

DEOMI NEWS LINKS 4 MARCH 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

SPECIAL: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

[Black female WWII unit recognized with congressional honor](#) [Michael Casey, *The Associated Press*, 1 March 2022]

The House voted Monday to award the only all-female, Black unit to serve in Europe during World War II with the Congressional Gold Medal. The 422-0 vote follows a long-running campaign to recognize the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. Only a half-dozen of the more than 850 members are still alive. "The Six Triple Eight was a trailblazing group of heroes who were the only all-Black, Women Army Corps Battalion to serve overseas during World War II," said Wisconsin Rep. Gwen Moore, who sponsored the bill after being contacted by the daughter of 6888th members Anna Mae Robertson. "Facing both racism and sexism in a warzone, these women sorted millions of pieces of mail, closing massive mail backlogs, and ensuring service members received letters from their loved ones," she continued. "A Congressional Gold Medal is only fitting for these veterans who received little recognition for their service after returning home."

[DAF hosts 2nd annual Women's Air and Space Power Symposium](#) [SECAF Public Affairs, 1 March 2022]

The Secretary of the Air Force's Office of Diversity and Inclusion, in partnership with the Women's Initiatives Team, will host the second annual Women's Air and Space Power Symposium March 8-10. The virtual symposium, which starts on International Women's Day as part of the Department of the Air Force's recognition of Women's History Month, is a professional development event focused on improving force readiness and building knowledge and understanding among Airmen, Guardians, and leaders across the DAF. Topics will include learning about women, peace and security initiatives, leading change, fostering inclusion, military families, bystander empowerment, resilience, mental health, and other topics relevant to DAF women, their supervisors, coworkers, and allies today. The symposium provides an opportunity for the Total Force to engage in conversations and discuss topics that affect DAF women at large. The event is designed to be interactive, providing participants an opportunity to listen and engage.

[\[E-VITE\]](#)

[Determining Harriet Tubman's Birth Year](#) [The National Park Service, 1 March 2022]

Enslavement in North America. Chattel. Owned. A servile existence at the mercy of an enslaver. Forced to work without pay, no rights, no voice. Corporal punishment wielded out indiscriminately. Living with the ever-present specter of your children being sold away. Coming of age fearing the auction block and being torn from family. Such was the world of enslavement Harriet Tubman was born into. Named Araminta Ross at birth, her entrance was not noted in her enslaver's bible, there was no mention of the event in his letters, and there was no birth

certificate. In her book, [*“Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero: Bound for the Promised Land”*](#) historian Kate Clifford Larson describes a line item in the enslaver’s log dated March 15, 1822, where he stated he had spent \$2 for a mid-wife for Rit, Tubman’s mother. Though there was no notation of the child’s name born at that time, it is most likely Araminta’s birth. In 2022, we will be commemorating Harriet Tubman’s 200th birthday, using the information currently uncovered. During this year, the arc of Tubman’s life from enslavement to freedom, her life’s work, her accomplishments and impacts in her time and ours will be the focus of our lectures and events.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Face of Defense: Healing With Fortitude](#) [Katie Lange, *DOD News*, 1 March 2022]

As a child, Navy Capt. Lynelle Boamah always wanted to be a doctor, but she never pictured that she would one day be advising military leaders on the health and wellness of an entire region of troops. Boamah, 53, is the U.S. Third Fleet surgeon, meaning she currently consults the San Diego-based fleet’s leadership on all things medical. Before taking that role, the board-certified pediatric gastroenterologist was the first Black female Medical Corps commanding officer to lead the Navy Medical Readiness and Training Command in Twentynine Palms, California, and direct its Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital. Prior to that, she was the executive officer of the hospital ship USNS Mercy. But Boamah’s 27-year journey to get where she is now wasn’t easy. Boamah, who grew up in Baltimore, said her family was homeless at one point and that she lost her father to gun violence. People also often told her as a child and a medical student that she would never become a doctor. “There are a lot of dream smashers out there,” she said. So, what kept her going? Internal fortitude, a lot of great mentors, and some encouragement from her sister to join the Navy.

[Feminist, surgeon, spy: Meet the only woman to ever receive the Medal of Honor](#) [Haley Britzky, *Task & Purpose*, 3 March 2022]

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, born Nov. 26, 1832 in Oswego, New York, was intent on breaking stereotypes for women almost from the very beginning. Her parents were abolitionists and “encouraged her to think freely,” the National Women’s History Museum says. She regularly wore men’s trousers and collared shirts, Sharon Harris, author of “Dr. Mary Walker: An American Radical, 1832-1919,” told NBC News. Her parents insisted that she be educated just like her brothers, and in 1855 she graduated from Syracuse Medical College as a doctor, a profession not typically open to women at the time. She married Albert Miller, another medical student, while wearing a suit and top hat, according to the American College of Surgeons, and ditched the word “obey” in her wedding vows. The two opened a medical practice in New York. But the public “did not want to accept a female doctor,” according to the National Women’s History Museum, and the practice failed. Then six years later when the Civil War broke out, Walker attempted to join the Army as a medical officer, according to NPR, but was rejected immediately—by the Secretary of War himself.

[A Proclamation on Women’s History Month, 2022](#) [Joseph R. Biden, Jr., *The White House Press Office*, 28 February 2022]

Every March, Women’s History Month provides an opportunity to honor the generations of trailblazing women and girls who have built our Nation, shaped our progress, and strengthened our character as a people. Throughout our history, despite hardship, exclusion, and discrimination, women have strived and sacrificed for equity and equality in communities across the country. Generations of Native American women were stewards of the land and continue to lead the fight for climate justice. Black women fought to end slavery, advocate for civil rights, and pass the Voting Rights Act. Suffragists helped pass the 19th Amendment to the Constitution so that no American could be denied a vote on the basis of sex. This Women’s History Month, as we reflect on the achievements of women and girls across the centuries and pay tribute to the pioneers who paved the way, let us recommit to the fight and help realize the deeply American vision of a more equal society where every person has a shot at pursuing the American dream. In doing so, we will advance economic growth, our health and safety, and the security of our Nation and the world.

[Twin sisters retire from Ohio Air Guard together](#) [Airman Jill Maynus, 178th Wing Public Affairs, 1 March 2022]

Tammy J. Mundy, administration superintendent for wing staff at the 178th Wing, and Chief Master Sgt. Tabatha K. King, the senior enlisted leader for the Mission Support Group, served together at the wing for more than 20 years. In a ceremony during February drill weekend, the sisters put on their uniforms one last time for their joint retirement ceremony. “It almost feels surreal,” said King. “We’ve been able to have this opportunity that most people don’t get to have. I served this long because I constantly wanted to give back to the wing and to the Airmen.” “The Guard has helped create an even stronger bond between us,” said King. “We can understand what it’s like. We are the sounding board for each other. She’s my person and my go to.” Through career changes during their time in the military, the twins have been each other’s biggest supporters.

[Women’s History Month 2022: Celebrating 50 Years of Title IX](#) [Insight into Diversity Magazine, 10 February 2022]

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, a landmark piece of legislation for gender equity. “Title IX is probably the most important law passed for women and girls in Congress since women obtained the right to vote in 1920,” explains Bernice Sandler, a staunch women’s rights activist known as the “Godmother of Title IX” for her role in creating the legislation. The law ensures that all education programs and activities receiving federal funding must protect students and employees from sex-based discrimination and bans many aspects of gender inequality that had previously been tolerated or overlooked in education. Despite consistent attempts through legislation, executive actions, and lawsuits to diminish its effectiveness, Title IX continues to provide these protections today. In celebration of Women’s History Month 2022, INSIGHT honors the advocates who have led Title IX’s evolution over the last five decades and the continued fight for equal education for all.

[Women’s History Month 2022: Celebrating the healing and power of past and present women](#) [M’nyah Lynn, New York Amsterdam News, 3 March 2022]

According to the National Women's History Museum, historically, women have not been properly acknowledged, leading to a lack of a comprehensive history of women's situations, activities and accomplishments. Nationally, women made up only 13% of named historical figures in textbooks, the Women at the Center said in a piece published on the New York Historical Society Museum and Library's website in September 2018. This Women's History Month, the National Women's History Alliance (NWHHA) has set a theme entitled, "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope." This year's theme was set to encourage people to honor and bring recognition to women that are making history today, whether through serving and supporting others as a frontline worker or caregiver, or as those that are helping to give hope to families and neighborhoods, such as mothers. Jones said that the NWHHA highlights multicultural women and aims to rewrite history to include these women.

CULTURE

[Annual IndiaFest Set for March 5-6 at Wickham Park in Melbourne](#) [Space Coast Daily, 14 February 2022]

Indiafest is one of Brevard's favorite annual festivals and will celebrate its Silver Jubilee celebration March 5 and 6 in Wickham Park in Melbourne. This event is a fun family festival bringing focus on Indian culture, history and tradition. [Indiafest](#) is a non-profit, cultural organization, known for its charitable efforts to several local charities, including the parent organization, Manav Mandir, and aids in disaster recovery, nationally and internationally. Indiafest has something for everyone, from hands-on activities for the youths, to shopping for the adults, mouth-watering Indian cuisine, yoga demonstrations, and all-day entertainment for everyone to enjoy. The Discover India booth will provide information and displays of various cultural nuances, significant places of interest, beauty and history of India's architecture, culture and, landscape.

[Cohen's bill seeks to name Memphis VA after Tuskegee Airman](#) [The Associated Press, 1 March 2022]

U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen of Tennessee has introduced a bill to name the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Memphis after a World War II fighter pilot who was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen. Cohen's bill seeks to name the VA Medical Center in Memphis after Lt. Col. Luke J. Weathers Jr., Cohen's office said Monday. Weathers, who was Black, attended high school in Memphis and volunteered in 1942 to train at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. He joined the Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S. Army's first Black aviators. Weathers began escorting bombers over Italy in 1944 with the all-Black 332nd Fighter Group, known as the "Red Tails." He is credited with shooting down several enemy airplanes, including two German fighter planes while escorting a damaged B-24 bomber, Cohen's office said. Weathers received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Congressional Gold Medal and other honors. He served as an air traffic controller in Memphis and died in 2011 at 90 years old.

[The endangered places on the World Monuments Watch list for 2022](#) [Francesca Street, CNN, 1 March 2022]

From an English castle that's threatened by climate change to an Egyptian landmark in the shadow of its more famous counterparts, this year's [World Monuments Watch](#) highlights 25 culturally significant but endangered heritage sites. Every two years, the WMF adds new spots to its watch list, bringing awareness and helping garner funds for the sites' ongoing protection. To date, the organization says it's directly contributed more than \$110 million toward projects at over 300 sites. The World Monuments Fund says sites also see significant economic benefits from the increased visibility that comes with a place on the watch list. "This year's Watch demonstrates that heritage preservation can offer innovative solutions to contemporary global challenges," said Bénédicte de Montlaur, president and CEO of the WMF, in a statement. We urge the world to stand with communities and save these places of extraordinary cultural significance. Heritage sites are an incredible resource for addressing larger issues facing society as well as local needs of recognition, access, participation, and economic opportunity."

[Estée Lauder fires a senior executive for offensive Instagram post](#) [Jordan Valinsky, CNN Business, 28 February 2022]

Estée Lauder has fired John Demsey, a senior executive at the makeup company, for an offensive Instagram post on his personal account that used a racial slur. The company said Monday that Demsey's termination was the "result of his recent Instagram posts, which do not reflect the values of the Estée Lauder Companies," adding that the post caused "widespread offense." According to the Wall Street Journal, Demsey posted on his Instagram account last week a spoof book cover based on the TV show "Sesame Street" that used the N-word with some letters replaced with asterisks. The post was apparently mocking Covid-19. Demsey deleted the offensive post and apologized, writing that he was "terribly sorry and deeply ashamed," adding that he didn't read the "racist meme" before posting it. "Our employees, and especially our senior leaders, are accountable to continue driving our progress and to respect the values of this company for the long term," Estée Lauder said in its statement Monday.

[From crime victims to politicians, misidentifying Asians is part of America's racist history](#) [Angela Yang, NBC News, 1 March 2022]

When a protester heckled Massachusetts voting rights activist Beth Huang last month thinking she was Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, it was already Huang's third or fourth run-in with someone who had mistaken her for Wu, the city's first non-White mayor. "People confuse me and lots of other Asian women for Michelle Wu," said Huang, the executive director of the Massachusetts Voter Table. "They've confused a state rep of Vietnamese descent to be Michelle Wu. They've confused a state rep of Korean descent to be Michelle Wu. They must think that Michelle Wu is literally all over the place all the time." For Huang and other Asian Americans around the country, such incidents tend to crop up quietly in daily life. This one happened to make headlines, she said, because it occurred so publicly at a news conference. Simple errors like those usually occur without malice, experts say. But Asian Americans are familiar with a painful history of exclusion in the U.S. that has repeatedly stripped them of their individuality, and many see a pattern in the ignorance that enables such mistakes to occur so frequently today.

[From "The Joy Luck Club" to "Crazy Rich Asians," a new book hopes to "fill in the blanks" of Asian American pop culture](#) [Harmeet Kaur, CNN, 1 March 2022]

Jeff Yang, Phil Yu and Philip Wang have been chronicling the progress of Asian America for decades. But in the last few years, they felt that conversations about Asian American pop culture seemed to begin with “The Joy Luck Club” and skip right to “Crazy Rich Asians,” without much thought to everything that came in between. Forty-two percent of Americans couldn’t name someone famous from the community. The movies, the music and the subcultures that were so foundational to them simply weren’t visible—even to many Asian Americans. [“RISE: A Pop History of Asian America from the Nineties to Now”](#) is their attempt to change that. The book, released Tuesday, spans more than 400 pages, and charts the evolution of Asian American pop culture over the last three decades through comics, essays, interviews and cheeky illustrations. With the help of dozens of contributors, the book’s authors explore everything from the social network Asian Avenue to Asian grocery stores to the Asian Americans that dominated YouTube. They also delve into the college bhangra competition circuit and the Filipino American DJ scene.

[House lawmakers challenge Navy commanders about ongoing issues with crew shortages, overworked sailors](#) [Svetlana Shkolnikova, *Stars and Stripes*, 3 March 2022]

Members of the House Armed Services Committee on Thursday questioned the culture and readiness of the Navy’s surface fleet after a government watchdog report showed crew shortages, overworked sailors and other issues continue to abound years after several costly disasters. The report issued by the Government Accountability Office last month found the Navy’s maintenance process for ships is plagued by insufficient staffing and equipment, inadequate training, low morale and missing data. Technology is also being harnessed to tackle chronic fatigue. Most sailors sleep five or less hours per night, according to the GAO report. Kitchener said the Navy set a goal last year to bring that number to 7.5 hours and is using wearable sleep trackers to document progress. Data shows sailors are now sleeping about 6 hours per night so “clearly there’s a lot more work to be done,” Kitchener said. Rep. Jack Bergman, R-Mich., and Rep. Elaine Luria, D-Va., urged the Navy officials to adopt a simpler system for soliciting feedback from sailors and communicate clearly with the public without acronyms or buzzwords.

[Kandinsky painting that was auctioned during WWII is returned to Jewish heirs](#) [Vanessa Romo, *NPR*, 1 March 2022]

*A prized painting by Russian master Wassily Kandinsky that was sold under duress during World War II has been returned to the descendants of its former Jewish owners. The oil painting, *Bild mit Häusern* (Painting with Houses), was just one of a treasured art collection inherited by Robert Lewenstein and his wife Irma Klein, which, at one point, also included works by Van Gogh, Renoir and Rembrandt. But the pair was forced to auction off the Kandinsky painting in October 1940 as they fled the Nazis five months after they invaded the Netherlands. Records show the director of Amsterdam’s Stedelijk Museum bought the Kandinsky for a fraction of its value at the time. *Het Parool* reports: “He paid 160 guilders for it—a pittance of the original value at the time, 2000 to 3000 guilders.” The 1909 painting of a figure in a colorful, abstracted landscape, now has an estimated value of more than \$20 million. Its transfer to Lewenstein’s heirs on Monday puts an end to a nine-year dispute.*

[A Marine’s anime-style recruitment posters are going viral](#) [David Roza, *Task & Purpose*, 26 February 2022]

When many people think “Marine,” they might imagine a square-jawed buff guy who looks like he eats ammo belts (and crayons) for breakfast. That stereotype may be why a new Marine Corps recruitment poster of a smiling anime girl wearing dress blues is going viral on social media. The image brings a modern twist to a 105-year-old poster titled “U.S. Marine Corps—Service on land and sea.” According to the Library of Congress, the poster was illustrated in 1917 by the artist Sidney Riesenberg. More than a century later, Staff Sgt. Arthur Chou got the idea to make his own mark on classic recruiting posters while sitting in Marine Corps recruiting school. A lifelong anime fan, Chou wanted to combine his passion for the medium with his new career. “The whole reason I made these posters was to break the stereotype,” Chou said. “People think we’re all crazy and buff, but we’re people too. All the best Marines I know, they’re not even big, they just have a lot of heart. They’re just trying to become better.”

[Meet entrepreneurs of color building Tulsa’s former Black Wall Street into hot, new tech hub](#)

[Catherine Thorbecke and Samara Lynn, *ABC News*, 28 February 2022]

A community of Black entrepreneurs are shaking up the tech and innovation ecosystem and forming a new hub for digital creators, developers and investors based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. For some, there is also the importance of building back the storied “Black Wall Street” that was violently taken from people that looked like them, in Tulsa, just a century ago. Some 300 people were killed and thousands wounded when a mob of White vigilantes, harboring resentment towards their thriving Black neighbors, eviscerated the well-to-do Greenwood district and burned down 35 acres of commercial and residential property. Carrying the weight of this history, a new generation of Black entrepreneurs are also looking toward the future—and seeking to build up new generational wealth.

[Monument honoring ancestral burials found at Sabãnan Fadang Competed](#) [Stanley James, *Marine Corps Base Blaz Public Affairs*, 1 March 2022]

The monument’s construction supports the base’s commitment to preserving the rich cultural heritage of Guam. A cultural ritual led by Governor Lourdes Leon Guerrero and the Guam SHPO was held on Nov. 23, 2021 at Sabãnan Fadang to return the grave goods and cover the exposed burial sites with CHamoru soil prior to construction of the monument. The burial site includes seven grave pits from the Latte Period to the very early Post-Contact Period. The meticulous archaeological work of the MCB Camp Blaz cultural resources team allows historians to permanently record important details and gather physical evidence of Guam’s history for the benefit of the public and future generations. This monument is just one of many projects MCB Camp Blaz has supported during the buildup process to ensure we are being good stewards of the environment and respectful to the island of Guam and CHamoru ancestry. Archaeological findings at Sabãnan Fadang provide insights into Guam’s culture and history.

[New Dr. Seuss-inspired books to feature diverse creators](#) [Mark Pratt, *The Associated Press*, 2 March 2022]

Sketches of fantastic creatures by Dr. Seuss that have never before been published will see the light of day in new books being written and illustrated by an inclusive group of up-and-coming authors and artists, the company that owns the intellectual property rights to Dr. Seuss’ works announced Wednesday. The new line of books will include original stories inspired by previously

unpublished illustrations selected from the author’s archives at the University of California San Diego, Dr. Seuss Enterprises said in a statement on the late writer’s birthday. The announcement comes exactly one year after the business founded by the family of Dr. Seuss—whose real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel—announced that it would stop publishing six Dr. Seuss titles because they include racist and insensitive images, a decision that drew both condemnation and praise. The new authors and illustrators will represent a diverse cross-section of racial backgrounds to represent as many families as possible, Dr. Seuss Enterprises said.

[Niecy Nash and wife, Jessica Betts, are 1st same-sex couple on Essence cover](#) [Tat Bellamy-Walker, *NBC News*, 25 February 2022]

Actress and television host Niecy Nash and her wife, singer Jessica Betts, made history this week as the first same-sex couple to appear on the cover of Essence magazine. Now, 18 months after their wedding announcement went viral on social media, the couple said they’re still shocked by the public’s response. “A lot of people thought it was like a movie or some promo,” Nash told the magazine. “They started calling everybody, and we were like, ‘This is insane.’ I never knew why where you lay your head is such a big deal to other people. I was like, ‘People care?’”

[Political cartoonist Lalo Alcaraz becomes first Latino to win prestigious prize](#) [Patricia Guadalupe, *NBC News*, 3 March 2022]

One of the nation’s first syndicated Latino cartoonists is the recipient of a top prize recognizing editorial cartooning. Lalo Alcaraz, a Los Angeles-based political cartoonist, becomes the first Latino recipient of the prestigious 2022 Herblock Prize in recognition of his editorial cartooning and his “passion, dedication and brilliance” in covering civil rights and other issues impacting U.S. Latinos. Alcaraz, who is Mexican American, is the author of the first nationally syndicated Latino political cartoon strip, “La Cucaracha.” A writer, producer and cultural consultant for film, television and animation, he’s worked on projects at Nickelodeon and the Cartoon Network and was a cultural consultant on the Oscar-winning animated Pixar film “Coco.” “No other political cartoonist working in the U.S. brings as much passion, dedication and brilliance to the fight for fair immigration at the border and justice for the Latino community. Lalo Alcaraz’s courage and unapologetic focus on these and other civil rights issues makes him a deserving recipient of the 2022 Herblock Prize,” the foundation added.

[Preserving the Gullah Geechee culture in the U.S.: “There is nothing like being Gullah in the world”](#) [Kenneth Moton, Janice McDonald and Kimberly Ruiz, *ABC News*, 1 March 2022]

The Gullah Geechee culture has been around since the start of America, and in fact, helped build the nation. Today, those part of the distinct group of Gullah people with deep roots back to Africa are working hard to preserve their culture. An estimated one million Gullah people currently live in an area Congress designated the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor from Pender County, North Carolina, to St. Johns County, Florida. Gullah Geechee people are African American descendants of enslaved, mostly West Africans who were forced to work the rice, indigo and Sea Island cotton plantations on the southeastern coast. A vibrant, rich culture was created along with a way to communicate—a unique English-based, Creole language called Gullah.

[Red Sox release minor league player Brett Netzer after barrage of offensive, racist tweets](#)

[Marlene Lenthank, *NBC News*, 28 February 2022]

Boston Red Sox minor league player Brett Netzer has been released from the team following a barrage of offensive, homophobic and racist tweets. Netzer, 25, who hasn't played since 2019, requested his release Saturday and the team granted it, a team spokesperson told NBC News Monday. In a series of tweets on Friday and Saturday, Netzer attacked the team's Chief Baseball Officer Chaim Bloom, calling him a "bad actor" and a "fraud," while targeting his Jewish identity. In his posts, Netzer targeted transgender people. In another, he said Black people should "go back to their roots and start to re-establish their true Black culture." In another tweet, he wrote: "I am a racist. I do sometimes make assumptions based on a person's race/ethnicity/culture. Glad that is out of the way."

[SECNAV Names Future Replenishment Oiler Ship Thurgood Marshall and Sponsors for USS](#)

[Doris Miller](#) [U.S. Navy Press Office, 25 February 2022]

During Black History Month Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced on February 25, the sponsors for the USS Doris Miller and that a future John Lewis-class replenishment oiler (TAO) ship will be named USNS Thurgood Marshall to honor the former Supreme Court Justice and civil rights activist. "It is my pleasure to recognize the tremendous lifelong contributions of the Honorable Thurgood Marshall by naming TAO-211 after him. This naming selection enables a legacy of continued conversations and visibility, essentially a living memorial to be seen around the world, of a historic figure in the continued fight for civil and human rights, and I am pleased to share this decision during Black History Month," said Del Toro. "Continued diversity and inclusion efforts are critical to the mission success of the Navy and Marine Corps team. Selecting Thurgood Marshall as the namesake aligns with the diversity, equity and inclusion efforts that I have implemented in my strategic guidance since serving as Secretary.

[Serena Williams calls out NY Times after paper erroneously prints photo of Venus](#) [Frank

Pallotta, *CNN Business*, 2 March 2022]

Serena Williams called out The New York Times Wednesday after the paper published an article about her venture fund but used a photo of her sister, Venus. The story was about how Serena Williams raised \$111 million for a new venture fund, "Serena Ventures." The incorrect photo did not appear in the online version of the story. "No matter how far we come, we get reminded that it's not enough," Williams said on Twitter on Wednesday. "This is why I raised \$111M for @serenaventures. To support the founders who are overlooked by engrained systems woefully unaware of their biases. Because even I am overlooked." The Times responded on Twitter saying, "This was our mistake." "It was due to an error when selecting photos for the print edition, and it did not appear online," the NYT Business account tweeted. "A correction will appear in tomorrow's paper." There are countless examples of news outlets in recent years incorrectly and embarrassingly mixing up African Americans.

[Trans swimmer Lia Thomas speaks out on scrutiny, controversy](#) [Matt Laviertes, *NBC News*, 3

March 2022]

Months after being catapulted into the center of the international debate over whether transgender girls and women should be allowed to participate on female sports teams, University

of Pennsylvania swimmer Lia Thomas is speaking out. Thomas, 22, became the subject of international intrigue and debate after setting multiple records throughout the 2021-2022 college swim season. Her wins have also subjected her to criticism from other elite swimmers—including Olympic champion Michael Phelps and some of her own teammates—as well as verbal attacks from anti-trans groups and conservative media outlets. But in an [interview with the magazine Sports Illustrated](#), published Thursday—and after months of relative silence—the college senior opened up about coming out, discussed her Olympic ambitions and pushed back on the unprecedented slew of attacks she’s faced for living and competing as a woman. “The very simple answer is that I’m not a man,” she told the magazine. “I’m a woman, so I belong on the women’s team. Trans people deserve that same respect every other athlete gets.”

DISCRIMINATION

[Supreme Court takes up dispute over Native American adoption law](#) [Andrew Chung, Reuters, 28 February 2022]

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday agreed to resolve a dispute over the legality of decades-old federal requirements that give Native American families priority to adopt Native American children in a challenge pursued by a group of non-Native adoptive families and the state of Texas. The justices will review lower court decisions that declared several key parts of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 unconstitutional. President Joe Biden’s administration and several Native American tribes are defending the law, which aims to reinforce tribal connections by placing Native American children with relatives or within their communities. The U.S. Congress passed the 1978 law in response to concern over child welfare practices that had resulted in the separation of large numbers of Native American children from their families through adoption or foster placement, usually in non-Native American homes. Tribes and Native American advocacy groups have maintained that the child welfare law helps preserve their culture and family connections.

[Twitter suspends U.S. Senate candidate for hateful conduct](#) [The Associated Press, 1 March 2022]

A U.S. Senate candidate for Missouri says she has no plans to delete a transphobic tweet that violated Twitter’s rules against hateful conduct, even after the social media platform said she won’t be able to tweet, retweet, follow or like posts until she does. Twitter suspended Vicky Hartzler’s personal account on Monday. Hartzler’s tweet, posted in mid-February, said: “Women’s sports are for women, not men pretending to be women,” and included her TV ad targeting transgender people in sports and particularly University of Pennsylvania swimmer Lia Thomas. A statement from Hartzler’s campaign called the suspension “shameful, utterly ridiculous, and a horrible abuse of censorship by big tech giants to stifle free speech.” The campaign said Hartzler will not delete the tweet.

DIVERSITY

[Journey to Leadership ensures disabled personnel can enroll; new courses available now](#) [Jon Connor, ASC Public Affairs, 1 March 2022]

The U.S. Army Sustainment Command's Journey to Leadership program is open to all eligible personnel. Period. And if you're eligible but have a disability, Heather Tahja, program manager, wants you to know you shouldn't let that stop you. "JTL encourages and embraces workforce diversity and inclusiveness," Tahja said. "We encourage and welcome all workforce members to apply and participate in JTL." JTL is ASC's premier leadership program that many participants have been raving about since 2005. The program gives a deep dive into your own personal and professional skill sets, and provides the resources and tools to grow within each facet, stated a recent email released to the workforce. One recent graduate from Tier 1 was a machinist with the Rock Island Arsenal-Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center. His disability is that he is deaf, third generation. He does not rely on reading lips, but signs very fluently and also uses the written word to communicate. During this teaching, he had three different interpreters connected to him virtually—one in Alaska, one in Texas, and one in Kentucky.

[A Latina creates a platform to provide scholarships for STEM students](#) [Edwin Flores, NBC News, 26 February 2022]

A Latina has created a platform to provide access to scholarships worth almost \$38 million for Latinos and other students interested in pursuing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers. María Trochimezuk, 47, created IOScholarships after noticing the amount of scholarship money that went unrewarded due to the lack of applicants. The free platform gives STEM students in high school and college a place to find scholarships, internships, work opportunities, financial education and resources based upon GPA, merit and financial background. The aim, said Trochimezuk, is to help students graduate college debt-free while boosting the number of Latinos and other students of color pursuing STEM degrees and careers.

[The tech industry talks about boosting diversity, but research shows little improvement](#) [Donald T. Tomaskovic-Devey and JooHee Han, *The Conversation*, 1 March 2022]

The U.S. tech sector is growing 10 times faster and has wages twice as high as the rest of the economy. This industry also wins the race for high profits and stock returns. At the same time, the tech sector's professional, managerial and executive labor forces are overwhelmingly [White and male](#). It is not surprising, then, that the field is under a great deal of [pressure to diversify its labor force](#). As researchers who study inequality, we examined the data to go beyond the picture of diversity in the tech sector as a whole. In our most [recent research](#), we looked at which types of tech firms increased their workforce diversity, by how much and for which groups of people. What we found surprised us. Our research used machine learning techniques and firm-level data on employment diversity for 6,163 tech firms employing 2,582,342 workers. We focused in particular on professional jobs—the programmers, engineers and designers who are the core source of innovation in the sector.

EXTREMISM

[Joshua James, Oath Keepers member, pleads guilty to seditious conspiracy in January 6 investigation](#) [Robert Legare, CBS News, 2 March 2022]

An Alabama Army veteran who deployed to Iraq in 2007 pleaded guilty to the serious charge of seditious conspiracy for his admitted role in the January 6 Capitol attack on Wednesday. Joshua

James, who is linked to the far-right Oath Keepers militia group, admitted to joining a conspiracy with leader Stewart Rhodes and others to forcibly attempt to stop the transfer of power from former President Donald Trump to President Joe Biden. As part of Wednesday's agreement, James admitted that in November 2020, he met with Rhodes and others to conspire to halt the peaceful presidential transition before attempting to forcibly execute those plans on January 6. Leading up to the attack, plea papers reveal James and other alleged Oath Keepers communicated and planned via encrypted messages before traveling to the nation's capital on January 4, 2021. Each count carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a \$250k fine, but due to his lack of criminal history and acceptance of responsibility in this case, the sentencing guidelines call for far less.

[Jury selection resumes for 1st trial over Capitol riot](#) [Michael Kunzelman, *The Associated Press*, 1 March 2022]

The first Capitol riot defendant to be tried is Guy Wesley Reffitt, a Texas man charged with bringing a gun onto Capitol grounds and interfering with police officers who were guarding the building on Jan. 6, 2021. Reffitt also is charged with threatening his teenage children if they reported him to authorities after he returned home to Wylie, Texas. Reffitt's trial could be a bellwether for many other Capitol riot cases. A conviction would give prosecutors more leverage in plea talks with others. An acquittal could inspire other defendants to either push for a more favorable plea deal or gamble a trial of their own. Reffitt is a member of a militia-style group called the "Texas Three Percenters," according to prosecutors. The Three Percenters militia movement refers to the myth that only 3% of Americans fought in the Revolutionary War against the British. Reffitt faces five counts: obstruction of an official proceeding, being unlawfully present on Capitol grounds while armed with a firearm, transporting firearms during a civil disorder, interfering with law enforcement officers during a civil disorder, and obstruction of justice.

HUMAN RELATIONS

[Alone and lonely are not the same. How to feel connected no matter how many people are around](#) [Madeline Holcombe, *CNN*, 27 February 2022]

It's an age-old dilemma that has been brought to the forefront of our attention over the last two years: How do we feel fulfilled and connected in our relationships? As a species, humans thrive being around others, said [Louise Hawkley](#), a principal research scientist in the Academic Research Centers, NORC, at the University of Chicago. But how much and what kind of contact each person needs to feel part of a community varies among individuals as well as over one person's stage of life, she added. A common notion is that the loneliest people are those who are alone, it's important to separate the two, said [Dr. Carla Perissinotto](#), professor of medicine and associate chief for Geriatrics Clinical Programs at the University of California, San Francisco. "One of the things that distinguishes between loneliness and isolation is that loneliness has very little to do with quantity, with how many people you interact with, how many groups you belong to," Hawkley said. "Although there is a relationship (between them), it is not very strong." Those who choose to live alone or be single or just spend much of their time on their own aren't necessarily worse off when it comes to feeling alone, she added.

[Does “solo polyamory” mean having it all?](#) [Jessica Klein, *BBC News*, 4 March 2022]

Per a [2020 YouGov survey](#) of 1,300 U.S. adults, 43% of millennials said that their ideal relationship would be non-monogamous, while just 30% of Gen X said the same. Overall, [research from 2016](#) synthesising two different U.S. studies showed 20% of respondents engaged in a consensually non-monogamous relationship at some point. But these studies don't break down those numbers by specific types of non-monogamous relationships, so it's impossible to say how many of those surveyed identify with solo polyamory. Since solo polyamorists are a minority identity, misconceptions about their lifestyles abound. From people who equate solo polyamory to monogamists dating around until they find “the one”, to those who consider it a selfish or greedy move, like “having your cake and eating it, too”, there's a tendency to overlook the term's more nuanced definition. Ultimately, it boils down to stepping off what's known as the heteronormative “relationship escalator”, and opting for an alternative way to engage in romantic and sexual partnerships.

INTERNATIONAL

[169 potential graves found at site of former residential school in northern Alberta](#) [Daniela Germano, *The Canadian Press*, 1 March 2022]

The chief of a northern Alberta First Nation held back tears Tuesday as he said that the discovery of 169 potential graves at the site of a former residential school validates the horrifying testimonies survivors have been sharing. “Our little warriors have waited for us to find them. Now we will ensure they rest in peace,” said Sydney Halcrow of the Kapawe'no First Nation at an emotional news conference. Finding one grave is too much, the chief said, and finding many is incomprehensible. The possible graves were identified using ground-penetrating radar and a drone at the former Grouard Mission site, about 370 kilometres northwest of Edmonton. The residential school was opened by the Roman Catholic Church in 1894 and ran until 1961. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission heard testimony from survivors about serious sexual and physical abuse, manual labour and the spread of illness at the school, which had a large population of Métis children.

[Cuban women emerge from shadows to promote body art once seen as taboo](#) [Reuters, 3 March 2022]

An eclectic group of Cuban women brandishing tattoos has emerged from the shadows on the insular, communist-run island, pushing the boundaries of a legal vacuum and leveraging the internet to promote an ancient art that has only recently become common again in Cuba. The nearly 200-member woman's association, called Erias, was founded in July 2021, and is the first to actively and openly promote body art on the island, a practice for decades considered taboo in Cuba, especially among women. The open activism of Erias' members is not without risk. Cuba's government maintains a list of approved, private-sector trades, and “tattoo artist” is not among them. Though the practice is not explicitly outlawed either, the legal limbo has long forced the art to remain in the shadows. The rise of tattoos on the island of 11 million comes as Cuba puts to public referendum a family code that seeks to liberalize the rights of the LGBTQ community and beef up laws protecting the rights of women and children.

[German court rules against online hate-speech law](#) [Reuters, 1 March 2022]

A German court ruled on Tuesday against a new law that obliges social media firms to block or delete criminal content and report particularly serious offences to the police, handing a partial victory to complainants Google (GOOGL.O) and Meta (FB.O). Key provisions of the new anti-hate speech law, which allows user data to be passed to the police before it is clear a crime has been committed, violate European Union law, the Administrative Court in Cologne said in a statement. The 2018 law, which also required social networks to publish regular compliance reports, was widely criticised as ineffective, and parliament passed legislation in May to toughen and broaden its application from February.

[Germany to give \\$720 million to Holocaust survivors globally](#) [Kristen Grieshaber, The Associated Press, 2 March 2022]

The organization that handles claims on behalf of Jews who suffered under the Nazis said Wednesday that Germany has agreed to extend another \$720 million (647 million euros) to provide home care and supportive services for frail and vulnerable Holocaust survivors. The New York-based Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, also referred to as the Claims Conference, said the money will be distributed to more than 300 social welfare organizations globally. With the end of World War II now more than 76 years ago, all living Holocaust survivors are elderly, and many suffer from numerous medical issues because they were deprived of proper nutrition when they were young. Many also live isolated, having lost their families in the war. Many Holocaust survivors came out of the war with nothing and are still impoverished today.

[“It is terrible”: For Ukraine’s Jews and Roma, war revives old traumas](#) [Fergal Keane, BBC News, 4 March 2022]

All day and all night the trains roll into Lviv’s vast central station, a place of departures throughout this city’s long, traumatic history. On the westbound platforms, the refugees huddle in crowded corridors and stairwells hoping to board trains that will take them to safety in Poland, Hungary or Slovakia. Among them are groups of Roma Gypsies who come from Kharkiv, where Russian shelling is killing civilians. Like everybody else they fled only with what they could carry, an assortment of holdalls and rucksacks. In Lviv, these scenes summon up the restive ghosts of Europe’s past. The city is filled with people whose parents or grandparents experienced genocide and totalitarianism in the last century. Tens of thousands of Roma were murdered by the Nazis during World War Two. Lviv was also the scene of one of the most brutal pogroms of the Holocaust, in which thousands of Jews were brutally killed by the Germans and their Ukrainian collaborators in the summer of 1941. By 1945 the pre-war Jewish population of around 100,000 had almost vanished.

[Top French court upholds ban on barristers wearing hijab in Lille courtrooms](#) [Layli Foroudi, Reuters, 2 March 2022]

France’s highest court on Wednesday upheld a ban on barristers wearing the hijab and other religious symbols in courtrooms in the north, a ruling that is the first of its kind and sets a precedent for the rest of the country. The conspicuous display of religious symbols is an emotive subject in France and the court’s decision may stir a nationwide debate over so-called core

Republican values of secularism and identity ahead of April's presidential election. The case was brought by Sarah Asmeta, a 30-year-old hijab-wearing French-Syrian lawyer, who challenged a rule set by the Bar Council of Lille that bans religious markers in its courtrooms on the grounds that it was discriminatory. In its ruling, the Court of Cassation said the ban was "necessary and appropriate, on the one hand to preserve the independence of the lawyer and, on the other, to guarantee the right to a fair trial."

["What is the army afraid of?" Indian government stops film inspired by gay soldier](#) [Yashraj Sharma, NBC News, 3 March 2022]

For years, J. Suresh struggled with shame over his identity as a gay man, which he kept to himself. When he joined the "hyper straight world" of the Indian army in the late 1990s, his feelings only intensified. Worried that he'd be discovered and dishonorably discharged, Suresh retired from the military as a major in 2010 after having served for more than 11 years. When Suresh shared his story in July 2020, it made headlines across socially conservative India. It also captured the attention of Onir, a gay Indian filmmaker who goes by one name. It "fits my idea of the queer love story perfectly," said Onir, whose coming film "We Are" is an anthology that tells four stories about LGBTQ characters, including one inspired by Suresh. Because it involved a former service member, Onir submitted that part of the script for approval by the Defense Ministry in accordance with Indian regulations. The ministry rejected it, effectively halting production" Onir said a Defense Ministry official told him in a subsequent phone call that "the portrayal of a soldier as gay is illegal."

RACISM

[I can't stop thinking that I could have been Christina Yuna Lee](#) [Amara Walker, CNN, 28 February 2022] [OPINION]

It could have been me. It could have been any of us. This is the sickening feeling I've been trying to process alongside my Asian American female friends and colleagues as we grapple with the horror of yet another Asian American woman brutally killed in an unprovoked attack. Lee's suspected killer is reportedly homeless and questions have been raised about his mental health. Even though her murder is not currently considered to be a hate crime, I can't stop thinking that, whether or not it was a hate crime, it won't change this fact: Asian Americans are under siege.

[Jury foreman: Ahmaud Arbery killers showed "so much hatred"](#) [The Associated Press, 1 March 2022]

The Black man who served as foreman of the jury that convicted three White men of federal hate crimes in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery said he believes the guilty verdicts show that while acts of racial violence still occur in the U.S. "we're moving in the right direction." Ransom, a 35-year-old social worker, was the only Black man on the jury that spent a week in a Brunswick, Georgia, courtroom hearing the hate crimes case in U.S. District Court. Jurors deliberated less than four hours before finding each of the defendants guilty on all counts Feb. 22. During the trial, federal prosecutors walked the jury through roughly two dozen racist text messages and social media posts, mostly by Travis McMichael and Bryan. Ransom said he was not shocked by the racist slurs the men used. Ransom said he was disturbed by the indifference the McMichaels showed

Arbery as he was dying in the street, and was stunned that Bryan had joined them to pursue a Black man whom Bryan later told police he had never seen before and did not know why he was being chased.

[Texas man admits to hate crimes against Asian family he blamed for pandemic](#) [David K. Li, NBC News, 24 February 2022]

A west Texas man pleaded guilty Wednesday to three federal hate-crime charges stemming from a knife attack against an Asian family early in the pandemic. Jose Gomez III, 21-year-old, of Midland, admitted his guilt to the slashing of a customer, his 6-year-old child and a Sam's Club employee on March 14, 2020. Gomez confronted a Burmese family, believing they were Chinese and "from the country who started spreading that disease around," federal prosecutors said in a statement. Gomez still faces state charges in the attack. Anti-Asian hate crimes have been spiraling since the Covid-19 pandemic took hold of everyday life two years ago and gave rise to racist rhetoric. "No one should be afraid to go shopping or feel like they could be targeted by an act of violence based on their race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, country of national origin, or immigration status," said Jeffrey Downey, the FBI's special agent in charge in El Paso.

[They grew up surrounded by racism. But early on they chose a different path](#) [John Blake, CNN, 2 January 2022]

He's been called a "racist P.O.S." and accused of indoctrinating students. He lost the job he loved. Matt Hawn has become a focal point of one of this past year's biggest racial controversies. The former public high school teacher in Tennessee was thrust into the national spotlight after he was fired from his tenured job for the way he taught students about White privilege. Hawn became one of the most prominent casualties in an ongoing debate over how racism and history should be taught to students in the U.S. His plight has divided people in his conservative, heavily White city near the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. But Hawn's improbable personal journey is as dramatic as the headlines he's provoked. There is nothing in his background that suggests that he'd take such a public stand against racism. Hawn grew up in a White community and says he didn't have a single non-White classmate from kindergarten through high school. He says he was surrounded by people who used the N-word, flew Confederate flags and wore T-shirts declaring "The South Will Rise Again." So why did he turn out differently?

RELIGION

[Why Muslim women choose to wear headscarves while participating in sports](#) [Umer Hussain and George B. Cunningham, *The Conversation*, 23 February 2022]

Muslim women's participation in sports has [historically remained lower](#) than in many other marginalized groups, such as Indigenous groups and other racial minorities. This is especially evident in [socially conservative countries](#) such as Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, where only a few women have ever participated in the Summer Olympics. The French Senate recently voted in favor of a bill to ban headscarves in sports competitions. The advocates of the legislation claim that headscarves, or hijab, symbolize Islamic radicalism, patriarchy and lack of women's empowerment. Muslim women athletes and women's rights activists have condemned the

proposed law, with one commentator calling it “[gendered Islamophobia](#).” As researchers who study diversity inclusion in sports, we conducted several studies focusing on sports participation among Muslim women over a period of three years. Our recent study, published in 2021, shows that many Muslim women want to wear a hijab while participating in sports, and they list many reasons for doing so.

SEXUAL ASSAULT/HARASSMENT

[Former Fox News anchor Gretchen Carlson to attend Biden’s signing of bill overhauling workplace sexual misconduct law](#) [Phil Mattingly and Maegan Vazquez, CNN, 3 March 2022]

When President Joe Biden signs into law sweeping workplace reforms designed to free victims of sexual harassment and sexual assault to seek justice in court, he will be flanked by one of the most prominent advocates for the effort and the bipartisan lawmakers who drove the bill through Congress. Gretchen Carlson, the former Fox News anchor who has worked to ban arbitration clauses since she sued Roger Ailes, then the network’s CEO, for sexual harassment, will attend Thursday’s signing ceremony, she announced on Twitter Thursday. Carlson will be joined by four survivors who testified on Capitol Hill in support of the bill, as well as the four lawmakers who helped shepherd the bill to passage in the House and Senate. The legislation, once signed into law, will end the use of forced arbitration clauses specifically for sexual harassment and sexual assault claims, allowing victims the option of bringing up the dispute in federal, tribal or state court. It will also apply retroactively to previously resolved cases unless the cases are pending.

SUICIDE

[Army seeks to rein in Alaska suicides by connecting with soldiers one by one](#) [Wyatt Olson, Stars and Stripes, 26 February 2022]

Faced with a significant increase last year in soldier suicides in Alaska, the Army has mandated wellness checks with behavioral health counselors for 100% of soldiers stationed in the state. “Mission 100 is a campaign to connect with 100% of our soldiers—leaders connected with the soldiers and soldiers connected with each other,” Maj. Gen. Brian Eifler, commander of U.S. Army Alaska, said during a conference call with reporters Friday from his headquarters at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The Army has been grappling with an elevated rate of suicides in the state since 2019, but 2021 saw a dramatic leap in such deaths. Seven soldiers died by suicide in the state in 2020, and last year that number jumped to 11—a figure that does not include six soldier deaths that are still under investigation. The findings identified multiple risk factors among those who died, including chronic pain and issues with sleep and relationships.

[Military suicide prevention efforts are falling short, Pentagon concedes](#) [Leo Shane III, Military Times, 2 March 2022]

Defense Department officials on Wednesday acknowledged shortcomings in their suicide prevention programs as the number of lives lost to self-harm in the ranks continues to increase. “The trends are not going in the right direction,” said Karen Orvis, director of the Defense Department’s Suicide Prevention Office. “Over the past two years we’ve seen a slight decline nationwide [in suicides] for our U.S. population, but that does not hold for [the military.]” On

Wednesday, defense officials faced blunt questioning from lawmakers about why they haven't seen improvements, and whether the programs can ever be effective. Richard Mooney, acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Services, told lawmakers that senior leaders are "working through a host of actions that will increase behavioral health care, research that looks at [suicide] factors and a whole number of other items" in response to the continued suicide problem. The Defense Department is also looking to expand its safe storage efforts in an attempt to educate more military members on gun safety. Firearms are the most common method of suicide among troops and veterans.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

VETERANS

[Can You Answer the Hardest Interview Question of the Year?](#) [Jacey Eckhart, *Military.com*, 22 February 2022]

When they ask you about diversity, equity and inclusion during your job interview, what are you going to say? Since one of the biggest trends in recruitment in 2022 is an emphasis on diversity and inclusion, it is no surprise to me when my veteran clients of all races report that they were asked interview questions about their thoughts on diversity. This is particularly common for those interviewing for executive or management roles. Since numerous studies show that a more diverse workplace is a more productive workplace, you can expect the diversity question to appear in different ways during your interview. Even though you can acknowledge that these questions need to be asked, that doesn't make the subject easy to talk about, even among friends. Articulating your ideas in front of strangers who are judging your fit for a job is even harder.

[The Families' Civil War: The fight to recognize Black military service](#) [Holly A. Pinheiro, Jr., *Military Times*, 1 March 2022] [COMMENTARY]

Under the leadership of Eleanor Holmes Norton and Cory Booker, the U.S. Congress has begun debating the possibility of awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the nearly 200,000 Black people who served in the U.S. military service during the Civil War. Their efforts reinforce that Black Civil War military service, even 100 plus years ago, deserves commemorating and honoring. At the same time, the well-deserved, posthumous award provides a way to include their sacrifices to the ongoing—and often contentious—debates about Civil War public memory.