



# THE DAILY CHRONICLE

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

## On This Date

**1940** – Germany began its invasion of France. Hitler's popularity in Germany reached its peak with France's capitulation on July 6, 1940.

**1940** – Winston Churchill addressed the House of Commons for the first time as prime minister, proclaiming, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat."

**1958** – The Velcro trademark was registered for a fabric hook-and-loop fastener. It was invented by a Swiss engineer who wondered why burrs stuck to his clothing following a hike in the Alps.

## Daily Trivia

During his life, Vincent van Gogh sold exactly one painting, *Red Vineyard at Arles*. It sold for 400 francs (equal to about \$1,000 today).



## Quote of the Day

"Just because a man lacks the use of his eyes doesn't mean he lacks vision."

~ *Stevie Wonder*

## Happy Birthday!

**Stevie Wonder**, born in 1950, is an iconic singer-songwriter and record producer. Blind from infancy, he never allowed lack of sight to be an obstacle. His hit songs include "My Cherie Amour," "For Once in My Life," "I Just Called to Say I Love You," and "You Are the Sunshine of My Life." His hit song "Isn't She Lovely" was inspired by the birth of his daughter, Aisha, in 1975. He was inducted into the Soul Music Hall of Fame in 2012. Wonder practices transcendental meditation, and sang about it on James Corden's *Late Late Show* in a "Carpool Karaoke" segment.





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**Today is** Frog Jumping Day. On this day in 1865, Mark Twain published his first story, “Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog,” which won Twain fame and notoriety, jumpstarting his career as a witty and humorous storyteller.

## The Games People Play

*Haka Pei* is the extreme sport of Easter Island that requires competitors to rocket down the slopes of the Maunga Pu’i volcano on a sled made of the



trunks of banana trees. This cultural tradition was an ancient rite of passage, a test of courage that initiated young boys as warriors. Today, it is no less dangerous, with locals donning a tribal loincloth, painting their bodies in the ancestral style, and then hurtling down the hillside at 50 mph. Whoever goes the farthest from the starting line at the top of the hill is declared the winner.

## What’s in a Name?

This rapper and music producer, the husband of pop star Beyoncé, was born Shawn Corey Carter.

ANSWER: Jay-Z

## Mystery to Me

In 2013, a robbery was committed at the Carlton Hotel in Cannes, France—the very same hotel where Alfred Hitchcock filmed *To Catch a Thief*—but this time, the thief was not caught. The bandit pulled off the daytime heist by walking into a billionaire’s room and leaving with a sack of gemstones worth \$136 million. The billionaire was to display his fantastic collection, but instead, he was robbed in less than 30 seconds. Investigators believe that the diamond thieves known as the Pink Panthers were responsible, especially considering that one had just escaped prison.

## Buy a Vowel

L \_ \_ T \_ R \_ R

One who lingers aimlessly,  
an idler

ANSWER: LOITERER