

## TODAY

Today is Wednesday, June 16, the 167th day of 2021. There are 198 days left in the year.

## Today's Highlight in History:

In **1858**, accepting the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

In **1897**, the government signed a treaty of annexation with Hawaii.

In **1903**, Ford Motor Co. was incorporated.

In **1911**, IBM had its beginnings as the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Co. which was incorporated in New York State.

In **1959**, actor George Reeves, TV's "Superman," was found dead of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound in the bedroom of his Beverly Hills, California, home; he was 45.

In **1963**, the world's first female space traveler, Valentina Tereshkova, 26, was launched into orbit by the Soviet Union aboard Vostok 6; Tereshkova spent 71 hours in flight, circling the Earth 48 times before returning safely.

In **1978**, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos signed the instruments of ratification for the Panama Canal treaties during a ceremony in Panama City.

In **1999**, Kathleen Ann Soliah, a fugitive member of the Symbionese Liberation Army, was captured in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she had made a new life under the name Sara Jane Olson.

In **2015**, real estate mogul Donald Trump launched his successful campaign to become president of the United States with a speech at Trump Tower in Manhattan.

**Ten years ago:** U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., announced his resignation from Congress, bowing to the furor caused by his sexually charged online dalliances with a former porn performer and other women.

**Five years ago:** President Barack Obama traveled to Orlando, Florida, the scene of a deadly nightclub shooting that claimed 49 victims; the president embraced grieving families and cheered on Democrats' push for new gun control measures.

**One year ago:** Federal authorities announced murder and attempted murder charges against an Air Force sergeant, Steven Carrillo, in the fatal shooting of a federal security officer outside a U.S. courthouse in Oakland. (Carrillo also faces charges in the ambush killing of a California sheriff's deputy and has pleaded not guilty in both cases. Authorities said Carrillo had ties to the far-right, anti-government "boogaloo" movement.) President Donald Trump signed an executive order that he said would encourage better police practices; it would establish a database to track police officers with excessive use-of-force complaints in their records.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Eileen Atkins is 87. Actor Bill Cobbs is 87. Author Joyce Carol Oates is 83. Songwriter Lamont Dozier is 80. Actor Joan Van Ark is 78. Boxing Hall of Famer Roberto Duran is 70. Actor Laurie Metcalf is 66. Actor Danny Burstein is 57. Model-actor Jenny Shimizu is 54. Actor James Patrick Stuart is 53. Rapper MC Ren is 52. Golfer Phil Mickelson is 51. Actor John Cho is 49. Actor China Shavers is 44. Actor Daniel Bruhl is 43. Bluegrass musician Caleb Smith (Balsam Range) is 43. Actor Sibel Kekilli is 41. Actor Missy Peregrym is 39. Singer Diana DeGarmo (TV: "American Idol") is 34. Actor Ali Stroker is 34. Tennis player Bianca Andreescu is 21.

— Associated Press

## LOCAL, STATE &amp; REGION

# Japanese American soldiers honored for service in WWII

BY DANA HAYNES  
Pamplin Media Group

**T**hey fought for a country that didn't trust them. Back home, or in internment camps, they fought to bring that injustice to light.

It's believed that only 10 of the "nisei" Japanese American soldiers of World War II remain alive in the greater Portland area. Of those 10, four were invited and one was able to attend a Monday ceremony at the Oregon Historical Society in celebration of the release of a U.S. Postal Service stamp honoring their sacrifice.

The ceremony — "Go For Broke Soldiers: Japanese American Soldiers of WWII" — was recorded and can be watched at StampOurStory.org. Among the honorees were former Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski and four generations of the descendants of the soldiers.

Among the speakers was Mia Kazuko Ballinger, 11, from Bend. Her great-grandfather, Harry Morioka, was incarcerated at an American concentration camp before he volunteered for the U.S. Army, where he served as a linguist with the Military Intelligence Service.

"They asked me if I'd speak here because my great-grandpa was a Nisei soldier," she said before the presentation. "I feel really proud that I have a famous Japanese relative, and that I'm Japanese."

Hillsboro native Arthur Iwasaki, who died in 2017 at the age of 97, was another of the people honored Monday at the event.

As part of the ceremony, actor Ken Yoshikawa read a letter that Iwasaki, who served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team wrote to the Hillsboro Argus newspaper after the war.



**LEFT:** Honoring the stamp that commemorates the "Go For Broke" nisei soldiers was, from left, former Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski, Linda Tamura, chair of the committee organizing the event, and Yoshiro Tokiwa, one of the few surviving nisei soldiers in the Portland metro area and a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

**RIGHT:** Mia Kazuko Ballinger, a fifth grader from Bend whose great-grandfather served in World War II, was one of the presenters Monday in Portland. "I'm really proud that I have a relative who did this, and that I'm Japanese," she said before the presentation.

"It was long overdue," said Christi Iwasaki, Art Iwasaki's daughter. "It was really frustrating because it's an important piece of history. They had to overcome a lot of hurdles. I'm glad they got this. It's really nice that they're being honored."

Iwasaki's nephew, Ron Iwasaki of Hillsboro and himself a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Air Force, said he was sad so few of the Nisei survived to see this moment. Of the 10 nisei veterans known to be living in the Portland/Vancouver area, only Yoshiro Tokiwa, veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, was able to attend.

"Uncle Art's family established a

scholarship for high school students, to honor the Nisei," Ron Iwasaki said. "This is a pretty special moment."

The U.S. Postal Service released the new stamp earlier this month. Ceremonies have taken place, or are planned, across the country.

At Oregon's event, Kulongoski said, "Our Japanese American World War II veterans fought for democracy while their own families were incarcerated in concentration camps on American soil. They believed in America. We salute them. And we will not forget."

Asian American actors portrayed stories of military service. Beyond Yoshikawa's reading of the Hillsboro

Argus letter, actor David Loftus read an excerpt from the diary of Harold Okimoto of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion; and Alton Chung presented former U.S. Rep. Al Ullman's tribute to Frank Hachiya of the Military Intelligence Service.

"This unique commemoration recognizes and reminds us of the legacy achieved by Nisei veterans of WWII," said Doug Katagiri, son of linguist George Katagiri, veteran of the Military Intelligence Service. "It's impossible to overstate their sacrifices in building this legacy, fighting a war abroad while enduring racism and an extraordinary episode of national injustice at home."

## Baker City man used COVID loan for personal expenses

BY JAYSON JACOBY  
Baker City Herald

A 32-year-old Baker City man pleaded guilty this month to receiving a \$145,200 federal COVID-19 relief loan on behalf of a fictitious company and then using the money for personal purposes, including buying a \$49,000 car, federal officials said.

Jeremy Michael Clawson pleaded guilty June 8 to one count of theft of public money, according to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Portland.

The U.S. Attorney's Office will recommend a 24-month prison sentence

followed by three years' supervised release, according to the press release. Clawson is scheduled to be sentenced Sept. 13.

As part of the plea agreement, Clawson has agreed to pay \$125,200 in restitution to the U.S. Treasury.

Clawson is serving a 19-month sentence at the Snake River Correctional Institution in Ontario after pleading guilty Sept. 29 in Baker County Circuit Court to attempting to elude a police officer and driving under the influence of intoxicants on Aug. 21, 2020. Baker City Police officer Justin Prevo arrested Clawson Aug. 21, according to court records.



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