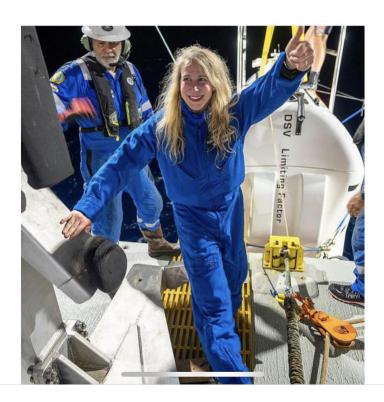


Eight inspiring stories to start your weekend off right

By Nick Suarez

It's easy for good news to be lost in the unhappy headlines of the day -- but we've rounded up all the most uplifting stories from around the world that should lift your spirits right in time for the weekend. From a giant tortoise who saved his species to Britain's longest-married couple celebrating 80 years together, read on for the stories that made us smile this week:



'These expeditions tend to be long and they tend not to go according to plan... there's a lot of stop-go, stop-go and the men will lose interest,' O'Brien said.

'The women are like 'no worries I'm cool'... they'll hang out and wait. I've always found women are really good at endurance'



Diego in his natural habitat.

2. A giant tortoise named Diego has settled into a well-earned retirement this week after fathering 800 babies to save his species.