

Royal family 'delighted with the news of the birth'

Meghan and Harry welcome second child, Lilibet 'Lili' Diana

People

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., June 7, (AP) — Prince Harry and Meghan may have stepped away from their royal duties — but family appeared to be top of mind in naming their second child, Lilibet "Lili" Diana Mountbatten-Windsor, who was born Friday in California.

The name pays tribute to both Harry's grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, whose family nickname is Lilibet, and his late mother, Princess Diana. "Thank you for your continued kindness and support during this very special time for our family," Harry and Meghan, also known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, wrote in a statement that accompanied the birth announcement Sunday.

The baby is "more than we could have ever imagined, and we remain grateful for the love and prayers we've felt from across the globe," they continued. The baby girl was born at 11:40 am at the Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, California, and weighed in at 7 lbs, 11 oz, a spokesperson for the couple said. The child is eighth in line to the British throne.

A Buckingham Palace spokesperson said the queen; Harry's father, Prince Charles; his brother, Prince William; and other members of the family had been informed and are "delighted with the news of the birth of a daughter for The Duke and Duchess of Sussex."

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson also congratulated the couple in a tweet. Harry and Meghan Markle — formerly an actor — married at Windsor Castle in May 2018 and welcomed their son, Archie Harrison

Mountbatten-Windsor, a year later.

No photos of the newborn or the Sussexes accompanied the announcement. The couple has said that in lieu of gifts, they request those interested learn about or support nonprofit organizations working for women and girls, including Girls Inc., Harvest Home, CAMFED or Myna Mahila Foundation.

The birth of the healthy baby girl opens a happy chapter for the couple following a miscarriage in July 2020. Meghan gave a personal account of that traumatic experience in hope of helping others.

Months before the miscarriage, the couple announced they were quitting royal duties and moving to North America, citing what they said were the unbearable intrusions and racist attitudes of the British media. They live in Montecito, an upscale area near Santa Barbara, California.

Duties

In the wake of quitting royal duties, they gave an explosive TV interview to Oprah Winfrey in March, in which the couple described painful comments about how dark Archie's skin might be before his birth and Meghan talked about the intense isolation she felt inside the royal family that led her to contemplate suicide.

Buckingham Palace said the allegations of racism made by the couple were "concerning" and would be addressed privately.

Winfrey and Harry recently collaborated on the Apple TV+ mental-

health series "The Me You Can't See."

In the interview with Oprah, Meghan also talked about the fact that her son was not given the title of prince. Harry said the royal family cut him off financially after he announced plans to step back from his roles — and that he was able to afford security for his family because of the money his mother left behind.

Also:

LONDON: The dress Princess Diana wore at her 1981 wedding to Prince Charles went on public display Thursday at the late princess's former home in London.

The taffeta-ruffled white dress designed by David and Elizabeth Emanuel, with its 25 foot (8 meter) sequin-encrusted train, helped seal the fairytale image of the wedding of Lady Diana Spencer and the heir to the British throne.

Reality soon intruded. The couple separated in 1992 and divorced in 1996, with both acknowledging extramarital affairs. Diana died in a car crash in Paris in 1997 at the age of 36.

Her sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, have loaned their mother's wedding dress for the exhibition "Royal Style in the Making." The exhibit also features sketches, photographs and gowns designed for three generations of royal women, including Princess Margaret and the Queen Mother. It runs until Jan 2, 2022.

Variety



Michaela Coel poses for photographers with his Leading Actress award for her role in 'I May Destroy You' backstage at the British Academy Television Awards in London, June 6. (AP) — See Page 13

Awards

Long-delayed Tony Awards finally have a date

'I May Destroy You' wins at BAFTA

FORT MYERS, Fla: The song is called "400" for a good reason: It boasts a mind-boggling 400 singers — all growling, screaming and doing their best to break a Guinness world record.

Seven of those singers live in southwest Florida, but the sprawling death-metal track features people from across the world, including Mexico, Italy, South Africa, Canada, Bulgaria, Argentina, Russia and across the United States.

Fort Myers singer Bryan Riquelme has just four words on the 37-minute song: "The thoughts of thee." But he makes the most of them, screaming in a death-metal style he calls a "tunnel low."

Several of his Southwest Florida friends are on the song, too, including two members of the band Nitheful.

"It was a dope idea," says Riquelme, frontman for Bradenton deathcore band Grasping at the Shadow. "I was just like, I'm down if everybody else is down!"

Everybody else was down, it turns out. The finished song, "400," was released last month on iTunes, YouTube, Bandcamp and other music sites.

Now they're just waiting to hear back from Guinness World Records to confirm they broke the world record. A Guinness spokeswoman says their review process can take three or four months.

Cape Coral singer Paul Lyons says he's thrilled just to be part of the project, no matter what happens.

"Even if Guinness doesn't make it official, it's still a cool thing," says Lyons, who sings with local punk/metal band Kindly Shut Up and grindcore act Swamp Gas.

That idea started with singer Fred Nylist of Canadian metal band Beyond Deviation. Nylist originally thought about collaborating with only 15 or 20 people, but then he and a friend broadened the scope: They wanted to beat the record-holder for the most vocal solos on one song. (AP)

BRIDGEPORT, Conn: A Connecticut man has pleaded guilty to setting fire to a renown Shake-

LONDON, June 7, (AP): "I May Destroy You" won two main prizes at the 2021 British Academy Television Awards, in a ceremony that rewarded TV that tackled tough issues including sexual consent and racism.

The drama about a woman dealing with the aftermath of a sexual assault was named best miniseries, while creator and star Michaela Coel won the best actress prize.

Coel dedicated the award to the show's director of intimacy, Ita O'Brien, "for making the space safe for creating physical, emotional, and professional boundaries so that we can make work about exploitation, loss of respect, about abuse of power, without being exploited or abused in the process."

Paul Mescal was named best actor for Irish love story "Normal People" at a live ceremony on Sunday with a limited, socially distanced audience.

The best supporting actress trophy went to Rakie Ayola for "Anthony," a drama based on the death of a Black British teenager in a racist attack in 2005. Malachi Kirby was named best supporting actor for "Small Axe," director Steve McQueen's series about Britain's West Indian community from the 1960s to the 1980s.

"Sitting in Limbo," inspired by the true story of long-time British residents from the Caribbean threatened with deportation by the government, was named best single drama. Thriller "Save Me Too" took the BAFTA for best drama series.

A tribute to the Black Lives Matter movement by dance troupe Diversity on "Britain's Got Talent" was named must-see moment of the year, chosen by the public. The routine — which included a man in police uniform kneeling on another dancer — drew both praise and thousands of complaints to the broadcasting regulator.

Troupe member Ashley Banjo thanked supporters, and said people who complained about the routine "showed the truth."

"You showed exactly why this performance, this moment, was necessary," he said.



The long-delayed Tony Awards have been given a fall air date and a four-hour streaming canvas to celebrate the pandemic-shortened Broadway season that upended the theater world.

Producers of the telecast announced Wednesday that the Tonys will be held Sept 26 and will air on CBS as well as Paramount+. As if making up for lost time, the usual three-hour event has added a fourth hour.

This year, the award show will start at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT on Paramount+ exclusively, then two hours later continue on CBS with a live concert event "featuring superstar Broadway entertainers and Tony Award winners re-uniting on stage to perform beloved classics and celebrate the joy and magic of live theater." Capping the evening will be the awarding of the three top awards: best play, best play revival and best musical.

Talent

"There is nothing that compares to the magic of live theater — and we are thrilled to be able to share its celebratory return and the incredible talent and artistry of the abbreviated 2019-2020 season with theater fans everywhere," said a statement from said Charlotte St Martin, president of The Broadway League, and Heather Hitchens, president and CEO of the American Theatre Wing.

There was no word on whether there would be a host.

The news was met with excitement from theater fans but with grumbles that the bulk of the awards — the acting, directing and technical ones — would only be accessible to Paramount+ customers. The plan is similar to that employed by the Grammys — the bulk of those awards are streamed in a pre-show event — although that is accessible for free.

spearean theater and several other structures in four towns.

Christopher Sakowicz, 20, of Stratford, faces 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to arson charges Friday in Bridgeport Superior Court, the Connecticut Post reported. Sentencing was set for Sept 10.

Sakowicz admitted taking



Plummer



Jones

part in setting the blaze on Jan 13, 2019, that destroyed the American Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford, whose stage was graced by the likes of Katharine Hepburn, Christopher Plummer and James Earl Jones. He was a teenager at the time.

The theater, built in 1955,

was modeled after London's Globe Theatre, which famously burned in 1613. Playwright Lawrence Langner came up with the idea for the Connecticut theater in 1950 as a way to capitalize on the region's connection to Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon in England. It last hosted

a play in 1989.

Two other teens were charged in connection with the theater fire and other blazes. Police said the teens admitted on Snapchat that they set the theater fire and posted an incriminating video that was circulated around their school, Bunnell High School. (AP)

Features

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