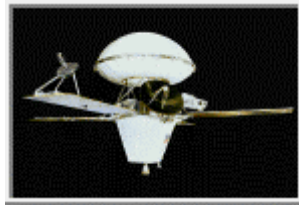


**The Challenger Learning Center
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CHALLENGER CENTER HONORS 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIKING LANDING ON MARS

WOODSTOCK, IL – Where were you on July 20, 1976? On this day, almost 30 years ago, NASA’s Viking Mission touched down on the surface of Mars. Their mission: to survey the soil, wind, and atmosphere and conduct numerous experiments to determine the existence of past or present life.

Join the Challenger Learning Center, in partnership with The Planetary Studies Foundation, for an evening of fun, celebration and space education with the upcoming event “Life on Mars?: 30 Years After the Viking Landing” on **Friday, July 21, 2006**.

The Challenger Learning Center will open its doors to the public for a special anniversary celebration that day from **6-9 p.m.** Join Dr. Paul Sipiera as he shares the wonders captured in the first pictures taken from the surface of Mars. Additional activities include flights in a Boeing 737 cockpit, StarLab presentations, center tours, a book signing by Dr. Paul Sipiera, an IMAX movie on the International Space Station, exploring our interactive EdVenture exhibit area, raffle prizes and more!

Tickets are \$10 each for the general public or \$8 for Challenger Learning Center members. The event is recommended for children over the age of eight and an adult must accompany children. To reserve tickets and for more information, please contact the Challenger Center at (815) 338-7722.