



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Did you know? Queen Elizabeth I wanted Irish chiefs to occupy their own lands under title from her. Cormac McCarthy, the Lord of Blarney, tactfully handled every royal request by promising loyalty to the queen without fully giving in. Elizabeth later described similar sweet-talking blather as “a lot of Blarney”; thus, the famous phrase.

On This Date

1958 – Vanguard 1 was launched into orbit. The three-pound sphere was the second satellite launched by the United States and the first to use solar cell power. Although communication was lost in 1964, it is the oldest satellite still orbiting Earth. Vanguard 1 is expected to remain in orbit for another 180 years.



Quote of the Day

“Luck is believing
you’re lucky.”

~ *Tennessee Williams*

Happy Birthday!

Marjory Shedd (1926–2008) was a Canadian sports phenomenon who played badminton, basketball, and volleyball. Shedd won a total of 23 Canadian National Championship titles in badminton (six in singles, 12 in women’s doubles, and five in mixed doubles). The gifted athlete also played on several Canadian national basketball and volleyball championship teams and played in the 1967 Pan American Games. Shedd was inducted into Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame in 1970. She coached badminton and volleyball at the University of Toronto from 1964 to 1991.





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Today is St. Patrick's Day. The shamrock so often associated with the holiday was considered sacred to the Celts and a symbol of rebirth during the spring. St. Patrick used the clover's three leaves to explain the Holy Trinity.

Garden Party

Five years ago, a team of Czech botanists was on an expedition to the mountain region of Ladakh in northern India. Working at such a high altitude was hard. The researchers suffered fatigue and sickness and could work only a couple of hours each day. Yet they found a type of plant adapted to that harsh environment. Six species of cushion plant, each no larger than a coin, lived at over 20,000 feet thanks to a natural antifreeze that prevented them from dying in the extreme cold. These are the world's highest plants.

Whatchamacallit?

What do you call a group of parrots?

zeal

fracas

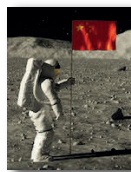
pandemonium

mob

ANSWER: PANDEMONIUM

Eye in the Sky

It was a little over 50 years ago that the United States put the American flag on the moon. In later lunar missions, astronauts would plant five more U.S. flags. Last December, China became only the second nation to plant a flag on the moon.



China's robotic Chang'e-5 mission also collected soil samples and lunar rocks. Flags planted on the moon must be uniquely constructed to withstand freezing temperatures. Even with special construction, though, they are not likely to last long. Radiation from the sun is likely to turn any flag's colors white.

Riddle Me This

You will buy me to eat but never eat me. What am I?

ANSWER: A plate