MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019

It's April Fools' Day!



Although quite popular since the 19th century, the day is not a public holiday (no kidding).

1998 – Burger King published a full-page advertisement in *USA Today* introducing the "Left-Handed Whopper." All the condiments were rotated 180 degrees for the benefit of left-handed customers. Thousands of customers requested the burger, while many others requested their own right-handed versions.

2005 – A zoo in Tokyo announced that it had discovered a remarkable new species: a giant penguin called the Tonosama (Lord) penguin. With much fanfare, it was revealed to the public. As the cameras rolled, the other penguins lifted their beaks and gazed up at the purported Lord, but then walked away disinterested when he took off his penguin mask and revealed himself to be the zoo director.

Humor of the Day

"Don't approach a goat from the front, a horse from the back, or a fool from any side."

~ Jewish proverb

April Fools' Day doesn't have a definitive year of origin. Some scholars say it comes from a festival in ancient Rome or a line from *The*



Canterbury Tales. Others attribute it to the adoption of the Georgian calendar in the 16th century. Those who still

thought April was the beginning of the year, rather than January, were called April "fish." In 1689, people were fooled into going to the Tower of London to "see the lions washed." The "Spaghetti Farmers of 1957" is often cited as the best April Fools' joke: The BBC showed workers picking a banner crop of spaghetti after the eradication of the spaghetti weevil.

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019

Today is International Tatting Day. Tatting is a technique for creating durable lace by tying thread into a series of loops or knots. Tatters can make doilies, collars, earrings, necklaces, place mats, handkerchiefs, and more.

Mad Science

China is getting impatient with the 28-day cycle of the moon, so officials have decided to launch a second artificial moon into the night sky in order to better shed light on Chinese cities and towns. Scientists wish to create a highly reflective satellite that will hang in the atmosphere 310 miles over the city of Chengdu to imitate the full moon. The satellite, which could be eight times brighter than the moon itself, will supplement streetlights at night. This second moon could save Chengdu over \$170 million in energy costs each year and help first responders during blackouts and natural disasters.

Riddle Me This

I have hundreds of legs, but I can only lean. You make me feel dirty so you can feel clean. What am I?

MNSWER: A broom

Gadgets & Gizmos



The Ant Watch does not tell time, but it does house live ants! Ants burrow in shake-resistant nesting material and are fed with sugar water through the removable crown. How many people do you think ordered one of these watches before they realized this was an April Fools' joke? April Fools!

Word Scramble

ULTOC

Influence or power

VINAMER: CTOOL

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019

On This Date

1513 – Explorer Juan Ponce de León came ashore near present-day St. Augustine, Florida, and claimed the region for the Spanish crown.

1792 – The Coinage Act was passed by the U.S. Congress. This act established the silver dollar as the unit of money, declared it to be lawful tender, and created a decimal system for U.S. currency.

1931 – A 17-yearold girl, Jackie Mitchell, struck out Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig



in an exhibition game. A short time later, Kenesaw Landis, the baseball commissioner, voided her contract declaring women unfit to play baseball as the game was "too strenuous."

Did You Know?

You can avoid sinking in quicksand by raising your legs slowly and lying on your back. Remember to take your time—frantic movements will only hurt your cause.

Quote of the Day

"The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls."

~ Pablo Picasso

Happy Birthday!

Max Ernst (1891–1976) was a German artist who greatly influenced



modernism and was at the forefront of the Dada and Surrealist art movements. As a young man, he visited asylums and became fascinated

with the artwork of the mentally ill patients. After studying philosophy, Ernst served in the trenches during World War I. The emotional trauma he endured was thrown into his art. Ernst tried to paint from his unconscious mind to synthesize the experience of battle. Ernst's work is hung around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Louvre in Paris.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019

Today is Ferret Day. Ferrets may have become popular pets recently, but evidence suggests that ferrets were kept as pets in ancient Greece. Leonardo da Vinci even painted a woman holding a ferret in the 15th century.

Who Am I?

I was born in colonial Virginia, and, unlike most women of my time, I learned to read and write. Like most women of my time, I married young and had four children, yet my husband died after only seven years of marriage, and all my children perished of various sicknesses before growing old. Of course, I am most famous for marrying my second husband, a famous American military leader, whom I married less than eighteen months after being widowed. During the Revolutionary War, I spent the winter months with him at military camps, as he considered my presence essential. Who am I?

ANSWER: Martha Washington

Buy a Vowel

D_L_T_

To make wider or larger

VN2MEK: DITYLE

Wild Kingdom



The world's tiniest jewel thief was caught on video stealing a diamond from a New York City gem dealer.

The thief was an ant! The gem dealer had a pile of small diamonds on his desk and, out of the corner of his eye, noticed them shaking. He was surprised to see a tiny ant carrying away a glittering diamond. Ants are foraging species, known for carrying objects much larger and heavier than they are, but typically they forage for food, not precious gemstones. To the delight of viewers all around the world, the gem dealer posted the incriminating video online.

Name Three

Can you name three soft drinks that begin with the letter *S*?

POSSIBLE ANSWERS: Sprite, Sierra Mist, Stewart's Root Beer, Sunkist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019

On This Date

1860 – The Pony Express began operations, reducing the time it took mail to travel between the coasts to around 10 days.

1885 – Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach received a patent for a water-cooled engine design. It was the precursor of modern automobile engines.

1968 – Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" address. He said, "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will." Tragically, he was assassinated the following day.

Daily Trivia

Chimpanzees and humans share over 98 percent of the same DNA. Chimps, like humans, use tools and communicate with one another. Chimpanzees have also been able to learn sign language.

Quote of the Day

"You cannot share your life with a dog, as I had done in Bournemouth, or a cat, and not know perfectly well that animals have personalities and minds and feelings."

~ Jane Goodall

Happy Birthday!

Jane Goodall, born in England in 1934, fulfilled a lifelong dream at age



22 and traveled to Africa by ship. In Tanzania, she immersed herself in the study of chimpanzees for over 50 years. For almost two years,

Goodall lived among a group of chimpanzees, accepted by them as one of their own. Goodall discovered that chimpanzees can make tools. She now works on behalf of many animal rights organizations and has won numerous awards for her work.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019

Today is Film Score Day. Music that accompanies movies like *Jaws* and *Star Wars* can be more famous than the movies themselves. The first film score ever sold was the music of 1942's *The Jungle Book* by Miklós Rózsa.

Silver Memories

On this day 25 years ago, the Colorado Silver Bullets, the first allfemale baseball team since 1954, announced their roster. The team was the brainchild of Bob Hope, an Atlanta Braves' vice president, not the actor and comedian. With the backing of beer giant Coors Brewing Co., and with former Hall of Fame pitcher Phil Niekro as manager, the team was sure to garner attention and fans. 1,300 women attended tryouts at 11 locations around the country for only 24 roster spots. The team lasted four seasons, and finally managed a winning record for their last.

Word Wise Which word is not like the others?

ruins rubble relic debris

ANSWER: A relic is an artifact; the others are broken pieces or remains.

Only Human

Brain science is one of the fastestgrowing areas of scientific research, and scientists have just made another discovery: the more body fat we have



around our middles, the smaller our brains. Furthermore, a study of 10,000 people showed that gaining weight

starts to shrink the size of our brains. Scientists don't yet understand the link between fat and brain size. They speculate that it is due to nutrition or perhaps inflammation caused by weight gain. The good news is that losing weight corresponded with an increase in brain size.

Who Said So?

This science fiction writer and professor of biochemistry said, "I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them."

ANSWER: Isaac Asimov

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019

On This Date

1896 – News of the Yukon's Klondike gold strike reached the outside world, but it was not until the following year that the great stampede began in earnest. This was when newlyweds Ethel and Clarence Berry arrived in Seattle on the steamship *Portland* with "a ton of gold." News of "The Bride of the Klondike" was trumpeted around the world. The couple had travelled to Alaska for their honeymoon.

1968 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated at the age of 39 in Memphis, Tennessee. The previous day he had delivered his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" address. He was in town to support a strike by sanitation workers.

Daily Trivia

Second string, meaning "replacement or backup," comes from the Middle Ages. An archer always carried a second string in case the one on his bow broke.



Quote of the Day

"Hate, it has caused a lot of problems in the world, but it has not solved one yet."

~ Maya Angelou

Happy Birthday!

Maya Angelou (1928–2014) was San Francisco's first female and African American cable car conductor. This was just the start of her trailblazing career. Angelou also sang, danced, and acted professionally. In fact, she was a cast member of George Gershwin's opera *Porgy and Bess*. Angelou's fame rose with her



autobiographical book *I Know Why* the Caged Bird Sings. She worked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and

Malcolm X, as well as Presidents Ford, Carter, and Obama. Angelou wrote and recited an inaugural poem for President Bill Clinton.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019

Today is Vitamin C Day. On this day in 1932, vitamin C was identified. It helps us heal wounds, acts as an antioxidant, helps our immune system, and fights disease. Vitamin C is found in both citrus fruits and potatoes!

You Are What You Eat

It seems that one of the new food crazes is to adorn dishes with sparkling glitter. The FDA, though, has a warning: not all glitters are edible. Many food glitters are made with sugars, cornstarch, and color additives. These are clearly labeled as edible. Other glitters labeled as "nontoxic," on the other hand, are not considered edible. Some chefs are even going so far as to use real gold in their culinary creations, such as the \$1,200 gold doughnut. Pure gold is chemically inert and passes through our bodies without poisoning them.

Word Scramble

ICLGAR

A strong-smelling and pungenttasting bulb

VNRMEK: CVKTIC

Think-tionary

chernozem

A. A horn used as a canteen to carry water in the desert

or

B. A rich and fertile black soil found in grasslands

ANSWER: B. Every farmer knows that crops.

Garden Party

Archaefructus sinensis is considered by some scientists to be the world's first flowers. These aquatic plants lived 130 million years ago in China. Another freshwater seed-bearing plant that lived around the same time is *Montsechia vidalii*, found in Spain's freshwater

lakes. These two "first flowers" existed during the time of dinosaurs like the *Brachiosaurus*. But it would be millions of years later before true flowers came to exist.



FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019

On This Date

1614 – In Virginia, Native American Pocahontas married English colonist John Rolfe. Pocahontas had been captured by the English during Anglo-Indian hostilities in 1613. When the opportunity arose for her to return to her people, she chose to remain with the English.

1923 – Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, began the first regular production of inflatable tires. The tires provided a softer ride and better fuel economy.

1931 – 20th Century Fox fired John Wayne. He had played bit parts, but his performances failed to impress the studio. By his own estimation, he had appeared in about 80 minor movies before his big break came when he was cast in *Stagecoach* (1939).

Bette Davis Eyes

Kim Carnes recorded the song "Bette Davis Eyes" in 1981, and it spent nine weeks as the number-one song. Davis sent Carnes a thank-you note.

Humor of the Day

"With the newspaper strike on, I wouldn't consider dying."

~ Bette Davis

Happy Birthday!

When **Bette Davis** (1908–1989) arrived in Hollywood, her ride to Universal Studios wasn't there. In fact, it had been but left when they



didn't see anyone who looked pretty enough to be an actress. Davis may have had a tough start, but a move to Warner Bros. Studio and a willingness to play unsympathetic

characters garnered her critical acclaim and eventually box office success. She was especially lauded for her spot-on performance in *All About Eve*. Her striking deep-blue eyes were exceptionally expressive.

 \equiv Friday, April 5, 2019

Today is Deep Dish Pizza Day. Deep dish pizza was created at the original Pizzeria Uno in Chicago in 1943. The pizza is baked inside a high-edged steel pan so that it develops a flaky, buttery crust like a pie.

Eye in the Sky

The European Space Agency's Mars Express mission currently has a spacecraft in Mars' orbit taking stunning pictures of the red planet. Perhaps no picture has been more popular than one featuring a massive crater filled with ice! The crater is 50 miles wide and more than one mile deep and sits in the planet's northern polar ice cap region. Even during Mars' summer, the crater remains filled with ice. The image has many people fantasizing that human colonization of Mars could be made more enjoyable by this year-round iceskating rink. And you might even be able to land a triple axel, thanks to Mars' weaker gravitational pull.

Buy a Vowel

H N R BL

Deserving of respect or regard

VNZMEK: HONOKYBTE

Picture of the Day



This grizzly bear found the recent heat wave absolutely unbearable.

Now it's your turn to come up with a good caption.

Who Said So?

This civil rights icon said,
"Life's most persistent and urgent
question is, 'What are you
doing for others?""

ANSWER: Martin Luther King Iv.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

On This Date

1830 – In Fayette Township, New York, Joseph Smith, founder of the Mormon religion, organized the Church of Christ during a meeting with a small group of believers.

1887 – Anne Sullivan taught the "unteachable" blind, deaf, and mute girl Helen Keller the miracle of language by placing Helen's hand under a stream of water and spelling out *water* in sign language. It was the beginning of Helen's career as a teacher, author, and advocate for the deaf and blind

1917 – The United States entered World War I

1947 – The first Tony Award ceremony was held in New York City to recognize excellence in live Broadway Theater. Tickets to the first event cost \$7.50 and included dinner.

Daily Trivia

Icefish have clear blood. Insect blood is yellow. Mammals are redblooded, and lobsters bleed blue.

Quote of the Day

"Never bend your head.
Always hold it high. Look the world straight in the eye."

~ Helen Keller

Happy Birthday!

James A. Healy (1830–1900) was the first African American bishop, although his race was not openly revealed. He was born a slave in Macon County, Georgia, but was



sent to the North in order to attend school. Healy began his career as a pastor in Boston and was promoted to Bishop of Portland, Maine. Many of

his parishioners were of French-Canadian descent. He spoke both English and French. He established many charities for widows and orphans of the Civil War. Healy labeled child labor "abuse" and led the construction of 18 new schools. Bishop Healy was a consultant for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

Today is International Pillow Fight Day. Organized pillow fights originated as "flash mobs," or groups of strangers who answered the call to fight with pillows from online messages declaring a specific time and place.

Set the Record Straight

Ask anyone to draw a picture of a raindrop, and they most likely will draw it shaped like a teardrop: full and round on the bottom and pointed at the top. In reality, small raindrops that form high in the atmosphere are almost always spherical. As raindrops grow larger, they develop into a shape that looks much like a hamburger bun: flat on the bottom and round on the top. As they fall, larger drops split into smaller, spherical drops and, if they collide with other raindrops and grow larger, they again take the shape of the burger bun until they grow so large that they split again into smaller spherical drops.

Riddle Me This

Three eyes I have, all in a row. When the red one opens, no one can go. What am I?

ANSWER: A traffic light

Gadgets & Gizmos



This simple bungee cord called the Laundry Lasso is designed with two suction cups so that it holds your front-loading washing machine door open, allowing air to circulate and the drum to dry. Watertight seals are great at keeping water in, but the inside needs to dry in order to prevent mildew and odors.

Word Scramble

TLINU

Up to a specified time

VINAMER: ONLIT

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019

On This Date

1827 – John Walker, an English pharmacist, recorded his first sale of the friction matches he invented the previous year.

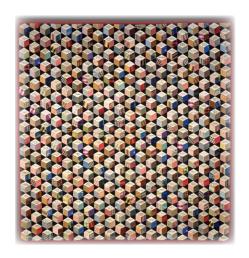
1940 – Booker T. Washington, educator and black leader, became the first African American to be pictured on a U.S. postage stamp.

1945—During the Battle of Okinawa, hundreds of American planes sank the huge Japanese battleship *Yamato*. The *Yamato* and its sister ship, *Musashi*, were the heaviest battleships ever built.

1970 – John Wayne, a movie veteran of over 200 films, won his first and only Oscar. The Duke earned an Academy Award for Best Actor for his role as Rooster Cogburn in *True Grit*.

Daily Trivia

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is the world's largest piece of folk art. It weighs 54 tons and could cover dozens of football fields.



Happy Birthday!

Adeline Harris (1849–1931) was 17 when she started sewing a quilt using a "tumbling blocks" pattern. She sent



squares of white silk to people she held in esteem in hopes they would autograph them. Harris received 350 autographs, including

those of Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jacob Grimm, Alexandre Dumas, Charles Dickens, and Samuel B. Morse. The beautifully hand-stitched quilt is composed of 1,840 individual silk pieces, and hangs at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019

Today is World Health Day. On this day in 1948, the World Health Organization was created. This international body set malaria, tuberculosis, maternal and child health, and nutrition as some of its highest priorities.

What's the Difference?

What's the difference between a gift and a present? The word *gift* comes from the Germanic root "to give," meaning something given. A *present* comes from the French "to present," meaning something presented to

another. With these subtle differences, a present is always a concrete thing given from one to another.



A gift, on the other hand, can be a thing, but it can also be a song, a lesson, or something else intangible. We often call someone's talents their *gifts*. And these gifts or talents can be freely shared and given away.

High Five

Can you name the five most populated countries in the world?

ANSWER: I. China, I.415 billion; 2. India, 1.354 billion; 3. United States, 326 million; 4. Indonesia, 266 million; 5. Brazil, 201 million

Golden Memories

On this day 50 years ago, what we now call the Internet was born. The Internet began with a "request for comments," or an RFC. This RFC asked engineers and scientists to contribute ideas and information for what was called the ARPANET project, the Advanced Research Projects Agency Network. This is just a fancy way of saying that computer geeks envisioned an interconnected network of computer systems all across the U.S. as a means of sharing and preserving valuable research data.

Word Wise Which word is not like the others?

igloo teepee

dugout hogan

ANSWER: A dugout is a Native American canoe; the others are dwellings.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019

On This Date

1783 – Catherine the Great of Russia annexed Crimea after seizing it from the Turks. Her reign eventually brought most of Ukraine under Russian rule.

1986 - Robert Merrill, baritone



of the Metropolitan Opera, both sang the national anthem and threw out the first ball at Yankee Stadium.

2001 – Tiger Woods became the first golfer in history to win four consecutive major tournaments, known as golf's grand slam.

If the Glove Fits

At first, baseball was played without gloves. In 1875, St. Louis outfielder Charlie Waitt put on a pair of leather dress gloves to protect his



hands. Although he was called a "sissy" by fans, the idea soon took off, and baseball players began to wear gloves.

Quote of the Day

"The search for human freedom can never be complete without freedom for women."

~ Betty Ford

Happy Birthday!

Betty Ford (1918–2011) was first



lady of the United States for three years. At the age of 11, she began modeling clothes and teaching children popular dances to earn

money during the Depression. As first lady, Ford openly advocated for women's rights. In interviews she was forthright about her struggle with breast cancer. In 1978, Ford's family confronted her about her drinking and she went to a recovery center. Ford was frank about her alcoholism and devoted the rest of her life to maintaining her sobriety and working with other alcoholics. She founded the Betty Ford Center for treatment of chemical dependency in 1982.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019

Today is Zoo Lover's Day. Over 700 million people visit zoos each year, making this holiday a massive celebration! Zoos and aquariums make some of the world's most important contributions to wildlife conservation.

Root of the Matter

Extend an olive branch



If you extend an olive branch to a rival, it means that you are making an offer of peace. This

expression has biblical origins. In the Old Testament, God brings a great flood to Earth. Before the flood, God instructs Noah to build a giant ark, upon which he saves two of each animal. Once the waters recede, Noah sends a dove out into the world, and it returns bearing an olive leaf. This olive leaf is a sign of the abatement of God's wrath and a symbol of peace. Similarly, the olive branch was also a symbol of peace in ancient Greece.

Word Scramble

RCNABH

A limb or offshoot

VNZMEK: BKVNCH

Mad Science

Why do old newspaper clippings and the pages of books turn yellow over time? Most paper is made from wood, which is comprised largely cellulose and lignin, which is what makes wood stiff and Cellulose is very good at reflecting light, which makes paper appear white. Lignin, on the other hand, changes its molecular structure as it ages. As molecular bonds are broken, new patches of molecules turn yellow and brown. Paper manufacturers attempt to remove as much lignin as possible from paper so that it stays white. Newspaper, however, is cheap, has more lignin, and yellows faster. Brown cardboard, on the other hand, has lots of sturdy lignin to keep it stiff.

Punny Business

R.I.P. boiled water. You will be mist.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

On This Date

1865 – General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia.

1928 – Turkey passed a law separating church and state. The intention was to guarantee the equality of all its citizens regardless of differences of religion.

1967 – The Boeing 737 flew for the first time. The 737 series has carried more than 16.8 billion passengers. That is equivalent to every person on Earth flying at least twice.



1973 – Paul McCartney first performed his song "My Love" with his band Wings. He wrote it for his wife Linda.

Nuttiness

Most nuts aren't nuts. Peanuts are legumes. Almonds, cashews, and pistachios are seeds. Acorns, hazelnuts, and chestnuts are actually in the nut family.

Humor of the Day

"I once spent a year in Philadelphia, I think it was on a Sunday."

~ W.C. Fields

Happy Birthday!

W.C. Fields (1880–1946) began his career in vaudeville as a silent juggler. When he added comedy to his routine, it was featured in the Ziegfeld Follies. Fields was also an actor. He was a hit playing a con man in the Broadway musical *Poppy*. His comedic persona was that of a hard-drinking cynic, loveable despite his flaws. Among his recognizable trademarks were his raspy drawl and grandiloquent vocabulary. He



moved into film acting and made over a dozen pictures. Humorist Leo Rosten said of Fields, "Any man who hates dogs and babies can't

be all bad." Fields denied hatred of either species in later interviews.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

Today is Cherish an Antique Day. Today is the day to cherish an antique that may have been handed down to you from your forebears. Take this day to polish it up or make some necessary repairs to keep it looking good.

Wild Kingdom

The villagers of Landévennec in northwestern France enjoyed swimming at their local beach with a dolphin nicknamed Zafar, who was a bit of a local celebrity. The dolphin began acting strangely, rubbing itself



against kayaks and pestering swimmers, even going so far as to toss one swimmer up into the air. It turns out

that the lonesome dolphin was looking for a mate. Dolphins are social species that usually travel in groups. This lonely dolphin, however, was looking for love in all the wrong places. Zafar's behavior was getting so disruptive that French authorities had no choice but to shut down the beach.

Name Three

Can you name three kinds of nuts that begin with the letter P?

POSSIBLE ANSWERS: peanut, pecan,

Where Am I?

This building was conceived during a wager between Walter Chrysler of the Chrysler Corporation and John Jakob Raskob of General Motors to see who could build a taller building. Erected in 1930, this tower was finished in only one year, ahead of schedule and under budget. The construction employed 3,400 Depression—era workers every day. When it was completed, it stood as the largest skyscraper in the world, taller than the Chrysler Building across town. Where am I?

ANSWER: The Empire State Building, New York City

Buy a Vowel

 $M_N T_N$

A brief or incidental reference

VINSMEK: WENLION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019

On This Date

1815 – The Mount Tambora volcano in Indonesia began erupting. The largest volcanic eruption in recorded history, it spewed so much ash that it caused the "Year Without a Summer" in North America and Europe.

1912 – The *Titanic* set off on her maiden voyage. After the 920 passengers boarded, the ship began its route along the Irish coast before meeting with disaster near Newfoundland.



1948 – General Dwight D. Eisenhower stood by an earlier report in which he said that a professional soldier should not seek high political office. It was only four years later that Ike was elected president of the United States.

Daily Trivia

The Kodak Brownie box camera sold for \$1.00 in 1900. It produced 2½-inch square pictures and introduced snapshots to the masses.

Pulitzer Prize Winner

With Americans of Past and Present Days, a history book by J. J. Jusserand, was the first book to win the Pulitzer Prize.

Happy Birthday!

Joseph Pulitzer (1847–1911) was born in Hungary. As a young man, he signed on with an American Civil War recruiter. During his passage, he realized the unfair terms of the contract and jumped ship in Boston. He went on to become a journalist and



newspaper publisher of great renown and a congressman from New York. Pulitzer was a leader of the Democratic Party and crusaded against big business and

corruption. The prestigious Pulitzer Prize for excellence in arts and journalism was established as part of Pulitzer's generous endowment to Columbia University.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019

Today is Bookmobile Day. The first bookmobile was actually a horse-drawn "Library Wagon" built in 1905 by the public library of Washington County, Maryland. It was manned by a janitor named Mr. Thomas.

Centennial Memories

On this day 100 years ago, the Mexican folk hero Emiliano Zapata was killed by government forces. Zapata was born a peasant and was forced into the Mexican military. When the Mexican Revolution began in 1910, he became a leader of peasants, demanding reforms for the poor farmers. While Zapata never effectively took control of the government, he became a national icon of the poor and downtrodden. His movement to reform the agrarian system, known as Zapatismo, still lives on in the political imaginations of many Mexicans today.

Word Scramble

ARSETGO

Keeping things in place for a future use

VN2MEK: 2LOKVCE

Think-tionary

jow

A. The ringing or tolling sound of a bell

or

B. To goad someone into a fight

ANSWER: A. The slow jow of church bells always makes me feel melancholy.

Toys of Yesteryear



Arthur Patterson was working in a stationery store when he invented the card game Flinch.

Patterson was an avid card player. In 1901, he came up with a new game for which he had to invent an entirely new deck of cards. The game grew so popular that in just two years, one million Flinch games had been sold. People so clamored for the cards that stores had to post "No Flinch Today" signs in their windows when they were sold out.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

On This Date

1927 – Ettore Bugatti began work on the Bugatti Type 41 Royale super car. It was a huge, handcrafted

luxury car that was designed for royalty. The base price was \$30,000. One of



the largest cars ever produced, only six were made and all six still exist.

1951 – President Truman relieved General MacArthur from his commands in Korea because MacArthur had publicly criticized him for not expanding the war into China. Although Truman's decision was politically unpopular, he felt the American tradition of civilian control of the military was at stake.

Geography Trivia

The largest mountain range is the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, which runs mostly underwater from just south of the North Pole to just north of Antarctica, through the Atlantic Ocean.

Quote of the Day

"Prejudice is a great time saver. You can form opinions without having to get the facts."

 $\sim E.~B.~White$

Happy Birthday!

Percy Lavon Julian (1899–1975) was a chemist who specialized in deriving medicines from plants. He extracted physostigmine from the



calabar bean, which became a crucial medicine for glaucoma. Julian pioneered is olating steroids and hormones, such

as progesterone, from soybeans. Utilizing inexpensive plants for pharmaceuticals made the medicines much more affordable. A postage stamp in his honor was printed in 1993.

 \equiv Thursday, April 11, 2019

Today is Submarine Day. On this day in 1900, the U.S. Navy acquired the *Holland VI*, its first modern commissioned sub. The navy's very first submarine was the USS *Alligator*, active during the American Civil War.

Only Human

Nobody likes coming down with a fever and its accompanying cold sweats and disorientation. For many, the first reaction to a fever is to take fever-reducing drugs. Researchers have discovered that fevers actually power up our immune cells. When feverish, the surface proteins on immune cells are altered so that they can better travel through blood vessels and reach places that are infected. The more immune cells that arrive at the site of the infection, the faster the infection is cleared up and the better you feel.

Buy a Vowel

_ _ T _ M _ T _ C

To work by itself with no human control

VNSMEK: VUTOMATIC

You Are What You Eat



The only downside of ordering a pizza for delivery is getting rid of the greasy box. Vinnie's Pizzeria in Brooklyn, New York, may have

solved this problem by creating an edible pizza box out of pizza. The box looks exactly like what you'd expect; a hearty crust folded over onto itself with an interior slathered in sauce and cheese. And what's inside this box made of pizza? Another pizza, of course! This so-called "pie-o-degradable" box and pizza cost \$40, about the same price as two large cheese pies.

Who Said So?

This businessman-turnedpresidential advisor said, "Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked why."

ANSWER: Bernard Baruch

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019

On This Date

1945 – President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in Warm Springs, Georgia, of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 63. At the time he

collapsed, he had been sitting for artist Elizabeth Shoumatoff for a portrait painting now known as the famous *Unfinished Portrait*.



1955 – The University of Michigan Polio Vaccine Evaluation Center announced that Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine was "safe, effective, and potent." Today, health officials hope to immunize every child to ultimately rid the world of polio.

Literary Trivia

Ramona Quimby, the beloved protagonist of many Beverly Cleary books, is based on a real girl who lived near Cleary. Cleary remembers seeing the girl eating a pound of butter her mother sent her to buy at the store.

Quote of the Day

"They [kids] still need to feel safe, be close to their families, like their teachers, and have friends to play with."

~ Beverly Cleary

Happy Birthday!

Beverly Cleary was born in 1916 in rural Oregon. Maybe you have to live to be over 100 to write so many books! She moved to Portland, where her books are set, while in grade school, and she struggled to



keep up in reading. Beloved by readers of all ages, Cleary said she especially enjoys writing for third and fourth graders. She writes

on yellow legal pads while baking. Cleary has won numerous awards, including several Newberys. Her birthday has been named D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Day.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019

Today is the International Day of Human Space Flight. The United Nations initiated this holiday in recognition of cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first human to go to space. Gagarin made one orbit around Earth in 1961.

Picture of the Day



So can you explain to me again why airlines charge me so much for overweight luggage?

Now it's your turn to come up with a good caption.

Word to the Wise

If you believe the end of the world is near and you're stockpiling supplies to prepare yourself, then according to the dictionary you're a *prepper*. Y2K preppers readied themselves for the year 2000 computer bug, which was supposed to devastate the world but ended up doing nothing of the sort.

Eye in the Sky

made history when China Chang'e-4 lunar lander touched down on the moon. Inside the lander's biosphere something amazing was happening: a small cotton plant was growing. This was the first seed ever germinated on the moon, called a "giant leaf for mankind." Sadly, the leaf didn't last. When temperatures plunged to -62°F, and eventually even lower to -292°F, the cotton seedlings perished. This cold shock was sudden and brutal, yet expected, for no earthly plant is known to survive temperatures colder than those on Antarctica.

Word Wise Which word is not like the others?

Hawaii Maldives

Guam Tonga

ANSWER: The Maldives are in the Indian Ocean; the others are in the Pacific.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

On This Date

1796 – The first circus elephant arrived in the U.S., from Bengal. For the next dozen years, the elephant, named "old Bet," was almost constantly on tour.

1958 – American Van Cliburn won the inaugural International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in Moscow. Cliburn's performance earned him a standing ovation lasting eight minutes.

1964 – Sidney Poitier became the first African American male to win the Best Actor award for the 1963 film *Lilies of the Field*.

1970 – An oxygen tank aboard Apollo 13 exploded while the craft was 200,000 miles from Earth. Using great skill and ingenuity, the crew safely touched down in the Pacific Ocean four days later.

Daily Trivia

The abbreviation for *pound* (lb.) comes from the astrological sign Libra, meaning "balance."

Quote of the Day

"Southerners love a good tale. They are born reciters, great memory retainers, diary keepers, letter exchangers... great talkers."

~ Eudora Welty

Happy Birthday!

Eudora Welty (1909–2001) wrote novels and short stories about life in the American South. She won numerous awards, including a Pulitzer Prize for *The Optimist's Daughter*. Before becoming a writer, Welty, who graduated from college in the midst of the Depression, took a WPA position photographing the effects of the Depression in southern states. This experience informed her later writing. Welty's

house in Jackson, Mississippi, is now a National Historic Monument and is open to the public as a house museum.



SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

Today is Scrabble Day. This popular word game was invented during the Depression by an amateur artist and unemployed architect. If you play today, try using the word *oxyphenbutazone*, which is the highest-scoring word possible.

Household Tips



Clear nail polish can do more than just coat your newly lacquered nails. It is known to stop a run in pantyhose, and it can even

mend a torn window screen. If screws have a habit of coming loose, simply dab a coating of clear nail polish to keep the screw in place. The same goes with loose shirt buttons. If your buttons are constantly coming loose, simply dab a bit of clear nail polish over the threads to "glue" them in place. If you're the crafty type who likes to work with ribbons and string, you can prevent frayed ends by coating the trimmed ends with a bit of clear nail polish.

What's in a Name?

This actor, born Donald James Yarmy, was best known for his role as Agent 86 on *Get Smart*.

ANSWER: Don Adams

Centennial Memories

On this day 100 years ago, British troops in the Indian holy city of Amritsar fired upon protesters meeting in a city park. Days before, Amritsar had been placed under martial law to quell demonstrations against the British Empire, and mass gatherings had been banned. The violence had a profound impact on Mohandas Gandhi. Gandhi had previously supported the British in the hopes of winning partial independence for India. After the Amritsar Massacre, Gandhi believed in nothing but total independence for India. As a result, he began his campaign of civil disobedience against British rule.

Word Scramble

MEIVOT

A reason for doing something

VNZMEK: MOLINE

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019

On This Date

1902 – James Cash (J.C.) Penney opened his first retail store in Kemmerer, Wyoming. It was called the Golden Rule Store.



1910 – President William Howard Taft began a sports tradition by throwing out the first baseball of the season at an American League game between Washington and Philadelphia. Washington won 3–0.

1960 – The musical Bye Bye Birdie opened at the Martin Beck Theatre in New York City. Chita Rivera and Dick Van Dyke starred in



the Broadway show, which ran for 607 performances.

Baseball Trivia

Baltimore Orioles manager Earl Weaver was ejected from 91 games, including both games of a double-header. He was team manager for 17 years.

Valedictorian Speech

"Fellow graduates, duty bids us go forth into active life. Let us go cheerfully, hopefully, and earnestly."

~ Anne Sullivan

Happy Birthday!

Anne Sullivan (1866–1936) was born in Ireland but moved to the U.S. as a young child. Both her parents and brother died while she was a child. She developed eye infections



that led to blindness. Sullivan convinced an orphanage inspector to send her to Boston to the Perkins School for the Blind. Her first job was tutoring

Helen Keller, a challenge she rose to famously. Eventually, Keller also went to the Perkins School accompanied by Sullivan. The two were lifelong friends. Their ashes are interred next to each other in the Washington National Cathedral.

 \equiv SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019

Today is Palm Sunday. It always falls the Sunday before Easter and commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, with people welcoming him by laying down cloaks and palm fronds in front of him.

Gadgets & Gizmos



The Noria air conditioner boasts 5,000 BTUs of cooling power in a package that won't take up your entire window, doesn't weigh a ton (only 30 lbs), and hums at 50 dB, the sound equivalent of a quiet conversation. The unit locks into a frame that fits into the window. Users can even adjust the temperature from their smartphones.

Punny Business

I ordered 2,000 pounds of Chinese soup. It was wonton.

Golden Memories

1969 was a banner year for Major League Baseball. The first Canadian team, the Montreal Expos, was admitted to the league. On this day 50 years ago, the first regular season game was played outside of the United States at Jarry Park in Montreal. The Expos hosted the reigning National League champs, the St. Louis Cardinals. Many considered the Montreal park too small (and too cold in April) for a major league game, and perhaps this is why Montreal left fielder Mack Jones smacked the game-winning three-run homer for the home team.

Buy a Vowel

 $_LV_TR$

A platform that raises or lifts something up

VNZMEK: ETENVLOK

 \equiv MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019

On This Date

1924 – The Rand McNally Auto Chum, later known as Rand McNally Road Atlas, was first published. The Rand McNally company also erected many actual roadside highway signs, so the maps could be better utilized.

1947 – Jackie Robinson broke the baseball color barrier when he donned a Brooklyn Dodgers uniform for the first time. Robinson went on to have an exceptional 10-year MLB career.

1959 – Cuban leader Fidel Castro began a U.S. goodwill tour. Castro sought an audience with then-President Dwight Eisenhower, but Eisenhower didn't think much of Cuba's new leader, choosing to go golfing instead.

Daily Trivia

Jelly beans (eight flavors) were first mentioned in 1861 by Boston confectioner William Schrafft, who urged people to send them as a treat to soldiers serving in the Civil War.

Quote of the Day

"I have to really enjoy the good things because it makes the bad things OK."

~ Emma Watson

Happy Birthday!

Emma Watson is a British actress



born in 1990. She was taking acting classes and had been in school plays when a teacher helped arrange an audition for her. She earned the coveted

role of Hermione Granger in eight *Harry Potter* movies. Reviews of the films often singled out Watson's excellent acting skills. In 2014, she graduated from Brown University with a bachelor's degree in English literature before resuming her acting career. Watson helped launch the UN's women campaign HeForShe, which calls for men to advocate gender equality.

Monday, April 15, 2019

Today is the running of the Boston Marathon. This marathon is not only the oldest in the country (it was first run in 1897) but it is also the fastest. As if the marathon weren't enough, the Boston Red Sox also play a home game.

What Am I?

People first glimpsed me at Coney Island in 1896. What today is a modern convenience was then cause for curiosity and excitement. I may have carried people up just a measly six feet, but 75,000 visitors flocked to ride on me. Back then, Coney Island was a hotbed of invention, showcasing a variety of new and modern wonders. No wonder inventor Jesse Reno showed me off there. Today, you'll find me relieving tired legs everywhere, from department stores to airports, museums, and subway stations. I make steep climbs easy. What am I?

ANSWER: An escalator

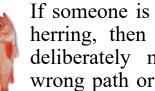
Who Said So?

This man, the Father of Advertising, said, "The best ideas come as jokes. Make your thinking as funny as possible."

ANSWER: David Ogilvy

Root of the Matter

Red herring



If someone is following a red herring, then they are being deliberately misled down a wrong path or argument. This expression dates back to 1807,

when journalist William Cobbett told the story of using a kipper, or a smoked herring (the fish often turns bright red when smoked), to mislead a pack of hounds on the trail of a hare. This red herring misled the dogs. Nowadays, red herrings may misleading or diversionary arguments. In mystery stories, a red herring is an attempt to mislead a reader's guess as to "whodunnit."

Word Scramble

OHNETR

The chair for a king or queen

VNZMEK: LHKONE

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019

On This Date

1908 – President Theodore Roosevelt designated the Natural Bridges area in Utah as a National Monument.

1922 – Annie Oakley shot 100 clay targets in a row, setting a women's record. Her amazing talent first came

to light when at the age of 15 she won a shooting match with traveling-show marksman Frank Butler. Apparently, Butler did not hold a grudge because they later married.



Egg Tapping Trivia

Egg tapping was popular in New Amsterdam, now New York. Players each have a boiled egg. One player uses their egg to tap the other player's egg and tries to crack it without damaging their own egg. If they succeed, they get to keep both eggs.



Quote of the Day

"All I need to make a comedy is a park, a policeman, and a pretty girl."

~ Charlie Chaplin

Happy Birthday!

Charlie Chaplin (1889–1977) grew up brutally poor in England.



By his ninth birthday, he had been sent to live in labor houses twice. At the age of 10, Chaplin signed on with a performance troupe.

He made his way to the U.S., where he dazzled in silent films, started his own film company, and cofounded United Artists distribution. He became a target of investigation when his films turned political. Today, Chaplin is regarded as one of the most influential actor-directors in film history. His movie *The Great Dictator* is often ranked on lists of the greatest films of all time.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019

Today is Bean Counters' Day, every accountant's favorite holiday. This day honors those unsung heroes who take care of our financial well-being while taking no credit for themselves. Accountants can relax after Tax Day.

Think-tionary

pasquinade

A. A mockery of someone or something posted in a public place

or

B. A pasty gruel eaten by monks on pilgrimages

ANSWER: A. I was humiliated by the of the building.

When Was It?

It was during this year that the Supreme Court ruled that one could record programs on videotape for personal use without breaking the law. Apple introduced its first Macintosh personal computer. While filming a Pepsi commercial, pop superstar Michael Jackson suffered burns from fireworks. The NFL's Baltimore Colts moved to Indianapolis in the dead of night. When was it?

VN2MEE: 1884

Mad Science

Earth's magnetic North Pole is on the move, shifting from the Canadian Arctic to Siberia. The map of Earth's

magnetic field was updated in 2015, but it is already horribly out of date. *Declination* is



the measured difference between the true geographic North Pole, the top of the world, and the magnetic north. Accurate declination is helpful to a wide array of navigators, from those guiding airplanes and ocean ships to GPS devices on smartphones. Magnetic north often drifts, with some scientists believing that liquid iron deep inside Earth is responsible.

Buy a Vowel

 $H_R_NG__$

A forceful or angry speech

VNSMEK: HYKYNCNE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019

On This Date

1929 – Baseball player Babe Ruth married Claire Hodgson, a former member of the Ziegfeld Follies. They remained married until Ruth's death in 1948

1961 – U.S.-backed Cuban exiles landed at the Bay of Pigs in Cuba to overthrow Premier Fidel Castro's government. The mission failed: 100 invaders were killed and 1,400 were captured.

1964 – Ford Motors unveiled its new Mustang model. It won the Tiffany Gold



Medal for excellence in American design, the first automobile ever to do so, and was Ford's most successful launch since the Model A.

Timely Trivia

The quartz crystals in most wristwatches vibrate 32,768 times per second. Quartz watches are more accurate than the best mechanical timepieces.

Quote of the Day

"I've got to get to the top of the hill"

~ Last words of J. P. Morgan

Happy Birthday!

J. P. Morgan (1837–1913) was the very symbol of Wall Street and one of the wealthiest men in the world.

His firm financed many of the first powerhouse industrial companies, including U.S. Steel, General Electric, and International Harvester. Morgan was a collector



of books, pictures, and fine art objects. He smoked dozens of cigars per day and favored large Havana cigars. Morgan was a large man with piercing eyes and a deformed nose caused by rhinophyma. He disliked publicity and hated being photographed. Morgan and his wife Amelia had four children.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019

Today is Ellis Island Family History Day. On this day in 1907, more immigrants (11,747) entered the U.S. through Ellis Island than on any other day in its history. In total, 17 million immigrants came through Ellis Island.

Wild Kingdom

Crows are known to be incredibly intelligent creatures that have a knack for collecting trinkets. One theme park in France has capitalized on their intelligence by teaching crows to pick up trash. The park's falconer, Christophe Gaborit, had trained crows to deliver a rose to a princess in a castle during one of the park's shows. He simply used the same training methods to teach crows to pick up garbage and deposit it in trash cans. Each time a crow deposited the trash, it received a treat. Now if only people could be trained to do the same.

Word Wise Which word is not like the others?

jointer cornet ocarina banjo

ANSWER: A jointer is a mason's tool; the others are musical instruments.

Only Human



There is such a thing as a teenage brain, and anyone who has spent

time with a teenager understands all too well that they think differently. Science has determined that the young brain has both fast-growing synpases and entire sections that remain unconnected. The section to connect (between the ages of 25–30) is the frontal lobe, which is responsible for processes such as reasoning, planning, and judgment. The end result is that teens are easily influenced by their environment and prone to impulsive and often risky behavior.

Riddle Me This

What's been around for millions of years but is no more than a month old?

ANSWER: The moon

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019

On This Date

1775 – American revolutionaries Paul Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott rode through Massachusetts, giving the warning that "the Regulars are coming out." Later, the phrase "the British are coming" was attributed to Revere. The ride was commemorated in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "Paul Revere's Ride."

1942 – Colonel James Doolittle led a flight of 16 B-25 bombers to attack Tokyo. Japanese commanders considered the raid deeply embarrassing, and their attempt to

close the perceived gap in their Pacific defense perimeter led directly to a decisive American victory at the Battle of Midway.



Spicy Trivia

Fermenting vinegar and hot peppers in a French barrel that has three inches of salt on top makes Tabasco sauce. It is aged for three years until all the salt is diffused.

Humor of the Day

"Knowledge is like underwear. It is useful to have it, but not necessary to show it off."

~ Bill Murray

Happy Birthday!

James McCune Smith (1813–1865) attended the African Free School in New York City where as an eleven-year-old, he was selected to give a

speech to Marquis de Lafayette. He went on to earn a medical degree in Scotland and become the first African American medical doctor. He



was also the first African American pharmacy owner. Smith partnered with Frederick Douglass to form the National Council of Colored People and helped refugee slaves via the Underground Railroad. In 2010, several of Smith's descendants commissioned a new tombstone for his grave in Brooklyn.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019

Today is High Five Day. The goal of the day is easy: to slap as many high fives as you can. One company, Highfive Technologies, has even agreed to donate \$5 for every picture of a high five posted on social media.

Garden Party

The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were legendary even in ancient times. Amid the hot desert, lush flora cascaded over 75-foot-tall terraces. These gardens did indeed exist, but not in Babylon. Researcher Stephanie believes that Nebuchadnezzar II did not build the gardens for his wife, as many believe. Instead, King Sennacherib of the rival Assyrian Empire built them 300 miles north of Babylon in Nineveh. A recent archaeological dig has uncovered a vast network of aqueducts that would have supplied water to the magnificent desert gardens.

Word Scramble

PUSRIDT

To cause disorder or turmoil

VNZMEK: DIZKULL

You Are What You Eat

Craft breweries may be known for their experimental beers, but the 7 Cent Brewery in Melbourne, Australia, may have gotten a little carried away. Perhaps it was after a bit of navelgazing that the idea struck brewers to use yeast taken from their own bellybutton lint. The brewers swiped their belly buttons and grew the yeasts until they had enough to brew a batch of Belly Button Beer, a Belgian-style Witbier. It may sound gross, but yeast is yeast, no matter where you find it. Other brewers have used yeast found in beards and trapped in 45-millionyear-old amber.

Who Said So?

This English female writer, who gave herself a man's name, said, "It is never too late to be what you might have been."

ANSWER: George Eliot

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019

On This Date

1927 – Mae West was found guilty of violating morals charges relating to her Broadway play *Sex*. When

the judge asked if she was trying to show contempt for the court, she answered, "On the contrary, Your Honor, I was doing my best to conceal it"



1934 – Shirley Temple made her debut in the movie *Stand Up and Cheer!* The film was about efforts undertaken during the Great Depression to boost morale.

1951 – General Douglas MacArthur gave his farewell address to Congress, saying, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."



Daily Trivia

General Douglas MacArthur won a Medal of Honor During World War II. His father had won the Medal of Honor during the Civil War.

Quote of the Day

"A scientific man ought to have no wishes, no affections, a mere heart of stone"

~ Charles Darwin

Happy Birthday!

Glenn T. Seaborg (1912–1999) was a Nobel-Prize-winning chemist whose discoveries resulted in a new, extended periodic table of elements. Seaborg was one of the scientists who discovered transuranic elements,

which are elements that are heavier than uranium. Transuranic elements are used to make nuclear energy and bombs. He also isolated iodine, which



was used as a thyroid medication. Seaborg helped isolate plutonium for the Manhattan Project's atomic bomb. He later traveled around the world, working to promote arms reduction.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019

Today is the start of Passover, which begins at sundown. This all-important Jewish holiday remembers the Exodus of the Israelites out of their enslavement in Egypt after the 10 plagues.

Eye in the Sky



There is an awful lot of junk in space, from satellites to the pieces left over from satellites that have

been demolished in collisions with other space junk. Some of the things we have launched into space are pretty strange. Consider the Tesla roadster that hitched a ride on a SpaceX rocket. SpaceX also launched a solid-gold jar in the shape of NASA's first African American astronaut, Robert Henry Lawrence Jr. A company called RocketLab even launched a giant disco ball into space, calling the reflective orb the "Humanity Star." The star may be as dead as disco after burning up in Earth's orbit a year ago.

Punny Business

I accidentally handed my wife a glue stick instead of Chapstick. She still isn't talking to me.

Who Am I?

As a child, I was most fascinated by music, math, and science. I dropped out of school in 1894, not because I was lazy, but because I did not enjoy the strict teachers and my family was moving abroad. I applied to a school in Switzerland but failed to get in. The next year, though, I reapplied and was accepted. Later, I developed many groundbreaking scientific theories, for which I won the Nobel Prize. With Hitler's rise, I went to America, where I became an advocate of peace. Who am I?

ANSWER: Albert Linstein

Word Wise

Which word is not like the others?

rotary roundabout driving ring traffic circle

suonount.

driving ring; the others are circular road

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019



On This Date

1862 – The first test of pasteurization was completed by Louis Pasteur and Claude Bernard. It showed that carefully heating foods could kill bacteria without damaging the food. The process was soon used for beer and milk

1902 – Scientists Marie and Pierre Curie isolated the radioactive element radium. Being pioneers in the field, they were unaware of the harmful effects of radiation. Marie would eventually die of cancer caused by radiation.

1909 – Movie director D.W. Griffith hired out-of-work actress Mary Pickford for \$40 per week. She appeared in 51 films in 1909 and soon become known as "America's Sweetheart."

Quote of the Day

"Gratitude is when memory is stored in the heart and not in the mind."

~ Lionel Hampton

Happy Birthday!

Lionel Hampton (1908–2002) was a bandleader, jazz percussionist, and vibraphone virtuoso. He ranks among the greatest names in jazz history, and he worked with Benny



Goodman, Charlie Parker, and Quincy Jones. He was also deeply involved in the construction of public housing in Harlem

and Newark. Hampton and his band toured throughout the world until a stroke in Paris in 1991 slowed him down. He was married to his wife, Gladys, from 1936 until her death in 1971. Many musicians recall that Lionel ran the music and Gladys ran the business.

 \equiv SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019

Today is Look Alike Day. You may not have a biological twin, but you might certainly have someone who looks like you. Perhaps a celebrity, friend, or neighbor is your *doppelganger*, a German word meaning "double."

What's the Difference?



What's the difference between CBD and THC, the two chemicals found in marijuana? With many states legalizing this drug,

it is becoming more important to educate yourself about marijuana's effects. CBD is *cannabidiol*, a chemical compound believed to induce relaxation, ease anxiety, and even treat seizures. You can find CBD added to chocolate, tea, beauty creams, and shampoos. THC, is *tetrahydrocannabinol*, the powerful psychoactive chemical responsible for getting a person "high" or creating mind-altering effects. For this reason, CBD is considered by many to be safer than THC.

Riddle Me This

What goes up and down the stairs without moving?

ANSWER: A carpet

Fashion of Yesteryear

The ancient Romans did not trust the Chinese. While many valuable commodities were introduced to the West via the famous Silk Road, silk



itself was considered by the Romans to be a corrupting influence from the Chinese. Roman senators passed a law banning men from

wearing silk, complaining that it would "degrade the male sex." Laws against certain dress were also passed in colonial Massachusetts. Puritans forbade the poor from wearing silk, handmade lace, scarves, or anything fancy or fun.

Buy a Vowel

_ R _ N _ C

The opposite of what is expected

VNZMEK: IKONIC

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019



On This Date

1878 – At Engine Company 21 in Chicago, fireman George Reid slid down the binding pole from the hayloft to answer an alarm. His actions inspired poles in fire stations everywhere.

1912 – Fenway Park opened. It is the home of the Boston Red Sox and the oldest of all current Major League Baseball stadiums.

1956 – Elvis Presley's first hit record, "Heartbreak Hotel," reached #1 on the charts. A newspaper article about the suicide of a lonely man who jumped from a hotel window inspired the lyrics, which were written by Tommy Durden and Mae Boren Axton.

Daily Trivia

Reno is farther west than Los Angeles.

Rejection Letter to Charlotte Brontë

"Literature cannot be the business of a woman's life: and it ought not to be."

~ Robert Southey

Happy Birthday!

Charlotte Brontë (1816–1855) is one of the most famous women writers of the Victorian era. Early in her career, she devoted herself to poetry. After completing school and

becoming a teacher, she abandoned poetry for fiction, in large part because it had become more marketable. In 1847, she published *Jane Eyre*, her most



well-known and popular novel. It was originally published under the pen name Currer Bell. Her life was cut short by what was probably tuberculosis at age 39.

 \equiv SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019

Today is Easter Sunday, a holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead after his crucifixion. The story of an egg-laying Easter bunny likely has roots in Germany and is a belief that dates back to the 13th century.

Picture of the Day



This is why Santa never lets the Easter Bunny borrow his sleigh."

Now it's your turn to come up with a good caption.

What's in a Name?

This boxer with a sweet fighting style was born Walker Smith Jr.

ANSWER: Sugar Ray Robinson

Root of the Matter

In stitches

If you tell a joke that leaves your audience *in stitches*, it means that they are laughing so hard it hurts as much as being pricked with a sharp needle. The expression was first used by Shakespeare in the play Twelfth Night, where a character mentions how she will make someone "laugh yourself into stitches." A stitch originally was a sharp thrust, prick, pinch, or stab. The term stitch is still often used to describe the muscular cramping or pain in the side of the abdomen that occurs sometimes when running. Drinking water may relieve a side stitch but not a laugh attack.

Word Scramble

ROMRIR

A reflecting surface

VNZMEK: WIKKOK

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2019



On This Date

1889 – Some 50,000 home-seekers rode or ran to claim land in the Oklahoma Land Rush.

1970 – Earth Day, an event to increase public awareness of the world's environmental problems, was celebrated for the first time.

1989 – Archaeologists unearthed a 2,000-year-old mummy in a gold-covered coffin in the Egyptian oasis of Fayoum. She was wrapped in linen and dried flowers and had a child beside her.

Daily Trivia

Melting of the Arctic will not significantly increase sea levels because the ice is already floating in the ocean. However, melting ice in Greenland will measurably increase sea levels because this ice rests on land.

Quote of the Day

"A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself."

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

Happy Birthday!

Yehudi Menuhin (1916–1999) is widely considered one of the greatest violinists of the 20th century. He performed for Allied soldiers during World War II and for the inmates of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp after its liberation in 1945.



Menuhin, who was born in the United States, was the first Jewish musician to go back to Germany after the Holocaust, to perform with the Berlin Philharmonic

Orchestra. He had a strong interest in yoga, and in 1953 *Life* magazine published photos of him in various yoga positions.

Monday, April 22, 2019

Today is Dyngus Day. This Polish holiday, also known as Wet Monday, always falls the Monday after Easter. It is traditional for boys to douse girls with water, symbolic of the baptism of Mieszko I, the Duke of Poland.

Think-tionary

quisby

A. A scrap of undesirable food, like a fish head or beef tongue

or

B. A peculiar or suspicious idler

ANSWER: B. I was shocked to discover that the quisby in the park was my own son.

Toys of Yesteryear

The Lite Brite was a simple design, a backlit grid covered with black paper. Yet when Hasbro introduced the glowing



toy in 1967, kids became enchanted by playing with light. They poked colored pegs through the black paper into the grid, creating lit patterns of their own design. The design has changed over the years, including a 3-D cube and a version that plays music, but kids' fascination with light has remained the same.

Silver Memories

On this day 25 years ago, the world's largest lollipop was made BonBon-Land in Denmark. Sweetsmaker Michael Spangsberg developed a variety of candies with crude names such as seagull droppings, ear wax, and more. Children were delighted at the irreverent confections, and soon entire busloads of kids were taking field trips to visit the factory. Spangsberg decided to invent an entire theme park, called BonBon-Land, dedicated to his enterprise. One of the biggest attractions was a make-yourown lollipop shop. This is why in 1994, BonBon-Land created a recordbreaking 3,011-pound lollipop.

Buy a Vowel

_T__FF__

A spicy stew of crayfish and vegetables over white rice

VNZMEK: ELONELEE

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

On This Date

1014 – Brian Boru, the High King of Ireland, was killed by a group of retreating Vikings shortly after his Irish forces defeated them.

1789—President George Washington and his wife, Martha, moved into the first executive mansion, the Franklin House in New York City, during the city's term as the national capital.

1900 – The word *hillbilly* was first used in the *New York Journal* in reference to a "free and untrampled white Alabamian who lived in the hills. He has no means to speak of, dresses as he can, talks as he pleases, drinks whiskey when he gets it and fires off his revolver as the fancy takes him."

If the Shoe Fits...



The metal instrument used in shoe stores to measure feet is called the Brannock device. Charles F. Brannock invented the device in 1926.

Quote of the Day

"Good night, good night!
Parting is such sweet sorrow,
that I shall say good night
till it be morrow."

~ William Shakespeare

Happy Birthday!

William Shakespeare (1564–1616) was born in England around April 23. His exact birthdate is not known but he was baptized on April 26. (Baptisms were usually held three days after birth.) Biographical information is sketchy, but Shakespeare likely was



an actor, then a writer and director. He is known as the greatest author in the English language. *Bedazzled*, *new-fangled*, and

fashionable are a few of the many words Shakespeare introduced. His complete works, including his poetry, can be read for free online at http://shakespeare.mit.edu/.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

Today is English Muffin Day. Of course, in England and Ireland, these are known as "American muffins." In 1880, an English immigrant to New York City named Samuel Bath Thomas invented the "toaster crumpet," a sophisticated alternative to toast. In 1894, it became the English muffin.

Where Am I?

This place is an architectural showcasing wonderland, many different cultural architectural styles that reflect the diversity of this great and ancient city. The area is arid, but many rivers run underground. The city accessed water through a network of cenotes, or natural sinkholes, offering pools of fresh water. The city's Castillo Temple is the most famous, but I have other sites to visit: the Temple of Warriors, Great Ball Court, and Las Monjas. Where am I?

ANSWER: Chichén Itzá, Mexico

Word Wise Which word is not like the others?

trencher salver chalice platter

ANSWER: A chalice is a cup; the others are serving dishes.

Only Human

A woman in China suffered a rare condition: she couldn't hear male voices. A specialist found that she was not blessed with a superpower, but she suffered a rare form of low-frequency hearing loss known as *reverse-slope hearing loss*. The woman was unable to hear any low-frequency sound, such as cars or thunder, along with most male voices. Doctors believe the condition



was brought on by stress, as the woman had been working very late and sleeping little. She should make a full recovery.

Interestingly, high-frequency hearing loss, where people cannot hear the voices of women and children, is more common.

Punny Business

I wrote a song about tortillas. Well, it's actually a rap.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019

On This Date

1800 – President John Adams approved \$5,000 for the purchase of "such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress," thus establishing the Library of Congress. Today, the collection contains more than 21 million books, as well as maps, films, manuscripts, and photographs.

1942 – Ingrid Bergman signed



with Warner Bros. to play Ilsa, opposite Humphrey Bogart, in *Casablanca*. She was under contract with David O. Selznick, but

he allowed her to do *Casablanca* in exchange for the right to use Warner Bros.' Olivia de Havilland in another film.

Daily Trivia

Honey is the only food that does not spoil. Honey contains very little



water, and bacteria cannot grow. Honey found in the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs has been tested and found edible.

Humor of the Day

"Those are my principles.

If you don't like them,

I have others."

~ Groucho Marx

Happy Birthday!

Shirley MacLaine, born in 1934, is an actress, dancer, activist, and author, well-known for her beliefs in new age spirituality, UFOs, and reincarnation. These are central themes of her best-selling books *Out on a Limb* and *Dancing in the Light*. She won an Academy Award for Best Actress for her part in *Terms of Endearment* (1983) and received Kennedy Center Honors in 2013 for lifetime contributions to American culture. Her little brother



is actor, director, and producer Warren Beatty. She will be appearing in the movie *Noelle* scheduled for release later this year.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019

Today is St. Mark's Eve. On this little-known holiday, one can purportedly see the ghosts of all those who are to die during the coming year. In many ways, this holiday is almost creepier than Halloween!

Wild Kingdom

Thieves at the San Antonio Aquarium attempted to steal a shark. Their plan? Simply reach into the tank, wrap the shark in a wet blanket, and put it in a baby stroller. Amazingly, the plan worked, and the shark thieves escaped by car. Luckily, security cameras captured the entire kidnapping, and the shark was discovered at the home of the thieves. Imagine the police officers' surprise when they entered the thieves' home to find tanks of all sizes filled with marine life. The home was like a private aquarium. The shark, named Miss Helen, returned to the aquarium and is expected to be fine.

Word Scramble

COBNEK

To summon with your hand

VNZMEK: BECKON

Mad Science



Bees may be the ultimate helper species; after all, the term *worker bee* refers to all those drones in

service of the queen. Yet, in South African Cape honeybees, female workers have been observed to change from altruistic helpers to self-servers. These bees ignore the orders of the queen and reproduce on their own, usurping the rule of the queen and forming their own colonies. Scientists have discovered that this is due to a genetic mutation called *thelytoky syndrome*. Under certain conditions, the genes of females are mutated, causing the bees to turn selfish.

Who Said So?

South Africa's great freedom fighter said, "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

MNSWER: Nelson Mandela

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

On This Date

1953 – Biochemists Francis Crick and



James Watson announced their discovery of DNA, which contains the genetic instructions used in the development of all known living organisms.

1990 – The crew of the U.S. space shuttle *Discovery* placed the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit. The Hubble has been used to record a comet's collision with Jupiter, provide a direct look at the surface of Pluto, and view distant galaxies, gas clouds, and black holes.

Daily Trivia

The last passenger pigeon, named Martha, died in captivity at the

Cincinnati Zoo in 1914. Her stuffed body is on permanent display at the Smithsonian Institution. The species was once the most abundant bird in North America.



Quote of the Day

"My first language was shy.

It's only by having been thrust into the limelight that

I have learned to cope with my shyness."

~ Al Pacino

Happy Birthday!

Al Pacino, born in 1940, is an acclaimed actor of stage and screen. He is probably best known for his work in the series of *The Godfather* movies. He won an Academy Award for Best Actor for his role

in Scent of a Woman (1992) and recently starred on Broadway in China Doll, a play written for him by David Mamet. Pacino is currently



co-president of the Actors Studio along with Harvey Keitel and Ellen Burstyn. He will appear in the film *The Irishman* later this year.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

Today is DNA Day. Our DNA is fragile and may be damaged thousands of times each day. It is often repaired, but when it is not, *mutations* occur, which can be either harmful or helpful.

You Are What You Eat

One of the wonderful things about local fairs is that you can find just about any food served deep-fried. The San Diego County Fair got creative this past year when they decided to serve deep-fried Starbucks coffee. Finely ground coffee beans were mixed with a sweet pastry dough, and then the balls were deep-fried until golden brown. The coffee ball was then rolled in sugar and served with whipped cream in a take-out Starbucks cup. What did it taste like? Coffee, sugar, and cream, according to creator Mike Peterson, all in a doughnut-like package that is crunchy on the outside and soft and gooey on the inside.

Buy a Vowel

_ _ T D _ T _ D

No longer in fashion

VNSMEK: OUTDATED

Old Wives' Tales



A popular old wives' tale is that bad things always come in threes. But do they really? How did this

unfortunate trinity come existence? The number three has often been linked to balance. Triangles are stable. The mathematician Pythagoras believed that three was the one true number. Christianity has the Holy Trinity. Plays traditionally have three acts. And the third time is a charm. Psychologists believe that people crave certainty, and superstitions are attempts to create certainty where there is none. When bad things happen, people use superstition to predict, and therefore exert power over, unfortunate events.

Riddle Me This

What is always in front of you yet cannot be seen?

ANSWER: The future

 \equiv FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019

On This Date

1906 – The George N. Pierce Company purchased land in Buffalo,

New York, for the site of its new production facility. In 1909,



the company changed its name to Pierce-Arrow. It became the only car company to exclusively produce luxury automobiles.

1937 – During the Spanish Civil War, the German Luftwaffe indiscriminately bombed the Basque town of Guernica in northern Spain.

Did You Know?

The painting *Guernica*, by Pablo Picasso, helped bring the Spanish Civil War to the world's attention. Picasso began work on the mural just 15 days after the bombing.



Quote of the Day

"Be the best. Not necessarily the original."

~ I.M. Pei

Happy Birthday!

I.M. Pei, born in 1917, is a Chinese American architect. His broad education led him to believe that architecture should serve a working purpose and suit its environment.



Pei says he is more concerned with architecture's link to history and form than pure aesthetics or new ideas. His most

famous design, the 1983 edition of the Louvre Museum in Paris, includes a breathtaking glass and metal pyramid. Pei has retired, but his New York-based architecture firm, founded in the 1950s, is still thriving. They work on large-scale projects, including, schools, offices, hotels, and cultural centers.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019

Today is Arbor Day, an important opportunity to plant a tree. Billions of trees are cut down each year. 17% of the Amazon rain forest has been lost in the last 50 years. Trees provide us with oxygen, remove carbon dioxide, and create shade—all excellent reasons to plant as many as possible.

Root of the Matter

Got it in the bag

If you've got it in the bag, then you have guaranteed your success. This expression for a sure success comes



from the New York Giants baseball team. In 1916, the Giants won 26 consecutive games. It was common at that

time for a bag of 72 baseballs to be left on the field in case the need arose for a replacement ball. During this historic win streak, if the Giants were ahead in the ninth inning, the bag would be prematurely removed from the field, supposedly ensuring a win. The Giants believed they had the game's victory *in the bag*.

Punny Business

I've decided to sell my vacuum. It was just collecting dust.

Eye in the Sky

Sometimes we get impatient here on Earth waiting two days for an Amazon Prime delivery. Imagine waiting for a delivery on the space station. Delivery fees alone are cost prohibitive! So the space station is getting its own 3-D printer. These printers do not print documents and photos on paper, but can "print" useful replacement parts out of "ink" made of liquid plastics and epoxies. This way, astronauts can simply print whatever they may need when they need it, as opposed to waiting for parts or supplies to be rocketed from Earth.

Word Scramble

LACTAIP

The city that is the seat of government

VNSMEK: CVbILVT

 \equiv SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

On This Date

1947 – This day was declared Babe Ruth Day. Major league parks throughout the United States participated. More than 60,000 fans honored their prize athlete in ceremonies at Yankee Stadium.



Ruth, who was dying of cancer, managed to make an appearance to thank his fans.

1994 – South African voters elected Nelson Mandela to head a coalition government in the country's first



multiracial election. He supported reconciliation and helped South Africa transition toward democracy.

Daily Trivia



Armored French knights raised their visors to show their faces as a signal of friendly intentions. This evolved into the modern military salute.

Quote of the Day

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from coming up to bat."

~ Babe Ruth

Happy Birthday!

Alice Allison Dunnigan (1906–1983) was the first African American female journalist to be granted White House press credentials. Dunnigan was teaching at a segregated school when she realized how little her students knew about their heritage. She wrote pamphlets called "the



Kentucky Fact Sheets" to fill in some of the blanks. Dunnigan left teaching during World War II to

pursue journalism in Washington, D.C., as a correspondent for a Chicago newspaper. She served on President Kennedy's education cabinet and wrote her memoirs.

 \equiv Saturday, April 27, 2019

Today is Independent Bookstore Day, so pay a visit to your local bookstore and buy a book! Local bookstores often offer more than just books, like author talks, live music, quirky local gifts, and events for kids.

Set the Record Straight

Batteries may provide us with valuable and portable electricity, but batteries do not carry electricity inside them. Batteries contain two electrodes and a chemical called an electrolyte sandwiched in the middle. The electrodes create ions that react chemically with the electrolyte, forcing electrons to move through the battery from one terminal to the other. This movement creates energy. A simple battery can be made by pushing a zinc nail and a copper coin into opposite sides of a lemon. The copper pulls electrons from the zinc through the lemon!

Buy a Vowel

 $_{\rm V}_{\rm R}_{\rm L}_{\rm D}$

Burden with an excessive amount

VNSMEK: ONEKTOVD

What Am I?

My story begins in Sweden at the Celloplast company. Celloplast was looking for uses for its latest invention, cellulose film, and so I was invented. I was patented and introduced to America in 1979, and I have been found pretty much everywhere a person goes shopping ever since. Because I am so much cheaper to make than paper, I am now too common and have become a major source of trash and pollution. For this reason, many places have now banned my use, despite my convenience. I am probably nearby right now. What am I?

ANSWER: A plastic bag

What's in a Name?

This mystery writer, born David John Moore Cornwell, was once a spy himself.

ANSWER: John le Carrè

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019

On This Date

1789 – Three weeks into a journey from Tahiti to the West Indies, the HMS *Bounty* was seized in a mutiny led by Fletcher Christian, the master's mate. Captain William Bligh and 18 supporters were set adrift in a small boat, and the *Bounty* set course for Tubuai, south of Tahiti

1937 – The first animated-cartoon electric sign was displayed on a building on Broadway in New York City. It used 2,000 bulbs, and its fourminute show included a cavorting horse and ball-tossing cats.

1990 – The Broadway musical *A Chorus Line*, ended its run after 6,137 performances. The show centers on 17 dancers auditioning for spots on a chorus line.

Beatles Trivia

At the end of the Beatles' song "A Day in the Life," Paul McCartney recorded an ultrasonic whistle, audible only to dogs, for the benefit of his Shetland sheepdog.

Chez Panisse Menu

Saffron rice, chorizo, and local shellfish cooked in the fireplace

Happy Birthday!

Alice Waters, born in 1944, opened her famous restaurant Chez Panisse in Berkeley, California, in 1971. After traveling in Europe, Waters had become accustomed to shopping daily at farmer's markets. She brought this ethos to her restaurant, along with the idea that organic



food grown locally was healthier and better tasting. Waters pioneered a program to assist public schools in starting gardens and preparing fresh

lunches. Students help with the growing and preparation. Chez Panisse is still open and thriving. For the first time, both head chefs are women.

 \equiv SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019

Today is Superhero Day. While many kids get excited about Superman and Wonder Woman on this day, not all superheroes are fictitious. Real-life superheroes like firefighters and teachers should be thanked for their work.

Picture of the Day



I love eating outside in the fresh air, but the air up here feels a little thin, don't you think?

Now it's your turn to come up with a good caption.

Word to the Wise

Television sure has changed over the last couple of years, and the dictionary is reflecting that. Internet-based TV allows us to watch anything we want *on demand*, or whenever we want to. *Bingeable* shows are those that entice us to watch multiple episodes back-to-back-to-back.

Garden Party

Kokia cookei, or Moloka'i treecotton, is one of the rarest plants in the world. When this Hawaiian tree with its bright red flowers was discovered in the 1860s by scientists, only three were left living in the wild. By the 1950s, it was considered extinct until one tree was discovered in 1970. The tree relied on certain birds to pollinate its flowers and perpetuate its species, but it died out in the wild after these birds, too, died out. Today, the tree only exists in the Waimea Arboretum in the form of branches grafted to other trees.

Word Wise

Which word is not like the others?

trail aisle

barbican track

ANSWER: A barbican is a wall; the others are pathways.

 \equiv MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2019

On This Date

1852 – The first edition of *Roget's Thesaurus* was released. Peter Mark Roget developed it not just as a reference material, but as a method for organizing and classifying ideas.

1854 – By an act of the Pennsylvania legislature, Ashmun Institute, the first college founded solely for



African American students, was officially chartered.

1944 – Dancing Romeo, the 220th and final Our Gang (aka Little Rascals) short comedy film, was released. The series broke new ground by portraying boys and girls as well as white and black children playing together.

2011 – Prince William and Kate Middleton were married at Westminster Abbey in London. They now have three children.

Did You Know?

Maine is the closest U.S. state to Africa.

Quote of the Day

"Sometimes the road less traveled is less traveled for a reason."

~ Jerry Seinfeld

Happy Birthday!

Jerry Seinfeld, born in 1954, grew up in Long Island, New York. He got his start doing stand-up comedy



in clubs. Successful appearances on the *Tonight Show* and *Late Night with David Letterman* boosted Seinfeld's career. In 1988, along with

comedian Larry David, Seinfeld created his eponymous television sitcom, which ran for a decade. Reruns of the show are still popular. Seinfeld is an automobile enthusiast who owns a collection of about 150 cars. He is also the creator and host of the popular web series *Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee*. Seinfeld and his wife, Jessica, have one daughter and two sons.

Monday, April 29, 2019

Today is World Wish Day. Seven-year-old Chris Greicius had one wish, to become a police officer, but he had leukemia, making his dream impossible. On this day in 1980, he was made an officer-for-a-day and his wish came true.

Only Human

As we age, it is only natural that our eyesight breaks down and deteriorates. For some, this even leads to blindness. Enter the electronic eye. Scientists have created electronic implants that are embedded into the retina. These implants collect light input and convert that light into



electrical energy that stimulates nerves in the eye. Amazingly, people with poor

vision can "see" some things again, including color, light, movement. While their vision is not perfect, this technology has a capacity to greatly improve in the future, allowing the blind a second chance at sight.

Who Said So?

This cigar-smoking centenarian said, "At my age, flowers scare me."

MNSWER: GEOUSE BUNNS

Root of the Matter

Pull someone's leg

If you pull someone's leg, then you're joking with them in a manner that may make them look foolish. This expression has more nefarious origins. In England during the 1800s, street robbers used lengths of wire to trip potential victims. Once the victims had fallen, the robbers would swoop in and steal their valuables. This act of tripping was called *pulling someone's leg*. Eventually, pulling someone's leg had nothing to do with tripping them but merely with making them look or feel foolish.

Word Scramble

GILDATI

Characterized by electronic or computerized technology

VN2MEK: DICILVT

 \equiv TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

On This Date

1803 – France and the U.S. concluded negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase, a massive land purchase that doubled the size of the American Republic.

1939 – President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first chief executive to appear on TV. Roosevelt spoke at the opening ceremonies of the New York World's Fair, in Flushing.

1947 – In Nevada, Boulder Dam was renamed Hoover Dam in honor of U.S. President Herbert Hoover.

1975 – The Vietnam War finally ended when the North Vietnamese troops entered the Independence Palace of South Vietnam in Saigon. Vietnamese refer to the war as the American War.

Word Trivia

The names of all the continents end with the same letter that they start with (not counting the words "North" and "South").

Quote of the Day

"You know that feeling when you wake up in the morning and you're excited for the day?

That's one of my main goals in life."

~ Kirstin Dunst

Happy Birthday!

Kirstin Dunst was born in New Jersey in 1982. She started modeling and acting as a toddler and got her big break at age 11 when she costarred in *Interview with the Vampire* alongside Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt. Dunst successfully transitioned



into adult roles, including that of Marie Antoinette. She became a household name in the *Spiderman* series. Dunst also works on much smaller films like

the quirky *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*. She recently married and had her first child.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

Today is Walpurgis Night. Folklore told that witches gathered on this night in order to thwart the celebration of Saint Walpurga, so villagers gathered together to light massive bonfires to scare the evildoers away.

Think-tionary

vitta

A. A stripe, band, or streak of color on an animal

or

B. The shady, damp, and cool side of a tree that moss grows on

ANSWER: A. My cat is easily recognized by the black vitta across its nose.

When Was It?

It was during this year that an American- and British-led coalition invaded Iraq, beginning the Iraq War. The Human Genome Project mapped the genome to 99.99% accuracy. The Spirit Rover was launched on the way to its mission on Mars' surface. The last "old style" Volkswagen Beetle was made in Mexico. Arnold Schwarzenegger became governor of California. The Concorde supersonic jet made its last flight. When was it?

VN2WER: 2003

Wild Kingdom



Residents of Roddickton-Bide Arm, a small coastal town of 999 people in Newfoundland, Canada,

awoke one January morning to find their city overrun with over 40 seals! The harp seals were on the beach, on streets and driveways, at the park, and in backyards. As the local bays and inlets freeze, the seals typically come ashore, but these seals seemed to get moving in the wrong direction, away from the sea, and ended up completely lost. Canadian laws prohibit touching or disturbing marine animals, but authorities had no choice but to scoop the seals up and deliver them back to their watery home.

Buy a Vowel

_ L _ M _ N _ T _

To remove or get rid of

VNZMEK: ETIWINVLE