Today is Thursday, April 1, the 91st day of 2021. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today's Highlight in History: On **April 1**, 1954, the United States Air Force Academy was established by President Dwight

D. Eisenhower.
In 1789, the U.S. House of Representatives held its first full meeting in New York; Frederick Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania was elected the first House speaker.

In **1933**, Nazi Germany staged a daylong national boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.

In **1945**, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)

In **1970**, President Richard M. Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television, to take effect after Ian 1 1971

In **1972**, the first Major League Baseball players' strike began; it lasted 12 days.

In **1975**, with Khmer Rouge guerrillas closing in, Cambodian President Lon Nol resigned and fled into exile, spending the rest of his life in the United States.

In **1976**, Apple Computer was founded by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.

In **1977**, the U.S. Senate followed the example of the House of Representatives by adopting, 86-9, a stringent code of ethics requiring full financial disclosure and limits on outside income.

In 1984, Marvin Gaye was shot to death by his father, Marvin Gay, Sr. in Los Angeles, the day before the recording star's 45th birthday. (The elder Gay pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and received probation.)

In 1987, in his first speech on the AIDS epidemic, President Ronald Reagan told doctors in Philadelphia, "We've declared AIDS public health enemy No. 1." In 1992, the National Hockey

League Players' Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.

In **2003**, American troops entered a hospital in Nasiriyah, Iraq, and rescued Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who had been held prisoner since her unit was ambushed on March 23.

Ten years ago: Afghans angry over the burning of a Quran at a small Florida church stormed a U.N. compound in northern Afghanistan, killing seven foreigners, including four Nepalese quards.

Five years ago: World leaders ended a nuclear security summit in Washington by declaring progress in safeguarding nuclear materials sought by terrorists and wayward nations, even as President Barack Obama acknowledged the task was far from finished.

One year ago: President Donald Trump acknowledged that the federal stockpile of personal protective equipment used by doctors and nurses was nearly depleted, and he warned of some "horrific" days ahead for the country. Resisting calls to issue a national stay-at-home order, Trump said he wanted to give governors "flexibility" to respond to the coronavirus. England's Wimbledon tennis tournament was canceled for the first time since World War II.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Jane Powell is 92. Actor Don Hastings is 87. Actor Ali MacGraw is 82. R&B singer Rudolph Isley is 82. Reggae singer Jimmy Cliff is 73. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 71. Rock musician Billy Currie (Ultravox) is 71. Actor Annette O'Toole is 69. Movie director Barry Sonnenfeld is 68. Singer Susan Boyle is 60. Actor Jose Zuniga is 59. Country singer Woody Lee is 53. Actor Jessica Collins is 50. Rapper-actor Method Man is 50. Movie directors Albert and Allen Hughes are 49. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 48. Former tennis player Magdalena Maleeva is 46. Actor David Oyelowo is 45. Actor JJ Field is 43. Singer Bijou Phillips is 41. Actor Sam Huntington is 39. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 39. Actor Matt Lanter is 38. Actor Josh Zuckerman is 36. Country singer Hillary Scott (Lady A) is 35. Rock drummer Arejay Hale (Halestorm) is 34. Actor Asa Butterfield is 24. Actor Tyler Wladis is 11.

— Associated Press

Judge blocks Nevada grazing; sage grouse totals dwindling

BY SCOTT SONNER

Associated Press
RENO, Nev. — A federal judge has blocked a Nevada project that would expand livestock grazing across 400 squares miles of some of the highest priority sage grouse habitat in the West and accused the government of deliberately misleading the public by underestimating damage the cattle could do to the land.

The ruling comes as scientists continue to document dramatic declines in greater sage grouse populations across 11 Western states — down 65% since 1986 and 37% since 2002, according to a new report by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Its numbers have shrunk to less than a quarter of what they were a half-century ago, the USGS said Tuesday. If current trends continue, there's only a 50% chance most of their remaining breeding grounds known as "leks" will still be productive in 60 years, it said.

Citing concerns about grouse, U.S. administrative Judge Harvey Sweitzer sided with conservationists in Nevada and suspended approval of new grazing permits for a swath of rangeland larger than Rhode Island. It stretches to Utah and includes a ranch once owned by Bing Crosby.

The senior judge at the Interior Department's Office of Hearings

and Appeals in Salt Lake City ruled March 19 the Bureau of Land Management failed to adequately examine potential harm to the grouse as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Sweitzer's decision could have ramifications for several permits approved across the West in the final months of the Trump administration under a 2017 initiative dubbed "Outcome-Based Grazing." Nevada's Winecup-Gamble ranch was among 11 designated as demonstration projects in 2018 under the "Outcome-Based" initiative along with ranches in Oregon, Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.



David Zalubowski/AP file

Male greater sage grouse perform mating rituals for a female grouse, not pictured, on a lake outside Walden, Colorado, in 2013.

H20GATE

Ron Edmonds/AP

G. Gordon Liddy kneels next to his Corvette outside the Fairfax, Virginia, radio station where he broadcast his syndicated radio talk show in 1997. Liddy, who became a radio host after prison, was one of the so-called "plumbers" and a Republican operative who went to prison for the 1972 break-in into the Watergate building.

G. GORDON LIDDY • 1930-2021

Unapologetic Watergate mastermind said he'd 'do it again for my president'

BY WILL LESTER Associated Press

WASHINGTON — G. Gordon Liddy, a mastermind of the Watergate burglary and a radio talk show host after emerging from prison, died Tuesday at age 90 at his daughter's home in Virginia.

His son, Thomas Liddy, confirmed the death but did not reveal the cause, other than to say it was not related to COVID-19.

Liddy, a former FBI agent and Army veteran, was convicted of conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping for his role in the Watergate burglary, which led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon. He spent four years and four months in prison, including more than 100 days in solitary confinement.

"I'd do it again for my president," he said years later.

Liddy was outspoken and controversial as a political operative under Nixon. He recommended assassinating political enemies, bombing a left-leaning think tank and kidnapping war protesters. His White House colleagues ignored such suggestions.

One of his ventures — the break-in at Democratic head-quarters at the Watergate building in June 1972 — was approved. The burglary went awry, which led to an investigation, a cover-up and Nixon's resignation in 1974.

Liddy also was convicted of conspiracy in the September 1971 burglary of the office of the psychiatrist of Daniel Ellsberg, the defense analyst who leaked the secret history of the Vietnam War known as the Pentagon Papers.

After his release from prison, Liddy became a popular, provocative and controversial radio talk show host. He also worked as a security consultant, writer and actor. His appearance — piercing dark eyes, bushy moustache and shaved head — made him a recognizable spokesman for products and TV guest.

Born in Hoboken, New Jersey, George Gordon Battle Liddy was a frail boy who grew up in a neighborhood populated mostly by German-Americans.

After attending Fordham

University and serving a stint in the Army, Liddy graduated from the Fordham University Law School and then joined the FBI. He ran unsuccessfully for Congress from New York in 1968 and helped organize Nixon's presidential campaign in the state.

Liddy was head of a team of Republican operatives known as "the plumbers," whose mission was to find leakers of information embarrassing to the Nixon administration. Among Liddy's specialties were gathering political intelligence and organizing activities to disrupt or discredit Nixon's Democratic opponents.

Liddy and fellow operative Howard Hunt, along with the five arrested at Watergate, were indicted on federal charges three months after the June 1972 break-in. Hunt and his recruits pleaded guilty in January 1973, and James McCord and Liddy were found guilty. Nixon resigned on Aug. 9, 1974.

Death Notices

Joyce Gasior of Bend, OR Aug 18, 1935 - March 26,

Arrangements:
Deschutes Memorial
Chapel and Gardens is
honored to serve the family
- (541) 382-5592. Visit our
online register book to
send condolences and
share treasured memories
at deschutesmemorialchapel.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/
deschutesmemorial.
Services:

Private family gathering will be held at a later date.

Contributions may be made to:

Partners In Care, 2075 NE

Wyatt Ct, Bend, OR 97701.

Dwayne L. Wagner of Bend, OR Aug 8, 1931 - March 28, 2021

Arrangements:
Autumn Funerals, Bend 541-318-0842 www.autumnfunerals.net Services:
Private services will be held at a later date

OBITUARY DEADLINE

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No death notices or obituaries are published Mondays.

Email: obits@bendbulletin.com

Reversing Trump, Pentagon

releases new transgender policies

The Pentagon on Wednesday swept away Trump-era policies that largely banned transgender people from serving in the military, issuing new rules that offer them wider access to medical care and assistance with gender transition.

The new department regulations allow transgender people who meet military standards to enlist and serve openly in their self-identified gender, and they will be able to get medically necessary transition-related care authorized by law, chief Pentagon spokesman John Kirby told reporters during a briefing.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has also called for a reexamination of the records of service members who were discharged or denied reenlistment because of gender identity issues under the previous policy.

Chauvin trial: Ex-officer told onlooker Floyd was big, 'probably on something'

After the ambulance took George Floyd away, the Minneapolis officer who had pinned his knee on the Black man's neck defended himself to a bystander by saying Floyd was "a sizable guy" and "probably on something," according to police video played in court Wednesday.

The video was part of a mountain of footage — both official and amateur — and witness testimony at Officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial that all together showed how Floyd's alleged attempt to pass a phony \$20 bill at a neighborhood market last May escalated into tragedy one video-documented step at a time.

A security-camera scene of people joking around inside the store soon gave way to the

sight of officers pulling Floyd from his SUV.

WORLD BRIEFING

When Floyd was finally taken away by paramedics, Charles McMillian, a 61-year-old bystander who recognized Chauvin from the neighborhood, told the officer he didn't respect what Chauvin had done.

"That's one person's opinion," Chauvin could be heard responding.

France restricts travel as virus surges

French President Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday announced a three-week nation-wide school closure and a monthlong domestic travel ban, as the rapid spread of the virus ramped up pressure on hospitals.

It's a departure from the government's policy in recent months, which has focused on regionalized restrictions. School closures in particular had been seen as a very last resort.

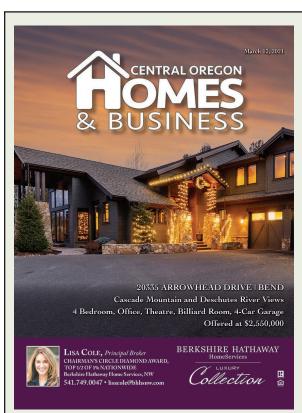
An overnight nationwide curfew has been in place since January, and all France's restaurants, bars, gyms, cinemas and museums have been closed since October.

lowa Democrat drops bid for House seat

Rita Hart, a defeated Democrat, abruptly dropped her bid Wednesday to overturn her sixvote loss for a House seat from Iowa, abandoning what loomed as a long legal and political battle in the face of shaky support from her own party.

Her opponent, Marianette Miller-Meeks, is now a representative in Congress. Some House Democrats were wary of overturning Miller-Meeks' win after their outrage when Donald Trump took to the courts and Congress to try reversing his own officially certified defeats.

— Bulletin wire reports



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