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National pride is declining in America. And it's splitting by party lines, new Gallup polling shows

By LINLEY SANDERS and AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Only 36% of Democrats say they're "extremely" or "very" proud to be American, according to a new Gallup poll, reflecting a dramatic decline in national pride that's also clear among young people.

The findings are a stark illustration of how many but not all Americans have felt less of a sense of pride in their country over the past decade. The split between Democrats and Republicans, at 56 percentage points, is at its widest since 2001. That includes all four years of Republican President Donald Trump's first term. Only about 4 in 10 U.S. adults who are part of Generation Z, which is defined as those born from 1997 to 2012, expressed a high level of pride in being American in Gallup surveys conducted in the past five years, on average. That's compared with about 6 in 10 Millennials those born between 1980 and 1996 and at least 7 in 10 U.S. adults in older generations. "Each generation is less patriotic



Michigan City's Patriotic Parade on Saturday, June 28, 2025, also featured a flyover, with planes taking several trips above the parade route, in Michigan City, Ind.

Associated Press

than the prior generation, and Gen Z is definitely much lower than anybody else," said Jeffrey Jones, a senior editor at Gallup. "But even among the older generations, we see that they're less patriotic than the ones before them, and they've become less patriotic over time. That's primarily driven by Democrats within those

generations."

A slow erosion in national pride

America's decline in national pride has been a slow erosion, with a steady downtick in Gallup's data since January 2001, when the question was first asked.

Even during the tumultuous early years of the Iraq War, the vast majority of

U.S. adults, whether Republican or Democrat, said they were "extremely" or "very" proud to be American. At that point, about 9 in 10 were "extremely" or "very" proud to be American. That remained high in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, but the consensus around American pride slipped in the years that fol-

lowed, dropping to about 8 in 10 in 2006 and continuing a gradual decline.

Now, 58% of U.S. adults say that, in a downward shift that's been driven almost entirely by Democrats and independents.

The vast majority of Republicans continue to say they're proud to be American.

Independents' pride in their national identity hit a new low in the most recent survey, at 53%, largely following that pattern of gradual decline. Democrats' diminished pride in being American is more clearly linked to Trump's time in office. When Trump first entered the White House, in 2017, about two-thirds of Democrats said they were proud to be American. That had fallen to 42% by 2020, just before Trump lost reelection to Democrat Joe Biden. But while Democrats' sense of national pride rebounded when Biden took office, it didn't go back to its pre-Trump levels.

"It's not just a Trump story," Jones said. "Something else is going on, and I think it's just younger generations coming in and not being as patriotic as older people. □"

More than 300 charged in \$14.6 billion health care fraud schemes takedown, Justice Department says

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — State and federal prosecutors have charged more than 320 people and uncov-

ered nearly \$15 billion in false claims in what they described Monday as the largest coordinated takedown of health care fraud schemes in Justice Depart-

ment history.

Law enforcement seized more than \$245 million in cash, luxury vehicles, cryptocurrency, and other assets as prosecutors warned of a growing push by transnational criminal networks to exploit the U.S. health care system.

As part of the sweeping crackdown, officials identified perpetrators based in Russia, Eastern Europe, Pakistan, and other countries.

"These criminals didn't just steal someone else's money. They stole from you," Matthew Galeotti, who leads the Justice Department's criminal division, told reporters Monday. "Every fraudulent claim, every fake billing, every

kickback scheme represents money taken directly from the pockets of American taxpayers who fund these essential programs through their hard work and sacrifice."

The alleged \$14.6 billion in fraud is more than twice the previous record in the Justice Department's annual health care fraud crackdown. It includes nearly 190 federal cases and more than 90 state cases that have been charged or unsealed since June 9. Nearly 100 licensed medical professionals were charged, including 25 doctors, and the government reported \$2.9 billion in actual losses.

Among the cases is a \$10 billion urinary catheter

scheme that authorities say highlights the increasingly sophisticated methods used by transnational criminal organizations. Authorities say the group behind the scheme used foreign straw owners to secretly buy up dozens of medical supply companies and then used stolen identities and confidential health data to file fake Medicare claims.

Nineteen defendants have been charged as part of that investigation which authorities dubbed Operation Gold Rush including four people arrested in Estonia and seven people arrested at U.S. airports and at the border with Mexico, prosecutors said. □



The U.S. Department of Justice logo is seen on a podium before a press conference with Attorney General Pam Bondi, May 6, 2025, at the Justice Department in Washington.

Associated Press

States brace for impact as Trump's big bill nears completion in Congress

By **DAVID A. LIEB**
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)—

President Donald Trump's big bill to cut taxes and reduce federal spending on some social safety net programs could have large implications for states, but for many it's too late to do much about it this year.

Tuesday marks the start of a new budget year in 46 states. Though some legislatures are still working, most already have adjourned and finalized their spending plans without knowing whether federal funding will be cut and, if so, by how much.

"The ebb and flow of rumors and reality have created great uncertainty and some anxiety in state governments," said David Adkins, executive director of The Council of State Governments.

Several states have taken preemptive steps, setting aside money in reserves or tasking committees to monitor the impact of federal funding reductions. Others are tentatively planning to return in special sessions this year to account for potential funding cuts to joint federal-state programs such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP. Others will have to wait until their



Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., center left, speaks to reporters along with members of the Republican leadership, Tuesday, June 24, 2025, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

legislatures are back in session next year.

What's at stake for states? "If there are significant cuts, states wouldn't be able to fully absorb those," said Brian Sigritz, director of state fiscal studies at the National Association of State Budget Officers.

Nationally, the Medicaid health care program for lower-income residents accounts for 30% of total state expenditures, according to the health policy re-

search organization KFF. That makes it the costliest program in many states, ahead of even K-12 education.

The bulk of Medicaid money comes from the federal government, meaning any changes in federal policy can create big ripples for states.

Legislation pending in Congress would affect Medicaid in several ways. New work requirements are expected to reduce enroll-

ment by millions of people, while other proposed changes also could reduce federal payments to states. Until now the federal government also has covered the full cost of SNAP benefits and half the administrative costs. Trump's bill would shift more of those costs to states, leaving them to either divert money from other purposes or trim back their food assistance programs.

The Medicaid and SNAP

changes are just the latest in a series of Trump policies affecting state finances, including the rollback of grants for transportation and high-speed internet projects and attempts to withhold federal funds from sanctuary jurisdictions that limit cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

Some legislatures are stocking up on savings

A surge in federal aid and state tax revenue during the coronavirus pandemic led to booming budgets and historic cash surpluses in many states.

As revenues slow and those surpluses get spent, some states now are trying to guard against federal funding reductions.

New Mexico enacted a law this year creating a Medicaid trust fund gradually stocked with up to \$2 billion that can be tapped to prop up the program if federal funding cuts would otherwise cause a reduction in coverage or benefits.

Hawaii lawmakers, in crafting the state's budget, left an extra \$200 million in the general fund as a contingency against federal funding uncertainty.

They plan to return for a special session. □

Iranian cyberattacks remain a threat despite ceasefire, U.S. officials warn

By **DAVID KLEPPER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)—A ceasefire between Iran and Israel has not ended the threat of cyberattacks from hacking groups supportive of Tehran, the FBI and federal cybersecurity officials warned Monday.

In a public bulletin, the authorities warned that hacking groups affiliated with or supportive of Tehran may still seek to disrupt or disable critical infrastructure systems in the U.S. such as utilities, transportation and economic hubs. Hackers may also target defense contractors or other American companies with ties to Israel, the agencies said.

"Despite a declared ceasefire and ongoing negotiations towards a permanent solution, Iranian-affiliated cyber actors and hacktivist groups may still conduct malicious cyber activity," the agencies

warned.

The warning of continued cyberthreats after a halt to conventional warfare reflects the often opaque nature of cyber conflict. Hacking groups may have only loose ties to a nation state, and may seek to retaliate as an alternative to traditional military action.

The bulletin outlined recommendations, including the use of regular software updates and strong password management systems to shore up digital defenses.

Hackers backing Tehran have targeted U.S. banks, defense contractors and energy companies following American strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities but so far have not caused widespread disruptions.

While it lacks the technical abilities of China or Russia, Iran has long used its more limited capabilities to steal secrets, score political points or frighten opponents. □



Protestors carry Iranian national flags and posters of the late revolutionary founder Ayatollah Khomeini and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, while chanting anti U.S. and Israel slogans, in Tehran, Iran, Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

Associated Press

Judge again delays Abrego Garcia's release from Tennessee jail over deportation concerns

By **TRAVIS LOLLER** and **BEN FINLEY** Associated Press
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) —

Kilmar Abrego Garcia will stay in jail for now over concerns from his lawyers that he could be deported if he's released to await his trial on human smuggling charges, a federal judge in Tennessee ruled Monday. Abrego Garcia's attorneys had asked the judge to delay his release because of what they described as "contradictory statements" by President Donald Trump's administration over what would happen to the Salvadoran national. The lawyers wrote in a brief to the court Friday that "we cannot put any faith in any representation made on this issue" by the Justice Department, adding that the "irony of this request is not lost on anyone."

Justice Department spokesman Chad Gilmartin told The Associated Press on Thursday that the department intends to try Abrego Garcia on the smuggling charges before it moves to deport him, stating that Abrego Garcia "has been charged with horrific crimes, including trafficking children, and will not walk free in our country again." Hours earlier, Justice Department attorney Jonathan Guynn told a federal judge in Maryland that the U.S. government plans to



Brianna O'Keefe yells as she holds a portrait of Kilmar Obrego Garcia during a protest outside the federal courthouse Wednesday, June 25, 2025, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

deport Abrego Garcia to a "third country" that isn't El Salvador. Guynn said there was no timeline for the deportation plans.

Abrego Garcia's attorneys on Friday cited Guynn's comments as a reason to fear he would be deported "immediately."

Abrego Garcia, a construction worker who had been living in Maryland, became a flashpoint over Trump's hardline immigration policies when he was mistakenly deported to his native El Salvador in March. Facing mounting pressure

and a Supreme Court order, Trump's Republican administration returned him this month to face the smuggling charges, which his attorneys have called "preposterous."

In a response to the request by Abrego Garcia's attorneys Friday, acting U.S. Attorney Rob McGuire agreed to delaying Abrego Garcia's release. He reiterated his stance that Abrego Garcia should remain in jail before trial. The prosecutor also said he lacks jurisdiction over U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement, stating he has no way to prevent Abrego Garcia's deportation.

The Department of Homeland Security, which includes ICE, did not respond directly to a question from The Associated Press on Friday regarding its plans for Abrego Garcia. A DHS spokesperson, Tricia McLaughlin, said in a statement that "he will never go free on American soil."

Abrego Garcia's attorneys have accused the Trump administration of bringing Abrego Garcia back "to

convict him in the court of public opinion" with the intention of deporting him before he has a chance to defend himself at trial.

"In a just world, he would not seek to prolong his detention further," his attorneys wrote.

Abrego Garcia's attorneys have asked the judge to delay his release until a July 16 court hearing, which will consider a request by prosecutors to revoke Abrego Garcia's release order while he awaits trial.

Abrego Garcia pleaded not guilty on June 13 to smuggling charges that his attorneys have characterized as an attempt to justify his mistaken expulsion to a notorious prison in El Salvador.

When the Trump administration deported Abrego Garcia in March, it violated a U.S. immigration judge's order in 2019 that barred his expulsion to his native country. The immigration judge had found that Abrego Garcia faced a credible threat from gangs that had terrorized him and his family.

The human smuggling charges pending against Abrego Garcia stem from a 2022 traffic stop for speeding in Tennessee, during which Abrego Garcia was driving a vehicle with nine passengers without luggage. □

Military requesting to pull 200 troops back from California protest duty

By **TARA COPP**
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) —

The top military commander in charge of troops deployed to Los Angeles to respond to protests against immigration raids has asked Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth if 200 of those forces could be returned to wildfire fighting duty, two U.S. officials told The Associated Press on Monday. President Donald Trump ordered the deployment of about 4,000 California National Guard troops and 800 active duty Marines against the wishes of Gov. Gavin Newsom in early



A DHS officer stands guard outside the Robert Young Federal Building during a march in solidarity for a peaceful interfaith Prayer Walk for Family Unity, June 18, 2025, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

June to respond to a series of protests against Immigra-

tion and Customs Enforcement raids in Los Angeles.

The federal troops' domestic deployment raised multiple legal questions, including whether the administration would seek to employ emergency powers under the Insurrection Act to empower those forces to conduct law enforcement on U.S. soil, which they are not permitted to do except in rare circumstances. The Marines, however, are primarily assigned to protecting federal buildings. The Insurrection Act has not been used. But in at least one circumstance, Marines have temporarily detained civilians in Los Angeles. California has just entered

peak wildfire season, and Newsom has warned that the Guard is now understaffed due to the Los Angeles protest deployment. The top military commander of those troops, U.S. Northern Command head Gen. Gregory Guillot, recently submitted a request to Hegseth to return 200 of the National Guard troops back to Joint Task Force Rattlesnake, which is the California National Guard's wildfire unit, the officials said.

The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to provide details not yet announced publicly. □

Women can be drafted into the Danish military as Russian aggression and military investment grow

By JAMES BROOKS

Associated Press

HOVELTE, Denmark (AP)

— Peering across a dense stretch of woodland outside of Denmark's capital with camouflage paint smeared across her face, 20-year-old Katrine scans the horizon for approaching threats.

After nearly four months of military training, the young soldier and the rest of her unit spent early June completing their final exercises near the Danish army's barracks in Hovelte, 25 kilometres (15 miles) north of Copenhagen.

Katrine and other female soldiers, all of whom spoke to The Associated Press on June 11 on the condition that only their first names be used because of operational security, volunteered for military service earlier this year. Until now, that was the only way women were allowed to partake in military service, although women have been able to enlist as full-time members of the armed forces since the early 1970s.

The Scandinavian country is seeking to increase the number of young people in the military by extending compulsory enlistment



Katrine, right, speaks with another female servicemember during final exercises at a training area close to Royal Danish Army's barracks in Hovelte, 25 kilometres north of Copenhagen, Denmark, Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

to women for the first time. Men and women can both still volunteer, and the remaining places will be filled by a gender-neutral draft lottery.

"In the situation the world is in now, it's needed," Katrine said. "I think it's only fair and right that women participate equally with men."

Under new rules passed by Denmark's parliament ear-

lier in June, Danish women who turn 18 after Tuesday will be entered into the lottery system, on an equal footing with their male compatriots. The change comes against a backdrop of Russian aggression and growing military investment across NATO countries.

Russia's looming threat Even from the relative safety of Denmark, Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine

casts its shadow. Lessons from the Ukrainian battlefields have even filtered down into their training.

"That makes it very real," Katrine said.

Denmark's gender-parity reforms were originally outlined in 2024 as part of a major defense agreement. The program was originally expected to be implemented by early 2027, but has been brought forward

to summer 2025.

Col. Kenneth Strøm, head of the conscription program, told AP the move is based on "the current security situation."

"They could take part in NATO collective deterrence," Strøm added. "Raising the number of conscripts, that would simply lead to more combat power."

Denmark, a nation of 6 million people, has about 9,000 professional troops. The new arrangement is expected to bring the figure up to 6,500 people doing military service annually by 2033, up from 4,700 last year.

Under Danish law, all physically fit men over age 18 are called up for military service.

Some people both men and women volunteer, and the rest of the places are filled by a lottery system that until now has only involved men. Women volunteers make up roughly a quarter of 2024's cohort.

"Some will probably be very disappointed being chosen to go into the military," Anne Sofie, part of Katrine's cohort of volunteers, said of the new female conscripts. □

Associated Press

International Criminal Court hit with cyber security attack

By MOLLY QUELL

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — The International Criminal Court has been targeted by a "sophisti-

cated" cyberattack and is taking measures to limit any damage, the global tribunal announced Monday.

The ICC, which also was hit

by a cyberattack in 2023, said the latest incident had been contained but did not elaborate further on the impact or possible motive.

"A Court-wide impact analysis is being carried out, and steps are already being taken to mitigate any effects of the incident," the court said in a statement. The attack happened last week.

"All necessary measures have been taken to ensure the business continuity," court spokesman Fadi El Abdallah told The Associated Press. The incident happened in the same week that The Hague hosted a summit of 32 NATO leaders at a con-

ference center near the court amid tight security including measures to guard against cyberattacks.

The court declined to say whether any confidential information had been compromised.

The ICC has a number of high-profile investigations and preliminary inquiries underway in nations around the world and has in the past been the target of espionage.

In 2022, a Dutch intelligence agency said it had foiled a plot by a Russian spy using a false Brazilian identity to work as an intern at the court, which is investigating allegations of Russian war crimes in Ukraine and has issued a war crimes arrest warrant

for President Vladimir Putin, accusing him of personal responsibility for the abductions of children from Ukraine.

Arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former defense minister, Yoav Gallant, over Israel's campaign against Hamas in Gaza have also drawn ire. U.S. President Donald Trump slapped sanctions on its chief prosecutor, Karim Khan, in February and earlier this month also sanctioned four judges at the court.

The court is still feeling the effects of the last cyberattack, with wifi still not completely restored to its purpose-built headquarters. □



A general view of the exterior of the International Criminal Court at The Hague, Netherlands, March 12, 2025.

Associated Press

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Israeli settlers rampage at a military base in the West Bank

By **MELANIE LIDMAN**
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Dozens of Israeli settlers rampaged around a military base in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, setting fires, vandalizing military vehicles, spraying graffiti and attacking soldiers, the military said. Sunday night's unrest came after several attacks in the West Bank carried out by Jewish settlers and anger at their arrests by security forces attempting to contain the violence over the past few days. More than 100 settlers on Wednesday evening entered the West Bank town of Kfar Malik, setting property ablaze and opening fire on Palestinians who tried to stop them, Najeb Rostom, head of the local council, said. Three Palestinians were killed after the military intervened. Israeli security forces arrested five settlers. "No civilized country can tolerate violent and anarchic acts of burning a military facility, damaging IDF property and attacking se-



Mourners carry the bodies of three Palestinians who were killed on Wednesday when Jewish settlers stormed the West Bank village of Kafr Malik, Thursday, June 26, 2025.

Associated Press

curity personnel by citizens of the country," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said. Footage on Israeli media showed dozens of young, religious men typically associated with "hilltop youth," an extremist movement of

Israeli settlers who occupy West Bank hilltops and have been accused of attacking Palestinians and their property. The footage showed security forces using stun grenades as dozens of settlers gathered around the mili-

tary base just north of Ramallah. The Israeli military released photos of the infrastructure burned in the attack, which it said included "systems that help thwart terrorist attacks and maintain security." Far-right Security Minister

Itamar Ben-Gvir, who has often defended Israelis accused of similar crimes, offered a rare condemnation of Sunday's violence. "Attacking security forces, security facilities, and IDF soldiers who are our brothers, our protectors, is a red line, and must be dealt with in full severity. We are brothers," he wrote on X. Opposition leader Yair Lapid told Israel's Army radio that the riots were carried out by "Jewish terrorists, gangs of criminals, who feel backed by the (governing) coalition." A hard-line supporter of Jewish settlements, Ben-Gvir was previously convicted in Israel of racist incitement and support for terrorist groups, and has called for the deportation of all Arab citizens from Israel. Though once widely shunned by Israel's politicians, Ben-Gvir's influence has grown and alongside a shift to the right in the country's electorate has further emboldened violence from extremist settlers in the West Bank. □

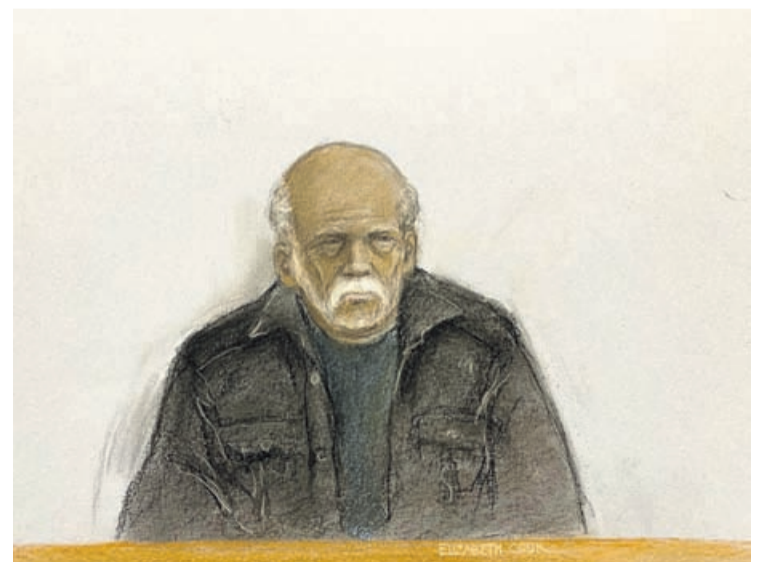
Man, 92, convicted of murder in the U.K.'s longest-running cold case

By **LYDIA DOYE**
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A 92-year-old man on Monday was convicted of the rape and murder of a woman in southwestern England in what is thought to be the UK's longest-running cold case ever to be solved. A jury at Bristol crown court found Ryland Headley, then aged 34, guilty of attacking 75-year-old Louisa Dunne in June 1967. "Louisa Dunne died in a horrifying attack carried out in the place where she should have felt safest her own home," prosecu-

tor Charlotte Ream said. "For 58 years, this appalling crime went unsolved and Ryland Headley, the man we now know is responsible, avoided justice." Dunne was found dead in her home by a neighbor on June 28, 1967. The cause of her death was found to be strangulation and asphyxiation. She had also been raped. Investigators retained Dunne's clothing, including a blue skirt, and other samples from her body for further examination. They also recovered a palm print from a window which

Headley is believed to have used to gain entry to her home. In 2023, the case was reexamined and the skirt was sent away for forensic testing in May last year. DNA recovered from the item of clothing linked Headley to the murder scene after his DNA was added to the national database in 2012 for an unrelated incident. Forensic scientists concluded that DNA from the skirt matched Headley's and the palm print was also his. Headley was arrested at his home in Suffolk in November.



This court artist drawing by Elizabeth Cook shows 92-year-old Ryland Headley appearing via video link at Bristol Magistrates' Court, Nov. 20, 2024.

Associated Press

Headley was convicted of two counts of rape in the late 1970s, after he attacked women, aged

79 and 84, in Ipswich. He pleaded guilty to the charges in 1978 and was jailed for seven years. □

Visit the island's hidden natural pools



(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.

Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura

di Turtuga (Turtle’s Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you’re up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you’ve completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty

of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It’s also relatively deep,

and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

Cave Pool

This relatively new pool appeared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hidden there. Because it’s still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop for touring visitors.

When you get there, maybe you won’t be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern waves crash into each other. Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you’ll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there, you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the instructions of your tour guide if you have one.

And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

Picture of cave pool is credited to RockaBeach Tours



Aruban snacks and where to find them

ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that is filled with cheese, meat, chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a “kroket,” which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based on its Dutch counterpart, the “bitterbal”.

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found all over the island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find pastechis and kroketts at local bakeries and snack shops, like Bright Bakery in Piedra Plat, Huchada in Santa Cruz or Pastechi House in the city center. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.



While you’re at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing “batido”? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batido shops next the flea markets downtown, or if you’re on your way to San Nicolas, at Mauchi Smoothies and Juice Bar in Savaneta (located at the side of the main road).

If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck, so they are ever-moving around the island.



However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

1. Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.
2. Along the main road next to the airport field.
3. At the California Light House.
4. At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert “cocada” or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them!

Photo credit: wheninaruba.com

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Casago Aruba: Redefining Island Stays with Full-Service Property Management



Casago Aruba was born from a shared passion for elevating the island's tourism experience. Built on a strong foundation of service, hospitality, and a keen eye for quality, the Casago team—backed by over 16 years of experience in the vacation rental and hospitality industry—is on a mission to redefine what luxury and convenience look like for travelers visiting Aruba.

But Casago is more than just a vacation rental platform. It is a full-service property management company, offering seamless experiences

for both guests and homeowners alike. While travelers benefit from handpicked accommodations and personalized service, homeowners gain a reliable partner dedicated to the care and performance of their property.

A Stay Tailored to You

Casago Aruba offers more than just stylish villas. Their curated portfolio includes a wide variety of condos, homes, and villas in different sizes to suit all types of travelers—from solo adventurers and couples to large families and groups. Every stay is backed by local expertise, with concierge support, 24/7 guest assistance, and an attention to detail that consistently exceeds expectations.

Whether you're here to relax on world-famous beaches, explore Aruba's cultural gems, or discover hidden corners of the island, Casago Aruba ensures your getaway is as smooth as it is memorable.

A Partner for Homeowners

Behind the scenes, Casago offers a robust suite of property management services designed to help homeowners

maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- Promotion through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
- Complete management of check-ins, guest communication, cleanings, landscaping, pool maintenance, and repairs
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Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment



to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

As one of the fastest-growing vacation rental and property management companies on the island, Casago Aruba continues to expand its footprint—welcoming more travelers, partnering with more homeowners, and raising the standard of hospitality in Aruba. □

Aruba to me



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

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?

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DOUBLE POINTS
all day long!**Use your Players' Club card
to play our slots and we'll
DOUBLE your points!**THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO**Auntie Anne's Pretzels | Aruba Aloe | Baskin-Robbins
Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market
Shalom Body & Soul Spa | Moments & Memories Jewelry
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
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Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it.

After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina", and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have

recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz,



tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box." □

Source: "E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao" by Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé.

Aruba's kite flying tradition



(Oranjestad)—Every year for King's Day, Arubans gather with friends and family to fly kites. Big or small, paper or plastic, blue skies fill up with these colorful flying contraptions, brightening our yearly celebration of the Dutch Monarch.

The tradition of flying kites starts at home in the weeks leading up to King's Day. These kites were traditionally made with things found

in the nearby mondi* and in the kitchen at home. Using



dried up cactus sticks for the frame, old news papers, and glue made from flour, water and salt to dry faster (some people even use cornstarch slurry as glue), kids usually make their own kites with their friends, parents or other close family members. Tails are made from old bed sheets, ripped and tied together to create a long string of fabric trailing behind the back end of the kite. To finish off the process, people used fish lines or thin rope to tie three corners of the kite together. Another long string of rope is tied in the knotted center and bundled up, used to steer the kite as it flies in the air.

Decorating the kite was especially important, and children would use paint to create their own designs—



the more colorful, the better!

People usually fly their kites in big open fields, like empty soccer and baseball fields found all around the island around noon, when the sun is at its brightest.

In the past few years, kite flying has become a sport in which groups of people would battle against each other to see whose kite is

the biggest, the prettiest, and whose could fly flawlessly and longer in the air. □



Basic driving rules on Aruba: Roundabouts

(Oranjestad)—Have you ever felt confused when you're driving on the highways or backstreets of Aruba? Then we present a simple guide to some of the basic rules of Aruban traffic, along with some tips for things to look out for.

Speed limit

Legally, the speed limit on the four-lane highways is 80 km/h. This speed limit also counts for the main roads that are connected to the highways. The minimum speed is 50 km/h. Most people drive around 60 km/h on the main roads and about 70 km/h on the highways. There are also areas that indicate a speed limit on a sign; these are usually around populated and school areas.

The four-lane highways contain the left-lane, also known as the "fast" lane for each direction. Here is where vehicles can drive up to the maximum speed. However, legally it is not permitted to drive for long periods of time on the left lane. This lane is primarily designed for drivers to switch lanes before a roundabout, for example, if your exit on the roundabout is on your far left. The general lane to drive in—both at maximum and minimum speed—is on the right lane.

Roundabouts

Speaking of roundabouts, it is important to know where you have to enter and drive on the roundabout to make your exit. A good rule of thumb is to count the exits starting from your right side. So, exit 1 would be on your right; exit 2 would be straight ahead; exit 3 would be on your far left and exit 4 would lead to the road paralleled to the one you're on, heading in



the other direction.

Most roundabouts have these 4 exits, so they are relatively simple. When you're driving on the four-lane highway, it is important to know when to switch to the left lane to make your exit: if your exit is on your far left (exit 3), then you need to switch to the left lane on the high way before nearing the roundabout so you can take the path that leads you directly to your exit. If your exit is on your right or if you're going straight ahead, you can keep driving in the right lane of the highway.

It's also important to know that vehicles about to enter the roundabout must yield to those already on it. A good rule of thumb is to look out if someone is coming from your left side.

However, other roundabouts can

be quite tricky to navigate...

Watty Vos Boulevard (the "paperclip" roundabout)

Probably the biggest roundabout on the island, the "paperclip" roundabout on the Watty Vos Boulevard is one of the trickier roundabouts that could—and has—caused confused among both tourists and locals. However, once you take a good look at it, it's fairly simple. The basis is just the same as a regular roundabout (left exit? left lane! etc.), but instead of having four different exits like on a regular roundabout, now you have two extra; one on the right and the other on the left side of the roundabout. The rules don't change at all, you just have to keep an extra eye open.

Airport roundabout

Ah, yes. The infamous airport roundabout. The favorite round-

about amongst local, because of its easy (hard) lanes that never (always) cause confusion among drivers. Sarcasm aside, this roundabout can be tricky to enter, especially when you're driving from the direction of the airport heading. When you're driving away from the airport reaching the roundabout, you'll be faced with three lanes. The far right lane is to take the exit 1 out heading east (right lane of highway). The middle exit is used for exit 1 (left lane of highway), 2 and 3. The far left exit is used to only exit on exit 3 (left lane of highway) and 4.

"Las Americas" roundabout

The Las Americas roundabout is located near the Talk of the Town hotel, west from the airport roundabout. This roundabout may look like a regular roundabout—and for the most part, it is. However, when you are driving from the east going in the direction of town, please take note that there are two exits on your right.

When you're driving towards this roundabout, you'll notice that the road becomes wider, splitting into two lanes. The right lane is used to take the first and second exit on the right. If you want to exit straight ahead, you must drive on the left lane!

It's always scary to drive in new places where the traffic may look and work differently, but once you get it right once, you'll get the hang of it in no time. Additionally, all roundabouts and roads on Aruba have signs and arrows painted on the road to help guide you. So take your time, keep your eyes open and don't forget to wear a seat belt! ☐



Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins



According to *Etnia Nativa*, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands

of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, *The History of Alto Vista* by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer



see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call

Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past. □

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Candelchi" (Squirrelfish), a common, yet shy fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of Department of Agriculture,

Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis*:

Candelchi actually refers to the entire squirrelfish family or, as some say, when we say candelchi, we mean several different species but without distinguishing them by species. In this

picture, we are showing the most common one in our waters, which is called squirrelfish in English or scientifically known as *Holocentrus adscensionis*.

Under candelchi, we in Aruba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between them.

The squirrelfish family is distinguished by the following characteristics. They are heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called "bari di clabo" (nail barrel) for that reason.



In our waters, there are 7 to 8 types or species present and they are sometimes caught and seen occasionally. They can be distinguished by different marks such as color on the dorsal spine or marks on the body.

Candelchi are found on reefs or areas with structure in the water where they

can hide. Although they prefer to hunt for food at night, they are also active during the day. They are edible and delicious when prepared dry and crispy with lime. It is particularly challenging to scale the fish, which is why it is not one of the favorites among fishermen. They often live in groups. □

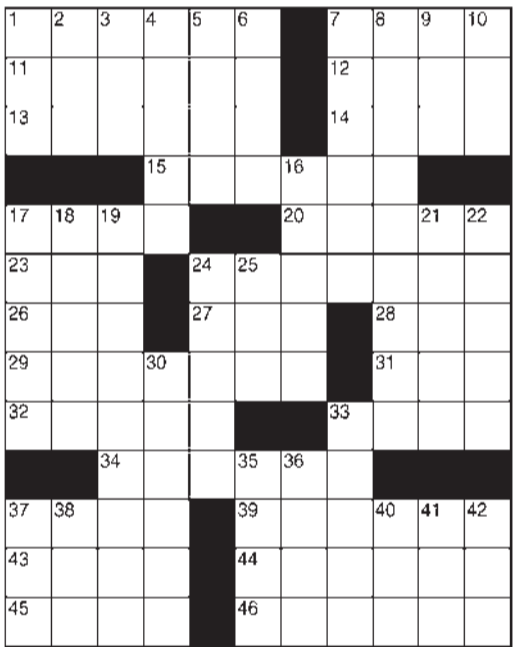


CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS** 46 Sacks out
1 Feral out
7 Miles off
11 Driven out
12 Moreno of movies
13 Tot
14 Sketched
15 Yard surroundings
17 Headed out
20 Fidgety
23 "— Blue?"
24 Symbol of solidity
26 Golf goal
27 Chart model
28 Oklahoma city
29 Maggie and Lisa, e.g.
31 Black goo
32 Rocker John
33 Addition column
34 Kremlin setting
37 Captain of fiction
39 Baltimore player
43 Raw numbers
44 Bamboo eaters
45 Not natural, in a way
- DOWN**
1 Put in stitches
2 Cut dramatically
3 Compete
4 In the air
5 Heredity unit
6 Unspoiled spot
7 Passionate
8 Top-notch
9 Stopped fasting
10 Unrefined
16 Sweet treats
17 Small error
18 Some messages
19 Captain's aide
21 Car type
22 Decade divisions
24 Some tourneys
25 Ventilate
30 "What a shame!"
33 Binding need
35 Perp pursuers
36 Vaccine type
37 Throw in
38 Cow chow
40 Exalted work
41 Pet perch
42 Slalom section

BEATS PANIC
AT SEA ARENA
JOHN HANCOCK
ANY ATE NAE
URALS
SOUSA SHORE
RUSE EWES
STARS BENDS
SMART
AHA OLE FLA
BENFRANKLIN
CANOE DEALT
STAGS AGGIE



7-5

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.

7-5 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

K SZKCBDS KXBU G MNYDZ-XGW
NXSDZ BRD RUB MRGSD UC LNPH,
MDZDXGSDS QH G OKOGSG
PNPPGQH, BU SZUIMH-IGZY
SZDGYM UC SKMBGXB BRNXSDZ.

— BDZZK TNKPPDYDBM

Cryptoquote: THEN JOIN HAND IN
HAND, BRAVE AMERICANS ALL! BY UNITING WE
STAND, BY DIVIDING WE FALL. — JOHN DICKINSON

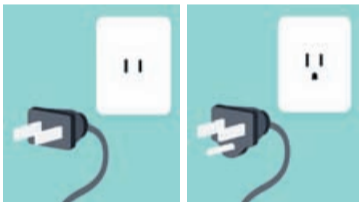
Cruise ship Schedule: July 02 - 16 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
WED	02	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	06	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	08	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	09	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	13	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	15	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	C	1
WED	16	OASIS OF THE SEAS	11.00	23.00	I	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00	16.00	C	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

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 basic but 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



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 occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

	9		4		7	1		
	8			1	9		4	
	1				6	3	9	
8			7	9	5		2	4
4	7				2		5	
	5	2	3	4	8		7	
				7		5		
	6			5		4		
		3		2		7		6

Difficulty: ★★

7/1

Answer to previous puzzle

8	5	7	1	9	2	3	4	6
3	6	9	4	8	5	2	7	1
4	2	1	7	6	3	8	9	5
2	8	3	6	5	4	7	1	9
7	1	6	9	3	8	5	2	4
9	4	5	2	7	1	6	8	3
1	3	4	8	2	6	9	5	7
5	9	2	3	1	7	4	6	8
6	7	8	5	4	9	1	3	2

Difficulty: ★

6/30

Rising summer heat increases risk of child deaths in hot cars



Outside temperature is displayed in comparison to the inside temperature of a vehicle on Thursday June 26, 2025 in Belle Glade, Fla. during an event to raise awareness about the dangers of leaving children unattended in vehicles.

Associated Press

By **FREIDA FRISARO**
Associated Press
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)

— A record heat wave that spread across the East Coast of the United States during the first week of summer has child advocates warning parents and caretakers about the risks of heatstroke to children left inside hot vehicles. So far this year, nine children have died after being left unattended in vehicles in California, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, New Mexico, New Jersey and North Carolina, according to Kids and Car Safety, which collects data on hot car deaths. Five died in June. And last year, 39 children in the U.S. died after being left in hot cars. Why hot cars are so dangerous for children Human-caused climate change keeps dialing up temperatures and extreme weather, scientists say. But the temperature outside doesn't have to be super hot for a child left in a vehicle to be affected by the heat, said Kathy Wall, director of Safe Kids Palm Beach County. "Inside, the vehicle can

heat up 20 degrees in just 20 minutes," Wall said. "So if you imagine it's an 80 degree day, which in South Florida is a cool day, it could be over 100 degrees within 10 minutes inside the car." Hot car deaths can happen any time of year, and since 1998, every state but Alaska has reported a hot car death, according to the National Safety Council. In both 2018 and 2019, a record 53 children died

after being left in hot cars. About 80% of the heat rise in vehicles happens in the first 30 minutes of a child being left inside, when maximum temperatures can exceed 150 degrees Fahrenheit (65 degrees Celsius), according to data compiled by Jan Null, a certified consulting meteorologist at San Jose State University. "Children sweat a lot less than adults do and their internal temperature can

increase three to five times faster than an adult. So that's why it's just as important to make sure that your child isn't left in the vehicle, especially during these rising temperatures," said Capt. Karen Derogatis of Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. It can happen to anyone While it's easy to place blame for leaving a child in a vehicle, even people trained to know the dangers have made that tragic mistake, Wall said. "It's not a socioeconomic group, it's not a cultural group," she said. "This sadly has happened to doctors, it's happened to dentists, it happened to school teachers, it's happened to child care workers. Nobody is exempt from this." Distraction often leads to forgetting about a child in the backseat, which is why it is important to create routines and reminders, she said. □



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Sta. Cruz: Tel. 585 8028
San Nicolas:
Centro Medico: Tel. 584 5794

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
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

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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'Jurassic World Rebirth' puts a wobbly franchise back on track with superb installment

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

If you've lately been feeling that the "Jurassic Park" franchise has jumped an even more ancient creature the shark hold off any thoughts of extinction. Judging from the latest entry, there's still life in this old dino series.

"Jurassic World Rebirth" captures the awe and majesty of the overgrown lizards that's been lacking for so many of the movies, which became just an endless cat-and-mouse in the dark between scared humans against T-Rexes or raptors. "Jurassic World Rebirth" lets in the daylight.

Credit goes to screenwriter David Koepp, who penned the original "Jurassic Park," and director Gareth Edwards, who knows a thing or two about giant reptiles as director of 2014's "Godzilla." Together with director of photographer John Mathieson, they've returned the franchise to its winning roots.

"Jurassic World Rebirth" has nods to the past even as it cuts a new future with new characters.

It's a sort of heist movie with monsters that's set on the original decaying island research facility for the original, abandoned



This image released by Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment shows Scarlett Johansson, left, and Jonathan Bailey in a scene from "Jurassic World: Rebirth."

Associated Press

Jurassic Park.

Scarlett Johansson and Mahershala Ali both very unshowy and suggesting a sort of sibling chemistry play security and extraction specialists OK, mercenaries hired to get what everyone wants from dinosaurs in these movies: DNA. In return, there's \$10 million. The movie is set five years after "Jurassic World Dominion" and some three decades after dinosaurs were reanimated. They've lost their public fascination

a subtle nod perhaps to the films in the franchise and have struggled with the climate, gathering at the equator.

The Big Pharma company ParkerGenix has come up with a blockbuster idea: Take DNA from three colossal Cretaceous-period creatures the flying Quetzalcoatlus, the aquatic Mosasaurus and the land-based Titanosaurus to cure cardiac disease. Wait, how does that work? Don't ask us, something about hemo-

globin.

The trick is this: The dinos have to be alive when the DNA is extracted. Why? Because then there'd be no movie, silly. It would be a 10-minute sequence of a guy in a white coat and a syringe. This way, we celebrate three kinds of dinosaurs in three separate chapters.

It may seem a little far-fetched, but may we remind you about the last movie, which involved a biogenetic granddaugh-

ter, a global pharma conspiracy, the cast members from both trilogies, a Gigantotyrannus, giant locusts on fire and had the ludicrous decision to have Chris Pratt make a promise to bring home a baby dino to its mother.

The three-part quest at the heart of "Jurassic World Rebirth" is interrupted by a family a dad, his two daughters and a sketchy boyfriend in a 45-foot sailboat that is capsized and need rescuing. They bring a dose of not-always-working humor and humanity to the extraction team, which also includes a too-easily-telegraphing baddie played by Rupert Friend "I'm too smart to die" and a museum-based paleontologist played by Jonathan Bailey. The filmmakers include clever nods to other blockbusters "Indiana Jones," "Star Wars," "Jaws" and "ET" and thrillingly create a dinos-hunting-in-a-convenience-store sequence like a tribute to the original film's dinos-hunting-in-a-kitchen sequence.

The shots overall are beautifully composed, from silhouettes on a boat in twilight to almost feeling the burn of the ropes as actors rappel down a 500-foot cliff face. □

Apple Music marks 10 years with new studio for artists, fans and the future of sound

By **JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.**

AP Entertainment Writer

CULVER CITY, Calif. (AP) —

As Apple Music turns 10 this year, the popular streaming service is celebrating a major power move: Apple Music Studios.

The new studio, set to open in mid August, is a three-story, 15,000-square-foot creative playground in the Los Angeles area to help artists dream big and connect deeper with fans. There are two cutting-edge radio studios inside primed for spatial audio, live interviews, off-the-cuff convos and surprise performances. Just steps away sits a mas-

sive 4,000-square-foot soundstage that's ready to host everything from live sets, fan events and



The Apple Music logo is seen on the new Los Angeles studio is a three-story, over-15,000-square-foot facility.

Associated Press

film-style shoots. The new studio is located in Culver City, which is home to other major entertainment companies like Sony Music, Amazon MGM and Amazon Music.

The building housing the space was designed by architect Eric Owen Moss, who is known for creating some of the area's most distinctive and unconventional structures.

For Apple Music, it's a bold move toward next era of music, sound and storytelling.

"It's the future of listening and enjoying music," said Zane Lowe, global creative

director and lead anchor for Apple Music 1. He and Ebro Darden will kick off a weeklong celebration of Apple Music's 10th anniversary with a show on Monday focusing on the birth of Apple Music Radio.

"We're trying to create as many opportunities as possible to surprise and delight people with as much music across all different communities and parts of the world and the sonic landscape," Lowe continued.

"We can create some moments that will excite fans and maybe make them stop looking or listening to other stuff for a minute. □

Wimbledon: 2-time defending champ Alcaraz needs 5 sets to beat Fognini

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

LONDON (AP) — Carlos Alcaraz, locked in a five-set struggle at Centre Court, looked toward his coach Monday and shouted something about how Fabio Fognini 38, retiring after this season, winless in 2025 looked as if he could keep playing until he's 50. "I don't know why it's his last Wimbledon," Alcaraz said later, "because the level he has shown, he can still play three or four more years. Unbelievable." The two-time defending champion at the All England Club needed to go through more than 4 1/2 hours of back-and-forth shifts against the much-older and much-less-accomplished Fognini before emerging with a 7-5, 6-7 (5), 7-5, 2-6, 6-1 victory in the first round.

It wasn't supposed to be that tough.

Consider, to begin with, that the No. 2-seeded Alcaraz is 22, already a five-time Grand Slam champion, including his latest at the French Open three weeks ago, and is currently on a career-best 19-match winning streak.

Consider, too, that Fognini has never been past the third round at the All England Club in 15 appearances and reached the quarterfinals at any major tournament just once way back at the 2011 French Open. He entered Monday ranked 138th and 0-6 this year. Oh, and then there's this: Only twice has



Carlos Alcaraz of Spain celebrates after beating Fabio Fognini of Italy during their first round men's singles match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Monday, June 30, 2025.

Associated Press

the reigning men's champion at Wimbledon been beaten in the first round the following year, Lleyton Hewitt in 2003 and Manuel Santana in 1967.

There were times Monday when Alcaraz appeared to be something less than his best, far from the form he displayed during his epic five-set, 5 1/2-hour comeback victory over No. 1 Jannik Sinner for the championship at Roland-Garros.

Alcaraz double-faulted nine times. He faced a hard-to-believe 21 break points. He made more unforced errors, 62, than winners, 52.

He chalked some of that up to nerves.

"Playing the first match at

Centre Court, and the first match of every tournament, is never easy," said Alcaraz, who beat Novak Djokovic in the 2023 and 2024 finals at that arena. "I've been practicing pretty well. I've been playing on grass really well. But Wimbledon is special. It's different."

Next for Alcaraz will be a match Wednesday against Oliver Tarvet, a 21-year-old British qualifier who plays college tennis at the University of San Diego and is ranked 733rd.

Still, Alcaraz said: "I have to improve in the next round." Fognini whose wife, 2015 U.S. Open champion Flavia Pennetta, held one of their children in the stands is a

self-described hot-head and is known for mid-match flare-ups, including at Wimbledon, where he was fined \$3,000 in 2019 for saying during a match that he wished "a bomb would explode at the club" and a then-record \$27,500 in 2014 for a series of outbursts. He was put on a two-year probation by the Grand Slam Board in 2017 after insulting a female chair umpire at the U.S. Open and getting kicked out of that tournament.

Such behavior wasn't displayed Monday. And when Alcaraz pushed a forehand long to cede the fourth set, Fognini nodded toward his guest box, where a member of his entourage stood

to snap a photo with a cellphone. Things were picture-perfect for Fognini at that moment. But at the outset of the fifth the first time the previous year's male champ was pushed that far in the first round since Roger Federer in 2010 Alcaraz recalibrated. When the Spaniard broke to lead 2-0 in that set with a backhand volley winner, he pointed toward the stands, threw an uppercut and screamed, "Vamos!" In the next game, he saved a pair of break points, before the match was paused for more than 10 minutes because a spectator felt ill amid record-breaking high temperatures for Day 1 of Wimbledon.

When they resumed, Alcaraz outplayed Fognini the rest of the way.

What else happened at Wimbledon on Monday?

While Alcaraz escaped, at least five seeded men exited on Day 1, including No. 8 Holger Rune, No. 9 Daniil Medvedev who also lost in the first round at the French Open No. 16 Francisco Cerundolo, No. 20 Alexei Popyrin and No. 24 Stefanos Tsitsipas, who quit because of a persistent lower-back problem after dropping the first two sets. No. 20 Jelena Ostapenko, the 2017 French Open champ, lost, while women's winners included No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka, 2023 Wimbledon winner Marketa Vondrousova and 2021 U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu. □

Aces acquire NaLyssa Smith from the Wings for first-round pick in 2027

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Las Vegas Aces have acquired forward NaLyssa Smith from the Dallas Wings for a 2027 first-round draft pick.

The trade announced Monday ends what had been a disappointing Dallas debut for Smith, a Texas native who played at Baylor. She was averaging career lows in points, rebounds and minutes for the Wings, who started 1-11 before winning four of their past six games.

Smith joined the Wings from Indiana in an offseason trade. The 24-year-old was part of a major roster makeover before Dallas selected Paige Bueckers No. 1 overall in the draft in April.

In three seasons with the Fever, Smith was a double-figure scorer each year while averaging nearly eight rebounds per game,

although her production dipped after Caitlin Clark joined Indiana last season.

This year, Smith's minutes are below 20 for the first time at 19.1 while she is averaging 6.7 points and 4.9 rebounds.

Smith, the No. 2 pick by Indiana in 2022, made the WNBA All-Rookie first team after a standout Baylor career that included a national championship when she was a freshman. Smith is from San Antonio.

The Aces, who won back-to-back WNBA titles in 2022-23, are off to a disappointing start after sending Kelsey Plum to the Los Angeles Sparks while adding Jewell Loyd from Seattle in a six-team trade this past offseason.

The trade required the Wings to release Kaila Charles, who signed a hardship contract on June 17. □



Dallas Wings forward NaLyssa Smith works the floor against the Indiana Fever during the first half of a WNBA basketball game Friday, June 27, 2025, in Dallas.

Associated Press



It is with profound sadness that we share the news
of the passing of

Emile Alois de Cuba

Heartfelt condolences to the entire De Cuba family, the staff at
Leysner, de Cuba & De Kort.

Emile Sr. has been a steadfast support since the beginning of
the Bucuti & Tara operation and also a longtime personal friend
of our owner, Ewald Biemans

May they find strength and comfort in the love and support
that surrounds them.

Management and Personnel
Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Dolphins are trading CB Jalen Ramsey and TE Jonnu Smith to the Steelers for S Minkah Fitzpatrick

By **ALANIS THAMES**

AP Sports Writer

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. (AP)

— The Miami Dolphins are sending All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey, Pro Bowl tight end Jonnu Smith and a 2027 seventh-round draft pick to the Pittsburgh Steelers in exchange for All-Pro safety Minkah Fitzpatrick and a 2027 fifth-round pick. Ramsey announced the trade Monday in a post on his X account. Both his representation and the Dolphins, where he spent the past two seasons, had mutually agreed earlier this year to part ways.

Neither Ramsey nor the Dolphins gave any insight into what went wrong. Dolphins general manager Chris Grier said in April that Ramsey did not ask for a trade or more money, but after weeks of conversations with Ramsey's representation, both sides agreed that it would be

best to move on.

Fitzpatrick returns to the team that drafted him 11th overall in 2018. He had been displeased with his

role in Miami and requested a trade before being sent to the Steelers in 2019. The terms have been agreed upon and are

pending physicals.

The swap of Ramsey and Fitzpatrick, both three-time All-Pro, marks the third time since at least 2002 that

players who had previously been All-Pro were traded for each other, according to Sportradar. The others were star receiver DeAndre Hopkins (three All-Pro) for running back David Johnson (1) in 2020, and tight end Jimmy Graham (1) for center Max Unger (1) in 2015.

Smith had one of the best years of his career in his lone season in Miami after signing a two-year deal as a free agent ahead of the 2024 season. The veteran tight end hoped that his career year might lead to a new contract with the Dolphins, with whom he preferred to stay.

He had been away from the team during its offseason program as he sought a new contract.

Instead, he's re-joining Arthur Smith, currently the offensive coordinator in Pittsburgh, whom he was with in Tennessee and Atlanta. □



Miami Dolphins cornerback Jalen Ramsey (5) stands on the field during the first half of an NFL football game against the San Francisco 49ers, Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press