

PERSPECTIVES OF THE DAY

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

NATIONAL DAY

National Squirrel Appreciation Day

January 21st is with a Squirrel and
National Squirrel Starling by Hans
Appreciation Day! Holbein. During the

WHAT DO YOU CALL FAKE
SPAGHETTI?
AN IMPOSTA!

This day is a national day for squirrel enthusiasts and our fluffy little neighbors. Squirrels have been around for millions of years, evolving during the earliest period of life into ground, flying, and tree species. The first painted squirrels come from the 1520's; the painting Portrait of a Lady

19th century, squirrels became popular in art, literature, and even as pets. Taxidermized squirrels became a popular oddity piece in curio cases as well. In 1903, beloved children's author Beatrix Potter published The Story of Squirrel Nutkin, introducing a red squirrel character to



TODAY IN HISTORY

- IN 1903, HARRY HOUDINI ESCAPES A POLICE STATION IN AMSTERDAM.
- IN 1921, AGATHA CHRISTIE PUBLISHES HER FIRST NOVEL INTRODUCING CHARACTER HERCULE POIROT.
- IN 1942, COUNT BASIE RECORDS HIS SINGLE ONE O'CLOCK JUMP.
- IN 1954, THE FIRST OVERTIME IN AN ALL STAR GAME IS NEEDED TO DECIDE A WINNER.
- IN 1977, PRESIDENT CARTER PARDONS VIETNAM DRAFT EVADERS.
- IN 1978, THE BEE GEES ALBUM SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER GOES #1 FOR 24 WEEKS.
- IN 1987, BB KING DONATES HIS 7,000 RECORD COLLECTION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI.

early 20th century children's literature.

In 2001, a scientific study on arctic ground squirrel hibernation began revealing cellular and metabolic mechanisms that inspired medical research techniques that would later preserve organs. This later inspired NASA research on how to metabolically slow the body down to preserve muscle and bone. Arctic ground squirrels lower their body temperature below freezing for the longest known hibernation, about 8

months. Other squirrels are known to stock up and hide nuts before hibernating and their keen sense of smell helps them find their stock later on.

Squirrels are also very agile, they run and jump across the ground and from tree to tree. On the ground, they will often run in zig zag patterns if they sense danger. Their ankles can turn 180 degrees which helps them keep their balance as well as speed.

Squirrels are also fantastic

gardeners and keeping the plant life plentiful. They eat seeds and fruits which are then passed, fertilized, and planted.

A fantastic way to observe today is to do some research; go to a museum, watch a documentary, or even using a squirrel guide to identify different squirrel species in your neighborhood. Squirrel feeders filled with seeds or corn are very popular for a relaxed squirrel watch!

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

-Romans 1:7b

Interesting Fact

Christian Dior was a famous French fashion designer and founder of one of the world's top fashion houses. He was born on this day in 1905 in Normandy, France and started out as an artist; selling his sketches outside his house for ten cents each. In 1928, he left school and with the help of his father's investment, Dior opened a small art gallery which featured works from Pablo Picasso. During this time, he became friends with well known artists such as Picasso, Dali, Cocteau, Giacometti which Dior drew inspirations from their works as well. The art gallery closed just three years later, and Dior was selling his fashion sketches once again for income. In 1937, he was employed by fashion designer Robert Piquet and would work for him until his military service. In 1942 he left the army and joined the fashion house of Lucien Lelong along with Balmain. In 1946, he started his own fashion house, revitalizing the fashion world with his voluptuous designs instead of the boxy designs during the war. As his designs became popular across the world, each season the Dior fashion house would release new collections with each more extravagant than the last. In 1955, Yves Saint Laurent became Dior's assistant, and stated to her mother that she would succeed him. He died before this happened, however passing later that year at 52.

Trivia

What is the name of the famous squirrel with a moose friend named Bullwinkle?

- A: Rocky
- B: Sandy
- C: Scrat
- D: Slappy