

HAPPENINGS

Weekly Edition

February 21, 2025

NASA Moves Up Return Date For Starliner Astronauts



Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore

NASA has decided to shuffle around some SpaceX Dragon capsules in order to launch its Crew-10 mission to the International Space Station as soon as possible. The agency is now targeting March 12 for the launch of Crew-10, which will carry three astronauts and a cosmonaut to the International Space Station (ISS). The four crew members are scheduled to ride a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket aboard the Crew Dragon Endurance capsule. Their arrival to the ISS will bring relief to the Crew-9 astronauts currently aboard, who were originally slated to return in February.

A successful Crew-10 docking would mean Crew-9 NASA astronauts Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore can begin wrapping up their nearly ten-month stay on the ISS. The pair arrived to the orbital lab aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft in June of last year and have had an extended stay because their Starliner capsule had to return to Earth without them due to technical issues.

Starliner's thruster malfunctions during the craft's ISS approach and docking procedures prompted NASA to extend the astronauts' stay while the issues were investigated. In August, the agency officially decided to fly Starliner back to Earth uncrewed because those complications weren't fully resolved.

In September, only two of the four astronauts scheduled to fly aboard Crew-9 launched to the space station, leaving two open seats for Williams and Wilmore on the return trip. Their addition to the station meant Crew-8 astronauts, who had been living aboard the ISS for a typical six-month rotation, would return to Earth aboard their own Crew Dragon — just as Crew-9 will after Crew-10's arrival.

Now, Crew-10 is headed to space earlier than expected. Rather than wait for SpaceX to finish manufacturing a new Dragon capsule for Crew-10, NASA decided to launch the mission on a flight-proven spacecraft - Crew Dragon Endurance. NASA said in a release last week the decision, was made as the new spacecraft faced additional processing time to finish the vehicle's interior and pass qualification checks for operation.

For now, Endurance must undergo refurbishment, trunk stacking, propellant loading and transportation to SpaceX's Launch Complex-39A hangar at Kennedy Space Center for booster integration. Aboard Endurance for the Crew-10 launch will be NASA astronaut and mission commander Anne McClain, NASA astronaut and pilot Nichole Ayers, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) astronaut and mission specialist Takuya Onishi, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Kirill Peskov.

After a typical handoff period of a few days while ISS residents help the new crew get acclimated, Crew-9 will board their own Crew Dragon, Freedom, and prepare for departure. Williams, Wilmore, Hague and Gorbunov will fly back to Earth likely sometime toward the end of March.

Japan's Resilience Lunar Lander Makes 1st Swing Around The Moon

The second lunar lander from Japanese space exploration company ispace is ready for a flyby of the Moon, taking an energy-efficient, circuitous route to the moon for a gravity assist that will save the spacecraft fuel, altering the spacecraft's trajectory into a low energy transfer. The maneuver will allow Resilience to enter lunar orbit with a much smaller engine burn than required for a more traditional four-day trip to the moon.

ispace said the spacecraft took the opportunity to test sensors and return images of the moon. Resilience is expected to attempt to land in Mare Frigoris ("Sea of Cold") in the northern hemisphere of the moon around late May or early June. The lander carries a range of payloads including the Tenacious micro rover for mobile exploration.

Meanwhile, Resilience's flight partner, the Blue Ghost lander, has already reached lunar orbit.

Parrish Healthcare Celebrates Leadership Roles in the Titusville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors



Immediate past-chair of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Matthew Morak, stands alongside Erin Akins, President and CEO of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce.

Parrish Healthcare extends our sincere gratitude to Matthew Morak, Director of the Jess Parrish Medical Foundation, for his service as the immediate past-chair of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Morak played a vital role in supporting local businesses and initiatives, and we appreciate his continued leadership and commitment to our community.

Parrish Healthcare is also proud to announce that Samantha Decker, Director of Communications, has been installed as a new board member of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce. This appointment reflects her ongoing dedication to fostering strong community relationships and advancing economic growth in our Titusville community.

“At Parrish Healthcare, we believe in the power of



Newly installed board member Samantha Decker poses beside Natalie Sellers, Senior Vice President of Communications, Community & Corporate Services at Parrish Healthcare.

collaboration and community engagement; and I’m proud to see so many members of our leadership team share in that same dedication,” said George Mikitarian, Parrish Healthcare’s President and CEO. “We are honored to have representatives from Parrish Healthcare actively contributing to the growth and success of not only the Titusville Chamber of Commerce, but our community at large.”

Parrish Healthcare remains committed to supporting initiatives that strengthen our local economy and enhance the well-being of our community. For more information on Parrish Healthcare’s involvement within the Titusville community and beyond, please visit parrishhealthcare.com.

Temporary Closure of Playground at Space Coast Community Sports Complex

The playground at the Space Coast Communities Sports Complex, located at 662 Canaveral Groves Blvd., Cocoa, is temporarily closed to the public for the removal and installation of new playground equipment. The installation is expected to be completed by Friday, March 21.

The new playground equipment will incorporate an inclusive glider unit, two age 2-12 challenger units, a three-bay swing set and two shade hats for sun protection.

For any questions regarding the closure, please contact the North Area Parks Operations office at 321-264-5105.



Temporary Closures to the Florida East Central Regional Rail Trail

Portions of the Florida East Central Regional Rail Trail within Brevard County will be closed temporarily due to improvements and maintenance. These closures include:

The Florida East Central Regional Rail Trail will intermittently be closed in half-mile sections beginning on Monday, February 24, for tree-trimming, mulching and additional improvements. These closures are expected to continue for five weeks and the path will be fully closed where work is in progress. The closures will begin at La-Grange Road in Titusville and end at the Aurantia Road Trailhead in Mims.

For any questions regarding the temporary closures, please contact the North Area Parks Operations office at 321-264-5105.



Japanese Fabric Art Workshop

A free workshop on Japanese Boro, Indian Kantha Stitching and Freeform Embroidery is being held Saturday, February 22 at the Merritt Island Public Library, 1195 N. Courtenay Pkwy. following the monthly meeting of the Space Coast Weavers and Fiber Artists Guild. Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Boro refers to heavy patching and mending with a plain running stitch. Born of necessity, authentic pieces of Japanese patched and sewn clothing and household items are now considered art.

Kantha stitching is a simple running stitch done to hold together old pieces of worn-out saris. Both honor the tradition of thrift and respect for textiles.

Today, artists are using these techniques and sometimes adding embellishment from other textile traditions to create fabric collage. This program will show examples of Boro and Kantha and provide an opportunity to work on a small fabric sample to take home. The program will be conducted by guild members Judy Schwab and Candy Grammel.

Since 1983 SCW&FA has been Brevard's go-to guild for fiber arts: spinning, weaving, basketry, rug hooking, and more. The guild helps fiber artists, beginning or advanced, learn through workshops and the informal exchange of ideas. They also work to educate the public about the fiber arts. Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, call Jeanie McCormack at 321-266-1610. or visit <https://www.spacecoastweaversandfiberartists.org/>.



Parrish Healthcare Congratulates Dr. Kevat Patel on Earning Juris Master's Degree in Healthcare Law and Regulation

Parrish Healthcare congratulates Kevat Patel, MD, JM, MS, CHCQM, FACP, on earning his Juris Master's Degree in healthcare law and regulation from Florida State University, College of Law, in Tallahassee. This achievement further strengthens his expertise in navigating the complex legal and regulatory landscape of the healthcare industry.

Dr. Patel is affiliated with Parrish Medical Group and is a board-certified physician advisor. He is board certified in internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Patel is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians (ABQAURP). He is also an active member of the following boards and organizations: American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians, Society of Hospital Medicine, American College of Physicians, Associate Alumni of Harvard Medical School, Harvard Alumni in Healthcare, American Medical Association, Society for Collegiate Leadership & Achievement Distinguished Scholar, Everest Scholar and a Rutgers Scholar at Rutgers University, Honors College.

Dr. Patel earned his medical degree from American University of Integrative Sciences in Sint Eustatius, Netherlands-Antilles. He also served as a Lead Teaching Fellow with the Global Mental Health Research Fellowship at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, New York. Most recently, Dr. Patel was a Clinical Research Scholar with the Fellowship in Clinical Epidemiology at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Patel has been a valued member of Parrish Healthcare for nearly five years.



NEW LIBRARY HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 12-8 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m.

Family Programs:

Family Spice Club: Friday, February 21st at 3:30 p.m. This is a family event. Come to the meeting to pick up a spice kit and share food, recipes and cooking adventures. Family Fun for the entire family.

Game Day: Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Join us every Sunday to meet other game enthusiasts for an afternoon of board, tabletop and card games in the main library area. Use one of the library-provided sets, or bring your own! All ages are welcome to this family-friendly event.

Haiku Origami Birds--February is National Haiku Writing Month. Come in and pick up a haiku writing/bird origami kit. Write a haiku on the back of the origami bird and bring one back into the library for display. Several will be chosen for a Port St. John Public Library haiku chapbook.

Adult Programs:

Port Readers Book Club: Wednesday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m. February's title is available at the reference desk. We will be reading "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horowitz.

Memory Kits. Brevard County Libraries is now offering Memory Kits available for check out at select locations. Memory Kits are specially designed activity kits that include resources and hands-on activities for persons living with dementia, Alzheimer's and other forms of cognitive impairment. Each kit includes curated materials such as interactive books, puzzles, arts and crafts, and guided discussion prompts for caregivers. Kits currently focus on three different themes: 1960s Nostalgia, Animals and the Great Outdoors.

Youth Services

STEAM Activity Time-- Every Tuesday afternoon from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the meeting room for children ages six through twelve. We have activities centered around science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. This event requires parent or adult supervision at all times.

2/25— Lego Building Contest: Forts and Castles

Read Your Way to K: Babies: Fridays, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room. We invite babies, young toddlers, and their caregivers to join us for stories, songs, and activities. This storytime is for babies ages three and younger and always requires parent or adult supervision.

Read Your Way to K: Toddlers: 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. every Friday in the meeting room. We invite babies, young toddlers, and their caregivers to join us for stories, songs, and activities. This storytime is for toddlers ages three to five and always requires parent or adult supervision.

Sensory Sundays—Every Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., children can join the library staff for sensory bin activities.

This event is for ages six and up and always requires parent or adult supervision.

2/23—**Cranberry frozen heart activity** and sensory bins with cranberries, ice and salt.

Free Space Memorabilia Show & Appraisals

The U. S. Space Walk of Fame Foundation, doing business as the American Space Museum in Titusville, Florida, presents a Space Memorabilia Show and Appraisals on Saturday, February 22nd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Beachside Hotel & Suites, 3901 North Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach

There will be a variety of local vendors selling everything from space flown items like coins and flags, lots of astronaut autographs, books, posters, original artwork and even rare, hard-to-find items from the Apollo moon program and the Space Shuttle Era.

Amidst this trove of space-related wonders, you'll have the opportunity to engage with fellow enthusiasts, share your passion for space exploration, and expand your knowledge of the cosmos.

Event sponsor Ken Havekotte Space Memorabilia and Bid Again Auctions will offer free appraisals of space items and have plenty to sell. Other sponsors include Museums of Brevard (MOB) and Computers Advancing Education.

Embark on a journey through the annals of space exploration as we showcase an array of captivating artifacts and collectibles. Delve into the history of the Apollo missions, marvel at relics from the Space Shuttle era and discover a treasure trove of autographs, artwork and memorabilia that encapsulate the allure of space exploration. Whether you're a seasoned collector or a budding enthusiast, this event promises to ignite your passion for the cosmos.

The expected selection of items include:

Rare and authentic spaceflight artifacts

Autographed memorabilia from renowned astronauts

Stunning space-themed artwork

Collectibles spanning the breadth of space exploration history

Educational materials and resources for all ages

Free Admission | Donations Accepted

The event hopes to raise funds for museum display improvements through private tax-deductible donations. The event is free but donations are welcome at the event or at any time you can donate online.

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