



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021

On This Date

1783 – Catherine the Great of Russia annexed Crimea after seizing the peninsula 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 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 alcohol



dependence, and she went to a recovery center. Ford was frank about her addiction 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.



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Today is Trading Cards for Grownups Day. You can find trading cards that match most any hobby or interest, from sports to movies and fantasy. Cards may be marketed to kids, but grownups appreciate their history and value.

Mystery to Me

A man was able to successfully rob 16 banks in and around San Diego, California, by threatening bank tellers at gunpoint. The FBI has even added him to their America's Most Wanted list under the rather unflattering moniker of the *Geezer Bandit*. This is because the bank robber is believed to be an elderly man somewhere between 60–70 years old. Or is he? Some agents think that the robber is not old at all, but instead a younger man using a clever disguise, a wrinkly silicone mask. Security footage also depicted the bandit running abnormally fast for someone of such advanced age.

Word Scramble

T L E I Q D U

Made of two layers of stitched cloth filled with padding

ANSWER: QUILTED

Root of the Matter

Couch potato

To be called a *couch potato* is an insult, as the phrase means “a lazy person.” The expression was



invented in 1976 as the result of a phone call between friends Tom Iacino

and Robert Armstrong. Iacino made a pun on another phrase, *boob tube*, which is slang for television. Iacino riffed on the word *tube* as *tuber*, referencing the root vegetables. Armstrong, a cartoonist, employed the idea in a comic that featured slothful characters lazing about on their sofas.

Name Three

Can you name three fast-food chains starting with the letter S?

POSSIBLE ANSWERS: Subway, Sbarro, Sonic, Starbucks