MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

On This Date

1759 – At the Battle of Quebec on the Plains of Abraham, British General James Wolfe's army defeated the French forces. "Measured by the numbers engaged, the Battle of Quebec was but a heavy skirmish," wrote historian Francis Parkman. "Measured by results, it was one of the great battles of the world."



1833 – The first imported shipment of ice arrived in Calcutta, India, from Boston, Massachusetts. The 180 tons of New England lake ice lasted for the four months of the trip due to the specially insulated hold of the clipper ship *Tuscany*.

Daily Trivia

Studies have shown that Friday the 13th is no more likely to have bad things happen than any other day. Psychologists say that the superstition continues due to our tendency to look for things that verify our beliefs and forget the things that contradict them.

Quote of the Day

"Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."

~ Roald Dahl

Happy Birthday!

Roald Dahl (1916–1990) was the prolific master storyteller responsible for such children's classics as *James and the Giant Peach, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. The British writer, who was a spy and an ace fighter pilot in World War II, also created fabulous stories for adults, including "The

Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar" and "The Hitchhiker." Dahl won the World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement in



1983. He also wrote screenplays, including two adaptions of Ian Fleming novels: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and *You Only Live Twice*.

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Today is Uncle Sam Day. Popular legend tells that the United States earned the nickname "Uncle Sam" during the War of 1812 when a meatpacker named "Uncle Sam" Wilson supplied barrels of meat to American soldiers.

Mad Science

What time is it? It depends on who you ask. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Boulder, Colorado, manages the official civilian clock for America. The oscillations of cesium atoms determine the length of a second to incredible accuracy. This timepiece will not gain or lose a second for 300 million years. Another clock records time at the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C. chronometer This derives its accuracy from the average of several cesium, hydrogen maser, and rubidium clocks. This clock is even more accurate than the NIST device.

What's in a Name?

This actress, born Diane Hall, shares her last name with one of her famous movie roles.

ANSWER: Diane Keaton, as Annie Hall

Centennial Memories

On this day 100 years ago, the first White Castle hamburger restaurant opened in Wichita, Kansas, marking



the birth of the fast-food industry. At the time, many Americans were hesitant to eat hamburger

due to the unsanitary depictions of the meatpacking industry in Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle*. White Castle restaurants were deliberately clean, painted bright white with sparkling stainless-steel kitchens viewable from the counter. Small square burgers, called *sliders*, cost just a nickel. Other locations opened, creating the first fast-food chain.

Buy a Vowel

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