



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021

On This Date

1543 – King Henry VIII married his last wife, the widow Catherine Parr, at Hampton Court Palace.

1876 – Twenty-three-year-old Maria Spelterini walked across Niagara Falls on a tightrope. To make it more challenging, she wore peach baskets on her feet. A week later, she also walked the tightrope backward, and then once more with her hands and feet bound.

1982 – The last of Checker Motors' taxicabs rolled off the assembly line in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The taxi was noted for its durability and unchanging style.

Royal Trivia

King Henry VIII was over six feet tall and weighed about 200 pounds as a young man. He weighed nearly 400 pounds when he died at the age of 55.



Quote of the Day

“It’s the beauty within us that makes it possible for us to see the beauty around us.”

~ *Henry David Thoreau*

Happy Birthday!

Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862) was a celebrated philosopher, essayist, and poet. The early environmentalist wrote many books, including *Walden*, which chronicled the wonders of



nature and spiritual discovery. He wrote the iconic work while living a simple life in the woods in a cabin he constructed near Walden Pond,

on Massachusetts land owned by his mentor, Ralph Waldo Emerson. Thoreau was a staunch abolitionist and defender of civil disobedience and limited government. His writings influenced such figures as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.



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Today is Different Colored Eyes Day. Having different-colored eyes is known as *heterochromia iridum*. The condition is a result of a genetic mutation that causes the irises of the eye to have different levels of the pigment *melanin*.

Old Wives' Tales

Children have long been told that they must wait for a half hour after eating before swimming or they will get cramps.



This advice comes from the mistaken belief that blood going to the stomach for digestion will rob your arms and legs of the blood needed to keep those limbs swimming. However, the Red Cross assures us that we can eat and swim without fear of drowning. Exercise after eating may make you feel queasy, but it is not dangerous.

Who Said So?

This comedian, whose name was in the title of her variety show, said, "I do the *New York Times* crossword puzzle every morning to keep the old gray matter ticking."

ANSWER: Carol Burnett

Centennial Memories

On this day 100 years ago, slugger Babe Ruth hit two home runs, breaking the all-time career home run record set by Roger Connor at 136. Ruth would continue to belt homers for the rest of his career, breaking his own record several times, and finishing with a whopping 714 home runs. Ruth retired when he was 40 years old, though many fans wanted him to play until he broke the 800-home run mark. It wasn't until April of 1974 that Hank Aaron would hit his home run number 715, finally breaking Ruth's record.

Word Wise

Which word is not like the others?

rib humerus

patella aorta

ANSWER: The aorta is the body's main artery; the others are bones.