

TODAY

Today is Wednesday, May 12, the 132nd day of 2021. There are 233 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

In **1949**, the Soviet Union lifted the Berlin Blockade, which the Western powers had succeeded in circumventing with their Berlin Airlift.

In **1937**, Britain's King George VI was crowned at Westminster Abbey; his wife, Elizabeth, was crowned as queen consort.

In **1943**, during World War II, Axis forces in North Africa surrendered.

In **1958**, the United States and Canada signed an agreement to create the North American Air Defense Command (later the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD).

In **1970**, the Senate voted unanimously to confirm Harry A. Blackmun as a Supreme Court justice.

In **1975**, the White House announced the new Cambodian government had seized an American merchant ship, the Mayaguez, in international waters. (U.S. Marines gained control of the ship three days after its seizure, not knowing the 39 civilian members of the crew had already been released by Cambodia.)

In **1997**, Australian Susie Maroney became the first woman to swim from Cuba to Florida, covering the 118-mile distance in 24.5 hours.

In **2002**, Jimmy Carter arrived in Cuba, becoming the first U.S. president in or out of office to visit since the 1959 revolution that put Fidel Castro in power.

In **2009**, suspected Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk was deported from the United States to Germany.

Ten years ago: CEOs of the five largest oil companies went before the Senate Finance Committee, where Democrats challenged the executives to justify tax breaks at a time when people were paying \$4 a gallon for gas. A German court convicted retired U.S. autoworker John Demjanjuk of being an accessory to the murder of tens of thousands of Jews as a Nazi death camp guard. (Demjanjuk, who maintained his innocence, died in March 2012 at age 91.)

Five years ago: A divided U.S. Supreme Court blocked the execution of an Alabama inmate so that a lower court could review claims that strokes and dementia had rendered him incompetent to understand his looming death sentence. (A federal appeals court ruled in March 2017 that Vernon Madison was incompetent, and could not be executed.)

One year ago: House Democrats unveiled a coronavirus aid package totaling more than \$3 trillion, including nearly \$1 trillion for states and cities to avert layoffs and a fresh round of direct cash aid to American households. (The measure won House approval but Senate Republicans and the White House rejected it as too costly.) German photographer Astrid Kirchherr, who shot some of the earliest and most striking images of the Beatles and helped shape their visual style, died at age 81 in her native Hamburg.

Today's Birthdays: R&B singer Jayotis Washington is 80. Actor Linda Dano is 78. Actor Gabriel Byrne is 71. Actor Kim Greist is 63. Rock musician Eric Singer (KISS) is 63. Actor Ving Rhames is 62. Actor Vanessa A. Williams is 58. TV personality/chef Carla Hall is 57. Actor Stephen Baldwin is 55. Actor Scott Schwartz is 53. Actor Kim Fields is 52. Actor Christian Campbell is 49. Actor Rebecca Herbst is 44. Actor Malin Akerman is 43. Actor Jason Biggs is 43. Actor Rami Malek is 40. Actor-singer Clare Bowen is 37. Actor Emily VanCamp is 35. Actor Malcolm David Kelley is 29. Actor Sullivan Sweeten is 26.

— The Associated Press

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

Asian leaders rally against racism in Oregon

New state hotline reflects national trend this year of increased hate crimes against Asian people

BY KALE WILLIAMS

The Oregonian

Liani Reeves was just a teenager when she realized how the different parts of her identity intersected.

Reeves was born in Korea and adopted by a white family in Oregon when she was still an infant. Raised in a rural part of the state, she was the target of bullying from a young age because of her race.

Reeves, an attorney and former president of the Oregon State Bar, told her story to an assembled crowd of several dozen Asian community leaders who lined the small lake within the Lan Su Chinese Garden in northwest Portland on Saturday, and countless others who attended virtually, for the Rise Against Hate Oregon rally.

The gathering came in the wake of the mass shooting in Atlanta in early March when a gunman shot and killed eight people, six of whom were Asian women. Over the last year, there's been an increase in hate crimes and racist harassment of Asian and Pacific Islanders, including more than 6,600 incidents reported to the San Francisco-based group Stop AAPI Hate.

As several speakers at the rally noted, that figure is likely a vast undercount as many incidents go un-



Liani Reeves, former president of the Oregon Bar Association, speaks Saturday at the Rise Against Hate Oregon rally at the Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland.

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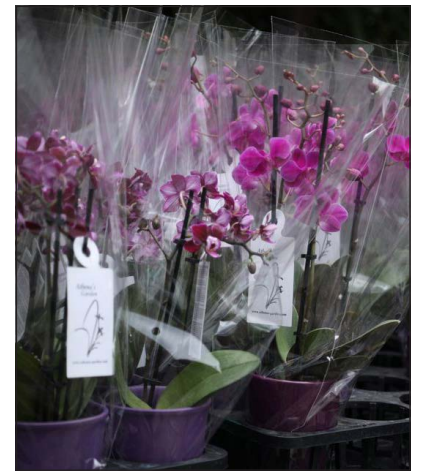
Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum laid out how her office is trying to combat the rise in racism against Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Rosenblum noted that Oregon was among the first states to implement a hate crime law in 1981, but that the statute had seen little reform since its inception. She said her office had formed a task force, led by members of communities most impacted by racism, to improve the law. The work led

to a series of changes in 2019, including adding a bias incident hotline and creating tools for law enforcement to better prosecute hate crime cases.

Rosenblum said the hotline has received more than 1,600 reports of bias incidents since it went live in early 2020, the majority of which were aimed at African Americans. Still, she said, the hotline has seen a 500% increase in bias events targeting Asians and Pacific Islanders this year.

Lori Stegmann, the first Asian-American immigrant to be



Kale Williams/Oregonian photos

Flowers await the attendees of the Rise Against Hate Oregon rally.

elected to the Multnomah County Commission, noted that Oregon's history of racism and white supremacy is still evident today, not only in incidents of biased harassment, but also in disparate health outcomes made evident by the pandemic.

In July, Pacific Islanders had more than triple the rate of coronavirus cases in their communities than any other race in Oregon, according to statistics from the Oregon Health Authority.

"The pandemic has laid bare the inequities embedded in our systems," Stegmann said.

"From testing to vaccinations, from health care to housing, from education to employment, and from the school-to-prison pipeline to the criminal justice system."

LOCAL AND STATE BRIEFING

COCC shares details for drive-thru graduation

Central Oregon Community College will hand out degrees drive-thru style at its socially distanced commencement ceremony June 12.

COCC graduates from both 2020 and 2021 will be assigned specific time slots to drive onto campus, depending on their major, according to a college press release. Graduates will exit their cars, walk onto a stage to receive their degree or certificated one at a time and leave campus.

Because each graduate is allowed only one car, the event will be livestreamed online for friends and family who can't squeeze into those vehicles, the release stated.

The college expects to hand out about 200 degrees and certificates at the cere-

mony, the release stated.

Dalton Miller-Jones, a retired Portland State University psychology professor and Bend resident, will deliver a prerecorded commencement speech, which will be shared on COCC's website in early June, the release stated.

Miller-Jones is also the co-chair of the Restorative Equity and Justice advocacy group, sits on the leadership council of the statewide nonprofit Oregon Community Foundation and helped establish Cornell University's Africana Studies and Research Center.

3 men accused in sex trafficking of immigrants

Three men are accused of forcing immigrants from China into prostitution, beating them with hammers and robbing them in hotels

in Portland, Beaverton and Omaha, Nebraska.

Xinyu Zhou, 21, Yuan Gao, 19, and Arian Esfadiari, 18, face a federal indictment in Nebraska and state indictments in Multnomah and Washington counties.

The three men were arrested in Omaha, Nebraska, in December.

The victims in the Portland attacks were both Chinese nationals who were brought to the United States on fraudulent visas and under misleading

terms, according to Portland police. Victim advocates assigned to the Portland Police Bureau's Human Trafficking Unit have been coordinating care and recovery efforts for the victims.

— Bulletin staff and wire reports

We're all part of Central Oregon history.

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PHOTOS



The Bend Bulletin is proud to announce its partnership with Deschutes Historical Museum and our readers on a new pictorial history book, "Hello Bend! Central Oregon Reinvented — 1950–2000: A Pictorial History."

YOU'RE INVITED

We are excited to invite you, our readers, to participate in this unique project. Please bring your photos to one of our scanning sessions listed here — and be sure to check our submission guidelines. Photos will be scanned on-site and given right back to you. In order to keep things speedy, please fill out our simple photo submission form prior to the session. Forms can be downloaded at [HelloBend.PictorialBook.com](https://www.hellobend.com/pictorial-book). Please plan to fill out one form for each photo you'd like to submit.

Download submission forms and pre-order at

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- General interest photos, such as: commerce, industry, transportation, rural life, public service, etc.
- Photos taken between 1950 and 2000.
- Photos taken in Central Oregon.
- If you're a private collector, call 360-723-5800 to set up an appointment.
- Not all photos submitted or used in ads will appear in the final book.
- Photos will become part of the Deschutes Historical Museum's archived collection.

SCANNING SESSIONS

- Thursday, June 10** 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, June 11** 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 12** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- Saturday, June 12** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Bend Bulletin
- 320 SW Upper Terrace Dr.
- Ste. #200, Bend

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