



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

On This Date

1953 – Soviet leader Joseph Stalin died at his residence near Moscow after suffering a stroke. His death at age 74 ended his nearly three decades of authoritarian rule.

1963 – Country music star Patsy Cline, her manager, and two other performers tragically died in an airplane crash near Camden, Tennessee. The group was returning to Nashville after performing a benefit concert in Kansas City, Kansas, the day before.

1970 – The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) entered into force. The landmark agreement, first signed in July 1968 by the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union, became the cornerstone of global efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

Did You Know?

In 2007, a group of friends declared March 5 to be Cinco de Marcho, a lighthearted, unofficial holiday to kick off the 12-day “warmup period” before St. Patrick’s Day. Social media has helped the tradition spread.

Quote of the Day

“If you create a character that people believe is real, you have succeeded.”

~ *Charles Fuller*

Happy Birthday!

Charles Fuller (1939–2022) was a highly respected playwright and screenwriter whose work reshaped African American theater and brought



urgent social issues to the stage. His most celebrated work, the Pulitzer Prize–winning drama *A Soldier’s Play*, explores themes of race, identity, and injustice

within the U.S. military, earning acclaim for its unflinching honesty. The play was later adapted into the successful film *A Soldier’s Story* (1984), and in 2020 it won the Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play. Fuller was married to Canadian film director Claire Prieto from 2008 until his death at age 83.