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Page 9

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U.S. Army to control land on Mexico border as part of base, migrants could be detained, officials say

By **TARA COPP and LOLITA C. BALDOR**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A long sliver of federal land along the U.S.-Mexico border that President Donald Trump is turning over to the Department of Defense would be controlled by the Army as part of a base, which could allow troops to detain any trespassers, including migrants, U.S. officials told The Associated Press. The transfer of that border zone to military control and making it part of an Army installation is an attempt by the Trump administration to get around a federal law that prohibits U.S. troops from being used in domestic law enforcement on American soil.

But if the troops are providing security for land that is part of an Army base, they can perform that function. However, at least one presidential powers expert said the move is likely to be challenged in the courts. The officials said the issue is still under review in the Pentagon, but even as any legal review goes on, the administration's intent is to have troops detain migrants at the border. The corridor, known as the



A member of the U.S. Army 212 Infantry 2nd Brigade stands next to the US-Mexico border as part of Joint Task Force Southern Border Thursday, April 3, 2025, in Douglas, Ariz.

Associated Press

Roosevelt Reservation, is a 60-foot-wide federal buffer zone that ribbons along the border from New Mexico to California, except where it encounters tribal or privately owned land. It had been run by the Interior Department until Trump directed control be transferred to the Defense Department in a presidential memo released Friday night.

For the next 45 days, the Defense Department will test

taking control of a section of the Roosevelt Reservation in New Mexico, east of Fort Huachuca, which is an Army installation in Arizona, one of the U.S. officials said. During that period, the Army will put up additional fencing and signs warning people not to trespass.

People not authorized to be in that area could be arrested by the Army's security forces, the officials said, who spoke on condition of

anonymity to provide details not yet made public.

Any migrants in the country illegally who are detained by military personnel on those lands would be turned over to local civilian law enforcement agencies, the officials said.

It was not clear if the added land would require the military to deploy additional forces to the border. There are about 7,100 active duty troops under federal con-

rol currently assigned to the border and about 4,600 National Guard troops under state control.

Troops are prohibited from conducting civilian law enforcement on U.S. soil under the Posse Comitatus Act. An exception known as the military purpose doctrine allows it in some cases but would not apply here and would likely be challenged in the courts, said Elizabeth Goitein, an expert on presidential emergency powers at the Brennan Center for Justice.

That's because even though troops would be on land designated as an Army installation, they would have to prove that their primary mission there was not to conduct border security and law enforcement and the whole point of Trump's order transferring the Roosevelt Reservation to the military's control is to secure the border, she said.

The military purpose doctrine "only applies if the law enforcement aspect is incidental," Goitein said. "Does this (area) have a military purpose that has nothing to do with enforcing customs and security at the border?" □



The Associated Press logo is displayed at the news organization's world headquarters in New York on Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

Associated Press

By **DAVID BAUDER**
AP Media Writer

Despite a court order, a reporter and photographer from The Associated Press were barred from an Oval Office news conference on Monday with President

Donald Trump and his counterpart from El Salvador, Nayib Bukele.

Last week's federal court decision forbidding the Trump administration from punishing the AP for refusing to rename the Gulf of

Despite a court order, White House bars AP from Oval Office event

Mexico was to take effect Monday. The administration is appealing the decision and arguing with the news outlet over whether it needs to change anything until those appeals are exhausted.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. circuit set a Thursday hearing on Trump's request that any changes be delayed while case is reviewed. The AP is fighting for more access as soon as possible.

Since mid-February, AP reporters and photographers have been blocked from attending events in the Oval Office, where President Donald Trump

frequently addresses journalists, and on Air Force One. The AP has seen sporadic access elsewhere, and regularly covers White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt's briefings. Leavitt is one of three administration officials named in the AP's lawsuit. The dispute stems from AP's decision not to follow the president's executive order to rename the Gulf of Mexico, although AP style does cite Trump's wish that it be called the Gulf of America. The AP argued — and U.S. District Judge Trevor N. McFadden agreed last week that the government cannot

punish the news organization for exercising its right to free speech.

McFadden on Friday had rejected Trump's request for more delay in implementing the ruling; now the president is asking an appeals court for the same thing.

"We expect the White House to restore AP's participation in the (White House press) pool as of today, as provided in the injunction order," AP spokeswoman Lauren Easton said Monday.

The extent of AP's future access remains uncertain, even with the court decision. □

Democrats dislike the 'chaos' of Trump's trade war but are OK with some tariffs

By JOSH BOAK and MATT BROWN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats are quick to say that President Donald Trump's tariffs are horrible, awful, terrible. But Democrats are also stressing that they are not inherently anti-tariff. What Trump's political opponents say they really dislike is the "chaos" he has unleashed.

"Tariffs are an important tool in our economic toolbox," said Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass. "Trump is creating chaos, and that chaos undercuts our economy and our families, both in the short term and the long term. ... He's just created a worldwide hurricane, and that's not good for anyone."

Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., said Democrats have a consensus around "a unified concept, which is targeted tariffs can work, across the board tariffs are bad."

"The right targeting is in the eye of the beholder, but nobody on our side thinks zero tariffs ever," Kaine said.

The Democrats' message is meant to convey that they are reasonable, focused on capable governance and attuned to financial market distress. It's a pitch toward



Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., speaks during a confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, March 14, 2025.

swing voters who would like to see more manufacturing yet are uncomfortable with the consequences of Trump's approach to tariffs. The risk is that it also is a nuanced argument at a time when pithy critiques travel faster and spread wider on social media than do measured policy analyses.

To the Trump White House, that message is nothing but hypocrisy.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt on Tuesday noted that Rep.

Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who would later become House speaker, was warning in June 1996 that trade with China meant higher trade deficits and job losses.

"It is about nothing less than our economic future, our national security and our democratic principles," said Pelosi before the House voted to not overturn then Democratic President Bill Clinton's decision to extend most-favored-nation trade status for China for another year.

The Trump administration views those remarks as evidence that Democrats actually back what Trump is doing, despite their stated opposition.

"Everyone in Washington, whether they want to admit it or not, knows that this president is right when it comes to tariffs and when it comes to trade," Leavitt told reporters. "Nancy Pelosi can thank President Trump today."

Not all Democrats have threaded the needle

cleanly.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer gave a speech in Washington on Wednesday calling for tariffs to be used like a "scalpel." Hours later, she was in the Oval Office with Trump in a moment caught on video as the president signed directives for the Justice Department to investigate two of his public critics and gave noncommittal musings on tariff negotiations.

Whitmer's office later said in a statement that she was "surprised" that she was brought in for the event after a meeting with Trump and that "her presence is not an endorsement of the actions taken or statements made at that event."

Trump this month unilaterally imposed sweeping tariffs on China, the European Union, Mexico, Canada, Japan and South Korea, among dozens of other nations.

But on Wednesday, he suspended most of the tariffs for 90 days while applying a baseline import tax of 10% to most nations, a 145% tariff on Chinese goods and a tariff of as much as 25% on Mexico and Canada. There are also tariffs on autos, steel and aluminum, with more planned on specific products. □

Associated Press

Wisconsin clerk who failed to count almost 200 ballots resigns amid internal investigation

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The municipal clerk in Wisconsin's capital city has quit amid investigations into how she failed to count nearly 200 absentee ballots in the November elections. Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway's office announced City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl's resignation on Monday. The mayor's spokesperson, Dylan Brogan, said Witzel-Behl submitted her resignation on Thursday but the mayor had to wait to announce it because Witzel-Behl's contract granted her several days to change her mind. The Wisconsin Elections Commission launched an

investigation in early January after learning that Witzel-Behl had failed to count 192 ballots and didn't inform the commission until Dec. 18, more than a month after the election and weeks after canvassing was complete.

The ballots didn't affect the outcome of any races or referenda. But four Madison voters whose ballots went uncounted have filed claims for \$175,000 each from the city and Dane County, the first step toward a lawsuit. It was another blunder for Witzel-Behl after she announced in September that her office erroneously sent out up to

2,000 duplicate absentee ballots.

The mayor suspended her in March and launched an internal investigation, saying that the move was necessary to maintain public confidence in the clerk's office. Brogan said that investigation has ended and a report could be released as soon as the end of April. The elections commission is scheduled to discuss its investigation at a meeting Thursday.

Witzel-Behl made \$152,300 annually. City Attorney Mike Haas has been serving as interim city clerk since she was suspended. The April 1 spring election appears

to have gone off smoothly under his supervision. □



Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway speaks at a news conference, Dec. 17, 2024, in Madison, Wis.

Associated Press

Harvard defies Trump's demands and risks \$9B in federal funding

By **MICHAEL CASEY**
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Harvard University announced Monday that it won't comply with a list of demands from the Trump administration as part of its campaign against antisemitism, which could put almost \$9 billion in funding at risk.

In a letter to Harvard Friday, the administration called for broad government and leadership reforms, a requirement that Harvard institute what it calls "merit-based" admissions and hiring policies as well as conduct an audit of the study body, faculty and leadership on their views about diversity.

The demands, which are an update from an earlier letter, also call for a ban on face masks which appeared to target pro-Palestinian protesters. They also pressure the university to stop recognizing or funding "any student group or club that endorses or promotes criminal activity, illegal violence, or illegal harassment."

Harvard President Alan Garber, in a letter to the Harvard community Monday, said the demands violated the university's First Amendment rights and



Hundreds of demonstrators gather on Cambridge Common during a rally at the historic park in Cambridge, Mass., Saturday, April 12, 2025, calling on Harvard University to resist what organizers described as attempts by President Trump to influence the institution.

Associated Press

"exceeds the statutory limits of the government's authority under Title VI," which prohibits discrimination against students based on their race, color or national origin.

"No government regardless of which party is in power should dictate what private universities can teach, whom they can admit and hire, and which areas of study and inquiry

they can pursue," Garber wrote, adding that the university had taken extensive reforms to address antisemitism.

"These ends will not be achieved by assertions of power, unmoored from the law, to control teaching and learning at Harvard and to dictate how we operate," he wrote. "The work of addressing our shortcomings, fulfilling our com-

mitments, and embodying our values is ours to define and undertake as a community."

The demands of Harvard are part of a broader push of using taxpayer dollars to pressure major academic institutions to comply with President Donald Trump's political agenda and to influence campus policy. The administration has also argued that universities al-

lowed what it considered to be antisemitism to go unchecked at campus protests last year against Israel's war in Gaza; the schools deny it.

Harvard is one of several Ivy League schools targeted in a pressure campaign by the administration, which also has paused federal funding for the University of Pennsylvania, Brown, and Princeton to force compliance with its agenda. Harvard's demand letter is similar to the one that prompted changes at Columbia University under the threat of billions of dollars in cuts. The demands from the Trump administration prompted a group of alumni to write to university leaders calling for it to "legally contest and refuse to comply with unlawful demands that threaten academic freedom and university self-governance."

"Harvard stood up today for the integrity, values, and freedoms that serve as the foundation of higher education," said Anurima Bhargava, one of the alumni behind the letter. "Harvard reminded the world that learning, innovation and transformative growth will not yield to bullying and authoritarian whims." □

Jury selected for Sarah Palin's libel suit against The New York Times

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A jury was selected Monday to hear a retrial of Sarah Palin's claims that The New York Times libeled her in an editorial eight years ago.

Opening statements were scheduled for Tuesday as the onetime Republican vice presidential candidate and ex-governor of Alaska gets another chance to prove to a federal jury that the newspa-

per defamed her with the 2017 editorial falsely linking her campaign rhetoric to a mass shooting. Palin said it damaged her reputation and career.

The Times has acknowledged the editorial was inaccurate but said it quickly corrected the "honest mistake."

During a jury selection process that lasted less than an hour, Judge Jed S. Rakoff in Manhattan gave jurors a brief description of the case, saying that the plaintiff was Sarah Palin and the defendant was The New York Times, "complete unknowns I'm sure."

The trial, expected to last up to two weeks, comes after the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals restored the case last year.

In February 2022, Rakoff rejected Palin's claims in a ruling issued while a jury deliberated. The judge then let jurors deliver their verdict, which also went against Palin.

In restoring the lawsuit, the 2nd Circuit said Rakoff's dismissal ruling improperly intruded on the jury's work. It also cited flaws in the trial, saying there was erroneous exclusion of evidence, an inaccurate jury instruction and an erroneous response to a question from the jury. Before jury selection began Monday, the sometimes self-deprecating and humor-prone Rakoff told lawyers that the appeals court "seems to think I got it wrong in a lot of ways."

He said that on Friday, he "went back and read

the entire opinion, painful though it was."

The retrial occurs as President Donald Trump and others in agreement with his views of news coverage have been aggressive toward media outlets when they believe there has been unjust treatment.

Trump sued CBS News for \$20 billion over the editing of a "60 Minutes" interview with his 2024 opponent, former Vice President Kamala Harris, and also sued the Des Moines Register over an Iowa election poll that turned out to be inaccurate.

ABC News settled a lawsuit with Trump over its incorrect claim the president had been found civilly liable for raping writer E. Jean Carroll. □



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin arrives at Manhattan federal court, Monday, April 14, 2025, in New York.

Associated Press

U.K. police struggled to counter online falsehoods that fueled summer violence, lawmakers say

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Outdated laws unfit for the social media age hampered police from countering false claims that helped fuel anti-immigrant violence in Britain last summer, an investigation by lawmakers said Monday.

Parliament's Home Affairs Committee said limits on disclosing details of criminal investigations "created an information vacuum that allowed disinformation to flourish" after three children were stabbed to death at a summer dance party in July.

The attack in the northwest England town of Southport shocked the country and triggered days of disorder after far-right activists seized on incorrect reports that the attacker was a Muslim migrant who had recently arrived in the U.K. Over several nights, crowds attacked housing for asylum-seekers, as well as mosques, libraries and community centers, in the worst street violence Britain had seen since riots in 2011. Attacker Axel Rudakubana, who was 17 when he carried out the rampage at a Taylor Swift-themed dance class, is the British-born son of Rwandan Christian parents. He is serving a life sen-



Police officers watch members of the public outside the Town Hall during a vigil to remember the victims of the stabbing attack last Monday in Southport, England, Monday, Aug. 5, 2024.

Associated Press

tence with no chance of parole for 52 years for killing Alice Da Silva Aguiar, 9, Elsie Dot Stancombe, 7, and Bebe King, 6, and wounding eight other children and two adults.

Longstanding contempt-of-court rules, intended to ensure fair trials, hampered police in correcting online misinformation, and a ban on naming suspects under 18 meant the attacker's identity was withheld from the public for several days. A tweet falsely identifying

the attacker, posted on the day of the stabbings, was retweeted thousands of times and viewed by millions of people, the lawmakers said. Police did not state that the information was false until the next day, and even then did not release the attacker's name. Conservative lawmaker Karen Bradley, who heads the Home Affairs Committee, said "bad actors sought to exploit the unspeakable tragedy that unfolded in Southport."

"By failing to disclose information to the public, false claims filled the gap and flourished online, further undermining confidence in the police and public authorities," she said. "The criminal justice system will need to ensure its approach to communication is fit for the social media age."

The committee of lawmakers from both government and opposition parties also said police struggled to monitor the sheer volume

of content on social media. It called for government support "to monitor and respond to social media at a national level."

The government said it agreed that "social media has put well-established principles around how we communicate after attacks like this under strain, and we must be able to tackle misinformation head on." It has asked the Law Commission to carry out a review into contempt of court rules.

The government also has set up a public inquiry into how the system failed to stop the killer, who had been referred to the authorities multiple times over his obsession with violence. The lawmakers' committee, which heard from police, prosecutors and experts during its inquiry, also said there was no evidence to support allegations of "two-tier policing" in Britain. Politicians and activists on the political right have argued that those arrested over the summer disorder were treated more harshly than climate change activists or Black Lives Matter protesters.

More than 1,000 people have faced criminal charges over the violence, which saw 69 police officers treated in hospitals. □

Ex-U.K. lawmaker charged with cheating in election betting scandal

By BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A former Conservative lawmaker and 14 others have been charged with cheating when placing bets on the timing of Britain's general election last year, the Gambling Commission said Monday.

Craig Williams was one of several people who had been investigated for cashing in on insider knowledge on the date then-Prime Minister Rishi Sunak would call the election. Other members of the Conservative Party that controlled government at the time and a police officer were among those facing charges that carry a potential two-year prison term, if convicted. It's legal for politicians to wager on elections, but the investigation was

about whether they used inside information to gain an unfair advantage. One of the popular bets at the time was to wager on the date the prime minister would call an election.

At the time, the conventional wisdom was that Sunak would call an election in the fall, but he surprised people in May when he set the election date for July 4th. The announcement was a disaster as Sunak was drenched in pouring rain outside his residence and word quickly spread that a handful of people with connections to the party had placed suspiciously timed bets. The vote six weeks later ended up being a bloodbath for Conservatives, as the Labour Party, led by Prime Minister Keir Starmer, swept them out of office for the first time in 14 years. □



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak speaks to the media, as heavy rain falls, outside 10 Downing Street in London Wednesday, May 22, 2024, as he announces that he is to call a General Election for July 4.

Associated Press

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Lebanon's prime minister visits Syrian president to discuss border demarcation and security

By **SALLY ABOU ALJOUD**
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam led a high-level ministerial delegation to Syria on Monday for talks with Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa, marking the most significant diplomatic visit between the two countries since the fall of Bashar Assad's government in December.

"My visit to Damascus today aims to open a new page in the history of relations between the two countries, based on mutual respect, restoring trust, good neighborliness," Salam said in a statement on X.

At the center of discussions was implementing a March 28 agreement signed in Saudi Arabia by the Syrian and Lebanese defense ministers to demarcate land and sea borders and improve coordination on border security issues, Salam said in the state-



In this photo released by the Lebanese Government press office, Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam, left, shakes hands with Syrian interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa in Damascus, Syria, Monday, April 14, 2025.

Associated Press

ment. The Lebanese-Syrian border witnessed deadly clashes earlier this year and years of unrest in the frontier regions, which have been plagued by weapons

and illicit drug smuggling through illegal crossings. During Monday's meeting, Salam and Sharaa agreed to form a joint ministerial committee to oversee the implementation of the bor-

der agreement, close illegal crossings and suppress smuggling activity along the border. The border area, especially near Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and Syria's Qusayr

region, has long been a corridor for illicit trade, arms trafficking, and the movement of fighters — including Hezbollah militants who backed the Assad government during Syria's 14-year civil war.

Hezbollah has been significantly weakened in its recent war with Israel and since Assad's ousting, it lost several key smuggling routes it once relied on for weapons transfers.

Lebanon also pressed Syria to provide clarity on the fate of thousands of Lebanese nationals who were forcibly disappeared or imprisoned in Syrian jails in the 1980s and 1990s, during Syria's nearly 30-year military presence in Lebanon. Human rights groups have long documented the lack of accountability and transparency regarding these cases, with families of the missing holding regular demonstrations in Beirut demanding answers. □

New York City's mayor visits the Dominican Republic after the deadly nightclub roof collapse



New York Mayor Eric Adams, accompanied by Dominican authorities, speaks to the press in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Monday, April 14, 2025, upon arrival to pay his respects to those who died at the Jet Set nightclub after its roof collapsed.

Associated Press

By **MARTÍN ADAMES ALCÁNTARA**
Associated Press

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — New York City Mayor Eric Adams arrived in the Dominican Republic on Monday to pay his respects to the 231 people who died last week when the roof of a legendary nightclub collapsed in Santo Domingo.

The visit of the embattled mayor comes as many of the 700,000 Dominicans who live in New York City, representing 8% of its population, mourn the victims who were attending a concert at the Jet Set club on April 7.

Adams first met with police and other local authorities and then visited the site, where he was received by officials including Victor D'Aza, president of the Dominican Municipal League. It's the body that regulates the mayors' offices, which are responsible for granting construction permits and supervising renovations of works.

"This has to be a lesson for more effective supervision, for rigor in compliance with the rules. This is a wake-up call," D'Aza told The Associated Press.

The tally of victims rose Monday from 226 to 231, according to Interior Minister Faride Raful.

Crews rescued 189 people from the rubble, and 12 are still hospitalized. Three of those are in critical condition, according to health officials.

It was not immediately clear what cause the roof to collapse. Authorities are investigating.

Adams was scheduled to attend a Mass in the evening. □

Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!



(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be

traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University

of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather,

like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times in the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side



are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.

This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserving our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! ☐

Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas

SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly visible in San Nicolas - more than anywhere else on the island.

Flow of history

if you are looking for history San Nicolas has it. Here you will find three amazing museums, The Museum of Industry, the Community Museum and the Carnival Euphoria, all within walking



distance from one another. The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling business center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history.

Nicolaas Store built in 1940 and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Community Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaus of an authentically recreated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barber-shop, just to name a few of

the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment. Carnival Euphoria is showcasing Aruba's Carnival. See how are Carnival has developed over the past 65 years.

The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly beginning to grow. This is the new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub — varied history, interesting

architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a collection of artists from around the world. Thanks to the efforts of various art organizations in Aruba, such as Art Rules

Aruba and Aruba Art Fair, San Nicolas has had quite the aesthetic makeover with regards to vibrant street art. Each year more and more stunning murals are replacing broken down buildings with colorful art pieces that keep brightening up SunriseCity.

Must See, Do, Buy & Eat

A little bit of everything can be found in the main street. Stores selling shoes, clothing, jewelry you name it. Don't miss out on trying the exquisite food offered by the cafes and restaurants or just enjoy a peaceful walk admiring the murals, mosaic benches and all the history San Nicolas has to offer. ☐



Paseo Herencia; An exciting destination for leisure and entertainment



NOORD — Paseo Herencia, situated in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from the high-rise hotels, beckons with a diverse array of shopping, dining, and entertainment options in an outdoor setting.

Shopping

Paseo Herencia presents a captivating selection of stores catering to various preferences, encompassing beachwear, apparel, fragrances, footwear, jewelry, keepsakes, and much more. Unwind at Maggy's, indulging in their salon services while exploring a range of beauty products. For a memorable gift crafted from natural ingredients, explore Aruba Aloe's offerings. Iconic brands like Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike, and Pandora stand among the favorites.



Dining

Embark on a global culinary journey at Paseo Herencia's diverse array of restaurants, each offering a unique dining experience. From the vibrant flavors of Iguana Cantina's Mexican cuisine to the Spanish elegance of Xixon Spanish Restaurant, the innovative fusion of Pizza and Sushi at Fusion Cuisine, the grilled delights of Skewers Grill, the comfort of The Lazy Turtle, the creativity at Drunk's Denial, and the seafood sensation of Sexy Shrimps Bar, and the familiar warmth of Starbucks, indulge in an unforgettable gastronomic adventure that spans the world's finest cuisines, all within the charming ambiance of our outdoor center.

VIP Cinema

Indulge in an unparalleled cinematic experience at Caribbean Cinemas VIP, nestled on Paseo Herencia's second floor. Relax in supremely comfortable reclining seats while enjoying movies on high-quality screens with state-of-the-art projection and 7.1 Dolby surround sound. Don't forget to relish the delectable buttery popcorn.

Entertainment

Paseo Herencia offers live entertainment from Sunday to Thursday at 8pm on the center stage, as well as captivating nightly watershows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm. Thrill-seekers can explore the Airsoft ex-

perience, located behind The Lazy Turtle. For picture-perfect moments, capture Instagram-worthy shots at the Angel Wings installation between Pandora and Free Spirit, or amidst the Flying mosaic hearts behind King Churros. There's more fun in store with delightful kids' activities, including a Kid's carousel and train ride, available every day

from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Parking is complimentary for up to two hours when shopping, dining, or enjoying a movie at Paseo Herencia. Simply present your purchase receipt to the parking cashier. For more details on specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website at www.paseoherencia.com.



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- Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
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- Shalom Body & Soul Spa | Moments & Memories Jewelry
- Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
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**The Aruban way of life
Creating community with Cas di Torto**

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban people understand that a happy life is spent in great ambience with your loved ones. Passed down from one generation to the other, building community has been a key aspect in forging our traditions and customs. The Cas di Torto (mud house) played a big role in cultivating community, bridging families together and forming close bonds with your neighbors—something we highly value today.

For roofing, corn stalks, palm fronds and straws were used, allowing air to flow freely through the house. This method of roofing was known throughout the ABC islands (Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire), but the use of cornstalks in Aruba eventually got replaced with use of mud and white plaster for the roofs. The white plaster all around made the houses look like cake, hence the name "Torto" (Spanish for "cake").

marily responsible for feeding everyone who helped build the house. Before construction, someone usually had the task to prepare the meal; going fishing or slaughter farm animals like goats, chicken or sheep. Even the older kids had their tasks; the older children of the family usually helped with collecting water and mixing the mud.

The average duration of constructing a Cas di Torto was 4 months.



At the end of a long day of work, everyone would gather around and enjoy a feast of hearty food. This type of help from friends and family became a tradition and was called "paga lomba": You help me today; I'll help you tomorrow.

Nowadays, traditional Cas di Torto are rare, especially those that are still inhabited. Houses that do exist probably date back more than a century. □

Picture credits: Aruba National Library (BNA) and the Monumentbureau archive on Coleccion.aw

Cas di Torto: History and construction

The origin of the Cas di Torto is said to date back to the early 19th century in the Paraguana Peninsula in Venezuela. Refugees who sought sanctuary on Aruba introduced this building method to the island.

The uprights of the walls were made with sturdy and straight wayaca or kwihi wood, or from thin mangrove struts. Then, the wattle walls were weaved in using branches and twigs from the warero and sisal plant, daubed with a mixture of grass and mud. Finally, the walls got a coat of white plaster to seal everything in.

Building community

Building Torto houses was often a community effort. Young couples who were about to get married had to have their house built before they could tie the knot and start their own family. This is where the help of the community comes into play.

Neighbors, extended family and friends would all help in the construction of a Torto House. And everyone had a role: The men oversaw the building of the house, and the women were tasked with collecting wood and straws, cooking and taking care of the little ones.

The couple's family were pri-



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Keeping up with the conniving spider... Nanzi fools Cha Tiger

Many years ago, Cha* Tiger did not live in the mondi*, but among civil society. Back then, he was feared by everyone. When he walked past in a halfway, everyone around would make room immediately, that's how ferocious he was.

One night a group of friends was hanging out and they were talking about Cha Tiger. "You know, that tiger sure is incredibly strong and I don't trust him one bit. He probably eats a lot too. Oh, I'm so scared of him!" one person said.

"Oh, don't be stupid! What can Cha Tiger do? He's all bark and no bite, that's it. I certainly am not afraid of him. I bet you guys that I could even sit on his back like I would any donkey." It was Nanzi who said this. The people around him laughed at his remarks, thinking how silly it was for him to say such things.

"You, Nanzi? You are such a liar! He'll stomp you into next Tuesday, stop saying such nonsense."

"I'm not lying!" Nanzi defended himself. "He'll take me all the way to Shon Arei*."

The next morning, Shon Arei already knew of what Nanzi had been saying about Cha Tiger. He was really curious to see if Nanzi was brave enough to put his money where his mouth is. Cha Tiger walked past.

"Hey, Cha Tiger!" someone called to him. He growled at the person. "Hey, Cha Tiger! Listen!"

"Nanzi made fun of you, said he wasn't afraid of you at all! Said he could sit on your back and that you weren't as strong as we think you are."

Cha Tiger stopped dead in his tracks, furious. "Well, I'll set him straight!" Cha Tiger ran toward Nanzi's house, prepared to teach Nanzi a painful lesson. The entire way there he was growling and yelling, making everyone around aware what was going to happen. They all ran inside and peeped through the blinds to see the fight that was going to unfold.

Nanzi also heard Cha Tiger's screams, slowly getting closer and closer. He was terrified. His face turned pale, and his teeth started chattering like someone with a high fever. Sweat was dripping down his forehead.

When Cha Tiger arrived at Nanzi's place, he stormed in and saw Nanzi's frail body lying face down in the corner. "Hey, how are you, Cha Tiger?" Nanzi asked, his voice trembling. "I Heard you were making fun of me in front of your little friends, so I came to hear from your own mouth

what you have to say to me," Cha Tiger retorted, still fuming.

"Me? Talk bad about you?" Nanzi chuckled nervously. "People are such liars, I swear. Can't you see how sick I am here?" Nanzi took a pause, like someone who couldn't breathe properly. In his case of course, it was probably from extreme fear. "Shi Maria* wanted to take me to Shon Arei, where someone can heal me from my illness." Still wrapped up in his act, Nanzi turned back face down. "Me, a father of nine little children..."

Cha Tiger was shocked. Nanzi looked absolutely terrible, God knows he was dying.

"Cha Tiger, you're strong. Could you put me on your back and take me to Shon Arei, I can barely walk," Nanzi pleaded. Cha Tiger took pity on the spider and agreed to do this favor. Nanzi climbed on the tiger's back, letting his body fall down and grabbing on to Cha Tiger's neck.

"Would you mind putting a rope in your mouth so I can hold on? That way I can sit up straight," Nanzi asked. Cha Tiger growled in reluctance but said OK. And so they made their way to Shon Arei.

Once they started traveling through the mondi, Nanzi turned to Cha Tiger and said: "These mosquitos are so annoying! Cha Tiger, do you mind if I cut a piece of branch so I can keep these mosquitos away?" Cha Tiger let him take his branch.

Eventually they made it out the mondi to where everyone else was. Nanzi immediately perked up and whacked Cha Tiger with his branch, making the tiger jump. He ran all the way to Shon Arei's castle. Exhausted, he plumped down in front of His Majesty.

"See, Shon Arei? Cha Tiger ain't nothing but a big donkey!" Nanzi said proudly. Everyone around cheered: "Hurray, Nanzi!" Poor Cha Tiger was so embarrassed that he was fooled by the conniving spider, and so he ran into the mondi to hide. To this day, it's said that the tiger still hides away in the mondi.

Cha: Nickname placed in front of someone's name and can mean anything, like friend. However, it often has negative connotations first. Mond: dry wooded areas found on the ABC islands.

Shon Arei: The King

Shi Maria: Nanzi's wife. □

Story and pictures are from "Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)" by Nilda Pinto.



Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.



When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!
To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con

ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and

while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.

2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atar-di", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting

of the day.
3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe? The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man... Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □

Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

(Oranjestad)—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.

Pineapple

Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your



Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pineapple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa* with it. It is said that this tea can also be drunk after an operation on the ovaries or uterus. This gets rid of irritation and inflammation.

When the fruit is unripe and green, this can be used to stimulate menstruation flow in women. This also stimulates the passing kidney stones. When ripe, the fruit can be used for poisoning in the gut and can help treat rheumatic diseases, like arthritis.

However, breastfeeding women who cannot produce much milk are advised not to consume too pineapple, and people with acid reflux are recommended to



not consume any pineapple at all.

Arrowroot

Arrowroot is native to tropical America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a "shalup" (porridge) for stomach pain or when you're feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add

one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw arrowroot powder can be used to powder babies.

Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on



the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly; let it mix with your spit and then swallow.

Eggplant kataplan* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis.

*warapa: term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.

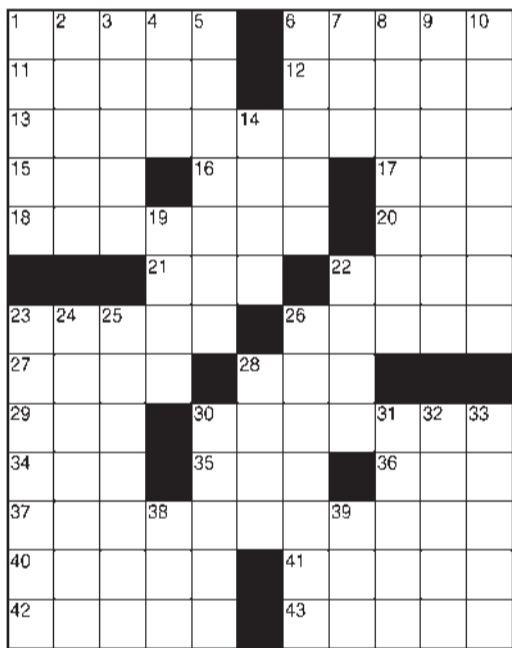
*kataplan: porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH



- ACROSS**
- 41 Rental contract
 - 1 Forgoes food
 - 6 Christmas song
 - 11 Improvised
 - 12 Supreme Court justice Kagan
 - 13 National park in California
 - 15 Shade tree
 - 16 "My country — of thee"
 - 17 Pub pint
 - 18 Decree beforehand
 - 20 Road sealer
 - 21 Blackjack card
 - 22 Painter Magritte
 - 23 Edge
 - 26 Pondered
 - 27 Eye part
 - 28 Mass of gum
 - 29 Frequently, in poems
 - 30 Response delay
 - 34 "My word!"
 - 35 Belief, in brief
 - 36 Smelter supply
 - 37 National park in Arizona
 - 40 Spine-tingling
- DOWN**
- 1 Like old photos
 - 2 "Hello" singer
 - 3 Pillow covers
 - 4 Youngster
 - 5 Show biz routine
 - 6 Halt
 - 7 The whole shebang
 - 8 Feels empathy
 - 9 Like some rural bridges
 - 10 Like skiers' clothing
 - 14 Arbor climber
 - 19 Earth tones
 - 22 Ill-mannered
 - 23 Online journal writer
 - 24 Game official
 - 25 Dis-traught
 - 26 Platypi and pandas
 - 28 Minn. neighbor
 - 30 Sea motions
 - 31 Faithful
 - 32 Stood
 - 33 Trait carriers
 - 38 Tiny complaint
 - 39 "The Matrix" hero



4-18

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.

4-18

CRYPTOQUOTE

F Q W L W S L W U W S L P F Q S F
S P H B A W P F N G T P S T E U W S L P
F Q S F S T P C W L . — J G L S T W S X W
Q A L P F G T

Cryptoquote: WHEN SPRING CAME, EVEN THE FALSE SPRING, THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS EXCEPT WHERE TO BE HAPPIEST. — ERNEST HEMINGWAY

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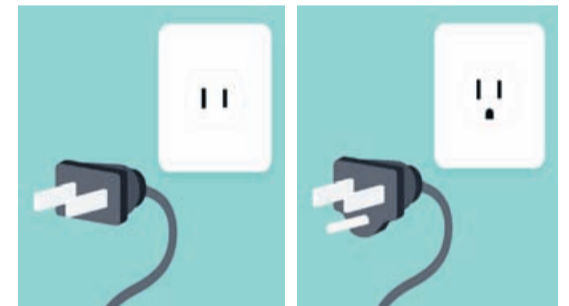
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	15	CELEBRITY REFLECTION	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	16	MARELLA DISCOVERY	08.00	20.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
THU	17	NIEUW AMSTERDAM	07.00	17.00	B	1
		VILLA VIE ODYSSEY	08.00	****	C	1
FRI	18	VILLA VIE ODYSSEY - Dept.	****	22.00	C	-
SUN	20	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Nvidia plans to manufacture AI chips in the U.S. for the first time

By SARAH PARVINI AP Technology Writer LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nvidia announced Monday that it will produce its artificial intelligence super computers in the United States for the first time. The tech giant said it has commissioned more than one million square feet of manufacturing space to build and test its specialized Blackwell chips in Arizona and AI supercomputers in Texas part of an investment the company said will produce up to half a trillion dollars of AI infrastructure in the next four years. "The engines of the world's AI infrastructure are being built in the United States for the first time," Nvidia founder Jensen Huang said in a statement. □

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Meta faces historic antitrust trial that could force it to break off Instagram, WhatsApp

By **BRIAN WITTE** and **BARBARA ORTUTAY**

AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A historic antitrust trial began Monday for Meta Platforms Inc. in a case that could force the tech giant to break off Instagram and WhatsApp, startups it bought more than a decade ago that have since grown into social media powerhouses. The trial is bringing Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg into federal court in Washington to testify.

In opening statements, Federal Trade Commission attorney Daniel Matheson said Meta has used a monopoly to generate enormous profits as consumer satisfaction has dropped. He said Meta was “erecting a moat” to protect its interests by buying the two startups because the company feared they were a threat to Meta’s dominance. Zuckerberg and other Meta witnesses will testify during the trial.

“We’re going to give them their chance to tell their side of the story,” Matheson said.

Mark Hansen, an attorney for Meta, said the FTC was making a “grab bag” of arguments that were wrong. He said Meta has plenty of competition and has made improvements to the startups it acquired.

“This lawsuit, in summary, is misguided,” Hansen said, adding: “anyway you look at it, consumers have been the big winners.”

The trial will be the first big test of President Donald Trump’s Federal Trade Commission’s ability to challenge Big Tech. The lawsuit was filed against Meta then called Facebook in 2020, during Trump’s first term. It claims the company bought Instagram and WhatsApp to squash competition and establish an illegal monopoly in the social media market.

Meta, the FTC argues, has maintained a monopoly by pursuing CEO Mark Zucker-



The Meta logo is seen at the Vivatech show in Paris, June 14, 2023.

berg’s strategy, “expressed in 2008: ‘It is better to buy than compete.’ True to that maxim, Facebook has systematically tracked potential rivals and acquired companies that it viewed as serious competitive threats.”

Facebook also enacted policies designed to make it difficult for smaller rivals to enter the market and “neutralize perceived competitive threats,” the FTC says in its complaint, just as the world shifted its attention to mobile devices from desktop computers.

“Unable to maintain its monopoly by fairly competing, the company’s executives addressed the existential threat by buying up new innovators that were succeeding where Facebook failed,” the FTC says.

Facebook bought Instagram then a scrappy photo-sharing app with no ads and a small cult following in 2012. The \$1 billion cash and stock purchase price was eye-popping at the time, though the deal’s value fell to \$750 million after Facebook’s stock price dipped following its initial public offering in May 2012. Instagram was the first company Facebook bought and kept running as a separate app. Up until

then, Facebook was known for smaller “acqui-hires” a type of popular Silicon Valley deal in which a company purchases a startup as a way to hire its talented workers, then shuts the acquired company down. Two years later, it did it again with the messaging app WhatsApp, which it purchased for \$22 billion. WhatsApp and Instagram helped Facebook move its business from desktop computers to mobile devices, and to remain popular with younger generations as rivals like Snapchat (which it also tried, but failed, to buy) and TikTok emerged.

However, the FTC has a narrow definition of Meta’s competitive market, excluding companies like TikTok, YouTube and Apple’s messaging service from being considered rivals to Instagram and WhatsApp. “The FTC already has the difficult task, whether it’s looking at 10 years ago or five years ago or today, of trying to define what is the market we’re talking about in a sufficiently narrow way that it can show Meta has a ton of power in that market,” said Paul Swanson, an antitrust attorney for the law firm Holland & Hart. “And I do think that challenge has gotten harder as the years

have gone by and we see more and more potential competitors in social media spaces.”

Meta, meanwhile, says the FTC’s lawsuit “defies reality.”

“The evidence at trial will show what every 17-year-old in the world knows: Instagram, Facebook and WhatsApp compete with Chinese-owned TikTok, YouTube, X, iMessage and many others. More than 10 years after the FTC reviewed and cleared our acquisitions, the Commission’s action in this case sends the message that no deal is ever truly final. Regulators should be supporting American innovation, rather than seeking to break up a great American company and further advantaging China on critical issues like AI,” the company said in a statement. In a filing last week, Meta also stressed that the FTC “must prove that Meta has monopoly power in its claimed relevant market now, not at some time in the past.”

This, experts say, could also prove challenging since more competitors have emerged in the social media space in the years since the company bought WhatsApp and Instagram.

Meta’s fate will be decided by U.S. District Judge James Boasberg, who late last year denied Meta’s request for a summary judgment and ruled that the case must go to trial.

Boasberg “seems to be skeptical” of the FTC’s narrow market definition in his rulings to date, Swanson said.

He added that the judge also said it is a “fact question,” which means he is open to hearing what the FTC and its experts have to say to define that narrow market.

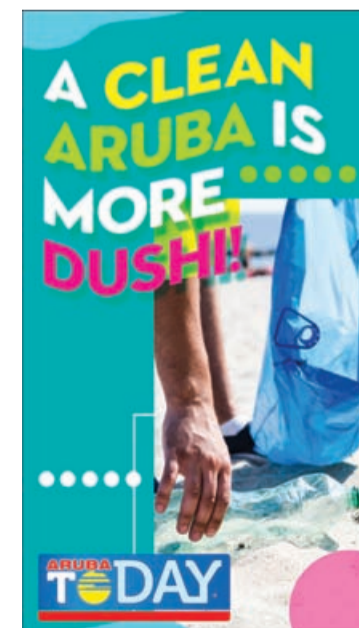
While the FTC may face an uphill battle in proving its case, the stakes are high for Meta, whose advertising business could be cut in half if it’s forced to spin off Instagram.

Meta isn’t the only technology company in the sights of federal antitrust regulators, Google and Amazon face their own cases. The remedy phase of Google’s case is scheduled to begin on April 21. A federal judge declared the search giant an illegal monopoly last August.

“A big theme here is we are applying 19th-century laws to 21st-century markets.

And I think it’s an open question whether the judge-made developments to antitrust law can keep up with markets as they are changing these fluid and dynamic tech markets in particular,” Swanson said. “And this will be a case that speaks directly to that.” □

Associated Press



Kyle Larson and Denny Hamlin renew rivalry at Bristol with their seventh 1-2 finish

By NATE RYAN
Associated Press

A second consecutive victory at Bristol Motor Speedway was especially sweet for Kyle Larson, and one reason loomed large in his rearview mirror.

The Hendrick Motorsports star fended off several challenges for the lead by Denny Hamlin as they ran in the top two positions for 251 of 500 laps — and with Larson always in first on the 0.533-mile oval.

In the best current rivalry on NASCAR's premier circuit, it was the seventh 1-2 finish for the duo, but the first time that Larson emerged on top.

And with his 31st Cup victory, Larson prevented Hamlin from winning a third consecutive race a point he gleefully made while celebrating on the frontstretch.

"If Denny is in front of me, it could be a totally different story and be really hard to pass him, but glad to stop his three-peat," Larson said, pausing to laugh with a lighthearted point at the crowd. "We hate to



From right, Kyle Larson, celebrates with President of Food City, Steve Smith, Bristol Motor Speedway President Jerry Caldwell, and Miss Food City Taylor Parsons after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race, Sunday, April 13, 2025, in Bristol, Tenn.

Associated Press

see him win, as I'm sure you guys do, too."

Though Bristol had no contact or flared tempers as in their past skirmishes at Kansas and Pocono, Larson and Hamlin seem on a collision course for the 2025 cham-

ionship heading into NASCAR's only off weekend of the season. Larson is ranked second and Hamlin third in NASCAR advanced metrics that evaluate drivers on passing, defense, speed, restarts and pit stops. In

the regular-season points standings, Hamlin is second and Larson fourth despite recent stumbles.

The pit crew of Larson's No. 5 Chevrolet was overhauled before Darlington Raceway, where he

crashed twice in the April 6 race (the latter wreck brought out a caution that helped Hamlin earn his second win in a row).

Larson rebounded mightily over three consecutive days at Bristol, finishing second in the Truck Series race and winning the Xfinity and Cup races. He dedicated the results to Jon Edwards, the Hendrick Motorsports director of communications whose death was announced last Thursday.

"It's crazy how this week played out for us," crew chief Cliff Daniels said. "Of course, the loss of Jon was a whole other blow, but our team maintained a lot of positivity." Hamlin, who has combined with Larson to win six of the past nine Cup races at Bristol, also has been in an upbeat mood while adapting to new crew chief Chris Gayle.

The Joe Gibbs Racing driver is off to his best start since 2021 (the last time he qualified for NASCAR's championship race finale), and he took the loss to Larson in stride. □

Three-time All-Pro CB Patrick Peterson retires with Cardinals after 13 NFL seasons

By DAVID BRANDT
AP Sports Writer

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Three-time All-Pro Patrick Peterson announced his retirement on Monday as a member of the Arizona Cardinals, where he spent the first 10 of his 13 NFL seasons as one of the league's elite cornerbacks.

The 34-year-old Peterson was honored at the team's practice facility with a highlight video and tributes from several former teammates, including receiver Larry Fitzgerald and quarterback Carson Palmer.

"My career's here," Peterson said. "It lives here. It was a no-brainer for me to come back here and retire a Cardinal."

Peterson had a difficult departure from the franchise following the 2020 season,

signing with the Minnesota Vikings when he didn't get the contract he wanted from the Cardinals. But the cornerback eventually made amends with team owner Michael Bidwill, and the two shared the stage together on Monday.

"It wasn't the greatest departure, but at the end of the day, this is where my legacy is, this is where my legacy started," Peterson said.

The No. 5 overall pick in the 2011 draft out of LSU, Peterson made an immediate impact as a rookie and was a Pro Bowl selection in each of his first eight seasons. He would be a key part to the team's "No Fly Zone" of the mid-2010s that included Tyrann Mathieu, Tony Jefferson, Jerraud Powers, Rashad Johnson, Justin Bethel and

Deone Bucannon. Peterson had a quick response when asked how he would like to be remembered.

"As a fierce competitor," Peterson said. "A guy who not only brought joy to the game, but had the opportunity and ability to uplift his teammates."

He was also a special teams standout early in his career, returning four punts for touchdowns as a rookie, which tied an NFL record.

After his decade with the Cardinals, Peterson spent two seasons with the Vikings and last played in the NFL in 2023 with the Pittsburgh Steelers. He finished his career with 652 tackles and 36 interceptions including at least one in all 13 seasons.

Peterson said he's enjoyed

the past year away from the game, spending more time with his family and golfing with friends. Now he's ready for the next phase of his career, which he hopes will be in the media world.

"I want to get behind the camera and express my thoughts," Peterson said. "Being able to give the fans, the viewers, something they may not know about the game. □



Former Arizona Cardinals cornerback Patrick Peterson, right, laughs as Cardinals owner Michael Bidwill talks during Peterson's retirement news conference at the Cardinals training facility Monday, April 14, 2025, in Tempe, Ariz.

Associated Press

Masters victory means McIlroy will get 'hero's welcome' at home

British Open

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — From a Masters green jacket to a British Open that will be played in his home Northern Ireland this year, suddenly everything seems to be falling into place for Rory McIlroy. After he became the sixth golfer to achieve a career Grand Slam, McIlroy's victory at Augusta National was celebrated throughout Northern Ireland and Ireland.

Locals were quick to point out that Royal Portrush will host the British Open in July, marking only the third time that the course in Northern Ireland has had that honor after 1951 and 2019.

Royal Portrush is located about an hour's drive from McIlroy's hometown of Holywood. McIlroy's 61 at age 16 in the 2005 North of Ireland championship still stands as the old course record at Royal Portrush.

"He has given us one of Northern Ireland's biggest sporting achievements," Emma Little-Pengelly, the country's deputy first minister, posted on X. "He will undoubtedly get a deserved hero's welcome when he comes home. The reception when he steps onto the first tee at Royal Portrush in July will be incredible.



Scottie Scheffler puts the green Jacket on winner, Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, at the Masters golf tournament, Sunday, April 13, 2025, in Augusta, Ga.

Hopefully he can give the home fans plenty to cheer as he bids to win a second Open Championship."

The British Open is the year's last major. First, McIlroy will play the PGA Championship in May and the U.S. Open in June.

McIlroy defeated Justin Rose in a sudden-death playoff on Sunday to win the elusive Masters title, adding to his two PGA Championship titles (2012 and 2014), one U.S. Open

trophy (2011) and one British Open (2014).

There were scenes of joy at McIlroy's home club in Holywood when he finally won the Masters on his 17th try.

In England, the Manchester United soccer club published a note of congratulations on Monday addressed to McIlroy, who is a big fan of the team.

After saying during the winner's press conference that he wants to celebrate with

his parents back home in Northern Ireland "next week," McIlroy was asked if he might take the green jacket to a game at Manchester's Old Trafford stadium.

"If it can inspire some better play, absolutely," McIlroy said.

Former world snooker champion Dennis Taylor declared McIlroy Northern Ireland's "greatest ever sportsman"

That's no small assertion

for a country that has produced soccer great George Best and snooker star Alex Higgins.

"Massive congratulations to Rory McIlroy on his incredible victory at The Masters making history as the first ever from our island to win the prestigious Green Jacket!" Northern Ireland's First Minister Michelle O'Neill said on X. "This is a huge moment in sporting history, and one that has filled everyone back home with great pride."

Irish premier Micheal Martin described the win as "epic".

"It was an incredible evening and we were all up late in the morning," Martin added Monday.

The Irish premier said the occasion reminded him of Ireland's 1990 World Cup penalty shootout win over Romania and George Hamilton's famous "the nation holds its breath" commentary.

"Well, we were holding our breath every five minutes for a good few hours yesterday," Martin said. "Literally holding our breath at every putt and every tee shot. It was a marvelous national occasion and it's a moment in time that we will all remember." □

Associated Press

Yankees' Aaron Judge to be U.S. captain at 2026 World Baseball Classic

By **RONALD BLUM**
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Appointed U.S. captain for next year's World Baseball Classic, Aaron Judge will be playing for more than himself and his teammates. "It's something special getting a chance to represent our country," the New York Yankees star said after manager Mark DeRosa's announcement Monday. "Just thinking about all the brave men and women that have fought for this country and laid their lives down for us to get a chance to go out here, and especially me, to get a change to go out here and

play a game, it's a pretty humbling experience."



U.S. captain Aaron Judge and U.S. manager Mark DeRosa attend a news conference Monday, April 14, 2025, at Yankee Stadium, in New York.

Associated Press

DeRosa announced the appointment of the two-time American League Most Valuable Player four days after he was named U.S. manager for the second straight WBC.

"I got an opportunity before I get too old and Mark doesn't want me anymore," Judge said alongside DeRosa at a Yankee Stadium news conference. Judge takes over from the Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout, the U.S. captain at the 2023 tournament. The U.S. lost the 2023 championship game to Japan 3-2 as Shohei Ohtani struck out Trout, his then-Angels teammate, to end the game.

"I reached out to Trout yesterday, told him where we were going. He said, 'He's the one,'" DeRosa said.

Having just gone through free agency and being named the Yankees captain, Judge declined to play in the 2023 tournament.

"I felt like first my responsibility was to the Yankees," Judge said. "I wanted to be a big part of getting the Yankees back where they need to be, so I felt I couldn't miss that first spring training."

Judge, who turns 33 on April 26, was the first player announced for the U.S. roster. □