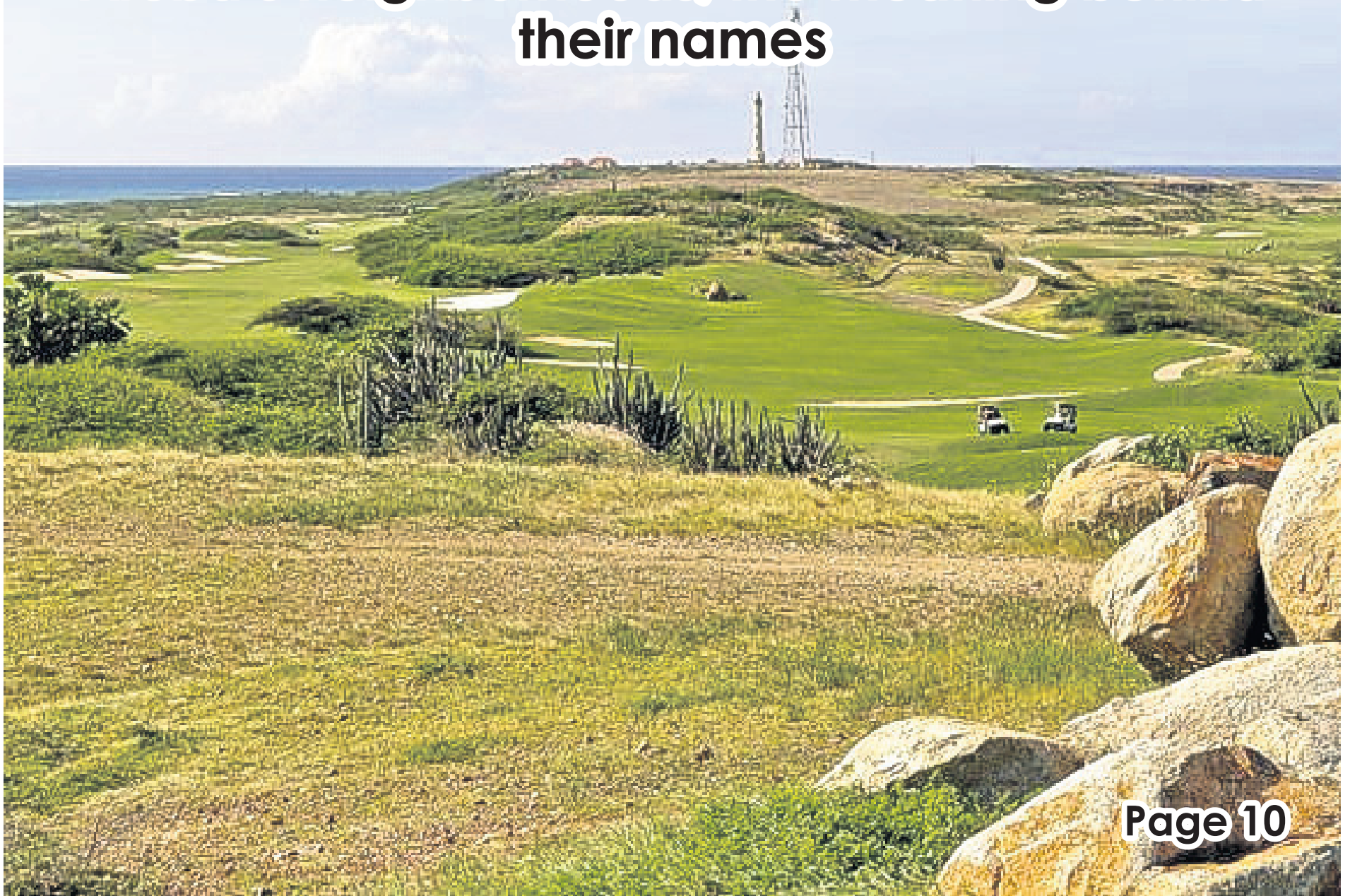


Explore some of
Aruba's caves!

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Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names



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Ex-Tennessee Rep. Robin Smith sentenced to 8 months in prison in corruption case plea deal

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) —

A former state lawmaker whose testimony under a plea deal about a taxpayer-funded mail business scheme helped prosecutors land the conviction of a former Tennessee House speaker has been sentenced to eight months in prison.

Former state Rep. Robin Smith, a Republican who had pleaded guilty to one count of honest services wire fraud more than 3 1/2 years ago, said during her sentencing hearing that she had “failed the trust of the public,” the Chattanooga Times Free Press reported.

“My mom and dad raised me to be much better than this,” Smith, 62, said Friday in Nashville federal court before U.S. District Judge Eli Richardson. “I ask for the forgiveness of the public.” Smith must report to prison by Jan. 5.

As part of her March 2022 plea, Smith agreed to the “full, complete and truthful” cooperation with the federal government, the newspaper said. She testified earlier this year at the



Former state Rep. Robin Smith arrives at the federal courthouse April 29, 2025, in Nashville, Tenn. Associated Press

public corruption trial of former Speaker Rep. Glen Casada and his onetime chief of staff, Cade Cothren.

A jury in May found Casada guilty of 17 of 19 charges while Cothren was found guilty of all 19 counts against him. In September, Richardson acquitted Casada and Cothren of three of those counts each

but let stand 14 for Casada and 16 for Cothren.

The judge then sentenced Casada to three years in prison and Cothren to 2 1/2 years.

The corruption trial involved activities after Casada resigned as speaker in 2019 following a no-confidence vote by fellow Republicans due to swirling scandals, but while he was still

a lawmaker. Cothren had stepped down in 2019 from his job amid allegations.

Government prosecutors said that Cothren launched a company called Phoenix Solutions with the knowledge and support of Casada and Smith that the three claimed was run by a “Matthew Phoenix,” and companies controlled by Casada and Smith received

roughly \$52,000 in taxpayer money in 2020 from a mailer program for lawmakers.

A “Matthew Phoenix” signature ended up on an IRS tax document. A purported associate of that fictitious person was portrayed by Casada’s then-girlfriend, prosecutors said. The goal was to use the state-funded assignments to launch into more lucrative business, according to prosecutors.

Smith testified at this year’s trial that the goal of the scheme was to hide who was behind Phoenix Solutions due to the “radioactive” scandal that pushed Casada and Cothren out of power.

During the trial, defense attorneys tried to portray Smith as untrustworthy and driven by hopes for a lenient sentence.

Richardson said Friday that Smith was more involved than Casada in propping up the company, pressuring public officials and “spinning a web of fabrications,” the Times Free Press reported.

“We have these public officials,” the judge said. □

Biden warns of dark days for the country as he urges Americans to stay optimistic

By ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON Associated Press

Former President Joe Biden called these “dark days” as he urged Americans to stay optimistic and not to check out in response to what he

says are attacks on free speech and tests on the limits of executive power by President Donald Trump. “Since its founding, America served as a beacon for the most powerful idea

ever in government in the history of the world,” Biden said. “The idea is stronger than any army. We’re more powerful than any dictator.”

Biden, 82, speaking publicly for the first time since completing a round of radiation therapy for an aggressive form of prostate cancer, addressed an audience in Boston on Sunday night after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

He said America depends on a presidency with limited power, a functioning Congress and an autonomous judiciary.

With the federal government facing its second-longest shutdown on record, Trump has used the lapse in funding to exercise new

command over the government.

“Friends, I can’t sugar coat any of this. These are dark days” Biden said. He then predicted the country would “find our true compass again” and “emerge as we always have stronger, wiser and more resilient, more just, so long as we keep the faith.”

Biden listed examples of people who are standing their ground against threats from the current administration, citing the example of federal employees who resign in protest, and universities and comedians that have been targeted by Trump.

“The late night hosts continue to shine a light on free speech knowing their careers are on the line,” he said.

Biden also shouted out elected Republican officials who vote or openly go against the Trump administration.

“America is not a fairy tale,” he said. “For 250 years, it’s been a constant push and pull, an existential struggle between peril and possibility.”

He finished the speech by telling people to “get back up.”

The Democrat left office in January after serving one term in the White House. Biden dropped his bid for reelection after facing pressure following a disastrous debate against Trump and concerns about his age, health and mental fitness. Vice President Kamala Harris launched her bid right after, but lost to Trump last November. □



Former President Joe Biden speaks after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute’s 10th Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025, in Boston. Associated Press

Trump urged GOP-led states to redraw US House districts. Now other states also are gerrymandering

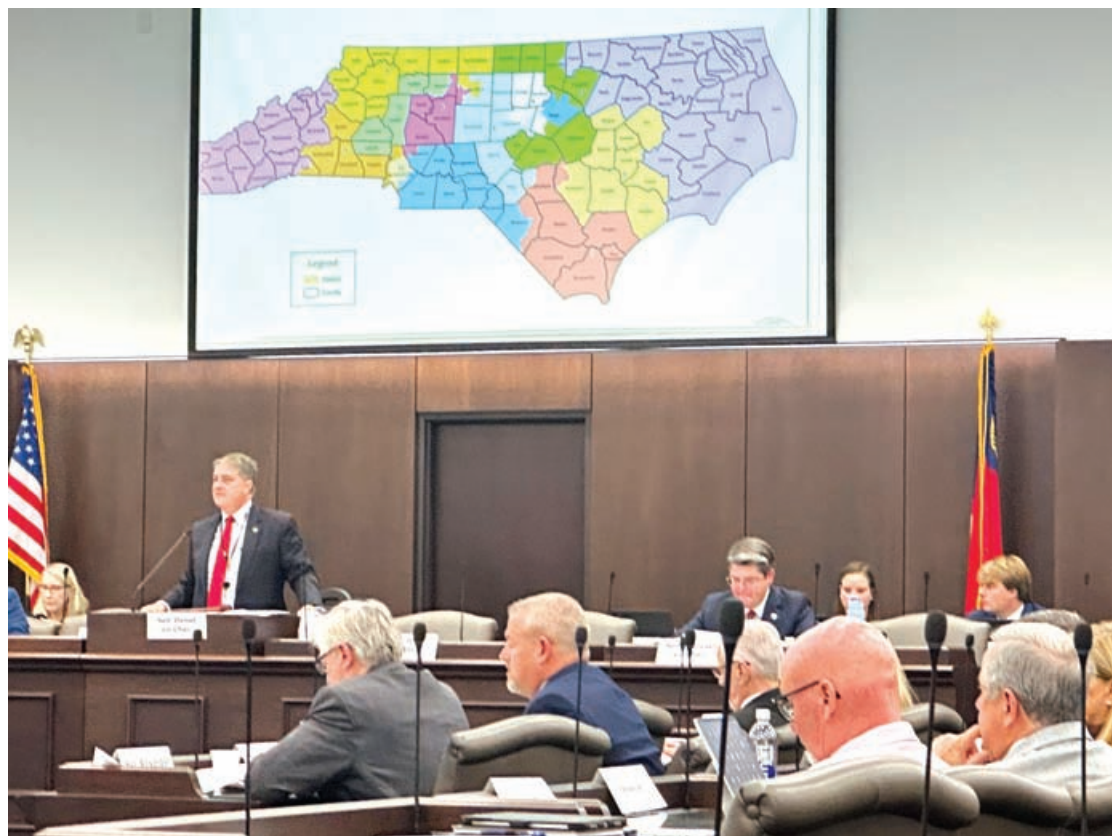
By **DAVID A. LIEB**
Associated Press

President Donald Trump's call for Republicans to redraw U.S. House districts ahead of next year's election has triggered an unusual outbreak of mid-decade gerrymandering among both Republican- and Democratic-led state legislatures.

Democrats need to gain just three seats to wrest control of the House away from Republicans. And Trump hopes redistricting can help stave off historical trends, in which the president's party typically loses seats in midterm elections. Here's what states are doing:

States that passed new U.S. House maps

Texas The first state to take up congressional redistricting at Trump's prodding. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott signed a new U.S. House map into law on Aug. 29 that could help Republicans win five additional seats in next year's election. Republicans currently hold 25 of the 38 seats. The new map faces a legal



North Carolina state Sen. Warren Daniel, R-Burke (left and standing), presides over the Senate Committee on Elections while it considers legislation to redraw the state's U.S. House district map at the Legislative Office Building in Raleigh N.C., Monday, Oct. 20, 2025.

challenge.

California The first Democratic-led state to counter Trump's redistricting push. A new U.S. House map passed by the state Legislature would circumvent districts adopted by an inde-

pendent citizens commission after the 2020 census and replace them with districts that could help Democrats win five additional seats. Democrats currently hold 43 of the 52 seats. The plan needs voter approval

in a Nov. 4 election.

Missouri The second Republican-led state to approve new House districts sought by Trump. Republican Gov. Mike Kehoe signed a new map into law Sept. 28 that could help Republicans

win an additional seat by reshaping a Democratic-held district in Kansas City. Republicans currently hold six of the eight seats. Opponents are pursuing an initiative petition that could force a statewide referendum on the map and also have filed several lawsuits.

North Carolina The third Republican-led state to approve new House districts sought by Trump. The Republican-led General Assembly gave final approval Wednesday to district changes that could help Republicans win an additional seat by reshaping a Democratic-held district in eastern North Carolina. No gubernatorial approval is needed. Republicans currently hold 10 of the 14 seats. The revised map faces a legal challenge.

Utah The Republican-led Legislature approved revised House districts Oct. 6 after a judge struck down the districts adopted after the 2020 census because lawmakers had circumvented an independent redistricting commission established by voters. □

Associated Press

Trump administration asks the Supreme Court to allow it to fire head of US Copyright Office

By **MARK SHERMAN**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration on Monday asked the Supreme Court to allow it to fire the director of the U.S. Copyright Office.

The administration's newest emergency appeal to the high court was filed a month and a half after a federal appeals court in Washington held that the official, Shira Perlmutter, could not be unilaterally fired.

Nearly four weeks ago, the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit refused to reconsider that ruling.

The case is the latest that relates to Trump's authority to install his own people at the head of federal agencies. The Supreme Court

has largely allowed Trump to fire officials, even as court challenges proceed. But this case concerns an office that is within the Library of Congress. Perlmutter is the register of copyrights and also advises Congress on copyright issues.

Solicitor General D. John Sauer wrote in his filing Monday that despite the ties to Congress, the register "wields executive power" in regulating copyrights.

Perlmutter claims Trump fired her in May because he disapproved of advice she gave to Congress in a report related to artificial intelligence. Perlmutter had received an email from the White House notifying her that "your position as the Register of

Copyrights and Director at the U.S. Copyright Office is terminated effective immediately," her office said. A divided appellate panel ruled that Perlmutter could keep her job while the case moves forward.

"The Executive's alleged blatant interference with the work of a Legislative Branch official, as she performs statutorily authorized duties to advise Congress, strikes us as a violation of the separation of powers that is significantly different in kind and in degree from the cases that have come before," Judge Florence Pan wrote for the appeals court. Judge Michelle Childs joined the opinion. Democratic President Joe Biden appointed both judges to the appeals court.

Judge Justin Walker, a Trump appointee, wrote in dissent that Perlmutter "exercises executive power in a host of ways."

Perlmutter's attorneys have argued that she is a

renowned copyright expert. She has served as register of copyrights since then-Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden appointed her to the job in October 2020. □



Protestors demonstrate in front of the Supreme Court as the court hears the case drawing new congressional district boundaries in Louisiana, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

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Judge seeks assurances that Abrego Garcia won't be deported to Liberia in violation of court order



Kilmar Abrego Garcia attends a protest rally at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement field office in Baltimore, Aug. 25, 2025, to support Abrego Garcia.

Associated Press

GREENBELT, Md. (AP) — A federal judge in Maryland on Monday sought assurances that the government will not deport Kilmar Abrego Garcia before she has lifted an injunction bar-

ring his removal from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement filed a notice late last week of their plan to deport him to the West African nation of Liberia

as early as Friday. It's the latest in a series of African countries the agency has designated as possible destinations for the Salvadoran national. Abrego Garcia has an

American wife and child and has lived in Maryland for years, but he immigrated to the U.S. illegally as a teenager. In 2019, an immigration judge granted him protection from being deported back to El Salvador, where he faces a "well-founded fear" of violence from a gang that targeted his family. Earlier this year, his mistaken deportation to El Salvador, where he was held in a notoriously brutal prison despite having no criminal record, galvanized opposition to President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. Facing mounting public pressure and a court order, the Trump administration brought him back to the U.S. in June.

During a status conference on Monday, U.S. District Judge Paula Xinis questioned why the government does not simply deport Abrego Garcia to Costa Rica a country he has said he is willing to go to

because the government has promised he would be welcomed as a legal immigrant and not re-deported to El Salvador.

"Any insight you can shed on why we're continuing this hearing when you could deport him to a third country tomorrow?" Xinis asked government attorneys. She noted that both the government and Abrego Garcia were "about to burn significant resources" in fighting over whether he can legally be deported to Liberia.

Government attorneys, including Deputy Assistant Attorney General Drew C. Ensign and Deputy Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Guynn, didn't immediately have an answer but suggested it could be part of an upcoming court filing. In the meantime, the attorneys said ICE is preparing to interview Abrego Garcia after he filed an official notice expressing fear of deportation to Liberia. □

New Hampshire man resumes dialysis after record 271 days living with a pig kidney

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A New Hampshire man is resuming dialysis after living with a gene-edited pig kidney for a record 271 days, doctors said Monday. His experience is helping researchers in their quest for animal-to-human transplants. Tim Andrews, 67, had the organ removed on Oct. 23 because its function was declining, according to Mass General Brigham. In a statement, his transplant team called Andrews "a selfless medical pioneer

and an inspiration" to patients with kidney failure. Andrews' experience il-

lustrates lessons researchers have learned with each experiment involv-

ing what's called xenotransplantation. The first attempts using pig organs gene-edited to be more humanlike — two hearts and two kidneys — were short-lived. Then researchers began considering patients not nearly as sick as prior recipients for these experiments and an Alabama woman's pig kidney lasted 130 days before it had to be removed last spring, the record Andrews surpassed.

More than 100,000 people, most needing kidneys, are on the U.S. transplant list, and thousands die wait-

ing.

Andrews, of Concord, New Hampshire, knew his blood type is particularly hard to match and sought an alternative, getting into shape to qualify for Mass General's xenotransplant pilot study. His doctors said he remains on the transplant list.

In June, the Mass General team transplanted a pig kidney into another New Hampshire man who continues to fare well.

The pilot study is set to conclude with a third pig kidney transplant later this year. □



This image provided by Massachusetts General Hospital shows Tim Andrews smiling as he leaves Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on Feb. 1, 2025.

Associated Press

Israel's top diplomat says Turkish troops will have no role in Gaza force

By JUSTIN SPIKE and
RENATA BRITO

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)

— Israel will not allow Turkish troops to take part in an international force the United States has proposed to oversee the ceasefire agreement in the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, Israel's top diplomat said Monday. The 20-point deal brokered by U.S. President Donald Trump earlier this month calls for a force to monitor the ceasefire but does not mention which countries would provide troops.

It says the U.S. would "work with Arab and international partners to develop a temporary International Stabilization Force" to deploy in Gaza. The force would train and provide support to "vetted Palestinian police forces" and will "consult with Jordan and Egypt, who have extensive experience in this field."

The ceasefire agreement calls for Israeli troops to gradually withdraw from more areas of Gaza as the international force "establishes control and stability" and as Hamas militants disarm.

The first phase of the ceasefire agreement focuses on the release of the remaining hostages in Gaza, in exchange for Palestinian



People celebrate as freed Israeli hostage Eyyar David, recently released from Hamas captivity in Gaza, returns home from the hospital to Kfar Saba, Israel, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025.

Associated Press

prisoners in Israel.

Since the ceasefire began on Oct. 10, the remains of 15 hostages have been returned to Israel, which is awaiting the return of 13 more. On Monday, Hamas said it plans to hand over the remains of another hostage in Gaza.

In exchange for the returned dead hostages, Israel has handed back to Gaza 195 Palestinian bodies, fewer than half of which have been identified. On Monday, 41 bodies were buried in the Gaza city of

Deir al-Balah.

Over the weekend, Egypt deployed a team of experts and heavy equipment to help search for the bodies of hostages still in Gaza. That work continued on Monday.

Questions about the force

Countries that are considering taking part also want more clarity on the force's mandate. Officials from some Arab and Muslim nations have said the focus must be on peacekeeping in Gaza, not acting as an enforcer of peace be-

tween Israel and Hamas.

"What is the mandate of security forces inside of Gaza? And we hope that it is peacekeeping, because if it's peace enforcing, nobody will want to touch that," King Abdullah II of Jordan said in an interview with the BBC.

Speaking to journalists during a visit to Hungary, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said Israel opposes the participation of Turkish troops in Gaza because of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's longstanding hos-

tility to Israel. Saar said Israel has communicated its stance to U.S. officials.

"Countries that want or are ready to send armed forces should be at least fair to Israel," Saar said. He did not elaborate.

U.S. officials have said there would be no American boots on the ground in Gaza. Around 200 U.S. troops are now in Israel working alongside its military and other countries' delegations at a coordination center, planning Gaza's stabilization and reconstruction.

During visits to Israel last week, U.S. Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio said multiple countries would be interested in joining the international force for Gaza. The U.S. was working to secure a U.N. mandate or other international authorization for it, Rubio said.

Turkish interest

At a summit in Egypt two weeks ago, Erdogan was one of four leaders to sign a document outlining Trump's vision for Gaza and regional peace. The others were Trump, Qatari Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi. Erdogan last week said Turkey was "ready to provide all kinds of support to Gaza." □

King Charles III dedicates Britain's first national memorial to LGBTQ+ troops

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP)

King Charles III on Monday dedicated Britain's first national memorial to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender troops, 25 years after the U.K. ended a ban on homosexuality in the armed forces. The king, who is the ceremonial head of the armed forces, laid flowers at the monument in the National Memorial Arboretum in central England at a service attended by scores of serving troops and veterans. The sculpture takes the form of a crumpled bronze letter bearing words from personnel who were affected by the ban.

Between 1967 and 2000, soldiers, sailors and air force personnel who were or were thought to be gay or transgender were labeled unfit to serve and dismissed

or discharged from the forces. Some were stripped of medals or lost their pension rights, and many struggled with the stigma for decades.

The government lifted the ban after a 1999 ruling from the European Court of Human Rights.

In 2023 then-Prime Minister Rishi Sunak formally apologized for what he called "an appalling failure of the British state." A compensation program was established, with veterans who were dismissed from the military because of their sexual orientation or gender identity receiving up to 70,000 pounds (\$93,000) each.

LGBTQ+ military charity Fighting with Pride said the new monument represents a "powerful step forward in recognizing and honoring the service and sacrifices" of the gay and transgender troops. □



King Charles III stands during a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire, for the dedication ceremony of the LGBT+ Armed Forces memorial, the UK's first national memorial commemorating LGBT+ people who have served and continue to serve in the military, Monday, Oct. 27, 2025.

Associated Press

World's oldest president, Paul Biya, wins Cameroon election at 92

By **NALOVA AKUA** and **NG-ALA KILLIAN CHINTOM**

Associated Press

YAOUNDE, Cameroon

(AP) — The world's oldest president, Cameroon's 92-year-old Paul Biya, has won election again, the country's top court said Monday, after days of protesters' clashes with security forces left at least four people dead as opposition supporters demanded credible results.

Biya has led the central African nation since 1982, ruling longer than most citizens have been alive. Over 70% of the population of almost 30 million is below 35. The Oct. 12 election has displayed growing tensions between Africa's youth and its many aging leaders. The Constitutional Council said Biya received 53.66% of votes while former ally Issa Tchiroma Bakary got 35.19%. The turnout was 57.7%.

In a social media post after the announcement, Tchiroma asserted that security forces had shot at civilians, killing two in his hometown of Garoua.

"Shooting point-blank at your own brothers I can't help but wonder if you're



Supporters of opposition presidential candidate Issa Tchiroma, protest on the streets of Garoua, Cameroon, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025.

mercenaries," he posted. "Kill me if you want, but I will liberate this country by any means necessary. What blatant impunity."

Tchiroma had claimed victory days ago, citing results he said were collated by his party. Biya's party members dismissed the claim.

Biya in a statement on Monday said his "first thoughts are with all those who have unnecessarily lost their lives, as well with their families, as

a result of the post-election violence."

'Nothing will change' Biya's decision to seek another term angered youth and the opposition, which has accused him of having a hand in the disqualification of his strongest rival and using "state machinery" to manipulate the election.

The four protesters were shot dead Sunday in Douala, the economic capital, as hundreds of people

stormed streets in several cities. Videos online showed clashes with security forces, who fired tear gas and tried to disperse people barricading roads in Douala and other cities, including Garoua and Maroua in the north.

Samuel Dieudonne Ivaha Diboua, governor of the Littoral Region that includes Douala, said several members of the security forces were injured by protesters,

and at least 105 protesters were arrested.

Dozens of opposition supporters, activists and leaders had been arrested in recent days, including several that Paul Atanga Nji, minister of territorial administration, asserted had been plotting violent attacks.

"I am ready to stake my life to defend my vote. I voted for Tchiroma because I want change," said one protester, Oumarou Bouba, a 27-year-old trader in Maroua.

Following the announcement of election results, Sani Aladji, a 28-year-old hotel worker in Maroua, said: "Nothing will change. I expected that Issa Tchiroma would bring change, which is why I voted for him. There's rampant corruption under Biya's regime. We are tired of that."

But one Biya supporter, Flicia Feh, said she believes that he remains the man for the job.

"Our president campaigned on hope," she said. "He started so many projects, like the Yaoundé-Douala motorway, and it's just normal that he is given more time to complete what he started." □

Associated Press

Lithuania draws up plans to shut Belarus border crossings indefinitely after balloon disruptions

VILNIUS, Lithuania (AP)

— Lithuania's prime minister said Monday that her country has drawn up plans to shut its border crossings with Belarus indefinitely, after flights at the capital's airport were disrupted repeatedly by suspected sightings of balloons used to smuggle cigarettes across the frontier. Lithuania's National Security Commission met after balloon sightings prompted the suspension of air traffic at Vilnius Airport on three successive evenings Friday, Saturday and Sunday causing cancellations, diversions and delays.

On Friday, the airport at Kaunas, which is farther from the Belarusian bor-

der, also was affected. The incidents followed similar disruption early Wednesday and on other recent occasions.



Lithuania's Social Democratic party member Inga Ruginienė, nominated as the next prime minister, speaks during a Lithuania's parliament session in Vilnius, Lithuania, Aug. 26, 2025.

Associated Press

Lithuania's two border crossings with Belarus, at Medininkai and Šalčininkai, were both closed for several hours as a result of

each of the balloon incidents. The country's border guard service decided overnight Sunday to close the border for 24 hours, the BNS news agency reported.

Prime Minister Inga Ruginienė said the restrictions will be extended until Wednesday, when her Cabinet is expected to decide whether to prolong the closure indefinitely, BNS reported.

Ruginienė said Monday that the government has already drawn up a draft decision to shut the border indefinitely, with exemptions for diplomats and diplomatic mail. Lithuanian and other European Union citizens also would still be allowed to enter

from Belarus.

Lithuania, an EU and NATO member, is located on the Western alliance's eastern flank. It borders Russia's Kaliningrad exclave as well as Russia-allied Belarus.

Belarusian Foreign Minister Maxim Ryzhenkov denounced the move to shut the border as a "provocation" and suggested that Lithuanian authorities should focus their attention on "organized gangs of Lithuanians who use smuggling for profit."

"These balloons with smuggled cigarettes have been flying there for ages," Ryzhenkov said in a statement.

"But, most interestingly, we haven't received any diplomatic notes." □

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.

The Huliba Cave/ Tunnel of 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! □





Mall-o-ween Week Kicks-Off at Paseo Herencia

Paseo Herencia's Mall-o-ween celebrations started off strong on Saturday night during Halloween Quiz Night at Frenchie's Pub Café, hosted by the one and only Addonsito Croes. Halloween fans teamed up to put their spooky knowledge to the test. Between the laughter, questions, and flowing drinks, the competition brought out the best of everyone, and a few fun titles too! Prizes were awarded for Best

Group Costume, Best Individual Costume, Best Dancer, MVP, Best Complainer, and of course, the ultimate Quiz Night Champions.

The Halloween excitement carried on into Sunday evening with Paseo's much anticipated Trick-or-Treat event, once again hosted by The Joker (Addonsito Croes). The plaza came alive with games, shows, and plenty of surprises. Families and friends joined in costume for a night of festive fun, from Best Costume and Scariest Look to Fastest Runner

and Best Dancer. Even the mermaids joined the magic, along with SGT Pepper's Friends and their adorable-costumed pups, making it an event for everyone to enjoy.

As Mall-o-ween week continues, Paseo invites you to experience Madam Spantoza's House of Horrors, hosted by Cas di Cultura, running October 28–30 from 7 PM to 10 PM, and with a special Halloween night showing on October 31 from 8 PM to 12 AM. Tickets are Afl. 15 for locals, \$10 for tourists, or skip the line with Pay.aw for Afl. 25.

The Halloween spirit doesn't stop there, the Spooky Bar Crawl and Photo Scavenger Hunt continue all week long, wrapping up on Friday, October 31. With activities for kids, adults, and even pets, Paseo Herencia's Mall-o-ween Week is where the island celebrates Halloween in true community spirit. Don't miss the final days of the frightful fun! □



Beaches for the whole family to enjoy!

(Oranjestad)—One of the biggest concerns that parents have when traveling with their children is a guarantee of their safety and healthy enjoyment. Therefore, we thought it would be a great help to traveling parents to list off some of the most family-friendly beaches around the island.

Baby Beach in San Nicolas

Baby Beach is one Aruba's most popular and visited beaches, and for good reason: This sandy and quiet lagoon is a great place for parents to sit back and relax while their children play in the shallow shores of the beach. Beside the relaxing atmosphere, there are also several services that may accommodate your stay, like a parking

lot, sun tent rentals, chairs, bathrooms and a snack bar right at the far left of the beach.

Mangel Halto in Pos Chiquito

Mangel Halto is situated in the back streets of the Pos Chiquito city. Though there are several stairs on the sides of the beach cliff leading you down, the best spot for families to hang out is across the bridge, passed the mangrove trees near the entrance sign. Here, there are small and big palapas, perfect for big and small families to set up their belongings. In this area, the shore is also shallow, falling right around your knee before slowly getting deeper: perfect for kids to safely play.

Eagle Beach/Palm Beach in the hotel area

Yet another highly popular beach sites, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach is where most of our visitors go to tan, swim or play in the white sand. Because they are near the low-rise and high-rise hotel areas, these beaches are the most accessible for visitors on foot. These beaches also offer many palapas free to use, but you can also rent chairs and tents. Much like Baby Beach, these sites are one of the best beaches for your children to play and build sand castles.

Boca Catalina in Malmok

Boca Catalina is a small bay beach near the Malmok beach area further down the hotel areas. Though

it may not be a very sandy beach, it is relatively quiet and tranquil. This is a great place for family to lay down a big blanket and have a little picnic. This is also one of the best places to snorkel, as this area is filled with little fish and corals, even close to the shore.

Palm Island

Ok, this one is technically not a beach, but a must-visit attraction for family fun. This small water park oasis is located further down the Mangel Halto Beach and is reachable by boat. This water park offers 6 hours of fun activities, food, drinks, and a chance to see pink flamingos up close! □

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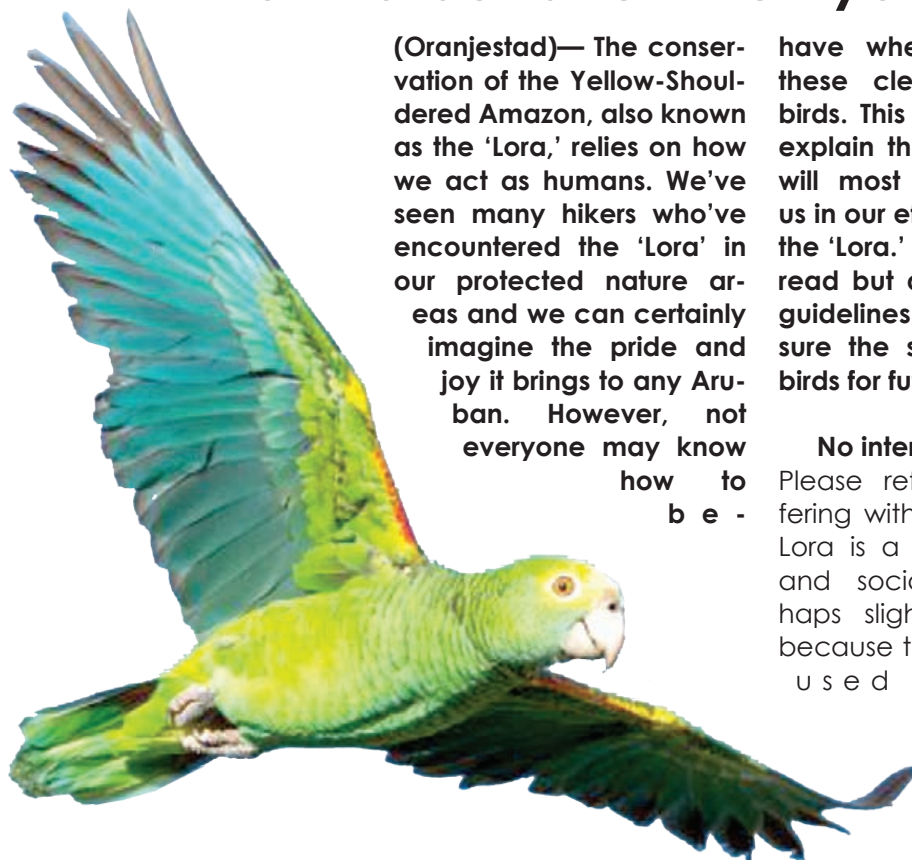
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PSA from the Aruba Conservation Foundation: How to behave when you see a "lora"



(Oranjestad)— The conservation of the Yellow-Shouldered Amazon, also known as the 'Lora,' relies on how we act as humans. We've seen many hikers who've encountered the 'Lora' in our protected nature areas and we can certainly imagine the pride and joy it brings to any Aruban. However, not everyone may know how to b e -

have when encountering these clever and social birds. This guide is here to explain the behaviors that will most effectively help us in our efforts to conserve the 'Lora.' Please, don't just read but also follow these guidelines so we can ensure the survival of these birds for future generations.

No interfering, please

Please refrain from interfering with the "Lora". The Lora is a highly intelligent and social animal, perhaps slightly too friendly because they have gotten used to the rangers as they prepared for their reintroduction. However, it

is our collective responsibility to help them adapt to the wild once again. Please play your part by not interfering (calling, provoking etc.) with the Lora. Simply enjoy their beauty from a safe distance.

Be respectful and keep cats and dogs away

Pets and strays such as cats and dogs are prone to attacking other animals, especially birds, as part of their natural instincts. Please make sure your pets are kept inside of your yard or are kept on a leash when going out for a walk.

Do not feed them food or water

You may think that giving the any food or water is

doing a good deed, but it actually does not contribute to them developing survival skills in the wild. By interfering with the survival instincts of wild animals, we are doing the opposite of helping. Therefore, please do not attempt to give the Loras food or water.

Capturing a Lora is against the law!

The biggest threat to the Lora before their extinction in 1947 was caused by human activities including poaching and killing of the Lora. Let's work collectively to prevent this from happening again. So when you see the Lora, enjoy their beauty from a distance and admire them as they flourish in the wild.□

Aruba to me

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

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? 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.□



Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names

Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Anabui/Tierra Del Sol

This neighborhood can be seen on Van Raders map and Werbata as Anna Boei. Anna Boei is a name of which there isn't much information about its origin.

The best historians were able to deduce is that this name came to be because of a miscommunication between Van Spengler and the natives who were living on the island. In the Arawak/Taino language one can find the word Anaiboa, which consists of Ana meaning flower or the best and Iboa; the juice of a cassava, which together



would mean "the best juice of a cassava".

If one assumes that the actual word heard was Ana-

boio instead, consisting of Ana meaning the best and Boio (bohio); house, the iteration of Anabui would mean "the best house." This

is the origin that has been more or less speculated and assumed for the word Anabui and it's meaning.

During the second world war and later, this area was used as a terrain for training of shooting by militia and latero n Korps Mariniers (the marines of Aruba). By the end of the previous century a large part of Anabui was developed to have luxurious villas and a golf course, which lead to it getting the name Tierra Del Sol, Spanish for Land of the Sun.

The name is not an official name, but the name of the development project that took place. It is hoped that the original and 'old' name of Anabui is never lost and now it will be remembered by both locals and tourists.

Angochi

This name can be seen on the Werbata map with little and cursive letters. It is the unofficial name for the area given by a tenant to the land that was rented to him.

The biggest probability that historians believe is that it comes from native descent, during the time in the 19th century where Mestizos still lived on Aruba. The name can't really be explain and according to books on its history seems to be more of a sign of corruption.

However, it seems to come from combining A(n), which is a generalizing prefix and Goeiza, which means 'the spirit of a living man'. Angochi remains more of a guess.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; An.□

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Picuda!

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Picuda", a very common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Picuda.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? This is an informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu, which the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, known as "Santa Rosa", wants to share and also obtain information from the public.

Picuda, Sphyrna barracuda, Greater Barracuda

Well known is the Picuda



on the island—Barracuda in English. Its scientific name is Sphyrna barracuda. It is a widely caught fish. It is found throughout the year in our waters, where it is a so-called "ambush predator" that stays still or floats in the water waiting for its prey to approach so it can attack it with lightning speed. It is well known for

fishermen, especially for its white flesh in fish soup. In fishing culture, there are many other names, such as Pecho blanco, Blekito, Banana, or Bleki. The names vary according to size.

Description

The Picuda is a long fish, with a round body like a torpedo and silver in color

with shiny black stripes. Below, that is, the belly, is whiter, while the top part is darker. Its snout is very pointed, and the lower jaw is longer than the upper one. Its peduncle, where the body meets the tail, is thick, while the tail also forms a crescent but in this case one more "full" than that of mullet or conefish.

This reflects the hunting style of the Picuda. It needs to be able to accelerate quickly when the prey gets close.

In Aruba:

Picuda can be found in our waters around our island throughout the year. Picuda, in our waters, is edible without any problem. Picuda is also a highly sought-after fish by sports fishermen or recreational fishermen because it puts up a good fight once hooked. It can be caught via trolling from a boat, casting from shore with a line or rod, or by jigging, casting the lure (artificial bait) and moving it with certain rod motions.□

Picture courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

The Aruban Cunukero; From past to present

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular.

Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak supervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR; Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use; Proto-Peasants were plantation slaves who were allowed to have a small piece of land to grow food for their own consumption. This was to curb the cost of living on the plantations; Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasantries", usually comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different plantations.

However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why.



From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead were granted a piece of land to live off of. However, in exchange for this grant, these indigenous farmers were obligated to work for the WIC, doing daily tasks such as taking care of or hunting cattle—large majority of which were destined for Curacao, clean water tanks and chop wood, among other things.

As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 houses/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th century that these farmers were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824, the government

gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially discarded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events. □

Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olieindustrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henry E. red.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

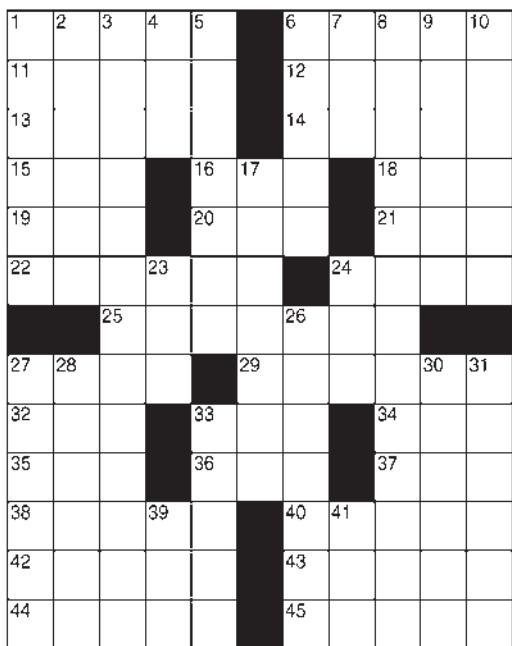
ACROSS

- 1 "Over There!" writer
6 Longed
11 Sports spot
12 Squalid
13 Pub orders
14 Bold poker bet
15 "— favor"
16 Pewter component
18 Pilot's guess: Abbr.
19 English cathedral city
20 One-million link
21 — de plume
22 Fill up the tank
24 Bushy do
25 Tel Aviv native
27 Out of the wind
29 Censors
32 Twisty fish
33 Singer Reed
34 Dealer's place
35 "Far out, dude!"
36 Form 1040 org.
37 Twosome
38 Nepali, e.g.

- 40 Bold way to solve cross-words
42 Keyed up
43 Singer Gill
44 Painter Degas
45 Raring to go

DOWN

- 1 Big finale
2 Meadow-lark's cousin
3 "Tom Jones" author
4 Tiny worker
5 Less civil
6 Yoga pose
7 Animation unit
8 "Bridget Jones's Diary" author
9 Book worker
10 Energetic person
17 About to be a mother
23 Try out
24 Pub order
26 Hard to catch
27 Give fizz to
28 Not owned
30 Spring ship worker
31 Steamship worker
33 Cruise ship
39 Simile center
41 Long of "Soul Food"



11-3

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.

11-3

CRYPTOQUOTE

Z I M E C Y O A C Z U Q Z N C
C S Z E S U M K Q V M O V M V M Z E C
V A P C M U D C M E A Y T C U N
W Z U U M K Z O Y U K P Z O D Y E
S V M D A E C S S A P M. — Y U A G M E
Q M O K M U U V Y U P M C, C E.

Cryptoquote: CAN'T NOTHING MAKE
YOUR LIFE WORK IF YOU AIN'T THE ARCHITECT.
— TERRY MCMILLAN



Cruise ship Schedule: Oct. 28, 29 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	28	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	29	DISNEY MAGIC	07.45	22.00	B	1
		SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

Cruise ship Schedule: Nov. 2, 4, 5 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
SUN	02	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	04	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	05	EMERALD PRINCESS	09.00	18.00	B	1
		CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

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



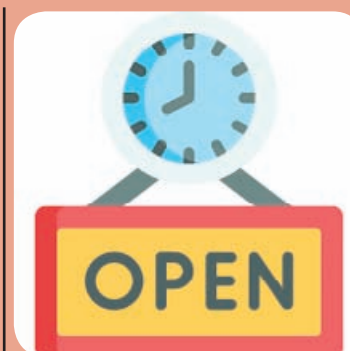
Drinking water

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.



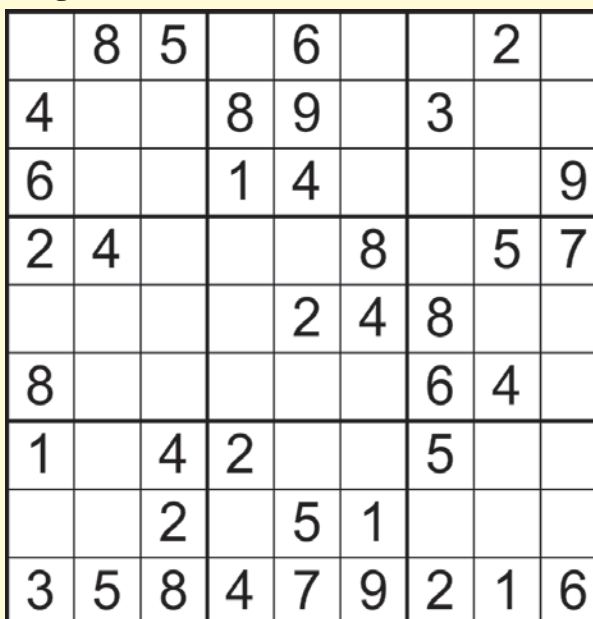
Supermarket hours

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.

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: ★★

10/28

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★

10/27

Here's what happens to your body when clocks 'fall back' an hour



Clockmakers Rich Finn, left, and Tom Erb adjust the time zone controllers on a series of clocks that'll be installed at Paine Field in Everett, Wash., at the Electric Time Company, Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2024, in Medfield, Mass.

Associated Press

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
AP Medical Writer

Plan on a glorious extra hour of sleep as most of America "falls back" into standard time. But make sure to get outside for some morning sun, too. It'll help your body clock reset faster.

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. local time Sunday, which means you should set your clock back an hour before you go to bed. Standard time will last until March 8 when we will again "spring forward" with the return of daylight saving time.

There's a lot of grumbling about the twice-a-year time changes. The spring switch tends to be harder, losing that hour of sleep we allegedly recover in the fall. But many people also mourn fall's end of daylight saving time, when days already are getting shorter and moving the clocks can mean less daylight after school or work for exercise or outdoor fun.

Some health groups, including the American Medical Association and American Academy of Sleep Medicine, have long urged adopting standard time year-round.

New research from Stanford University agrees, finding that switching back-and-forth is the worst option for our health. The study showed sticking with either time option would be a bit healthier, but they found permanent standard time is slightly better because it aligns more

with the sun and human biology, what's called our circadian rhythm.

"The best way to think about it is as if the central clock were like a conductor of an orchestra and each of the organs were a different instrument," said Jamie Zeitzer, who co-directs Stanford's Center for Sleep and Circadian Sciences.

More light in the morning and less at night is key to keeping that rhythm on schedule all the instruments in sync. When the clock is regularly disrupted by time changes or other reasons, he said each of the body's organ systems, such as the immune system or metabolism, "just works a little less well."

Most countries do not observe daylight saving time. For those that do mostly in North America and Europe

the date that clocks are changed varies. In the U.S., Arizona and Hawaii don't change and stay on standard time.

Here's what to know about the twice-yearly ritual.

How the body reacts to light

The brain has a master clock that is set by exposure to sunlight and darkness. This circadian rhythm is a roughly 24-hour cycle that determines when we become sleepy and when we're more alert. The patterns change with age, one reason that early-to-rise youngsters evolve into hard-to-wake teens.

Morning light resets the rhythm. By evening, levels of a hormone called melatonin begin to surge, triggering drowsiness. Too much light in the evening whether from later time outdoors doing daylight saving time or from artificial light like computer screens delays that surge and the cycle gets out of sync.

And that circadian clock affects more than sleep, also influencing things like heart rate, blood pressure, stress hormones and metabolism.

How do time changes affect sleep?

Even an hour change on the clock can throw off sleep schedules because even though the clocks change, work and school start times stay the same.

The spring change to daylight saving time can be a little rougher as darker mornings and lighter evenings make it harder to fall asleep on time. Those first few days have been linked to increases in car crashes and even an uptick in heart attacks.

Some people with seasonal affective disorder, a type of depression usually linked to the shorter days and less sunlight of fall and winter, may struggle too. Many people easily adjust, like how they recover from jet lag after traveling. But a time change can add pressure on shift workers whose schedules already are out of sync with the sun, or those regularly sleep-deprived for other reasons. About 1 in 3 U.S. adults sleep less than the recommended seven-plus hours nightly, and more than half of U.S. teens don't get the recommended eight-plus hours on weeknights.



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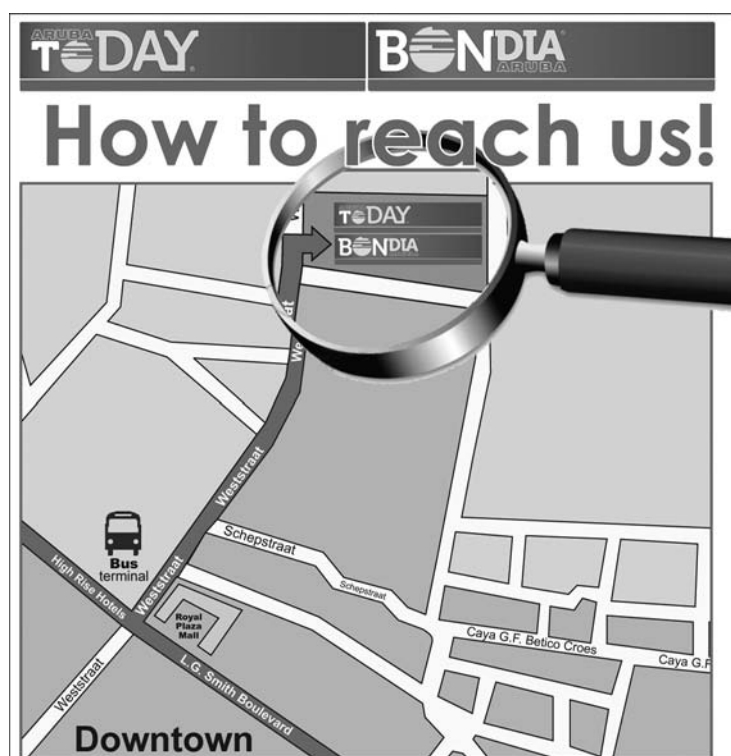
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San Nicolas

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Oranjestad	527 3140
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San Nicolas	584 5000
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Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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

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

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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
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Centre for Diabetes
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Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Movie Review: 'Bugonia' is a darkly comic gut punch

By **JAKE COYLE**
AP Film Writer

The twisted filmography of Yorgos Lanthimos has by now trained us to expect darkly comic visions of contemporary life, both savage and mundane. His movies have perhaps inspired the most "What?!" reactions of the last decade, partly because they've tried so hard to do so.

His movies farces, fables, experiments reside in surreal worlds of their own. But his latest, "Bugonia," is thrillingly, if tragically, tied to our reality. It might even be his best film. Though I've been apprehensive about the flamboyant severity of Lanthimos' movies, I found "Bugonia," a chamber-piece gut punch, hard to shake. For starters, it's difficult to resist any movie with a line in it like: "There's Andromedan code all over your Instagram."

That's one of the things that Teddy (Jesse Plemons), an incel eco-terrorist, says to Michelle (Emma Stone) after kidnapping her with his neurodivergent cousin Donny (newcomer Aidan Delbis) and tying her up in their basement. Teddy and Donny live together in



This image released by Focus Features shows Emma Stone, from left, Aidan Delbis, and Jesse Plemons in a scene from "Bugonia."

Associated Press

fairly remote, rundown old house. There, Teddy tends to both his bees and to unhinged conspiracy theories.

But as Plemons so deftly plays him, Teddy doesn't seem like a lunatic. He might reach wildly insane conclusions, such as that Michelle, a pharmaceutical company chief executive, is an alien. But he's thoughtful in nature and

sweetly cares for his cousin. It's a feat of Plemons' innate good nature that we kind of like Teddy, even as he shaves Michelle's head, to prevent "it," as he calls her, from contacting the mothership.

The opening moments of the script by Will Tracy ("The Menu," episodes of "Succession") cast these demented shenanigans in an apocalyptic light. The fate

of bees is much on Teddy's mind; colony collapse disorder, often caused by pesticides, is one of his talking points. It's a phenomenon that, in "Bugonia" a movie reckoning with, or maybe just lamenting, humanity's fate isn't just for the bees. While Stone's abilities alone might legitimize extraterrestrial suspicions, there's more to why Teddy has pinpointed Michelle. She's a lauded

corporate leader; her office includes a framed Time magazine with her on the cover and a photograph with Michelle Obama. Her company, Auxolith, operates out of a sleek office building where Michelle presides over her workforce like a queen bee. She has the corporate lingo of "transparency" and "diversity" down pat, but whether she actually adheres to any of those ideals is dubious, at best. Before Teddy and Donny jump her, she announces a "new era" at Auxolith where employees leave at 5:30 p.m. But not if they haven't met their quota, she adds. And not if they're, you know, busy.

In that way, Michelle is a camera-ready cover for whatever Auxolith is up to, which, as the movie goes along, teases out a poisonous history, including opioid manufacturing that affected Teddy's mother (Alicia Silverstone).

The bulk of "Bugonia" is the ideological dialogue between her and Teddy back in the basement. It's a conversation, laced with contemporary divides, that is comical for its impossibility. □

Jack DeJohnette, acclaimed jazz drummer who worked with Miles Davis, dies at 83

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Jack DeJohnette, a celebrated jazz drummer who worked with Miles Davis on his landmark 1970 fusion album and collaborated with Keith Jarrett and many other greats of the genre, has died at 83. The acclaimed drummer died Sunday in Kingston, New York, of congestive heart failure, surrounded by his wife, family and close friends, his assistant, Joan Clancy, told The Associated Press.

A winner of two Grammy awards, the Chicago-born DeJohnette began his musical life as a classical pianist, starting training at age 4, before taking up the drums with his high school band. He was in demand

in his early years as both a pianist and a drummer.

He achieved international recognition in the 1960s through his involvement with the Charles Lloyd

Quartet. Over the years he collaborated not only with Davis and Jarrett but also with John Coltrane, Sun Ra, Thelonious Monk, Bill Evans, Stan Getz, Eddie Harris, Her-

bie Hancock, Betty Carter and many others, according to biographical material provided by representatives.

In 1968, DeJohnette joined Davis and his group to work on music leading up to Davis' 1970 studio album, "Bitches Brew."

In a Sessions Panel interview, DeJohnette spoke of how he'd been freelancing in New York when he had an opportunity to join Davis in the studio, at a time when experimentation with genres had become "the new frontier, so to speak."

"Miles was in a creative mood," DeJohnette said, "a process of utilizing the studio to go in every day and experiment with grooves. A lot of the mu-

sic is not that structured ... it was a matter of grooves, and sometimes a few notes or a few melodies. You'd turn the tape on and just let it roll."

"Days and days and days of this would go on," DeJohnette added. "We never thought about how important these records would be, it was just we knew it was important because Miles was there and he was moving forward with something different." Rolling Stone, which listed DeJohnette as one of the top 100 drummers of all time (at No. 40), cited the drummer's "own innate knack for turning a memorable tune."

DeJohnette recorded on various labels but mostly on ECM. □



American jazz drummer, pianist, and composer Jack DeJohnette performs at the Five Continents Marseille Jazz festival, in Marseille, southern France on July 18, 2018.

Associated Press

'Yeah, boyeeee': Flavor Flav gives bobsled and skeleton a try, joins team as hype man for Olympics

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Sports Writer

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) —

At 66 years old, Flavor Flav went 67 mph. That was all it took to get him hooked on sliding.

Meet the newest fan of the U.S. bobsled and skeleton program: a Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, a founding member of Public Enemy, a reality show star and now, an aspiring slider. USA Bobsled and Skeleton announced Flav as its new official hype man Monday, not long after he spent a couple days around the team at the 2002 Olympic track in Utah.

And he plans to be with the team at the Milan-Cortina Olympics in February.

"The partnership is a blessing," Flav said. "It's cooler than Cool Runnings. It's Coolest Runnings."

The 66-year-old Flav's legal name is William Jonathan Drayton Jr. spent time with the bobsled and skeleton teams this past week. He went down the Park City track in a bobsled, then also wanted to try out skeleton, the headfirst sliding



Flavor Flav laughs during an interview with The Associated Press at the USA house at the 2024 Summer Olympics, July 25, 2024, in Paris, France.

sport where elite athletes can reach speeds exceeding 80 mph.

Team officials wanted Flav to start from a low spot on the track, as is the case with all first-timers for safety reasons. Flav didn't necessarily like that; he wanted to start from higher up, significantly raising the level of

difficulty. Eventually, he got his chance and he hit 67 mph on his second run.

For a regular person just trying the sport, that's exceptional. No word on whether he used his catch phrase, 'Yeah, boyeeeeee.'

"Oh my gosh, he's one of the coolest, most adventurous men that I've ever

met," U.S. skeleton athlete Dan Barefoot told The Associated Press. "He was upset that he couldn't go from higher up on the track. ... I was kind of upset at how good he was. It's a sport that takes a lot of skill, but he made it look straightforward."

Flav and sports often go

hand-in-hand.

He was a celebrity mayo-pourer yes, there is such a job at the Duke's Mayo Bowl last year, helping to douse Minnesota coach P.J. Fleck with 5 gallons of celebratory condiment after the Golden Gophers won that game. He can be found performing during Super Bowl weeks. He was there to show support when Billie Jean King got her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He's been a big supporter of Olympians in the past, including discus thrower Veronica Fraley.

And at the Paris Olympics, Flav was the official hype man for the U.S. women's water polo team.

"We have all been so hyped to have him with us," Barefoot said. "Put aside the fact that Flav is one of the greatest hype men of all time, the energy in the room ... you had people who often aren't talking to each other high-fiving and hugging because of the experience of being around him. There's a lot of energy and a lot of confidence around us right now." □

Associated Press

Orioles hire Cleveland assistant Craig Albernaz as manager after finishing last in AL East

By NOAH TRISTER

AP Baseball Writer

The Baltimore Orioles are sticking with youth in their managerial spot, hiring Cleveland assistant Craig Albernaz for that role.

Albernaz, who turns 43 on Thursday, was previously an associate manager with the Guardians. He was promoted to that role after serving as bench coach in 2024.

Albernaz takes over a Baltimore team that still has plenty of potential despite sliding to 75 wins this year and a last-place finish in the AL East. The Orioles fired manager Brandon Hyde in May, and Tony Mansolino ran the team on an interim basis the rest of the way.

"We are elated to welcome Craig Albernaz as the next manager of the

Orioles and our leader on the field," team president Mike Elias said in a statement Monday. "Craig has built an exemplary career across multiple successful organizations and brings a tremendous amount of experience, knowledge and talent to our organization and to this new challenge. We believe he is the right person at the right time to elevate our baseball operations and guide our team back to the playoffs and a World Series championship."

Albernaz is about a month younger than Mansolino, and like his predecessor he'll be making his big league managing debut with Baltimore. That was basically the case with Hyde as well. His major league managing experience consisted of one

game in an interim role with the Marlins before he began managing the Orioles at age 45 in 2019.

Hyde led Baltimore to a 101-win season and an AL East title in 2023, followed by a wild card in 2024. But what looked like one of baseball's top young teams faltered badly this year. Beset by injuries, pitching problems and stagnation by some important hitters, the Orioles fell behind early in the season and never fully recovered. It'll now be Albernaz's responsibility to help reverse that trend. Prior to his stint with Cleveland, he was a bullpen and catching coach for the San Francisco Giants from 2020-23. He managed at the Class A level in the Tampa Bay organization in 2017 and 2018, earning Midwest

League Manager of the Year honors in 2018 when he won a championship with Bowling Green.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to join the storied Baltimore Orioles organization," Albernaz said. "This is a tremendous honor, and

I'm grateful to Mike Elias and the entire Orioles team for entrusting me with the responsibility of leading this talented club."

Despite their dreadful 2025 season, the Orioles remain a good opportunity for the new manager. □



Cleveland Guardians bench coach Craig Albernaz looks on from the dugout before a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays, July 14, 2024, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Associated Press




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Steelers defense is making a lot of money. It's just not making many plays

By **WILL GRAVES**
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mike Tomlin's very public (and very calculated) shot at Cleveland Browns general manager Andrew Berry for trading Joe Flacco to Cincinnati earlier this month was out of character for a coach who typically demurs when asked about things that happen outside of Pittsburgh.

In the moment, it provided a bit of viral theater. In hindsight, maybe it was also Tomlin's way of hinting at an underlying concern that his team's well-compensated defense might not be up to the task when forced to face quarterbacks that don't play for the Browns.

On a night where so much attention focused on Aaron Rodgers facing his former team for the first time, the takeaway from Pittsburgh's 35-25 defeat at the hands of Green Bay isn't that Rodgers "lost." If anything, the 41-year-old Rodgers has proven through seven games that he remains a worthy investment nearing the midpoint of his 21st season.

Far more troubling for the suddenly skidding Steelers (4-3) is that the star-laden defense isn't earning the considerable zeros on its collective paycheck. Nine days after Flacco picked them apart in an upset loss to the Bengals, Green Bay's Jordan Love became the first quarterback in NFL history to complete 20 consecutive passes while throwing for at least 350 yards without taking a sack or committing a turnover. In a quiet locker room afterward, T.J. Watt, Jalen Ramsey, Cam Heyward and company offered clipped responses as to why



Green Bay Packers' Tucker Kraft gets past Pittsburgh Steelers' DeShon Elliott for a touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025, in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

a unit that Tomlin said over the summer might have the chance to be among the best ever in a franchise that has long been defined by its defense appears lost. "There's not a lot of fight in us right now," Heyward said.

No, there's not. Pittsburgh was able to cover up its defensive issues during its 4-1 start by regularly creating turnovers, five alone in a win over New England that helped mask a massive yardage discrepancy between the losers (369) and the winners (203). Those takeaways have dried up. Pittsburgh's defense has gone three straight games without getting its hands on the ball, the first time that's happened since 2022. That's also the previous time the Steelers missed the playoffs.

While it's far too early to make that sort of proclamation, the reality is that Pittsburgh has now squandered multiple opportunities to take firm control of

the wildly underachieving AFC North and the issue hasn't been Rodgers and the offense, but the unit that was supposed to be this team's anchor.

It has indeed been that, just not in the way Tomlin or his players imagined.

The Steelers will enter November in the bottom five in the NFL in yards allowed. The franchise hasn't finished a season in that kind of company since 1988 and has ranked in the bottom half of the league just three times in Tomlin's first 18 years.

All three of those seasons 2014, 2015, and 2021 Pittsburgh managed to reach the playoffs anyway, thanks in large part to Ben Roethlisberger's late-game brilliance. That might be a more fraught proposition this time around if the defense can't figure things out quickly.

"It's a long season," inside linebacker Patrick Queen said. "We're just going to keep building, keep stack-

ing, learn from these and get better." They don't really have a choice.

What's working

The big man package featuring reserve lineman Spencer Anderson as an extra blocker alongside massive 6-foot-7 tight end Darnell Washington is working. The Steelers are averaging 4.95 yards per carry since the alignment became a regular part of the offense. It's uncertain how that might look going forward if guard Isaac Seumalo is out longer term with a pec injury, which would force Anderson to replace him on a full-time basis.

What needs help

It might be more like "who needs help?" Heyward had seven tackles in his 218th career game, just two behind Hall of Fame center Mike Webster for second most in franchise history. The 36-year-old Heyward logged seven tackles against Green Bay. No other defensive lineman for Pittsburgh had more than

two.

Stock up

Is Chris Boswell the most reliable kicker in the NFL? While Dallas' Brandon Aubrey may have the league's strongest leg, he also has the luxury of playing his home games indoors. Boswell works at one of the trickiest outdoor stadiums in the league, where everything from the footing to the wind is uncertain at any given moment. Boswell's three makes from 50-plus on Sunday gave him three career games with that many conversions from 50-and-over, the most by any kicker in league history.

Stock down

It feels borderline unfair to single out an individual member of a secondary that is underperforming almost across the board, but cornerback Darius Slay is looking his age as he nears the midpoint of his 13th season. The soon-to-be 35-year-old missed a couple of tackles against Green Bay that the Packers turned into first downs and has been ineffective in coverage.

Injuries

Safety DeShon Elliott's season could be over after sustaining a right knee injury in the second half. While Pittsburgh has options to replace Elliott on the field, replacing his presence in the huddle and in the locker room will be difficult. ... Seumalo, by far the most experienced player on a young offensive line, returned briefly after initially injuring the pec before being pulled for good, not a great sign. Defensive tackle Daniel Ekuale, who has carved out a niche as a rotational piece on the line, is also out longer term with a knee injury. □