

DEOMI NEWS LINKS 30 JUNE 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

[Ketanji Brown Jackson sworn in as first Black woman on the Supreme Court](#) [Ximena Bustillo, NPR, 30 June 2022]

Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in Thursday at noon as the 116th Supreme Court justice and the first Black woman to serve on the high court. Jackson took two oaths during the livestreamed event: a constitutional oath, administered by Chief Justice John Roberts, and a judicial oath, administered by Justice Stephen Breyer. “It has taken 232 years and 115 prior appointments for a Black woman to be selected to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States, but we’ve made it! We’ve made it—all of us,” Jackson said in remarks at a White House event the day after the Senate vote. Jackson is also the first Supreme Court justice since Thurgood Marshall to have represented indigent criminal defendants as a public defender.

[Supreme Court backs a high school coach’s right to pray on the 50-yard line](#) [Nina Totenberg, NPR, 27 June 2022]

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday sided with a high school football coach who claimed the right to pray on the 50-yard line after each game, joined by those players who wanted to participate. The 6-to-3 decision was the latest example of the court’s conservative supermajority requiring more accommodation for religion in public schools and less separation between church and state. The decision was based largely on the lower courts’ finding that the school told the coach to stop his midfield praying because it would be perceived as a school endorsement of religion. Monday’s decision is the latest in a long line of recent decisions siding with religious interests, and against more secular ones.

[POINT]

[I’m glad Coach Kennedy can pray at the 50-yard line](#) [Laura E. Adkins, *Forward.com*, 27 June 2022] [OPINION]

[COUNTERPOINT]

[A coach coerced students to pray, and the Supreme Court just said it was OK](#) [Paul Peterson, *NBC News*, 27 June 2022] [OPINION]

[Supreme Court says states can be sued for discriminating against veterans](#) [Tierney Sneed, *CNN*, 29 June 2022]

The Supreme Court said in a 5-4 ruling Wednesday that state agencies are not immune from private lawsuits brought under a federal law meant to protect employment rights of returning veterans. The ruling will strengthen work protections for thousands of state-employed veterans returning to work after service in the Reserves or National Guard. Le Roy Torres, a veteran and former employee of the Texas Department of Public Safety, had said he could no longer serve as a state trooper and sought a comparable job to accommodate his service-related disability. When he was denied the job, he filed suit under federal law but lost in state courts. He appealed the decision to the Supreme Court.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

CULTURE

[Army Drops Requirement for High School Diploma Amid Recruiting Crisis](#) [Steve Beynon, *Military.com*, 24 June 2022]

The Army is tossing its mandate for potential recruits to have a high school diploma or GED certificate to enlist in the service, in one of the most dramatic moves yet in the escalating recruiting crisis hitting the entire Defense Department. On Thursday, the service announced that individuals may enlist without those previously required education certifications if they ship to basic training this fiscal year, which ends Oct. 1. Recruits must also be at least 18 years old and otherwise qualify for a job in the active-duty Army. They also must score at least a 50 on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, an SAT-style quiz to measure a potential recruit's academic ability.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Army's top enlisted leaders meet in Texas to discuss prevention efforts for suicide, sexual assault](#) [Rose L. Thayer, *Stars and Stripes*, 27 June 2022]

About 150 of the Army's top enlisted leaders will gather in El Paso, Texas, this week for an annual in-person summit to discuss quick-action, low-cost solutions to eliminate suicide and sexual assault among the ranks. After three days of brainstorming, discussions and guest speakers, the goal is for each sergeant major to come away with actionable solutions, said Sgt. Maj. Osvaldo Martinez of the Army's People First Task Force and coordinator of the summit. "The goal of the meeting is to really operationalize how we're going to eliminate the harmful behaviors that we find ourselves working through every single day in the Army," he said. The summit is hosted by Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston and builds upon monthly virtual meetings that offer updates on success and failures for each solution.

[Homophobia large portion of online abuse aimed at footballers and basketballers—study](#) [Alex Howell, *BBC Sport*, 26 June 2022]

Homophobia is responsible for a large portion of abuse aimed at footballers and basketballers in the men's and women's game, according to a new report. Of more than 1,500 abusive posts included in the report, homophobic abuse was 40% of posts targeted at male footballers, 27% of that sent to female football players, 46% of the abuse aimed at male basketballers and 19% of that posted to female basketball players. Messages directed at the athletes also included racism, sexism and ableism. The [joint report](#) into online abuse and its impact on performance and mental well-being was conducted by AI company Signify, for FifPro, the NBPA and the WNBPA, which are the global unions representing male and female athletes in football and basketball. It described the 1,558 abusive posts sent from 1,455 unique accounts as "shocking".

[How historians are documenting the lives of transgender people](#) [Erin Blakemore, *National Geographic*, 24 June 2022]

As the first American to undergo gender-confirmation surgery, [Christine] Jorgensen would arguably become the world's most famous transgender woman of her era. Her remarkable transition from a male-presenting soldier to a polished, feminine public figure would be a watershed in trans visibility. The word "transgender" didn't exist at the time—it wouldn't be coined for another decade or become widespread until the 1990s—but transgender history began long before Jorgensen brought it into broader public awareness. Documenting that history isn't always straightforward—but Jules Gill-Peterson, an associate professor of history at Johns Hopkins University, says it's much more extensive—

and joyful—than you might think. Though stigma, violence, and oppression are parts of trans history, Gill-Peterson says, trans people “still lived really interesting, rich, happy, flourishing trans lives.” And they left plenty of evidence behind, she says. “They generally are hiding in plain sight.”

[Inside Eureka Springs, the Bible Belt’s LGBTQ oasis](#) [Scottie Andrew, CNN, 29 June 2022]

It doesn’t have the legacy of San Francisco. It doesn’t draw the summer crowds of Provincetown, Massachusetts, and its performance scene doesn’t rival that of Orlando or other metropolises. But Eureka Springs has become the Bible Belt’s LGBTQ oasis. It’s a sleepy but vibrant small town where you know your neighbors and feel comfortable being your fullest self, its residents say. “Not even the streets are straight” in Eureka, goes one saying. CNN spoke with several Eureka Springs residents, from newer arrivals to long-established townsfolk, about why they came to the town, why it’s so unique and why, in most cases, they never want to leave.

[Marine Corps, Army report disproportionate substance abuse, mental health issues](#) [Meghann Myers, Military Times, 24 June 2022]

Substance abuse and mental health challenges are disproportionately common in the Marine Corps and Army when compared to the other military services, [according to a Rand study](#) published Tuesday. And the reason may have more to do with culture than the individual troops themselves. Researchers compared the services using 2015 Defense Department survey data from nearly 17,000 active-duty troops. Marines self-reported the highest instance of binge drinking, alcohol dependence and nicotine use, as well as the highest rates of depression and anxiety. The study found that the Army had the highest rates of prescription drug abuse and post-traumatic stress order, while the Air Force and Coast Guard reported the lowest prevalences.

[Navy Canceling Early Discharges and Offering Extensions to Keep More Sailors in Uniform](#) [Konstantin Toropin, Military.com, 29 June 2022]

Just months after the Navy announced a record recruitment bonus, the sea service has made a series of policy changes that are aimed at decreasing the speed at which sailors leave the Navy in a further sign that the branch is struggling with recruitment and retention of service members. The changes, [announced in an administrative message](#) released Tuesday, include moves to let sailors keep serving longer—the ability of sailors to apply for a delay in separation or retirement, and an offer to waive “high-year tenure” requirements—as well as a measure to prevent sailors from leaving the fleet early. The message explained that the goal behind the changes is “to ensure the Navy remains fully manned and operationally ready.”

[New York library reverses removal of Pride displays from children’s sections following outrage](#) [Kiara Alfonseca, ABC News, 23 June 2022]

A New York library system has reversed its decision to remove all Pride displays and Pride-related books from display in children’s sections. The initial move generated controversy amid a nationwide wave of legislative efforts to remove LGBTQ books and content from schools and libraries. The Smithtown Library on Long Island had said it would remove the displays and books after the library board voted 4-2 to approve the motion. The board hosted an emergency meeting late Thursday following backlash, and decided to reverse the decision and issue an apology. The initial decision from the board would have kept Pride month displays in teen and adult areas of the library. Books on the LGBTQ communities would still have been “part of the library’s children’s collection and can be checked out by

anyone wishing to do so.” The board’s decision was quickly condemned by the likes of New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and the New York Library Association.

[Requirement for Women to Register for the Draft Back on the Table in Annual Defense Bill](#) [Rebecca Kheel, *Military.com*, 27 June 2022]

A fight over whether women should be required to register for a potential draft has been revived in Congress. Last year, Congress appeared on the precipice of making women register with what’s formally called the Selective Service System, but the idea was dropped from the defense policy bill signed into law after closed-door House-Senate negotiations despite having bipartisan support. Now, the proposal is back in the version of the National Defense Authorization Act, making its way through the Senate, and conservatives are again vowing a fierce fight against what they refer to as “drafting our daughters.” Earlier this month, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 20-6 to require women to register for the draft as part of its version of this year’s NDAA. The version of the NDAA advanced by the House Armed Services Committee last week does not contain a similar provision, despite the committee supporting the idea last year.

[Rising share of Americans say gender determined by birth-assigned sex, poll finds](#) [Matt Laviertes, *NBC News*, 28 June 2022]

A majority of Americans favor protecting transgender people from discrimination, but a rising share say a person’s gender is determined by their sex assigned at birth, and most support trans sports bans, a [new poll from the Pew Research Center](#) found. The survey of more than 10,000 adults, which was conducted May 16-22 and published Tuesday, found that 60% say a person’s gender is determined at birth, up from 56% in 2021 and 54% in 2017. Views on gender identity differ by age groups and even more sharply by political affiliation. Half of adults ages 18 to 29 say someone can be a different gender than the one assigned to them at birth, compared with about 4 in 10 of those ages 30 to 49 and about a third of those 50 and older, the report found. Democrats and those who lean toward the Democratic Party were four times more likely than Republicans and conservative-leaning people to say that someone’s gender can be different than the one assigned to them at birth.

[The United States’ first interracial love song](#) [Diane Bernard, *BBC Culture*, 27 June 2022]

*In May of 1968, just a few weeks after Martin Luther King Jr’s assassination, singing duo Billy Vera and Judy Clay entered the Apollo Theater in Harlem, then an all-Black neighbourhood of New York. Vera had teamed up with gospel-and-soul diva Clay to sing their new hit love song, *Storybook Children*. With rioting surrounding Martin Luther King Jr’s assassination still raging across the Hudson River in Newark, New Jersey, music history was being made in Harlem. America’s first interracial singing duo to hit the Billboard charts was singing live for the very first time, playing five shows a day for seven days. “It was groundbreaking,” says Vera, who became an R&B historian, winning a Grammy for writing liner notes to a Ray Charles CD box set. “America was just on the verge of being ready for an interracial duo singing love songs—but they weren’t quite there yet.”*

[Why nobody wants to join the Army this year](#) [Daniel Johnson and James Machado, *Task & Purpose*, 27 June 2022] [OPINION]

The military is currently behind its recruiting goals for this year by 23%, a continuation of recruiting woes in which all branches of service seem to be throwing money at the challenge, but with the Army leading the way, unfortunately. The Department of Defense anticipates that a combined 150,000 service members from all branches will end their terms of service (ETS) each year. But in 2020 and 2021, that

number was around 195,000, with 2022 appearing to follow the trend. As Army officials have remained quiet on recruiting numbers while, at the same time, increasing bonuses, social media posts have noted that the Army remains well behind its goals for active duty enlistment. This fact is reflected in the near-term expected force shrinkage, which is currently being blamed on a tight labor market. As it stands now, 2022 is looking to be a year of high ETS numbers that will be exacerbated by significant failures in recruiting for the Army. Where has recruiting gone wrong?

DISCRIMINATION

[Biden administration proposes Title IX protections for transgender students](#) [Tyler Clifford, Reuters, 23 June 2022]

The Biden administration on Thursday proposed expanding Title IX protections against sex discrimination to include transgender students as part of a broader effort to replace Trump-era rules it said had weakened safeguards for sexual harassment victims. The proposed changes, announced by the U.S. Education Department on the 50th anniversary of the law's passage, are aimed at K-12 schools and higher education institutions that receive federal funding. They would address how the schools respond to complaints of sexual discrimination, harassment or assaults, and would mark the first time that transgender students would be explicitly protected under the law.

[GovExec Daily: LGBTQ+ Workers and Discrimination](#) [Adam Butler and Ross Gianfortune, Government Executive, 28 June 2022] [PODCAST]

For decades, June has marked Pride Month for LGBTQ+ communities across the U.S. Cities mark the month with parades and festivals, while other businesses often participate with various messages of solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community. Federal agencies fly Pride flags, but studies show that discrimination against individuals because of their gender and sexual identities remain a problem in the public and private sectors. Dan Meyer is an attorney and Managing Partner of Tully Rinckey's D.C. office. He joined the podcast to discuss how LGBTQ+ feds and contractors experience discrimination at the office and what can be done about it.

[Kansas county settles discrimination lawsuit with \\$22K](#) [The Associated Press, 24 June 2022]

Sedgwick County has agreed to pay \$22,000 to a former employee to settle his racial discrimination lawsuit. David Partridge, who is biracial, sued the county last year, saying a coworker on a county work crew called him "boy" or the "colored guy" and sang slavery-era songs with his name added to the lyrics. Partridge's lawsuit said he worked from December 2019 to August 2021 as a county bridge crewman and was subjected to a racially hostile work environment by his White crew chief. Partridge said that after he complained, the county determined its racial discrimination policy had been violated, and Partridge was promised he would not have to return to the same work crew. But Partridge said he was denied a different position, offered a third with a lower salary and ultimately fired for refusing to return to the original work crew.

[Latino officer accuses former police chief of "racist and religion-based abuse"](#) [Nicole Acevedo, NBC News, 22 June 2022]

The only Latino officer in a police department in Ohio has filed a discrimination civil rights complaint alleging he was "constantly harassed" by the department's chief at the time over his ethnicity and religion. In a virtual news conference Tuesday, Officer Audali "A.J." Torres of the Sheffield Lake Police Department spoke out about the "racist and religion-based abuse" he endured while working under

then-Chief Anthony Campo after joining the department part-time in 2013. Campo left the department last summer after being placed on administrative leave following a “racial harassment” incident against a Black officer. Based on his religious affiliation, Torres had reached an “understanding with the city” to have Sundays off to attend church. But this made Campo “angry,” Torres said in the complaint, describing that the chief threatened to reduce his hours and take away his benefits, and often mocked him over his religious practices.

DIVERSITY

[Air Force’s first female special tactics officer earns coveted scarlet beret](#) [Rachel S. Cohen, *Air Force Times*, 24 June 2022]

An Air Force captain on Thursday became the service’s first female special tactics officer, donning the elite red beret after completing a grueling three-month training course. Her journey to become a commando has sparked controversy over the past six months about how the Air Force enforces its most stringent training standards and whether she has enjoyed unfair flexibility while going through the pipeline. The complaints began in January with an anonymous letter from a member of the special tactics community that was posted on social media, garnering widespread attention among defense watchers and in Congress. An Air Force inspector general investigation, published June 7, disputed those claims. The beret ceremony marked the end of the woman’s second attempt at finishing the special tactics officer apprentice course (also known as Combat Control School)—a program that covers skills like land navigation, parachuting and assault zone reconnaissance—held at Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina.

EXTREMISM

[Ex-U.S. Air Force sergeant pleads guilty in deputy killing](#) [The Associated Press, 28 June 2022]

A former Air Force staff sergeant linked to an extremist movement and convicted last month in the 2020 killing of a federal security officer in the San Francisco Bay Area pleaded guilty to killing a sheriff’s sergeant a week after he attacked a federal building. Steven Carrillo, 33, pleaded guilty Monday to all nine counts, including murder and special circumstances, for the killing of Santa Cruz County Sheriff Sgt. Damon Gutzwiller on June 6, 2020, the Santa Cruz District Attorney’s Office confirmed Tuesday. Carrillo is scheduled to be sentenced on Aug. 26 and faces life in prison without the possibility of parole. Prosecutors said Carrillo, of Santa Cruz, had ties to the “boogaloo” movement—a concept embraced by a loose network of gun enthusiasts and militia-style extremists. Experts say the group started in alt-right culture on the internet with the belief that there is an impending U.S. civil war.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[Idaho’s fight against the far right, then and now](#) [Odette Yousef, NPR, 27 June 2022]

The mass arrest earlier this month of 31 White nationalists allegedly en route to riot at a Pride event in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, drew attention to the unprecedented increase in threats to the LGBTQ community. But the events reminded locals of another time when far right extremists sought to use their turf as a national stage to promote intolerance and hatred—and how their community fought back. “We’re not going back to the days of the Aryan Nations,” said Coeur d’Alene Mayor Jim Hammond, two days after the Patriot Front arrests on June 11. Hammond was referring to a neo-Nazi group headquartered in that region between 1974 and 2000. But many Coeur d’Alene residents said the events

that day, and the hostilities that built up to them, felt eerily similar to that earlier chapter in the region's history.

[U.S. Army private admits plotting attack on military unit](#) [Larry Neumeister, *The Associated Press*, 24 June 2022]

A U.S. Army private from Kentucky pleaded guilty Friday to charges that he plotted to murder members of his unit in an attack that he planned to carry out in 2020 on behalf of a group that promotes extreme violence to bring about the demise of Western civilization, authorities said. Ethan Phelan Melzer, 24, of Louisville, Kentucky, entered the plea in Manhattan federal court. Sentencing was set for Jan. 6, when he could face up to 45 years in prison after pleading guilty to trying to murder U.S. military service members, seeking to support terrorists and illegally transmitting national defense information. In court papers, federal authorities say Melzer was already a member of a radical violent group known as the "Order of Nine Angles", or O9A, before joining the Army in December 2018. According to a criminal complaint, the group is an anarchist group founded in the United Kingdom and now operating around the world, including in the U.S.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[Winthrop pays tribute to retired State Trooper David L. Green and Air Force Veteran Ramona Cooper, victims of hate crime](#) [Tristan Smith, *Masslive.com*, 27 June 2022]

On Sunday—a year after an extremist killed a retired Massachusetts State Trooper and veteran Air Force officer in a racially-motivated fatal shooting in Winthrop—city officials, community members and friends and family of the victims gathered to pay tribute to the Black lives lost in the senseless act of violence. Last year, Winthrop residents—retired Massachusetts State Trooper David L. Green, 58, and 60-year-old Ramona Cooper, an Air Force veteran—were "executed" by 28-year-old Nathan Allen, according to former Suffolk District Attorney Rachael Rollins. Allen, who's since been labeled an extremist who was captivated by White supremacist and anti-Semitic literature and wrote that White people are "apex predators," left his house with two pistols and stole a truck from a local plumbing company on June 26, 2021.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

HUMAN RELATIONS

[Have people forgotten how to behave in the office?](#) [Sophia Epstein, *BBC Worklife*, 29 June 2022]

For many workers, that back-to-office plan that's loomed (and changed) for more than two years has finally materialised. Employees of all stripes are finding their way back to desks, even just a few days a week. But the transition has not been easy for everyone. In many cases, lots of simple things that people were good at before the pandemic, from meal prep to face-to-face conversations and socialising with colleagues, are no longer second nature, because workers are out of practice. Plus, because of people's differing attitudes to remote work, re-entering the open-plan offices that workers left behind in 2020 has been uplifting for some and jarring for others, or even a confusing mixture of the two. Some people, after having complete control over their working environments at home, are more socially anxious and less tolerant of the irritations that come with being surrounded by colleagues. Others, meanwhile, might be so happy to be in an office with colleagues that they wind up breaching rules of social etiquette that used to be there.

[SLD 45 saves 450 hours with “Stop the Silly” campaign](#) [Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman, *Space Launch Delta 45 Public Affairs*, 24 June 2022]

Space Launch Delta 45’s “Stop the Silly” campaign, which is run by the Delta’s innovation hub, the Forge, is designed to reduce redundancies and make SLD 45 more efficient. The program recently implemented an initiative that will save the Delta an estimated 450 man-hours. The program started in February when a survey went out across the Delta asking units to identify areas of concern. That was followed by a series of meetings called “blitz sessions” in March where service members and Department of Defense civilian employees came together to identify problems, as well as potential solutions. Five sessions were held in March that identified 385 data points across 16 categories, Kearschner said. The 45th CES energy section approached the Forge and discussed options on how to reduce administrative redundancies at the Delta and civil engineer commander level, said John Constantinide, 45th CES energy manager.

[Why criticism lasts longer than praise](#) [Sarah Griffiths, *BBC Future*, 26 June 2022]

As children we are often told that sticks and stones can break bones, but words can never hurt. Yet with the benefit of experience, adults understand that this old proverb is far from true—while physical injuries can take a matter of weeks to heal, negative comments can scar us for a lifetime. Whether it’s criticism calmly dispensed by a teacher at school, or a cruel comment hurled in the heat of an argument with a friend or lover, [we tend to remember criticism far better](#) than positive comments, due to a phenomenon called the [negativity bias](#). In fact, a whole host of complex effects can be explained by this bias, which is the universal tendency for negative emotions to affect us more strongly than positive ones. It causes us to pay special attention to threats and exaggerate the dangers, according to Roy Baumeister, a social psychologist at the University of Queensland and co-author of [“The Power of Bad: And How to Overcome It.”](#)

INTERNATIONAL

[Fans push soccer club to cancel Qatar game over human rights](#) [*The Associated Press*, 27 June 2022]

Fan groups said they persuaded English soccer club Watford on Monday to cancel a planned preseason game against Qatar over human rights issues. The supporter groups Proud Hornets, representing LGBT fans, and Women of Watford published a joint statement expressing delight that club officials “listened to our concerns and canceled the game with Qatar.” The World Cup host nation’s laws and society have come under increased scrutiny in the past decade. Human Rights Watch assesses “discriminatory laws against women continue” and LGBT people face discrimination in the emirate. Watford’s best-known fan and honorary life president, Elton John, is a long-time activist for LGBT rights.

[Female referee at men’s World Cup wants the game to shine](#) [Stephen Wade, *The Associated Press*, 27 June 2022]

Japanese referee Yoshimi Yamashita agrees with Pelé or whoever it was decades ago that first described soccer as the “beautiful game.” Yamashita is one of three women picked by FIFA to be referees at the men’s World Cup in Qatar, which opens on Nov. 21. It’s the first time a woman will be in charge on soccer’s largest stage. Stéphanie Frappart of France and Salima Mukansanga of Rwanda are the other women who were selected. Yamashita’s selection puts the focus on Japan’s low ranking on most measures of equal pay for women, and in global studies of gender equality. Only 14.3% of the seats in Japan’s national legislature are held by women—152nd of 190 countries in a study published

several months ago by the U.S. Congressional Research Service. Another study on the gender pay gap placed Japan 120th of 156 countries.

[Germany: Former Nazi guard, 101, jailed for aiding murder](#) [Kristin Grieshaber, *The Associated Press*, 28 June 2022]

A 101-year-old man was convicted in Germany of more than 3,500 counts of accessory to murder on Tuesday for serving at the Nazis' Sachsenhausen concentration camp during World War II. The Neuruppin Regional Court sentenced him to five years in prison. The man, who was identified by local media as Josef S., had denied working as an SS guard at the camp and aiding and abetting the murder of thousands of prisoners. In the trial, which opened in October, the centenarian said that he had worked as a farm laborer near Pasewalk in northeastern Germany during the period in question. However, the court considered it proven that he worked at the camp on the outskirts of Berlin between 1942 and 1945 as an enlisted member of the Nazi Party's paramilitary wing, the German news agency dpa reported.

[New Zealand designates Proud Boys a terrorist organization](#) [Nick Perry, *The Associated Press*, 30 June 2022]

New Zealand's government has declared that American far-right groups the Proud Boys and The Base are terrorist organizations. The two groups join 18 others including Islamic State that have been given an official terrorist designation, making it illegal in New Zealand to fund, recruit or participate in the groups, and obligating authorities to take action against them. The U.S. groups are not known to be active in New Zealand, although the South Pacific nation has become more attuned to threats from the far right after a White supremacist shot and killed 51 Muslim worshippers at two Christchurch mosques in 2019. The New Zealand massacre inspired other White supremacists around the world, including a White gunman who killed 10 Black people at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York.

[Oslo shooting: Norway attack being treated as Islamist terrorism, police say](#) [BBC News, 26 June 2022]

A 42-year-old man has been arrested and charged with murder, attempted murder and terrorist acts after a shooting in the centre of Norway's capital, Oslo. Two people died and 21 were wounded early on Saturday in what police called an "act of Islamist terrorism". The shootings were in and near the London Pub, a popular LGBTQ+ venue, the Herr Nilsen jazz club and another pub. Norway's prime minister told the BBC the suspect was questioned in May, but was not deemed a threat at the time. The terror alert level in Norway has now been raised to its highest level, though the country's PST intelligence service said it currently had "no indication" further attacks were likely. Oslo's annual gay Pride parade was due to be held on Saturday, and was formally cancelled on police advice.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Polish court rules that four "LGBT-free zones" must be abolished](#) [Reuters, 28 June 2022]

A top Polish appeals court ruled on Tuesday that so-called "LGBT-free zones" must be scrapped in four municipalities, a verdict welcomed by activists as a victory for human rights and democracy. Numerous local authorities in Poland passed resolutions in 2019 declaring themselves free of "LGBT ideology", part of a conflict in the predominantly Catholic country between liberals and religious conservatives, who see the struggle for gay rights as a threat to traditional values. "LGBT-free zones" seek to ban what local authorities see as the promotion of homosexuality and other minority sexual identities, especially in schools. These moves set Poland on a collision course with the European Commission,

which said the zones may violate EU law regarding non-discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation.

MISCELLANEOUS

[Arizona offers free college tuition to the state's Native students](#) [Sequoia Carrillo, NPR, 28 June 2022]
The University of Arizona announced Monday that Native American students no longer would have to pay tuition or fees at its main campus in Tucson. The program, a first of its kind in an Arizona public university, will be available for students registered to any of the state's 22 federally recognized tribes. More than 400 current students will be eligible at the school's main campus in Tucson, where tuition currently is \$12,700 per semester. "The University of Arizona is committed to recognizing and acknowledging the history endured by Native American communities," Kasey Urquidez, the school's vice president of enrollment management, said in a statement. "We are committed to promoting access and success for Indigenous students." The University of Arizona joins a number of other public universities offering free tuition to Native students, including state schools in California, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana and Oregon.

[Arlington National Cemetery faces directive to remove killer's remains](#) [Hope Hodge Seck, *The Washington Post*, 28 June 2022]

Arlington National Cemetery would be required to disinter the remains of a former Navy officer who murdered a junior sailor decades ago under a proposed amendment to the annual defense budget bill. [Rep. Jackie] Speier (D-Calif.) Speier's amendment directs the Army and Department of Veterans Affairs to remove Andrew J. Chabrol's remains from the nation's largest military cemetery no later than Sept. 30, 2023. They would be given to his relatives or, if none can be found, disposed of "as the Secretary of the Army deems appropriate," the proposal says. In 1993, he was executed in Virginia for the murder of Petty Officer 2nd Class Melissa Harrington, a 27-year-old enlisted sailor within his Virginia Beach Navy unit who had reported him to her command for stalking and harassment. Court testimony revealed that Chabrol, despite not facing meaningful consequences from the Navy, had plotted revenge, keeping a journal detailing for months what he called "Operation Nemesis." Harrington was taken from her home July 9, 1991. She was raped and tortured before Chabrol, in his words, "went berserk" and strangled her.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[Buttigieg launches \\$1B pilot to build racial equity in roads](#) [Hope Yen, *The Associated Press*, 30 June 2022]

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on Thursday launched a \$1 billion first-of-its-kind pilot program aimed at helping reconnect cities and neighborhoods racially segregated or divided by road projects, pledging wide-ranging help to dozens of communities despite the program's limited dollars. Under the Reconnecting Communities program, cities and states can now apply for the federal aid over five years to rectify harm caused by roadways that were built primarily through lower-income, Black communities after the 1950s creation of the interstate highway system. New projects could include rapid bus transit lines to link disadvantaged neighborhoods to jobs; caps built on top of highways featuring green spaces, bike lanes and pedestrian walkways to allow for safe crossings over the roadways; repurposing former rail lines; and partial removal of highways.

[Citizen science volunteers are almost entirely White](#) [Bradley Allf and Caren Cooper, *The Conversation*, 22 June 2022]

*Every day, volunteers around the world contribute to scientific studies through “citizen science.” Citizen science can be anything from counting migrating birds to measuring precipitation or even tracking outbreaks of COVID-19. Citizen science helps researchers collect more data than they could working on their own. The people who participate in these projects also benefit by gaining knowledge about the fields they are working in and learning skills. We are two researchers who study biology, the environment and the role of citizen science in these fields. In a [new paper](#) published on June 22, 2022, in *BioScience*, we used survey data from 2016 to 2019 to better understand the demographics of citizen scientists. A few small studies have found that citizen science volunteers tend to be White, well-educated and have high incomes. But this homogeneity of participants is common knowledge among researchers, and few collect detailed demographic data on participants in citizen science.*

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[DOD, Air Force pair with HBCUs for new research consortium](#) [Scott Maucione, *Federal News Network*, 28 June 2022]

The Defense Department, along with the Air Force, are teaming up with Historically Black Colleges and Universities to create a 15th academic-affiliated research center. The center will focus on tactical autonomy, meaning systems that act independently under the bounded authority of human support. The systems support missions like situational awareness, force protection, cyber defense and logistics. The center will also focus on system collaboration and man-machine learning. The collaboration will be the first academic research center affiliated with the Air Force and the 15th connected to the Defense Department. The collaboration is also working a secondary goal of increasing diversity and inclusion, a mission DOD has been working on since the national response to the murder of George Floyd.

[Head of NATO pilot training in Texas under fire for showcasing Nazi ace’s portrait](#) [Rachel S. Cohen, *Air Force Times*, 27 June 2022]

The German airman in charge of training NATO combat pilots in the U.S. is facing criticism for hanging a portrait of a Nazi fighter ace outside his office at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. German Air Force Col. Stefan Kleinheyer, the 80th Operations Group commander, has on display a print of a Messerschmitt 262 fighter jet above a bust of Wolfgang “Bombo” Schenck, along with the World War II pilot’s signature. It’s one of at least four pieces of art of swastika-emblazoned Luftwaffe aircraft at Sheppard, though it’s unclear whether they predate Kleinheyer’s time as group commander. The Military Religious Freedom Foundation, a New Mexico-based nonprofit advocating on behalf of current and former airmen who object to the memorabilia, is calling for Kleinheyer’s removal, for the artwork to be taken down and for a formal investigation.

[A young WWII soldier’s remains could be those of Spike Lee’s lost cousin](#) [Michael E. Ruane, *The Washington Post*, 28 June 2022]

Maceo A. Walker was 20 when he was killed in the battle of the Cinquale Canal, a little remembered, four-day struggle between men of the segregated African American 92nd Division and German forces in northern Italy during World War II. It was a bloody battle, fought in the rain and mud as enemy artillery pounded the Americans crossing the waterway in 1945. Walker, a native of Baltimore and the only child of a butler and his wife, was lost in the chaos. His body was never found. Seventy five years later, Army genealogists, seeking to put names to unidentified remains of some of the dozens of men killed in the battle, could find only two living relatives of Walker’s who might provide DNA for family comparison.

One, a second cousin, was a man in New York City named Shelton Lee, who went by the nickname, Spike. The other was Lee's brother, David.

[\[REPRINT\]](#) [\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

RELIGION

[FBI enters Tacoma church amid raids at other campuses. Ex-members say “cult” targets soldiers](#) [Jared Brown, *The News Tribune (Tacoma, Wash.)*, 24 June 2022]

Federal law enforcement entered a Tacoma church Thursday that former members have characterized as a cult that has committed fraud against soldiers stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. The Savannah Morning News reported similar raids at House of Prayer Christian Church campuses near Fort Stewart and Fort Gordon in Georgia and Fort Hood in Texas on Thursday. Former and current members allege the House of Prayer drains veterans' GI Bill funds by perpetually enrolling them in seminary programs and pressures them to gain 100% disability through the VA with false information then donate their benefits, according to an August 2020 letter sent to the VA by the legal assistance nonprofit Veterans Education Success. The members also accused the House of Prayer of using their personal information and forging signatures to apply for home loans, the report from Veterans Education Success shows.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[Religious schools may face another hurdle to state tuition](#) [David Sharp, *The Associated Press*, 25 June 2022]

Religious schools got what they wanted when the Supreme Court allowed them to participate in a state tuition program. But the state attorney general said the ruling will be for naught unless the schools are willing to abide by the same antidiscrimination law as other private schools that participate in the program. The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that Maine can't exclude religious schools from a program that offers tuition for private education in towns that don't have public schools. But religious schools didn't have long to savor their victory before learning of a new hurdle. Attorney General Aaron Frey said both Christian schools involved in the lawsuit have policies that discriminate against students and staff on a basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, preventing their participation in the tuition program despite the hard-fought litigation.

SEXISM

[Male judges are more likely to hire women as clerks after working with female judges](#) [Jorgen Harris, *The Conversation*, 28 June 2022]

I am a labor economist who studies the gender wage gap and this raised an important question for me: Does working with peers from underrepresented backgrounds lead established professionals to change their attitudes or actions, including making more inclusive decisions when hiring staff? [Despite substantial gains over the past half-century](#) in the numbers of women working in law, medicine and business in the U.S., the elite ranks of these professions [remain male dominated](#), a phenomenon often referred to as the “glass ceiling.” In corporate America, [male executives outnumber women](#) 7 to 1—and CEOs, 17 to 1. In the judiciary, only about a quarter of federal appellate judges are women, even though half of law school graduates are women. Because of this lack of diversity, powerful decision-makers [may only rarely collaborate with female peers](#). This lack of interaction [may reinforce biases](#)—

both explicitly held prejudices and implicit assumptions, or ones that people may not realize that they are making.

SEXUAL ASSAULT/HARASSMENT

[Andrea Jaeger: Sexually harassed “at least 30 times” by female official](#) [Reuters, 24 June 2022]

Former teenage tennis phenom Andrea Jaeger said she was sexually harassed “at least 30 times” by a female Women’s Tennis Association staff member during the 1980s. Jaeger, now 57, also told The Independent she also was unknowingly served alcohol when she was 16 by a different staff member, who drove her home and tried to kiss her. The two-time Grand Slam finalist was on the tour from ages 14 to 19 and was ranked as high as No. 2 in the world in 1981. Despite her success, she said she made it a habit to avoid WTA officials at tournaments during her five years on tour. Jaeger said much of the harassment occurred in locker rooms. Jaeger said she complained to WTA officials after the incident and was threatened with reprisals. “I said this has got to stop. Every week I have to worry about this (expletive),” Jaeger said. “They said ‘if you say one more word about this, we’ll make sure your sister’s scholarship at Stanford gets pulled.’”

[Lawsuit: Texans “turned a blind eye” to QB Watson’s actions](#) [Juan A. Lozano, *The Associated Press*, 27 June 2022]

The Houston Texans had been told that their former quarterback Deshaun Watson was sexually assaulting and harassing women during massage sessions, but instead of trying to stop him, the team provided him with resources to enable his actions and “turned a blind eye” to his behavior, according to a lawsuit filed Monday. The lawsuit against the team was filed in Houston by one of the 24 women who had previously sued Watson over allegations of sexual misconduct when he played for the Texans. Last week, the women’s attorney, Tony Buzbee, announced 20 of the 24 lawsuits have been settled. Watson, who was later traded to the Cleveland Browns, has denied any wrongdoing and vowed to clear his name. Watson is facing discipline from the NFL over the allegations. He is set to have a hearing this week with NFL disciplinary officer Sue L. Robinson, who will decide if the 26-year-old violated the league’s personal conduct policy.

[Senators Have More Questions for the DHS Watchdog on His Handling of Reports About Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence](#) [Courtney Bubl , *Government Executive*, 28 June 2022]

The Project on Government Oversight issued a report in April that [alleged the Homeland Security inspector general office delayed and suppressed reports about sexual assault and domestic violence](#). According to an unpublished report POGO reported on, more than 10,000 employees at DHS said they have experienced sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. However, in a 17-page response in May to senators who inquired about the situation, IG Joseph Cuffari asserted: “Any suggestion that I demanded changes to the draft reports for improper purposes is false as is the suggestion that I suppressed evidence of widespread sexual harassment in DHS law enforcement components.” The May letter “provided a detailed explanation for the conclusions you reached with respect to each report,” Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and committee ranking member Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, wrote to Cuffari in a [new letter on Monday](#). However, it “has not resolved the significant concerns that we expressed in our [April 26 letter](#).”

SUICIDE

[Congress Can't Legislate an End to Veteran Suicide](#) [Cole Lyle and Matthew Shuman, *Military.com*, 27 June 2022] [OPINION]

Not long into the Global War on Terror, veteran and active-duty suicide accounted for more deaths than the battlefield. Data from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) suggests that 17 veterans a day take their own lives, or 6,205 per year. Due to the unreliability of collected data and skewed analysis, it is possible that the number is much higher. Regardless, one is too many. Since 2001, Congress has appropriated almost \$200 billion for traditional approaches to mental health. But a few years ago, lawmakers began to recognize that veteran suicide can't be stopped by relying solely on psychology and pharmacology, the key areas that have received funding to stem the epidemic. Since 2001, VA's budget has grown by \$253 billion, but 114,000 veterans have died by suicide. That's enough people to fill Yankee Stadium, twice.

[Congress Eyes Extra Pay to Counter Wave of Suicides in Alaska and on Ships in the Yard](#) [Rebecca Kheel and Konstantin Toropin, *Military.com*, 28 June 2022]

Soldiers in the frigid arctic and sailors aboard ships undergoing major construction could get extra pay as lawmakers look to respond through must-pass legislation to strings of suicides among service members in Alaska and on the USS George Washington. Included in the version of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, advanced last week by the House Armed Services Committee are provisions to provide new \$200 monthly stipends to sailors on ships undergoing nuclear refueling and complex overhauls and \$300 monthly stipends to service members "assigned to perform cold weather operations." The stipends are among several measures in the bill "confronting the epidemic of deaths by suicide of servicemembers in Alaska, on the USS George Washington, and across the military," Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., the chair of the House Armed Services Committee's personnel subpanel, said in a statement last week.

[U.S. military hasn't implemented measure to help service members seek mental health care](#) [Melissa Chan, *NBC News*, 29 June 2022]

The U.S. military has not yet put a six-month-old federal law designed to improve how service members get mental health care into effect, despite a recent rash of suicides in the Navy. The Brandon Act, which allows members of the military to confidentially seek mental health help, was signed into law by President Joe Biden in December under the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act. Unlike in the civilian world, where people can seek mental health care without their employers' knowledge, sailors have to inform their superiors and wait for the next available appointments with military medical providers, a process which can take several weeks, according to several military law attorneys and veterans. Named after Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Caserta, 21, who died by suicide in 2018, the Brandon Act not only expedites mental health evaluations, but also provides a confidential channel for service members to self-report mental health issues.