



## Visit the island's popular cave sites!



Page 10

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

#### SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL  
SAXOPHONIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

#### SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS  
GUITAR  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



Happy Hour  
12-1 / 4-6 / 9-10

\*\*\*  
PREMIUM  
BRANDS  
\*\*\*



Tel +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 | Reservations at [wateredge-aruba.com](http://wateredge-aruba.com) | Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views enjoyed al fresco or in air conditioned comfort | Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort



**DRUNKEN BURGER**  
CRAVING THE  
**BEST BURGER**  
ON THE ISLAND?

SCAN CODE  
FOR MENU



J.E. Irausquin Blvd 384-A. Reservations: (+297) 699-5090. [WWW.DRUNKENBURGER.COM](http://WWW.DRUNKENBURGER.COM)



FOLLOW US:

@DRUNKENBURGER @DRUNKENBURGERARUBA



# Unemployment, inflation and GDP growth will be worse this year than projected, budget office says

By **FATIMA HUSSEIN**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump's tariff policy, immigration crack-downs and sweeping tax and spending law are expected to increase jobless rates and inflation and lower overall growth this year before they improve next year, according to a new report from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. The CBO on Friday released new economic projections for the next three years, updating the outlook it originally released in January, before Trump's inauguration. The latest figures, which compare fourth quarter changes, show the unemployment rate, inflation and overall growth are expected to be worse this year than initially projected, while the economic picture is expected to steady in subsequent years. The CBO outlooks attempt to set expectations for the economy in order to help choices made by congressional and executive branch policymakers. It does not forecast economic downturns or recessions, with its estimates generally reverting



The west front of the Capitol is seen in Washington, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025, where the flags have been lowered to half-staff after the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

**Associated Press**

back to an expected average over time. But Friday's outlook showed the degree to which Trump's choices are altering the path of the U.S. economy, suggesting that growth has been hampered in the near term by choices that have yet to show the promised upside of more jobs and lower budget deficits. Kush Desai, a White House spokesperson, told The

Associated Press, "Americans heard similar doom-and-gloom forecasts during President Trump's first term, when the President's economic agenda unleashed historic job, wage, and economic growth and the first decline in wealth inequality in decades." "These same policies of tax cuts, tariffs, deregulation, and energy abundance are

set to deliver and prove the forecasters wrong again in President Trump's second term," he said. Overall, the CBO expects real GDP growth to decrease from 2.5% in 2024 to 1.4% this year, a downgrade from the initial projection of 1.9%. The CBO attributes the projected decline to a slowdown in consumer spending stemming from new tariffs and

a decrease in immigration, which would also impact consumer spending. The tariffs "raise prices for consumer goods and services, thereby eroding the purchasing power of households; they also increase costs for businesses that use imported and import-competing inputs in production," the report says. However, GDP is set to grow to 2.2% in 2026, which is higher than the CBO's January prediction of 1.8%. GDP would then level off to 1.8% in 2027 and 2028, the CBO says in its latest report. Additionally, unemployment is expected to hit 4.5% in 2025, higher than the 4.3% initially expected, according to the CBO. The jobless rate is expected to reach 4.2% in 2026 slightly lower than the 4.4% originally anticipated and even out at 4.4% in 2027 and 2028. And inflation is now expected to hit 3.1% for the rest of 2025, according to the CBO, up from its 2.2% projection in January. Inflation would then lower to 2.4% in 2026, higher than the initial expectation of 2.1%, before leveling off at 2% the next two years. □

## ICE officer fatally shoots suspect after being dragged by car near Chicago, officials say

By **CHRISTINE FERNANDO** and **REBECCA SANTANA**

**Associated Press**

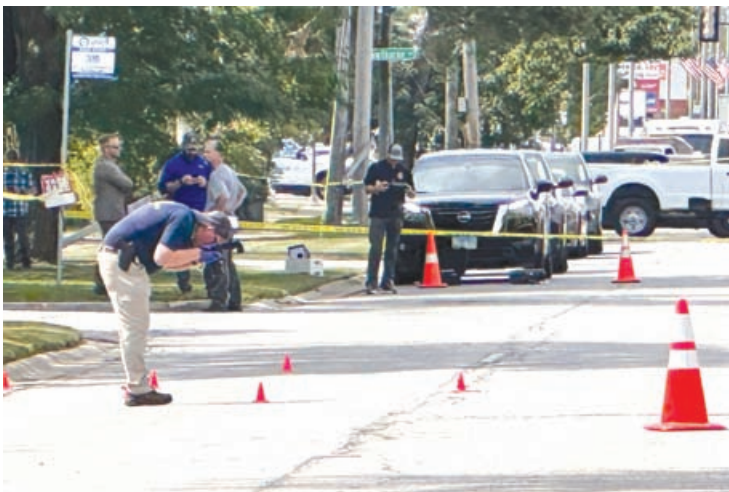
**CHICAGO (AP)** — A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer fatally shot a suspect who tried to evade arrest Friday in a Chicago suburb by driving his car at officers and dragging one of them, officials said. The shooting just outside the city follows days of threats by the Trump administration to surge immigration enforcement in the nation's third-largest city and less than a week into an operation labeled "Midway Blitz" by federal officials targeting the so-called sanctuary policies in Chicago and Illinois. The Department of Home-

land Security said in a news release that the officer was trying to arrest a man with a history of reckless driving who had entered the coun-

try illegally, but he refused officers' orders and instead drove his car at them. An ICE officer who was hit and dragged by the car felt his

life was threatened and opened fire, the department said. ICE said both the officer and the driver from the shooting in the majority Hispanic suburb of Franklin Park, about 18 miles (29 kilometers) west of Chicago, were taken to a local hospital, where the suspect was pronounced dead. "We are praying for the speedy recovery of our law enforcement officer. He followed his training, used appropriate force, and properly enforced the law to protect the public and law enforcement," Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin said in a statement. Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker said he is aware of the shoot-

ing and demanded "a full, factual accounting of what's happened today to ensure transparency and accountability." Video from the scene shows police tape and traffic cones blocking off parts of the street where a large food distribution truck and gray car can be seen from a distance. Multiple law enforcement vehicles were surrounding the area. Immigration advocates and local officials argued that the shooting represents how militarized immigration enforcement harms communities and demanded transparency and accountability from ICE agents involved in the shooting at a Friday news conference. □



Law enforcement responds to the scene where an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer shot and killed a suspect after the suspect drove his car at the arresting officers on Friday, Sept. 12, 2025, in Franklin Park, Ill.

**Associated Press**



# Trump administration to award a no-bid contract on research into vaccines and autism

By MIKE STOBBE  
AP Medical Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Federal health officials intend to award a contract to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to investigate whether there is a link between vaccinations and autism, according to a government procurement notice.

The Troy, New York, engineering school is getting the no-bid contract because of its “unique ability” to link data on children and mothers, according to the notice posted this week.

Officials at the Department of Health and Human Services did not immediately respond to questions about the notice, including how much the contract is for or what exactly the researchers intend to do.

U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a leading voice in the antivaccine movement before President Donald Trump selected him to oversee federal health agencies, announced in April a “massive testing and research effort” to determine the cause of autism by this month. He has repeatedly tried to link vaccines to the condition. An RPI biotech engineering



U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. attends a news conference, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025, in Anchorage, Alaska.

professor, Juergen Hahn, has used artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques to look for patterns in blood samples of children with autism. Hahn “is renowned for the quality and rigor of his research,” RPI officials said in a statement acknowledging the intended grant. “If this project is awarded, he intends to publish the results of his work at the con-

clusion of the project,” the statement added. The Associated Press left messages seeking comment from Hahn. The notice raises many questions, said Alycia Halladay, who oversees research activities and grants for the Autism Science Foundation. RPI is not known in the field as having any special access to data on this kind of

question and “wouldn’t be the obvious choice,” Halladay said. It’s also not clear how the contract fits into other autism research that the government may be planning, she said. But perhaps the biggest question is why money is being spent on such a study at all, she added. Scientists have ruled out a link between vaccines and

autism, finding no evidence of increased rates of autism among those who are vaccinated compared with those who are not.

“The question has been studied for 20 years, multiple times by researchers around the world using millions of people, and there has never been a credible association found between vaccines and autism,” Halladay said.

Those who have spent decades researching autism have found no single cause. Genetics play a role, and other factors include the age of a child’s father, the mother’s weight, and whether she had diabetes or was exposed to certain chemicals.

Whatever amount is being spent on the project could instead be going to “other important research questions,” including studies of genetics and environmental factors, Halladay said. “I think that’s the most frustrating part,” she said.

For months, HHS officials have been trying to use vaccine safety data compiled by the CDC to look for harms that might be tied to shots. □

Associated Press

## False threat led to Naval Academy lockdown and then a mistaken shooting

By KONSTANTIN TOROPIN  
and BRIAN WITTE  
Associated Press  
**ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)** — A post on an anonymous

chat platform triggered a lockdown at the U.S. Naval Academy this week, and authorities investigating what turned out to be



Response vehicles leave through the main gate of the Naval Academy, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025, in Annapolis, Md.

Associated Press

a false report of a gunman then shot and injured a midshipman who had mistaken them as a threat, a military official said Friday. The base that hosts the academy went into lockdown around 5 p.m. Thursday after it received a threat. However, the official said the threat wasn’t real it came from a computer belonging to a former midshipman who was later confirmed to be in another part of the country. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to speak freely about an ongoing investigation. The false report comes amid anxiety over a spate of recent violence at schools nationwide, in-

cluding the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk at a Utah college. A shooting at a high school in Denver this week left two students injured and the gunman dead, while a shooting at a Minneapolis Catholic school left two children dead and 17 injured just over two weeks ago. During the lockdown at the Naval Academy on Thursday, the Navy said in a statement at the time that it was responding to “reports of threats” but that the lockdown was “out of an abundance of caution.” Police were seen near Bancroft Hall, which houses midshipmen in more

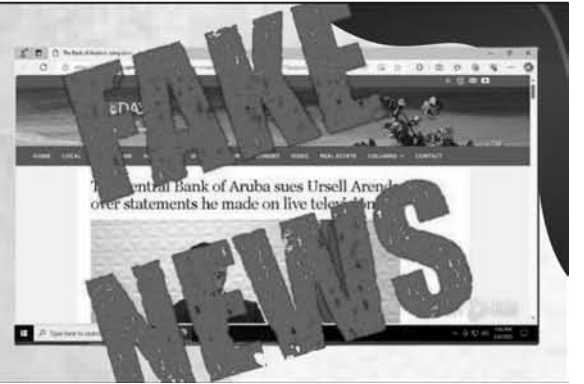
than 1,600 dorm rooms. It is considered the biggest single college dormitory in the world, according to the school’s website. Online speculation and misinformation led to reports that ranged from an assailant who was dressed in a police uniform to several injured midshipmen. Colin Campbell, a student at nearby St. John’s College, said he heard multiple alarms go off at the academy after 5 p.m., warning of an “active threat” over loudspeakers. “It was extraordinarily loud, multiple speakers going off at the same time,” said Campbell, who was walking near the academy at the time. □



## Be aware of scams on social media!

Don't click on sponsored ads that are using Aruba Today's likeness. Visit only our official Facebook Page, Aruba Today News or our website, [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com).

If you encounter any problems, we are here to help: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com)



## Suspect in Charlie Kirk killing became more political, opposed activist's views, authorities say

By ERIC TUCKER, ALAN-NA DURKIN RICHER, JESSE BEDAYN and HANNAH SCHOENBAUM  
Associated Press

**OREM, Utah (AP)** — A 22-year-old Utah man who was arrested and booked on murder charges in the assassination of Charlie Kirk held deep disdain for the conservative activist's provocative viewpoints and indicated to a family member that he was responsible for the shooting, authorities said Friday.

The arrest marked a major break in a case that shocked the country and raised fresh alarms about political violence in a deeply polarized United States.

Tyler Robinson had become "more political" in the run-up to the shooting and mentioned during a dinner with family that Kirk would be visiting Utah, Gov. Spencer Cox said at a news conference. The Republican governor cited as evidence engravings on bullet casings found in the rifle that authorities be-



This photo released by the Utah Governor's Office on Friday, Sept. 12, 2025 shows Tyler Robinson.

Associated Press

lieve was used in the attack, as well as chat app messages attributed to the suspect that a roommate shared with law enforcement.

The governor credited Robinson's family with helping turn him over to authorities. "Ladies and gentlemen, we got him," Cox said soon after the arrest was first heralded by President Donald Trump on the Fox News show "Fox & Friends."

Robinson is believed to have acted alone, and the investigation is ongoing, Cox said.

He was arrested on suspicion of capital murder, weapons and obstruction offenses. He was expected to be formally charged Tuesday ahead of an initial court appearance. Robinson's arrest late Thursday capped a frenetic day-and-a-half search that just hours earlier seemed stuck when authorities pleaded for tips and leads from the public. The assassination while Kirk was speaking at Utah Valley University reverberated across the country because of his outsize influ-

ence in conservative circles, his close connections with Trump and because of the questions it raised about the escalating toll of political violence that has spanned the ideological spectrum.

"This is our moment: Do we escalate or do we find an off-ramp?" Cox asked, making an impassioned plea for young people to bridge differences through common ground rather than violence. "It's a choice."

New details on evidence Authorities, who have yet to reveal a motive, described evidence they said shed potential light on the slaying. That included the engravings on bullet casings, including one that said, "Hey, fascist! Catch!" Cox said.

In addition, a roommate shared with authorities messages from the chatting app Discord that involved a contact named Tyler and discussed a rifle wrapped in a towel, engraved bullets and a scope, the governor said. A Mauser .30-caliber, bolt-action rifle was found in

a towel in a wooded area along the path investigators believe Robinson took after firing a single shot from a distant roof and then fleeing. The clothes the suspect wore when confronted by law enforcement late Thursday matched what he had on when he arrived on campus, and a family member confirmed he drove a gray Dodge Challenger like the one seen in surveillance video that recorded Robinson driving to the university the day of the shooting, Cox said.

Robinson's father recognized him from the photos released by the FBI and told him to turn himself in. Robinson refused at first, but then changed his mind, according to a law enforcement official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation. His father contacted their youth pastor, who also occasionally works with the U.S. Marshals and called the agency so Robinson could turn himself in. □

## Judge tells Trump to update immigration website for Venezuelans with temporary protected status

By JANIE HAR  
Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — President Donald Trump's administration must update its immigration services website to reflect that 600,000 Venezuelans with temporary protected status are legally allowed to live and work in the United States, a federal judge ordered.

U.S. District Judge Edward Chen ordered Trump's Republican administration to change its U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website after plaintiffs' lawyers said temporary protect-

ed status holders were still in detention centers or unable to return to work even after his Sept. 5 judgment in favor of plaintiffs. Chen said on Thursday his Sept. 5 order in favor of TPS holders went into effect immediately. That ruling found Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem had unlawfully canceled temporary protected status, or TPS, extensions granted by President Joe Biden's Democratic administration for 1.1 million Venezuelans and Haitians. TPS is a designation that can be granted by the Homeland Security secre-

tary to people in the United States if their homelands are deemed unsafe for return due to a natural disaster, political instability or other dangerous conditions. William Weiland, an attorney with the Department of Justice, said the judge had not ordered the government to update its website. Weiland also argued in court documents that the Sept. 5 judgment did not take effect immediately unless specifically ordered. Chen said in his Thursday order that the rule cited by the government did not apply to these types of



United States Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem addresses the media during a visit to the Port of Antwerp in Antwerp, Belgium, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025.

Associated Press

cases. The previous day, he denied the government's re-

quest to stay his judgment while it appeals. □



## U.N. assembly votes overwhelmingly to back two-state solution to Israel-Palestinian conflict



Smoke and flames rise after an Israeli military strike on a building in Gaza City, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025.

Associated Press

By EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — The U.N. General Assembly voted overwhelmingly Friday to support a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict and urge Israel to commit to a Palestinian state, which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vehemently opposes.

The 193-member world body approved a nonbinding resolution endorsing the “New York Declaration,” which sets out a phased plan to end the nearly 80-year conflict. The vote was 142-10 with 12 abstentions. Hours before the vote, Netanyahu said “there will be no Palestinian state.” He spoke at the signing of an agreement to expand settlements that will divide the West Bank, which the Palestinians insist must be part of their state, saying, “This place belongs to us.”

The resolution was sponsored by France and Saudi Arabia, who co-chaired a high-level conference on implementing a two-state solution in late July, where the declaration was approved.

The nearly two-year war in Gaza and the broader Israeli-Palestinian conflict

are expected to be at the top of the agenda of world leaders at their annual gathering at the General Assembly starting on Sept. 22.

The Palestinians say they hope at least 10 more countries will recognize the state of Palestine, adding to the more than 145 countries that already do.

Riyad Mansour, the Palestinian U.N. ambassador, said the support for the resolution reflects “the yearning of almost everyone, the international community, to open the door for the option of peace.”

Without naming Israel, he said, “We invite a party that is still pushing the option of war and destruction, and attempts to eliminate the Palestinian people and steal their land, to listen to the sound of reason to the sound of the logic of dealing with this issue peacefully, and for the overwhelming message that has resonated in this General Assembly today.”

But Israel’s U.N. Ambassador Danny Danon dismissed the resolution as “theater,” saying the only beneficiary is Hamas.

“This one-sided declaration will not be remembered as

a step toward peace, only as another hollow gesture that weakens this assembly’s credibility,” he said.

The United States, Israel’s closest ally, reiterated its opposition to the New York Declaration and the General Assembly resolution endorsing implementation of the two-state solution.

The resolution “is yet another misguided and ill-timed publicity stunt that undermines serious diplomatic efforts to end the conflict,” U.S. Mission counselor Morgan Ortigas said. “Make no mistake, this resolution is a gift to Hamas.”

The declaration condemns “the attacks committed by Hamas against civilians” in southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, a rare condemnation by Arab nations of Hamas. The Hamas-led militants killed about 1,200 people, mainly Israeli civilians, and took about 250 hostage. Of those, 48 are still being held, including about 20 who are believed to be alive.

It also condemns Israel’s attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure in Gaza and its “siege and starvation, which have produced a devastating humanitarian catastrophe and protection crisis.” □



Enio Kaso, head of the Department of Artificial Intelligence and Cryptocurrency Licensing shows the AI “minister” Diella, whose name means “Sun” in Albanian, during a conference call in Tirana, Albania, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025

Associated Press

## Albania’s prime minister appoints an AI-generated ‘minister’ to tackle corruption

By LLAZAR SEMINI

Associated Press

**TIRANA, Albania (AP)** — Albania’s prime minister on Friday tapped an Artificial Intelligence-generated ‘minister’ to tackle corruption in his new Cabinet, a project launched with the help of Microsoft.

Officially named Diella the female form of the word for sun in the Albanian language the new AI minister is a virtual entity.

Diella will be a “member of the Cabinet who is not present physically but has been created virtually,” Prime Minister Edi Rama said in a post on Facebook.

Rama said the AI-generated bot would help ensure that “public tenders will be 100% free of corruption” and will help the government work faster and with full transparency.

Diella was created in cooperation with Microsoft, using AI’s up-to-date models and techniques to guarantee accuracy in offering the duties it is charged with, an official at Albania’s National Agency for Information Society said.

The official was not authorized to talk to reporters and spoke on condition of anonymity. The agency manages the administration’s information systems.

Diella, depicted as a figure in a traditional Albanian folk costume, was launched earlier this year as a virtual assistant on the e-Albania public service platform, where she has helped users navigate the site and get access to about 1 million digital documents.

Rama’s Socialist Party secured a fourth consecutive term after winning 83 of the 140 Assembly seats in the May 11 parliamentary elections. The party can govern alone and pass most legislation, but it needs a two-thirds majority, or 93 seats, to change the Constitution. The Socialists have said it can deliver European Union membership for Albania in five years, with negotiations concluding by 2027. The pledge has been met with skepticism by the Democrats, who contend Albania is far from prepared.

The Western Balkan country opened full negotiations to join the EU a year ago. The new government also faces the challenges of fighting organized crime and corruption, which has remained a top issue in Albania since the fall of the communist regime in 1990. □



# Belarus forcibly deported political prisoners after U.S. deal, opposition says

By YURAS KARMANAU and LIUDAS DAPKUS

Associated Press

VILNIUS, Lithuania (AP) —

Belarus has been accused of the “forced deportation” of dozens of political prisoners released in a U.S.-led deal, opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya said Friday.

Belarus freed 52 political prisoners Thursday as part of a deal brokered by the United States, which lifted some sanctions on the country’s national airline.

The deal is the latest step toward a possible rapprochement between Washington and Minsk, a close ally of Russia that has faced Western isolation for years.

“Of course, we are so happy to see people free, but let’s be honest, what happened yesterday wasn’t real freedom. It was forced deportation,” Tsikhanouskaya told a news conference Friday.

She said that her team would work with partners in the U.S. to stop the practice for future releases.

About half of those released were approaching the end of their prison terms, said Tsikhanouska-



Dzmitry Kuchuk, center, and a group of prisoners who were released by Belarusian authorities, listen to an old Belarusian anthem during a news conference in Vilnius, Lithuania, on Friday, Sept. 12, 2025.

Associated Press

ya’s senior adviser Franak Viachorka.

“People were counting the days and months until their release, and suddenly they are deported, separated from their families; they have no passports, and they cannot return,” he said.

Fifty-one of the freed prisoners crossed into Lithuania, Anatol Lyabedzka,

of Tsikhanouskaya’s team, told The Associated Press.

At a press conference in Vilnius, many alleged they were tortured, that they were deprived of medical care and contact with lawyers and relatives, and that other prisoners were encouraged to abuse and humiliate them. They thanked U.S. President Donald Trump for their release.

Trade union leader Aliaksandr Yarashuk, 74, who was sentenced to four years in prison, said that the authorities had “created a torture factory for political prisoners.”

“I once almost died of cold in a punishment cell; I thought I would not survive the night,” he said.

Blogger Mikalai Dzjadok spent a year of his five-year

sentence in solitary confinement, where he says authorities deprived him of medical care and visits with lawyers and relatives.

“If people from the civilized world saw what a punishment cell is, they would think they were in the Middle Ages,” Dzjadok said. “The world simply cannot imagine the scale of what is happening in Belarus, the human rights violations, the abuse, violence of all kinds: psychological, physical, sexual.”

The Belarusian government has not commented on the situation.

One of the released prisoners, veteran opposition politician Mikalai Statkevich, refused to cross into Lithuania and tried to return to Belarus, but was blocked by border guards, Anatol Lyabedzka said.

Statkevich remained between the two countries’ borders for a while before Belarusian security operatives took him in the direction of the Belarusian border crossing, Lyabedzka said.

His whereabouts are currently unknown, Tsikhanouskaya said. □

# Official says gangs killed dozens in small fishing village in Haiti’s latest massacre

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

(AP) — Dozens of people were killed in a fishing village north of Haiti’s capital in the latest massacre carried out by powerful gangs in the troubled Caribbean country, an official said Friday.

At least 42 people were killed in Labodrie, including a 4-year-old child and his family, said Joseph Louis Baptiste, a local government official.

He told Radio Caraïbes that the killings began over the weekend and are ongoing.

“This tragedy highlights the urgent need for effective state intervention to end impunity and restore security in the region,” he said.

Baptiste said gangs set La-

bodrie on fire and are now trying to attack the nearby town of Arcahaie, with police and a local vigilante group trying to hold them back.

Baptiste said the massacre apparently was provoked by the killing of a local gang leader in Cabaret who goes by the name of Vladimir. He was a member

of a powerful gang coalition known as Viv Ansanm that has plundered several communities in Port-au-Prince and beyond and was recently designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the U.S.

Baptiste called on police to help protect people in Labodrie and Arcahaie.

Lionel Lizarre, a deputy spokesman for Haiti’s National Police, did not immediately return a message for comment.

The department is understaffed and underfunded and is struggling to quell gang violence despite help from a U.N.-backed mission led by Kenyan police.

Gangs previously attacked Arcahaie in October last year, wounding multiple

people and setting fire to homes.

Gang violence used to be concentrated in Port-au-Prince but in recent years has spread to once peaceful communities outside of the capital.

Earlier this month, the U.S. and Panama said they supported transforming the current multinational force into a 5,550-member force with the power to detain and arrest suspected gang members.

Meanwhile, the security firm of former U.S. Navy Seal Erik Prince is expected to deploy nearly 200 personnel from various countries to Haiti as part of a one-year deal to quell gang violence there. □



Police patrol an area near the Saint-Helene orphanage in the Kenscoff neighborhood, in Port-au-Prince, on Aug. 4.

Associated Press



## Up for a snorkeling adventure in Aruba? Top 3 shipwrecks to explore

(ORANJESTAD) – Aruba is not only the perfect vacation destination to sit back and relax on the sandy beaches but also has great snorkeling spots for passionate adventurers to explore. On the coast of the island, there are various shipwrecks that have become fan-favorites over the years. Here are the top 3 shipwrecks you should explore.

### SS Antilla

Dubbed "The Ghost Ship", SS Antilla is the biggest and most visited shipwreck site off the coast of the island. Located in Malmok, this 400-foot ship's story is one of capture and sabotage during WWII.

After Germany invaded The Netherlands, Dutch authorities ordered the confinement of the ship's German crew, who were ported in Aruba because it needed to find a neutral port. The Dutch ordered the ship to be confiscated, but the German crew had other plans. Taking advantage of a delay caused by an anticipated armed resistance, the Germans started scuttling the ship, opening her seacock and setting her ablaze.

Eventually, the crew was arrested, but SS Antilla could



not be saved by the Dutch forces. The Dutch fired two rounds of their 35mm gun aboard the 'Aruba' at SS Antilla and left her to sink.

The shipwreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you'll be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the shipwreck alone is already impressive enough.

### SS Pedernales

Like the Antilla, the story of SS Pedernales dates to WWII. Pedernales was used as a lake tanker between Venezuela and Aruba, and sailed

under British Flag. At this time, The US and Britain were using Aruba and Curacao as fuel stations for the war ships.

Under operation Neuland (disruption of British and American oil sources), Germany fleets bombed Pedernales. The ship was later cut into three sections, two of which were taken to the US for reconstruction. The remaining part stayed in Aruba and was used as target practice. Eventually, the ship became a snorkeling site that has attracted many visitors throughout the years.

Pedernales lies on the north-

west coast of Aruba, and is no more than 10 feet under water, making it an ideal site for snorkelers and divers of all levels.

### Jane Sea Wreck

The Jane Sea Wreck lies near Palm Island at 100 feet underwater. Jane's story is heavily speculated, making her origin a tale of legends.

Launched in 1959, the 190-foot ship was initially called "Blackthorn". Her last owner, S&D Shipping Ltd. named her Jane Sea. Jane was a cement freighter between Venezuela and Aruba.

The story goes that the Jane Sea arrived one day at the Barcadera Harbor, where Aruban customs discovered several tons of cocaine. The ship was confiscated and petitioned went out for her owner to claim her. However, several years went by and no one came forward to claim the ship, so dive operators decided to sink her as an artificial reef. This happened in 1988. Jane Sea earned the nick name Jane C, because of the illicit white powder discovered on board.

Jane is now beautifully overgrown with coral and is home to a diverse set of marine life, like turtles, octopus, crabs and sometimes even nurse sharks.

The stories behind these shipwrecks enriches their exploration and offers snorkelers and divers a glance into the past, as well as the beautiful marine life that have molded these wrecks into their home. So, grab your equipment and discover another side of what Aruba has to offer!

We highly recommend you embark on your adventure with the guide of a professional and be sure to take of yourself and Aruba's precious nature. □

## Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

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

### Sweet potato

According to our elders, sweet potato is mostly useful for low blood pressure. People who suffer from low blood pressure were advised to eat sweet potato 2 to 3 times a week. However, if you have high blood pres-

sure, it is best not to eat too much sweet potato, as this raises blood pressure. Sweet potatoes are also great for people who work hard labor jobs, and it's been said to be aid blood circulation in the body, as well as help those with hemorrhoids or diarrhea.

Many of our elders opted to plant sweet potatoes themselves, mostly because of how easy it was to do so. Cut the end of a sweet potato let it sit in shallow water until it starts to sprout. Then you may plant it in the ground. Sweet potatoes need plenty of water to grow, especially in the first week in the ground. It was said that once you start

to notice the ground crack underneath the flowers, it is time to harvest. This should happen around month 3.

### Pomegranate

Pomegranates are also one of the easier fruits to plant and harvest. Originated from Persia, this plant can grow almost everywhere. In Aruba, there are many homes that have a tiny or big pomegranate tree. You may be wondering what the difference is between a small and big pomegranate tree, for which the answer is based on harvest time. Tiny trees produce tinier pomegranates that can be harvested early on. Contrarily, big trees produce bigger pomegranates, but



they need enough time to fully ripen before harvesting, otherwise you might end up with bitter seeds. Pomegranate trees are also very easy to plant. In essence, if you just throw the seeds on the ground, they could grow into a tree.

In terms of medicinal use, pomegranate skins are said to have a few benefits for our health. According to customs, pomegranate

skin tea can help those that suffer from diarrhea. Dried pomegranate skin tea is also good for people who have worms. Pomegranate flowers can be boiled to make a drink and this can be used for irritated gums; just take a swig and let the tea sit in your mouth for a couple minutes.

Source: Remedii Kustumber di nos Bieunan (Medicine and Customs of our Elderly) by Dinah Veeris □



**Celebrating Forty Years – Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all Qualified Club Members**

**SUNDAY FUNDAY**



Fun 4-Card BINGO  
starting at 1pm!

\$7 for 4-Card BINGO | 8 Games to Play

**\$1,500 in Cash Prizes**

**SPECIAL PROGRESSIVE GAME**

Jackpot within 50 Calls | 51 Calls or more \$200

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you purchase your card before noon!

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 288.9000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



**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  
Treasure Cove | El Patio Tacos & Tequila | M8 Boutique  
Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar

## Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the island's past

offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads

back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

### Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill



from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The afore mentioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion

going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □



## 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](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By

submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. □



**Celebrating Forty Years – Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all Qualified Club Members**

# Free Shirt Sunday!

Get a **FREE** Alhambra T-Shirt when you earn **250 Slot Points** on Sunday with your **Players' Club card!**

## 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  
Treasure Cove | El Patio Tacos & Tequila | M8 Boutique  
Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 288.9000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



## Cas di Torto



**Cas di torto (also called cas di lodo or cas di bara) is a traditional building technique from Aruba. It refers to a type of houses made of mud with rounded corners. These houses were usually found around the plantations. The few structures that still exist are the oldest structures that are left standing in the country.**

The technique probably came over from the Venezuelan Paraguaná Peninsula

in the 18th century. Existing houses date back 150 years. Until 1925 many houses on Aruba were built using this technique, afterwards it fell into disuse. In 2005 there were 62 cas di torto houses left, of which only four were in good condition.

The skeleton of the houses is made up of round wooden poles placed with distances of 1.5 feet between them. Branches are interwoven between them, completing



the structural support. On this basis, loam is applied, mixed with sand, water and para grass. This is then coated with aloe vera juice, which gives the white colour and helps to protect against the weather.

On top of the poles pieces of wood are fitted that serve as the base for the roof beams. Until 1815 the roofing usually

consisted of corn (maize) stems, afterwards the nuclei of columnar cacti were used. The floor is made of loam, mixed with cement or cow dung.

The houses were usually divided into a kitchen, a living room, a porch and a bedroom. In the kitchen would be a wooden or metal bar-

rel for storing water that was collected in small rain ponds. Around this barrel a thick loam wall would be erected. Often large families would live in these houses; people would sleep on mats on the floor.

If you visit the Arikok National Park you will be able to see a very nice cas di torto. □

## Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

**(Oranjestad)—Aruba's City Center Street Car – or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" – is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered street-car operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.**

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker

offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from



each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00 pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center – it is free for all! □



## Visit the island's popular cave sites!

(Oranjestad)—Among the endless sea of dark brown sand and cacti, there are two caves hidden in the outskirts of San Nicolas, in the north-eastern area of the island. These caves, The Quadirikiri cave and The Fontein Cave are open to visitors of the Arikok National Park, so if you ever decide to take an “off-road” tour in the park, be sure to visit these prehistoric caves...and be sure to bring a flashlight!

### Quadirikiri Cave

Known for its two chambers accompanied by a skylight, the Quadirikiri Cave is the most popular cave among locals and tourists, as it is easy to walk through and provides great lighting for pictures.

Woman in Quadirikiri Cave,

Arikok National Park, Aruba As with all prehistoric or ancient sites, there is always a folk legend that adds to the lore and mystery of the site. The Quadirikiri cave is no different. The most well-known legend behind the cave could be considered as Aruba's first love story, as it tells the tale of the undying love between the chief's daughter and her beloved. As legend would have it, the chief disapproved of his daughter's choice of lover, as he thought him unworthy. Stubborn and filled with anger, the daughter refused to turn away her beloved.

So, the chief decided to lock her up in the Quadirikiri Cave, in hopes that she would soon calm down and turn away her lover. Her beloved, in turn, was



locked away in the Tunnel of Love (Now known as the

Huliba Cave).

Through the pathways underneath the Tunnel of Love running up to the Quadirikiri cave, the two love birds found each other, and refused to let each other go. Because of their stubbornness, they both died in the Quadirikiri Cave, their ascending spirits burning two holes in the ceiling of the cave. This is why the cave has two holes through which sunlight passes through to illuminate the chamber.

Though there have been discoveries of Amerindian drawing on the wall, these have mostly been ruined by vandalism. However, the Fontein Cave further up north, provides a better glimpse in prehistoric Amerindian paintings.

### Fontein Cave

Longer than the Quadirikiri Cave, the Fontein Cave contains pathways that stretch to the limestone walls further down. Here is also where prehistoric drawings can be seen. Though this cave does not have its own legend, this was speculated to have been occupied—or at least used by prehistoric Arawak settlers on the island for rituals and other spiritual ceremonies.

### Love

The Huliba Cave, formerly known as the Tunnel of Love, was once open to the public, and was the biggest and most accessible of all three caves. This cave had five chambers, including one that is heart-shaped. This cave had narrow stairs that led to long pathways deep into the cave, with a staircase leading to the exit on the other side. In one of the chambers, there used to be the carving of the Virgin Mary, put there for the protection of the cave.

However, the Huliba Cave has been permanently closed for a few years now, as a way to preserve the bat population that lives in the cave. These Long Tongue Fruit Bats and Insect Eater Bats are very important to the ecosystem of the island. Though this cave is no longer accessible to the public, it surely is interesting to learn more about the history of these caves and the Arawak tribes that resided or utilized them.

Do note that these caves are very dark, humid, hot, and are inhabited by bats. Do wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as the pathways in these caves may be rough and bumpy, and don't forget to bring a flashlight!☐

**The Huliba Cave/ Tunnel of**





# The district of Savaneta: A quick history guide to the island's first capital

(Oranjestad)—Before Oranjestad became the island nation's capital, Aruba's first capital was the district of Savaneta. Here is where the cultural identity of Aruba was born, and from where the rest of the island developed into what it is today.

Savaneta is said to have been the first place where the Caquetio inhabitants first stepped foot on the island. Though there isn't hard evidence to back this up, but considering the legend of the Cacique Arua, it is believed that there were already movements on Aruba—and Savaneta—around 88 AD.

The Caquetios probably made their way to the island either from Venezuela, Colombia or other Caribbean islands in the region, but with good weather it was relatively easy for them to travel back and forth in their canoes. So, since the Caquetios discovered the island, Aruba found her first form of civilization.

It wasn't until 1499 when Aruba met another group of people who set foot on the island: the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda. De Ojeda first took notice of Aruba off the coast of Venezuela, during his exploration of the Latin American country. This was on August 9th, 1499. However, de Ojeda didn't actually sail to the island till 4 days later, on August 23rd, 1499. This was the beginning of the Spanish era on Aruba (1499-1636).

Alonso usually didn't stop at every island or land he saw, especially not in the Caribbean. He would often take



notice of land from afar and continue sailing. However, Aruba was an exception. He had heard that there were "quebracho" trees on the island, which were commonly used to produce dye or paint. But since these trees could not be found in Savaneta, he continued to search in the area of what is now known as Santa Cruz. The best way to transport the tree barks was via a route passing through Savaneta, and so the first road between Savaneta and Santa Cruz was made.

## The Dutch colonial era (1636-1805)

During the 80-year war

between The Netherlands and Spain, Dutch explorers and merchants began to travel to the ABC islands. Once they landed in Aruba, they deported the small Arawan and Spanish community that was living on the island. This was the beginning of colonization of the ABC islands by the Dutch empire. Around the same, the West Indian Company (WIC) was born. Bonaire and Curacao were mostly used for plantations, where the Dutch had transported slaves from Africa. Aruba, on the other hand, was mostly used to raise cattle and to house the haring factory. The Dutch had often forced the

indigenous community to work for them.

In 1636, when the Netherlands won the war against Spain, the country surrendered the islands to the Dutch.

The Dutch administration appointed the island's first commander, an Irish man named N. Williams. Because the Dutch were interested in other Caribbean islands and countries in South America, they imported Dutch merchants and business men, all of whom resided in Savaneta. This way, Savaneta officially became the island's first capital.

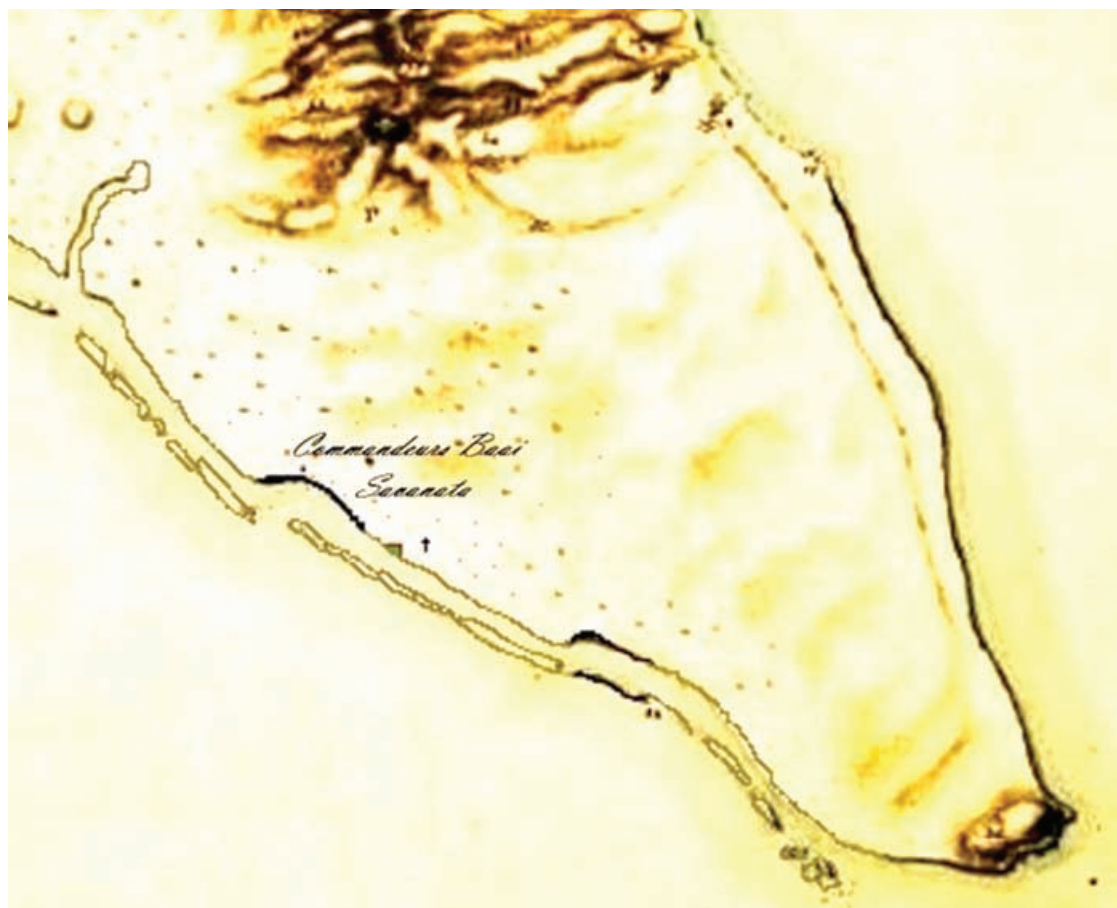
However, at the end of the 18th century, the commander at the time, J.R. Lauffer, moved his office to what is now "Horse Bay" in Oranjestad. Because the highest office on the island moved away from Savaneta, the capital lost its title to what was called then Playa.

## How Savaneta got its name

The name Savaneta probably has a Spanish origin. It was said that when the Spanish climbed a hill called Yara, they saw that the area was mostly open and had no big trees. In Spanish, such a land area is called a "savana".

Because of its land surface, Savaneta was a great place to construct cattle farms. From here, the farmer culture on Aruba was born. Before the Aruban Gold Rush and the construction of the Refinery in San Nicolas, most residents were farmers, and Savaneta had many inhabitants that farmed fruits and vegetables. They also continued the tradition of raising cattle, like goat, sheep, pigs and horses. Savaneta was one of the first places on the island to have a general farming culture. From this culture, many other traditions were born, like the Dera Gay Holiday that we celebrate every year on June 24th. □

Source: *Historia di Savaneta (History of Savaneta)* by Adolf "Dufi" Kock.





**CROSSWORD**  
By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 43 Real brat

1 Pill type  
7 Life stories, for short

11 St. Francis's home

12 Take apart

13 Quick to take offense

15 Super-market section

16 Low card

18 Auto-maker Benz

21 Satyr's kin

22 Furniture layer

24 Tattoo setting

25 Sleep spot

26 Like many Pride

27 Poet Frost

29 Job for Holmes

30 Fare carrier

31 Sudden shock

32 Mis-behave

34 Slow on the uptake

40 Dis-patched

41 Glacial period

42 Sacred chests

**DOWN**

1 Purr producer

2 Fire remnant

3 Letter before omega

4 Ornamental tree

5 School paper

6 Polynesian idol

7 Legendary Paul

8 Travel stop

9 Keats work

10 Lawn material

14 Annoyed

16 Deck of fortunes

17 Cuban dance

19 Majestic

20 Minimum amount

21 Way off

22 Old soldier

23 Reuben base

25 Wall unit

28 Forces, as payment

29 Whirlybird

IVORY SOFIA  
RENEE EDICT  
STAYS XENON  
KNOT ENO  
JOE JONAS  
ATTA ENTIRE  
BRAVA TODAY  
SOLING CORE  
KNUCKLES  
RUB UTAH  
ALEXA ROSIE  
SNAIL GLEAM  
PARIS OMENS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13						14			
			15						
	16	17				18		19	20
21					22				23
24				25				26	
27			28				29		
	30					31			
			32		33				
34	35	36					37	38	39
40					41				
42					43				

9-19

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

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

9-19 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

W FZOZFNZ CMZ FWQMC CP LZ

S UZOO SHK GPUYVZCZVI

RHVWXS LVZ. — NWPVS KSNWO  
Cryptoquote: SEPTEMBER TRIES  
ITS BEST TO HAVE US FORGET SUMMER. —  
BERNARD WILLIAMS

**Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 02 - 18 2025**

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	02	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	09	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	C	1
WED	10	CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00	16.00	C	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
THU	11	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	17.00	C	1
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	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.



**Supermarket hours**

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



**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.



**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**

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/13

**Answer to previous puzzle**

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 9/12



# Now summer's over, here's what to do with all those photos on your camera roll

By **KELVIN CHAN**  
AP Business Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — The summer holidays are over, and all those great times you had on vacation have been memorialized in hundreds of smartphone photos. Now what?

Some highlights the prettiest sunset, the best group shots have been posted on Instagram or shared in the family chat group. But many more will likely languish in your camera roll.

Because smartphones come with increasingly large amounts of file storage, it's too easy to take photos just because we can. But it's also real work to go through them all later, so it's too easy to forget about them.

Here are some quick and easy methods to help deal with the pictures (and videos) overwhelming your phone.

## Pick your favorites

There will some shots that will be the most important standout photos that you want to share with others, or know that you'll look back on years later, or just keep for reference. Star or heart any photos that fall into this category, which puts them into a folder or album for favorites.

## Delete, with help

After a recent extended family trip to Turkey, I ended up with quite a few photos of restaurant and cafe menus. They were shared in the family WhatsApp group to decide where or what to eat. But we'll probably never visit those establishments again.

It's always good practice to cull photos that you just don't need anymore, which could also include screenshots, pictures of receipts or duplicate images. But going through hundreds of trip photos could be a little tedious without some help. Fortunately, there are dozens of photo deletion and cleanup apps available that aim to speed the job up.

Many of them resemble dating apps like Tinder, because they let you swipe left to delete and swipe



**A faithful takes pictures with a mobile phone during the weekly general audience with Pope Leo XIV in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025.**

Associated Press

right to save a photo. Some are free, others need a subscription.

It starts getting more challenging when you have images that are similar but not identical. Which one should you keep? Some apps have a comparison feature to help you decide. I tried a few of these apps and found that Clever Cleaner's Similar function works well, helping me whittle down, for example, many of the various nearly identical shots I took of Istanbul's skyline while crossing the Bosphorus Strait by ferry at dusk. The free app grouped similar pictures together and then suggested the best shot to keep. I found that I generally agreed with its suggestions.

## Tips to help organize your photos

Even if you've managed to sort through your camera roll, it will probably still be a jumble of images stretching back in an unbroken stream.

So group photos into albums organized by themes. Android and iPhone users can do this on the Photos apps on their respective operating systems. Select all the photos from a trip and add them to a new album.

Planning ahead will make this process easier. Create an album when you start your trip, then save the photos there as you take them.

You can also create a shared album on Android or iPhone, which lets other people view or comment on photos or add their own.

If you don't want to set up

a shared album, Android and Google Photos lets users create links so others can just view an album or individual photo. It's not so easy on iOS, which only lets users export the album's photos. You can share individual photos with an iCloud link but it expires after 30 days.

## Remember to print

Now that you've edited and curated your holiday pictures, consider taking an analog approach to showing them off.

Print them out and put them in an album that people can flip not scroll through.

Or blow up the most eye-catching shot to frame and hang it as wall art. □

## LOOKING FOR

a short term

## DUTCH VILLAGE

Contract with 10 years

or less left

Contact me at

thumpy98@aol.com

325751



## Editor

**Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.**  
**Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668**  
**Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.**  
**Acc. #23951903**  
**RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772**

## Editors

**Pilar Flores**

**Richard Brooks**

**Angenette Figueroa**

**Oriana Geerman**

## Sales

**Mark Gomes**

**Sulaika Croes**

## Classifieds

**classified@cspnv.com**

## Distribution and Collection

**accounting@bondia.com**

## Social / Website

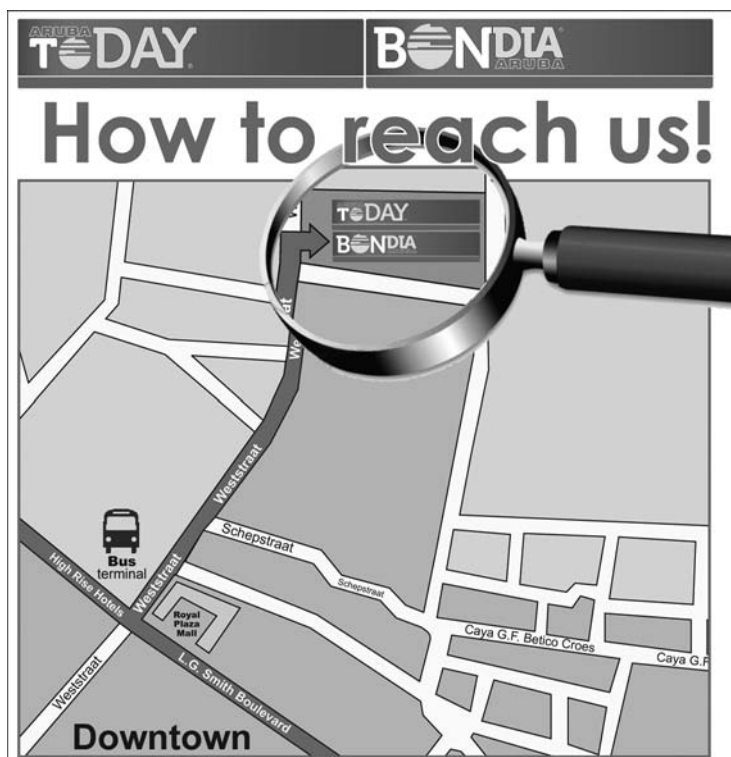
**Juan Luis Pinto**

**Weststraat 22**  
**T: 582-7800**

**E: news@arubatoday.com**

**W: www.arubatoday.com**

**f @ArubaTodayNews**



## 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

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

## TAXI SERVICES

<b>Taxi Tas</b>	<b>587 5900</b>
<b>Prof. Taxi</b>	<b>588 0035</b>
<b>Taxi D.T.S.</b>	<b>587 2300</b>
<b>Taxi Serv. Aruba</b>	<b>583 3232</b>
<b>A1 Taxi Serv.</b>	<b>280 2828</b>

## TRAVEL INFO

<b>Aruba Airport</b>	<b>524 2424</b>
<b>American Airlines</b>	<b>582 2700</b>
<b>Avianca</b>	<b>588 0059</b>
<b>Jet Blue</b>	<b>588 2244</b>
<b>Surinam</b>	<b>582 7896</b>

## AID FOUNDATIONS

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

## General Info

**Phone Directory Tel. 118**

**Like us on**  
**Facebook**



**ARUBA TODAY NEWS**



# A new Whitney Houston duet? How Calum Scott made 'I Wanna Dance with Somebody' with the late star

By MARIA SHERMAN  
AP Music Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — It sounds impossible, but that's the magic of it. On Thursday, a new Whitney Houston song arrives 13 years after her death.

English singer Calum Scott is responsible. The single is a duet between Scott and Houston, a balladic reinterpretation of the timeless "I Wanna Dance with Somebody (Who Loves Me)," using Houston's original vocal stems. (Stems are the individual musical elements that, when combined, make up a song.)

"It wasn't even something I could have dreamt as a possibility, and the fact that I'm getting to do it is, geez, one of the honors of my career," Scott told The Associated Press. Houston's voice is one that soundtracked his childhood courtesy his mom and he refers to Houston as one of the most influential performers in his life and the lives of many. "Timeless," he describes her. Here's how the new song came into existence.

## Recording with a giant

Such an undertaking couldn't be possible without the approval of a number of parties. Specifically, it required Pat Houston, Whitney's sister-in-law and the executor of her estate, and Primary Wave, which acquired the copyrights to hit Whitney Houston songs as part of a 2022 deal.



Calum Scott poses for photographers upon arrival at the launch event of the film 'Fantastic Four First Steps' on Thursday, July 10, 2025, in London, left, and Whitney Houston waves as she arrives for the "Women's World Awards" awarding ceremony in Hamburg, northern Germany, on Wednesday, June 9, 2004.

Pat Houston says the idea for Scott's "I Wanna Dance with Somebody (Who Loves Me)" actually came from Primary Wave. They were familiar with Scott's live cover version of the song from his stint opening for Ed Sheeran in 2024. On that tour, Scott stripped the 1987 classic down into a ballad, blending it with Robyn's "Dancing On My Own."

After hearing what Scott could do with the song taking it from its up-tempo pop spirit to a big-hearted bal-

lad, while also taking into consideration that 2025 marks the 40th anniversary of Houston's music career Pat Houston was on board. It was yet another opportunity for celebration. "I said, you know what, this is a no-brainer. This is the Houston style. So, let's go with this," she said.

"Whitney was a balladeer and that's why we all fell in love with her," she continued. "And Calum turned the song into a beautiful ballad."

## From pop hit to ballad

First, the Houston estate and Primary Wave provided Scott with the original vocal stems, produced by her longtime producer Narada Michael Walden. Then Scott recorded the song with producers Jon "MAGS" Maguire, Andrew Yeates and Charlie T in the U.K. in "about a week," he recalls. They were joined by a string section, which gave additional dimension to their somber take on the song.

"Take a pop song and make it sad," Scott jokes of

his approach.

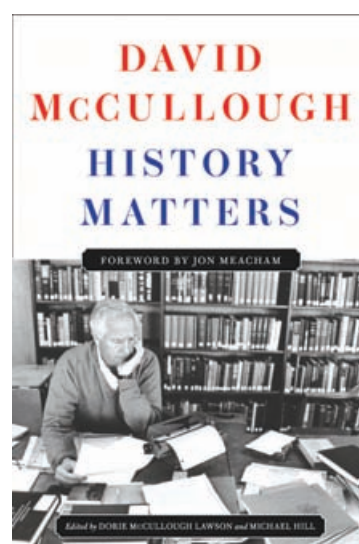
Recording the ballad made sense because, as Scott points out, the lyrics to the original song are a bit melancholic. "You want to dance with somebody who loved you, you know, you're not actually dancing with them," he says. It's about yearning. But in an early demo, the chorus was recorded in a minor chord which sounded a bit too depressing. The change was made swiftly; even slowed, the song needed some of that Houston ebullience.

Another early decision: The new song would start with just Houston's voice, alone, in the first verse. "Whitney starts the song because this is her song," Scott says simply. "I would never dare stand in front of Whitney for that first verse."

Eagle-eyed (eared?) fans might notice the sound of a snare drum bleeding into her vocal on that verse because it was originally recorded to tape, not digitally, and because "we can't change anything like that because those are etched into the song and into her vocal," says Scott. "And to remove it would be taking a piece away."

It's one of the reasons they kept the song's iconic key change in the last chorus as well.

"I really had to dig for those high notes," he says of the recording. □



This cover image released by Simon & Schuster shows "History Matters" by David McCullough.

Associated Press

## Book Review: Evidence of historian David McCullough's curiosity abounds in 'History Matters'

By ANDREW DeMILLO  
Associated Press

The late Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David McCullough told an audience in 2012 that writing history was like working on a detective case.

"And once on the case, you want to know more and more and more," he said in remarks at Dartmouth College. "Follow your curiosity."

One thing that's clear after reading "History Matters," a posthumous collection of McCullough's writings and speeches that include his Dartmouth remarks, is how much the revered historian practiced what he preached. The book is an enjoyable complement to McCullough's canon of works that include biographies of John Adams, Theodore Roosevelt and a reminder of why he was one of the greatest historians of our time. They also

offer a glance into his approaches to reading and writing. In a tribute to the late novelist Herman Wouk that's part of the collection, McCullough underscores the importance of feeling and narrative writing for historians. Another tribute to novelist, painter and historian Paul Horgan shows how McCullough approached his writing with a painter's eye.

The writings also include a short history of his typewriter, a second-hand Royal Standard that he bought in 1965 and used to write every one of his 12 books. A recommended reading list from McCullough underscores how much he viewed literature as necessary for understanding history. Throughout the book, McCullough's remarks display concerns about the consequences of historical illiteracy. His pieces also illustrate the power of helping out younger writers and connecting with them. □



# No preseason was no problem for Josh Allen, Lamar Jackson, Aaron Rodgers

By **ROB MAADDI**  
**AP Pro Football Writer**

Josh Allen and Lamar Jackson didn't play a snap in the preseason.

They didn't need it.

Allen and Jackson were spectacular in their first game action of the season. Jackson led the Baltimore Ravens to a 15-point, fourth-quarter lead only to watch Allen rally the Buffalo Bills to a 41-40 victory. So much for rust.

Allen was 33 of 46 for 394 yards with two touchdown passes and two more rushing. Jackson was 14 of 19 for 209 yards and two TDs plus 70 yards rushing and another score.

"It's trusting, trusting our process, trusting our other 10 guys on the football field, trusting what Joe's (offensive coordinator Joe Brady) calling, and really sticking to our fundamentals and how we worked during training camp, and really just trying to pick up where we left off from last year," Allen said on the AP's "On Football" podcast.

The reigning NFL MVP sat out the entire preseason for the first time in his career. But Allen was sharp against a tough defense. He had 251 of his passing yards in the fourth quarter.

Jackson, a two-time MVP and three-time All-Pro, hasn't played in the preseason since 2021. He just steps on the field and dazzles whenever he gets an



**Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) runs for a touchdown past Buffalo Bills safety Cole Bishop (24) during the first half of an NFL football game in Orchard Park, N.Y., Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025.**  
Associated Press

opportunity.

NFL coaches have to make difficult decisions each preseason, choosing whether to rest starters or put quarterbacks in harm's way in meaningless games.

Green Bay's Jordan Love injured his hand in an exhibition game but was ready to play in Week 1.

Sitting out doesn't mean guys will be ineffective. Allen and Jackson demonstrated that. So did Aaron Rodgers.

Playing in preseason games doesn't guarantee success early in the season, either. Football is a team sport. There are a lot of factors that determine a quarter-

back's performance and whether an offense clicks right from the start.

Rodgers was among the 10 starting quarterbacks who didn't get any reps in exhibition games. He was outstanding in the opener, tossing four TD passes to lead Pittsburgh to a win.

Some of the others had slower starts.

Baker Mayfield was out of sync early for Tampa Bay but made clutch throws to rally the Buccaneers to victory.

Dak Prescott posted a 76.6 passer rating, though the Cowboys had several dropped passes.

Jared Goff and Detroit's

entire offense had a rough time against Green Bay in John Morton's first game as offensive coordinator.

Meanwhile, quarterbacks who played in the preseason had mixed results. Joe Burrow threw for just 113 yards and one TD but Cincinnati still edged Cleveland 17-16.

Patrick Mahomes lost another wide receiver to injury and needed a while to get Kansas City's offense going in a loss to the Chargers in Brazil.

Tua Tagovailoa had one of his worst games as a pro, tossing two interceptions in Miami's lopsided loss to Indianapolis.

Bo Nix threw two picks but Denver held on to defeat Tennessee.

"It's probably the toughest part of our position, in my opinion, is bouncing back from the negative because you work really hard, you get one shot at it, and every once in a while when you miss it, it's tough because that's what you just want to think about it, you just want to fix it so bad that that's what you're thinking about," Nix said. "The real advantage, the real edge, is when guys can just go to the next play, move on. ... Glad it's Week 1, not Week 21 and make these mistakes now and learn from them."

Justin Herbert played in his first career preseason game this season, and came out firing against the Chiefs. He finished with 318 yards passing, three TDs and had a 131.7 rating for the Chargers.

Geno Smith appeared in all three preseason games, and looked like he was in midseason form in Week 1. Smith threw for 362 yards to lead Las Vegas to a win.

"I think it's all the time we spend together, all the time in the meeting rooms, just hearing his voice and directly from him exactly what he wants to get accomplished with each and every play," Smith said about building chemistry with offensive coordinator Chip Kelly. □

# Christopher Morel homers for the Tampa Bay Rays in return to Wrigley Field

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Christopher Morel made an immediate impact for Tampa Bay in his return to Wrigley Field.

Morel hit a three-run homer for the Rays in their series opener against the Chicago Cubs on Friday. The 26-year-old Morel was playing his first game against his first major league team.

Chandler Simpson hit a leadoff single and Yandy Díaz walked before Morel batted in the first inning against Matthew Boyd. After hearing some cheers from the crowd, Morel hit a towering drive into the bleachers in left-center.

He struck out looking in his second plate appearance of the afternoon.

Morel's 11th homer of the season provided a fast start for a Tampa Bay team on the fringe of the AL wild-card race. Coming into the day, the Rays had dropped five of six. With his energetic style and enthusiastic smile, Morel became a fan favorite in Chicago after making his major league debut in 2022. He hit 16 homers in his first season and 26 more the following year, when he batted .247 with 70 RBIs.

But the free-swinging Morel struck out 270 times in 220 games in his first two seasons, and the Cubs shipped him off to Tampa Bay in the Isaac Paredes deal in July 2024. □



**Tampa Bay Rays designated hitter Christopher Morel (24) hits a three-run home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the Chicago Cubs, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025, in Chicago.**  
Associated Press





Las Vegas Aces center A'ja Wilson (22) celebrates after making a basket against the Atlanta Dream during the second half of a WNBA basketball game Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2025, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

# A'ja Wilson's incredible season earns her a second straight AP Player of the Year award

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

A'ja Wilson followed up a historic season with another incredible one to earn AP Player of the Year for the second straight time. The Las Vegas Aces star topped Napheesa Collier of Minnesota and Alyssa Thomas of Phoenix, who

both had terrific seasons. "She's put in the work and she passes all the tests the math tests, the optics tests she's the most exciting player in the W," Aces coach Becky Hammon told The Associated Press. "And here's the thing, she's also the most exciting player on the defensive

end. She will do something once a game defensively that's going to get you out of your seat. She's the only player in this league that I've seen that has defensive highlights on a consistent basis."

Wilson was also honored as the AP Defensive Player of the Year for the third time in four seasons.

"Considering coach (Dawn) Staley was so hard on me about my defense in college, I'm glad I can have some success at the pro level multiple times," Wilson told the AP.

The WNBA will announce its postseason awards over the course of the playoffs, which begin Sunday. Wilson is a huge favorite to win the WNBA MVP for the second straight season. Her odds at BetMGM Sportsbook to repeat dropped over the last week with her going from +650 to -350 on Thursday.

The AP voting is done by a 14-member national media panel that votes on the power poll each week. It's the 10th year of the awards.

Wilson once again led the league in scoring (23.4) as well as blocked shots (2.3). Paige Bueckers was honored as the AP Rookie of the Year. The Dallas Wings' No. 1 pick averaged 19.2 points and 5.4 assists in her first season. She also had a 44-point effort the highest scoring game of anyone in the WNBA this season. The former UConn star finished with the third most points ever by a rookie and second most assists.

"I am very grateful for everyone who voted and saw me fit for Rookie of the Year," Bueckers said. "I have always felt like individual awards are a way to acknowledge the team around you and that is exactly what this award means to me. My teammates, coaches, support staff and everyone from top to bottom in the entire Dallas Wings organization played a huge part in this."□



THE CASINO AT  
**ST REGIS**  
ARUBA

Exquisite Bingo

Every Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 AM. Casino doors open at 7:30 AM. Buy-in: \$20. Buy 2 bingo games, get the 3rd on us. Limited capacity available.

Bingo pre-sale: Every Friday and Saturday from 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

\$5,000 in total prizes

Game 1 \$150	Game 7 \$1,000
Game 2 \$150	Game 8 (51 calls & up) \$2,000
Game 3 \$200	Within 50 calls, Progressive Jackpot
Game 4 \$300	
Game 5 \$500	
Game 6 \$700	

Progressive Jackpot starting at  
**\$25,000**

For more information, visit the Casino VIP Desk or call us at +297 281-2374

The Casino at St. Regis Aruba reserves the right to modify or cancel this promotion at any time. Must be over the age of 18 years. The Casino at St. Regis Aruba encourages responsible gaming.