

New U.S. citizens sworn in at 9/11 Memorial ceremony

By Joseph B. Frederick
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fifty-two people became U.S. citizens two days before Independence Day during a naturalization ceremony held at New York's 9/11 Memorial & Museum.

Families and friends of the new citizens waved American flags as a recording of the song "God Bless the USA" by country singer Lee Greenwood reverberated through the crowd.

"As citizens of this great country, American history is now your history," U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services acting director Ken Cuccinelli told participants. "Our American future is yours to help shape. And we expect you to help shape it."

Republican President Donald Trump congratulated the new citizens, who hailed from 28 countries, in a video message.

"I didn't expect this feeling of mine. So now I'm really an American citizen — and so happy about that," said 56-year-old

D.C. police ordered to collect race data for stop-and-frisks

WASHINGTON (AP) — A court has ordered police in the nation's capital to start tracking the race of everyone stopped by officers, regardless of if the stop results in an arrest or search.

News outlets report that the ruling gives the department a month to comply.

The District City Council passed legislation three years ago that required the department to track race, but it never complied. Advocacy groups sued the department, its chief, and city officials last year over noncompliance with the Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results act.

Chief Peter Newsham says the department planned to implement IT upgrades to comply by next month, regardless of the court order. Superior Court Judge John M. Campbell questioned why a short-term, low-tech measure wasn't put in place to collect the required data in the meantime.

□

Japan official to Kardashian West: Kimono belongs to Japan

Continued from page 2

tourist destination.

Kyoto mayor Daisaku Kadokawa, who wears a kimono at work, said in a June 28 letter to West that kimono are not only part of Japan's cultural heritage but also the "fruit of craftsmanship and truly symbolize the sense of beauty, spirit, and values of Japanese," and that she should perhaps visit the city to "experience the essence of kimono culture."

"We think that the name for kimono is an asset shared with all humanity who love kimono and its culture, therefore it should not be monopolized," said Kadokawa, who is campaigning to register kimono as a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage.

Kadokawa thanked West for her decision to reconsider the brand name.

Associated Press writer Mari Yamaguchi contributed to this report.

□

Honolulu Zoo announces birth of endangered ring-tailed lemur

Continued from page 7

As of 2013, up to 90% of lemur species faced extinction within 20 to 25 years, the organization said.

The main threats to lemurs include hunting, trapping, logging, wood harvesting, and the conversion of forests into agricultural land, the group said.



CITIZENS SWORN. Philippe Monfort, right, from Haiti, joins others waving American flags after taking the Oath of Allegiance during a naturalization ceremony at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum in New York on July 2, 2019. In honor of Independence Day, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services administered the oath to 52 of America's newest citizens. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

The difference, she said, is that she's now an American "on paper."

"I wanted to make it known ... that immigrants are Americans too. And I hope that sort of plays out in my story in some way," she said.

Felix Maria Castillo Lachapelle, who came from the Dominican Republic, said he now will enjoy "democracy that I did not have before."

Other new citizens came from Albania, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Kosovo, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and Venezuela.

Ancilla Alforque Abella, a native of the Philippines.

Dahsong Kim, whose family came to the U.S. from South Korea when she was six years old, mixed a little pragmatism with

her happiness. She noted that her friends have been saying, "Welcome to America."

But the 34-year-old attorney corrected them: "And I'm like — 'well, no, I've actually been an American this entire time.'"

Ohio provides \$30 million for development of proposed "cracker" plant

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The state's private economic development office has awarded a \$30 million grant to Asian companies considering building a petrochemical plant in eastern Ohio.

The *Columbus Dispatch* reports JobsOhio officials say the grant to a partnership between Thailand's PTT Global Chemical America and South Korea's Daelim Industrial Co. is to help finance site development work.

JobsOhio previously paid \$14 million to cover the cost of dismantling a coal-burning power plant at the Belmont County site where the partnership is considering a multibillion dollar ethane "cracker" plant. The plant would convert ethane, a byproduct of natural gas drilling, into ethylene, the raw material used in manufacturing ubiquitous plastic products.

Officials have been awaiting the partnership's commitment to build a plant viewed as a spur for future development in a struggling Appalachian region.

From hot sauce to pop gloss, U.S. products seep into Iran

Continued from page 4

Sima Najafzadeh, a 21-year-old fellow student, each drank Cokes, saying they enjoyed the taste. They also would like to see more iPhones, McDonald's restaurants, and other trappings of Americana.

"We love Americans," Najafzadeh said.

That goes for American films as well. Rezaee acknowledged having to find a pirated copy of *Avengers: Endgame* online as it never played in Iran. Others without a strong internet connection can find recently released films like *John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum* for under 40 cents apiece on Tehran's busy Enghelab Street, where hawkers also sell portraits of a young Al Pacino. Western pop and rock music seeps out of the occasional passing car.

Iranian state television channels even air older American movies dubbed in Farsi. The 2000 Dennis Quaid film *Frequency* was on one recent night.

At the city's Grand Bazaar, the capital's beating heart, a beach towel showing Mickey Mouse with a surfboard in "So Cal" — southern California — hung on one rafter. Stacks of blue jeans were also on offer, but American brands like Levi Strauss have largely disappeared in recent months as Iran's currency has plummeted.

That's been a boon for the Par Group, a local jean manufacturer that produces some 3 million square meters of jeans a

Taiwanese president will not visit Wyoming during Cheyenne Frontier Days

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — A possible visit by the president of Taiwan to Wyoming has fallen through.

Governor Mark Gordon's office had been talking with President Tsai Ing-wen's office about possibly visiting during Cheyenne Frontier Days, a celebration of rodeo and western culture held in late July.

The annual event draws thousands to Wyoming's capital of 64,000 people.

Gordon and Tsai announced that "heavy logistics concerns" will prevent the visit from happening, though an eventual visit to Wyoming remains possible.

Gordon meanwhile has been invited to visit Taiwan, where Wyoming recently opened a trade office. Gordon spokesman Michael Pearlman says there's a "strong likelihood" Gordon will visit Taiwan this year.

The potential visit by Tsai drew attention when Cheyenne mayor Marian Orr said Gordon behaved aggressively during a meeting with her about it.

Even poop is cute at Japanese museum that encourages play

Continued from page 2

mapping game like "whack-a-mole" to stamp on and squash the most poops they can. In another game, participants compete to make the biggest "poop" by shouting the word in Japanese, *unko*, as loudly as possible.

A soccer video game involves using a controller to "kick" a poop into a goal.

Toshifumi Okuya, a system engineer, was amused to see adults having fun. "It's funny because there are adults running around screaming 'poop, poop,'" he said.

At the end of the tour, visitors receive a bag to carry home their souvenir poop. If they want still more, the museum's gift shop abounds with more poop-themed souvenirs.

The museum attracted more than 100,000 visitors in the first month after its opening in March. It will remain open until September.

Associated Press writer Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo contributed to this report.

ASTHMA IS ON THE RISE.

Help us find a cure.
1-800-LUNG-USA

WATCH YOUR BUTT

Portland's #1 Cause of Fires and Fire Deaths
Careless Smoking and Cigarette Litter