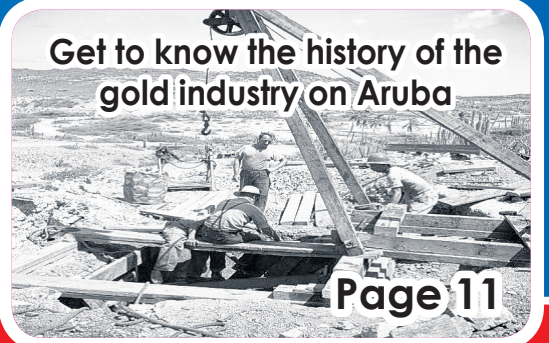




Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass



THE WEST DECK
ISLAND GRILL • BEACH BAR

AVAILABLE EVERYDAY ALL THROUGH SUMMER

\$24.75

A castaway's haul of coconut shrimp, beer battered fresh fish & crispy calamari.

Disclaimer: specials are subject to change without prior notice.

THE SHIPWRECK

reservations@thewestdeck.com

Best Pizza
Napolitana
on the strip!

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
and Happy Hour!
All Night Long

\$5 BEERS • \$6 WINES • \$7 COCKTAILS

CHE BAR
at Paseo Herencia

+297 699-1696



Employees work at the Bombardier Challenger Assembly Hall during Bombardier's 2023 Investor Day on March 23, 2023, in Dorval, Quebec, Canada.

Trump threatens sales in U.S. of Canadian aircraft maker Bombardier

Washington, United States President Donald Trump threatened Monday to block US sales of Canadian plane maker Bombardier unless it builds aircrafts in the country, complaining of "unjust and unfair" bilateral trade provisions as he escalates a tariff war.

The angry social media post marks the second stunning potential move by the US leader this year against the manufacturer, which has thousands of its aircraft currently operating in US airlines' domestic fleets.

And it comes on the eve of Canada imposing retaliatory tariffs on a range of US goods beginning Tuesday. "No more selling Bombardier in the United States!" Trump posted in all caps on his Truth Social platform, although he did not specify how he would achieve a sales halt. "If they want our Market, they must build here, and stop treating America like a 'piggybank.'"

"Canada blocks our GREAT American Banks, and Companies" from doing business there, Trump added. "That Era is OVER!"

The US market accounts for more than half of Bombardier's revenue, Trump said.

Back in January, furious over what he said was Canada's refusal to grant certification to new models of U.S.-made Gulfstream jets, the president threatened to decertify Bombardier planes in the United States and impose a 50-percent tariff on Canadian aircraft. Those threats apparently were never carried out, but Trump said Canada quickly certified Gulfstream planes the following month because of his intervention.

Trump's social media post Monday signaled continued acrimony over Bombardier, amid a broiling bilateral tariff fight. Even if Trump sought to follow through on his latest threat, it remained unclear how it would happen. The Federal Aviation Administration, not the White House, is the U.S. agency that certifies or decertifies aircraft in the country. Bombardier models remain U.S. certified and the company is currently exempt from U.S. tariffs. It did not immediately respond to a request for comment about Trump's post.

Last month, as trade negotiations collapsed, Trump slapped 50-percent tariffs on some \$20 billion worth of Canadian products rang-

ing from hockey sticks to cement. Canada announced it is imposing retaliatory tariffs on a similar amount of U.S. products beginning early Tuesday. The duties of 15 percent, 25 percent and 50 percent will apply to imports from the United States covering steel and aluminum products as well as dairy goods like cheese.

Negotiations between the two sides broke down late last month after days of meetings in Washington, with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney saying he decided to suspend the trade talks.

At the time, Carney said the Trump administration's terms were ultimately unacceptable, and that US negotiators had introduced restrictions on Canadian trade deals with other countries at the eleventh hour.

U.S. officials also made unacceptable "threats" to the French language and "Quebec culture," he added, referencing the French-speaking province in eastern Canada.

Ottawa and Washington have not resumed negotiations since, and have continued trading barbs. □



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky (R) shakes hands with US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff (L) during a joint press conference following their talks in Kyiv on September 6, 2026, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

U.S. envoy sees 'movement' toward three-way talks with Russia, Ukraine

Washington, United States

A top U.S. envoy on Monday touted progress in weekend discussions with Ukraine and Russia, raising the prospect of reviving three-way peace talks to end Europe's deadliest conflict since World War II.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky met separately with top US envoys in a renewed push to end the fighting, which began when Russian forces invaded neighboring Ukraine more than four years ago.

"Substantive progress was made, including movement on scheduling additional trilateral talks," US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff wrote on X.

Witkoff, a business ally of US President Donald Trump, traveled to Russia and Ukraine over the weekend alongside negotiating partner Jared Kushner, who is Trump's son-in-law.

Sunday's appearance in Kyiv was their first official trip to the Ukrainian capital.

A senior Ukrainian official told AFP on Sunday that the two envoys had brought new and "more effective" proposals on ending the war, but Zelensky warned that fighting appeared likely to continue into the winter.

The Kremlin on Monday did not rule out three-way talks with the United States and Ukraine aimed at ending the conflict. "But it is too early to say anything about the venue or the exact dates at this stage," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

Also on Monday, Zelensky said he and his negotiating team were "coordinating our next steps" following the talks with Trump's envoys and European officials, but the Ukrainian leader did not elaborate on what those steps would be.

Negotiators from Moscow and Kyiv last met for US-mediated talks in Geneva in February, but did not reach an agreement on territorial issues.

Diplomatic efforts led by Washington have slowed in recent months as the Trump administration shifted focus toward the war with Iran.

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, launched in February 2022, and the subsequent years of fighting have left hundreds of thousands of soldiers and civilians dead. The war has displaced millions of people, ravaged Ukraine's economy, put Russia's military under massive strain and has led to the expanded use of drone warfare. □

'Trumpapalooza' tests Republican bet on unpopular U.S. president

Washington, United States

U.S. Republicans will gather in Dallas, Texas, next week for a two-day convention aimed at convincing voters that Donald Trump is effectively on the ballot in November even as the deeply unpopular president threatens to become a liability for his own party. The September 9-10 gathering dubbed "Trumpapalooza" by organizers -- is an unusual midterm experiment, designed to rally voters around Trump's record as the party faces increasingly grim forecasts for elections that could cost it control of Congress.

Decision Desk HQ projects Democrats to win the House of Representatives by 229 seats to 206, while putting the Senate at a knife-edge 50-50.

Republican leaders have nevertheless decided that the answer is more Trump, not less.

"The president's going to look right into the camera and say, 'I am on the ballot,'" House Speaker Mike Johnson told supporters in Texas ahead of the gathering.

"Because, even though his name isn't, his administration, his legacy, the America First agenda is."

Trump will appear both days at Dallas's American



U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer (L) talks with members of the House of Representatives at the conclusion of a Republican Study Committee meeting at the U.S. Capitol building on September 02, 2026 in Washington, DC.

Airlines Center, headlining on Wednesday and delivering closing remarks at Thursday's finale after Vice President JD Vance's keynote address.

Trump promised a musical celebration of the party's "tremendous victories" and "incredible candidates" in a social media post billing the event as "the greatest rally of them all."

- Staying home -

Organizers hope to showcase the administration's tax cuts, immigration poli-

cies and other achievements while portraying Democrats as increasingly extreme.

But the strategy carries risks. Trump's approval rating has fallen into the low-to-mid 30s amid stubborn inflation, high fuel prices, an unpopular war with Iran and a costly trade dispute with Canada.

Perhaps more tellingly, many of the Republican candidates whose races will determine control of Congress appear reluctant to join the celebration.

A Politico survey of more than 70 lawmakers and candidates found most either did not plan to attend or had yet to commit, with dozens more declining to disclose their plans.

Some vulnerable Republicans have cited campaign commitments, debates or family obligations, while others have complained privately about being asked to contribute at least \$25,000 to attend.

Johnson acknowledged that some members need

to remain home but insists most Republicans will make at least an appearance, describing the event as an opportunity to put the party's record before a national television audience.

"We have a real opportunity to defy history and win the midterms," Johnson said in a video promoting the gathering.

- Football competition -

There are also doubts over how much of that television audience will actually be watching.

Both convention nights clash with the opening games of the National Football League (NFL) season, potentially forcing Trump's prime-time show into competition with one of America's most popular sporting events.

Republican organizers reject suggestions the event is mistimed, arguing it will energize activists, raise money and give candidates valuable national exposure. They expect tens of thousands of attendees.

The convention is also being used as a major fundraising opportunity: donors have reportedly been offered a photograph with Trump for \$88,600, while access to a roundtable with the president costs \$250,000. □

Hurricane Lowell watch issued for Kauai, Niihau islands

Los Angeles, United States

A hurricane watch was issued for the Hawaiian islands of Kauai and Niihau Sunday evening, as the Category 3 Hurricane Lowell approached the US Pacific archipelago, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC).

The storm was dumping rain about 525 miles (840 kilometers) southwest of Honolulu Sunday evening, and is expected to brush by the state's westernmost islands from Monday evening.

"The center of Lowell will move across portions of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, just west of the main Hawaiian Islands, on Mon-

day night," NHC forecasters said.

Current conditions include maximum sustained winds near 120 mph (195 km/h), and up to 14 inches of additional rain is possible for Kauai, the NHC said.

The storm is then expected to turn northwest and slow down by early Wednesday.

Lowell briefly reached Category 5 strength earlier this week, but has since weakened to a Category 3, carrying maximum sustained winds of 125 mph.

Lowell is one of three storms in the Pacific Ocean right now, where a near-record strength El Nino climate episode warms the waters.

Karina, around 1,000 miles east of Hawaii, weakened to a tropical storm in the Central Pacific Sunday. Tropical storm Marie, several hundred miles southwest off the southern tip of Baja California, was moving northwest away from land. Hawaii is still recovering from the impacts of Hurricane Lala, which grazed the southern part of the Big Island last month, bringing destructive winds and severe flash floods.

El Nino is the warming phase of a natural cycle in the tropical Pacific known as the El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). It comes along every two to seven years. ENSO promotes hurricane formation in the

tropical Pacific while decreasing their likelihood in the Atlantic.

Climate change increases El Nino's global weather impacts. A warmer atmo-

sphere holds more moisture, so El Nino-linked rains can turn more extreme. It also dries out soils, deepening drought where El Nino brings it. □



Large waves crash against the rocky shoreline near Makapu'u Beach Park in Honolulu, Hawaii, on September 6, 2026.

Rare woman director in Venice sees industry backsliding on gender

Venice, Italy

When Danish director May el-Toukhy was selected for the top competition at the Venice Film Festival in July, she was the only female filmmaker in a 20-strong field with a movie "about the invisibility of women". She joked about the irony in a press conference on Sunday, while pointing out that progress on gender bias made in the wake of the 2017 #MeToo movement appeared to be reversing. "After #MeToo, I think all of us were really aware of this gender imbalance," she told reporters.

"And something has happened over the course of the last couple of years where we're kind of returning to, you know, what it used to be and so we have to be better," she added. The protagonist of "Woman Unknown" is a bride-to-be struggling to hide her wartime secret a relationship with a Nazi during the German occupation of Denmark during WWII. Women accused of having consorted with the enemy are seen in the film violently stripped, their heads



Danish director May El-Toukhy attends the red carpet event before the screening of "Woman Unknown" (Kvinde Ukendt) presented in competition at the 83rd International Venice Film Festival, at Venice Lido on September 6, 2026.

shaved and red swastikas painted on their bare flesh. The powerful film, which drew enthusiastic applause after a press screening Sunday, is "about being objectified on one hand and on the other hand being unseen and voiceless," said el-Toukhy.

- Selection process ques-

tioned -

The dearth of women in the top Venice competition has sparked nagging questions about the selection process and female representation. "I would have loved to have more female colleagues in competition," she told AFP on Monday, while denying that she felt

"lonely" because she had "been the only woman in many, many different settings".

Venice boss Alberto Barbera angered many observers in July when he said the initial 20-1 male domination of the top competition was because the submissions from women "were not enough to put them

into the competition". Since then, the festival has added another film co-directed by a woman, the documentary "NAZA" about the Israeli killing of civilians in Gaza, which will premiere on Thursday. El-Toukhy, a Danish-Egyptian director who has worked on Netflix's "The Queen", said she had encountered gender bias throughout her career and even with her latest film. "When I pitched the film to people, I could see that they were glazing over because they were, like, 'Oh, another Second World War film,' which I feel is unfair because we've told so many stories about the male experience during war or post-war, and we haven't really explored what it meant to be a woman during that time as much," she said. After film school, she said she struggled to find financing for her first film. "I think it took me six or seven years, whereas my male peers, they were much faster than me," she explained. "My second film was really hard to get done as well."

- 'Structural' -

She sees the under-representation of women at the top of the industry as a "structural problem" echoing a similar point made by American star Maggie Gyllenhaal who is head of the competition jury in Venice this year.

"I do think it's much harder for women to get their films financed," Gyllenhaal said in the first week of the festival.

"Also, could it be possible that the things that women, having had a different experience of being alive in the world, want to make movies about are not always deemed high art?" she added. Award-winning Italian actress Jasmine Trinca told AFP Sunday: "When I see that there is only one woman in competition, I'm alarmed, I'm angry."

"I think it's a question we really need to ask ourselves and confront," Trinca said. □

'No plans to retire', says 'acting god' Malkovich

Venice, Italy

American actor John Malkovich said Thursday he had no plans to retire, speaking ahead of the premiere of his latest film, dark comedy "Wild Horse Nine" set in 1970s Chile. Malkovich, 72, plays a cynical CIA officer troubled by his conscience ahead

of the American-backed coup to overthrow the South American country's left-wing president Salvador Allende in 1973.

"I'm pretty much doing and have been doing what I loved my whole life, and I plan to carry on doing that," he told reporters at the Venice Film Festival.



U.S. actor John Malkovich attends the red carpet event for the screening of "Wild Horse Nine" at the 83rd International Venice Film Festival, at Venice Lido on September 3, 2026.

"I don't plan to retire because I think they will retire me when it's time. That seems to be the natural course of things."

The star of "Being John Malkovich" and "Dangerous Liaisons" was described as an "acting god" by British-Irish director Martin McDonagh whose previous films include "The Banshees of Inisherin" and "In Bruges".

Malkovich forms an on-screen duo with fellow American Sam Rockwell as a pair of American intelligence officers visiting Easter Island off the coast of Chile ahead of the military coup in the country which was backed by the CIA.

"He's an acting god, really," McDonagh told AFP in an interview in Venice when asked about Mal-

kovich.

"He's the best of the best, and I can't imagine any other actor with his sort of gravitas and his dexterity with theatrical language, and dexterity with comedy."

Independently produced "Wild Horse Nine" is one of the heavy-hitters in the main Venice festival competition this year which has been largely overlooked by Hollywood studios and American streamers who turned up in numbers at last year's event.

McDonagh, who first visited Easter island about 15 years ago, said he'd "always been interested in Chile and the coup and the CIA and the American government's involvement in that from when I was in my early teens." □

British family bids to row back against suicide taboo

Paris, France

A remarkable English family, one of whose members took his life, are endeavoring to make suicide less of a taboo subject by rowing 3,000 miles (4,830 kilometers) across the Atlantic.

The Ash family mother Charlotte, daughter Camilla and her siblings Henry and James had no experience of rowing whatsoever until this summer but are now preparing to take part in what is labeled the "World's Toughest Row".

The 50 to 60 backbreaking days that lie ahead of them once they set off in their 28-foot (8.5-metre) boat from the Canary Islands for Antigua in December next year will be challenging, but nothing compared to what they experienced on September 19, 2023.

That was the day Charlotte's husband Robert, the children's father, took his life.

The family are undertaking the forbidding challenge to support British charity Suicide & Co.

"It's not about flying flares (in Antigua), it's never been about a personal endeavour," Henry, 32, told AFP.

"It's about the charity, raising awareness and trying to bring suicide more into a conversation where people feel that they are able



Charlotte Ash (2nd R) and her three adult children Henry Ash (L), James Ash (2nd L) and Camilla Ash (R) manoeuvre their rowing boat to depart Hartlepool Marina for a practice session before their 3,000-mile (4,828-km) challenge of rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, in Hartlepool, northern England on August 23, 2026.

to talk about it."

That was something they had to confront when Robert ended his life.

"We all reacted in different ways," Camilla, a 37-year-old lawyer, said.

"That is across a myriad of things like why, how, was it something we did? What was going on? What did Dad feel on that day?"

"We've all come away with slightly different interpretations of the event."

- 'Children at sea' -

However, it was thanks to

Henry being put in touch with Suicide & Co that they were able to talk through what had happened including in 12 sessions of individual counseling six months after Robert's death.

Henry had always wanted to row an ocean. In the most tragic of circumstances the seed grew into the sapling, and he decided last year that it was an opportunity to repay Suicide & Co for their help.

Though they were receptive, Henry says the char-

ity's co-founder Amelia Wrighton "was asking questions that perhaps hadn't really entered my mind".

"Like, how dangerous is it? Are you supported? Where do you stop along the way? Because there is no land mass between La Gomera and Antigua," he added.

He may not have had the answers immediately but he had no hesitation when Wrighton asked if he had thought about doing the row with anyone else.

"I said to her, because of the reason why I'm doing it, I wouldn't want to do it with anyone other than my family."

James was first on board and although Henry had earmarked Camilla and 63-year-old Charlotte to take care of the fundraising "I just thought they would not want to row the Atlantic" they too jumped on board.

Charlotte did suggest "rowing the same distance up and down the River Ouse" near the family home in Yorkshire, northern England, but in the end Henry says his mother thought "it would be worse having my three children at sea and not being with them than it would be to go with them".

- 'Pressure cooker' -

Having come through their first summer of training on the water, in the North Sea, completing their first 36-hour non-stop row and already raising over £360,000 (\$486,000), they have laid the foundations for the final push in 2027.

Charlotte admits it is a "pretty scary thing to be doing" but said that now, armed with more knowledge and experience, she was "marginally less terrified than at the beginning of the year". □

Norway firm begins capturing CO2 at Dutch plant for underground storage

Oslo, Norway

Norwegian chemicals group Yara said Monday it had begun capturing part of the CO2 emitted by its factory in the Netherlands, hoping to prove the viability of a technology for reducing industrial emissions. The prime ministers of both countries were on hand to inaugurate what Yara called the biggest industrial carbon capture and storage (CCS) in Europe.

The ammonia and fertilizer plant will capture 800,000 tons of CO2 a year or around 0.5 percent of the Netherlands' total annual emissions then liquefy it for sending by ship to Norway.

There it will be injected into an aquifer some 2,600 meters (8,500 feet) under the seabed off Norway's western coast, part of the Northern Lights project that began operating last year. "The carbon capture facility in Sluiskil proves that large-scale industrial decarbonization is possible today," Yara's chief executive Svein Tore Holsether said in a statement.

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology has been listed as a climate tool by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the International Energy

Agency (IEA), especially for reducing the CO2 footprint of industries like cement and steel that are difficult to decarbonize. But the technology is complex and costly, and it is often more profitable for industrial companies to purchase "pollution permits" on the European carbon market than to pay for capturing and storing their CO2.

So far Northern Lights has signed contracts with just a handful of companies. It has an annual CO2 storage capacity of 1.5 million tons, which is expected to increase to five million tons by the end of the decade.

"This is exactly the kind of project Europe needs to combine climate ambition with a strong and

resilient industrial base," EU climate commissioner Wopke Hoekstra said in the statement. □



EU Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth Wopke Hoekstra (L) attends a meeting with Finland's Minister of Climate and the Environment Sari Multala at the Parliament building in Helsinki, on September 2, 2026.

China's memories of Mao fade to nostalgia 50 years after his death

Nanjie, China

The crimson flags on Nanjie village's "East is Red" Square hang limp in the sweltering summer heat as a trickle of tourists take photos with a towering statue of Chairman Mao Zedong, still gleaming white almost 50 years after he died.

The Great Helmsman, who died September 9 1976, is still very much a fixture in central Henan province's Nanjie often dubbed "China's last Maoist village".

Nostalgia for Mao's egalitarian ideals is growing in China as memories of his turbulent rule fade and the country grapples with a slowing economy and inequality.

Mao, who led the 1949 communist revolution against the ruling nationalists, ushered in an era of collectivized ownership he argued would drive industry and unite the country, but his drastic policies are also blamed by historians for mass starvation and millions of deaths.

While the ruling Chinese Communist Party maintains Mao was a revolutionary hero, it publicly acknowledged after his death that his devastating Cultural Revolution was a "grave mistake" a verdict upheld by subsequent leaders.

In Nanjie, countless murals of the former Chinese leader are plastered around the village.

Residents still live under Maoist principles of shared ownership, while the rest of



China top communist leader, Chairman of Communist Party (CCP) and President of the Republic Mao Zedong smiles during his holidays in 1961 in Lushan Mountain.

the country moved on from that economic model.

"I still revere him very much," Xie Kaiyue, a 22-year-old local university student, said of Mao, who died almost three decades before she was born.

"I think young people in the village and, actually, myself, aren't as strong-spirited as in the past... People were purer," she said.

Nearby, electric carts whisked visitors past uniform apartment blocks plastered with socialist slogans as guides explained how cooperative ownership in local enterprises funds free housing for residents.

- Party line -

Around 500 kilometers (310 miles) north, in the mountain village of Dazhai in Shanxi province, once promoted by Mao as a national model after locals terraformed its arid hills into irrigated fields, tourists reminisce about an era when the Great Helmsman dominated political and social life.

"(People) didn't have enough to eat or to wear," Li, a 64-year-old tourist from Xi'an, said of his childhood. "But... the whole country was full of vigor, and there was a spirit of struggling with heaven, earth, and

people to change every aspect of China," the retiree said.

"Of course I miss it."

Now, Dazhai is overflowing with shops selling items that support Mao's personality cult posters, playing cards, and crockery emblazoned with his image, and the "Little Red Book" of his quotations.

Still, references to dark chapters of his decades in absolute power are tightly censored in public discourse.

The decade-long episode instigated by Mao in 1966 saw intellectuals brutally targeted as "class enemies" and schools shut-

tered, setting China back for years in education and development.

Private property and land were collectivized, while economic management pushed the country to the Great Famine, which the government says killed around 15 million people, while historians estimate around 20-43 million.

In one museum, text mentioning the Cultural Revolution had been crudely scraped off signage.

"Everything you see in the public domain... is the party line. No one is allowed to deviate from this," said scholar Xu Chenggang, who was targeted as a child in Beijing during the Cultural Revolution because his father was labeled a "rightist".

Mao's face is printed on banknotes, his portrait overlooks Tiananmen Square, and his body is preserved in a mausoleum.

Every year new movies and TV shows dramatizing Mao's life beam the message of his great deeds to public.

Public discussion has been squeezed further under current leader Xi Jinping, who warns against "historical nihilism", or narratives contradicting the party's own.

"The Communist Party told people there were mistakes, but what's the meaning of 'mistake'? No one knows," Xu said. □

Cuba denounces 'record' economic damage from U.S. embargo



Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cuba Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla looks on during a press conference in Havana on September 7, 2026.

Havana, Cuba

The U.S. embargo on Cuba incurred "record" losses of over \$8 billion on the communist island between March last year and February this year, according to a government report presented Monday.

Cuba has been under a US trade embargo since 1962, with President Donald Trump piling on pressure on top of the decades-old measure since early this year. The damages set out in the report exceed last year's peak by seven percent, said Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez.

The figure "does not include the damage from the energy blockade" imposed by Washington in January "nor the damage from secondary sanctions" imposed on

Cuban entities in May, the minister added.

"The blockade does not punish a government; it punishes the daily life of a people in all its aspects," Rodríguez said.

Havana blames the crisis on an array of U.S.-imposed punitive measures, while Washington attributes the hardship to poor internal management.

Living conditions on the island are severe, with residents enduring regular rolling blackouts and chronic food and fuel shortages on a daily basis.

Rodríguez pointed to an increase in infant mortality from four per 1,000 births in 2018 to 9.9 in 2025 as evidence of deteriorating standards. □

Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Span-



ish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Sometime after trying to

hitch a ride home, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get

out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel.

For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass holds a lot of value to our culture of folkloric story-telling. □

Source: visitaruba.com

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!

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

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrates some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis*:

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



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

Under candelchi, we in Aru-

ba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between them.

The squirrelfish family is dis-

tinguished by the following characteristics. They are heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard

fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called "bari di clabo" (nail barrel) for that reason.

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

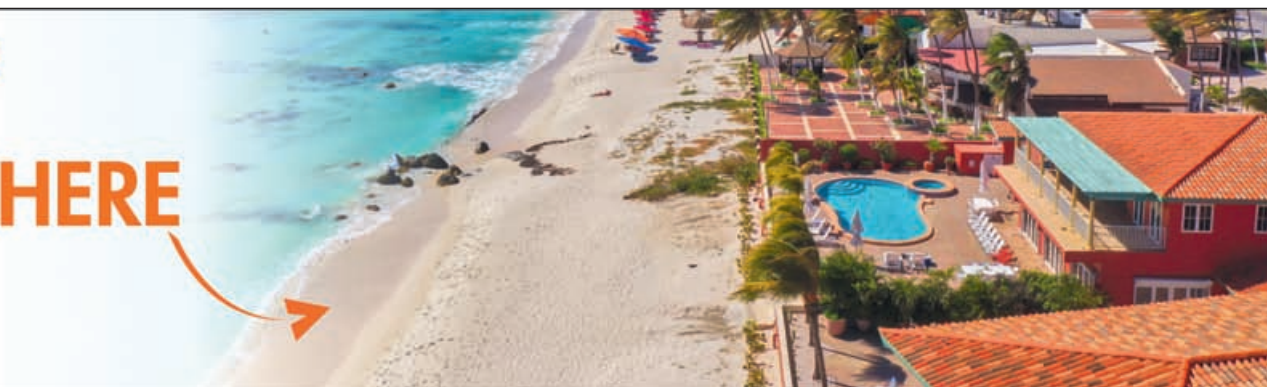
In Aruba:

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

 (+297) 586 2662

YOU COULD BE HERE

Casago
Aruba



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



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

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



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

A Stay Tailored to You

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

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

A Partner for Homeowners

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

maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- **Promotion** through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
- **Complete management** of check-ins, guest communication, cleanings, landscaping, pool maintenance, and repairs
- **Transparent maintenance** reporting, real-time reservation tracking, and on-site security monitoring
- **Full handling** of tax filings for both local and state re-

quirements

- **Monthly property inspections** and full utility bill management
- **Strategic planning** to help homeowners increase profitability and keep their properties in top condition

This full-service model ensures that every home is maintained to the highest standard while giving property owners full peace of mind.

Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

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



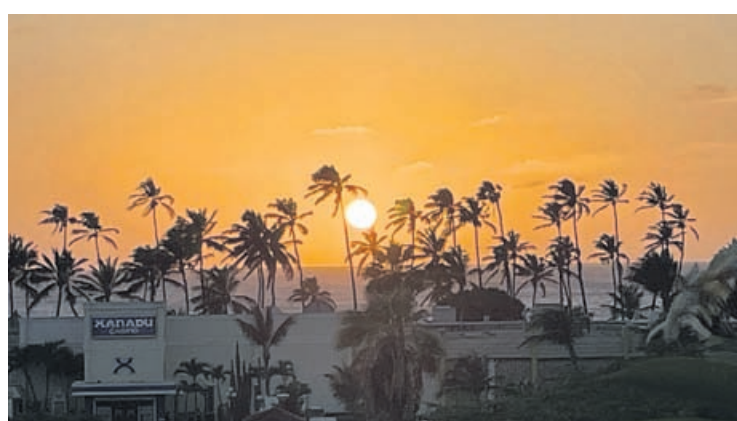
What Aruba means to Oliver!

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.

For today we received a lovely message from Oliver Frank from Germany. He wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is ... simply this serenity, the peace, the diversity, this warmth, and also the hustle and bustle in the evening or the glass of sparkling wine to end the day. There is simply no better place to be in the here and now." Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing

what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to give you a shout-out 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



Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all qualified Club members.

2X *Double Points Tuesday!*

**Earn
DOUBLE POINTS
all day long!**

Use your Players' Club card
to play our slots and we'll
DOUBLE your points!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Auntie Anne's Pretzels | Aruba Aloe | Baskin-Robbins
Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market
Shalom Body & Soul Spa | Moments & Memories Jewelry
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
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. Irawsquin Blvd #47 | 288.9000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



A guide for the perfect picture: Where to find the most Instagrammable places in Aruba

(Oranjestad)—Imagine, you're out and about on the island and you want to take the most picture-perfect photo to show your friends and family back home and online. It seems like the perfect spot can be hard to find, but Aruba is full of great spots for a quick snapshot! Here are the most Instagrammable places in Aruba.



Mangel Halto

For a different take on beach photos, we definitely recommend Mangel Halto! You can get in the water right by the roots of these beautiful trees (please be careful not to climb them, though!). You will see beautiful skies, birds and other wildlife, and among the greenery of the mangroves, your picture is sure to pop!



You may even spot some iguanas!

read "Aruba" (because there can never be too many), there is another sign you can find along the Linear Park. It may be a long walk from the harbor to get there, but while you're at it, check out these other spots along the way!□



Wooden Swing on Plaza Daniel Leo

While you're in Mainstreet Oranjestad, check out the wooden swing on Plaza Daniel Leo. This is another favorite among visitors wanting a cute snapshot for Instagram. Since you've made it this far, one question: How many blue horses have you spotted already?

Yacht Dock in Oranjestad

Last but certainly not least, the Yacht Dock in Oranjestad is the perfect spot to take a beautiful picture, especially at sunset. The dock is located behind the Wilhelmina Park. This spot offers a gorgeous view of the ocean and sunset, accompanied by the soft waves crashing on the shoreline.

"I LOVE ARUBA"

While you're in the area, check out the 'I LOVE ARUBA' sign is a great first stop for a quick shot with the family. This spot is among the few that has become a favorite among tourists, especially those that are visiting Aruba through a cruise vacation. Speaking of giant signs that



Dining in? Try making some local favorites! How to make "pan bati"

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Ingredients:

2 cups of all purpose flour
1 cup grams of fine cornmeal
2 tbsp baking powder
1 1/3 cup of milk
1 pinch of salt
2 tbsp of granulated sugar
Oil for cooking

Instructions:

Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more moisture is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency. In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.

Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top!□



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 paragrass. This is then coated with aloe vera juice, which gives the white color 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, af-

terwards 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 barrel 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. □



Fun facts about the 'Lisinbein'

The 'Lisinbein' (Scolopendra gigantea), also known as the Giant Centipede, is one of the largest centipedes in the world and is found in Aruba. Its size and hunting prowess make it a fascinating, if often misunderstood, creature.

Despite its fearsome reputation, it plays a crucial ecological role that often goes unnoticed.

As an apex invertebrate predator, Scolopendra gigantea helps maintain balance in the ecosystem. Moreover, they themselves are a food source for birds such as the Crested Caracara (Warawara) and the Aruba burrowing owl (Shoco).

It controls populations of smaller invertebrates and even small vertebrates, ensuring that no species overpopulates, which could disrupt local biodiversity.

Its presence can indicate a healthy, functioning ecosys-

tem. Its sensitivity to environmental changes makes it a bioindicator of ecological balance.

It can reach an impressive length of up to 30 centimeters (approx. 12 inches) and live for around 5 to 10 years in the wild. Its size and longevity makes it a significant and long-term part of the ecosystem.

A mother's love

In Scolopendra species, the 'mother' typically exhibits maternal care by curling around her eggs and newly hatched young. She stays coiled around the clutch, protecting it from predators and fungi, which are serious risks in the moist environments these centipedes often inhabit. The mother maintains a clean environment for the eggs by carefully grooming them, which helps prevent fungal growth that could endanger the brood. This behavior may continue until the young centipedes have undergone their first molt, making

them more capable of independent survival.

This form of parental care is beneficial in increasing the survival rates of offspring, as the mother's protection provides a safe 'environment' during their vulnerable developmental stages. It's a fascinating adaptation because it shows a form of care that resembles more complex behaviors observed in vertebrates.

No bark, but all bite!

The lisinbein is known locally for having a really painful sting. While venomous, the Lisinbein is generally not aggressive toward humans unless provoked. Its role as a guardian of balance in the ecosystem helps protect the natural beauty of Aruba by keeping the ecosystem in harmony.

Editor's note: Information and pictures provided by Ms. Natasha Silva from the Aruba Conservation Foundation. □

Get to know the history of the gold industry on Aruba



(Oranjestad)— We have talked about the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin before and its brief history during the gold industry on Aruba, but get to know a little more about the history of the “Aruban Gold Rush.”

The first hint of gold on Aruba actually dates back to 1725, when rumors about gold being found in dug up treasure chests of the Spanish colonial era prompted the first official exploration for gold on the island, commissioned by the Dutch West India Company. Under the leadership of Mr. Paulus Printz, a three-year search was conducted on Aruba, to no avail. Though they found some specks of gold, it was not enough to motivate a further search, and the assignment was discontinued by Printz himself.

It wasn't until 100 years later, in 1824, when a young farmer boy named Willem Rasmijn found a lump of gold while out herding his father's sheep in the area of Rooi Fluit on the north coast. His father took it to a local merchant who then sold the lump for \$70. Unbeknownst to the boy and his father, they quite literally struck gold, and as word got out, a gold fever spread among the locals who started searching for more gold.

When the colonial governor in Curacao, Governor Cantz'laar, heard about the news, he sent his adjutant, Capitan van Raders, to start harvesting gold. This was in July 1824. In August of that same year, the governor followed suit to the island, accompanied by high-ranking military officials. When citizens started swarming the area in search for gold, The Netherlands sent more troops to safe guard the gold.

Prominent places where gold was found was in Daimari, Wacobana, Arikok, Rooi Fluit, Hadicouradi and later West punt, where gold ore was found. Because of a lack in advanced technology and materials to harvest the gold, the process took a more primitive approach: Clay rocks containing traces of gold were left to dry in the sun. Then, workers would start chipping the clay away on a large canvas to catch the gold particles that were left behind after the wind blew away the dust from the clay.

In the harvest period of 1824-1825, there was a total of 71,000 kilos collected through commissioned harvesting. Locals themselves reportedly found about 25 pounds worth of gold in the nearby rivers. The following years after that first big harvest, commission work fell off, and in 1828, the director of the goldmines, Johan Gravenhorst, decided to halt harvesting.

Almost 40 years later, the London-based Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. was granted concession. The firm built their gold mines on Bushiribana, and in the port of Oranjestad a long road that connected the gold mill to the port. The ores themselves came from Sero Plat en Sero Cristal.



By this point, workers were still using primitive methods to harvest the ores. For example, when someone had to go into the mines, there were no stairs or lifts; the person had to be brought down in a big bucket, with two or more workers holding the bucket by a thick rope above ground.

Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. reportedly operated until 1899, and right after the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. was established, coincidentally also based in London. This time, the gold mill in Balashi was built, and more mines were dug up all around the island. The gold ores that were found were transported via track engine, locally called the “trekinchi”. Despite being more equipped for the job, the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. could not produce any real profit, and so the concession was terminated just eight years later, in 1908.

A local firm, the “Aruba Goud Maatschappij” (Aruba Gold Company) took over the concession, along with all the materials and equipment. In the beginning, the company saw good profit, and for a while, the island's economy depended primarily on the mining and harvesting of gold. But just like its predecessors, the streak of luck for the Aruba Gold Company came to an end when WWI broke out.

The main reason why production stopped this time was reportedly because of a lack in dynamite for extracting the ores from the mines, as well as a lack in raw materials like German cyanide for the refining process. By the time the war ended, the equipment that was left at Balashi were too old to use again. After the war, gold production on the Aruba was left to a standstill.

According to an issue in Aruba Esso News paper in 1953, Henny Eman wanted to start up digging again, this time using independent miners. He argued that there was proof of more gold to be discovered. Plus, hiring independent miners would boost the island's employment rate.

When it was proven that gold was in fact still present, the executive board on the island promised to fund the project only if the gold dug up proved to be valuable. However, nothing else was reported after this, so it could be concluded that there was no real profitable market on the island anymore.

The ruins of the Bushiribana and Balashi Gold Mills are still standing, and open for the public to visit. These structures offer a glance into the past, to a time where Aruba experienced one of its first wave of industrialization. Today, these structures are persevered as historical monuments. □

Source:

1. “De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)” by Evert Bongers.
2. Aruba Esso News, 1953 issue.

CROSSWORD

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

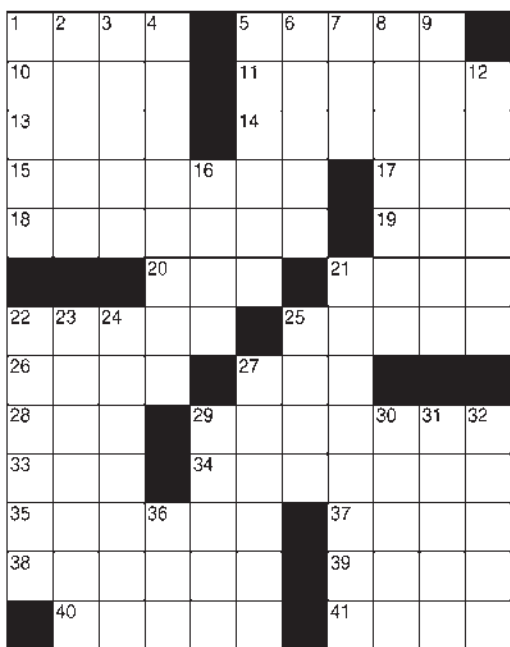
ACROSS

- 37 Singer
1 Gift-wrapping need
5 Lesser-played half of a 45
10 Beige
11 Indivisible numbers
13 Fleet member
14 Tuba sound
15 Hardy hen
17 Poem of praise
18 Classifies
19 Cath. or Prot.
20 Beam of light
21 Lab bottle
22 Delicate
25 Deceitful people
26 Maggie and Bart's sister
27 Singer
28 Play division
29 Furniture wheels
33 Question of identity
34 Coin-op eatery
35 Bit of gossip

- 37 Singer
38 Least moist
39 "What's — for me?"
40 Copen-hagen natives
41 Totals

DOWN

- 1 Inventor
2 Massage targets
3 Puritanical ones
4 Bliss
5 Stylish
6 Some golf clubs
7 Poorly lit
8 Stores
9 "Come on, help me out"
12 Beach-combing finds
16 Vaccine type
21 Long-reigning queen
22 Imperfect
23 Explorer
24 Oregon city
25 Shopping aid
27 Bank fixtures
29 Lead to
30 Correct, as text
31 Zealous
32 ERA and
36 Marsh



5-22

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

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.

5-22 CRYPTOQUOTE

Y N N Q J U A P Z L K Z E A
F N G G Z F A N K , E G Q V E R L P U
E K Z A P Z F Z I Z G A . — W P J V
K N U Z G A P E V

Cryptoquote: YOU THINK YOUR PAIN AND YOUR HEARTBREAK ARE UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD, BUT THEN YOU READ. — JAMES BALDWIN



Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

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

Electrical power

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

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international



standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the

store.

Supermarket hours

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

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as



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

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

01
TUE

CARNIVAL HORIZON

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 22:00 | Berth: B

GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: C

08
TUE

CELEBRITY REFLECTION

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: B

ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS

Arrival: 11:30 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: C

CARNIVAL VISTA

Arrival: 13:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: I

09
WED

GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: B

MARGARITAVILLE ISLANDER

Arrival: 7:00 | Departure: 17:00 | Berth: C

ALLURE OF THE SEAS

Arrival: 7:00 | Departure: 14:00 | Berth: I

15
TUE

CARNIVAL HORIZON

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 22:00 | Berth: B

GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: C

CELEBRITY REFLECTION

Arrival: 8:00 | Departure: 23:00 | Berth: I



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: ★★

9/8

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★

9/7

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

El Nino could be strongest in decades, UN warns

Geneva, Switzerland

El Nino is forecast to be the strongest since comparable records began four decades ago, the United Nations' climate agency warned Thursday, with the UN chief saying the world was in the "danger zone of extreme weather".

The weather phenomenon is set to become "very strong" in the months ahead and is near certain to persist through to February, the World Meteorological Organization said.

"If this trajectory continues, it may be stronger than anything since our monitoring began," WMO chief Celeste Saulo told reporters in Geneva.

El Nino will peak towards the end of this year though its knock-on impacts for the climate will continue well into 2027, said the WMO.

El Nino warms surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, bringing worldwide changes in winds, pressure and rainfall. Heat in the oceans releases more slowly into the atmosphere, pushing up global temperatures the year after it develops. The powerful 2023-24 El Nino contributed to 2024 being the warmest year on record, and "we should not be surprised if this record is broken", Saulo added.

"El Nino is firmly established and will intensify into a very strong event in the coming months, with big impacts on rainfall and temperature patterns and associated risks of floods, drought and extreme heat," the WMO said.

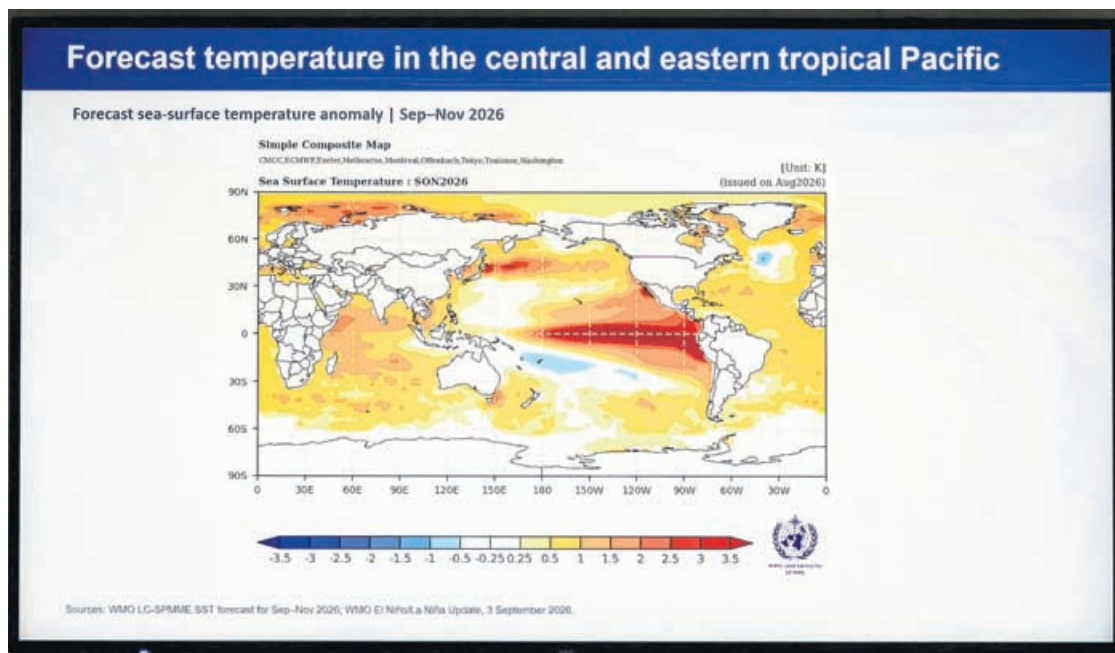
- Highway to the danger zone -

El Nino is a naturally-occurring phenomenon and is not caused by climate change.

But scientists expect it will exacerbate the heat of a planet already warming from burning fossil fuels, while amping up weather extremes.

"El Nino is being supersized before our eyes," said UN chief Antonio Guterres.

"The science leaves no room for doubt: the planet is in uncharted waters, and



This photograph shows presentation slide displayed during a press conference on El Nino update by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in Geneva on September 3, 2026.

those waters are heating up. Sea surface temperatures are rising, temperatures keep climbing, and the world is in the danger zone of extreme weather." WMO chief Saulo urged disaster management authorities and climate-sensitive sectors like agriculture, fisheries health, energy and water to prepare themselves.

"This exceptional El Nino... has the potential to deliver a massive blow to communities and economies across the world", she said. "We are already seeing disruption and devastation from droughts and floods, and we expect these impacts to increase as El Nino intensifies."

El Nino typically takes place every two to seven

years and lasts around nine to 12 months.

Conditions oscillate between El Nino and its opposite La Nina, with neutral conditions in between.

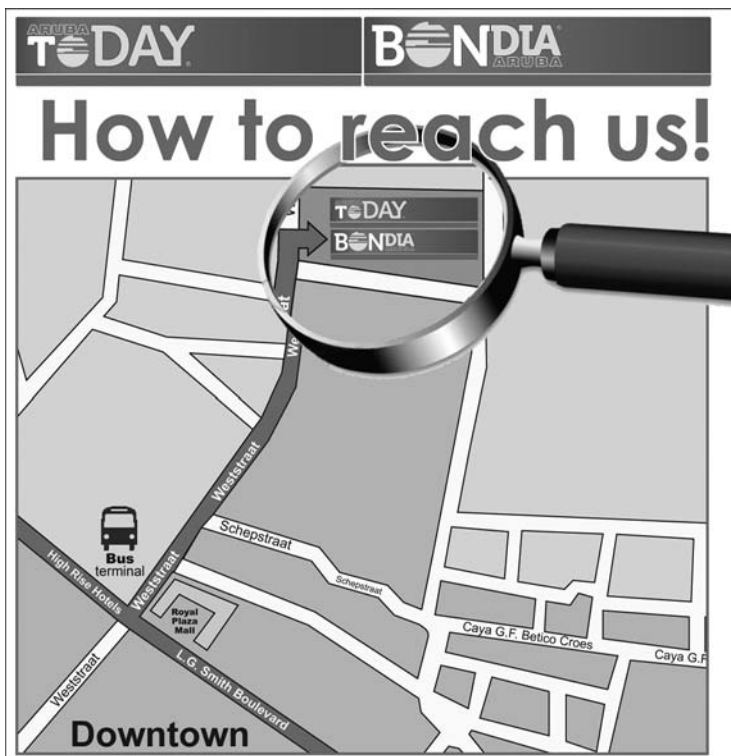
El Nino can reshape weather and climate patterns thousands of kilometres away from the tropical Pacific.

- Pacific Ocean heating up -

Wilfran Moufouma-Okia, the WMO's climate prediction chief, said some places would be affected before, some during and some after the peak later this year though the strength of the peak is not an indicator of the severity of the impact. For September-November, WMO forecasts indicate an increased likelihood of

above-normal temperatures "across almost all land areas".

The index which measures sea surface temperature anomalies in the central eastern equatorial Pacific has strengthened from an average 1.5C above normal between May and July. □



ARUBA TODAY

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 Figuereo
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
@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: Eagle
Tel. 587 9011

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 588 0539

EMERGENCY

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

TAXI SERVICES

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

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Against Domestic Violence(FCVR)
Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

GENERAL INFO

Phone Directory Tel. 118

Like us on
Facebook



ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Can dogs sniff cancer? AI joins the hunt in India

Bengaluru, India

When rescue dog Chloe is not tumbling across the grass on a farm outside India's tech capital Bengaluru, she is learning to sniff human breath for cancer with a little help from AI.

Fitted with a 3D-printed helmet and harness packed with sensors, Chloe is part of experimental efforts to use dogs' extraordinary sense of smell to develop a non-invasive test for the disease.

A growing body of global research suggests dogs can be trained to detect cancer and other human illnesses, from Parkinson's to Covid-19.

The Bengaluru-based start-up Dagnosis is using AI to analyse dogs' brain activity, respiration and body language turning their reaction to scent into data.

"In an hour, they can do thousands of sniffs," co-founder Akash Kulgod, 26, told AFP. "Each sniff can evaluate a sample."

Dagnosis hopes to launch commercially next year, which it says would make



This photograph taken on July 28, 2026 shows a dog sniffing a sample during a cancer detection test inside a laboratory at the Dagnosis facility in Kempohalli village on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

it the third company of its kind, after firms from Germany and Israel.

Early detection can make a crucial difference to cancer survival rates, but in India many patients are diagnosed only after the disease has advanced.

Dog sniffs could provide an easy and affordable first layer of screening to be deployed at scale, finding potential cases for further testing. As it chases commercial approval, Dagnosis backed by venture-capital firms including Accel India

is collaborating with government medical institutions for its research.

Chloe, a Labrador mix, is one of 15 dogs being coached by the startup, clad in customised data-gathering helmets.

"It's like a doggy 'Iron Man'

suit," said Kulgod, who comes from a family of doctors and studied cognitive science at the University of California, Berkeley.

- 'Promising' study -

Research suggests diseases can alter the chemicals released by the body, creating distinctive odours.

Dogs have around 300 million scent receptors, compared to about five million in humans.

The testing method is simple: a patient breathes into a cotton mask for about 10 minutes, and the mask is then sealed in a bag and taken to the lab. Patients do not meet the dogs.

A recent Dagnosis study of more than 1,500 participants, involving six hospitals in Karnataka state, was published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

The company said it achieved an accuracy rate of more than 90 per cent across seven major types of cancer, and now plans to test in real-world programmes.

Cancer specialists in Bengaluru independent of the project voiced cautious optimism.

"The study is promising, as an early signal," said Santhosh Kumar Devadas, head of oncology at Ramaiah Memorial Hospital.

"But they need to do the study with a much larger group before we make any definitive conclusions."

Neelesh Reddy, a senior consultant oncologist at Manipal Hospitals, told AFP that "only time will tell how this technology will be useful to the actual patients".

- Dog 'work-life balance' -

India has described cancer as a major public health concern, saying one in nine of its 1.4 billion people are likely to develop the disease.

Dagnosis says it aims to improve "proactive and preventative medicine" while boosting "human-canine communication".

Most of the dogs are beagles, along with some Malinois and Shepherd mixes, brought on board through adoption or legal breeders.

AI could pose 'existential risk to humanity': U.N. rights chief

Geneva, Switzerland

The United Nations rights chief warned Monday that artificial intelligence could pose an "existential threat to humanity", demanding immediate action to reduce the risks.

Speaking before the UN Human Rights Council, Volker Turk warned that humans

currently faced "unfamiliar, even unprecedented" threats to their rights.

"The need for AI governance is widely acknowledged, but where is the action?" he asked, warning that "delay only benefits the massive tech companies, their owners and enablers".

Turk decried that "a handful of men has almost unlimited power over AI, which we are repeatedly told has unimaginable computing capacity".

"They talk about freedom, but on closer inspection, this turns out to be little more than the freedom to exploit our data," the rights chief said.

Turk warned in particular that "AI that escapes its testing environment or blackmails developers to prevent itself from being turned off, is AI that is too powerful".

He appeared to be alluding to revelations in July that OpenAI agents had escaped supposedly controlled environments and had broken into servers of Hugging Face, a widely used platform where programmers share AI software.

That episode shook the

tech world and revived calls for tighter regulation and oversight of AI.

Anthropic, Meta and other companies have reported similar incidents while testing agents.

"I share the concerns of industry insiders that advanced AI could pose an existential risk to humanity," Turk said.

"I am calling here, today, for an all-out effort to put cast iron guarantees in place around the safety and security of AI, before it is too late."

The UN rights chief said he would be writing to AI companies in coming days "to urge them to take the steps that are within their control to reduce risks now".

At a minimum, he said, "we need countries hosting AI and those involved in its supply chains to come together around agreed red lines".



U.N. High commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk (L) delivers his speech next to President of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council Indonesia's Ambassador Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro during the 63rd session of United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council, in Geneva, on September 7, 2026.

Mbappe embraces Ballon d'Or talk after historic World Cup exploits

Madrid, Spain

Real Madrid striker Kylian Mbappe said Monday it was natural for people to consider him a potential Ballon d'Or winner this year after his World Cup exploits.

The France captain scored 10 goals at the tournament this summer to win the Golden Boot, with his country finishing fourth. He has netted 22 in the competition, making him the World Cup's all-time top scorer.

Mbappe, 27, has not yet won the prestigious trophy given to the world's best player.

"I think that when you play for Real Madrid, which is the best club in the world, naturally people associate you with that kind of award, they associate you with collective awards, individual awards," Mbappe told reporters.

"A lot of people, when they see me in the street, talk to me about the Ballon d'Or, a lot of people talk about me as a possible Ballon d'Or winner..."

"Of course, I made a lot of history this summer in the most important competition in sport, but we'll see."

"I have the feeling that it's a good year for that, but there's still a long time to go and people are free to vote for whoever they think is the best player in the world."

Since joining Real Madrid in 2024 Mbappe has scored



Real Madrid's French forward #10 Kylian Mbappe gives a press conference at the Ciudad Real Madrid training ground in Madrid on September 7, 2026 ahead of the UEFA Champions League first round day 1 football match between Real Madrid and Inter Milan.

huge quantities of goals but the club has failed to win a major trophy.

On Tuesday the record 15-time European champions host Inter Milan in the Champions League in the first match of the league phase.

During Mbappe's first two years at Madrid the team has appeared unbalanced, with too many star names, including the Frenchman and Brazilian winger Vinicius Junior, widely considered not to be contributing enough to the team effort in contrast to Ousmane Dembele at Paris Saint-Germain and Raphinha at Barcelona.

"We have to improve," admitted Mbappe. "But I could play dumb and tell you that I score more goals than (Dembele and Raphinha), and that they need to score more goals to be like me."

"Everyone is different, but I want to do things intelligently and say that of course I have to improve and all that, but I don't like comparisons because I think I do a lot of things that others don't do."

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho recently said he would prefer if Mbappe scored fewer goals but also

worked hard to help the team win titles.

Mbappe said he would accept lower numbers if it led to trophies, but noted they were not mutually exclusive.

"I'd take 30 goals with titles, yes, but... for me it's an absurd debate," said Mbappe. "I always want to score goals and win titles... you don't have to choose, you can do both things."

Mourinho faces old friends
Veteran Portuguese coach Mourinho led Inter to Champions League glory in 2010 at the Santiago Bernabeu before he departed to take over at Real Madrid.

Despite his history with the Italian side, whom he steered to the treble that year, the coach said that only mattered before and after, but not during the match.

"There aren't many (people) left from my time, but it'll always be a pleasure to see people, even if I don't know them, but people who defend Inter, before and after," said Mourinho.

"During the game I want to win, they want to win, and there won't be time to think about things from a wonderful past."

Inter coach Cristian Chivu started the 2010 final playing under his opposite number on Tuesday at the Bernabeu.

"Mourinho is a special person and I was lucky to have encountered him," said Chivu, who described the Portuguese as a "winner".

"There are few in the world like him," continued the Romanian coach.

"He showed it here but at other big clubs too. I'm sure Real Madrid will have a great season."

Mourinho wants his Madrid players to bounce back from their first defeat of the season, 1-0 at Real Betis on Friday in La Liga.

"I want to win. I could tell you I want to play well, but I don't want to play well like we did against Betis and lose," added Mourinho. □

Ohtani 'unlikely' to pitch again this season, says Dodgers manager

Los Angeles, United States

Los Angeles Dodgers two-way superstar Shohei Ohtani is unlikely to pitch again this season, team manager Dave Roberts said Sunday.

The Japanese has suffered multiple injuries, missing four consecutive games this week for the first time since he joined the Dodgers in 2023.

Ohtani has not pitched in a game since July 3. He has battled inflammation and soreness, and experienced injury setbacks after bullpen throwing sessions.

Roberts on Sunday expressed hope that Ohtani

could return to the Dodgers' batting lineup as soon as Monday.

But with just three weeks remaining of the regular season, Roberts downplayed the prospect of Ohtani returning to the mound as a full-fledged starter this year.

"Obviously if you're looking at the calendar, how much he's thrown in the last week, I think we can all do the math," said Roberts. Asked if Ohtani might instead throw just an inning at a time as an opener, Roberts responded: "I think that's unlikely."

Ohtani has played a crucial role as the Dodgers have won back-to-back World Series the past two seasons, but his pitching role has been limited.

After undergoing two right elbow operations in 2023, Ohtani did not take the mound at all for the Dodgers until last June.

After a rehab-free off-season, this was meant to be the year Ohtani returned as a full-time two-way player, with the Japanese star targeting the Cy Young Award for outstanding pitching.

But that has been derailed

by injuries to his left knee, right biceps and neck.

Ohtani's batting form has

slumped in recent weeks as he has attempted to return as a pitcher. □



Shohei Ohtani #17 and Roki Sasaki #11 of the Los Angeles Dodgers look on from the dugout during the game against the Washington Nationals at Dodger Stadium on September 6, 2026 in Los Angeles, California.



PO-KÉ ONO
By Urvin Croes

TRY OUR POKES, BAOS, SUSHI, AND MORE!

Po-Ké Ono

pokeonaruba

Po-Ké Ono Azure
J.E. Irausquin Blvd 260.

Po-Ké Ono Aruba

www.pokeonoaruba.com

Po-Ké Ono Marketplace
L.G. Smith Blvd 9, Unit 25.



China's Qinwen Zheng falls to the ground as she celebrates defeating Poland's Iga Swiatek in their women's singles round of 16 tennis match on day nine of the U.S. Open tennis tournament at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York on September 7, 2026.

Comeback queen Zheng strikes again for U.S. Open quarter-final berth

New York, United States

Olympic gold medallist Zheng QinWen pulled off another incredible comeback Monday to stun six-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek and reach the U.S. Open quarter-finals.

It was one more gritty win for the Chinese star, a former world number four now ranked 121st in the wake of elbow surgery last year.

Zheng won the last seven games to stun Madison Keys in her previous match. After falling behind 5-0 in the first set against Swiatek she again reeled off seven straight.

She broke the Polish star twice in the second set to clinch the win over the player she beat in the gold medal match in Paris two years ago.

Swiatek, who fell to Zheng in the gold medal match in Paris two years ago, left the Arthur Ashe Stadium in tears.

"I guess to come back from 0-5 (Saturday) is not

lucky, that's all I can say," Zheng said after becoming the first qualifier or lucky loser to beat Swiatek at a Grand Slam.

Zheng said it took her some time to settle in on the cavernous Ashe Stadium court, noting it's been "a long, long time" since she'd been scheduled on a main show court.

"I just focus on point by point," added Zheng, who saved three set points in the opening set and with momentum on her side broke Swiatek twice in the second.

It was back to the drawing board for Swiatek in a largely disappointing year, but she insisted the sting of surrendering a 5-0 lead wouldn't linger.

"You can lose a set from any score, so nothing special about that," she said. "Just that's what happened and that's it."

Zheng is the first qualifier to reach the U.S. Open women's quarter-finals since

Emma Raducanu who went on to win the title in 2021.

She'll face either world number two Elena Rybakina or two-time U.S. Open winner Naomi Osaka for a place in the semi-finals.

Rybakina, who won her second major title at the Australian Open in January, needs just two more wins to be assured of supplanting Aryna Sabalenka atop the world rankings. She has yet to drop a set but will be stepping up in class against four-time major winner Osaka.

In other early action, fifth-seeded French Open champion Mirra Andreieva advanced with a 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 victory over Anastasia Potapova in a match marred by an injury to Potapova in the final game.

Russia's Andreieva had won her three previous matches in straight sets, but she made a sloppy start against Potapova, who was also born in Russia but now plays for Austria. □



Britain's boxer Anthony Joshua celebrates winning against Albania's boxer Kristian Prenga in their heavyweight boxing fight at the Jeddah Superdome in Jeddah on July 26, 2026.

Fury claims Joshua bout is off, calls for Usyk trilogy

London, United Kingdom

Tyson Fury claims Anthony Joshua is backing out of their much-anticipated all-British heavyweight showdown and has challenged Oleksandr Usyk to a trilogy fight. Fury and Joshua have been locked in talks over a long-awaited meeting but the "Gypsy King" is impatient at a lack of confirmation, calling his rival a "coward" last week.

The two former heavyweight world champions are expected to meet in November but the location of the fight has yet to be agreed.

In an expletive-laden video posted on Instagram, Fury, 38, claimed Joshua was pulling out of the fight.

"This will only lead me to a fight with Oleksandr Usyk," he said. "Oleksandr you're his (Joshua's) trainer and his sensei and you know he is... weak-minded... and that he would never fight the Gypsy King, which you have had the guts to do twice."

"You got the decisions last time, fair play to you. Good luck to you, let's do it again. Let's run it back in November."

"The ball is now in your court... do you want to fight me this year, 2026, or are you calling quits? Let me know because I am now looking for a new opponent."

Fury has twice lost to Usyk, a two-time undisputed heavyweight champion.

Joshua has been working with the Ukrainian's training team.

New York's Madison Square Garden was widely expected to be announced as the venue for the Fury-Joshua fight even though Joshua's camp prefer Wembley Stadium.

Sela, the Saudi state-owned promotional company financing the fight, and broadcaster Netflix are believed to favour staging the bout in the United States. □