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## Asylum-seekers say joy over end of Title 42 turns to anguish induced by new US rules

By JULIE WATSON and GISELA SALOMON Associated Press  
TIJUANA, Mexico (AP)—The day that President Joe Biden's administration ended a public health measure blocking many asylum-seekers at the Mexican border during the coronavirus pandemic, Teodosio Vargas was ready to show U.S. officials his scars and photos of his bullet-riddled body. Instead, he stood frozen with his pregnant wife and 5-year-old son at a Tijuana crossing, feet from U.S. soil. He was unsure of the new rules rolled out with the change and whether taking the next few steps to approach U.S. officials to ask for asylum in person could force a return to his native Honduras.

"I can't go back to my country," said Vargas, a long scar snaking down his neck from surgery after being shot nine times in his homeland during a robbery. "Fear is why I don't want to return. If I can just show the proof I have, I believe the U.S. will let me in."

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FILE- A man gestures as he waits with others to apply for asylum between two border walls Thursday, May 11, 2023, in San Diego. Asylum-seekers say joy over the end of the public health restriction known as Title 42 this month is turning into anguish with the realization of how the Biden administration's new rules affect them. Though the government opened some new avenues for immigration, many people's fate is largely left up to a U.S. government app that is limited and unable to decipher and prioritize human suffering and personal risk.

(AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

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**FILE**-Venezuelan migrants, using a wrap and a towel, respectively, as protection from the rain, consult the CBPOne app, on the banks of the Rio Grande, in Matamoros, Mexico, Saturday, May 13, 2023. Asylum-seekers say joy over the end of the public health restriction known as Title 42 this month is turning into anguish with the realization of how the Biden administration's new rules affect them. Though the government opened some new avenues for immigration, many people's fate is largely left up to a U.S. government app that is limited and unable to decipher and prioritize human suffering and personal risk.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

Continued from Front

Asylum-seekers say joy over the end of the public health restriction known as Title 42 this month is turn-

## Asylum-seekers say joy over end of Title 42 turns to anguish induced by new US rules

ing into anguish with the uncertainty about how the Biden administration's new rules affect them.

Though the government opened some new avenues for immigration, the fate of many people is largely left to a U.S. government app only used for scheduling an appointment at a port of entry and unable to decipher human suffering or weigh the vulnerability of applicants.

The CBP One app is a key tool in creating a more efficient and orderly system at the border "while cutting out unscrupulous smugglers who profit from vulnerable migrants," the Department of Homeland Security said in an email to The Associ-

ated Press.

But since its rollout in January, the app has been criticized for technological problems. Demand has far outstripped the roughly 1,000 appointments available on the app each day. As a Honduran man, Vargas does not qualify for many of the legal pathways the Biden administration has introduced. One program gives up to 30,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans a month a shot at humanitarian parole if they apply online, have a financial sponsor in the U.S. and arrive by air. Minors traveling alone also are exempt from the rules.

Migrants who do not follow the rules, the government has said, could be deported back to their homelands and barred from seeking asylum for five years.

Vargas said he decided not to risk it. He has been logging onto the app each day at 9 a.m. for the past three months from his rented room in a crime-riddled Tijuana neighborhood.

His experience is shared by tens of thousands of other asylum-seekers in Mexican border towns.

Immigration lawyer Blaine Bookey said for many on the border "there seems to be no option right now for people to ask for asylum if they don't have an appointment through the CBP app."

The government said it doesn't turn away asylum-seekers but prioritizes people who use the app.

Bookey's group, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, is one of the lead plaintiffs, along with the American Civil Liberties Union, challenging some of the new rules in federal court in San Francisco, including a requirement that people first apply for asylum in a country they crossed on the way to the U.S. They are asking the court to allow an asylum request by anyone on U.S. soil.

Texas Republican lawmakers also have sued. Among other things, they argue

the CBP One app encourages illegal immigration by dispensing appointments without properly vetting whether applicants have a legal basis to stay.

The Biden administration said new measures, including the app, have helped reduce unlawful immigration by more than 70% since Title 42 ended May 11.

More than 79,000 people were admitted under CBP One from its Jan. 12 launch through the end of April. From May 12 to May 19, an average of 1,070 people per day presented themselves at the ports of entry after securing an appointment on the app, the government stated. It did not provide updated figures but said the numbers should grow as the initiative is scaled up.

The administration also has highlighted improvements made in recent weeks. The app can prioritize those who have been trying the longest.

Appointments are opened online throughout the day to avoid system overload. People with acute medical conditions or facing imminent threats of murder, rape, kidnapping or other "exceptionally compelling circumstances" can request priority status, but only in person at a port of entry.

The app does not allow input of case details.

Still, some asylum-seekers claim to have been turned away at crossings while making requests, lawyers say.

Koral Rivera, who is from Mexico and eight months pregnant, said she has been trying to obtain an appointment through the app for two months. She recently went to a Texas crossing to present her case to U.S. officials, but said Mexican immigration agents in Matamoros blocked her and her husband.

"They tell us to try to get an appointment through the app," said Rivera, whose family has been threatened by drug cartel members. □

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# Jan. 6 rioters are raking in thousands in donations. Now the US is coming after their haul

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN  
Associated Press

Less than two months after he pleaded guilty to storming the U.S. Capitol, Texas resident Daniel Goodwyn appeared on Tucker Carlson's then-Fox News show and promoted a website where supporters could donate money to Goodwyn and other rioters whom the site called "political prisoners." The Justice Department now wants Goodwyn to give up more than \$25,000 he raised — a clawback that is part of a growing effort by the government to prevent rioters from being able to personally profit from participating in the attack that shook the foundations of American democracy.

An Associated Press review of court records shows that prosecutors in the more than 1,000 criminal cases from Jan. 6, 2021, are increasingly asking judges to impose fines on top of prison sentences to offset donations from supporters of the Capitol rioters.

Dozens of defendants have set up online fundraising appeals for help with legal fees, and prosecutors acknowledge there's nothing wrong with asking for help for attorney expenses. But the Justice Department has, in some cases, questioned where the money is really going because many of those charged have had government-funded legal representation.

Most of the fundraising efforts appear on GiveSendGo, which bills itself as "The #1 Free Christian Fundraising Site" and has become a haven for Jan. 6 defendants barred from using mainstream crowdfunding sites, including GoFundMe, to raise money. The rioters often proclaim their innocence and portray themselves as victims of government oppression, even as they cut deals to plead guilty and cooperate with prosecutors.

Their fundraising success suggests that many people in the United States still view Jan. 6 rioters as patriots and



**FILE - Insurrections loyal to President Donald Trump rally at the U.S. Capitol in Washington on Jan. 6, 2021. A growing number of Capitol rioters are facing hefty fines on top of prison sentences at their sentencing hearings. That's because prosecutors appear to be ramping up efforts to prevent them from profiting from their participation in the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. An Associated Press review of court records shows prosecutors in riot cases are increasingly asking judges to impose sentences that include fines to offset donations from supporters of the rioters.**

(AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, File)

cling to the baseless belief that Democrats stole the 2020 presidential election from Donald Trump. The former president himself has fueled that idea, pledging to pardon rioters if he is elected. Markus Maly, a Virginia man scheduled to be sentenced next month for assaulting police at the Capitol, raised more than \$16,000 from an online campaign that described him as a "January 6 P.O.W." and asked for money for his family. Prosecutors have requested a \$16,000-plus fine, noting that Maly had a public defender and did not owe any legal fees.

"He should not be able to use his own notoriety gained in the commission of his crimes to 'capitalize' on his participation in the Capitol breach in this way," a prosecutor wrote in court papers.

So far this year, prosecutors have sought more than \$390,000 in fines against at least 21 riot defendants, in amounts ranging from \$450 to more than \$71,000, according to the AP's tally.

Judges have imposed at least \$124,127 in fines against 33 riot defendants this year. In the previous two years, judges ordered more than 100 riot defendants to collectively pay more than \$240,000 in fines. Separately, judges have or-

dered hundreds of convicted rioters to pay more than \$524,000 in restitution to the government to cover more than \$2.8 million in damage to the Capitol and other Jan. 6-related expenses.

More rioters facing the most serious charges and longest prison terms are now being sentenced. They tend to also be the prolific fundraisers, which could help explain the recent surge in fines requests. Earlier this month, the judge who sentenced Nathaniel DeGrave to more than three years in prison also ordered him to pay a \$25,000 fine. Prosecutors noted that the Nevada resident "incredibly" raised over \$120,000 in GiveSendGo fundraising campaigns that referred to him as "Beijing Biden's political prisoner" in "America's Gitmo" — a reference to the Guantanamo Bay detention center. "He did this despite seeking to cooperate with the government and admitting he and his co-conspirators were guilty since at least November 2021," a prosecutor wrote.

Lawyer William Shipley, who has represented DeGrave and more than two dozen other Jan. 6 defendants, said he advises clients to avoid raising money under the auspices of being a political prisoner if they intend

to plead guilty.

"Until they admit they committed a crime, they're perfectly entitled to shout from the rooftops that the only reason they're being held is because of politics," Shipley said. "It's just First Amendment political speech." Shipley said he provided the judge with documentation showing that DeGrave raised approximately \$25,000 more than what he paid his lawyers.

"I've never had to do it until these cases because I've never had clients that had third-party fundraising like this," Shipley said. "There's a segment of the population that is sympathetic toward the plight of these defendants." GiveSendGo co-founder Heather Wilson said her site's decision to allow legal defense funds for Capitol riot defendants "is rooted in our society's commitment to the presumption of innocence and the freedom for all individuals to hire private attorneys."

The government's push for more fines comes as it reaches a milestone in the largest federal investigation in American history: Just over 500 defendants have been sentenced for Jan. 6 crimes.

Judges aren't rubber-stamping prosecutors' fine requests. Prosecutors sought a more

than \$70,000 fine for Peter Schwartz, a Kentucky man who attacked police officers outside the Capitol with pepper spray and a chair. U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta sentenced Schwartz this month to more than 14 years in prison — one of the longest so far in a Capitol riot case — but didn't impose a fine.

Prosecutors suspect Schwartz tried to profit from his fundraising campaign, "Patriot Pete Political Prisoner in DC." But his lawyer, Dennis Boyle, said there is no evidence of that.

The judge "basically said that if the money was being used for attorneys' fees or other costs like that, there was no basis for a fine," Boyle said.

A jury convicted romance novel cover model John Strand of storming the Capitol with Dr. Simone Gold, a California physician who is a leading figure in the anti-vaccine movement. Now prosecutors are seeking a \$50,000 fine on top of a prison term for Strand when a judge sentences him on Thursday. Strand has raised more than \$17,300 for his legal defense without disclosing that he has a taxpayer-funded lawyer, according to prosecutors. They say Strand appears to have "substantial financial means," living in a home that was purchased for more than \$3 million last year. "Strand has raised, and continues to raise, money on his website based upon his false statements and misrepresentations on the events of January 6," prosecutors wrote.

Goodwyn, who appeared on Carlson's show in March, is scheduled to be sentenced next month. Defense lawyer Carolyn Stewart described prosecutors as "demanding blood from a stone" in asking for the \$25,000 fine.

"He received that amount in charity to help him in his debt for legal fees for former attorneys and this for unknown reasons is bothersome to the government," Stewart wrote. □



# Debt ceiling agreement gets thumbs up from biz groups, jeers from some on political right

By KEVIN FREKING  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The reviews are starting to come in as details emerge about the debt ceiling agreement reached by President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy. Already, some lawmakers are criticizing the deal as not doing enough to tackle the nation's debt, while others worry it's too austere and will harm many low-income Americans. The legislation will likely need support from a significant number of lawmakers from both parties to clear the closely divided House and gain the 60 votes necessary to advance in the Senate.

Final text of the agreement is expected Sunday. Many lawmakers say they are withholding judgment until they see the final details.

A look at how the agreement is going over so far:

Early concerns

Some of the earliest objections are coming from the most conservative members of Congress, particularly members of the hardline House Freedom Caucus that often clashes with GOP leadership.

"I think it's a disaster!" tweeted Matt Rosendale, R-Mont.

"Fake conservatives agree to fake spending cuts," tweeted Sen. Rand Paul,



**FILE** - Top Republican debt crisis mediators Rep. Garret Graves, R-La., left, and Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., center, chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, with Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, upper right, have a laugh as they stop for questions by reporters on progress in the talks with the Biden administration, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, May 23, 2023. Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, a member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, has blasted the tentative debt ceiling deal struck by Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and President Joe Biden and says he will try to stop it in the House.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File)

R-Ky.

"This 'deal' is insanity," tweeted Rep. Ralph Norman, R-S.C. "A \$4T debt ceiling increase with virtually no cuts is not what we agreed to. Not gonna vote to bankrupt our country. The American people deserve better."

GOP leaders knew all along that they would lose some members' support in any compromise with a Democratic-led White House and Senate. The question has

always been whether the deal would pick up enough Democratic support to offset those defections.

Democrats weigh in As much as some Democrats dislike what is roughly a spending freeze on non-defense programs next year and chafe at work requirements being extended to more food stamp recipients, initial reaction has been circumspect as they await more details.

Rep. Annie Kuster, D-N.H.,

and chair of a center-left group known as the New Dems, which has roughly 100 members, said they are "confident" that White House negotiators delivered a "viable, bipartisan solution to end this crisis."

The likeliest opposition will come from the more liberal members of the caucus. Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., has been voicing vocal opposition to additional work requirements for some of those getting

food and cash assistance. She called it terrible policy Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union."

But she said she is also waiting for legislative text to determine the level of exemptions to the work requirements that Biden was able to win for veterans, the homeless and people coming out of foster care.

"And so what do the numbers look like at the end of the day, I'm not sure. However, it is bad policy. I told the president that directly when he called me last week on Wednesday that this is saying to poor people and people who are in need that we don't trust them," said Jayapal, who serves as chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Asked if the Democrats at the White House and in leadership have to worry about whether the progressive caucus will support the bill, Jayapal said: "Yes, they have to worry."

Business group backing With the nation roughly a week away from the risk of a default that could roil the global economy, major business groups have been urging Washington to quickly on a debt-ceiling increase. The Business Roundtable, a group of more than 200 chief executive officers, called on Congress to pass the bill as soon as possible. □

## President attends 2nd grandchild's graduation as daughter of Biden's late son leaves high school



**President Joe Biden steps off Marine One, Sunday, May 28, 2023, in Middletown, Del. Biden is attending his granddaughter Natalie Biden's high school graduation.**

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

**MIDDLETOWN, Del. (AP)** — It's been a busier-than-usual graduation season for President Joe Biden.

Biden and his wife, Jill, were on hand Sunday to watch granddaughter Natalie Biden graduate from high school, the White House said. Natalie is the daughter of the president's late son, Beau. She is a student at St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Delaware,

and will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. Beau Biden graduated from Penn.

The private Episcopal school was the setting for some scenes from the 1989 movie "Dead Poets Society," starring the late Robin Williams. Presidents usually deliver a couple of commencement addresses every year, including at one of the military service academies. But this year, Biden also got to watch an-

other one of his grandchildren go through that rite of passage. Earlier this month, Biden and the first lady attended granddaughter Maisy Biden's commencement from Penn. Biden was the commencement speaker at Howard University's commencement on May 13. He is also scheduled to deliver the commencement address at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on Thursday. □



## Right-wing populist Javier Milei gains support in Argentina by blasting 'political caste'

By DANIEL POLITI  
Associated Press

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)** — He believes selling human organs should be legal, climate change is a "socialist lie," sex education is a ploy to destroy the family and that the Central Bank should be abolished. He also could be Argentina's next president.

Javier Milei, an admirer of former U.S. President Donald Trump, is the latest example of how right-wing populists are making inroads in Latin America, appealing to a citizenry angry with politics as usual and eager for outsiders to shake up the system.

A libertarian economist and self-described "anarcho capitalist," Milei made a name for himself by shouting against the "political caste" on television. His presidential candidacy looked like a sideshow until recently. Polls show his popularity rising, and his proposals dominate discussions ahead of October elections.

"Today no one can say that Milei isn't someone who could get to the presidency," said Luis Tonelli, a political scientist at University of Buenos Aires.

Milei jumped from talking head to politician in 2021 when he won a seat in Ar-

gentina's lower house of Congress. Since then, he's had little legislative activity, but 2.7 million people have signed up for his monthly raffle to give away his salary.

On a recent Sunday, fans lined up at the Buenos Aires Book Fair to see him talk about his latest book, "The End of Inflation," on addressing Argentina's most pressing economic issue: inflation running at an annual rate of more than 100%. The book calls for cutting spending, abolishing the Central Bank and moving to the dollar.

Many of his fans never made it inside. They're mostly young men who treat the 52-year-old politician like a rock star and affectionately refer to him as "the wig" because of his signature unkempt hair.

"The caste is afraid," Milei said, and his followers chanted along.

Afraid or not, the country's political leaders now see him as real competition in an election that until recently seemed like a contest between two electoral coalitions that have dominated for years.

Analysts have drawn parallels between Milei and Trump, because they both espouse socially conservative views and vow to return



Argentina presidential candidate Javier Milei's sister Karina Milei places a picture of her brother on a 100-dollar cardboard bill before the start of the presentation of her brother's book "The End of Inflation" at the Buenos Aires book fair in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, May 14, 2023.

(AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)

the country to an unspecified period of greatness.

Milei has tapped frustration over Argentina's triple-digit inflation, which makes many feel like they're constantly falling behind. Seven out of 10 Argentines say they struggle to make ends meet, noted Roberto Bacman, director of the Center for Public Opinion Studies. Milei sprinkles his economic messages with a heavy dose of conservative policies, such as opposition to abortion, which the country legalized in 2020.

Milei's running mate, Victoria Villaruel, the founder of a group that defends former military officers tried for human rights violations

during the country's bloody 1976-1983 dictatorship, has spoken against same-sex marriage, which Argentina legalized in 2010.

Milei has cut against the grain on many issues. He dismisses current concern over global warming by noting that "10 or 15 years ago there was a discussion that the planet was going to freeze." He calls sex education a post-Marxist program to destroy "the most important social core within society, which is the family." He's proposed "market mechanisms" to deal with long waiting lists for organ transplants, arguing that organs are a person's property to sell. □



**FILE** - Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani sits for a portrait in his office in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Mohammed Shia al-Sudani on Saturday, May 27, 2023, announced plans for a \$17 billion regional transportation project intended to facilitate the flow of goods from Asia to Europe.

(AP Photo/Jerome Delay, File)

**By SALAR SALIM undefined IRBIL, Iraq (AP)** — Iraq's prime minister on Saturday announced plans for a \$17 billion regional transporta-

tion project intended to facilitate the flow of goods from Asia to Europe.

The announcement was made at a one-day confer-

## Iraq announces plans for \$17 billion transportation project linking Asia to Europe

ence in Baghdad that convened transport ministers and representatives from Iraq, the Gulf countries, Turkey, Iran, Syria, and Jordan. Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani said the planned Development Road project would facilitate the movement of goods from the Gulf to Europe by way of the Grand Faw Port in Basra, in southern Iraq, which would be connected to Turkey, then to Europe, through a network of railways and highways. A centerpiece of the

project will be the development of the Grand Faw Port and a "smart industrial city" adjacent to it, al-Sudani said.

The planned project, which would involve the construction of about 1,200 km (about 745 miles) of railways and highways, will be "an economic lifeline and a promising opportunity for the convergence of interests, history, and cultures," said al-Sudani, adding it will "make our countries a source for modern industries and goods." □

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## South Korean arrested for opening plane emergency exit door, faces up to 10 years in prison

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**

**Associated Press**

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**

— A man who opened an emergency exit door during a flight in South Korea was formally arrested Sunday and faces up to 10 years in prison on a charge of violating the aviation security law, officials said.

During a preliminary questioning, the 33-year-old told investigators that he felt suffocated and tried to get off the plane quickly, according to police.

Twelve people were slightly injured on Friday after he opened the door of the Asiana Airlines Airbus A321-200, causing air to blast inside the cabin and terrifying passengers. Some testified they suffered severe ear pain and saw others screaming and crying. A video shared on social media shows passengers' hair being whipped by air blowing into the cabin.

Normally, the emergency exit doors cannot be opened mid-flight due to



**A man who opened an emergency exit door during a flight, arrives to attend an arrest warrant review at the Daegu District Court in Daegu, South Korea, Sunday, May 28, 2023. He told police that he felt suffocated and tried to get off the plane quickly as it approached landing, reports said Saturday.**

(Yun Kwan-shick/Yonhap via AP)

the difference in air pressure inside and outside of the aircraft. But during Friday's incident, the man succeeded in opening the door likely because the plane was flying at a low

altitude while preparing to land and there wasn't much difference in pressure, according to Asiana Airlines officials.

The Transport Ministry said the plane was at 700 feet

(213 meters) when the man pulled the door open.

The plane was preparing to land in Daegu on an hour-long flight from the southern island of Jeju with 200 people on board. They

included teenage athletes on their way to a track and field competition, according to Asiana Airlines.

Daegu police said they have up to 20 days to investigate the man before determining whether to send him to prosecutors for a possible indictment.

If convicted, he faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison for breaching the aviation security law that bars passengers from handling entry doors, emergency exit doors and other equipment on board, according to the Transport Ministry.

Daegu police said the man, surnamed Lee, told them that he was under stress after losing a job recently and that he wanted to get out of the plane soon because he was feeling suffocated just before landing.

The people who were taken to hospitals were mainly treated for minor problems such as breathing difficulties. □

## Migrants with children stuck at Poland's border wall; activists say Belarus won't let them turn back

By **MONIKA SCISLOWSKA**

**Associated Press**

**WARSAW, Poland (AP)**

A group of some 30 migrants seeking asylum, including small children, has been stuck at Poland's border wall with Belarus for three days, Polish human rights activists said Sunday. Although the migrants were outside Poland's border wall, activists from Grupa Granica (Border Group) said they were on Polish territory and Belarus was not allowing them to turn back. "In Belarus, they are not safe," activist Marta Staniszevska said.

"The Belarusian services, as this group has told us, threaten them that if they return, they will be beaten, or that they will kill them," Staniszevska told The Associated Press.

The migrants say that several among them are sick,

one girl has a toothache, and the children have mosquito bites, according to Staniszevska.

A representative of Poland's ombudsman's office visited and talked to the group on Sunday, but later told reporters that the decision about whether to allow them into the country belongs to the Polish Border Guard. "If these persons are indeed within the jurisdiction of the (Polish) Border Guard and declare their willingness to apply for international protection, then .... such applications should be accepted," Maciej Grzeskowiak said.

Last year, Poland put up almost 190 kilometers (117 miles) of tall metal wall intended to stop thousands of migrants from Asia and Africa entering the country from Belarus.

The European Union has



**Members of a group of some 30 migrants seeking asylum are seen in Bialowieza, Poland, on Sunday, 28 May 2023 across a wall that Poland has built on its border with Belarus to stop massive migrant pressure. The group has remained stuck at the spot for three days, according to human rights activists.**

(AP Photo/Agnieszka Sadowska)

accused authoritarian Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko of aiding illegal border crossings in retaliation for EU sanctions. Lukashenko denies encouraging migration to Europe. Poland's most powerful politician, the head of Poland's right-wing ruling party, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, said

recently that building the wall was a good decision. He said it was protecting Poland and the EU against hostile moves by Belarus and Russia.

Despite the wall, up to 150 migrants of various nationalities, often with Russian visas in their documents, try to cross illegally into Poland

each day, according to the Border Guard.

On some occasions, such groups threw stones and sticks from behind the wall at the border guards, but then apparently moved away. It is not possible from Poland's side to determine what happens to the groups. □



# Opening of the Scholar Games 2023 was filled with joy and happiness

(Oranjestad)—Yesterday evening, the grand official opening of the Scholar Games 2023 took place, a project presented by Cabinet Wever-Croes II under the leadership of the Minister of Sports and Education, Endy Croes, in collaboration with IBISA. After several years without the Scholar Games taking place, this year the students from different schools in Aruba are competing in various sports for different prizes, both for the students and the schools.

The opening began with the official parade. The Ora Ubao Scout Group accompanied the entry of the Aruba flag, followed by different multicultural groups presenting traditional works from their countries, under the guidance of John Freddy Montoya.

Next up was the entrance of the protagonists of the Scholar Games—the athletes of the participating schools in the SG Aruba 2023. A total of 45 schools and over 1000 children are competing in different sports disciplines.

After the official parade, a dance performance by the NLG and NTG dance groups, guided by Marisol Peña, took place, along with athletes from Gihæ Gymnastics, who gave a beautiful presentation to kick off the great school event.

Prime Minister of Aruba, Evelyn Wever-Croes, during the formal part, delivered a speech in which she emphasized the great honor and pleasure of being able to attend the grand opening of WE Aruba 2023, which has become a reality again after several years. "Today, together with the



team, all the teachers and all the schools, we are fulfilling our obligations to our children. On behalf of the Government of Aruba, I want to thank each and every one of you who made this possible," she stated.

The Prime Minister emphasized that every time she gives a speech, she mentions that Aruba is in recovery because the economy is doing well, tourism is doing well, finances are improving, and unemployment is decreasing. However, she stressed that the progress of a country is measured when its children progress and more through sports.

She highlighted that the Government of Aruba can

only do part of the work but is grateful to all the seniors, youth, teachers, government officials, parliamentarians, and leaders in various sports activities who make SG Aruba possible. "On behalf of the Government of Aruba, I want to thank all of you," she said. The minister of Sports and Education, Endy Croes, expressed that the goal of SG Aruba is to provide students and future athletes in preschool, primary, and secondary education with a modern and innovative platform to compete in seven different disciplines, as well as cultural dances. A total of approximately 4,500 students from around 60 schools competed for over six months, and now the ones who qualified are around 1,000 children from 45 schools who will be competing for the top prizes in the next two weeks.

"A word of congratulations and thanks to all the schools, teachers, principals, and sports leaders who made this possible. It's not the minister, it's not the government, but it's with the help of everyone



participating that we have achieved this," Minister Croes emphasized. He emphasized the importance of sports as a vehicle that shapes a better individual for the community, both physically, mentally, and socially. He stressed that sports promote discipline, character, love for others, love for the country, respect, friendship, excellence, courage, and inspi-

ration, which are fundamental values for the formation of a whole society. "Sports cross all borders to unite an entire nation," he highlighted.

Finally, Prime Minister, President of the Parliament of Aruba, Edgar Vrolijk, and Minister Croes officially kicked off SG Aruba 2023 and inaugurated the first football match that took place last night. □



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## Casa Del Mar Beach Resort Aruba offers Exclusive Vacation Ownership Opportunity with Lifelong Ownership, Affordable Maintenance Fees, and Luxurious Renovated Suites



**Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is thrilled to announce an incredible opportunity for discerning travelers seeking a lifetime of unforgettable vacations. The resort offers an exclusive vacation ownership program, offering lifelong ownership, with a transferable deed to beneficiaries, the lowest maintenance fees in Aruba based on size and number of bedrooms, and newly renovated bathrooms that epitomize luxury and relaxation.**

Vacation ownership has revolutionized the way people experience travel, and Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is at the forefront of this exciting trend. With the vacation ownership program offered, individuals can secure their "own piece of Aruba" and enjoy a lifetime of memorable vacations in one of the most breathtaking destinations in the Caribbean.

The benefits of vacation ownership are numerous and enticing. By investing in a vacation ownership at Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba, owners gain exclusive access to luxurious accommodations, personalized services, and world-class amenities. This ensures a consistently exceptional vacation experience, year after year, without the hassle of searching for accommodations or dealing with fluctuating rental prices.

One of the key advantages of vacation ownership at Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is the lifelong ownership. Unlike traditional timeshares, which may come with limitations or expiration dates, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba offers an in perpetuity program, allowing owners to pass their ownership down to

future generations. This means that families can create a legacy of cherished vacations, ensuring that each generation can enjoy the beauty of Aruba for years to come.

In addition to lifelong ownership, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba boasts the lowest maintenance fees in Aruba based on size and number of bedrooms. This exceptional value ensures that owners can enjoy their vacation without breaking the bank. The resort is committed to providing a superior ownership experience by offering transparent and affordable maintenance fees, allowing owners to maximize their investment while minimizing costs.

Furthermore, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is currently undergoing a lavish renovation of its Presidential Suites bathrooms. These newly renovated bathrooms exemplify the epitome of luxury and relaxation. Featuring elegant fixtures, spacious showers, and stunning accents, the bathrooms offer a truly indulgent retreat for owners and guests. The resort's commitment to continuous improvement ensures that owners can enjoy the latest in modern comforts and aesthetics, enhancing their vacation experience to new heights.

Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is renowned for its idyllic location in the low-rise area of Aruba located at Eagle Beach Aruba – recently chosen as the #1 in the Caribbean and #2 in the world by TripAdvisor for its pristine white sandy beaches, and crystal-clear turquoise waters. The resort offers an array of amenities, including multiple swimming pools, a renovated fitness center, world-class spa, activities,

and delectable dining options. Owners can immerse themselves in the beauty of the Caribbean while enjoying the comforts of their own home away from home.

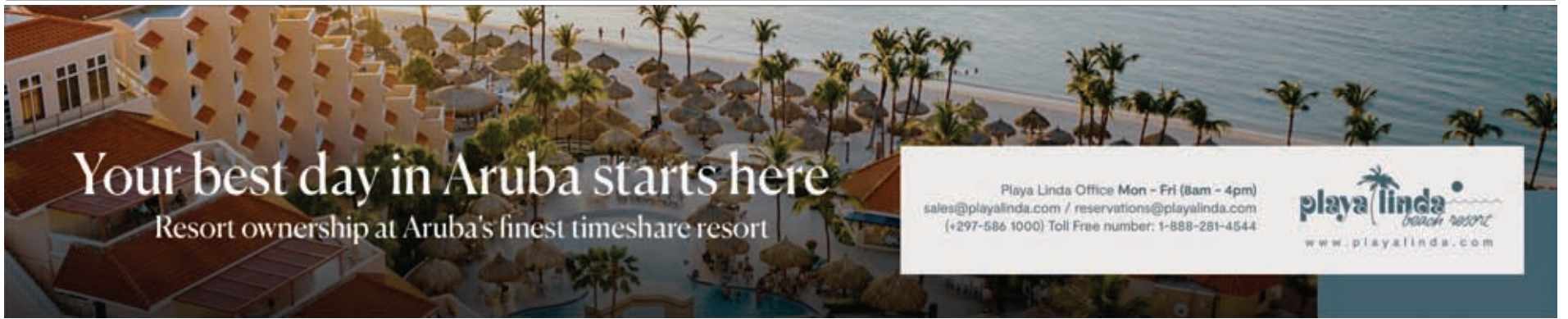
For those seeking a flexible vacation experience, Casa Del Mar Beach Resort Aruba also provides the option to exchange vacation weeks through external exchange programs. Due to the high exchange value of the resort, it allows owners to explore new destinations worldwide and indulge in different cultural experiences while still maintaining the security and comfort of their home resort.

Interested individuals are invited to discover the unparalleled benefits of vacation ownership at Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba. To learn more about this exclusive opportunity and secure your own piece of paradise, please contact [sales@casadelmar-aruba.net](mailto:sales@casadelmar-aruba.net) or visit their recently renewed website [www.casadelmararuba.com/inventory](http://www.casadelmararuba.com/inventory)

### About Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba:

Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is a premier beachfront resort since 1986 and located at Aruba's stunning Eagle Beach. With 40 1-bedroom Ambassador suites, which sleep 4, and 107 two-bedroom Presidential Suites, which sleep 6, the resort offers luxurious spacious accommodations, world-class amenities, and a range of recreational activities for an unforgettable vacation experience. With a commitment to excellence, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba provides exceptional service and continues to be a favorite destination for travelers from around the world. □





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## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. These Ambassadors were respectively honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests whom have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

**Distinguished Visitor**  
(10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Goodwill Ambassador  
(20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Emerald Ambassador  
(35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

### The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors  
Mr. Anthony Averso & Mrs. Catherine Catalano from New York, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino bestowed the Ambassador certificate to the honorees, presented them with gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and their home-away-from-home.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba, provided by the honorees were:

- The wonderful treatment from the staff members at the La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino
- Sunny weather – Especially during April & May
- Aruba's warm & friendly people
- Aruba's variety of restaurants to choose from!
- "So many activities to do around the island"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐



**ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.**

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Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting

our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from V. Berg from Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is being in my happy place. I discovered Aruba on Dec. 24, 2015 on the cruiseship. I did a 6-hour private tour of the island and fell so in love with Aruba I returned 29 days later. I just returned 1 week ago from my 14th visit to Aruba. I love Aruba, her people, culture, and weather!"

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! ☐



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**beauty & THE BEACH**

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **James and Katrina from Boston**. This is their first and second time visiting and they love the consistent warm weather. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

This segment is sponsored by Alhambra Casino and Shops.

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# Rays of Hope: Strengthening Conservation Efforts for Manta Rays



**Manta rays are highly charismatic creatures that inhabit the waters of the Dutch Caribbean. In addition to being a highly prized find for divers and snorkelers, they are also important for healthy oceans as they can help control plankton and cycle nutrients.**

Manta rays are threatened by a variety of human activities. Luckily, increased protection for the giant oceanic manta ray in the Caribbean region will be considered in the next Conference of Parties for the Cartagena Convention (COPS) meeting later this year on Aruba.

## Manta Rays in the Caribbean

The Caribbean is home to two species of manta ray, the giant oceanic manta ray (*Mobula birostris*) and Caribbean Manta Rays (*Mobula cf. birostris* - which will most likely be officially described in the coming years), as well as several species of devil rays. Manta rays are the largest type of rays. They pose no danger to humans.

Manta rays are filter feeders, taking in microscopic food (plankton), including fish larvae, krill, shrimp, and planktonic crabs from the water column and filtering them through their gill plates. They play a vital role in keeping the oceans healthy by regulating plankton levels. Also, by moving between the surface ocean, deep sea and coral reefs, they create a valuable ecological connection by transporting nutrients.

## Threats

Manta rays are threatened by a variety of human activities. One of the biggest threats to these creatures worldwide is overfishing, as they are often targeted for their gill plates, used in Traditional Chinese Medicine. They are also at risk from bycatch, entanglement, habitat destruction, and pollution. Bycatch and entanglement are likely the two biggest threats in the Caribbean.

The manta rays are the largest species of rays, they

are long-lived (30-50 years) and slow to reproduce. The age that giant manta rays are able to reproduce for the first time is estimated around 9-12 years old and manta rays only give birth to one pup at a time. The slow life cycle and low reproduction rate make manta rays extremely vulnerable to depletion.

## Hope on the horizon

In the Dutch Caribbean, marine protected areas, such as the Yarari Marine Mammal and Shark Sanctuary, help protect manta and devil rays. The species are also on several regional and international lists, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and International Shark Strategy adopted by the Dutch Government (2019).

In addition, the Kingdom of Netherlands, along with the Republic of France, has formally submitted a proposal to include the giant manta in Annex II of the

Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol, a regional agreement for the protection and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity in the Wider Caribbean Region. If approved during the next Conference of Parties for the Cartagena Convention (COPS) IGM20/COP17 this year on Aruba, this measure will provide a legal framework for the highest level of protection for the conservation of the giant manta ray.

## Report your sightings

By submitting your (old and new) sightings of manta (and devil) rays, you can help researchers and conservationists learn more and better protect these species. You can report your sightings via Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program or Observation.org and associated free app ObsIdentify- which will help you automatically identify the species by uploading your photos. In addition, you could also submit your photos via Mantatruster.org/IDtheManta, email (carib-

bean.islands@mantatruster.org) or through the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program social media pages on Facebook and Instagram. If uploading images to social media, particularly Instagram, tag @Caribbeanislandsmanta in your uploads to make sure these images are easily found and included in the global database.

## DCNA

The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) supports science communication and outreach in the Dutch Caribbean region by making nature-related scientific information more widely available through amongst others the Dutch Caribbean Biodiversity Database, DCNA's news platform BioNews and the press. This article contains the results from several scientific studies but the studies themselves are not DCNA studies. No rights can be derived from the content. DCNA is not liable for the content and the in(direct) impacts resulting from publishing this article. □



# Don't forget to visit Aruba's famous Red Anchor

**At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.**

## Where to Find the Anchor?

The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

## About the Anchor Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

## Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

## Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow

mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

## Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

## How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division

Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

## Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charles Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance

from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charles Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

## The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (keep an eye out for our future editions, we publish our recommendations!).

With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule. ☐



The Red Anchor situated at the entrance of former Lago Colony in San Nicolas



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Super-market aids
  - 6 Select group
  - 11 Con-cerning
  - 12 Alpine trill
  - 13 Enter-tainer Midler
  - 14 Business bigwigs
  - 15 Feedbag fill
  - 17 That woman
  - 18 Valuable item passed down
  - 22 Old Atlanta arena
  - 23 Radio button
  - 27 Pocket breads
  - 29 Ham it up
  - 30 Furry wraps
  - 32 Pos-sesses
  - 33 Looks down on
  - 35 Scrooge cry
  - 38 Convoy truck
  - 39 San Antonio mission
  - 41 Canary homes
  - 45 More certain
- DOWN**
- 1 Hailed vehicle
  - 2 Lincoln nickname
  - 3 Go bad
  - 4 Helpful software features
  - 5 Real bargain
  - 6 Ugly building
  - 7 Smoked salmon
  - 8 Midmonth day
  - 9 Computer fixer
  - 10 Different
  - 16 Spinning toy
  - 18 Brewing ingredient
  - 19 Give off
  - 20 A fan of
  - 21 Some D.C. landmarks
  - 24 Boars' mates
  - 25 Sicilian peak
  - 26 Exam
  - 28 Kind of overload
  - 31 Take in
  - 34 Game show host
  - 35 Diamond corner
  - 36 Home-coming attendee
  - 37 Angel's instrument
  - 40 Convened
  - 42 Neon or helium
  - 43 Summer in France
  - 44 Kinsey topic

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## Saturday's answer

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45					46				
47					48				

5-29

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.

5-29

## CRYPTOQUOTE

A D U D X K A J B D T K D C G N T  
B P L Z A Y N A T C K Y J M Z E E N  
L P Y B N M D G W V E N L Z A V J N E N

T D M. — M K A E J N A Y B P X Y B K C C  
Saturday's Cryptoquote: YOUR EDUCATION IS A DRESS REHEARSAL FOR A LIFE THAT IS YOURS TO LEAD. — NORA EPHRON

## Delaware taps artificial intelligence to evacuate crowded beaches when floods hit

By JEFF McMURRAY

Associated Press

**DELAWARE (AP)** — Delaware's low elevation mixed with crowded beaches and limited exit routes make the state particularly vulnerable to massive flooding, but officials hope an influx of federal infrastructure money will trigger future evacuation plans automatically via artificial intelligence.

The Biden administration was set to announce a total of \$53 million in grants Thursday to Delaware and seven other states aimed at high-tech solutions to traffic congestion problems. Although the money comes from the infrastructure law the president signed in 2021, many of the programs — including the \$5 million for flood response efforts in Biden's home state — have evolved since then.

"What's new is the predictive analysis; the machine learning," U.S. Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt, Delaware's former transportation secretary, said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Because now we have access to all



Waves crash near a beachgoer on July 13, 2022, in Rehoboth Beach, Del. Delaware is getting help from the federal government for its effort to use artificial intelligence to automatically trigger the evacuation of crowded beaches amid major flooding.

Associated Press

this data, it's hard for us as humans to figure out what is data and what is actionable information." Delaware officials pull off evacuation-type procedures every week during the tourism season, with long lines of cars headed to the beaches on week-end mornings and back at night. But flooding presents a unique problem — including standing water on roads that can make the most direct routes out of town even more treacherous than simply sheltering in place.

"What you don't want to do is make the decision too late and then you have vehicles caught out," said Gene Donaldson, operations manager at the state's 24-hour Transportation Management Center. Delaware's transportation department, which controls more than 90% of roads in a state with the lowest average elevation in the country, is tasked with implementing evacuation plans during high water — a bureaucratic nightmare considering how quickly conditions can change. □

## Microsoft: State-sponsored Chinese hackers could be laying groundwork for disruption

Associated Press

**BOSTON (AP)** — State-backed Chinese hackers have been targeting U.S. critical infrastructure and could be laying the technical groundwork for the potential disruption of critical communications between the U.S. and Asia during future crises, Microsoft said Wednesday. The targets include sites in Guam, where the U.S. has a major military presence, the com-

pany said. Hostile activity in cyberspace — from espionage to the advanced positioning of malware for potential future attacks — has become a hallmark of modern geopolitical rivalry. Microsoft said in a blog post that the state-sponsored group of hackers, which it calls Volt Typhoon, has been active since mid-2021. It said organizations affected by the hacking — which seeks persistent

access — are in the communications, manufacturing, utility, transportation, construction, maritime, information technology and education sectors. Separately, the National Security Agency, the FBI, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and their counterparts from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Britain published a joint advisory sharing technical details on "the recently discovered cluster of activity." A Microsoft spokesman would not say why the software giant was making the announcement now or whether it had recently seen an uptick in targeting of critical infrastructure in Guam or at adjacent U.S. military facilities there, which include a major air base. □

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## As Elizabeth Holmes heads to prison for fraud, many puzzle over her motives



File - Former Theranos CEO Elizabeth Holmes, center, arrives at federal court with her father, Christian Holmes IV, left, and partner, Billy Evans, in San Jose, Calif., Monday, Oct. 17, 2022. As Elizabeth Holmes prepares to report to prison next week, the criminal case that laid bare the blood-testing scam at the heart of her Theranos startup is entering its final phase.

(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu, File)

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE** AP  
Technology Writer

**SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)** — As Elizabeth Holmes prepares to report to prison next week, the criminal case that laid bare the blood-testing scam at the heart of her Theranos startup is entering its final phase.

The 11-year sentence represents a comeuppance for the wide-eyed woman who broke through "tech bro" culture to become one of Silicon Valley's most celebrated entrepreneurs, only to be exposed as a fraud. Along the way, Holmes became a symbol of the shameless hyperbole that often saturates startup culture.

But questions still linger about her true intentions — so many that even the federal judge who presided over her trial seemed mystified. And Holmes' defenders continue to ask whether the punishment fits the crime.

At 39, she seems most likely to be remembered as Silicon Valley's Icarus — a high-flying entrepreneur burning with reckless ambition whose odyssey culminated in convictions for fraud and conspiracy.

Her motives are still somewhat mysterious, and some supporters say federal prosecutors targeted her unfairly in their zeal to bring down one of the most prominent practitioners of

fake-it-til-you-make-it — the tech sector's brand of self-promotion that sometimes veers into exaggeration and blatant lies to raise money.

Holmes will begin to pay the price for her deceit on May 30 when she is scheduled begin the sentence that will separate her from her two children — a son whose July 2021 birth delayed the start of her trial and a 3-month-old daughter conceived after her conviction.

She is expected to be incarcerated in Bryan, Texas, about 100 miles (160 km) northwest of her hometown of Houston. □

## New York City outlaws discrimination on the basis of weight, height

**NEW YORK (AP)** — New York City Mayor Eric Adams signed legislation Friday that will ban discrimination based on body size by adding weight and height to the list of protected categories such as race, sex and religion.

"We all deserve the same access to employment, housing and public accommodation, regardless of our appearance, and it shouldn't matter how tall you are or how much you weigh," said the mayor, who joined other elected officials as well as fat-acceptance advocates at a City Hall bill-signing ceremony.

Adams, a Democrat who published a book about reversing his diabetes through a plant-based diet, said the ordinance "will help level the playing field for all New Yorkers, create more inclusive workplaces and living environments, and protect against discrimination." Exemptions under the ordinance, which the city council passed this month, include cases in which an individual's height or weight could prevent them from performing essential functions of a job.

Some business leaders expressed opposition to the legislation when it was be-

fore the council, arguing that compliance could become an onerous burden.

"The extent of the impact and cost of this legislation has not been fully considered," Kathy Wylde, president and CEO of the Partnership for New York City, said in a statement.

Several other U.S. cities have banned discrimination based on weight and physical appearance, including San Francisco, Washington, D.C., and Madison, Wisconsin. And legislation to ban weight and height discrimination has been introduced in states including New Jersey and Massachusetts.

Tigress Osborn, the chair of the National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, said New York City's weight discrimination ban should serve as a model for the nation and the world. □



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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
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Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

#### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
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  
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Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes  
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#### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



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**A woman holds a sign as she takes part in a demonstration against a concert later the day of former Pink Floyd musician Roger Waters in the Festhalle, background, in Frankfurt, Germany, Sunday, May 28, 2023. The Festhalle was the place where in the night of broken glasses 1938 about 3000 Jewish men were gathered to deport them to concentration camps. (AP Photo/Michael Probst)**

**BERLIN (AP)** — Several Jewish groups, politicians and an alliance of civil society groups gathered for a memorial ceremony and a protest rally against a concert by Roger Waters in Frankfurt on Sunday evening.

They accuse the Pink Floyd co-founder of antisemitism - an allegation he denies. Waters has also drawn their ire for his support of the BDS movement, which calls for boycotts and sanctions against Israel.

Frankfurt authorities had initially tried to prevent the concert taking place, but Waters successfully chal-

lenged the move in a local court.

The concert is taking place in the city's Festhalle, where in November 1938 more than 3,000 Jews were rounded up by the Nazis, beaten and abused, and later deported to concentration camps.

"Against this historical background, the concert should not have taken place under any circumstances," said Sacha Stawski, a member of the Frankfurt Jewish community and head of the group Honestly Concerned, that helped organize the protests.

"It's very frustrating" that the

## Jewish groups and city officials protest against Roger Waters concert in Frankfurt

concert is going ahead as scheduled even though Frankfurt officials and many others tried to prevent it, Elio Adler, the head of the Jewish group Wertelinitiative which supports the protest, told The Associated Press. "His words and imagery spread Jew-hatred and are part of a trend: to normalize Israel-hatred under the protection of freedom of speech or art," Adler added.

Last week, police in Berlin said they had opened an investigation of Waters on suspicion of incitement over a costume he wore when he performed in the German capital earlier this month.

Images on social media showed Waters firing an imitation machine gun while dressed in a long black coat with a red armband. Police confirmed that an investigation was opened over suspicions that the context of the costume could constitute a glorification, justification or approval of Nazi rule and therefore a disturbance of the public peace.

Waters rejected those accusations in a statement on Facebook and Instagram, saying that "the elements of my performance that have been questioned are quite clearly a statement in opposition to fascism, injustice, and bigotry in all its forms."

He claimed that "attempts to portray those elements as something else are disingenuous and politically motivated."

During Sunday's ceremony and protests, which took place in front of the Frankfurt concert venue before Waters' concert was set to begin, protesters read out loud the names of 600 Jews who were rounded up at the Festhalle on November 9, 1939, the so-called Kristallnacht — the "Night of Broken Glass" — when Nazis terrorized Jews throughout Germany and Austria.

The organizers also held a joint Jewish-Christian prayer for the victims of the Nazi terror in Frankfurt. The city's mayor as well as the head of the local Jewish community spoke at the protest.

"Hatred of Jews is to be

condemned everywhere in our city," Frankfurt Mayor Mike Josef said, according to German news agency dpa. "There is no reason to hate, insult and attack a person because of his religion."

Before the performance began, around 400 protesters handed out flyers to concertgoers and waved Israeli flags.

Others held up banners with slogans such as "Israel, we stand with you" or "Roger Waters, wish you were not here" in reference to Pink Floyd's famous song "Wish You Were Here," dpa reported.

Protesters in Munich rallied against a concert by Waters earlier this month, after the city council said it had explored possibilities of banning the performance but concluded that it wasn't legally possible to cancel a contract with the organizer.

Last year, the Polish city of Krakow canceled gigs by Waters because of his sympathetic stance toward Russia in its war against Ukraine. □

## 'Succession' fans brace for series finale of Emmy-winning hit drama

**By SUMAN NAISHADHAM**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Jennifer Gould, an Oregon-based trusts and estates lawyer, thinks the premise of "Succession" — HBO's hit series chronicling a billionaire media mogul and his children's struggles to take over the family company — is a little flawed.

"The idea that they wouldn't have a firm succession plan in place is ridiculous," Gould said.

Still, she has set aside Monday for "crying and grieving" after watching the hotly anticipated series finale airing Sunday evening.

With the critically acclaimed drama's fourth and final season ending, dedicated fans of "Succession" are locking in plans to watch the whopping 88-minute finale while turning online for emotional

support, memes and endless theories about how the show could end and who will prevail.

"No one I know in real life watches the show," Gould said, adding that the emotional toll of season four made her look for support online, which is how she landed on the social news website Reddit, where a chat dedicated to all things "Succession" has more than 456,000 members.

In preparation for Sunday, Gould also is rereading "King Lear," among Shakespeare's bleakest tragedies, about a declining monarch and his children's battle for the crown. Gould thinks the play could offer clues to how the series will end.

"It's fairly obvious that it's a loose retelling of King Lear," Gould said of "Succession." "I watch it obsessively. I



**This combination of three separate photos shows Jeremy Strong as Kendall Roy, left, Sarah Snook as Shiv Roy, center, and Kieran Culkin as Roman Roy, from the HBO series "Succession." (HBO via AP)**

don't think there's another way to watch it."

"Succession" always has been about the membership of its audience, not its size, and its popularity among the coastal media and agenda-setting groups

that the show depicts and attracts means the finale should leave a cultural mark.

More recent prestige TV finales are a better analogue for "Succession" than those of the network behe-

moths of decades past. For example,

"The Sopranos" suddenly cutting to black to the song "Don't Stop Believin'" in 2007 set the standard for both talkability and inscrutability. □



## Verstappen wins Monaco GP to extend F1 championship lead; Alonso 2nd ahead of Ocon

**MONACO (AP)** — Formula One champion Max Verstappen's lights-to-flag victory at the Monaco Grand Prix gave the Red Bull driver his fourth victory of the season and a record 39th overall for the team as he extended his championship lead to 39 points over teammate Sergio Perez on Sunday.

Verstappen's wins have all been with Red Bull since his first on debut for the team at the Spanish GP in 2016 when he became the youngest F1 winner at 18 years old.

Seven years and two world championships later, the Dutchman set a team record for wins as he passed former Red Bull driver Sebastian Vettel's previous tally of 38 victories when he won four straight titles from 2010-13.

Spanish veteran Fernando Alonso was a season's best second for Aston Martin as he collected a fifth podium in six races, albeit 28 seconds behind Verstappen, while Frenchman Esteban Ocon secured third place and a rare podium for Alpine. Red Bull has won all the races so far.

Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr. glided sideways into the barriers and was lucky not to damage his Ferrari. Kevin Magnussen lost control of his Haas and Lance Stroll retired after damaging his Aston Martin.

Red Bull had wisely put Verstappen on the versatile and more suited to the wet conditions intermediates on Lap 56 and they carried him to his second win in Monaco. The first was in 2021.

Lewis Hamilton finished fourth for Mercedes and picked up a point for fastest lap. His teammate George Russell was fifth, having earlier almost slammed into Perez as visibility worsened. A serious crash was somehow avoided in a hectic few minutes before the rain eased off. Alonso is third in the standings and closed the gap on Perez to 12 points. The 41-year-old Alonso's podi-

um was his 103rd in F1, while Ocon grabbed his third.

"I'm speechless at the moment," Ocon said. "A little bit on my cloud at the moment."

Russell was given a five-second penalty for rejoining the track in an unsafe manner but had just enough to keep fifth place ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc.

Pierre Gasly (Alpine), a seething Sainz, Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri (both McLaren) rounded out the top 10.

Sainz, meanwhile, was furious that Ferrari — a team with a worrying reputation for still making bad strategy calls — pitted him too early and put on the wrong tire



First place, Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands, left, celebrates on the podium with second place, Aston Martin driver Fernando Alonso of Spain, center, and third place, Alpine driver Esteban Ocon of France at the finish of the Monaco Formula One Grand Prix, at the Monaco racetrack, in Monaco, Sunday, May 28, 2023.

(AP Photo/Luca Bruno)

to cover Ocon's stop and let his team know with an outburst over team radio. The Spaniard had already

endured a difficult day after his front wing clipped Ocon's Alpine as he tried to overtake. A portion of

the wing came off subsequently but Sainz got away with just a warning for the incident. □



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### Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

### Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



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To reserve your table please call +297 583-8000 / ext 8106 or direct line +297 586-9494

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website [watersedge-aruba.com](http://watersedge-aruba.com)

