



## Out West, Biden points to wildfires to push for big spending

**BOISE, Idaho (AP)** — President Joe Biden on Monday pointed to wildfires burning through the West to argue for his \$3.5 trillion spending plan, calling year-round fires and other extreme weather a climate change reality the nation can no longer ignore.

Biden spoke during a briefing in Boise, Idaho, while visiting the National Interagency Fire Center, which coordinates the government's response to wildfires. Millions of acres of land in several Western states have burned already this year, he noted.

"The reality is we have a global warming problem, a serious global warming problem, and it's consequential and what's going to happen is, things are not going to go back," Biden

said.

In his two-day trip, which includes a stop in Colorado on Tuesday, Biden is looking to connect the dots for Americans between the increasing frequency of wildfires in the West — and other extreme weather events around the country — and a need to invest billions in combating climate change as well as in a vast expansion of the social safety net.

The president argued for spending today to lessen the future effects of climate change, as he did during recent stops in Louisiana, New York and New Jersey — all states that suffered millions of dollars in flood damage and scores of deaths following Hurricane Ida.

Continued on next page



President Joe Biden speaks during a visit to the National Interagency Fire Center, Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, in Boise, Idaho.

Associated Press

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#### Continued from Front

In Idaho, Biden claimed that every dollar invested in "resilience" will save \$6 down the road.

He discussed the administration's use in early August of a wartime law to boost supplies of firehoses from the U.S. Forest Service's primary supplier.

"My message to you is, when we build back, we have to build back better," Biden said. "It's not a Democrat thing. It's not a Republican thing. It's a weather thing. It's a reality. It's serious and we can do this."

The administration's use of the Defense Production Act helped an Oklahoma City nonprofit called NewView Oklahoma, which provides the bulk of the U.S. Forest Service's hoses, obtain needed supplies to produce and ship 415 miles of firehoses.

Biden is on his first trip to the west in office. He flew first to Boise, and afterward planned to stop in Sacramento, California, to survey wildfire damage and deliver remarks about the federal response.

He'll close the day in Long Beach for an election-eve event with California Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, who faces a recall vote on Tuesday.

Biden's Western visit is aimed primarily at drumming up support for his massive \$3.5 trillion spending plan by linking it to beating back wildfires and upgrading social programs.

In deep-red Idaho, several opposing groups were leveraging Biden's trip as a way to show resistance to



**Michelle Ballon, of Caldwell, Idaho, holds up a sign and joins protesters outside the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, as they gather for President Joe Biden's arrival on Monday, Sept. 13, 2021.**

**Associated Press**

his administration. GOP gubernatorial candidates, an anti-vaccine organization and a far-right group were among those urging people to turn out against the president.

More than 1,000 protesters gathered in Boise on Monday before Biden's arrival to express displeasure with his coronavirus plan, the election and other issues. Chris Burns, a 62-year-old from Boise, said, "I'm against everything Biden is for." Burns was especially displeased with a sweep-

ing new vaccine mandate for 100 million people that Biden announced last week.

"He's acting like a dictator," Burns said.

Biden's eleventh-hour election pitch in California comes the day before voters head to the polls to decide whether to recall Newsom and then replace him with Republican talk-show host Larry Elder, who's seen as the leading GOP alternative, or with any of the dozens of other candidates on the ballot.

The White House is trying to turn the corner after a difficult month consumed by a chaotic and violent withdrawal from Afghanistan and the surging delta COVID-19 variant that have upended what the president had hoped would mark a summer in which the nation was finally freed from the coronavirus.

Over the weekend, Biden acknowledged that his polling numbers have dipped in recent weeks, but argued his agenda is "overwhelmingly popular" with Americans. He said he expects his Republican opponents to attack him instead of debating him on the merits of his spending plan.

In addition to Republican opposition in Congress, Biden needs to overcome the skepticism of two key

centrist Democrats in the closely divided Senate. Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona have expressed concerns about the size of the \$3.5 trillion spending package.

The climate provisions in Biden's plans include tax incentives for clean energy and electric vehicles, investments to transition the economy away from fossil fuels and toward renewable sources such as wind and solar power, and creation of a civilian climate corps.

The president is scheduled to visit Denver on Tuesday to continue to plug his economic agenda.

The stop in Idaho, a state he lost by more than 30 percentage points last year, will offer Biden a deep-red backdrop to argue that making investments to combat the climate crisis should be a priority across party lines. Idaho and California have seen wildfire season turn into a year-round scourge.

The Biden administration in June laid out a strategy to deal with the growing wildfire threat, which included hiring more federal firefighters and implementing new technologies to detect and address fires quickly. Last month, the president approved a disaster declaration for California, providing federal aid for the counties affected by the Dixie and River fires. Just ahead of Monday's visit he issued another disaster declaration for the state, this time aimed at areas affected by the Caldor Fire. Biden traveled recently to New York, New Jersey and Louisiana to survey damage caused by Hurricane Ida. He declared it a "code red" moment for the nation to act on climate during a visit to a New York City neighborhood impacted by Ida. □





# U.S. steps up effort to unite families separated under Trump

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Biden administration is expanding its effort to find and reunite migrant families who were separated at the U.S.-Mexico border under President Donald Trump as part of a zero-tolerance policy on illegal crossings. A federal task force is launching a new program Monday that officials say will expand efforts to find parents, many of whom are in remote Central American communities, and help them return to the United States, where they will get at least three years of legal residency and other assistance.

"We recognize that we can't make these families completely whole again," said Michelle Brané, executive director of the administration's Family Reunification Task Force. "But we want to do everything we can to put them on a path towards a better life."

The new program, which includes a contract with the International Organization for Migration to help with the often-complex task of getting expelled migrants back to the U.S., is a reflection of just how difficult it has been for President Joe



In this June 21, 2018 file photo, a protester holds a sign outside a closed gate at the Port of Entry facility in Fabens, Texas, where tent shelters were being used to house separated family members. Associated Press

Biden's administration to address a chapter in U.S. immigration history that drew widespread condemnation.

The task force has reunited about 50 families since starting its work in late February, but there are hundreds of parents, and perhaps between 1,000 and 2,000, who were separated from their children and

have not been located. A lack of accurate records from the Trump administration makes it difficult to say for certain, Brané said.

"It is it a huge challenge that we are absolutely committed to following through to meet and to do whatever we can to reunify these families," she said as she outlined the new program in an interview with

The Associated Press.

The Trump administration separated thousands of migrant parents from their children in 2017 and 2018 as it moved to criminally prosecute people for illegally crossing the southwest border. Minors, who could not be held in criminal custody with their parents, were transferred to the Department of Health

and Human Services. They were then typically sent to live with a sponsor, often a relative or someone else with a connection to the family.

Amid widespread outrage, Trump issued an executive order halting the practice of family separations in June 2018, days before a federal judge did the same and demanded that separated families be reunited in response to a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union.

More than 5,500 children were separated from their families, according to the ACLU. The task force came up with an initial estimate closer to 4,000 but has been examining hundreds of other cases.

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas held a virtual call with reunited families last month. "He made it very clear that an apology is not enough, that we really need to do a lot more for them and we recognize that," Brané said.

The new program includes a web portal that will allow parents to contact the U.S. government to begin the process of reunification. □

# NTSB chief: focus on road safety must shift to entire system

By TOM KRISHER

**DETROIT (AP)** — The new chairman of the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board wants governments and businesses to change the way they look at highway safety, considering the whole system rather than individual driver behavior. Jennifer Homendy, nominated by President Joe Biden earlier this year, said such an approach works in aviation, where there were no U.S. fatalities last year. On the roads, there were 38,680 deaths nationwide, the greatest number since 2007. More than 8,700 motor vehicle deaths were reported in the first three months of 2021, up 10.5% from a year earlier. At the same time, vehicle miles traveled declined.

"The current approach, which favors automobiles

and punishes only drivers for crashes, is clearly not working," she said Monday in remarks prepared for a speech to the Governors Highway Safety Association conference in Denver. "If we are going to get to zero, we will have to do something different."

Homendy used speeding as an example of the "Safe System Approach" to road safety. Rather than focusing solely on drivers, she questioned whether the whole system failed. She asked whether road designs encourage high speeds, or whether "ill-conceived" federal guidance has led to increasing speed limits in states. She also asked about states that take away the ability of local authorities to set lower speed limits and "manufacturers who design vehicles

that can exceed 100 miles per hour or that have no speed limiters."

Speeding-related crashes rose 11% last year, she said, with troopers in her home state of Virginia posting images on social media of tickets to speeding drivers, one for going 115 mph in an area with a 55 mph speed limit.

She told the group of state and territorial highway safety officials that speed limits and laws against impaired driving still have to be enforced. But she said enforcement alone can't make the roads safer.

Homendy called on road designers, public health officials, governors, vehicle makers, transportation providers and communities to share a new vision. "The carnage on our roads has to stop. You know it, and I



In this Oct. 3, 2019 file photo, Jennifer Homendy of the National Transportation Safety Board speaks during a news conference in Windsor Locks, Conn. Associated Press

know it," she said.

The NTSB investigates road crashes and other transportation incidents, but it has no regulatory authority. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

regulates vehicles, while the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulates trucking companies. The Federal Highway Administration is responsible for roadways. □



# Barrett concerned about public perception of Supreme Court

By PIPER HUDSPETH BLACKBURN

Associated Press

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)** — Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett expressed concerns Sunday that the public may increasingly see the court as a partisan institution.

Justices must be "hyper vigilant to make sure they're not letting personal biases creep into their decisions, since judges are people, too," Barrett said at a lecture hosted by the University of Louisville's McConnell Center.

Introduced by Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, who founded the center and played a key role in pushing through her confirmation in the last days of the Trump administration, Barrett spoke at length about her desire for others to see the Supreme Court as nonpartisan.

Barrett said the media's reporting of opinions doesn't capture the deliberative process in reaching those decisions. And she insisted that "judicial philosophies are not the same as political parties."

"To say the court's reasoning is flawed is different from saying the court is acting in a partisan manner," said



U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett speaks to an audience at the 30th anniversary of the University of Louisville McConnell Center in Louisville, Ky., Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021. Associated Press

Barrett, whose confirmation to the seat left open by the death of the liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg cemented conservative control of the court. "I think we need to evaluate what the court is doing on its own terms."

Barrett's comments followed a high-profile decision earlier this month in which the court by 5-4 vote declined to step in to stop a Texas law banning most abortions from going into

effect, prompting outrage from abortion rights groups and President Joe Biden.

Barrett was asked about that decision by students who submitted questions in advance and also asked about another recent decision by the court in which it refused to block a lower court ruling ordering the Biden administration to reinstate a Trump-era program informally known as Remain in Mexico. Barrett said it would be "inappro-

priate" to comment on specific cases.

Several supporters of abortion rights demonstrated outside the Seelbach Hotel, where the private event was held.

Barrett, 49, also spoke about her introduction to the court in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, saying it "certainly is a different experience." The court has for more than a year been hearing arguments by telephone though it re-

cently announced a return to the courtroom in October.

Barrett described the court as a "warm, collegial place." She said that after she was confirmed a colleague brought Halloween candy for her children. The first mother of school-age children on the nine-member court also spoke about balancing her job and family life.

"I have an important job, but I certainly am no more important than anyone else in the grocery store checkout line," Barrett said, describing how her relationship with her children — who are not "particularly impressed" with her high-profile post — helps her stay grounded in her "regular life" where she is busy "running carpools, throwing birthday parties, being ordered around."

When asked what advice she would give to young women who would like to pursue a career in public service, the justice said she would like young women to know it is possible to raise a family and be successful. Barrett was confirmed by the Senate in a 52-48 vote last year, a little over a month after Ginsburg's death. □

## U.S. will give aircraft companies \$482 million for pandemic



In this April 23, 2021 file photo, A U.S. Air Force KC-46A Pegasus jet takes off in view of a line of Boeing 777X jets parked nose to tail on an unused runway at Paine Field, near Boeing's massive production facility in Everett, Wash.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press

The Biden administration is making \$482 million available to aviation industry manufacturers to help

them avert job or pay cuts in the pandemic.

The taxpayer-funded relief will cover up to half of the payroll costs at 313

companies, according to the Transportation Department, which said Thursday will help save up to 22,500 jobs.

Air travel plummeted due to the spread of COVID-19. The delta variant has led to elevated cancellations and diminished travel in recent months. More than 100,000 aerospace jobs have been lost in an industry that had employed about 2.2 million people, according to the Transportation Department.

The largest recipient the fund funds announced Monday is Spirit Aerosystems, a Boeing supplier based in Kansas, which stands to get \$75.5 million that the government says will help protect 3,214 jobs. Parker-Hannifin Corp. of

Ohio, which makes hydraulic systems for planes, will get \$39.7 million. The avionics unit of Japan's Panasonic, based in California, will get \$25.8 million, and several U.S. subsidiaries of France's Safran S.A. will get a total of \$24.8 million.

Money for the aerospace companies is coming from a \$1.9 trillion package approved by Congress and signed by President Joe Biden in March.

The relief is similar to a much larger aid program for U.S. airlines, which have received \$54 billion in the past year and a half. The airlines also agreed not to furlough any workers, but they eliminated tens of thousands of jobs anyway by offering incentives for employees to quit or retire

early.

Critics labeled the airline aid a bailout that amounted to several hundred thousand dollars for each job that was spared — 75,000 jobs, by some estimates. Defenders such as American Airlines CEO Doug Parker say that without the government's help, airlines would have been forced to shut down when traffic fell to levels not seen since the 1950s.

The Federal Aviation Administration, part of the Transportation Department, recently awarded \$100 million to aerospace companies including Boeing, General Electric's aviation division and jet engine maker Pratt & Whitney to make planes less polluting and quieter. □



# North Korea says it tested new long-range cruise missiles

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— North Korea said Monday that it successfully tested newly developed long-range cruise missiles over the weekend, the first known testing activity in months, underscoring how the country continues to expand its military capabilities amid a stalemate in nuclear negotiations with the United States.

The state-run Korean Central News Agency reported that the missiles showed they can hit targets 1,500 kilometers (930 miles) away on Saturday and Sunday. State media published photos of a projectile being fired from a launcher truck and what looked like a missile traveling in the air.

The North hailed its new missiles as a "strategic weapon of great significance" — wording that implies they were developed with the intent to arm them with nuclear warheads.

North Korea says it needs nuclear weapons in order to deter what it claims is hostility from the U.S. and South Korea — and has long attempted to use the threat of such an arsenal to extract much-needed economic aid or otherwise apply pressure. The North and ally China faced off against South Korea and U.S.-led U.N. forces in the 1950-53 Korean War, a conflict that ended in an armistice that has yet to be replaced with a peace treaty.

The international community is bent on getting the North to abandon its nuclear arsenal and has long used a combination of the threat of sanctions and the promise of economic help to try to influence the North. But U.S.-led negotiations on the nuclear issue have been stalled since the collapse of a summit between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and then-U.S. President Donald Trump in 2019. At that time, the Americans rejected Kim's demand for major sanctions relief in exchange for dismantling an aging nuclear complex.

North Korea ended a year-long pause in ballistic tests in March by firing two short-



This combination of photos provided by the North Korean government on Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, shows long-range cruise missiles tests held on Sept. 11 -12, 2021 in an undisclosed location of North Korea.

Associated Press

range missiles into the sea, continuing a tradition of testing new U.S. administrations to measure Washington's response. Kim's government has so far rejected the Biden administration's overtures for dialogue, demanding that Washington abandon its "hostile" policies first — a reference to the U.S. maintaining sanctions and a military alliance with South Korea.

The United States keeps about 28,000 troops in South Korea to help deter potential aggression from North Korea, a legacy of the Korean War.

There hadn't been any known test launches for months since March, as Kim focused his efforts on fending off the coronavirus and salvaging an economy damaged by sanctions, bad flooding in recent summers, and border closures amid the coronavirus pandemic. Experts have warned that the economic situation is dire, although monitoring groups have yet to detect signs of mass starvation or major instability.

The report of the tests comes before U.S. President Joe Biden's special representative for North Korea, Sung Kim, was to meet his South Korean and Japanese counterparts in Tokyo on Tuesday to discuss the stalled nuclear diplomacy with North Korea.

South Korea's military is analyzing the North Korean launches based on U.S. and South Korean intelligence, the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement. South Korean Foreign Minister Chung Eui-yong said after a meeting with Australia's foreign and defense ministers that the resumption of testing activity illustrates an urgent need for reviving diplomacy with the North.

The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said it was monitoring the situation with allies and that the North Korean activity reflects a continuing focus on "developing its military program and the threats that poses to its neighbors and the international community." Japan said it was "extremely concerned."

While the cruise missiles were clearly aimed at sending a message to Washington, the tests may indicate that the North is struggling with more provocative weapons systems and might not garner much of a response, said Du Hyeogn Cha, an analyst

at Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

China, the North's staunchest ally, didn't comment on the missiles when asked. A spokesperson for its Foreign Ministry, Zhao Lijian, only urged "all parties concerned to exercise restraint, move in the same direction, actively engage in dialogue and contact" to reach a political settlement.

Kim doubled down on his pledge to bolster his nuclear deterrent in the face of U.S. sanctions and pressure at a congress of the ruling Workers' Party in January. He issued a long wish list of new sophisticated equipment, including longer-range intercontinental ballistic missiles, nuclear-powered submarines, spy satellites and tactical nuclear weapons.

KCNA said the missiles tested over the weekend traveled for 126 minutes above North Korean territory before hitting their targets.

"In all, the efficiency and practicality of the weapon system operation was con-

firmed to be excellent," it said.

It appeared that Kim wasn't in attendance to observe the tests. KCNA said Kim's top military official, Pak Jong Chon, observed the test firings and called for the country's defense scientists to go "all out to increase" the North's military capabilities. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato said North Korean missiles of such range would pose a "serious threat to the peace and safety of Japan and its surrounding areas."

He said Tokyo was working with Washington and Seoul to gather information on North Korea's latest tests but said there was no immediate indication that the weapons reached inside Japan's exclusive economic zone.

Kim's powerful sister last month hinted that North Korea was ready to resume weapons testing while issuing a statement berating the United States and South Korea for continuing their joint military exercises, which she said was the "most vivid expression of U.S. hostile policy."

The allies say their drills are defensive in nature, but they have canceled or downsized them in recent years to create space for diplomacy or in response to COVID-19.

The latest tests came after Kim threw an unusual parade last week that was a marked departure from past militaristic displays, showcasing anti-virus workers in hazmat suits and civil defense organizations involved in industrial work and rebuilding communities destroyed by floods.

Experts said the parade was focused on domestic unity as Kim faces perhaps his toughest test, with his economy in tatters. □



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# Libya arrests 2 suspected traffickers, returns 53 to Egypt

By **SAMY MAGDY**  
**Associated Press**

Libyan authorities arrested two suspected human traffickers and facilitated the return of more than 50 Egyptian migrants to their home country, officials said.

Fifty-three Egyptians landed in Cairo's international airport on a private flight late Sunday after authorities in Libya's capital of Tripoli arrested them for attempting to travel by boat to Europe in recent weeks, Egypt's Foreign Ministry said.

The arrests and return of the would-be migrants came amid a spike in dangerous crossings and attempted crossings from the North African nation to Europe over the Mediterranean Sea.

Libya's chief prosecutor's office said Sunday a suspected trafficker, known on social media platforms as Haj Hakeem, was arrested on accusations he detained and tortured Egyptian migrants for ransom. The office said in a statement the suspect also faces accusations of human traf-



**Migrants wave for help as they wait for the Italian coast guard to rescue them, on international waters in the Mediterranean Sea, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021.**

**Associated Press**

ficking and coordinating recent migrant sea crossings. Prosecutors ordered him to remain in custody and issued arrest warrants for others who were not named in the statement. Attached to the statement were graphic photos showing what the prosecutors

said are Egyptian migrants half naked with their hands bound behind their backs. At least three masked people appear to be beating and torturing them. Another suspected human trafficker, a Somali national named Hassan Qeidi, was arrested over the weekend,

the prosecutor's office said in a separate statement. It said Qeidi faces accusations including leading a human trafficking network in and outside Libya. He was also accused of killing dozens of migrants, sexual misconduct against female migrants and mistreating

migrants for ransom from their families.

It was not immediately possible to reach family members or lawyers for the two suspects.

Libya has for years been a hub for African and Middle Eastern migrants fleeing war and poverty in their homelands and hoping for a better life in Europe. The oil-rich country plunged into chaos following a NATO-backed uprising that toppled and killed longtime autocrat Moammar Gadhafi in 2011.

Traffickers have exploited the chaos and often pack desperate families into ill-equipped rubber or wooden boats that stall and founder along the perilous Central Mediterranean route. Thousands have drowned along the way. Traffickers have been implicated in widespread abuses of migrants, including torture and abduction for ransom.

There has been a spike in crossings and attempted crossings, mostly from Libya but also from Tunisia in recent months. □

# Indonesia arrests key leader in al-Qaida linked group



**In this March 16, 2007 file photo, militant cleric Abu Rusdan sits in his family home during an interview with The Associated Press in Kudus, Central Java, Indonesia.**

**Associated Press**

By **NINIEK KARMINI**  
**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)** — Indonesia's elite counterterrorism squad has arrested a convicted militant and suspected leader of an al-Qaida-linked group that has been blamed for a string of past bombings in the country, Indonesia police said Monday. Abu Rusdan was seized late

Friday in Bekasi near the capital of Jakarta, along with three other suspected members of Jemaah Islamiyah, police spokesman Ahmad Ramadhan said. "He is currently known to be active among the unlawful Jemaah Islamiyah network's leadership," Ramadhan told the Associated Press.

Indonesian authorities consider Rusdan to be a key figure in the Jemaah Islamiyah, which the U.S. has designated a terrorist group. The shadowy Southeast Asian network is widely blamed for attacks in the Philippines and Indonesia — including the 2002 bombings in the Indonesian resort island of Bali that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists.

Ramadhan described the arrests as part of a broader nationwide crackdown on the group. Police are still searching for other suspected members, followed tips that the group was recruiting and training new members in Indonesia. Born in Central Java, Rusdan, 61, was sentenced to jail in 2003 for sheltering Ali Ghufuron, a militant who was later convicted and executed for carrying out the Bali bombings. After his release from prison

in 2006, Rusdan traveled Indonesia giving speeches and fiery sermons that received tens of thousands of views on YouTube. In one recorded sermon, he praised as the "land of jihad" Afghanistan — the country where he had previously trained with other militant groups. Indonesia's police counterterrorism unit, known as Densus 88, has swept up 53 alleged members of the Jemaah in the past weeks, across 11 different provinces.

An Indonesian court banned the group in 2008 and a sustained crackdown by the country's security forces with support from the U.S. and Australia has helped to weaken the militant network. A spokesman for Indonesia's National Intelligence Agency, Wawan Hari Purwanto, said in a video statement early this month

that following the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan, officials have stepped up their efforts at early detection and prevention "particularly toward terrorist groups that have links to the Taliban's ideology and networks."

Indonesia's counterterrorism crackdown has been ongoing for months already.

In the past year, Indonesian officials say counterterrorism forces have captured dozens of militants and suspected members of the Jemaah, including its alleged military leader, Zulkarnaen, who had been wanted for more than 18 years.

Militant attacks on foreigners in Indonesia have been largely replaced in recent years by smaller, less deadly strikes targeting the government, mainly police and security forces, inspired by Islamic State group tactics abroad. □



# Burkina Faso humanitarian response risks lives, agency says

By SAM MEDNICK

**OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (AP)** — Burkina Faso's slow and insufficient humanitarian response to the country's escalating attacks is forcing people to choose between violence or hunger, the Norwegian Refugee Council warned on Monday.

Surging violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State in the war-weakened West African nation has forced more than 275,000 people from their homes since April — double those displaced in the previous seven months, according to government statistics. Yet a lack of government capacity and a critical gap in funding is preventing aid groups from responding in time and putting civilians at greater risk, said the agency.

"It's unacceptable to see that families who have endured horrific violence and hunger are now being left behind because of the failure of humanitarian organizations and authorities to respond effectively together," Manenji Mangundu, director of the Norwegian Refugee Council in Burkina Faso told the Associated Press.

The government is struggling to register the increasing number of displaced people yet has been unwilling to let humanitarians step in, resulting in newly displaced families waiting weeks to receive food or shelter, and tempting many to return home despite the threat of attacks, he said. Jihadi violence has



Displaced children attend class in Dori town, Burkina Faso, Saturday Aug. 7, 2021.

Associated Press

wracked the once peaceful nation for five years, displacing more than 1.4 million people and forcing nearly 3 million into severe hunger. The violence shows no signs of abating. Recent months have seen some of the deadliest fighting since the conflict began. At least 160 people were killed in June during an attack in Solhan village in the Sahel region, according to residents and 341 people were killed in August, more than three times the number killed the same time last year, according to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project.

Since the start of the crisis, humanitarian groups say the government has wanted to maintain control over the response, reluctant to let aid groups help with the registration process which is slowing things down. The government has also made it harder for the media to

report on the situation, by banning journalists from visiting displacement sites.

"The government appears to be prioritizing its wish to lead the response over the well-being of its population," said Alexandra Lamarche, senior advocate for West and Central Africa for Refugees International. "The government's efforts to control the response, and restrict and censor the media, does not change the troubling fact that the country's humanitarian crisis continues to worsen," she said.

The government did not respond to requests by AP for comment. The minister of humanitarian action, Helene Marie Laurence Ilboudo Marchal, has previously said the media ban was implemented to protect the dignity of displaced people.

While the government grapples with the humani-

tarian crisis, the country's ill-equipped and under-trained army is struggling to stem attacks and say the jihadis are gaining ground. A high ranking officer told the AP during a visit to Dori town in July that fighting jihadists has been a real challenge, as they are now everywhere. The AP is not using his name because he was not authorized to speak to the media. Even though they're not winning militarily, they're winning by

economically destroying the country, he said.

The deteriorating security situation has sparked widespread unrest. Protests in July demanding the government take stronger action, prompted President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré to fire his ministers of defense and security and appoint himself minister of defense. Last month the defense ministry announced it would overhaul its counterterrorism strategy, including implementing military changes and focus on humanitarian assistance, however it did not provide details.

Meanwhile, displaced civilians say they're struggling to survive. Abderamane Tamboura fled Solhan during the attack in June, but months later said he hasn't received any support.

"We don't have food, and no aid organization or government has helped us so far," the 30-year-old father of two told the AP by phone from the northern province of Yagha. "(The) humanitarian situation is getting worse, we are starving here," he said. □

## Cuban scientists say no evidence of attacks on diplomats

By ANDREA RODRÍGUEZ

**Havana (AP)** — Cuba on Monday issued its most detailed report to date from prominent local scientists criticizing allegations that U.S. and Canadian diplomats were subject to mysterious attacks while posted on the island and developed health issues.

The report by the 20-member panel from Cuba's

Academy of Sciences questioned whether the variety of reported symptoms could even be referred to as a single syndrome and said that some of the proposed explanations violated basic laws of physics. But they acknowledged — and expressed frustration — that they have not been able to examine much of the evidence cited by U.S.

researchers.

More than two dozen U.S. and a dozen Canadian embassy workers in Havana reported falling ill in 2016 and 2017, leading U.S. officials at one point to assert they had been victims of "sonic attacks" and prompting a shutdown of most U.S. Embassy operations, which continue to this day. □

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Travellers' Choice 2020



# Bucuti & Tara and Aruba Win Travel + Leisure 2021 World's Best Awards As Top In the Caribbean and World

**EAGLE BEACH** – Travel is back and readers of the prestigious media outlet Travel + Leisure has declared Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort as one of the finest vacation experiences. Announced September 8, Bucuti & Tara is featured on the coveted list of Travel + Leisure's 2021 Top 25 Resort Hotels in the Caribbean, Bermuda, and the Bahamas.

Bucuti & Tara is the only Aruba hotel to receive this honor. Joining in the awards, Aruba itself was ranked No. 3 on The Top 25 Islands in the Caribbean, Bermuda, and the Bahamas and No. 18 on The Top 25 Islands in the World.

The annual World's Best Awards celebrate the greatest islands, hotels, airlines and more, all voted on by the readers. Participants could cast their votes earlier in the year and could vote on places they traveled to over the past three years both pre-pandemic

and during it. Travel + Leisure acknowledged the toll COVID-19 took on travel industry, thanking readers for traveling again and encouraging others to return to the world of exploring. The outlet shared, "an excellent hotel can still put a smile on your face, especially when the world feels tumultuous."

Caribbean hotel winners were heralded by voters for prioritizing privacy and favoring hotels that were either small, spacious, or secluded. Bucuti & Tara has long provided plenty of space, privacy and tranquility for guests at the adults-only resort. The pandemic created the opportunity for the resort to raise social distancing to an art form providing plenty of space amongst the romantic setting for vacationing couples. For added peace of mind, the resort's doctor-developed, high-tech, hospital-grade COVID-19 safety and wellness protocols have been heralded



for allowing guests to focus on what they want most, a memorable vacation.

"We are once again honored by and grateful for Travel + Leisure magazine and all of the voters who selected Bucuti & Tara to be a 2021 World's Best Award winner," shares Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort.

"The Caribbean's healthiest, safest vacation is found right here at Bucuti & Tara shared with our island home and Travel + Leisure winner, Aruba!"

Travel + Leisure's World's Best Awards is in the October issue, on newsstands now.

## Latest award news

The Travel + Leisure awards join a bevy of recent accolades for Bucuti & Tara. Earlier this summer Tripadvisor named the resort's Elements restaurant No. 2 Top Places for Date Night in the World. Wine Spectator, the world's leading authority on wine, also honored Elements for the third straight year its coveted Award of Excellence.

To learn more, visit [Bucuti.com](http://Bucuti.com).

## About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first Carbon-Neutral/net zero hotel in the Caribbean in August 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is one of the Top 10 Hotels for Romance in the World (third straight year), No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean (sixth straight year) and No. 3 Hotel for Service in the Caribbean. Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort is led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist,

Ewald Biemans, named by Caribbean Journal as the 2017 Caribbean Hotelier of the Year. The resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World."

Now home to the Caribbean's Safest, Healthiest Vacation Experience thanks to its physician-developed COVID-19 safety protocols and Aruba's Health & Happiness Code seal, Bucuti has 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses. It offers sunbeds and shade for every guest; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad with Skype for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, Tara Lounge and private beach dining. Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the newly renovated open-air SandBar offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily along with the Caribbean's first Healthy Hour. The resort is TAG Approved® as a LG-BTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of LEED Gold, Green Globe Platinum and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe. □

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Article by Etnia Nativa

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Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



## Yuca an Amerindian cultural heritage

Episode CXXI -121

**NOORD** - In times of Conquest there was a saying widely used in popular Cuban slang taken from the colonizers, "In the absence of bread, casa-ba." With this expression we can already have an idea of the importance of yucca in daily life.

Before continuing I want to quote the words of a famous Dominican, Geo Ripley, a good friend who is a renowned multimedia artist and cultural advocate who, referring to our guest star of this new episode, mentioning - "The Cassava is an Amerindian cultural patrimony which has perpetuated in time and space till our days, and a symbol for us, Islanders of this Caribbean Sea, this

crop which always had unified us and never had separated us."

Cassava or yuca is a root vegetable that can be grinded in to flour for the elaboration of tortillas, cut in to slices as chips, fried or in stews, while in other cultures it is even used as medicine. Cassava is used for tiredness, dehydration in people with diarrhea, sepsis, and to induce labor, yet there is no scientific evidence to support these claims.

The basic food for many world rural families of low income and of meager existence which has transcended its original area of cultivation as many of the new world crops which has been considered a valuable protein source for generations



of Amerindian communities. The Yuca forms part of the selection of roots and tubers that the Cubans commonly denominate as 'viandas.' In Aruba, our native farmers also planted and ate this root in many ways. As cassava bread or cachapas, the flour was mixed with water in to a mash and fried on a hot iron or clay plate while grounded it was used as starch for fabrics.

The Cassave plant appears to have its origins in Brazil and Paraguay and especially around the

Amazon and Orinoco river basins. This important plant has been spread by Amerindians throughout tropical areas of South, Central America and the Caribbean islands long before the arrival of the Europeans and to be considered one of the most recurrent Caribbean indigenous foods besides Corn predominated among Siboneyes, Caquetios and Taínos, who were engaged in harvesting and agricultural activities, respectively. This was and still is the first typical meal among Caribbean nations – a substitute for the basic wheat bread diet. □

To get to know more over Aruba's and its origins, its animals and culture, we highly recommend you to book your visit for our renowned cultural encounter session has been entertaining curious participants for decades. Mail us at [etnianativa03@gmail.com](mailto:etnianativa03@gmail.com) or WhatsApp 297 592 2702 to confirm your participation. Our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels.



## Tuscany Residence Aruba: Aruba's Luxury Residential Resort with unique Water Villas

**NOORD** — Within walking distance of the finest white beaches and the clear blue ocean, Tuscany Residence Aruba is founded in one of the best and most popular neighborhoods of Aruba, close to the shopping and nightlife of Palm Beach. Tuscany Residence Aruba brings luxury living to a new level and they are very unique in their offerings with the Daimari Water Villas.

Around 180 exclusive properties will be built in all different sizes and prices, suitable for everyone's wishes and among them are 18 luxury Water Villas, all with a private terrace and direct access to the pool. The Daimari Water Villas include 2 and 3 bedrooms with wardrobes, 2 and 3.5 bathrooms, are fully furnished with a fully equipped German kitchen, fully air-conditioned and with wide aluminum sliding door to the covered pool terraces. Balcony and covered terraces are offered on the 2 floors unit and a private parking in front of the unit or your own garage is all yours. 50% of these amazing houses is already sold! There are still 9 residences available, including 2 with a one car garage.

Tuscany Residences now offer a special pre-construction discount, whereby your advantage increases to 9.7%. Pre-construction prices starting at US\$ 450,775 Turn-Key!

### Dutch design

This luxury residential resort with various types of homes has many amenities such as swimming pools, restaurant, bar, offices, meeting rooms, gym, wellness and more. The combination of the beautiful Dutch modern international architecture and the Aruban palm trees creates a luxurious Aruban feeling and relaxed atmosphere in this resort. Tuscany Residence Aruba is the perfect choice for couples and families. Bas de Groot, Managing Director of Tuscany Residence Aruba adds, "We differ from traditional building, our design distinguishes itself." At 8 minutes' walk from Palm Beach, designed in a European style with high-quality materials, on property land and with buying possibilities from condos to townhouses to villas, Tuscany Residence is a dream comes true.



### We take care of it all

De Groot adds, "Our project is in continuous construction which builds confidence. He continues saying that maintenance, property management, rental program and safety are taken care of. "You can log in from abroad and manage your property for rental or view your administration." The great thing about Tuscany is that it offers everything equal to a resort but you do not need to wait for an elevator to bring you up, worry about parking space or noisy neighbors. "We have got space and different size offerings making this more a community feel rather than a packed condo building." He also emphasizes that the location is one of the best on Aruba as it is quiet and close to Palm Beach.

### Reasons to buy

Reasons to consider Aruba property ownership, at Tuscany Residence Aruba

- Excellent price-quality ratio
- Beautiful designs & Quality construction
- Residential Park with all amenities
- Property land on top-location
- Varies properties in different price range
- Onsite Maintenance Team, Property Management & Rental Program

Are you looking for a safe, quiet, residential area where you will meet a mix of local and foreign owners? Do you feel for a warm community with amenities like wellness, gym, restaurants, pools and this all within a structure where the residence takes care of your property management while you are not here? Can the highest European quality and solid working structure take away your preoccupations while you are home? Than meet us, we are here to convince you with quality!

For an impression of Daimari Water Villas have a look at the website: <https://www.tuscany-residencearuba.com/en/news>. For more information please contact Bas de Groot by phone +297-7332424 or email [bas@tuscanyresidencearuba.com](mailto:bas@tuscanyresidencearuba.com). □

### Tuscany Residence Aruba

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# How to negotiate your way to a richer life

By **LIZ WESTON** of NerdWallet

Negotiating is an important personal finance skill that can help you earn more and pay less. Whether you're discussing a job offer, dickering at a car dealership or just trying to work out a budget with your significant other, the ability to bargain effectively can have a huge impact.

You don't have to be a jerk to be persuasive. The best negotiation tactics allow both sides to win, says Kwame Christian, host of the "Negotiate Anything" podcast and director of the American Negotiation Institute. Confrontational approaches — debating, badgering or insisting on your own way — make other people defensive and less willing to come to an agreement, Christian says.

## NEGOTIATING SALARIES

Most managers expect job candidates to negotiate their salaries, but many people don't even try when they're offered a job, according to surveys by Robert Half, a human resources consulting company.

You can prepare for your negotiation by checking salary ranges from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, salary comparison sites such as Payscale or Salary.com, company review sites

such as Glassdoor, or Robert Half's salary guides.

"People make the mistake of not preparing enough, and that's one of the single best things you can do to be effective in a negotiation," Christian says.

Good negotiators also write down a strategic plan that outlines what they want and how they intend to ask for it, as well as a list of good alternatives, he says. In general, the person with more information should make the first offer because that's the "anchor" around which the discussion will revolve, Christian says. Wait for the person hiring you to name a figure so that you don't inadvertently ask way too much or too little. (If you're negotiating a raise for a job you already have, you probably have as much information as your manager and can be the first to name a dollar amount, he says.)

Settle on the salary before switching to other forms of compensation, such as a flexible work schedule, a new title, the ability to work remotely and paid time off, he recommends.

"If you start off with the creative options, they might feel like they've given you enough," Christian says.

## BUYING A CAR

In most negotiations, you'll



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for the personal finance website.

Associated Press

want to preserve a good relationship with the other person. Buying a car, however, is typically a "purely transactional" interaction so you can bargain harder, Christian says.

Research the car you want thoroughly before you go to the dealership.

Look for the invoice price on car comparison sites such as Edmunds.com and ask several dealerships to give you their best price on the car.

"Find the lowest-price com-

parison, and then use that as your starting offer," Christian recommends.

Knowing your bottom line — the maximum you want to spend on the vehicle — is particularly important because dealerships will often draw out the negotiating process to wear you down and get you to pay more, Christian notes.

"I need to know very clearly what my walk-away point is," Christian says. "And it seems so obvious, but people don't do this."

## BUDGETING WITH YOUR PARTNER

A recent survey by Fidelity Investments found that couples who communicate well are more likely to expect a comfortable lifestyle in retirement, rate their household's financial health as excellent or very good and say that money is not their greatest relationship challenge.

But communicating well about money is hard, because "money is emotional," Christian says. He recommends calming those emotions by acknowledging and validating them and then asking your partner open-ended questions to find out why they feel the way they do.

He cites the experience of starting his own business, when his wife was distressed at the amount that they were spending. Christian was raised in an affluent family and didn't worry much about money, while his wife was raised by a single mom and experienced bouts of homelessness.

"Money is survival to her," Christian says.

Rather than discounting her experience or arguing, Christian says he asked a lot of questions and acknowledged that her emotions made sense, given her past. □

# Dutch court: Uber drivers covered by taxi labor agreement

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)** — A court in Amsterdam ruled Monday that Uber drivers fall under the Dutch taxi drivers' collective labor agreement — meaning they are entitled to the same employment benefits as taxi drivers. Uber said it would appeal the ruling.

The Amsterdam civil court said in a statement that three judges ruled that the legal relationship between Uber and its drivers "conforms to all the characteristics of an employment contract."

The Dutch workers' organization that brought the case called the decision a major victory for Uber driv-

ers. "This verdict shows what we have been saying for years: Uber is an employer and the drivers are employees, so Uber has to abide by the taxi traffic collective labor agreement," Zakaria Boufangacha, vice-chair of the Federation of Dutch Unions, said in a statement. Uber, which has 4,000 drivers in Amsterdam, decried the ruling as a blow to the gig economy model.

"We are disappointed with this decision because we know that the overwhelming majority of drivers wish to remain independent," said Maurits Schönfeld, Uber's General Manager Northern Europe.

He added that drivers

"don't want to give up their freedom to choose if, when and where to work. In the interest of drivers, we will therefore appeal the court's decision, whilst also continuing to improve platform work in the Netherlands."

An Uber spokesman said that nothing would change for drivers using the app as the company appeals the ruling.

The court ordered Uber to pay the FNV 50,000 euros (\$59,000) in damages for not adhering to the collective labor agreement.

FNV said the ruling means Uber drivers are entitled to more pay and have more rights if they are ill or have



In this May 15, 2020 file photo, an Uber sign is displayed inside a car in Chicago.

Associated Press

their employment terminated.

The Dutch court decision follows a similar ruling by

Britain's High Court in February that said Uber drivers are "workers" and not self-employed. □



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Garden

1 Dole (out) pests

5 Fathered 43 Fruit

10 Church drinks

replies

12 Sports

setting

13 Makes

holy

15 Greek

vowel

16 Go bad

17 Dieter's

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18 Mail, as

payment

20 Tempo

21 Work

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22 Esthete's

concern

23 Resort

spots

25 Barking

beast

28 Pays to

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31 Jealousy's

kin

32 Wall Street

type

34 Top card

35 Architect

I.M.

36 "— had it!"

37 Seizes

40 Heart, for

one

41 Plain to

see

## DOWN

1 Spiked

clubs

2 Hams it

up

3 Lease

signer

4 Print units

5 Homer's

son

6 Pitcher's

stal

7 Succeed

8 Short play

9 Tries a

bite of

11 Letter

strokes



Yesterday's answer

14 Melds 27 Get even

19 Like for

some 29 Ready

news- for

papers print

20 Lasagna 30 Harsh

or linguine 33 Takes a

24 Opera's breather

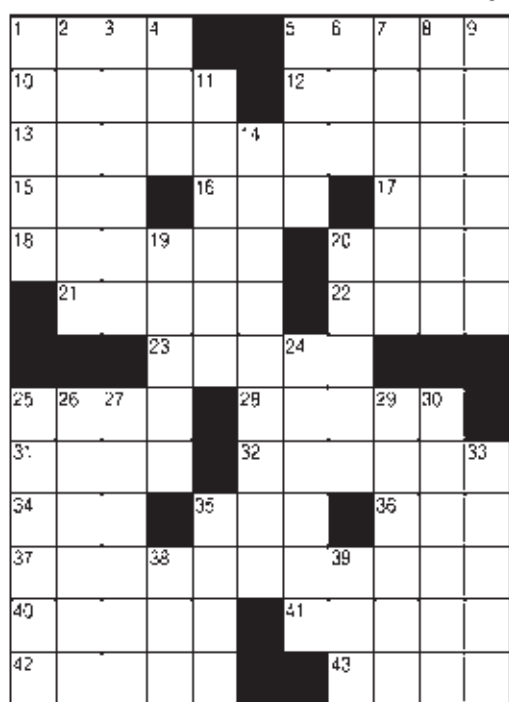
Caruso 35 Sewing

aids

26 Cry 38 Craze

from the 39 Director

audience DuVernay



9-14

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-14

CRYPTOQUOTE

Q M Q O W L W P Q I D V K Y

J K L S H N M N Q O M V N C N H R O Q K I

M V W M T N W R M B Q O

D K K C I N O O — I N K M K H O M K B

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: ONE CHILD, ONE TEACHER, ONE PEN AND ONE BOOK CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. MALALA YOUSAFZAI

## Edmunds separates fact from fiction about green cars



This photo provided by Ford Motor Co., shows the upcoming 2022 Ford F-150 Lightning, that is part of a new generation of emerging electric vehicles. Ford Motor Co.

Associated Press

By MARK TAKAHASHI  
Edmunds

With all the developments in the auto industry you may think your next car will be electric, including a new federal target that would mean half of all new vehicles sold within a decade will have zero emissions. This will be a dramatic shift for car shoppers, and perhaps an unsettling one. With the future landscape in mind, the experts at Edmunds have cut through the misinformation and examined some of the most prevalent EV myths.

### HYBRIDS AND EVS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE

Hybrid and fully electric vehicles are more expensive than comparable gasoline-engine cars to purchase initially. But there's more to the story. After your purchase, you'll pay less to keep it running. For example, consider the front-wheel-drive 2021 Honda Passport SUV and the rear-wheel-drive electric Ford Mustang Mach-E. The EPA estimates that an average American driver will pay \$2,050 a year to gas up the Passport versus just \$650 in electricity to drive the Mach-E for a year.

Some estimates say it can take as long as eight years to recover the increased cost of a battery electric vehicle compared to a gas-powered one, but that doesn't take into account available financial incentives that can significantly reduce that time. Many vehicles are eligible for tax credits, and the amounts vary depending on your location. There is addition-

al cost to have a home charging station installed, but here too incentives can come into play.

EVs also have fewer moving parts than internal combustion vehicles and are less expensive to maintain. Regular oil changes will be a thing of the past, and thanks to regenerative braking — using deceleration to generate power to recharge the battery — you won't need to replace your brake pads as often. Overall, it's a good idea to do your EV research and determine your savings before making the leap to electric.

### EV BATTERIES ARE JUST AS BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AS GASOLINE ENGINES

The answer to this one is more nuanced than a true or false answer. Current battery chemistry relies on lithium. Lithium is commonly mined out of the earth in huge pits or extracted from the earth by pumping a brine solution into a bore hole and evaporating the solution in sprawling above-ground ponds. Neither option is environmentally friendly. Additionally, lithium mining will have to expand in lockstep to meet EV demand. But future mining sites could very well im-

prove. One example is the planned mine site at California's Salton Sea, which its backers promote as one of the least disruptive lithium prospects in the United States.

Oil extraction and transportation has its own issues, as high-profile incidents such as BP's Deepwater Horizon and Exxon Valdez spills have demonstrated. Refining crude oil into gasoline and other petroleum products comes with its own environmental hazards, both in terms of soil contamination and harmful emissions.

### YOU CAN'T RECYCLE EV BATTERIES

Actually, yes, it is possible to recycle lithium-ion batteries. It's just not economically advantageous to do that yet. There are several projects underway to make battery recycling more affordable, and it's very likely that the company that pioneers the technology will reap huge rewards. In the event that lithium becomes scarce, that threshold for economic feasibility will also drop.

### WHAT ABOUT CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE?

Charging stations are becoming more common, and installing a charger in your home or business has also gotten much easier in the last decade. With the development of DC fast charging, many new EVs can replenish 200-plus miles of range in only 20 minutes. The hidden component to worry about is where that energy comes from. More than 60% of electricity in the U.S. is generated using fossil fuels. But the share of renewable energy has doubled since the 1980s, and trends suggest that the pace will accelerate. □

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## FACT FOCUS: Walmart quashes cryptocurrency partnership claim

By ALI SWENSON and ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Walmart denied any partnership with the digital currency Litecoin after a fake news release led to a brief flurry of inaccurate reports from national news outlets and social media users on Monday.

A news release claiming a partnership between Walmart and Litecoin is "not real," according to Walmart spokesperson Molly Blakeman. Charlie Lee, creator of Litecoin and managing director of the Litecoin Foundation, confirmed the release was fake.

The false announcement was temporarily featured on a major press release wire and in outlets including Reuters, CNBC and Yahoo Finance, before being deleted and corrected. It wasn't immediately clear who created it.

Here's a closer look at the facts.

CLAIM: Walmart on Monday announced a major partnership with the digital currency Litecoin.

THE FACTS: The nation's largest retailer is not partnering with Litecoin, despite a bogus news release claiming as much, Blake-man told The Associated Press by phone.

Lee, who created Litecoin, confirmed the release was fake in an email to the AP. □



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### TRAVEL INFO

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

### AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118





# 'RBG' filmmakers find a rich vein: Feminist love stories

By **JAKE COYLE**  
AP Film Writer

The label "date movie" hasn't traditionally been applied much to documentaries but filmmakers Betsy West and Julie Cohen have twice now made non-fiction films of trailblazing female icons that also happen to be portraits of loving, supportive marriages.

In "RBG," the 2018 Oscar-nominated bio-documentary of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the filmmakers lingered over the encouraging role of her longtime husband, the lawyer Martin D. Ginsburg. Their latest, "Julia," which premiered Sunday at the Toronto International Film Festival, is likewise about a pioneering 20th century woman, the adventurous TV chef Julia Child, whose ascent was tenderly and enthusiastically advocated for by her husband, Paul Child. He even wrote a sonnet for her. "For never were there foods, nor were there wines Whose flavor equals yours for sheer delight.

O luscious dish! O gustatory pleasure!

You satisfy my taste buds beyond measure." "Feminist love stories are our genre," Cohen says in an interview



**Betsy West, left, and Julie Cohen, the co-directors of the documentary film "Julia," pose together for a portrait during the Toronto International Film Festival, at the Royal Fairmont York, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in Toronto.**

alongside West. "'RBG' was a great date movie. 'Julia' is a slightly more expensive date movie because it really needs to be the movie and then a good dinner."

"Julia," which Sony Pictures Classics will release in theaters Nov. 5, is an affectionate and flavorful tribute to a beloved culinary figure. The film surveys a life that

found fame relatively late. Child was nearly 50 by the time her debut cookbook "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" was released in 1961. Her career on TV, beginning with an omelet on Boston's WGBH, came the year after. There and beyond, Child was a charismatic, 6-foot-2-inch exception to a male-dominated

cooking world and a care-free antidote to the forced image of the TV-dinner cooking '50s housewife. Her husband, a former diplomat, contentedly took a background role. In "The French Chef Cookbook," Julia Child wrote: "Paul Child, the man who is always there: porter, dishwasher, official photogra-

pher, mushroom dicer and onion chopper, editor, fish illustrator, manager, taster, idea man, resident poet, and husband."

"Julia" is only set partly among the pots and pans (and heaps of butter) that made Child famous. (The filmmakers even built a replica of her kitchen to make and photograph some of her best-known dishes.) But the heart of "Julia" may lie outside the kitchen in capturing her larger life and passions. Over time, she spoke more openly about her political beliefs. She became a champion for Planned Parenthood.

Child wrote a letter in 1982 that was sent to Planned Parenthood donors. It read: "Few politicians will take the risk of publicly supporting either contraception or abortion — and who is 'for abortion' anyway? We are concerned with freedom of choice."

"What Julia did at the time was pretty risky. This was not a time when celebrities or celebrity chefs were going out of their way to take positions that were controversial," says West. "Julia was very confident in her beliefs and determined to bring her celebrity to something she truly believed in." □

Associated Press

## Tony Awards land hosts Leslie Odom Jr. and Audra McDonald



**Leslie Odom Jr. presents an award at the 72nd annual Tony Awards in New York on June 10, 2018, left, and Audra McDonald presents an award at the 73rd annual Tony Awards in New York on June 9, 2019.**

Associated Press

By **MARK KENNEDY**  
NEW YORK (AP) —

The long-delayed Tony Awards have landed two impressive master of ceremo-

nies: Tony- and Grammy-winning singer and actor Leslie Odom Jr. will host a splashy TV special, and the awards will be hosted

by Tony-, Grammy- and Emmy Award-winning actor and singer Audra McDonald.

Producers of the telecast announced Monday that Odom will host the two-hour celebration of Broadway's return on Sept. 26 from 9 p.m.-11 p.m. ET/PT, and McDonald will host the award ceremony from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. ET/PT.

The four-hour event will be broadcast live from Broadway's Winter Garden Theatre. Capping the evening will be the awarding of the three top awards: best play, best play revival and best musical.

Broadway theaters abruptly closed on March 12, 2020, knocking out all shows — including 16

that were still scheduled to open in the spring. The four-hour awards and special are an attempt to celebrate live theater and serve as a splashy advertisement that Broadway is inching back to normalcy. "While we look back, my greatest hope is that this event marks the beginning of a new era for Broadway — one with renewed commitment to inclusivity and belonging as well as appreciation for the sacred experience of live theater," McDonald said in a statement.

This season's nominations were pulled from just 18 eligible plays and musicals, a fraction of the 34 shows the season before. During most years, there are 26

competitive categories. This year there are 25 with several depleted ones.

Not everyone is happy with the way CBS is handling the awards this year. The bulk of the Tonys — the acting, directing and technical ones — will only be accessible to Paramount+ customers — with Odom's special then airing on CBS.

Odom broke through as the Tony-winning Aaron Burr in "Hamilton," but McDonald is a nominee this time. She's hoping to break her own record for the most Tony Awards won by a performer for her work in a revival of the Terrence McNally play "Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune." □



# Novak Djokovic 'still hanging on,' seeking major titles

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Novak Djokovic was, understandably, deflated. The quest to do something no man has done in more than a half-century took a lot out of him, physically and emotionally.

The No. 1-ranked Djokovic acknowledged as much after crying during the last changeover of his 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 loss to Daniil Medvedev in the U.S. Open final.

What the 34-year-old from Serbia was not ready to do after coming agonizingly short — one victory short — in his attempt to win all four Grand Slam tournaments in a single season was to concede anything in the long term.

There is a new batch of talent making a push toward the top of the sport, but he will press forward.

Yes, Djokovic had spoken beforehand of giving everything he had against No. 2 Medvedev on Sunday, of treating it "like it is the last match of my career." And, yes, Djokovic did come out flat and was outplayed. Not the best combination for Djokovic: He had an off day; Medvedev had a great one. So, yes, Djokovic



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, wipes sweat from his face between serves from Daniil Medvedev, of Russia, during the men's singles final of the US Open tennis championships, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

found the whole thing disappointing.

Of course he did. That's only natural. To play so well and give so much, for so long, under an intense spotlight and burdened by pressure, from the outside and from within, is draining. No man had even won a year's first three major titles, let alone the full quartet, since Rod Laver in 1969.

"It was a lot to handle,"

Djokovic said.

He got 27 of the 28 victories necessary for a true Grand Slam.

He just couldn't get the 28th.

"Part of me is very sad," Djokovic said. "It's a tough one to swallow, this loss, I mean, considering everything that was on the line." But he will play again, and he will resume his work to overtake rivals Roger Fe-

derer and Rafael Nadal and break their three-way tie for the most major championships earned by a man, 20. No one should, or would, be surprised if No. 21 for Djokovic arrives just a few months from now at next year's Australian Open, a tournament he has won nine times.

Even if the three men he faced in Grand Slam finals in 2021 are in their 20s — Med-

vedev, 25, at the Australian Open and U.S. Open; No. 3 Stefanos Tsitsipas, 23, at the French Open; No. 7 Matteo Berrettini, 25, at Wimbledon — and there are other, younger, players moving up the ladder, too, Djokovic is not ready to step aside. "The transition was inevitable," Djokovic said Sunday, before stating: "The older guys are still hanging on." Well, he is, certainly.

Federer, who turned 40 on Aug. 8, and Nadal, 35, both missed the U.S. Open because of season-ending injuries.

It will be fascinating to see how Federer's latest knee operation and Nadal's chronic left foot pain affect them moving forward.

And it will be fun to watch whether the group a decade or more their junior, which also includes 2020 U.S. Open champion Dominic Thiem, 28, and the man he beat in that final and Djokovic edged in a five-set semifinal Friday, Tokyo Olympics champion Alexander Zverev, 24, plus even younger guys like Americans Sebastian Korda, 21, and Jenson Brooksby, 20, can make serious strides and win a major — or majors. □

## Raducanu's U.S. Open title moves her up 127 spots to No. 23

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Emma Raducanu's qualifier-to-champion run at the U.S. Open vaulted her 127 spots in the WTA rankings to a career-high No. 23 on Monday.

The 18-year-old from Britain began the year ranked 345th, rose to 179th in July by reaching Wimbledon's fourth round in her Grand Slam debut and arrived at Flushing Meadows at 150th. Then Raducanu won all 20 sets she played across 10 victories — three in qualifying and seven in the main draw — to become the youngest woman to win a major championship since Maria Sharapova was 17 at Wimbledon in 2004.

Raducanu is the first qualifier to win a Grand Slam title.

The player she beat 6-4, 6-3 in the final Saturday, 19-year-old Leylah Fernandez of Canada, also made a big jump in the rankings, going from 73rd to a career-best 28th.

Ash Barty and Aryna Sabalenka stayed at Nos. 1 and 2, while 2018 and 2020 U.S. Open champion Naomi Osaka slid from No. 3 to No. 5 after losing in the third round to Fernandez. Karolina Pliskova is now No. 3, and Elina Svitolina is No. 4 after each moved up a spot by getting to the quarterfinals in New York.

No. 1 Novak Djokovic is still comfortably ahead of No. 2 Daniil Medvedev in the ATP rankings after Medvedev beat Djokovic 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in the U.S. Open men's final Sunday. That prevented Djokovic from becoming

the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to complete a calendar-year Grand Slam — and from breaking the men's career record of 20 major titles he currently shares with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Asked whether he might adjust his schedule to try to overtake Djokovic by the end of the season, Medvedev replied, "I think, honestly, it's almost impossible."

"That's not my first goal in my mind — to try to achieve it this year," said Medvedev, a 25-year-old from Russia who was the runner-up to Djokovic at this year's Australian Open and to Nadal at the 2019 U.S. Open. "If I manage to do it one day, it's great."

Two players who made their major quarterfinal



Emma Raducanu, of Britain, hugs the US Open championship trophy after defeating Leylah Fernandez, of Canada, during the women's singles final of the US Open tennis championships, Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

debuts at the U.S. Open made substantial jumps: South Africa's Lloyd Harris rose 15 spots to No. 31, and Spain's 18-year-old Carlos Alcaraz went up 17 spots to No. 38.

Two Americans moved into the Top 20 for the first time Monday: Coco Gauff, 17, is No. 19 in the WTA rankings; Reilly Opelka, 24, is No. 19 in the ATP rankings. □



# Some debuts rocky, others uplifting in NFL Week 1

By **BARRY WILNER**

How difficult is achieving a successful debut in the NFL? Ask Urban Meyer and Arthur Smith, new head coaches whose teams looked as if they were still in spring workouts.

Compounding that, Meyer's Jaguars and Smith's Falcons were routed by Houston and Philadelphia, generally projected to be among the league's worst outfits — and also led by new head coaches.

"I did a really poor job getting us ready to go," Smith said after a 32-6 home loss to the Eagles. "That game is not going to define us. It's a long season to go, but I certainly didn't do a good enough job getting us ready to go today."

The first time around was kinder to the Texans' David Culley, the Eagles' Nick Sirianni and the Chargers' Brandon Staley, as well as for some not-quite newcomers to the league but now in different environs: quarterbacks in their first starts for current teams, such as Jameis Winston for New Orleans, Tyrod Taylor



**Jacksonville Jaguars coach Urban Meyer blows his whistle before an NFL football game against the Houston Texans Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in Houston.**

Associated Press

of Houston, Teddy Bridgewater of Denver, and Sam Darnold of Carolina.

As for the kiddie QBs, it was a down day: Trevor Lawrence and Zach Wilson, the top two overall selections in the draft, plus first-rounder Mac Jones, all lost.

New England's Jones performed the best in a 17-16

defeat to Miami. He also had a lot more help than the Jets' Wilson, who struggled badly in the first half and then came on in a 19-14 loss at Carolina. Lawrence, whose assessment of his performance made him sound like an actor in a Broadway play about to close after one night, was

part of that ignominious 37-21 Jags flop in Houston.

"Losing is always hard, especially when you feel like you are prepared and had a great week," Lawrence said. "I really think we were ready and obviously didn't play well. It starts with me. I didn't play well, for sure."

"I played really bad."

The other two first-rounders, San Francisco's Trey Lance and Chicago's Justin Fields, each contributed touchdowns for their clubs.

This season's seven new head coaches combined to go 3-4 in Week 1. The Jets' Robert Saleh saw his club victimized by its former QB, Darnold, and by Christian McCaffrey, who was brilliant after a 2020 basically lost to injury. Detroit's Dan Campbell saw the Lions fall into a deep hole before a stunning comeback but a fruitless outcome as they lost 41-33 to the 49ers.

Staley's Chargers won at Washington, 20-16.

Opening weekend of the NFL season always is challenging for favorites. That seemed extrapolated this year by the lack of appearances in preseason games for so many regulars. Such projected powers or contenders as Buffalo, Tennessee, Indianapolis and Green Bay were either mediocre or worse.

Belying that, though, were the showings by Winston, Taylor, Bridgewater and Darnold. □

## Yankees move Gleyber Torres from shortstop to second base



**New York Mets' Jonathan Villar beats the throw to New York Yankees' Gleyber Torres for a stolen base during the fourth inning of a baseball game on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in New York.**

Associated Press

By **RONALD BLUM**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Gleyber Torres was treated by the Yankees the same way he dealt with too many grounders: He was given the boot from shortstop. New York moved the error-prone infielder to second base for Monday's game against Minnesota.

DJ LeMahieu switched

from second to third, and Tyler Wade played shortstop. Manager Aaron Boone said Gio Urshela will move from third and likely will become the regular shortstop starting Tuesday night at Baltimore.

Andrew Velazquez, a shortstop optioned Sunday to Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, could be re-

called when eligible.

Torres, 24, was primarily a second baseman during his first two seasons with the Yankees in 2018 and 2019. He filled in at shortstop when Didi Gregorius got hurt and was moved there for 2020 after Gregorius left as a free agent to sign with the Philadelphia Phillies.

Torres made nine errors last year and has 18 this season, the second most in the American League behind the 24 of Toronto's Bo Bichette.

"This past week he struggled a little bit out there defensively," Boone said. "I feel like it's been a weight on him this week and I just feel like this is something that hopefully can take a little weight off him."

Torres misplayed what should have been an inning-ending double-play grounder by James Mc-

Cann in the seventh inning Friday night, allowing two runs in the Yankees' 10-3 loss at the Mets. Torres let Kevin Pillar's leadoff grounder in the second inning bounce off an arm on Sunday night, leading to Francisco Lindor's two-out, three-run homer. Lindor homered three times during the Mets' 7-6 win.

"I think there's been a weight and a pressure to it over this last week that I've certainly sensed," Boone said. "I think he's such a dynamic player for us when he's going well that I feel like the switch over there might be something that really gets him rolling."

Torres has slumped for the second straight season. He entered Monday hitting .252 with seven homers and 45 RBIs after batting .243 with three homers and 16 RBIs during the pandemic-shortened 2020

season. He hit .278 with 38 homers and 90 RBIs in 2019, making the AL All-Star team for the second consecutive season.

"I think it sometimes becomes such a story — one play becomes such a storyline, a narrative that lasts a long time, which I think at times has been really unfair because I think there's been large chunks of really steady play out there for us this year," Boone said. "My sense is that I feel like this last week has weighed on him and he's made a couple of mistakes. And then all of a sudden you're out there playing a little bit tentative and not to make a mistake. And that's what I don't want to see. And obviously we're at a critical point of the year where we're getting down to the end and I feel like I don't really want that to snowball a little bit." □