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Justice Department says 2 Chinese nationals charged with spying inside the U.S. for Beijing

By **ERIC TUCKER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two Chinese nationals have been charged with spying inside the United States on behalf of Beijing, including by taking photographs of a naval base, coordinating a cash dead-drop and participating in efforts to recruit members of the military who they thought might be open to working for Chinese intelligence. The case, filed in federal court in San Francisco and unsealed Monday, is the latest Justice Department prosecution to target what officials say are active efforts by the Chinese government to secretly collect intelligence about American military capabilities — a practice laid bare in startling fashion two years ago with China's launching of a surveillance balloon that U.S. officials ultimately shot down over the coast

of South Carolina. "This case underscores the Chinese government's sustained and aggressive effort to infiltrate our military and undermine our national security from within," Attorney General Pam Bondi said in a statement announcing the case. "The Justice Department will not stand by while hostile nations embed spies in our country — we will expose foreign operatives, hold their agents to account, and protect the American people from covert threats to our national security." Officials identified the defendants as Yuance Chen, 38, who arrived in the U.S. on a visa in 2015 and later became a lawful permanent resident, and Liren "Ryan" Lai, 39, who prosecutors say lives in China but came to the U.S. sporadically, including this past spring as part of an effort to supervise clandestine



Attorney General Pam Bondi speaks to the media, Friday, June 27, 2025, in the briefing room of the White House in Washington.
Associated Press

espionage operations on behalf of China's Ministry of State Security or MSS. The two were arrested on charges of secretly doing China's bidding without registering as foreign agents with the Justice Department, as required by law. It was not immediately clear if they had lawyers. A spokesperson for the Chinese embassy in Washing-

ton did not immediately return a message seeking comment Tuesday. According to an FBI affidavit filed in connection with the case, investigators believe Lai had been developing Chen to be a Chinese intelligence asset since at least mid-2021. Their activities, the FBI says, included coordinating on a dead-drop of at least

\$10,000 in cash to another person who was operating at the direction of the MSS. They also participated and arranged surveillance of a Navy recruiting station in California and Navy base in Washington state, including through photographs that Chen is accused of taking and that investigators believe were transmitted to Chinese intelligence. Authorities say Lai and Chen also discussed recruiting Navy employees to work for China, with Chen at one point obtaining names, hometowns and programs of recent recruits. Many listed China as their hometown and investigators believe the information was sent to China, the FBI affidavit says. The affidavit recounts conversations aimed at assessing whether individual Navy employees would make for good recruits for Chinese intelligence. □



FBI Director Kash Patel testifies during a budget hearing on Capitol Hill, May 7, 2025, in Washington.
Associated Press

By **ERIC TUCKER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI announced Tuesday that it planned to move its Washington headquarters several blocks away from its current five-decade-old

home. The bureau and the General Services Administration said the Ronald Reagan Building complex had been selected as the new location, the latest development in a yearslong

FBI says it plans to move headquarters to different location in Washington

back-and-forth over where the nation's premier federal law enforcement agency should have its headquarters. It was not immediately clear when such a move might take place or what sort of logistical hurdles might need to be cleared in order to accomplish it. FBI Director Kash Patel, who in his first months on the job has presided over a dramatic restructuring of the bureau that has included moving to relocate significant numbers of employees from Washington to Alabama, called the announcement "a historic moment for the FBI."

The decision represents a turnabout from plans announced during the Biden administration to move the FBI to a site in Greenbelt, Maryland. The suburban Washington location was selected over nearby Virginia following a sharp competition between the two states. The FBI's current Pennsylvania Avenue headquarters, the J. Edgar Hoover Building, was dedicated in 1975. Proponents of moving the headquarters have said the Brutalist-style building, where nets surround the facility to protect pedestrians from falling debris, has fallen into disrepair. Discus-

sions have been underway for years to relocate it. "FBI's existing headquarters at the Hoover building is a great example of a government building that has accumulated years of deferred maintenance, suffering from an aging water system to concrete falling off the structure," GSA Acting Administrator Stephen Etkin said in a statement. The Reagan Building houses, among other tenants, U.S. Customs and Border Protection. It also had been home to the U.S. Agency for International Development, which on Monday marked its last day as an independent agency. □

Senate GOP removes tax on solar and wind energy but dismantles climate law passed by Democrats

By MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The sprawling Republican budget bill approved by the Senate Tuesday removes a proposed tax on solar and wind energy projects but quickly phases out tax credits for wind, solar and other renewable energy. The Senate approved the bill 51-50 as President Donald Trump and GOP lawmakers move to dismantle the 2022 climate law passed by Democrats under former President Joe Biden. Vice President JD Vance broke a tie after three Republican senators voted no. The bill now moves to the House for final legislative approval.

The excise tax on solar and wind generation projects was added to the Senate bill over the weekend, prompting bipartisan push-back from lawmakers as well as clean energy developers and advocates. The final bill removes the tax but mostly sticks with legislative language released late Friday night and would end incentives for clean energy sooner than a draft version unveiled two weeks ago.

Some warn of spike in utility bills

Democrats and environmental groups said the GOP plan would crush growth in the wind and solar industry and lead to a spike in Americans' utility bills. The measure jeopardizes hundreds of renewable energy projects slated to boost the nation's electric grid, they said.

"Despite limited improvements, this legislation undermines the very foundation of America's manufacturing comeback and global energy leadership," said Abigail Ross Hopper, president and CEO of the Solar Energy Industries Association. If the bill becomes law, "families will face higher electric bills, factories will shut down, Americans will lose their jobs, and our electric grid will grow weaker," she said.

The American Petroleum



A Block Island Wind Farm turbine operates, Dec. 7, 2023, off the coast of Block Island, R.I., during a tour organized by Orsted.

Associated Press

Institute, the top lobbying group for the oil and gas industry, applauded the bill's passage.

"This historic legislation will help usher in a new era of energy dominance by unlocking opportunities for investment, opening lease sales and expanding access to oil and natural gas development," said Mike Sommers, the group's president and CEO.

While Democrats complained that the bill would make it harder to get renewable energy to the electric grid, Republicans said the measure represents historic savings for taxpayers and supports production of traditional energy sources such as oil, natural gas and coal, as well as nuclear power, increasing reliability.

In a compromise approved overnight, the bill allows wind and solar projects that begin construction within a year of the law's enactment to get a full tax credit without a deadline for when the projects are "placed in service," or plugged into the grid. Wind and solar projects that begin later must be placed in service by the end of 2027 to get a credit.

The bill retains incentives for technologies such as advanced nuclear, geothermal and hydropower through 2032.

Bill 'could have been worse,' Murkowski says
Changes to the renewable energy language including removal of the excise tax on wind and solar were negotiated by a group of Republican senators, including Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski and Iowa Sens. Joni Ernst and Chuck Grassley. Iowa is a top producer of wind power, while Murkowski is a longtime supporter of renewable energy as crucial for achieving energy independence, particularly for isolated rural communities in Alaska.

Murkowski, who voted in favor of the final bill, called her decision-making process "agonizing." □

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Thousands of city workers go on strike in Philadelphia, affecting trash pickup, pools and 911 calls

By **MARYCLAIRE DALE**

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Striking city workers waved signs at traffic near Philadelphia City Hall and formed picket lines outside libraries, city offices and other workplaces as nearly 10,000 blue-collar workers walked off the job Tuesday. Seeking better pay and benefits, District Council 33 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees announced the strike on its Facebook page early Tuesday.

Mayor Cherelle Parker said the city would suspend residential trash collection, close some city pools and shorten recreation center hours, but vowed to keep the city running. Police and firefighters are not on strike, but the DC33 membership includes 911 dispatchers, trash collectors, water department workers and many others.

By midday Tuesday, three librarians in town from Knoxville, Tennessee, for a convention arrived to tour the Free Library of Philadelphia on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, only to find the wrought iron gates closed as workers cheerfully protested outside. They stopped to chat with them and offer their support.

"We're just out here trying



Philadelphia municipal workers, AFSCME District Council 33, strike outside police headquarters on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 in Philadelphia, Pa.

Associated Press

to get fair wages, to try to get a better cost of living, because, as you know, everything in the world right now is going up," said Dhafr Gerald, 48, a library security guard who said he loves the city because it gave him a second chance after a long-ago incarceration. "The city has the money to pay us," said Gerald, who makes about \$46,000 a year after six years of service, the first few with the sanitation department. "We are the backbone of the city."

Parker, a pro-labor Demo-

crat, promised that Fourth of July celebrations in the nation's birthplace would go on as usual.

"Keep your holiday plans. Don't leave the city," she said at a Monday afternoon news conference that followed hours of last-minute negotiations. In a statement Tuesday, the mayor said the city had "put its best offer on the table."

The city offered raises that amount to 13% over her four-year term, including last year's 5% bump, and added a fifth step to the

pay scale to align with other city unions, she said.

"The City of Philadelphia remains committed to reaching a fair and fiscally responsible contract with our municipal workers who are a part of DC 33," Parker said. "We are ready, willing and able to resume negotiations with the union at their convenience."

City officials urged residents to be patient and not hang up should they need to call either 911 or the city's nonemergency helpline. They said they would open drop-off sites for residential

trash.

District Council 33 is the largest of four major unions representing city workers. Union president Greg Boulware did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Union leaders, in their initial contract proposal, asked for 8% annual raises each year of the three-year contract, along with cost-of-living hikes and bonuses of up to \$5,000 for those who worked through the pandemic. The union also asked the city to pay the full cost of employee health care, or \$1,700 per person per month.

In November, the city transit system averted a strike when the parties agreed to a one-year contract with 5% raises.

A DC33 trash strike in the summer of 1986 left the city without trash pickup for three weeks, leading trash to pile up on streets, alleyways and drop-off sites.

"Like any workers in this country, I think that they have a right to expect a livable wage, and it's really nice to see our country's ability to still have strikes and still have public dissent," Nick Shuhan, a 34-year-old editor and property manager who lives in Center City, said Tuesday. "So I stand with them." □

Mayors, doctor groups sue over Trump's efforts to restrict Obamacare enrollment



Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther speaks during a news conference, Sept. 23, 2021, in Columbus, Ohio.

Associated Press

By **AMANDA SEITZ** **Associated Press**

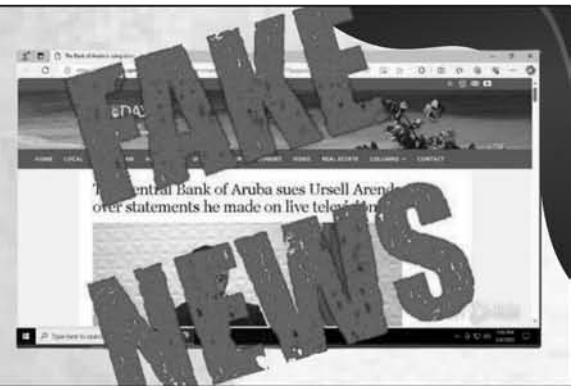
WASHINGTON (AP) —

New Trump administration rules that give millions of people a shorter timeframe to sign up for the Affordable Care Act's health care coverage are facing a legal challenge from Democratic mayors around the country. The rules, rolled out last month, reverse a Biden-era effort to expand access to the Affordable Care Act's health insurance, commonly called "Obamacare" or the ACA. The previous Democratic administration expanded the enrollment window for the coverage, which led to record enrollment. The Department of Health and Human Services rolled out a series of new restrictions for Obamacare late last month, just as Congress was weighing a major bill that will decrease enrollment in the health care program that Republican President Donald Trump has scorned for years. As many as 2 million people nearly 10% are expected to lose coverage from the health department's new rules. The mayors of Baltimore, Chicago and Columbus, Ohio sued the federal health department on Tuesday over the rules, saying they will result in more uninsured residents and overburden city services. "Cloaked in the pretense of government efficiency and fraud prevention, the 2025 Rule creates numerous barriers to affordable insurance coverage, negating the purpose of the ACA to extend affordable health coverage to all Americans, and instead increasing the population of underinsured and uninsured Americans," the filing alleges. □

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Sudanese fleeing war are at risk of worsening hunger in neighboring nations, U.N. warns

By FATMA KHALED
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Millions of people fleeing the conflict in Sudan risk falling deeper into hunger as they seek refuge in countries already grappling with food insecurity, the United Nations warned.

The World Food Program, the U.N.'s food agency, said Monday that over four million Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries are at risk of suffering further food insecurities as crucial funding for life-saving food assistance is expected to dwindle in the coming months in the Central African Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Uganda and Chad.

About 40,000 people have been killed and nearly 13 million displaced, including to other countries, by Sudan's civil war that began in April 2023, according to estimates from U.N. agencies.

Nearly half of the population remaining in Sudan is facing acute food inse-



This June 2023 photo provided by the World Food Program shows food distribution by the WFP for internally displaced persons at the Wad Almajzoub farm camp in Wad Medani, Gezira state, Sudan.

curity, with some areas of the country suffering from malnutrition, which has killed 239 children in the past six months in El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur province, the Sudan Doctors Network said.

The group said the children died as a result of severe shortages of food and medicine, and the bombing of nutrition warehouses in the Sudanese province between January and June.

Sudan plunged into war in April 2023 when simmering tensions between the Sudanese army and its paramilitary rival, the Rapid Support Forces, escalated to fighting in the capital of Khartoum and spread

across the country. But those fleeing the conflict continue to suffer from malnutrition even beyond Sudan's borders.

"Refugees from Sudan are fleeing for their lives and yet are being met with more hunger, despair, and limited resources on the other side of the border," said Shaun Hughes, WFP's Emergency Coordinator for the Sudan Regional Crisis. "Food assistance is a lifeline for vulnerable refugee families with nowhere else to turn."

Food insecurity and famine conditions have spread across Sudan. The Darfur Victims Support Organization on Tuesday posted pictures on Facebook showing scores of citizens lining up to receive a meal from a charity kitchen. The group appealed to international organizations to take notice of the humanitarian situation in the city and called on armed groups to declare a truce and open corridors to deliver much needed civilian aid. □

Associated Press

Denmark arrests a man wanted in Germany for allegedly gathering information on Jews for Iran

By GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A man suspected of gathering information on Jewish locations and individuals in Berlin for Iranian intelligence, possibly with a view to attacks, has been arrested in Denmark, German prosecutors said Tuesday.

The Danish national, identified only as Ali S. in line with German privacy rules, was arrested on Thursday in the Danish city of Aarhus, federal prosecutors said in a statement. The man was tasked by an Iranian intelligence service early this year with gathering information on "Jewish localities and specific Jewish individuals" in Berlin, prosecutors said. They didn't elaborate.

He spied on three properties in June, "presumably in preparation of further intelligence activities in Germany, possibly including terrorist attacks on Jewish targets," prosecutors said.

German Justice Minister Stefanie Hubig said that "if this suspicion is confirmed, we are dealing with an outrageous operation," adding in a statement that "the protection of Jewish life has the highest priority for the German government."

German security authorities stepped up protection for Jewish and Israeli facilities after a 12-day war broke out between Israel and Iran in June. □



The Iranian flag flies in front of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Berlin, June 22, 2025.

Associated Press

Royal train will end 156 years of service as King Charles III seeks to economize

By **DANICA KIRKA**

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The Royal Train will soon leave the station for the last time.

King Charles III has accepted it's time to decommission the train, whose history dates back to Queen Victoria, because it costs too much to operate and would have needed a significant upgrade for more advanced rail systems, Buckingham Palace said Monday.

"In moving forwards we must not be bound by the past," said James Chalmers, the palace official in charge of the king's financial affairs. "Just as so many parts of the royal household's work have modernized and adapted to reflect the world of today, so too the time has come to bid the fondest of farewells, as we seek to be disciplined and forward-looking in our allocation of funding."

The train, actually a suite of nine railcars that can be hitched to commercial locomotives, will be decommissioned sometime before



Britain's King Charles III, arrives by royal train, pulled by the Flying Scotsman, at Pickering Heritage Railway Station, the southern terminus of the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, for a visit to Pickering in Yorkshire, England, Monday June 12, 2023.

Associated Press

the current maintenance contract expires in 2027. That will bring to an end a tradition that dates back to 1869, when Queen Victoria commissioned a pair of special coaches to accommodate her travels. The decision was an-

nounced during the palace's annual briefing for reporters on the royal finances.

The royal family will for the fourth consecutive year receive public funding of 86.3 million pounds (\$118 million), including 34.5 mil-

lion pounds to fund the remodeling of Buckingham Palace, in the 12 months through March 2026.

This money comes from a mechanism known as the Sovereign Grant, which sets aside 12% of the net income from the Crown

Estate to fund the official duties of the king and other members of the royal family.

The Crown Estate is a portfolio of properties that are owned by the monarch during his reign.

The properties are professionally managed and the king cannot dispose of the assets.

The Crown Estate is one of the many relics of Britain's feudal past. King George III, who ruled during the American Revolution, surrendered management of the crown lands to Parliament in 1760 in return for a fixed payment from the Treasury.

The royal finances remain a topic of public debate, with Charles pledging to slim down the monarchy and cut costs as he seeks to ensure the institution's survival.

Buckingham Palace was quick to point out that while the Sovereign Grant has been unchanged for the past four years, inflation has eroded its value. □

In a blow to Milei, a U.S. judge orders Argentina to turn over its majority stake in state oil company

By **DÉBORA REY and ISABEL DEBRE**

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — The fate of Argentina's state-run oil company was thrown into doubt Monday as a U.S. judge ordered the cash-strapped country to give up its 51% controlling stake in YPF in partial compensation for seizing the shares of former investors during its 2012 nationalization of the energy group.

The ruling a dramatic effort to enforce a \$16 billion U.S. court judgement against Argentina presents a new headache for libertarian President Javier Milei, the ideological foil for left-wing former President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner who oversaw Argentina's contentious takeover of YPF and ensuing legal battles during her tenure (2007-

2015). Milei vowed to appeal the ruling.

Fernández's abrupt move to seize control of YPF at the time helped bring serial defaulter Argentina further infamy for abandoning its global financial obligations. Milei inherited an economy

in shambles after decades of reckless state spending and campaigned on pledges to privatize state companies.

In granting the request of former shareholders largely represented by Burford Capital, which finances liti-

gation in return for a share of the winnings, Judge Loretta Preska of the Southern District of New York gave Argentina two weeks to transfer its shares in YPF to Bank of New York Mellon Corp, the major U.S. custody bank, according to the ruling seen by The Associated Press.

Because YPF is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the plaintiffs could file the lawsuit in a U.S. district court. Shares of YPF closed down 5.6%.

The judgement stems from a long-running legal case that in 2023 saw Judge Preska find Argentina liable for \$16.1 billion in damages and interest.

The plaintiffs argue that the government should have launched a tender offer for stakes held by minority shareholders.

Milei, whose government

has struggled to build up depleted foreign reserves, has vowed to appeal the ruling "to defend national interests" and blamed the problem on his political rivals.

"More than 10 years have passed, and we Argentines continue to suffer the consequences of the worst government in Argentine history," he wrote on social media platform X.

Marcelo J. García, Director for the Americas at the New York-based Horizon Engage risk consultancy, said the ruling was "a reminder for the Milei administration that the country's problems will not go away just because he blames the opposition for them."

"Control of YPF is important for Milei; that's why an appeal is the only option for him," he added. □



Supporters of an oil nationalization bill proposed by Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez wave flags that read in Spanish: "Fight and return YPF," outside Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 25, 2012.

Associated Press



Chef's Menu

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Ranch Dressing	CHICKEN SATAY	TRES LECHES
4 PIECE CHICKEN WINGS	French Fries, Peanut Sauce	SCOOP OF ICE-CREAM
Spicy BBQ Sauce	PORK TENDERLOIN	
	Caribbean Rice, Mixed Vegetables,	
	Mango & Black Bean Mojo	

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Bucuti & Tara Honored with Dual 2025 AHATA Impact Awards for Championing Cultural Heritage and Environmental Conservation

A continued legacy of purpose-driven hospitality rooted in care for Aruba's people, nature, and identity

AHATA Impact Awards for the categories Championing Cultural Heritage and Environmental Conservation, a meaningful acknowledgment of the resort's ongoing commitment to Aruba's people, planet, and place. Presented annually by the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA), the awards celebrate the tourism industry's most impactful contributions to the island's future. As a local, family-owned resort rooted in purpose, Bucuti & Tara continues to welcome guests who seek more than a picturesque escape. Its enduring appeal lies in offering experiences that are sustainable, authentic, and meaningful.

This year's winners were selected by an independent panel including Daniel Tecklenborg (CEDE), Edjeane Semeleer (GoCultura), Francielle Lacle and Rosabelle Illes (University of Aruba), and Jan Noordzij (Advance HR). This dual win marks a heartfelt milestone in what has already been an exceptional year for Bucuti & Tara and serves as a source of immense pride for the entire team.

Environmental Excellence and Global Leadership

Bucuti & Tara's recognition in the Environmental Conservation category is especially meaningful, having previously received the inaugural AHATA Impact Award for Environmental Protection in 2023. Rather than resting on that milestone, the resort's latest submission focused on how it has continued to evolve as a local and global leader, moving beyond carbon neutrality toward becoming Net Zero in Scopes 1 and 2.

Unlike many organizations that rely heavily on carbon credits, Bucuti & Tara has prioritized eliminating emissions at the source. Through energy efficiency, renewable energy, and operational innovation, the resort continues to reduce its carbon footprint in measurable ways, an approach that the United Nations has coined as "highly replicable and scalable" for the global hospitality industry.

Since becoming the Caribbean's first certified carbon-neutral hotel in 2018, Bucuti & Tara has steadily advanced its environmental program. The resort has transitioned to a fully electric, fossil-fuel-free kitchen, up-



graded to energy-efficient VRF air-conditioning, applied MIG insulating coatings to reduce energy use, and replaced its entire fleet with electric vehicles. It also became the first in Aruba to replace LPG water heaters with heat pump systems that use ambient heat instead of gas. Additionally, in food & beverage operations, the resort implemented a zero-waste system, ensuring nothing is sent to the landfill.

The resort also introduced Green Loans for its Associates, offering financial support to invest in solar panels, inverter systems, electric vehicles, insulating coating, or other sustainable solutions. This initiative underscores our commitment to protecting the environment not only within our resort, but throughout our community by empowering our team to lead sustainable lives at home.

Alongside these achievements, Bucuti & Tara remains the only certified CarbonNeutral® in the Caribbean and the eco-certified hotel, holding certifications for Green Globe Platinum, Travelife Gold, and LEED Gold. In 2024, it became the first hotel in the world to earn two consecutive perfect 100% audit scores from Green Globe, a rare feat, with the global average at just 63%. □

The Lionfish

And its threat to our marine wild life

(Oranjestad)—Despite its colorful and striking appearance, the lionfish has become a Caribbean-wide problem for Atlantic sea life. The Aruban marine wild life is also affected by this beautiful dilemma, as it is foreign to our waters and has become a danger to our local fish and reefs.

Originating from the Indo-Pacific Ocean, the lionfish is a relatively small fish. It has no teeth, but it does protect itself against predators using its sharp, colorful spikes. It is said that the sting of a lionfish can be up to 100 times more painful than that of a

bee's sting.

Its natural predators in the Indo-Pacific are sharks and barracudas, but in the Caribbean Sea, local fish do not recognize the lionfish as part of their diet. In other words, the lionfish has no predators in the Caribbean Sea. And this becomes a major problem for our local marine life; if there are no predators to stimulate population control of lionfish, these fish can continue to reproduce and expand to other parts of the Atlantic, become more invasive and dangerous for other types of fish.

For Aruba, the lionfish is a

problem especially for our local coral reefs. According to Patrick van Brakel, lionfish expert and hunter from the Hunting Lionfish Aruba foundation, every reef has a "cleaning station"—tiny fish that eat algae and other types of waste on a reef, thus maintaining the reef's health and providing food to the fish population in the area. However, as the lionfish feeds off of these tiny fish, it becomes harder for the coral reef to maintain its health.

Patrick also shares the origins of lionfish in the Caribbean Sea. It is theorized that the introduction of these fish in the

Atlantic happened in Florida, where people would buy lionfish from across the world to keep in their aquariums. However, lionfish grow, and as these buyers realized that the fish were too much upkeep, they were let out into the ocean to roam free. From continental USA, the lionfish travelled to and invaded the entire Caribbean area, from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao up to New York. In Aruba, lionfish were discovered in 2009. Controlling the lionfish population is challenge, as each female fish can lay up to 40,000 eggs a day. Luckily, we have people like van

Brakel who dedicate their lives hunting and capturing these invasive species, using them for consumption and jewelry making.

They are caught with a hand spear, an object resembling a garbage picker with 4 sharp prongs. These spears are used like a sling shot to catch lionfish from a distance. These fish are then put into a collecting tube and taken out of the water. Van Brakel not only catches them himself, but also cooks them for locals and tourists at The LionFish Snack Aruba in Paradera. This way, he does his part in protecting the local wild life. □



Discover the New Menu at CAYA House: A Bold Take on Caribbean Flavors



(Oranjestad)—CAYA House Restaurant in Aruba invites you to experience a captivating new chapter in Latin-Caribbean dining with the launch of its latest menu items. Set in a beautifully restored traditional Cunucu house and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, CAYA offers an atmosphere where island heritage and modern culinary artistry come together in perfect harmony.

Rooted in the rich culinary traditions of the Caribbean—including influences from Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia, Panama, Nicaragua, and Venezuela—CAYA is a celebration of flavor, warmth, and culture.

The new menu is a vibrant tribute to that heritage. Each dish is carefully curated to reflect the spirit of the islands, with a contemporary twist that elevates every bite.

Start with the **Celery Root Milanesa**, a beautifully breaded and fried celery root served with a fragrant Caribbean curry sauce, mango and papaya relish, butter bean and potato curry, and sautéed spinach. It's hearty, elegant, and deeply satisfying.

Seafood enthusiasts will savor the **Corvina**, pan-fried and glazed in pineapple hoisin, accompanied by cucumber and pineapple salsa, banana beurre blanc, and plantain fried rice—a delicate balance of tropical sweetness and



For something adventurous, the **Beef Tataki Chino Latino** offers a striking fusion of cultures, combining marinated tenderloin with potato and beet salad, piccalilli mayo, fried onion, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, avocado, and a zesty Maggi seasoning vinaigrette.



And for those who crave bold spice and complexity, the **Jerked Tuna** delivers with a jerk crust, passionfruit leche de tigre, kefir lime oil, annatto oil, aji picante, orange crème, cilantro, red

savory depth.

The **Creole Fish** captures the soul of the Caribbean with snapper pan-fried and layered with Creole sauce, avocado salad, tostones, pickled onions, and rice and peas. It's a dish rooted in tradition and rich in flavor.



onion, and crispy baby calamari—an unforgettable dish that pushes the boundaries of traditional island fare.

At CAYA, every meal is an experience—a celebration of life, flavor, and connection. Whether you're planning an intimate dinner or a lively gathering, CAYA promises an evening full of memorable moments. □

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Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony resi-



dential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential

section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this

remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one

account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas.

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.

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Infini Named One of the 10 Best Restaurants in Aruba by Caribbean Journal

In a recent feature by Caribbean Journal, Infini has earned a coveted spot on the publication's list of the "10 Best Restaurants in Aruba for 2025." Known for spotlighting the finest in Caribbean travel and dining, Caribbean Journal praised Infini as a standout for its immersive, high-end culinary experience.

"Dining at Infini is an intimate encounter with culinary precision — just a few seats, one open kitchen, and a front-row view of Chef Urvin Croes in action," the article states.



"For those seeking something rare and immersive in Aruba's dining scene, Infini delivers something unforgettable."

Located inside the exclusive Blue Residences, Infini is not your typical fine-dining venue. With their open-concept kitchen, the restaurant invites guests to become part of the culinary journey. Each course—meticulously prepared by Chef Urvin Croes and his team—blends modern techniques with the bold, authentic spirit of the Caribbean.

Chef Urvin, celebrated for his inno-



vative approach to island cuisine and crowned Iron Chef Aruba, has built Infini into a space where dining becomes storytelling. Every detail—from plating and pacing to personal engagement with the chef—is designed to elevate food

into an experience.

With this recognition from Caribbean Journal, Infini continues to raise the bar for Aruba's culinary scene, offering something truly unique for food enthusiasts looking to go beyond traditional dining. □



Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!



(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!

These "coconut stands" can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas
- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach (Near the Ling & Song Supermarket)



Article by Etnia Nativa

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Preserving Ancestral Knowledge Through Art in Aruba

Episode CCCX -310

The narrative of Etnia Nativa—meaning “Native Ethnicity”—emphasizes the importance of reclaiming Aruba’s identity and cultural heritage, often overshadowed by its colonial past and the pressures of catering to the tourist industry. Through this platform, it shares an authentic native perspective, educates the public, preserves the island’s heritage, and encourages readers to adopt an “island keeper” mindset.

Every culture shapes its art, transmitting unique symbols and stories rooted in survival experiences and knowledge gained over time. For Aruba’s native inhabitants, art is more than visual expression—it is a sacred language that preserves identity, spirituality, and cosmic understanding. Especially in an era of globalization, art becomes a powerful vehicle for cultural preservation and revitalization.

In this episode, we explore how Aruban Native art serves as a living record of ancestral wisdom. Carved in stone and molded in clay, these symbols reflect the spiritual depth and cosmic vision of an ancient people. Often misinterpreted or dismissed, rock art was never about superstition—it is a map of meaning that reveals how our ancestors understood the stars, spirits, and their place in the universe. It served as both a school board for the young and a reminder for the old.

Aruba is home to over 300 ancient rock art depictions found at various sites across the island, left behind by its earliest inhabitants. These symbolic creations, inspired by a cosmic worldview, portray constellations, animals, spirits, objects, and human figures. This art form, practiced for centuries throughout the Americas and across the world, is rich in meaning. Some researchers suggest that certain motifs may even reference celestial beings or ancient travelers.

Unlike European realism, which aimed to replicate the visible world, Indigenous art conveyed deeper messages—preserving cultural knowledge, expressing spiritual beliefs, and marking significant events in



stone.

Indigenous artists take pride in harvesting natural materials—clay, earth pigments, plant fibers, dyes, animal skins, and fur—using traditional methods passed down through generations. At Etnia Nativa, these ancient techniques are continually rediscovered and reimagined in contemporary Native-inspired artwork. This process not only preserves ancestral wisdom but also weaves Indigenous philosophies into modern creative practice. It reflects a deep sense of cultural responsibility—a philosophy that transcends time while remaining firmly rooted in authenticity and tradition.

Nature is not only a source of technical inspiration or existential reflection but also of materials and resources. By using locally extracted clay and other natural elements, Etnia Nativa creates works that mirror the rhythms and cycles of the Earth. This approach promotes sustainability, reduces waste, and fosters environmental stewardship. The texture, color, and shape of these natural materials add depth and meaning, evoking both the beauty and fragility of the island.

Culture is the lens through which we interpret the world. Through art, we gain insight into the values, traditions, and histories of communities. Etnia Nativa—driven by a deep passion for sharing Aruba’s heritage, including its archaeological sites, rock formations, natural

monuments, and endemic species—helps keep these stories alive. By using pre-Columbian Native techniques to create unique clay works, Etnia Nativa both preserves and strengthens Aruba’s cultural identity. As a profound artistic and cultural initiative, it challenges social norms and invites collective reflection on how we live, connect, and coexist with the world around us. If you enjoyed learning about our ancestral stories and want to explore the true identity of the Aruban people, we invite you to visit Etnia Nativa—the only “living museum” of its kind in the Caribbean, reflecting the island’s rich “mestizaje” (cultural blending). Founded in 1994, Etnia Nativa has been a cultural pioneer, co-founding key institutions such as Aruba’s National Park, the Archaeological Museum, several artisan foundations, and other voluntary initiatives. □

Etnia Nativa isn’t just a place—it’s a gateway. Quietly tucked away near the high-rise hotels, this private residence also serves as a cultural sanctuary that most tourists never discover. But that’s the magic. It’s intentionally exclusive, welcoming only those with a genuine curiosity and a thirst for authentic discovery.

Connect through a one-of-a-kind experience with the spirit and soul of Aruba’s ancient heritage. WhatsApp +297 592 2702 etnianativa03@gmail.com



Aruba's underwater wonderland

ORANJESTAD - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating under water spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.



Tres Trapi

Tres Trapi means tree steps in Papiamentu, Papiamentu is together with Dutch the official language spoken on Aruba. The beach is called Tres Trapi because it is accessible by the tree steps carved into the rocks. Tres Trapi is a small rocky beach, located on the north-western side of the island, approximately 5 to 10 minute drive from Palm Beach. From the unique steps you can easily walk over the beach into the clear and turquoise blue ocean. While snorkeling you will encounter all kind of tropical fishes and sea stars. The kind of starfish you will find in the Aruban waters is the red cushion sea star. This is a starfish that is commonly found in the shallow waters of the Caribbean sea and if you are lucky during your snorkeling visit to Tres Trapi, you may come across one of the green sea turtles. Respect the animal, keep your distance and enjoy the view. Also remember; it is a once in a life time experience.



Antilla shipwreck

Antilla is a 400-foot-long long ship, built in 1939 in Hamburg, Germany. Antilla came to Aruba, because it had to find a neutral port. When Germany invaded the Netherlands on May 10, 1940, the crew decided to let

their own ship sink, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Dutch Navy. Antilla lies on its portside in Malmok bay, and the sunken world war two ship is now one of Aruba's most popular snorkeling and dive spots. However, the ship wreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the ship wreck alone is already impressive enough.



Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.



Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto beach is located in Savaneta, on the southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. Mangel Halto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven. □

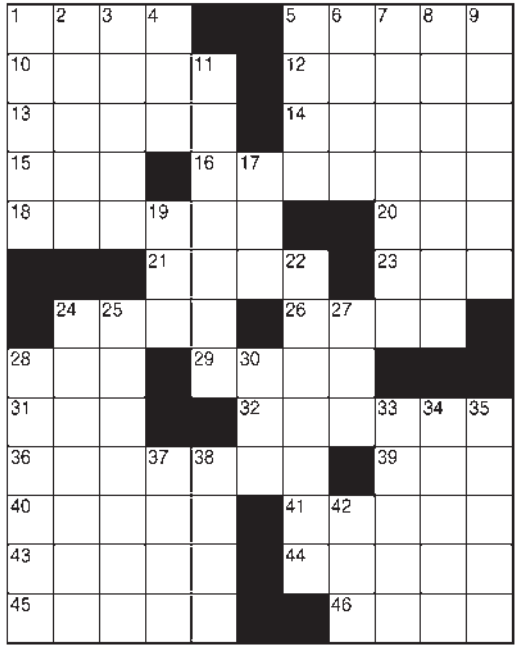
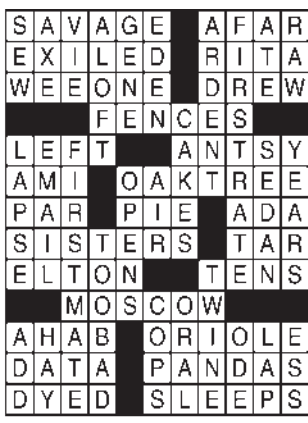
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 44 Sacked out
- 1 Dance unit
- 5 Disinfectant's targets
- 10 Salon worker
- 12 Clarifying words
- 13 Brighten
- 14 Singer Ronstadt
- 15 Suffer
- 16 Frying mess
- 18 Shred
- 20 Really impress
- 21 Son of Seth
- 23 Young man
- 24 Mint product
- 26 Effortless
- 28 Take in
- 29 Cut
- 31 Maximum amount
- 32 Player at the plate
- 36 Serving aid
- 39 According to
- 40 Blender speed
- 41 Matt of movies
- 43 Borders
- 45 Monopoly cards
- 46 Midmonth day

DOWN

- 1 Work byproduct
- 2 Shire of "Rocky"
- 3 Glorify
- 4 Parrot or puppy
- 5 Arizona river
- 6 Throw off
- 7 Some tuxes
- 8 Stepped aside
- 9 Caught
- 11 Bristles at
- 17 Old hand
- 19 Kayo count
- 22 "— Folly" (Alaska)
- 24 Conspire
- 25 Blow up
- 27 Six-legged worker
- 28 Put a limit on
- 30 Presidential nickname
- 33 Broken
- 34 Skip the ceremony
- 35 Talks crazily
- 37 Prepared to drive
- 38 Hardy heroine
- 42 Clay, later



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.

7-6 CRYPTOQUOTE

X B C P T N K X N G

M B W N Q F W E , M P P I X W Z

A P F C U E Q M A . — Q C X M U

S X D I X W E P W

Cryptoquote: I DRIFTED INTO A SUMMER-NAP UNDER THE HOT SHADE OF JULY, SERENADED BY A CICADA LULLABY, TO DROWSY-WARM DREAMS OF DISTANT THUNDER. — TERRI GUILLEMETS

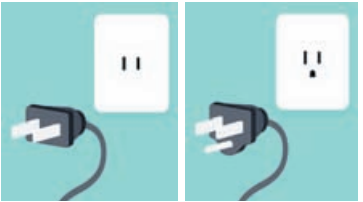
Cruise ship Schedule: July 02 - 16 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
WED	02	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 06.00	23.00 ****	C E	1 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 CARNIVAL VISTA RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	11.00 08.00 08.00 06.00	23.00 16.00 23.00 ****	I C B E	1 1 1 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

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.

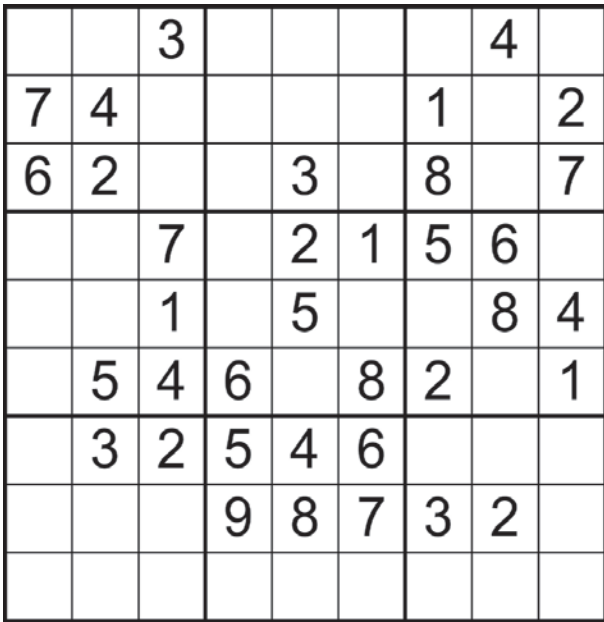
Safety

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 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

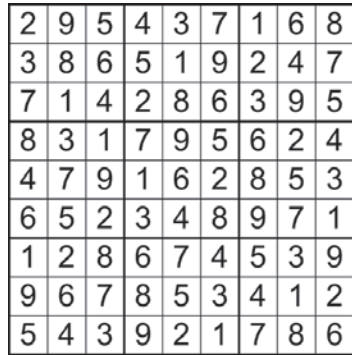


Difficulty: ★★★

7/2

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Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty: ★★

7/1

Major reports about how climate change affects the U.S. are removed from websites



People watch the sunset from the Liberty Memorial grounds in Kansas City, Mo., May 12, 2025.

Associated Press

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Legally mandated U.S. national climate assessments seem to have disappeared from the federal websites built to display them, making it harder for state and local governments and the public to learn what to expect in their backyards from a warming world. Scientists said the peer-reviewed authoritative reports save money and lives. Websites for the national assessments and the U.S. Global Change Research Program were down Monday and Tuesday with no links, notes or referrals elsewhere. The White House, which was responsible for the assessments, said the information will be housed within NASA to comply with the law, but gave no further details.

Searches for the assessments on NASA websites did not turn them up. NASA did not respond to requests for information. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which coordinated the information in the assessments, did not respond to repeated inquiries. "It's critical for decision makers across the country to know what the science in the National Climate Assessment is. That is the most reliable and well-reviewed source of information about climate that exists for the United States," said University of Arizona climate scientist Kathy Jacobs, who coordinated the 2014 version of the report. "It's a sad day for the United States if it is true that the National Climate Assessment is no longer available," Jacobs said.

"This is evidence of serious tampering with the facts and with people's access to information, and it actually may increase the risk of people being harmed by climate-related impacts." Harvard climate scientist John Holdren, who was President Obama's science advisor and whose office directed the assessments, said after the 2014 edition he visited governors, mayors and other local officials who told him how useful the 841-page report was. It helped them decide whether to raise roads, build seawalls and

even move hospital generators from basements to roofs, he said.

"This is a government resource paid for by the taxpayer to provide the information that really is the primary source of information for any city, state or federal agency who's trying to prepare for the impacts of a changing climate," said Texas Tech climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe. □

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Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

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Sta. Cruz: Tel. 585 8028

San Nicolas:

Centro Medico: Tel. 584 5794

OTHER

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

EMERGENCY

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

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

AID FOUNDATIONS

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FAVI- Visually Impaired
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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

How to reach us!

Downtown

GoFundMe is refurbishing a lesser-known financial tool in a bid to supercharge everyday giving

By JAMES POLLARD

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — GoFundMe CEO Tim Cadogan had some complications while fundraising on his own website last fall.

Several friends wanted to help Cadogan reach his \$28,000 goal as he crowd-funded for a Los Angeles area wilderness rescue team. However, they tried to donate through a lesser-known but growing wealth management tool called a donor-advised fund, or a DAF, a no-frills investing vehicle for money earmarked as eventual charitable gifts. After cutting checks and waiting three weeks, Cadogan said, the money finally arrived.

"It was just a bit of a thing," he added. "If they were using a Giving Fund, it would take ten seconds."

Giving Funds are GoFundMe's latest in a flurry of product rollouts with the purported goal of moving stagnant U.S. charitable contributions beyond the 2% GDP mark where totals have long hovered. But the for-profit company's DAF, announced Monday, enters a crowded market of more than a thousand providers products often with older, wealthier clienteles that are often criticized for warehousing gifts.

To transform the way that everyday users plan their donations, Cadogan will have to widen the appeal of DAFs beyond the likes of the technology entrepreneur's circles.

And he wants to change public perceptions of his company as just a crowd-funding site.

"We're also hopeful that more people will start using GoFundMe for a broader set of things in their lives: not just that one fundraiser they're supporting, not just that one nonprofit. But they're coming in and they're managing their giving portfolio with us and through us," Cadogan said. "That connects directly to our mission, which is we want to help people help each other."

A DAF boom but for whom?



GoFundMe Chief Executive Officer Tim Cadogan poses for a photo in Altadena, Calif. on April 19, 2024.

Donor-advised funds grew popular over the last decade among ultra-high net worth individuals as a tax-efficient instrument for grantmaking without the hassle of a more sophisticated charitable foundation.

Donors can immediately write the contribution off on their taxes but face no deadline for giving the money to a nonprofit.

The idea: account holders invest money they wanted to ultimately donate, let the funds grow tax-free while they sit and give themselves time to identify the recipients best aligned with their giving goals.

There's since been a rush to court average givers. Legacy financial services firms such as Fidelity Charitable lowered the minimums to open accounts. Fintech startups such as Daffy contrast their flat fees with the hidden expenses they allege their competitors charge. With all that traction came IRS proposals last year to impose penalties on those who abuse DAFs and congressional legislation that would re-

quire some deadlines for disbursements.

GoFundMe's Giving Funds will have no minimum balances, zero management fees and donations starting at \$5. Users can load their DAF through their bank accounts or direct deposits for free. Credit card payments will be covered through the end of the year and then face the company's standard transaction fee of 2.2% plus 30 cents. Contributions can then be invested in a choice of exchange traded funds from managers including Vanguard, Blackrock and State Street Global Advisors.

Cadogan pitches Giving Funds as a way to be more intentional about giving something he said user feedback suggests more people want. As he sees it, widespread adoption hasn't occurred because DAFs have been framed as "wealth management products."

"This is a giving product," Cadogan said. "It's something for everybody."

And you don't need to know the words 'donor advised fund.' It doesn't show

up."

Moving the needle

DAFs remain scrutinized for allowing donors to reap tax benefits before they ever redistribute any money to charitable causes even if the nonprofit sector fiercely debates the notion that the channel is being exploited. Opaque disclosure requirements make it difficult to put a number on the overall assets held within the funds. The National Philanthropic Trust placed the total at more than \$250 billion in 2023.

Cadogan believes GoFundMe's culture is uniquely suited to nudge users with targeted spotlights of the 1.5 million charities already active on the platform. Giving Funds holders will be peppered with information about local nonprofits, crisis responders, their friends' charities of choice and potential beneficiaries that address their selected issue areas.

That "dynamic, alive community" is very different from the "fairly static, passive" financial vehicles in the current market, according to Cadogan.

"It's essentially inspiring the money to move," he said.

Other features seek to encourage contributions by simplifying things.

Users can set annual giving goals by a percentage of their income or a fixed number. Their gifts will tally up in real-time records to track their progress and ease year-end tax planning.

Streamlining the process was one area for improvement identified in the DAF Research Collaborative's recent survey of more than 2,100 donors. But Jeff Williams, one of the researchers, said DAFs are currently hitting the "sweet spot of convenience and connection to nonprofits."

The challenge for any new player, he said, is that it's a competitive environment with many different options. Plus, he added, many DAFs already are "available-to-everyone vehicles" considering that half run balances under \$50,000.

"Givers are voting with their feet that DAFs are increasing with popularity. More options are generally better," Williams said. "Anything that makes sure we maintain or enhance the ease of giving, it makes me happier."

But Direct Relief CEO Amy Weaver, previously the CFO at Salesforce, described GoFundMe's entrance as "a game changer" that could unlock additional funds. Direct Relief, a nonprofit that supplies free medical resources worldwide, reported receiving more than 18,000 DAF gifts totaling \$116 million over the past five years.

Weaver acknowledged DAFs have been traditionally used by those with more substantial wealth. But she encouraged people to view them as a "savings account" for "good works."

"And GoFundMe, with its name familiarity and the fact that it really attracts people making smaller gifts, I think could be incredibly powerful if they can bring DAFs to that group of people," she said. □



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Goalie market dries up as NHL teams scramble to secure netminders

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer

It is not a good time to be an NHL team in need of a goaltender.

Fewer than a dozen who played in the league last season were available as unrestricted free agents, Detroit acquired John Gibson from Anaheim over the weekend after years of trade rumors and that left a handful of veteran backups to sign Tuesday.

New Jersey kept Jake Allen, Thatcher Demko stayed in Vancouver, Philadelphia added Dan Vladar and the New York Islanders signed David Rittich.

"Really, you sort of take a look at the landscape and see what's out there," said Allen, who re-signed with the Devils for \$9 million over five years. "Yeah, there were some spots, but at the same time, my situation in Jersey was good."

Two-time defending Western Conference champion Edmonton might have lost out in the game of musical goalies and could have



Vancouver Canucks goaltender Thatcher Demko (35) watches a shot go wide of the net as Conor Garland (8) helps against pressure from Dallas Stars right wing Evgenii Dadonov (63) in the first period of an NHL hockey game in Dallas, April 8, 2025.

Associated Press

little choice but to stick with Stuart Skinner and Calvin Pickard. They combined for a save percentage of .888 in the playoffs, ranking 13th out of 16 teams, dropping to .866 in the Stanley Cup Final loss to Florida.

Allen was not really an option for the Oilers because he wanted to stay on the East Coast regardless.

The Canucks have a rare surplus at the most important position in hockey after extending Demko for

\$8.5 million a year through 2029. They also have Kevin Lankinen under contract at \$4.5 million annually through 2030, and Arturs Silovs backstopped Abbotsford of the American Hockey League to the Calder

Cup after playing well in the playoffs for Vancouver last year.

Demko is a franchise No. 1, so he's not going anywhere.

"Probably we have the best goalie tandem in the league," said winger Conor Garland, who also signed a long-term extension with the Canucks. "For Demko just coming back being healthy and the presence he is in the room, what a competitor he is. He has kind of an aura about him of just being one of the top goalies in the league and how hard he practices and what that does for our room on a day-to-day basis having a guy like that, it's a huge impact."

Rittich joins the Islanders as depth behind unquestioned starter Ilya Sorokin. Semyon Varlamov is under contract for two more seasons but has been injured, and general manager Mathieu Darche got some insurance with the soon-to-be 34-year-old nicknamed "Big Save Dave." □

Rookie Paige Bueckers named WNBA All-Star starter.

By DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Paige Bueckers will play in her first



Dallas Wings guard Paige Bueckers (5) shoots against Indiana Fever guard Aari McDonald (2) during the first half of a WNBA basketball game Friday, June 27, 2025, in Dallas.

Associated Press

WNBA All-Star Game while Nneka Ogwumike has earned her 10th selection, the league announced Monday as it named the players who will join Caitlin Clark and Napheesa Collier as All-Star starters.

Bueckers, who was the No. 1 overall draft pick by the Dallas Wings, will be the 10th rookie to start the game. It's the third straight season it's happened, with Clark getting a start last year and Aliyah Boston in 2013. Bueckers is ranked 11th in the league in scoring (18.4 points) and sixth in assists (5.8) to lead all rookies in both categories.

She received the sixth most votes from the fans.

Ogwumike, who stars for Seattle, is tied for the third-most All-Star appearances with Tamika Catchings and Brittney Griner. She trails only Sue Bird (13) and Diana Taurasi (11). Clark and Collier were named captains of the teams on Sunday for receiving the most fan votes. The pair will draft their teams by choosing among the other starters as well as the 12 reserves chosen by coaches. The reserves will be announced this weekend.

New York's Breanna Stew-

art and Las Vegas' A'ja Wilson each earned a seventh All-Star nod and will be in the starting lineup. Other starters selected Monday by a combination of fan, media and player voting included guards Alisha Gray of Atlanta and Sabrina Ionescu of New York. The frontcourt also will feature Phoenix's Satou Sabally and Boston, Clark's Indiana teammate. The starters were selected from across the WNBA without regard to conference affiliation. Players and a media panel joined fans in selecting the starters. □

Wimbledon: Gauff, Pegula and Zverev are among a record-tying 23 seeds gone in the 1st round

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

LONDON (AP) — There was three-time Grand Slam finalist and No. 3 seed Alexander Zverev, outplayed over five sets in a first-round loss at Wimbledon to 72nd-ranked Arthur Rinderknech, who entered Tuesday with a 1-4 career record at the All England Club and zero trips past the third round in 18 appearances at majors. There was No. 7 Lorenzo Musetti, a semifinalist at Wimbledon last year and at the French Open last month, sent home Tuesday by Nikoloz Basilashvili, a qualifier ranked 126th who only once has made it as far as the fourth round in his 31 previous Grand Slam tournaments.

And, most striking of all, as night arrived, there was No. 2 Coco Gauff going from the champion at Roland-Garros to a quick exit at Wimbledon, beaten 7-6 (3), 6-1 by Dayana Yastremska. And on and on went the upsets on Day 2 at the grass-court major, meaning 23 seeds — 13 men, 10 women — failed to get to the second round, equaling the highest total at any Grand Slam tournament since they began assigning 32 seeds



Coco Gauff of the U.S. returns the ball to Dayana Yastremska of Ukraine during their first round women's single match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Tuesday, July 1, 2025.
Associated Press

in each singles bracket in 2001. No. 3 Jessica Pegula also was among those leaving. The American was the runner-up at last year's U.S. Open and was coming off a grass-court title in Germany over the weekend, defeating Iga Swiatek in the final, yet didn't pose much of a challenge to 116th-ranked Elisabetta Cocciaretto in a 6-2, 6-3 loss that lasted less than an hour.

Two other major finalists, No.

5 Zheng Qinwen and No. 15 Karolina Muchova, were eliminated Tuesday, as were No. 26 Marta Kostyuk and No. 25 Magdalena Frech, whose opponent, 18-year-old Canadian Victoria Mboko, lost in qualifying last week and only got into the field when another player, Anastasia Potapova, withdrew with an injured hip.

Nothing was quite as out-of-nowhere, though, as Rinderknech's success. At

least Yastremska has been a major semifinalist, at last year's Australian Open.

"What a moment. Such emotions," Rinderknech, a 29-year-old from France, said after completing his 7-6 (3), 6-7 (8), 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-4 victory across 4 hours, 40 minutes against Zverev in a match suspended Monday night at a set apiece. "I don't even know where to start." He ended things with a backhand winner, then

dropped to his stomach, face down, on Centre Court.

Zverev joined Musetti — who hadn't played since a leg injury forced him to stop at Roland-Garros and was a 6-2, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 loser against Basilashvili — as top-10 losers on Tuesday, a day after No. 8 Holger Rune and No. 9 Daniil Medvedev departed. Other seeded men exiting on Day 2 included No. 18 Ugo Humbert, No. 27 Denis Shapovalov, No. 28 Alexander Bublik and No. 30 Alex Michelsen.

Rinderknech pulled off his win thanks to some terrific serving, delivering 25 aces and saving all nine break points he faced. He converted three break chances against Zverev and won the point on 44 of his 55 trips to the net.

"It's my first top-five win, in the biggest stadium in the world," Rinderknech said. "My legs are still shaking. I'm just so happy the match is finished."

What else happened at Wimbledon on Tuesday?

Two-time champion Petra Kvitová played her final match at the All England Club, bowing out 6-3, 6-1 against No. 10 Emma Navarro. □



Jake Paul reacts during his cruiserweight boxing match against Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. on Saturday, June 28, 2025, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

Jake Paul enters WBA's cruiserweight rankings, making him eligible for title shot

By **GREG BEACHAM**

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jake Paul has entered the World Boxing Association's cruiserweight rankings, making the YouTuber-turned-boxer eligible to fight for a world title.

The WBA slotted Paul (12-1, 7 KOs) at No. 14 in the latest edition of its rankings late Monday night, two days after Paul beat 39-year-old Julio César Chávez Jr. by unanimous decision in Anaheim, California.

The WBA's decision to rank Paul likely means the sanctioning body would allow him to fight WBA cruiserweight champion Gilberto "Zurdo" Ramírez, who won

his latest title defense in the penultimate bout in Anaheim. The fighters have not agreed to a deal, but Paul and Ramírez stared each other down during the post-fight news conference.

"I want tougher fighters. I want to be a world champion," Paul said after outpointing Chávez, who had fought once in the previous four years. "Zurdo looked slow ... tonight. That'd be easy work, too."

While Paul's ranking is a remarkable milestone for a social media behemoth and former Disney Channel star who only decided to become a boxer about six years ago, the WBA's

decision reflects Paul's incredible financial potential more than his fighting resume.

Sanctioning body rankings are determined internally, so they can be changed on a whim, or to meet an opportunity to collect a big fee by sanctioning a fight — and Paul has uniquely become the most financially potent boxer to emerge in many years.

Paul's previous opponents include fellow YouTubers, an NBA player, several mixed martial artists and 58-year-old Mike Tyson — not a path that would lead to world rankings and title shots for any fighter without Paul's fame and fortune. □