

GIVE GIVE GIVE

Lead in Reusable Bags

A U.S. senator asks the government to investigate when reusable grocery bags sold by a Florida supermarket chain contain harmfully high levels of lead.

John M. Heller/Getty Images



TOMS Shoes

TOMS Shoes, which donates one pair to a child in need for every pair sold, becomes a philanthropic fashion phenomenon.



De Agostini Picture Library/De Agostini/Getty Images

A New Element

A new element, discovered in 1996, finally receives its official name: Copernicium. It is named in honor of Copernicus, the Renaissance mathematician and astronomer.

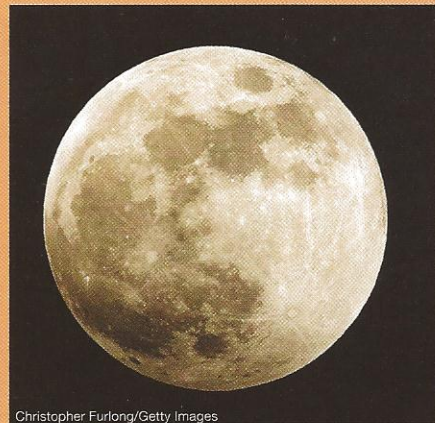
Mark Wilson/Getty Images



New Life Form

NASA-funded astrobiology researchers discover a new life form, a bacterium that can use the toxic chemical arsenic as fuel for growing and rebuilding itself.

The Washington Post/Contributor



Christopher Furlong/Getty Images

NASA's Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite finds water in a polar crater on the moon. There is far more water than scientists expected.

Fruit Fly

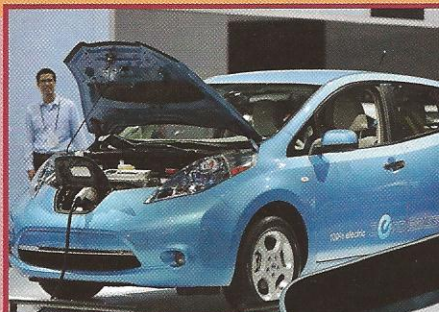
Researchers using fruit flies to study human obesity have found that obese flies have many of the same problems as obese people, including high cholesterol and difficulty regulating insulin.



AP Photo/Indiana University, Kevin Cook

Electric Car

Nissan introduces the Leaf, an electric car. According to the official EPA sticker, the car achieves the equivalent of 99 miles per gallon.



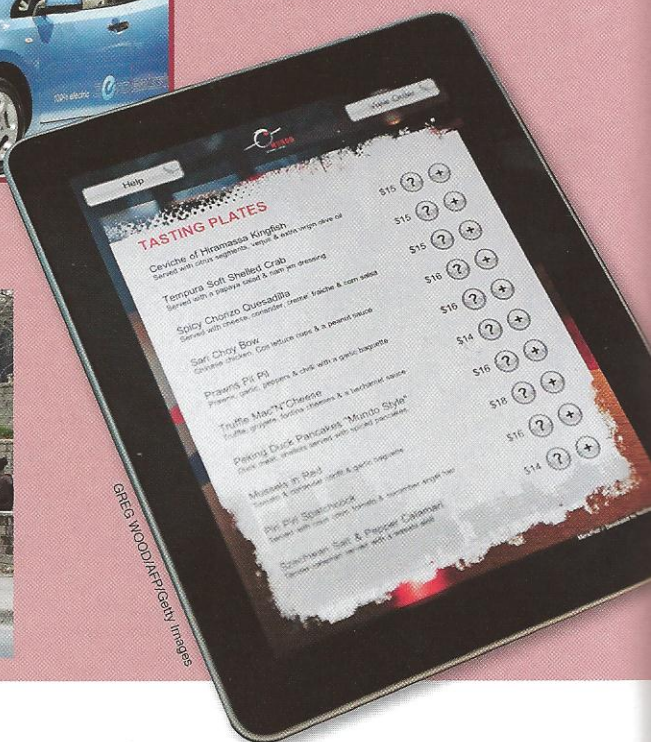
GABRIEL BOUYS/AFP/Getty Images

A Nielsen survey reports that the Apple iPad is the most-wished-for holiday gift among pre-teens. Thirty-one percent of kids want one.

The economic downturn continues to affect school districts across the nation, forcing many schools to close due to budget cuts.



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GREGG WOOD/AFP/Getty Images