TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021

#### On This Date

1862 – The CSS Virginia, a captured



and rebuilt Union steam frigate, engaged the USS *Monitor* in the first battle

between iron-fortified naval vessels. The battle ended in a draw but was considered a victory for the Union.

1959 – The Barbie doll made its debut at the American International Toy Fair in New York.

1970 – Pierre Elliott Trudeau opened the first ever Arctic Winter Games in Yellowknife, NWT. The 50th-anniversary event scheduled for March 2020 had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

### Did You Know?

The origins of the word jazz are unknown. Some linguists believe it derived from the slang word jasm, which meant energetic and spirited, or that it had French roots. The first time jazz appeared in print was in a sports column, wherein a baseball player referred to his new "jazz pitch."

### Quote of the Day

"I could have gone on flying through space forever."

~ Yuri Gagarin

# Happy Birthday!

Yuri Gagarin (1934–1968) was the first person to travel into outer space. On April 12, 1961, the Soviet Air Forces pilot and cosmonaut orbited Earth in the space capsule Vostok 1, a trip that took under two hours. This accomplishment earned him international acclaim and the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. After his spaceflight, Gagarin served as deputy training director of the Cosmonaut Training Centre. Tragically, he died in a plane crash while aboard a MiG-15 training jet. Following

his death, the city of Gzhatsk near his hometown village of Klushino was renamed Gagarin in his honor.



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**Today is** Unique Names Day. When you think about it, every name is unique in its own special way. Today is a day to share the meaning of your name and the story of how you got it. What is the story behind your name?

## Wild Kingdom

Scientists have long suspected that an undiscovered species of monkey might live in the remote forests of Myanmar, based on DNA analysis of the droppings of wild monkeys. What they found was a small band of previously unknown langur monkeys living on and around Mount Popa, a long-extinct volcano. Lucky for the monkeys, Mount Popa is protected as a nature reserve, national park, and sacred pilgrimage site. Atop the 5.000-foot mountain is a Buddhist monastery and temple complex known as Taung Kalat. Hopefully, the 200 Popa langurs will continue to live in peace.

# Buy a Vowel

 $K_M M_N$ 

A long robe with wide sleeves and a broad sash

**VN2MEK: KIWONO** 

### Where Am I?

Climbing these famous stairs is illegal since the trek was deemed unsafe



several decades ago. That doesn't stop tourists from furtively ascending this breathtaking walkway that

traverses a Hawaiian mountain ridge at heights of over 2,000 feet. The stairway was built as part of a secret Navy radio station in 1942, decommissioned and left for ruin in 1987, and finally repaired in 2003. Local landowners are bothered by sneaky trespassers hiking the 3,922 steps that are known as the Stairway to Heaven thanks to their unparalleled view of the valley below. Where am I?

ANSWER: Haiku Stairs, Oahu, Hawaii

#### **Riddle Me This**

Why are ghosts bad at lying?

ANSWER: Because you can see right