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From today's featured article



The **Lexington-Concord Sesquicentennial half dollar** is a fifty-cent piece struck by the United States

Bureau of the Mint in 1925 as a commemorative coin in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord. It was designed by Chester Beach. Members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation introduced legislation in 1924 to authorize a commemorative half dollar for the anniversary. The bill passed both houses of Congress and was signed by President Calvin Coolidge. Beach had to satisfy committees from both Lexington and Concord, and the Commission of Fine Arts passed the design only reluctantly, feeling he had been given poor materials to work with. The coins were sold for \$1, and were vended at the anniversary celebrations in Lexington and in Concord; they were sold at banks across New England. Although just over half of the authorized mintage of 300,000 was struck, almost all the coins that were minted were sold. Depending on condition, they are catalogued in the hundreds of dollars. (**Full article...**)

Recently featured: Rodrigues parrot • Ham Wall • Paleocene

Did you know ...

- ... that the **SCO Forum** computer conference (*pictured*) was noted for its redwood-forested setting?

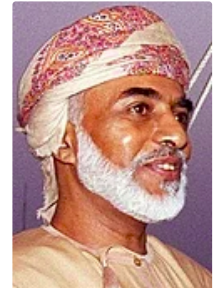


1997 SCO Forum keynote addresses being held in the fog

- ... that **Neil McLaughlin** started boxing "by mistake" after an argument with his gymnastics coach?
- ... that the female **Savannah darter** lays

In the news

- In Oman, **Haitham bin Tariq Al Said** is named the country's new ruler after his cousin Sultan **Qaboos bin Said Al Said** (*pictured*) dies at age 79.



Qaboos bin Said al Said

- **Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752** is shot down shortly after takeoff from Tehran, Iran, killing all 176 people on board.
- After a U.S. airstrike kills Iranian general Qasem Soleimani, at least 56 people die in a stampede during **his burial procession** in Kerman, and Iranian forces **attack two military bases** in Iraq.

Ongoing: Australian bushfires • Indian Citizenship Amendment Act protests

Recent deaths: Yong Pung How • Elizabeth Wurtzel • June Bacon-Bercey • Prem Nath Hoon • Minati Mishra • Hans Tilkowski

On this day

January 11

- 1055 -



Gateway Bridge

Theodora Porphyrogenita became sole ruler of the Byzantine Empire after the death of her brother-in-law Constantine IX Monomachos.

- 1693 - **The most powerful earthquake in Italian history**, registering 7.4 M_w, struck the island of Sicily.

clutches of sticky eggs that she buries in gravel or sand?

- ... that the **Figuralchor Frankfurt**, founded in 1966 as a youth choir for the state broadcaster Hessischer Rundfunk, sang Mahler's *Symphony of a Thousand* at the opening of the Alte Oper concert hall?
- ... that when **WFAB** radio in Miami was forced off the air in 1977, Hispanic-owned shops in Homestead closed for an hour in protest?
- ... that British neuroscientist **Rebecca Slater** led a study that showed that not only do babies experience pain, they may be more sensitive to it than adults?
- ... that **Bihar Animal Sciences University** is one of four state universities and six private universities established in the Indian state of Bihar in 2017-18?
- ... that **Salvatore Pais**'s design for an electromagnetic field generator to deflect asteroids away from the Earth has been patented by the U.S. Navy?

- **1943** – Italian-American journalist and trade-union activist **Carlo Tresca**, a leading public opponent of the Mafia infiltration of unions, was assassinated in New York City.
- **1986** – The **Gateway Bridge** (*pictured*) was opened in Brisbane, Australia, as the largest prestressed concrete, single-box bridge in the world.
- **2013** – French special forces **failed in an attempted rescue** of a DGSE agent, who had been taken hostage in 2009 by Al-Shabaab, in Buulo Mareer, Somalia.

Vincenzo Borg (b. 1777) • **Eva Le Gallienne** (b. 1899) • **Emanuel Lasker** (d. 1941)

More anniversaries: January 10 • **January 11** • January 12

Today's featured picture



Aggstein Castle is a ruined castle on the right bank of the Danube in Wachau, Austria. It was built in a strategic position on a rocky crag in the 12th century, but little of the original structure remains. In 1429, it was razed and rebuilt by Jörg Scheck von Wald, and the three-storey women's tower, the palace and the Gothic chapel date back to this period, as does the famous rose garden. Anna Freiin von Polheim und Parz carried out renovations in the early 17th century, but after her death, the building deteriorated and stones and timber were removed for use in the construction of a nearby Servite convent.

Photograph credit: Uoaei1

Recently featured:
Malayan banded pitta • Caleb Strong • Stephen Hawking

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- **Community portal** – Bulletin board, projects, resources and activities covering a wide range of Wikipedia areas.
- **Help desk** – Ask questions about using Wikipedia.
- **Local embassy** – For Wikipedia-related communication in languages other than English.
- **Reference desk** – Serving as virtual librarians, Wikipedia volunteers tackle your questions on a wide range of subjects.
- **Site news** – Announcements, updates, articles and press releases on Wikipedia and the Wikimedia Foundation.
- **Village pump** – For discussions about Wikipedia itself, including areas for technical issues and policies.

Wikipedia's sister projects

Wikipedia is hosted by the [Wikimedia Foundation](#), a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other [projects](#):



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Wikiquote (<https://en.wikiquote.org/>)
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Dictionary and thesaurus

Wikipedia languages

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