

Happy New Year to all...from all of us at Progressive Marketing Group. We wish you all the best of happiness and prosperity in 2016...and 2016 should be an exciting year for a number of reasons.

1. Technically Speaking: 2016 is officially year number 16 of the 21st century of the third millennium in the CE (Common Era), Anno Domini (AD). It's also a leap year. If you were born on February 29, you will have an official birthday this year!

2016

2. Scientifically Speaking: Real life Trekkies, take note. In 2016 NASA will launch the OSIRIS-REx mission to the asteroid Bennu in early September.

3. Sports Speaking: For the internationally sports-minded, the 2016 Summer Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

4. Politically Speaking: For those with a political bent, on Tuesday the 8th of November 2016, Americans will go to the polls to elect a new President in addition to various other state and federal officials. We urge everyone eligible to vote for the candidates of their choice. Exercise your right to vote.

5. 2016 also gives us perspective. There are a great many anniversaries, commemorations and birthdays that will occur. 2016 marks these famous anniversaries:

950 years ago in 1066:

October 14, 1066: William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy wins the Battle of Hastings to become King of England.

500 years ago in 1516:

February 18, 1516: Queen Mary, aka "Bloody Mary," the daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon, is born.



400 years ago in 1616:

April 23, 1616: William Shakespeare, the immortal bard, proves he is not immortal by passing on.



250 years ago in 1766:

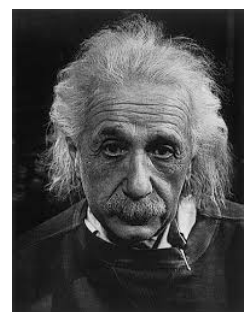
In March, King George III signs a bill repealing the Stamp Act.

200 years ago in 1816:

Rossini's "Barber of Seville" premieres.

100 years ago in 1916:

Albert Einstein publishes the theory of relativity.



95 years ago in 1921:

Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis becomes Commissioner of Baseball as a result of the Black Sox Scandal.

90 years ago in 1926:

The blonde bombshell Marilyn Monroe was born Norma Jean Mortensen on June 1st in Los Angeles, California.

85 years ago in 1931:

Cab Calloway records "Minnie The Moocher" and Bela Lugosi stars in "Dracula."

80 years ago in 1936:

Pope Francis, Robert Redford, Alan Alda, Antonin Scalia and Winnie Mandela were born. All will turn 80 in 2016.



75 years ago in 1941:

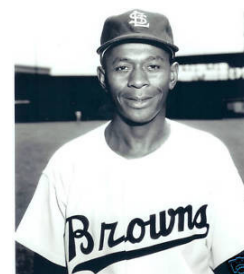
December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy," brings the USA into WWII with the attack on Pearl Harbor.

70 years ago in 1946:

Juan Peron is elected President of Argentina. Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering is founded, the predecessor to SONY. UNICEF and the Atomic Energy Commission are founded. Frank Capra's "It's A Wonderful Life" premieres. Project Diana begins the Space Age. Sylvester Stallone, Steven Spielberg, Patty Duke, Donald Trump and Reggie Jackson are born.

65 years ago in 1951:

Tennessee Williams' "Rose Tattoo" debuts in New York, Leroy Satchel Paige debuts with the St. Louis Browns, Mickey Mantle debuts with NY Yankees, Elizabeth Taylor gets her first divorce. Charo, guitarist Jimmie Vaughan (Fabulous Thunderbirds), actors Steven Seagal and Tony Danza, inventor Dean Kamen and Senator/comedian Al Franken are born.



60 years ago in 1956:

The first solar powered radios are created, Elvis Presley releases "Heartbreak Hotel," "Hound Dog," "Don't be Cruel" and "Blue Suede Shoes." "My Fair Lady" opens on Broadway and Heavyweight Champion Rocky Marciano retires undefeated. Mickey Mantle wins the Triple Crown. Actors Bryan Cranston, Andy Garcia and James Gandolfini, tennis great Martina Navratilova, musicians Randy Jackson and Dwight Yoakum and magician David Copperfield are born.



55 years ago in 1961:

John F. Kennedy begins his presidential term, Disney releases "101 Dalmatians," Roger Maris slugs a record 61 homers, Jimmy Hoffa becomes President of the Teamsters Union. Yuri Gagarin becomes first man in space and orbits the Earth. "West Side Story" hits the movie theaters. Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Director Peter Jackson, Wayne Gretsky, George Stephanopoulos and Princess Diana are born.



50 years ago in 1966:

In 1966 Indira Gandhi is elected PM of India, The Rolling Stones' "Paint It Black" reaches #1, NY Mets draft Steve Chilcott #1 over Reggie Jackson, The Beatles play their last public concert (8.29.1966, Candlestick Park, San Francisco), Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) gains independence, U.S. Supreme Court rules poll tax unconstitutional, Dance Theatre of Harlem debuts. The Who and The Kinks perform on the last "Shindig" TV show. Janet Jackson, Helena Bonham Carter, Adam Sandler and mathematician Grigori Perelman are born.

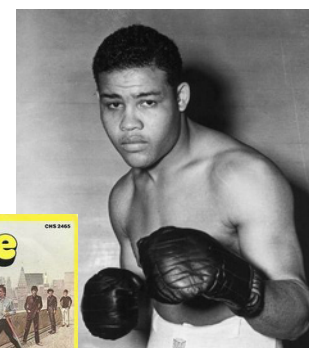


45 years ago in 1971:

The Aswan Dam opens, cigarette advertisements are banned on American TV, The Harlem Globetrotters lose, ending their 2,495-game win streak. "All in the Family" premieres on CBS, Idi Amin becomes dictator of Uganda, the Seabed Treaty outlawing nuclear weapons is signed, "The Ed Sullivan Show" broadcasts its last show, the Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded to Pablo Neruda.

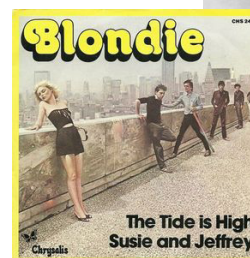
40 years ago in 1976:

Soyuz 22 returns to Earth, Sarah Caldwell becomes the first woman to conduct at New York's Metropolitan Opera House. Tommy Lasorda replaces Walter Alston as Dodger manager, Muhammad Ali beats Ken Norton for the heavyweight boxing title, Giants Stadium opens in the Meadowlands. U2 is formed. Reese Witherspoon, Benedict Cumberbatch, Melissa Joan Hart, tennis star Lindsay Davenport and QB Peyton Manning are born.



35 years ago in 1981:

"Peter Pan" closes at Lunt-Fontanne Theater NYC (578 performances), Duke Ellington's musical "Sophisticated Ladies" premieres in New York City. "The Tide Is High" by Blondie hits #1. Valerie Bertinelli marries Eddie Van Halen. U.S. heavyweight boxing champion (1937-49) Joe Louis, aka the Brown Bomber dies, at 66. Pitbull, Elijah Wood, Alicia Keys and Justin Timberlake are born.



30 years ago in 1986:

Aruba gains independence, Spain and Portugal join the EEC, President Ronald Reagan announces formation of Commission of Inquiry re: the Challenger disaster. Pirate Radio Euro Weekend (Holland) begins transmitting, the renovated Statue of Liberty is opened to the public. Willie McCovey is elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame, the TV soap "Search for Tomorrow" ends its 35-year run. "Platoon," directed by Oliver Stone and starring Charlie Sheen, Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe, is released.

25 years ago in 1991:

Operation Desert Storm begins against Saddam Hussein, Imelda Marcos returns from exile to the Philippines, Magic Johnson announces he has HIV. First TV condom ad aired (FOX-TV), underwater archaeologist Franck Goddio discovers the Dutch galleon San Diego sunk in 1600, Johnny Carson announces he will retire from "The Tonight Show," Intel releases 486SX chip.

20 years ago in 1996:

Betty Rubble debuts as a Flintstone vitamin (27 years after Fred, Barney and Wilma), Miami Dolphin coach Don Shula retires, King Hussein of Jordan visits Israel, IBM computer Deep Blue becomes the first computer to win a chess match against a reigning (human) chess champion, Gary Kasparov. Actor Antonio Banderas weds actress Melanie Griffith. The 6,138th performance of "Cats" in London surpasses the record of Broadway's longest-running musical, "A Chorus Line." Bob Dole picks Jack Kemp as his Republican VP running mate. Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter is the unanimous choice as AL Rookie of the year.



F.Y.I. February 29

Pope Leo III (1468), composer Gioachmo Rossini (1792), bandleader Jimmy Dorsey (1904), actress/singer Dinah Shore (1916), baseball player Al Rosen (1924) and self-help author Tony Roberts (1961) were all born on that most auspicious of days, February 29.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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