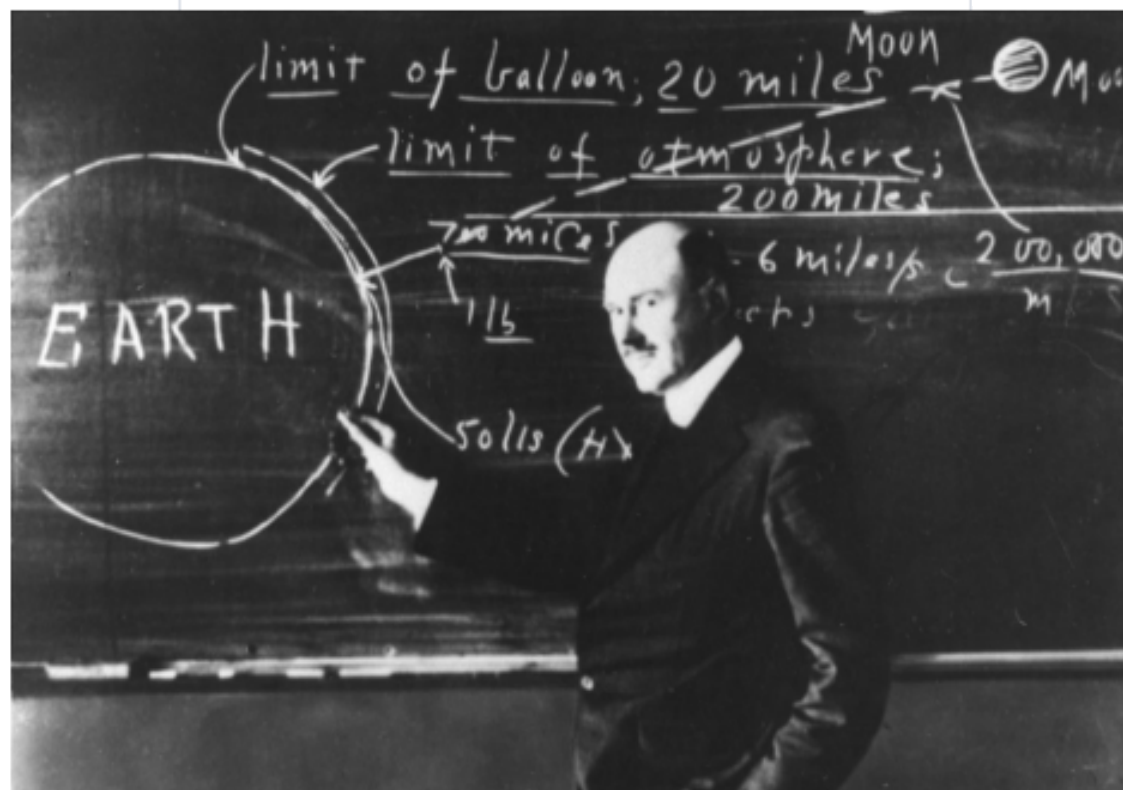


# Worcester Launches Year Of Festivities To Honor Robert Goddard, Developer Of Early Rockets

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By [The Associated Press](#)



Dr. Robert H. Goddard at the blackboard at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., in 1924, explaining the method by which a rocket might reach the moon. (AP photo)

The city of Worcester is launching a year of festivities to honor Robert Goddard, a scientist and engineer whose discoveries helped pave the way for the space age.

The events are times to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the first manned moon landing on July 20.

The Telegram of Gazette reports that Mayor Joseph Petty proclaimed Saturday as "National Robert Goddard Day" during a ceremony at the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Broad Meadow Brook Sanctuary.

The Worcester native developed the first liquid-fueled rocket, which was launched in nearby Auburn in 1926.

Petty said Goddard's contributions to science ultimately made the space program and moon landing possible, along with modern-day technology such as cellphones and global positioning systems.