a lot of time, and the results are also not that promising. But with this technique, healing is very fast – within three to four days the burn largely heals. Not only that, but it causes no scarring and does not involve any invasive surgery.

WHAT THIS PROCEDURE INVOLVES:

The procedure is very simple: the patient's stem cells are extracted from healthy skin. Then these stem cells are isolated from the skin sample and suspended in a water solution which makes them easy to spray. Then these stem cells are sprayed on the burned skin.

Thomas Bold, an engineer, president and CEO of RenovaCare, said, "We don't modify the cells. We don't do anything with the cells. We just isolate them from the surrounding tissue, put them in a syringe within a water-based solution, and we spray them. What we're doing is all natural."

However, this painless treatment is not available in hospitals as it is still in the developmental stage and is waiting for the approval by the FDA for sale in the United States.

THERE IS AN INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO AT THE WEBSITE.

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From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

SPECTACULAR COLLISION OF SUNS WILL CREATE NEW STAR IN NIGHT SKY IN 2022

Sarah Knapton, science editor, 7 JANUARY 2017 • 4:18PM

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/2017/01/06/spectacular-collision-suns-will-create-new-star-night-sky-2022/>



In 2022, the newly formed Red Nova will burn so brightly in the constellation Cygnus that everyone will be able to see it CREDIT: BABAK TAFRESHI/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

At the beginning of the 3rd century civil war raged in Britain as the Roman emperor Septimius Severus sought to quell unrest in the north.

But unknown to the fighting cohorts and Caledonian tribes, high above their heads two stars were coming together in a huge cataclysmic explosion.

Now 1800 years later the light from that collision will finally arrive on Earth creating a new star in the night sky - dubbed the 'Boom Star - in an incredibly rare event which is usually only spotted through telescopes.

Before their meeting the two stars were too dim to be seen by the naked eye, but in 2022, the newly formed Red Nova will burn so brightly in the constellation Cygnus that everyone will be able to see it.

“For the first time in history, parents will be able to point to a dark spot in the sky and say, ‘Watch, kids, there’s a star hiding in there, but soon it’s going to light up,” said Dr Matt Walhout, dean for research and scholarship at Calvin College, Michigan, where the prediction was made.



The star will appear in the constellation Cygnus, also known as the Northern Cross

For around six months the Boom Star will be one of the brightest in the sky before gradually dimming, returning to its normal brightness after around two to three years.

It is the first time scientists have ever predicted the birth of a new star and astronomers in Britain said it would be a fascinating and important event which is likely to trigger a race to be the first to record the phenomenon.

Dr Robert Massey, of the Royal Astronomical Society, said: “What we’re talking about you might literally call the birth of a new star which should be very visible.

“The good news for people in the UK is that it is in the constellation Cygnus which is always above the horizon and is very high in the sky in the summer, so everyone will be able to see it.

“Nobody has ever managed to predict the birth of a star before so this is really unprecedented and I think there will be a race among amateur astronomers, and members of the public to spot it first.”

The forecast was made officially at a press conference on Friday, all the more poignant because it coincided with the epiphany, which commemorates the visit of the Three Wise Men, who followed the star to Bethlehem to witness the birth of Jesus.



The new star, known as the Boom Star, sits just off the right hand wing of Cygnus

The binary star system, named KIC9832227, is 1,800 light years away and is made from two suns which spin around each other every 11 hours.

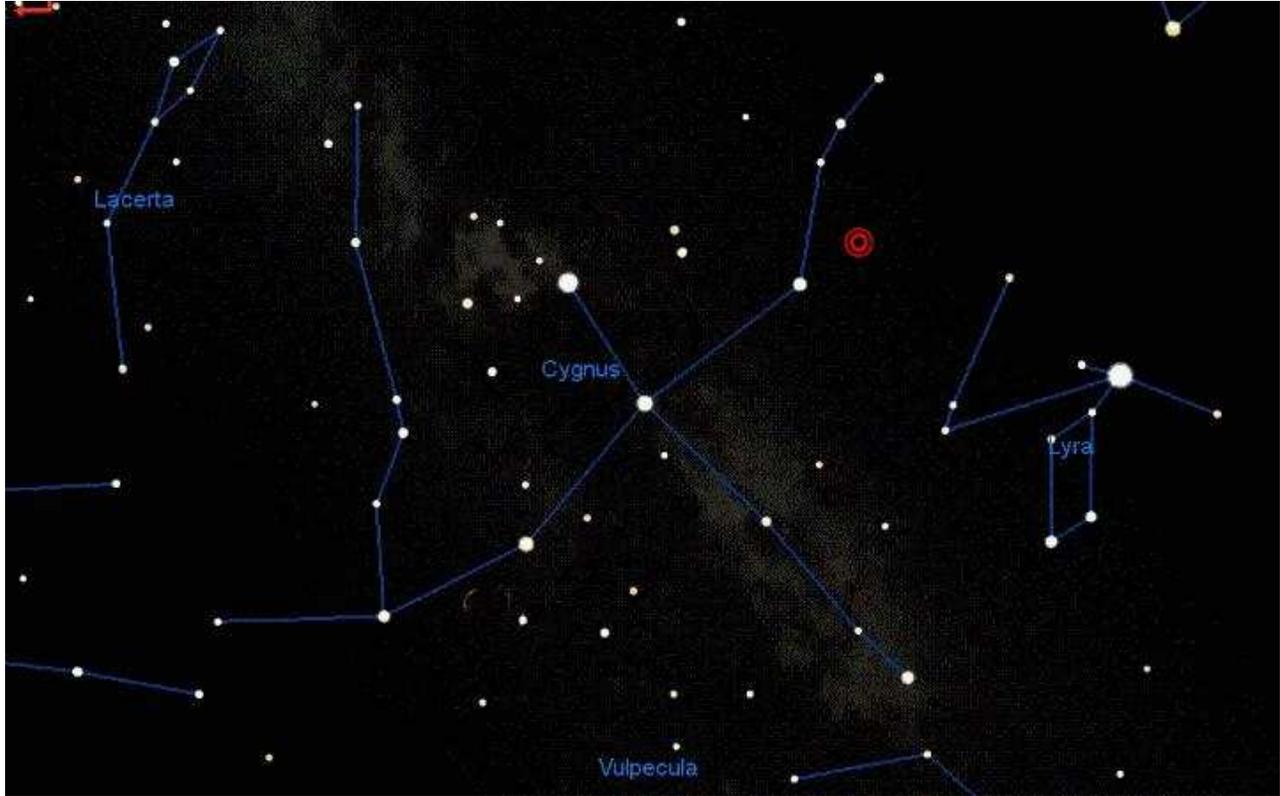


Prof Larry Molnar CREDIT: CALVIN COLLEGE

In 2013 Professor Larry Molnar and his team at Calvin College noticed that the orbital speed was decreasing. And doing so faster and faster.

It matched the data from another binary star which exploded in 2008 without warning and was picked up by astronomers. When experts went back over data from previous years they discovered that the crash could have been predicted because of the increasing orbital speeds.

“Observations of KIC9832227 show its orbital period has been getting faster since 1999 in the same distinctive way. We arrive at our predicted date by assuming the same process is happening here,” said Prof Molnar, who is professor in astronomy.



The star will be as bright or brighter than the other stars in Cygnus

“The star is around 1800 light years. Hence if we are right about the upcoming outburst, it actually occurred 1795 years ago, and the light from the outburst has been travelling toward us ever since.

“Explosions of this size occur about once a decade in our Galaxy. This case is unusual in how close the star is and hence how bright we will see it shine and unique in that it is the first time anyone has predicted an explosion in advance.

“It’s a one-in-a-million chance that you can predict an explosion. It’s never been done before.”

Not only will be the event be an amazing spectacle for stargazers, it will also give scientists an unprecedented opportunity to observe the process as it unfolds. Astronomers do not understand the details of why stars merge or even how the explosions work.

“If Larry’s prediction is correct, his project will demonstrate for the first time that astronomers can catch certain binary stars in the act of dying, and that they can track the last few years of a stellar death spiral up to the point of final, dramatic explosion,” added Dr Walhout.

The work was presented at the annual American Astronomy Association meeting in Grapevine, Texas

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From: "Jim Woosley" Jimwoosley@aol.com

LIBERAL GIRL 'ALISON' RUNS HER MOUTH, LEARNS THE MOST EPIC 2ND AMENDMENT LESSON IN THE HISTORY OF EARTH

By Michael Rogers, Posted on January 4, 2017

<http://thepatriotnation.net/2017/01/04/liberal-girl-alison-runs-her-mouth-learns-the-most-epic-2nd-amendment-lesson-in-the-history-of-earth/>

The Internet is erupting with pleasure and hate over this girl, Alison

Which is more difficult: learning to utilize sound logic or following liberal logic? It is not a trick question but it is a question with an obvious answer. Liberal logic is hypocritical, emotional, and generally, easy to tear apart. The problem is: liberals normally have some sort of mental or emotional problem that prevents them from listening to anyone. They are often insecure.

Consider the case of our liberal, gun-hating friend, Alison. She made the mistake of posting:

"AS A WOMAN, I JUST HOPE ONE DAY I HAVE AS MANY RIGHTS AS A GUN DOES."

Brilliant, right? What does she even mean? A gun is an inanimate object and women enjoy nearly unlimited freedom in this world, including the freedom (in America) to own a gun or to not own a gun. Has Alison considered what it would be like for her to live in a Middle Eastern country where women do not have the right to defend themselves?

Unfortunately, for Alison, another Twitter user, Cloyd Rivers, crafted the ultimate pro-2nd Amendment comeback ever:

Cloyd Rivers @CloydRivers, Merica.

"So let me get this straight. You want to be banned from polling places on the day of an election, banned from being able to enter government buildings, prohibited on school grounds, not allowed in a business if an owner doesn't like what you are, put in a locked cage (safe) when you aren't being used, not be allowed in the passenger cabin of an airplane, and be the topic of a never ending National debate about how dangerous you are to the public and innocent people? Did I understand that correctly?"

Boom! Even if one reads Alison's statement as some sort of figurative or symbolic assertion, it still does not make any sense.

I am following Cloyd's logic, though, and I think he nails it on multiple levels.

What do you think?

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From: "Jim Hollis" jhollis@northsidesales.com

My Friend - The Angry Man (Author Unknown)

For all the interest group pandering that shapes modern American politics, the group that may well have decided the presidential election might have come down to the demographic of “The Angry Man.”

The Angry Man is difficult to stereotype. He comes from all economic backgrounds, from dirt-poor to filthy rich. He represents all geographic areas in America, from sophisticated urbanite to rural redneck, Deep South to Yankee North, Left Coast to Eastern Seaboard.

No matter where he’s from, Angry Men share many common traits; they aren’t asking for anything from anyone other than the promise to be able to make their own way on a level playing field. In many cases, they are independent businessmen and employ several people. They pay more than their share of taxes and they work hard. Damn hard, for what they have and intend to keep.

He’s used to picking up the tab, whether it’s the Christmas party for the employees at his company, three sets of braces, college educations or a beautiful wedding or two. Not because he was forced to, but because it’s the right thing to do.

The Angry Man believes the Constitution should be interpreted as it was written. It is not as a “living document” open to the whims and vagaries of appointed judges and political winds.

The Angry Man owns firearms, and he’s willing to pick up a gun and use it in defense of his home, his country and his family. He is willing to lay down his life to defend the freedom and safety of others, and the thought of killing someone if necessary to achieve those goals gives him only momentary pause.

The Angry Man is not, and never will be, a victim. Nobody like him drowned in Hurricane Katrina. He got his people together and got the hell out. Then, he went back in to rescue those who needed help or were too stupid to help themselves in the first place. He was selfless in this, just as often a civilian as a police officer, a National Guard soldier or a volunteer firefighter. Victim-hood syndrome buzzwords; “disenfranchised,” “marginalized” and “voiceless” don’t resonate with The Angry Man. “Press ‘one’ for English” is a curse-word to him.

His last name, his race and his religion don’t matter. His ancestry might be Italian, English, African, Polish, German, Slavic, Irish, Russian, Hispanic or any of a hundred others. What does matter is that he considers himself in every way to be an American. He is proud of this country and thinks that if you aren’t, you are whole-heartedly encouraged to find one that suits you and move there.

The Angry Man is usually a man’s man. The kind of guy who likes to play poker, watch football, go hunting, play golf, maintain his own vehicles and build things. He coaches kid’s baseball, soccer and football and doesn’t ask for a penny. He’s the kind of guy who can put an addition on his house with a couple of friends, drill an oil well, design a factory or work the land. He can fill a train with 100,000 tons of coal and get it to the power plant so that you can keep the lights on while never knowing everything it took to do that. The Angry Man is the backbone of this country.

He’s not racist, but is truly disappointed and annoyed, when people exhibit behavior that typifies the worst stereotypes of their ethnicity. He’s willing to give everybody a fair chance

if they're willing to work hard and play by the rules. He expects other people to do the same. Above all, he has integrity in everything he does.

The Angry Man loathes the dysfunction now rampant in government. It's the victim groups being pandered to and the "poor me" attitude that they represent. The inability of politicians to give a straight answer to an honest question. The tax dollars that are given to people who simply don't want to do anything for themselves. The fact that, because of very real consequences, he must stay within a budget but for some obscure reason the government he finances doesn't. Mostly, it's the blatantly arrogant attitude displayed implying that we are too stupid to run our own lives and only people in government are smart enough to do that.

The Angry Man has reached his limit. When a social justice agitator goes on TV, leading some rally for Black Lives Matter, safe spaces or other such nonsense, he may bite his tongue but, he remembers. When a child gets charged with carrying a concealed weapon for mistakenly bringing a penknife to school, he takes note of who the local idiots are in education and law enforcement. But when government officials are repeatedly caught red-handed breaking the law and getting off Scot-free, The Angry Man balls-up his fists and readies himself for the coming fight. He knows that this fight, will be a live or die situation, so he prepares fully. Make no mistake, this is a fight in which he is not willing to lose and he will never give up.

Obama calls me a Clinger
Hillary calls me Deplorable
Bill calls me Redneck
BLM calls me Racist
Feminist calls me Sexist
ISIS calls me an Infidel

Donald Trump calls me an American

THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS UP THIS PAST ELECTION IN A NUTSHELL. UT

If you would like to unsubscribe From: THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY, please send an email message to Tim Bolgeo tbolgeo@epbfi.com and say, "QUIT SENDING ME THIS STUPID RAG!"
