

1 Tip of a flat belly:

Cut down 3 lbs of your belly every week by using this 1 weird old tip. ►



- [columnists](#)
- [special projects](#)
- [latest blogs](#)
- [bloggers](#)
- [help about us](#)
- [contact us login/register](#)

- [News](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Arts](#)
- [Lifestyle](#)
- [Business & Technology](#)
- [Commentary](#)
- [Forums](#)

Google:

Web ScrippsNews

Home » An editorial / By Dale McFeatters, Scripps Howard News Service

Editorial: Hope to find water, might find aliens

Submitted by SHNS on Wed, 10/07/2009 - 14:36

An editorial / By Dale McFeatters, Scripps Howard News Service [editorials and opinion](#)

[ShareThis](#) On Friday morning, NASA will conduct an experiment that could dramatically change how we think about the moon.

The LCROSS spacecraft, now orbiting the moon while it hones in on its precise target, will fire a Centaur rocket into a crater near the moon's south pole with the aim of kicking up a huge plume of debris that can be examined for evidence of water vapor or water ice. The examining will be done by the LCROSS -- it stands for Lunar Crater and Observation Sensing Satellite -- which will dive into the plume four minutes behind the Centaur.

Fragmentary evidence from previous explorations show that there well could be water -- potentially a lot of it -- hidden away in craters that never have seen the sun. That would be vital to any sustained human presence on the moon if, as NASA puts it, we want to "live off the land."

Also lofted into space with the Centaur and the LCROSS is the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, which will circle the moon for the next year searching for potential landing sites for a manned return and looking for suitable places that might have hidden water to support a colony.

NASA will broadcast the impact, scheduled to take place at 7:31 a.m. EDT, on NASA TV and on its Web site, www.nasa.gov/ntv.

NASA's plan hasn't met with universal approval. One blogger says the impact will only provoke retaliation from aliens operating out of secret bases on the far side of the moon. He asks, "I wonder what President Obama's advisers will recommend as our skies swarm with advanced battle craft brimming with multi-petawatt lasers and pure fusion devices that could level our biggest cities in one blast."

We should know one way or another sometime next week. Water or no water. Aliens or no aliens.

(Distributed by Scripps Howard News Service, <http://www.scrippsnews.com>)

Post new comment

Your name:

E-mail:

The content of this field is kept private and will not be shown publicly.

Homepage:

Subject:

Latest Stories

Editorial: Hope to find water, might find aliens

An editorial / By Dale McFeatters, Scripps Howard News Service

On Friday morning, NASA will conduct an experiment that could dramatically change how we think about the moon.

One family's emblematic health-insurance experience: 'This is crazy.'

By ANITA CREAMER, Sacramento Bee

Like a lot of self-employed people, Valerie Scaglione and her husband, Michael, who run two businesses from their home outside Auburn, Calif., find themselves in a significant health-insurance crunch.

Monthly premiums for Blue Cross coverage for them and their three daughters have soared over the years to almost \$2,000, Scaglione says.

Chemical linked to aggression in girls

By SARAH AVERY, Raleigh News and Observer

Pre-birth exposure to a chemical widely used in plastics appears to be linked to more aggressive behavior in little girls, according to new research.

Challenges of assembling COLBERT treadmill reach new heights

By LEONORA LaPETER ANTON, St. Petersburg Times

Many of us have labored through 30 pages of instructions to put together a wardrobe from Ikea or a desk from Office Depot. Pieces are sometimes missing or broken. It's time-consuming. Fights break out over which piece goes where and there's the inevitable "I told you so."

But what's it like to put together a \$5 million treadmill in space?

Delaisla: Disillusioned Republicans

By JOSE de la ISLA, Hispanic Link News Service

HOUSTON - Anabel, a friend and lifelong Republican, contacted me to report her increasing alarm over a trend that's testing her party loyalty.

Tensions simmer in Old City of Jerusalem

By PATRICK MARTIN, Toronto Globe and Mail

JERUSALEM - The tension has been building all week.

With thousands of Israeli Jews making holiday

Latest tweets

Lindsay: Opinions about Notre Dame, SEC football differ from facts
[HTTP://SU.PR/5FOYXQ](http://SU.PR/5FOYXQ)

5 hours 7 min ago

Californians confident state can handle H1N1
[HTTP://SU.PR/1Kx4Us](http://SU.PR/1Kx4Us)

5 hours 8 min ago

Editorial: Cautious Republican support for health-care reform
[HTTP://SU.PR/2ElFvD](http://SU.PR/2ElFvD)

21 hours 37 min ago

Follow ScrippsNews on Twitter!



Scripps Howard News Service on Facebook

Become a Fan

Scripps Howard News Service on Facebook

262

- » [Links to here](#)
- » [View profile](#)

Get this widget

POWERED BY Techno

Dead Wrong

A seven-month investigation into federal mortality records reveals hundreds of thousands of death certificates filed every year in the United States are wrong, meaning we don't really know what's killing Americans. A first-of-its-kind study also found that young, well-educated and wealthy people are more likely to be autopsied when they die. More men than women are autopsied. And blacks, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans are more likely to be autopsied than whites. Autopsy rates differ by race, age, sex, education

Cause of death investigations often dead wrong

Accurate death certificates challenged by poor training

Poll: Doubts persist over accuracy of death certificates

Survey results among different groups

Death poll findings, by questions

What to do if you distrust the death diagnosis

With thousands of Israeli Jews making holiday pilgrimages to the Old City of Jerusalem, and with Islamic leaders saying they feared the pilgrims would attempt to desecrate mosques on the Temple Mount, or Haram ash-Sharif, confrontation was inevitable.

Lassen: Weaver steps up as Angels' ace

By DAVID LASSEN, Scripps Howard News Service

ANAHEIM, Calif. - Jered Weaver has been a good pitcher since he joined the Los Angeles Angels.

This year, he was more than that. He was the team's best pitcher.

So say key statistics like wins (16, tied for the team lead), ERA (3.75, best among the starters) and innings pitched (a team-high 211).

Erbe: Supreme insensitivity

By BONNIE ERBE, Scripps Howard News Service

Sometimes one wonders what goes through the minds of Supreme Court justices.

Walters: Future budgets may be tougher

By DAN WALTERS, Sacramento Bee

Golfers call it a "mulligan" or even more colloquially, a "mullie," but the rest of us would say it's a "do-over" when things don't go as well as hoped and we make a new stab at getting it right.

Tebow leads SHNS Heisman Poll, but for how long?

By JOHN LINDSAY, Scripps Howard News Service

The Heisman Trophy race reaches a crossroads this Saturday night in Baton Rouge, La.

Henry: Names for all creatures great and small

By REG HENRY, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When my old friend Doug came over from Australia to see the sights in America, including the inside of my fridge where the beer is kept, he was much taken with the abundance of squirrels in the area.

Medical Journal: Teens who binge on alcohol damage brains

By LEE BOWMAN, Scripps Howard News Service

In human and rodent teens, youthful exposure to alcohol can produce devastating effects on still-developing brains -- and decision-making skills down the road.

Navy moves to get women on submarines

By ED FRIEDRICH, Scripps Howard News Service

. - For decades there has been talk about women serving on submarines. Now the Navy is acting.

The service is getting ready to notify Congress, a necessary administrative step because women are now banned from the boats, said Lt. Cmdr. John Daniels, a Navy spokesman at the Pentagon.

Owen-TV: 'Lamas Life' seeks to reunite family

By ROB OWEN, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

PASADENA, Calif. - Because we know reality shows can heal (I jest), the fractured Lorenzo

Comment: *

- Allowed HTML tags: <cite> <code> <dl> <dt> <dd>
- Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

More information about formatting options

CAPTCHA

This question is for testing whether you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.

Math question: *

six + = eight

Solve this math question and enter the solution with digits. E.g. for "two plus four = ?" enter "6".

Preview

Where to find death records

Deaths by heart disease by state

Editorial: We don't know what's really killing Americans

Medical experts want Congress to establish autopsy standards

Pain, uncertainty when a loved one's death certificate seems wrong

Editorial: What an autopsy should be

Recent comments

- [fantastic information, thanks](#)
3 hours 20 min ago
- [Problems like this continue](#)
5 hours 18 min ago
- [Spell check program](#)
8 hours 36 min ago
- [balderdash](#)
16 hours 11 min ago
- [great post](#)
22 hours 12 min ago
- [Great post thanks for](#)
22 hours 13 min ago
- [Survey reveals parental dilemma on lying, children](#)
22 hours 34 min ago
- [hilll-air-ee-us](#)
1 day 14 min ago
- [How old are you? Sixteen?](#)
1 day 39 min ago
- [Can beleive Biltmore whos who is a SCAM](#)
1 day 1 hour ago

Recycled Radiation

Thousands of everyday products and materials containing radioactively tainted metals are surfacing across the United States and around the world. But because of haphazard screening, an absence of oversight, and substantial disincentives for businesses to report contamination, no one knows how many tainted goods are in circulation.

[Recycled radioactive metal contaminates consumer products](#)

[NRC wants to tighten oversight of often-leaking radioactive devices](#)

[Same batch of radioactive metal from Mexico enters Calif. for 25 years](#)

[Radioactive cheese grater case shows lack of oversight](#)

[36 states have nowhere to dump low-level radioactive material](#)

[Radioactive mesh from China used to make 30,000 filters in Florida](#)

[Authorities scrambled to corral radioactive La-Z-Boy recliners](#)

[Only U.S. effort to collect radioactive material has 9,000-object backlog](#)

[Mandatory screening, reporting needed to stop recycling radiation](#)

[Radioactive materials surface in Tennessee scrap yards](#)

[Texas has highest number of radioactive metal incidents](#)

[Editorial: The hidden radiation around us](#)

Lamas clan will air its dirty laundry in "The Lamas Life" (10:30 p.m. Sunday, E!).

Religion: Churches influence abortion debate

By TERRY MATTINGLY, Scripps Howard News Service

If researchers want to uncover the roots of America's bitter divisions on abortion, the first thing they should do is ask millions of citizens this question: How often do you attend worship services?

Scripps Howard News Service response to comments from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on SHNS' "Recycled Radiation"

[College Football Picks](#)

Find more sources/options for College Football Picks
www.webcrawler.com

[Buffett Spills The Beans](#)

Little known confession is making a few investors richer than Midas
HiddenValuesAlert.com

[5 Stocks for Retirement](#)

These Stocks Are Cash Machines for Retirement. Free Stock Report.
www.Top5CashMachines

[Fine Living Room Sets](#)

Don't pay retail! Buy fine living room sets direct. Fine out how.
www.DirectLivingFurniture

The Doctor is Out

A special report by Scripps Howard News Service finds as many as one in five Americans does not have a family doctor. And this translates directly to higher rates of illness and death and higher costs.

[Docs: In ERs, more sore throats than cardiac arrests](#)

[Interactive database showing U.S. doctors by county](#)

'Ghost schools' paid millions for absent students

A special investigative report by Scripps Howard News Service finds taxpayers paying millions for students who never show up for class. For-profit "ghost schools" collect money even when students are absent.

Thousands of unvaccinated children enter schools

A special investigative report by Scripps Howard News Service has prepared an in-depth look at the issues surrounding vaccine exemptions and the risk of disease resurgence.

Who's online

There are currently 0 users and 13 guests online.

Navigation

[recent posts](#)

User login

Username: *

Password: *

CAPTCHA

This question is for testing whether you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.

Math question: *

1 + 13 =

Solve this simple math problem and enter the result. E.g. for 1+3, enter 4.

[Log in](#)

[Create new account](#)

[Request new password](#)

[Sign in using Facebook](#)  [Connect](#)



Scripps Newspaper Group — Online
© 2009 The E.W. Scripps Co.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#)

Opinions expressed in user comments are not endorsed by ScrippsNews.