

TODAY

Today is Friday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 2021. There are 315 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On **Feb. 19, 1942**, during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which paved the way for the relocation and internment of people of Japanese ancestry, including U.S.-born citizens. Imperial Japanese warplanes raided the Australian city of Darwin; at least 243 people were killed.

In **1807**, former Vice President Aaron Burr, accused of treason, was arrested in the Mississippi Territory, in present-day Alabama. In **1846**, the Texas state government was formally installed in Austin, with J. Pinckney Henderson taking the oath of office as governor.

In **1878**, Thomas Edison received a U.S. patent for "an improvement in phonograph or speaking machines."

In **1945**, Operation Detachment began during World War II as some 30,000 U.S. Marines began landing on Iwo Jima, where they commenced a successful month-long battle to seize control of the island from Japanese forces.

In **1968**, the children's program "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," created by and starring Fred Rogers, made its network debut on National Educational Television, a forerunner of PBS, beginning a 31-season run.

In **1976**, President Gerald R. Ford, calling the issuing of the internment order for people of Japanese ancestry in 1942 "a sad day in American history," signed a proclamation formally confirming its termination.

In **1986**, the U.S. Senate approved, 83-11, the Genocide Convention, an international treaty outlawing "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group," nearly 37 years after the pact was first submitted for ratification.

In **1992**, Irish Republican Army member Joseph Doherty was deported from the United States to Northern Ireland following a nine-year battle for political asylum.

In **1997**, Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's major Communist revolutionaries, died at age 92.

In **2003**, an Iranian military plane carrying 275 members of the elite Revolutionary Guards crashed in southeastern Iran, killing all on board.

In **2008**, an ailing Fidel Castro resigned the Cuban presidency after nearly a half-century in power; his brother Raul was later named to succeed him.

In **2019**, President Donald Trump directed the Pentagon to develop plans for a new Space Force within the Air Force, accepting less than the full-fledged department he had wanted.

Ten years ago: Security forces in Libya and Yemen fired on pro-democracy demonstrators as the two hard-line regimes struck back against the wave of protests that had already toppled autocrats in Egypt and Tunisia.

Five years ago: Harper Lee, author of "To Kill a Mockingbird," died in Monroeville, Alabama, at age 89.

One year ago: About 500 passengers left the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan at the end of a two-week quarantine that failed to stop the spread of the coronavirus among passengers and crew; the number of confirmed cases aboard the ship topped 600. The number of deaths in China from the virus rose past 2,000.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Smokey Robinson is 81. Actor Carlin Glynn is 81. Former Sony Corp. Chairman Howard Stringer is 79. Singer Lou Christie is 78. Actor Michael Nader is 76. Rock musician Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath, Heaven and Hell) is 73. Actor Stephen Nichols is 70. Author Amy Tan is 69. Actor Jeff Daniels is 66. Rock singer-musician Dave Wakeling is 65. Talk show host Lorianne Crook is 64. Actor Ray Winstone is 64. Actor Leslie David Baker is 63. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell is 62. Britain's Prince Andrew is 61. Tennis Hall of Famer Hana Mandlikova is 59. Singer Seal is 58. Actor Jessica Tuck is 58. Country musician Ralph McCauley (Wild Horses) is 57. Rock musician Jon Fishman (Phish) is 56. Actor Justine Bateman is 55. Actor Benicio Del Toro is 54. Actor Bellamy Young is 51. Rock musician Daniel Adair is 46. Pop singer-actor Haylie Duff is 36. Actor Arielle Kebbel is 36. Christian rock musician Seth Morrison (Skillet) is 33. Actor Luke Pasqualino is 31. Actor Victoria Justice is 28. Actor David Mazouz (TV: "Gotham") is 20. Actor Millie Bobby Brown is 17.

—Associated Press

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

Thousands remain without power in Portland

Utility says most will be restored by Friday

BY KALE WILLIAMS

The Oregonian

More than 63,000 homes and businesses were still without power in the Portland area Thursday morning as many customers were nearing a full week without electricity.

The majority of the outages were in Clackamas County where just over 50,000 customers had no electricity as of 6 a.m., according to Portland General Electric. Multnomah County had another 13,600 outages. In Marion County, at least 32,000 customers were



Beth Nakamura/The Oregonian via AP

A resident poses by a large ice-covered tree along NE 24th Avenue on Monday in Portland after a weekend winter storm toppled it.

still in the dark. Some of those outages were first reported last Friday.

On Wednesday, the utility unveiled a new map where customers can track repair crews in

real time and Larry Bekkedahl, a PGE vice president, said utility officials expect 90% of their customers who were without power to have their electricity restored by Friday night.

"For the remaining 10%, due to the significant damage and access challenges, we expect that it will take several more days," Bekkedahl said in a statement.

All the substations that had been knocked offline by the powerful winter storm that walloped the region last weekend had been restored, the utility reported, but more than 6,400 individual wires were still in need of repair. More than 3,000 people were working to restore

service, PGE said.

A handful of Portland-area school districts have announced they won't hold virtual classes Thursday as some who have had power restored continue to suffer from internet outages. Comcast said Wednesday that around 76,000 customers had no service and some could be waiting a week or more to get back on the internet.

Rain is expected to return to the Portland area Thursday, continuing through the weekend, but temperatures are expected to remain well above freezing and there is no snow or freezing rain forecast for the Willamette Valley's lowest elevations.

Amid the pandemic

Marriage & divorce: Couples' challenges abound

BY DAVID CRARY

The Associated Press

For many U.S. couples yearning to be married, the pandemic has wreaked havoc on their wedding plans while bolstering their teamwork and resilience. For couples already married, it has posed a host of new tests, bringing some closer, pulling others apart.

Spending more time together — a common result of lockdowns, furloughs and layoffs — has been a blessing for some couples who gain greater appreciation of one another. For other spouses, deprived of opportunities for individual pursuits, the increased time together "may seem more like a house arrest than a fantasy," suggested Steve Harris, a professor of marriage and family therapy at the University of Minnesota and associate director of a marriage counseling project, Minnesota Couples on the Brink.

Gregory Popcak, a psychotherapist in Steubenville, Ohio, who specializes in marriage counseling for Catholics, says the pandemic has been particularly troublesome for spouses whose coping strategies have been disrupted.

"For couples who had a tendency to use their business to avoid problems, the pandemic has made things infinitely worse," he said. "The lockdown has raised the emotional temperature a few notches. ... Things that were provocative before are now catastrophic."

Overall, people have become more cautious amid the pandemic, said sociologist W. Bradford Wilcox, director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia.

"This caution is making them less likely to get divorced, less likely to get married, less likely to have a child," he said.

Comprehensive national statistics on marriage and divorce during the pandemic won't be compiled for many months, but the numbers available thus far from a few states suggest there's a notable decline in each category.

In Oregon, divorces in the pandemic months of March through December were down about 24% from those months



Kristen Pritchard Photography via AP

Kayleigh and Cody Cousins pose for wedding photos at Mission Trails Regional Park in San Diego, California, on Dec. 27. They initially planned an April 2020 wedding, postponed it after the pandemic took hold, rescheduled it for December, then had to shift gears again when a new lockdown was imposed. "That was devastating," said Kayleigh. "We said, 'Let's just do it on Zoom.'"

in 2019; marriages were down 16%. In Florida, for the same months, divorces were down 20% and marriages were down 27%. There also were decreases, though smaller, in Arizona.

One reason for fewer divorces: In many states, access to courts for civil cases was severely curtailed during the pandemic's early stages. Another reason, according to marriage counselors, is that many couples backed off from a possibly imminent divorce for fear it would only worsen pandemic-fueled financial insecurity.

The Rev. Russ Berg, who runs a faith-based marriage counseling ministry in Minneapolis, tries to encourage that kind of hesitancy among the couples he advises.

"Some come in saying they're overwhelmed, fighting over finances, their kids' education," Berg said. "Without going to work, they don't have that buffer of being physically gone. They feel they're on top of each other."

"I try to put it in perspective, that everyone is stressed out right now and it's not a good time to make decisions about the future of your marriage," he said. "I say, 'Let's work on it for six months and make sure you don't add the pain of regret to the pain of divorce. Explore all your options before you decide.'"

For countless couples on the brink of marriage, the pandemic plunged fine-tuned wedding plans into disarray due to restrictions on large gatherings and wariness about long-distance travel.

In San Diego, Kayleigh and Cody Cousins initially planned an April wedding, postponed it after the pandemic took hold, rescheduled it for December, then had to shift gears again when a new lockdown was imposed.

"That was devastating," said Kayleigh. "We said, 'Let's just do it on Zoom.'"

So they set up an altar at home, recruited a friend to officiate virtually, and had a wedding ceremony Dec. 27 watched remotely by about 40 of their friends and family.

Professionally, Kayleigh helps her husband run a tree-cutting service, so they understand each other's work demands. For

many couples, there's work-related friction.

Danielle Campoamor, a freelance writer in New York City, says she and her partner of seven years find themselves arguing frequently as the pandemic complicates the challenges of raising their two children and earning needed income. She works from home; he commutes to an Amazon fulfillment center.

"He goes to work for 12-hour shifts," said Campoamor, 34. "I'm left alone helping my 6-year-old with online learning, potty-training my 2-year-old, cooking and cleaning."

"There are days when I think, 'Yes, we can do this,' and other days I say, 'No way that I can do this,'" she said. "We don't have time to discuss our relationship, to work on improving it, or on separating. Sometimes I don't have the capacity to remember what day it is."

Atlanta-based attorney Elizabeth Lindsey, president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, says she and other divorce lawyers generally have kept busy, in some cases grappling with pandemic-related complications regarding child visitation rights.

She expects there will be pent-up demand for divorces once the COVID-19 threat eases.

"Plenty of people I've consulted with were not ready to pull the trigger during the pandemic," she said.

Recent months have been busier than usual for Louise Livesay, a lawyer in St. Paul, Minnesota, who specializes in collaborative divorce — a process in which the spouses are represented by attorneys seeking to negotiate outcomes fair to both parties.

Livesay said the stresses of the pandemic exacerbated existing strains in some marriages, pushing couples toward divorce. But she said many of her clients were eager to avoid contentious litigation and were open to equitable financial arrangements.

"I found people to be a bit more willing to work toward solutions when things are difficult," she said.

In the Catholic diocese of Arlington, Virginia, psychologist Michael Horne, who counsels couples on behalf of Catholic Charities, has observed one heart-warming development that he attributes partly to the pandemic. There are now 20 couples enrolled in the agency's adoption program, up from seven a year ago.

"Having more time together has afforded couples time to have those really important conversations," he said. "What does it mean to be a family?"



Send the right KIND of flower, candies & chocolate this Valentine's Day!

GIVE The Gift of CANNABIS!



kind REGARDS

kindregards.com

Follow us @giftofcannabis



ANNE GIBSON Art + Design
ANNEGIBSONARTANDESIGN.COM