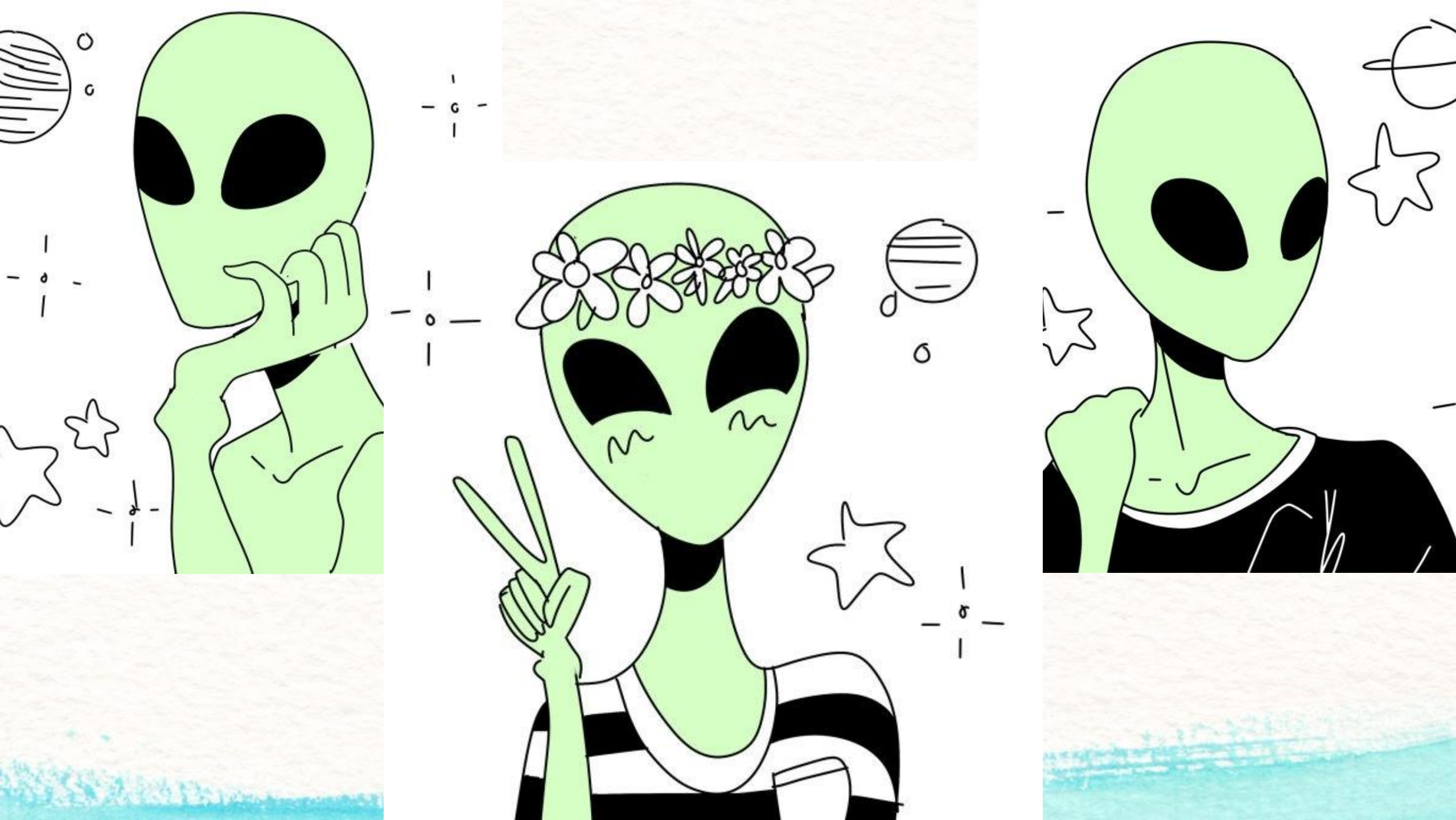
SPACE NEWS

Подзаголовок

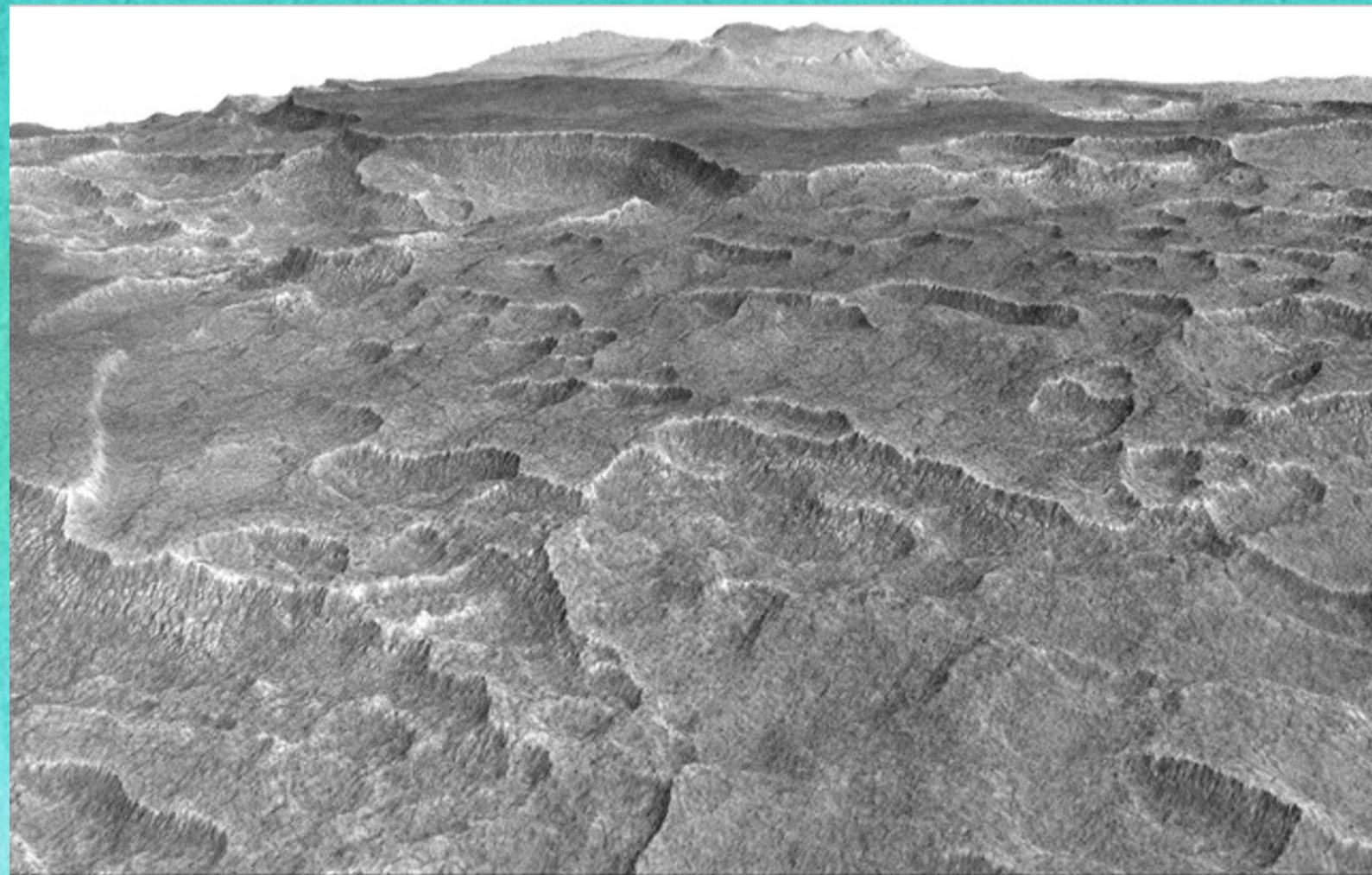
Aliens Are Never the Answer

- In the late 1960s, astrophysicist Jocelyn Bell Burnell was working with her adviser, Antony Hewish, with his fancy new radio telescope near Cambridge, England. After scanning a particular spot in the sky, they recorded an unusual signal: A source in the sky was sending frequent, repeated bursts, separated by an eerily precise 1.33 seconds.
- The signal was so regular, so exact. Not knowing what to think of it, they cheekily named their source "LGM" — for "little green men."
- The LGM hypothesis started to weaken when they found another source, and another, and another. And many others. Finally, the theorists woke up, started paying attention and figured it out: The signals were not caused by little green men, but rather little white neutron stars, wrapped in incredibly strong magnetic fields, beaming jets of radiation into space like a lighthouse. Today, we call them pulsars.



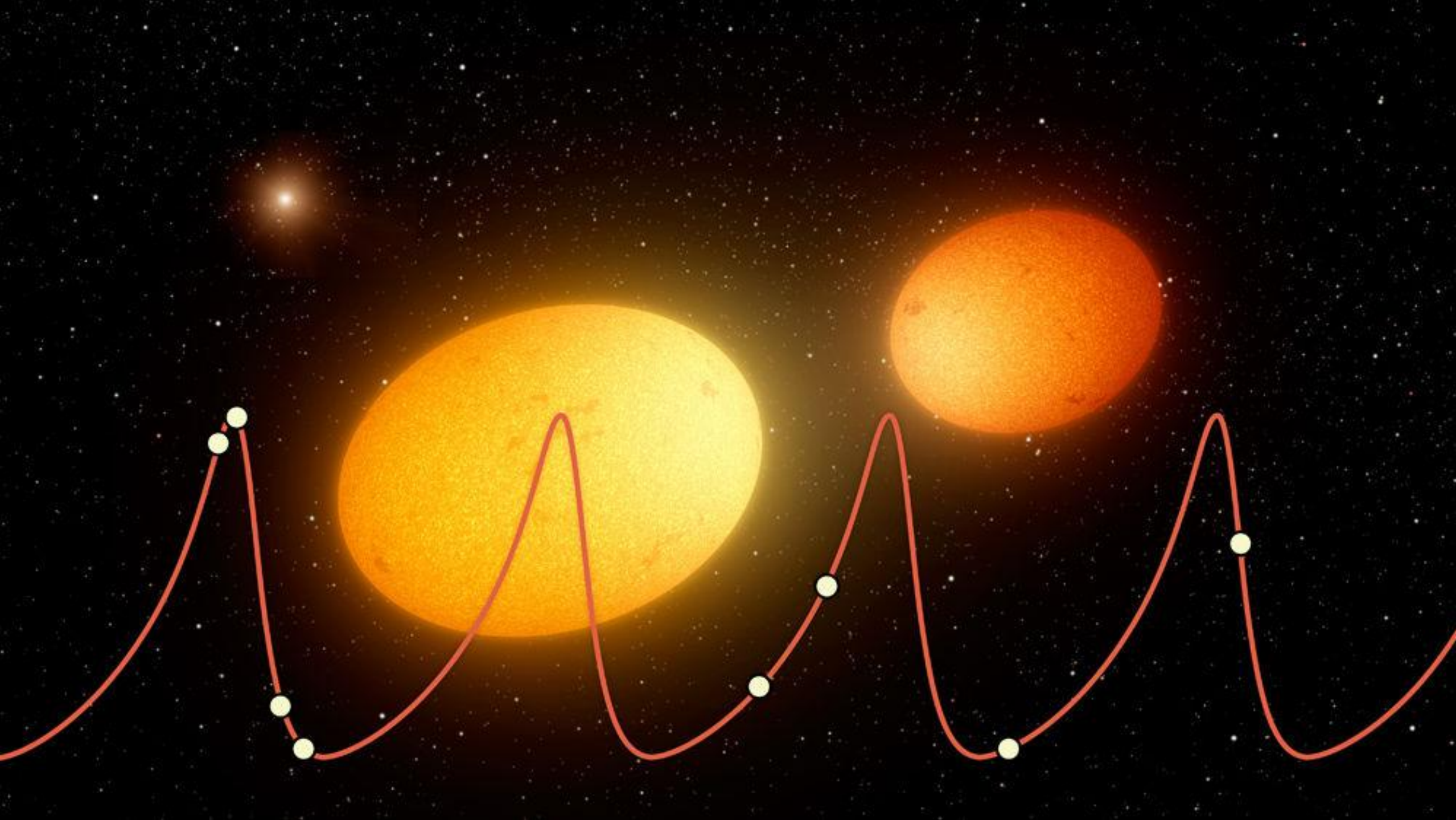
Huge Underground Ice Deposit on Mars Is Bigger Than New Mexico

A giant deposit of buried ice on Mars contains about as much water as Lake Superior does here on Earth, a new study reports.



NASA To Build Houses On Mars

- The agency's budget has been increased by adding $1.3 billion in 2016, which will allow NASA to build a space habitat for future astronauts on the red planet.



19 'Heartbeat' Stars Mapped — Most Ever in Single Study

- Scientists recently characterized 19 "heartbeat" star systems — pairs of binary stars that vary in brightness over time, creating a brightness curve that blips up and down like an electrocardiogram.
- This is the largest group of heartbeat stars mapped in a single study, NASA officials said in a statement.
- Avi Shporer, a currently a researcher at California Institute of Technology and lead author of the study, used NASA's Kepler space telescope to discover the stars. The Kepler telescope has found several heartbeat star systems in the past few years: A 2011 study discovered a star called KOI-54 that shows an increase in brightness every 41.8 days, and in 2012, scientists characterized 17 other heartbeat stars using the telescope.