



Local News

- En Español
Brooks Newspapers
Death Notices
Legal Notices
News Columnists
Pet News
Police Log
Top News Headlines (AP)
Weather

RSS» Police Log | News | Business | Sports

Discovery Museum to host live feed of lunar crash

By John Burgeson
STAFF WRITER

Updated: 10/07/2009 11:02:55 AM EDT

BRIDGEPORT -- On Friday morning, the Discovery Museum will have ringside seats for a "punch" that will be delivered to the moon. That is, if you consider "ringside" about one-quarter million miles.

In a search for water on the dusty, rocky orb, NASA plans to crash a rocket into the Moon's south pole. Scientists hope the impact of the crash will loosen the lunar surface to the extent that it could reveal water molecules.

The unmanned mission is called LCROSS, for Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, and observation sites to view a live feed of the crash have sprung up across North America to view the collision.

One of those sites -- the only one in Connecticut -- is the Discovery Museum, 4450 Park Ave. The museum will open at 7 a.m. Friday, and the rocket is scheduled to hit the moon about 7:30.

The local program also will include a brief lecture by astrophysicist, David Mestre, the museum's space science director.

The event is free, and there will even be breakfast foods available.

People living in the Pacific time zone, where it will be nighttime at the moment of impact, should be able to see the crash with a medium-size amateur telescope, according to NASA.

Although water is common in the solar system, the moon doesn't have much of it. In 1994, the NASA lunar spacecraft, Clementine, discovered scanty evidence of water on the moon's surface, probably the result of impact by comets over the eons. Comets are made

of water ice and bits of rock.

Most of this water drifted off into space, owing to the moon's airless environment, combined with its low surface gravity. But it's believed that at the lunar poles, in valleys that remain perpetually in shadow, there icy deposits might still be there.

Although Earth's moon was shortchanged in the water department, many of the moons of Jupiter and Saturn are covered with water ice, which lie over huge oceans, sometimes hundreds of miles deep. For example, Jupiter's Europa, which is a little smaller than Earth's moon, is about 50 percent water and water ice. Jupiter's Callisto and Ganymede also are about 50 percent water and ice.

And some of Saturn's moons, particularly Tethys, might be composed almost entirely of water and ice. Dione, another Saturnian moon, is about two-thirds water and ice, NASA says.

The Discovery Museum on Friday hosts a live feed of a crash landing by a NASA rocket into the Moon. The free screening is open to the public, beginning at 7 a.m. The

museum is at 4450 Park Ave. For more information, call 203-372-3521 or visit www.discoverymuseum.org.

Advertisement



BOOKMARK Print Email Font Resize Return to Top

Tell us your breaking news! or call us at 1-800-423-8058

Business

[Zahn Building Business](#)

[Financial Reports](#)

[Top Business News \(AP\)](#)

Opinion

[Editorials](#)

[Letters to the Editor](#)

[News Columnists](#)

[Michael J. Daly](#)

[Ken Dixon](#)

[John Hourihan](#)

[Stephen J. Winters](#)

[Charles Walsh](#)

[Hugh Bailey](#)

TODAYS ADS

CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER



ONLINE AD EXPIRES 10/9/2009

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY



ONLINE AD EXPIRES 10/10/2009

HAIR SALON & SPA



ONLINE AD EXPIRES 10/9/2009

[VIEW MORE >](#)


<p>Whirlpool Ice and Water Filter Discount prices on Whirlpool 4396508 water filters and in www.waterfiltersfast.com</p>	<p>Coralife Lunar Aqualight On Sale Compact fluorescent w/ LEDs 24"-72". Free shipping over www.marineandreef.com</p>	<p>Super Cheap Car Insurance Quotes Get Discount Auto Insurance Quotes Online - Rates from \$15 USInsuranceOnline.com</p>
---	---	---

Ads by Yahoo!

healthylife
cover model search

How do you live YOUR healthy life?
Tell us in an essay of 100 words or less and you could be chosen to appear on the cover of Healthy life.

[Click here to enter.](#)




Get the newspaper delivered to your home or business! [Subscribe Now!](#)

[Sitemap](#) | [Help/Feedback](#) | [Advertise With Us](#)



[Listen to Podcasts](#)



[Home](#) :: [Classifieds](#) :: [Homes](#) :: [Jobs](#) :: [Cars](#) :: [Rentals](#) :: [Place An Ad](#) :: [About Our Ads](#) :: [Subscriber Services](#) :: [Contact Us](#)::

[Privacy Policy](#) :: [Terms of Service](#)
[Copyright © 2009 Hearst Communications Inc.](#)

HEARST *newspapers*