

The Horizon Newsletter

January 2019

A New Insect Repellent

By: Sumant Anantha

Body paint just might be the solution to the bugs in Africa pestering the Humans. Researches have indicated that Bugs only are attracted of sucking the blood out of the humans by their skin color. The evidence was using Body Spray painted Mannequins. First, the Mannequins were painted and then covered with mouse trap glue. Every 2 days the scientists would come and remove all the trapped insects from the Mannequins. After counting up the Numbers of Horseflies and Mosquitoes attracted to all three Mannequins is that more than



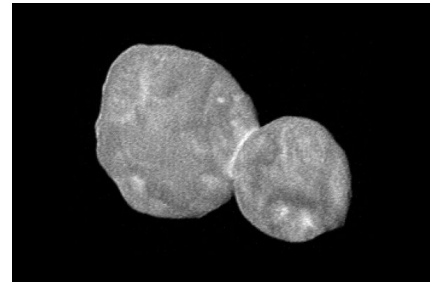
10 times the amount of the bugs were found on the brown skin painted mannequin than the others. So Scientists concluded that If Humans used White-striped Body Painting, then the Horse flies and Mosquitoes will be confused. Zebra painted Mannequins are shown to scramble the vision of the bug indicating that the creature is not a human.

Most Australians and Africans Use Body paint or paint to cover themselves for their religion. These Bloodsuckers only expand their range according to the climate conditions. So if your in an environment where there are bugs attracted to you, always bring body spray.

New Horizons Spacecraft Captures Picture of Ultima Thule

By: Shrihan Dadi

Ultima Thule is the official most distant object ever “visited”. I use “visited” in quotes here because astronauts didn’t actually visit the contact binary. Pictures were captured by the New Horizons Spacecraft on Jan 1 as it flew by Ultima Thule at over 32,000 mph. Thule’s distance is posited as 4 billion miles away from our sun. It consists of 2 spherical lobes, resembling the shape of a snowman. The larger spherical lobe is named Ultima and the smaller spherical lobe is named Thule; together, they make up “Ultima Thule”. Color images also show that Ultimate Thule is light reddish. Scientists know that these two lobes must have collided at low speeds in order for them to stay intact. Contact binaries like this one appear to be more common in the outer edges of the solar system.



Overpopulation - A Global Crisis

By: Amuktha Dasari

We have all read of the growing crisis in global warming, the slowly growing hole in our atmosphere causing global temperatures to rise at an alarming rate. We know of Earth's dwindling reservoir of natural



resources, forests being decimated for timber, fuelwood, and industrialization. We have all doubtless heard of the multiple other problems being inflicted upon our planet and its people: fatal epidemics, droughts, famine, even poverty. What we do not hear of quite nearly as much, however, is the primary factor between

each of these problems: overpopulation. There are currently approximately 7 billion human beings on this planet, a number that increases every day. According to the United States Census Bureau, the current global human population has a net gain of about 2 people every second, and the United States population itself increases by 1 person every 19 seconds. Cities are becoming increasingly more crowded, resulting in more people living under the poverty line, often with no home or place to live. Rising populations mean rising rates of depletion of our planet's natural resources. Studies show that Earth's estimated carrying capacity, or the maximum population size it will be able to sustain, is just short of 10 billion: a number that we are already only 25% below. This problem cannot be corrected unless we take action now. We must start from the common premise that human population growth at current levels makes control of greenhouse gases impossible. The Earth will become increasingly uninhabitable during this century. Let us take our fate in our own hands and control our numbers in a humane and civilized manner before Mother Nature does it for us.

Health Benefits of Indoor Plants

By: Arya Bharti

In Modern times we humans spend most of our time indoors so it would make sense if we could see how our health is impacted by living indoors and what could be done to make the indoors more healthy and connect to nature. When we breathe, we breathe in oxygen and release carbon dioxide and plants do the opposite during the day in the process of photosynthesis. Having indoor plants therefore increases the level of oxygen and humidity in our homes. Also few plants like orchids, succulents and epiphytic bromeliads release oxygen even at night so such plants like snake plant, money plants etc can be kept in bedrooms too.

SBS (sick building syndrome) is a medical condition where people in a building suffer from symptoms of illness or feel unwell for no apparent reason. NASA clean air study in 1989 suggest that indoor plants cleans the inside air from volatile organic compounds(VOC's) and other harmful chemicals (benzene, formaldehyde) that are there in modern houses in couches, paints, carpets etc. These indoor plants can basically cure SBS and give a person a better sense of well-being and reduce stress. Indoor plants improves our health by increasing oxygen so our lung capacity is increased. Increased humidity boosts the immune system and removes dry air and dust so that it is not a stimulant for infection. Research suggests Greenery inside our homes also have a positive impact on mood and increases focus and brain health.



The Truth About Juul

By : *Ria Vellanki*

Juuling and vaping has taken over. Smoking is now unheard of, everyone has switched to vaping on the basis of one idea: Vaping is safer than smoking. Because of this idea teens think that it's okay to



vape. One company has mainly been doing well in sales with the teens. Juul Labs is an electronic cigarette company that has taken the market by storm in 2017. Juul draws the teens in with its many flavors such as mint and berry. Since the rise of juuling many kids have developed a nicotine addiction. Young people learn faster than adults and since addiction is a form of learning, teens are more likely and easily addicted to nicotine.

Juul is so addictive that many kids leave class for extended amounts of time just to vape. Since vaping poses such a big threat to young people the FDA is taking action. They plan to put stricter restrictions on the sale of vapes and Juuls. They also want help teens that are addicted get better. E-Cigarette companies such as Juul are targeting teens and drawing them in with the many available flavors. They also make them think it's okay to vape because it's "safer." But you must remember that safer does not mean safe.

Pixel 3 Lite Leak - Must or Bust

By: Harvik Kolla

Many Google phones show up in videos before they've even been officially announced by Google. Recently a new video popped up from the channel "Andro News" leaking extensive details about the new 'Pixel 3 Lite' (This has been taken down by Youtube but there are many reuploads). The phone is named "Sargo" and runs on a Snapdragon processor and 4GB of RAM. It looks similar to the Pixel 3 but without some extra

features. The screen believed to be a 5.56-inch 2220 x 1080 LCD. The phone is built out of plastic, rather than the iron and metal counterparts which suggest a lower price range. Instead of



containing an OLED display, the Pixel 3 Lite is running an IPS panel. The phone has a very interesting feature; the fact that the phone has a headphone jack at the top. It will also contain the same camera specs of the Pixel 3 but without the extra rear camera. With a leak like this, it is expected that Google should launch the phone immediately to avoid any backlash or problems but the date is uncertain. It is being revealed in Hong Kong. It is also rumored to be sold on Verizon in the U.S. next spring. The price of the phone is expected to be around 400 - 500 USD. This is a cheaper and smaller phone, maybe to reverse the trend of bigger the better smartphones

Netflix Prices Rising

By: Harvik Kolla

Netflix is getting another price hike. The most popular plan will increase from \$11 per month to \$13 per month. The \$8-per-month plan will also be rising up to \$9, and its \$14-per-month plan is reaching \$16, just above HBO's NOW plan. The price increase is effective immediately, unlike the past Netflix price fluxes. The price increase is said to support Netflix's popular shows "Stranger Things"



and viral movies like "Bird Box". This is the fourth price increase that Netflix has rolled out in the US. The last time Netflix changed its prices was in late 2017. The company states " "We change pricing from time to time as we continue investing in great entertainment and improving the overall Netflix experience". But what is the price Netflix customers are willing to pay for movies and shows? A mere 2 dollars won't

hurt anyone says media analyst Rich Greenfield. He says the price should be dependent on what Netflix has to offer. When asked, "What if Netflix charged \$50? Would that still be a deal for consumers?", Rich responded saying, "No, \$50 a month with the current set of content would not be a compelling offer. But if you told me that Netflix had 'Monday Night Football' and the Major League Baseball contract, maybe \$50 is the right price." All in all, the price increased in Netflix does not seem too major, but keep an eye out for fluxes and addition to the worldwide multimedia streaming service Netflix.

China's Economy

By: Pranay Koneru

China's economy only grew 6.8% percent in 2018, the lowest growth rate in 28 years. China's statistics bureau chief Ning Jizhe recently told reporters that the slow down has been caused by the country's ongoing trade dispute with the US. In addition to the trade tensions China was also dealing with high amounts of debt while trying to maintain their economy. While trying to find a solution to the trade war that would benefit both sides, China offered a six-year boost in imports to the United States. Also during 2018 China's retails store sales rose a measly one percent between November and December going from 8.1% to 8.2%. All of these changes and more may hold a future where China is no longer one of the world's biggest economies but for now the country's economy is still growing.



