



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021

On This Date

1879 – The British-Zulu War began when British troops under Lieutenant General Frederic Augustus Thesiger invaded Zululand from the southern African republic of Natal. After suffering initial defeats, the British turned the tables on the Zulus in the battle of Ulundi the following July.

1984 – Archaeologists halted efforts to restore the pyramids because water in modern cement was causing damage to nearby limestone blocks. They then successfully adopted a system of interlocking blocks used by the original pyramid builders.

2012 – Haiti was struck by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake that killed more than 250,000 people and badly damaged the capital of Port-au-Prince.

Daily Trivia

When a specimen of the platypus was first sent to England, it was believed Australians had played a joke by sewing the bill of a duck onto a rat.



Quote of the Day

“Courage, after all, is not being unafraid, but doing what needs to be done in spite of fear.”

~ *James Farmer*

Happy Birthday!

James Farmer (1920–1999), was a celebrated civil rights activist who championed an approach based on non-violent resistance. Born in Marshall, Texas, the son of a teacher and a minister was an exceptional student and debater who entered college at age 14. He became a key leader of the



Civil Rights Movement alongside Martin Luther King Jr. Farmer organized the transformative 1961 Freedom Rides and was a founder of the Congress of Racial Equality. His debating prowess was chronicled in the 2007 Denzel Washington film *The Great Debaters*.



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021

Today is Kiss a Ginger Day. Why are redheads called “gingers”? Some think the term comes from ginger-flavored foods, which have an auburn hue and fiery taste. Others point to the sitcom *Gilligan’s Island*, where the redhead was named Ginger.

Fashion of Yesteryear

During the Crimean War of the 1850s, British soldiers were introduced to Turkish tobacco. Suddenly, smoking became a popular English pastime, with men retreating to smoking rooms to enjoy their pipes and cigars. Men began wearing dedicated smoking jackets, made with plush materials and designed to fall to the mid-thigh. They were thought to absorb the smoke odors and protect the clothing from falling ash. Smoking jackets remained popular in England and abroad well into the 1950s. Fred Astaire was famously buried in his.



What’s in a Name?

This soccer player, considered the greatest of all time, was born Edson Arantes do Nascimento.

ANSWER: Pelé

Eye in the Sky

NASA’s TESS satellite, or the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, is normally used to hunt for planets in the galaxy, but it recently spotted something more dramatic: a “cataclysmic phenomenon known as a tidal disruption event.” Astronomers watched as a black hole tore apart a star. When a star strays too close to a black hole, the black hole’s massive gravitational power causes the star to pull apart into a stream of gas. While the tail of gas escapes into space, the rest of the broken star circles the black hole in a disk of debris.

Word Wise

Which word is not like the others?

wasp scorpion
cobra stingray

ANSWER: A cobra is venomous; the other creatures have stingers.