



## Today in History

*February 8, 1865*

▲ **Gregor Mendel, botanist and monk who pioneered the laws of genetics, read his first scientific paper describing his studies of pea plants**

**1988:** Mikhail Gorbachev announced that Soviet troops would soon begin withdrawing from Afghanistan

**1993:** The newly divided Czech and Slovak republics began using separate currencies for the first time

**2010:** A colony of Galapagos Islands fur seals relocated to northern Peru, the first colony outside the islands

**2012:** Scientists successfully drilled down to Lake Vostok, a lake sealed 3km beneath the Antarctic