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the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.
5,886,303 articles in English

- Arts
- Biography
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From today's featured article

James Bennett McCreary (July 8, 1838 – October 8, 1918) was an American politician from Kentucky who served in both houses of Congress and twice as the state's governor. During the American Civil War, he fought under Confederate Brigadier General John Hunt Morgan. In 1869, he was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives where he served until 1875; he was twice chosen Speaker of the House. In 1875, the Democrats chose McCreary to run for governor, and he defeated Republican John Marshall Harlan. In 1884, McCreary was elected to the first of six consecutive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. After two failed bids for election to the Senate, the legislature elected him in 1902, but he failed to gain renomination. In 1909, McCreary gained a second term as governor, defeating Edward C. O'Rear in the general election; he died in 1918. McCreary County, named in his honor, was formed during his second term. (**Full article...**)

Recently featured: 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup · Yellow-tailed black cockatoo · Eve Russell

Did you know...

- ... that Australian Army major **Peter Badcoe** *(pictured)* was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for displaying "conspicuous gallantry and leadership" on three occasions?
- ... that the earliest evidence of sheep herding has been found in northern Iraq, dated **before 9000 BC**?
- ... that **Tang Dingyuan** co-invented the "split-diamond bomb"?
- ... that Bolivia sued Chile in 2013 to regain land lost in 1884, claiming it had an *Obligation to Negotiate Access to the Pacific Ocean*?
- ... that **Joanne Berger-Sweeney** is the first African-American and first woman to serve as president of Trinity College, Connecticut?
- ... that the Benedictines of Murbach Abbey built the monumental **Notre-Dame de Guebwiller** in order to

Peter Badcoe

In the news

Megan Rapinoe

- In association football, the **FIFA Women's World Cup** concludes with the United States *(Golden Ball winner Megan Rapinoe pictured)* defeating the Netherlands in the **final**.
- The **African Continental Free Trade Agreement** becomes operational.
- Iran announces an increase in uranium enrichment beyond the limit set in the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action**.
- **An airstrike on a migrant center** outside Tripoli, Libya, kills at least 53 people and injures 130 others.

Ongoing: Cricket World Cup · Hong Kong protests
Recent deaths: Sutopo Purwo Nugroho · John McCririck · Chris Cline · Jared Lorenzen · Tyler Skaggs

On this day

July 8

- 1283 – War of the Sicilian Vespers: An Aragonese fleet of galleys inflicted **a crushing defeat** on an Angevin fleet at Malta, forcing Charles I of Anjou to postpone his plan to invade Sicily.
- 1663 – King Charles II of England granted **John Clarke** the Rhode Island Royal Charter, described by one historian as "the grandest instrument of human liberty ever constructed".
- 1808 – Joseph Bonaparte *(pictured)* approved the **Bayonne Statute**, a royal charter intended as the basis for his rule as King of Spain during the Peninsular War.

Joseph Bonaparte

relocate from their remote valley?

- ... that operatic bass **Kieth Engen**, who got his first role, Bluebeard, at the Bavarian State Opera because he was tall, also had a pop career under a pseudonym?
- ... that *The California Field Atlas* by **Obi Kaufmann** is neither a field guide nor a conventional atlas?

- **1947** – After news reports of **the capture of a "flying disc"** by U.S. Army Air Force personnel in Roswell, New Mexico, the military stated that what was recovered was debris from an experimental high-altitude surveillance weather balloon.

Carlos, Prince of Asturias (b. 1545) · **Eli Lilly** (b. 1838) · **Muhammed bin Saud Al Saud** (d. 2012)

More anniversaries: July 7 · **July 8** · July 9

From today's featured list

3D Realms games include *Commander Keen* and *Wolfenstein 3D*, as well as the *Duke Nukem* franchise. 3D Realms was founded in 1987 as Apogee Software by Scott Miller to publish his game *Kingdom of Kroz*. Prior to Apogee's founding, Miller had released a few games he had developed himself, as well as a couple "packs" of games developed by himself and others, under a shareware distribution model whereby the games were distributed for free in return for donations. Miller found that the standard shareware model was not viable for his games such as *Beyond the Titanic* (1986) and *Supernova* (1987); beginning with *Kroz*, the company pioneered the "Apogee model" of shareware distribution, wherein games were broken up into segments, with the first part released for free to drive interest in the other monetized portions. Soon after its founding, Apogee began publishing titles by other developers in addition to titles by Miller. In 1994, Apogee decided to launch different brand names for each genre of games they published; it created 3D Realms for 3D games. (**Full list...**)
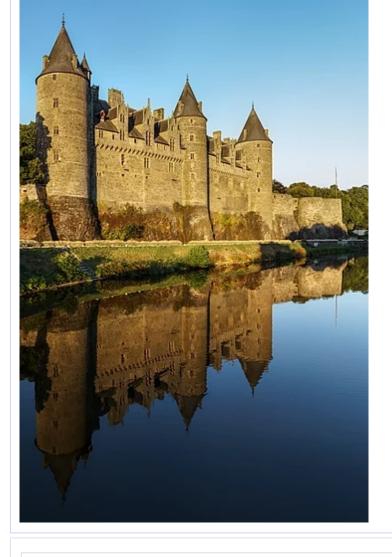
Recently featured: Teams and cyclists in the 2014 Tour de France · Edgar Allan Poe bibliography · Vietnamese submissions for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film

Today's featured picture

A view of **Josselin Castle**, with the Oust river in the foreground. Located in the Morbihan department of Brittany, France, the castle was first built in 1008 by Guéthénoc, viscount of Porhoët, and rebuilt at various times since. The town and castle were named after Guéthénoc's son. The current fortress was built by Olivier de Clisson after 1370; he had acquired the land as dowry on his marriage to Margaret of Rohan. It has been designated as an official historical monument since 1928.

Photograph credit: Colin

Recently featured: *The Entombment* · Frida Kahlo · Harbor seal

Other areas of Wikipedia

- **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

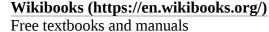Wikipedia is hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation, a non-profit organization that also hosts a range of other projects:

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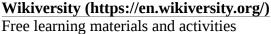Free-content news

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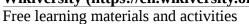Collection of quotations

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Dictionary and thesaurus

Wikipedia languages

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- More than 1,000,000 articles: Deutsch · Español · Français · Italiano · Nederlands · □□□ · Polski · Português · Русский · Svenska · Tiếng Việt · □□
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