WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

On This Date

1612 – English explorer Thomas Button sailed into Hudson Bay and discovered the Nelson River. He also explored what became the New North Wales and New South Wales regions of today's Manitoba.

1900 – The World's Fair opened in Paris. About 50 million people attended the event.

1910 – U.S. 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.

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

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 to Irish immigrants in Massachusetts. At age five, she developed eye



infections that led to partial blindness. Her mother died while she was a child, and she was sent to an orphanage.

Eventually, 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. The two were lifelong friends. Their ashes are interred next to each other in the Washington National Cathedral.

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Today is Perfume Day. The French perfumer Jean Carles is known as the Beethoven of perfume. Carles used his nose to build famous perfumes by scent and continued to create perfumes even after losing his sense of smell later in life.

Eye in the Sky

Last December 21, the planets Jupiter and Saturn came together in the night sky in a rare event known as the "Great Conjunction," a phenomenon that only happens every 800 years. The two planets ended up looking like a massive star. This event has led some astronomers to speculate that the same type of occurrence was the "Star of Bethlehem" mentioned in the Bible. For centuries, historians have tried to determine whether the Star of Bethlehem was a comet, supernova, or some other astronomical event. Perhaps the star that led the Magi to the birth of Jesus was none other than the "Great Conjunction" of the planets Jupiter and Saturn.

Riddle Me This

Break it and it gets better and harder to break again.

ANSWER: A world record

Root of the Matter

Smart cookie

A *smart cookie* is someone who is clever and makes good decisions. In



the 1920s, it was common in America to call women *cookies* as a term of endearment referencing

their sweetness. By the 1940s, it was also used for men, usually in the context of another idiom, *tough cookie*, which referenced a person's ability to withstand criticism and persevere. Still another common version of this expression is *sharp cookie*, which like smart cookie, applauds a person's intellect.

Buy a Vowel

C M B R S M

Awkward and clumsy

VNSMEK: COWBERSOWE