

TODAY

Today is Friday, June 11, the 162nd day of 2021. There are 203 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On **June 11, 1993**, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that people who commit "hate crimes" motivated by bigotry may be sentenced to extra punishment.

In **1509**, England's King Henry VIII married his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

In **1770**, Captain James Cook, commander of the British ship Endeavour, "discovered" the Great Barrier Reef off Australia by running onto it.

In **1776**, the Continental Congress formed a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence calling for freedom from Britain.

In **1864**, German composer Richard (REE'-hard) Strauss was born in Munich.

In **1936**, Kansas Gov. Alfred "Alf" Landon was nominated for president at the Republican national convention in Cleveland.

In **1947**, the government announced the end of sugar rationing for households and "institutional users" (e.g., restaurants and hotels) as of midnight. In **1955**, in motor racing's worst disaster, more than 80 people were killed during the 24 Hours of Le Mans in France when two of the cars collided and crashed into spectators.

In **1962**, three prisoners at Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay staged an escape, leaving the island on a makeshift raft; they were never found or heard from again.

In **1985**, Karen Ann Quinlan, the comatose patient whose case prompted a historic right-to-die court decision, died in Morris Plains, New Jersey, at age 31.

In **1986**, the John Hughes comedy "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," starring Matthew Broderick, was released by Paramount Pictures.

In **2001**, Timothy McVeigh, 33, was executed by injection at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, for the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing that killed 168 people.

In **2009**, with swine flu reported in more than 70 nations, the World Health Organization declared the first global flu pandemic in 41 years.

Ten years ago: Rejecting calls by Democratic leaders for him to resign in a sexting scandal, Rep. Anthony Weiner instead announced he was seeking professional treatment and asking for a leave of absence from Congress. (Weiner ended up resigning.)

Five years ago: Queen Elizabeth II and her family marked her official 90th birthday with a parade, a colorful military ceremony and an appearance on the Buckingham Palace balcony.

One year ago: Louisville, Kentucky, banned the use of "no-knock" warrants and named the new ordinance for Breonna Taylor, who'd been fatally shot by officers who burst into her home. San Francisco's mayor said city police officers would stop responding to non-criminal activities such as disputes between neighbors and reports about homeless people; they would be replaced on those calls by trained, unarmed professionals. Army Gen. Mark Milley, the nation's top military officer, said he'd been wrong to walk in uniform with President Donald Trump past protesters who'd been cleared from Lafayette Park to a photo op outside a church. Two Florida amusement parks, SeaWorld Orlando and Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, reopened, but with reservations required to limit crowds amid the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Rep. Charles B. Rangel, D-N.Y., is 91. Comedian Johnny Brown is 84. International Motorsports Hall of Famer Jackie Stewart is 82. Singer Joey Dee is 81. Actor Roscoe Orman is 77. Actor Adrienne Barbeau is 76. Rock musician Frank Beard (ZZ Top) is 72. Animal rights activist Ingrid Newkirk is 72. Singer Graham Russell (Air Supply) is 71. Rock singer Donnie Van Zant is 69. Actor Peter Bergman is 68. Pro Football Hall of Famer Joe Montana is 65. Actor Hugh Laurie is 62. TV personality Mehmet Oz, M.D., is 61. Singer Gioia Bruno (Expose) is 58. Rock musician Dan Lavery (Tonic) is 55. Country singer-songwriter Bruce Robison is 55. Actor Clare Carey is 54. Actor Peter Dinklage is 52. Actor Lenny Jacobson is 47. Actor Joshua Jackson is 43. Americana musician Gabe Witcher (Punch Brothers) is 43. Actor Shia LaBeouf is 35.

— Associated Press

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Abby: Twenty years ago, I reconnected with a childhood friend. When we were in high school together, she used to love telling stories, not all of them true. Most were harmless and cast her as the center of an interesting adventure.

After graduation, I headed off to college, she started a job and we lost touch for almost 30 years. We now see each other once or twice a year, but text almost daily.

She recently sent me a photo of a now-closed department store and told me she had worked there right after high school, in its pet department. She went on to say she got the job because she had raised tropical fish and was comfortable caring for the animals. The problem with her story is that it was I who had that job. I worked there throughout my freshman year in college.

Thinking maybe she had taken the job after I left, I asked a few questions. But it quickly became obvious that she had snatched my work experience as her own. I couldn't think of a kind way to challenge her, so all I texted was "Interesting." Now I find myself not believing any of her stories. I don't think she has dementia, but I can't understand why anyone would co-opt someone else's history like this. Should I challenge her at this late date or chalk it up to more of her "storytelling"?

— *Stolen Life in Indiana*

Dear Stolen: For whatever reason, your old chum seems unable to separate fact from fantasy. She may do this because she has low self-esteem. I see nothing positive to be gained by confronting her, but it may be time to ask your-

self how much you want to continue a relationship with a compulsive fabulist. She may do this hoping to impress others, or because she feels her life is so boring that others won't be interested in her if she tells the truth. It's sad, really.

Dear Abby: My husband of many years died. We were very close and spent a lot of time together. How do I graciously decline visits from people I care about but am not close to? I know they mean well, and I don't want to cause hurt feelings. I think we may all grieve differently. Even after several months, I'm still not ready to entertain a visitor. I may never be, although I appreciate their thoughts.

— *Continuing to Grieve*

Dear Continuing: When you wrote that everyone grieves differently, you nailed it. It's the truth. For some, the process can take a short time. (Many widows and widowers had time to grieve before they lost their spouses.) For others, it takes longer. Several months is still a relatively short time, but please do not isolate yourself completely. You don't have to entertain, but being able to vent your feelings to caring friends or in a support group can be healthy and healing.

If you don't want anyone in your home, consider meeting a close friend or two out in public for a brief visit. Going out, exercising and getting some sunshine each day is healthy and can help to lessen depression. Your husband is irreplaceable, but isolating yourself won't bring him back. If your inability to move forward persists, I urge you to discuss it with your physician or your religious adviser if you have one.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

MOON ALERT: After 3:30 a.m. EDT today (12:30 a.m. PDT), there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2021: You think and talk quickly; however, you have a strong desire for order and a de-cluttered world. You believe in yourself and your opinions, and you're ambitious. You're also an excellent communicator. Don't work too hard this year. Conserve your energy. This is a good time to make plans for the future and decide what structures are necessary to build.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ This is a saucy, energetic day! Take note that the next seven weeks will promote love affairs and hot, sexy romance! Ooh la la! Parties, sports events and playful activities with children also will be a focus. Tonight: Beautify your home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You are focused on money and possessions. No question. One other thing that is certain is that family and home life will become insane in the next seven weeks because of increased activity and chaos on the home front. Tonight: Appreciate your surroundings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ This is a strong day because the Sun is in your sign. However, fiery Mars is now in your House of Communications, which will make you more assertive in the next seven weeks. You will say what you mean and mean what you say! Tonight: Shop!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Although you are happy to work behind the scenes today, Venus in your sign will encourage schmoozing with others. In the bigger picture, you will work hard to earn money and buy beautiful things for yourself in the next seven weeks. Tonight: Socialize!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your popularity continues today, particularly with young people from your past. Meanwhile, good news! Fiery Mars enters your sign today to stay for the next seven weeks, which will boost your energy and help you work hard. Tonight: Enjoy your solitude.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You look great in the eyes of others, especially bosses, parents and VIPs today. Nevertheless, be aware that the planet Mars will be hiding in your chart for the next seven weeks, which could stir up some trouble with a hidden enemy. If you think something fishy is going on, it is. Tonight: Schmooze with friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ It's Friday, and you want to do something different! You want adventure! As one of the most social signs in the zodiac, you'll be happy to know that in the next seven weeks, you can work with others to formulate goals. You'll be leader of the pack! Tonight: Someone important favors you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ This is an intense, passionate day. (It's a fun date day.) Today Mars moves to the top of your chart to stay for the next seven weeks, arousing your ambition! Suddenly, you will be intense and focused, which means you will go after what you want. Tonight: Explore adventure!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your relationship with a friend or partner is close today. You might attract money to you. Take note that the next seven weeks will be adventurous — more than usual. You will have a strong desire to travel and do creative, intellectual work. (Sagittarians are the travelers of the zodiac.) Tonight: Expect a gift.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ With Venus opposite your sign today, you are happy to socialize because encounters with others will run smoothly. Nevertheless, you are keen to get better organized. Caution about disputes over shared property or shared responsibilities in the next two months. Tonight: Good time with others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You want to play! And it's Friday! Accept all invitations to explore social outings and sports events. For some of you, a work-related romance might blossom. However, be patient with partners in the next two months. (Patience is the antidote to anger.) Tonight: Improve your health.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Home and family are a major focus now; however, Venus wants to tempt you to play today! Explore romance, parties and sports. Enjoy fun times with kids. You will work hard in the next two months because Mars guarantees your commitment. Tonight: Romance!

Extremism

Continued from A1

About 40% of respondents said they strongly or somewhat agreed with the statement, "America must protect and preserve its White European heritage." About 39% of respondents agreed with the statement; "White people in America face discrimination and unfair treatment on the basis of their race." The poll was conducted in January with the release of data today under agreement between the Western States Center and DHM Research.

The poll was done as "a community service by DHM Research in partnership with the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center," a statement with the poll said. Both said they are independent and nonpartisan.

The poll asked 603 Oregon adults for their views on white nationalism, right-wing extremism and the strength of democracy in the state and nation. The estimated margin of error is 4%, DHM said.

The groups were weighted to reflect the gender, age, race, economic status and geographical location of the respondent.

The statistics were also divided into subgroups. The main geographical distribution covered three portions of the state: The tri-county region of Portland, the rest of the Willamette Valley, and the remainder of Oregon.

Just under half of those polled were satisfied with how democracy was working in Oregon. But the 49% rating was higher than the 47% who said democracy was working in the entire nation.

Four of 10 respondents believed "bad actors" across the political spectrum were responsible for violence in Portland and the rest of Oregon.

Far left activists were chiefly responsible, according to 14%, while 13% blamed far right agitators.

Another 8% blamed police and 4% pointed the finger at elected officials.

The remaining 22% said they didn't know who was ultimately responsible.

The areas around Portland and the Willamette Valley skewed higher in percentage of those blaming the far right and police, while the third group that included all areas of the state outside of Portland and the Willamette Valley, was somewhat more likely to blame left-wing groups.

Overall, right-wing militia groups and white extremists were seen as bad for business and the state's image.

They hurt the economy, according to 74% of those polled. The armed groups created a dangerous situation, 69% said, and 68% said laws were needed to prevent peo-

ple from bringing firearms to public rallies.

The pollsters said more than 7 out of 10 respondents "were not buying" arguments by militia groups that their presence was to support law enforcement or protect the public.

Mild to strong support for militia groups was highest — 24% — among those who identified as "rural" Oregonians.

Schubiner said the key to limiting the damage of white extremist groups was to see it as a political and social issue, not just a police issue. The broadest and most vocal coalition of political, business and other leaders must speak out against militias and their ideology, she said.

"It's incredibly troubling to see the spike in numbers" of public officeholders who openly sympathize with parts of the paramilitary, white nationalist movement, she said.

Eric K. Ward, executive director of the Western States Center and a senior fellow with the Southern Poverty Law Center, said the poll was a wake-up call to Oregonians that there is a resurgence of racist, sometimes violent attitudes with a deep history in Oregon.

Ward said Oregon's early years were built on "exclusion by design," with a narrative of a white agricultural and small town society in a land devoid of indigenous Americans and Black people.

Slavery had been barred from new states by the time Oregon joined the union in 1859. But its original constitution did not allow free Black people the right to live in the state, with those who did not leave within a relatively short time subject to public lashings.

As civil rights spread in the United States after World War II, Ward said, reactionaries embraced the idea of the "Pacific Northwest Territorial Imperative" — a white ethno-state — which became part of the philosophy of groups from the Ku Klux Klan to skinhead Neo-Nazis and "patriot" militia groups.

When white extremism was pushed underground, its believers became "early adopters" of internet technology as a way to spread their message widely but less openly.

With more open support from some political leaders, Ward said white separatist ideas are resurgent. He included the "Greater Idaho" movement that would cleave most of Oregon east of the Cascades and fold it into what they believe is an ideologically more compatible government in conservative Idaho.

Ward said the movement is just the latest attempt to give political cover by presenting a white ethno-state dream rebashed as a strictly geographic division.

"Our rugged rural culture east of the Cascades is somehow incompatible with West Coast progressivism," Ward said.

Ward pointed to the presence of groups such as Patriot Prayer and the Proud Boys at rallies in Oregon, some of whom later took part in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 during the certification of the Electoral College vote.

Ward noted that extremists targeted immigrants and indigenous people of Oregon. They had defaced the Holocaust Memorial in Portland. Fliers with images of the mass murder of Jews during World War II were distributed by anti-Semitic activists in the district of Rep. Rachel Prusak, D-Tualatin.

Prusak believes she was targeted for supporting gun control legislation whose opponents include some extremists.

The bill passed the Legislature and was recently signed into law by Gov. Kate Brown. A group of conservative Republican current and former state lawmakers has submitted a proposed referendum that would put the gun law on hold until a statewide vote in November 2022.

Ward pointed to the actions of one of the referendum's sponsors, Rep. Mike Narnman, R-Independence. The lawmaker is facing criminal charges and expulsion from the House for allegedly allowing violent protesters into the state Capital while the Legislature was in special session in December. It's action that has historical resonance, Ward underlined.

"The willingness of a state elected official to open the door to those who espouse racial violence," Ward said.

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Parade

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the RV life

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