THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

## On This Date

1671 – Thomas Blood attempted to steal the crown jewels from the Tower of London. He would later be condemned to death but was mysteriously pardoned by King Charles II.

1865 – A U.S. patent was issued to Richard Gatling for his ten-barreled machine gun. He thought if a rapid-firing gun could enable one man to do what previously required many, then armies could be smaller, saving men from exposure to battle and disease.

1960 – The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a pill for birth control use. "The Pill" was a catalyst for the sexual revolution..

## **Daily Trivia**

The "lead" in pencils, which is actually graphite, has something in common with diamonds—both are crystalline forms of pure carbon. Graphite under extreme pressure and temperature is converted into the shiny rocks we call diamonds.

## **Quote of the Day**

"Humans are vulnerable and rely on the kindnesses of the earth and the sun; we exist together in a sacred field of meaning."

~ Joy Harjo

## Happy Birthday!

Joy Harjo, born in 1951, is a celebrated Native American poet, musician, and author of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In 2019,



she made history as the first Native American U.S. Poet Laureate. Harjo's poetry, characterized by a rich blend of

Native American spirituality and contemporary themes, has garnered critical acclaim. Her notable works include *The Woman Who Fell from the Sky* and *An American Sunrise: Poems.* Harjo is also a talented saxophonist and a passionate advocate for Native American rights and environmental issues.