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Boeing shares tumble after it releases cautious growth forecast



The Boeing Co. logo is displayed outside of company offices near Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in El Segundo, California on January 18, 2024.

New York, United States

Boeing shares plunged Tuesday as the company's cautious production growth timeframe surprised Wall Street, deepening questions about how fast recent plane certification and defense procurement wins will translate to the bottom line. The aviation giant ended the day down 10.7 percent, the worst performer in the Dow index, as investors reacted poorly to forecasts from Boeing leaders on a conference call.

Chief Executive Kelly Ortberg said the company does not expect 737 MAX output to reach 52 per month until the second half of 2027 as it must first "stabilize" output at 47 per month.

Raising 737 MAX output has been viewed by investors as central to revenue and profit growth. But Ortberg, who joined Boeing in the aftermath of safety disasters, defended the approach.

"We're making progress, but we still have more work to do, and I'm expecting it'll take us into next year to get fully stable at this rate," Ortberg said of the 47 planes

per month, citing the need for greater predictability in wing production and with the production of fuselages at its Kansas operation.

"It's more important that we do this ramp right than what particular month we achieve a rate break," Ortberg said. Ortberg also put a timeframe on when the company will achieve \$10 billion in annual free cash flow, saying it will reach the key target of financial health in 2029.

After Ortberg gave this timeframe, shares fell further, suggesting analysts had expected a quicker pace.

"Everybody wants us to go faster. I get that, but we're going to stay disciplined as we ramp up here," Ortberg said.

Ortberg joined Boeing as CEO in August 2024 as the company struggled to move past a pair of deadly 737 MAX crashes and a near-catastrophic 737 MAX flight in January 2024 in which a window blew out mid-flight. The company at the time faced criticism that the problems stemmed from a culture that chased quick payoffs while shortchanging safety. Boeing is making "slow but steady" progress, aviation expert Richard Aboulafia of AeroDynamic Advisory said in an email to AFP. "But the supply chain remains a major concern and one that's only partly in Boeing's control."

- Smaller loss -

Ortberg's comments came as Boeing reported a third-quarter loss of \$116 million, compared with a loss of \$5.3 billion in the year-ago period mostly from delays to certification of the 777X, the

latest generation in Boeing's long-range, wide-body commercial jet family.

The results translated into a larger earnings-per-share loss than analysts expected, but shares did not move significantly after the earnings press release was published. Ortberg cited the Federal Aviation Administration's certification of the 737 MAX 7 and 737 MAX 10 as well as a "transformational" Pentagon award for the US Navy's next-generation fighter jets as evidence of momentum. Revenues rose four percent to \$24.2 billion behind increased deliveries in its defense, space and security business and higher sales in Boeing Global Services.

Revenues for commercial aircraft dipped from the year-ago period, with it delivering 161 aircraft in the quarter, just one more than in the 2025 period.

Boeing executives expressed confidence the much-delayed 777X would be certified in 2027, projecting deliveries of between 10 and 15 next year of that aircraft. "We're providing this with confidence that the team's ready to go execute," Ortberg said of the latest targets.

Ortberg expects free cash flow to gradually grow from about \$2 billion in 2026 to \$6 billion in 2028 to \$10 billion in 2029 and higher levels after that.

"As I mentioned, over the last two years, we've made exceptional progress restoring trust, retiring risk, and transforming our culture and rebuilding the foundation of safety and quality that will help ensure durable success," he said.

"We have also been deliberate about not getting ahead of ourselves, given the range of outcomes tied to the production ramp, certification timing, and other critical program execution," he said. "But we appreciate that it's been difficult for share owners to assess how our progress will translate into financial performance. We're now at a point where the range of outcomes is narrowing." □



Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates Lana Nusseibeh attends a meeting with foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council Member States (GCC) and the US Secretary of State, in Manama on June 25, 2026.

Rights groups reject Emirati diplomat for U.N. top job

United Nations, United States

Several human rights groups on Tuesday urged countries to reject Emirati official Lana Nusseibeh for the UN's top job, over United Arab Emirates' alleged financing of paramilitary forces in Sudan.

The 48-year-old Nusseibeh is vying to become the first woman and only the second Arab to become the United Nations secretary-general.

Since her official nomination last week, she has garnered the backing of Gulf states but also faced scrutiny over her country's normalization with Israel and Abu Dhabi's alleged role in Sudan's war.

Sudan has been engulfed in war between the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) since 2023, with UAE accused of funding the militants, an accusation the country denies.

"I think that Lana Nusseibeh is utterly inappropriate as a candidate for U.N. Secretary General," Ken Roth, head of Human Rights Watch, told journalists.

"Not just once, but repeatedly she has been asked about the UAE's role in arming and supporting the RSF and she just blatantly denies it without regard to the facts," he added.

On Tuesday, Nusseibeh said she has taken "a leave of absence from my post as a minister of the UAE" to be "mindful of the obligations of independence" the role would entail, adding that "the horrific conflict in Sudan will be the litmus test of the success of an incoming Secretary General."

Kate Ferguson, co-director of the British NGO Protection Approaches, also raised concerns. "There is not, as far as I have seen, sufficient evidence that this candidate is independent from the state from which she comes," she said.

Secretary-general candidates are supposed to be independent from the governments of their home countries given that they are to lead an international body. Nusseibeh is seasoned diplomat who has also served as the UAE's permanent representative to the UN from 2013 to 2024, the first woman to hold the post.

Speaking on Sudan, specifically, Nusseibeh said "the loss of human life on the ground is a tragedy."

"The atrocities committed by the RSF are atrocious, and I would support the work of all UN fact-finding missions for accountability and transitional justice," she said, adding the first thing the global organization must do "is stop the conflict." □



Greenhouse gas levels hit new record highs in 2025: U.N.

Geneva, Switzerland

Greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere rose to new record highs in 2025, locking in climate impacts that will persist for centuries to come, the United Nations said Tuesday. Levels of the three main greenhouse gases -- the climate-warming carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide -- all rose to unprecedented figures in 2025, the UN's weather and climate agency said.

The World Meteorological Organization said the rise would lead to more long-term temperature increases for the planet.

The WMO's 22nd annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin comes ahead of the COP31 UN climate summit in Antalya, Turkey, running from November 9 to 20.

"Another year, another new record," said WMO deputy secretary-general Ko Barrett.

"Greenhouse gases are trapping an unprecedented amount of heat in the atmosphere, providing energy for more extreme weather and associated risks to our economies and societies.

"The past 11 years have been the warmest on record and this trend is set to continue. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) has a very long lifetime and so will affect the global climate not just for years but for decades and even centuries."

- El Nino effect -

The bulletin looks at greenhouse gas concentrations -- the amount of those gases in the atmosphere -- rather than new annual emissions amounts as the world burns more coal, oil and gas.

In 2025, carbon dioxide concentrations were at 426.8 parts per million (ppm); methane at 1,948 parts per billion, and nitrous oxide at 339.1 parts per billion.

That takes them respectively to 153 percent, 267 percent and 126 percent of the pre-industrial levels witnessed before 1750.

Of the three major greenhouse gases, CO₂ accounts for about 66 percent of the warming effect



Emissions spew from a large stack at the coal fired Brandon Shores Power Plant, on March 9, 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland.

on the climate.

Around half of the total CO₂ emitted each year remains in the atmosphere; the rest is absorbed by the land and oceans.

From 2024 to 2025, the global average concentration of CO₂ rose by 2.8 ppm -- smaller than the record surge from 2023 to 2024 of 3.6 ppm.

WMO senior scientific officer Oksana Tarasova said this reflected the "recovery of the land carbon sinks and reduced fire carbon emissions in 2025 after the strong 2023/2024 El Nino", the naturally-occurring, climate-warming weather phenomenon.

It is also above the average growth rate over the past decade of 2.6 ppm -- a figure that stood at 0.8 ppm in the 1960s.

Monitoring station data shows that that CO₂ levels have continued rising in 2026.

"Every additional part per million matters because it traps additional heat," Barrett told reporters.

"In effect, we are supercharging the ocean and the atmosphere. That means that heatwaves, tropical cyclones, and rainstorms are intensifying faster than our historical baselines prepared us for."

- Growing concerns over

H₂, SF₆ -

Methane accounts for about 16 percent of the warming effect on the climate by long-lived greenhouse gases, though it has a much shorter lifetime than CO₂.

Around a third of methane emitted into the atmosphere comes from natural sources like wetlands, with the rest from anthropogenic sources such as cattle, rice farming, landfills and biomass burning.

The bulletin said that as countries shift their energy systems towards decarbonisation, more attention should be paid to two potent but less abundant trace gases closely related to electricity production and distribution: molecular hydrogen (H₂) and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). □



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Stop-motion 'Wildwood' showcases 'human creativity' in AI age

Los Angeles, United States
After a murder of crows kidnaps her little brother, a young girl ventures into an enchanted forest filled with talking animals and other magical beings, where a looming war will decide everyone's fate.

This is the fanciful tale told in "Wildwood," from the stop-motion animation studio Laika an ambitious project that took 16 years to make it to the big screen, and already a frontrunner for next year's Oscars.

"To put that in perspective, 16 years ago, Barack (Obama) was then a fresh-faced president in his very first term. Oh, it was a better time, my friends," director Travis Knight said at the film's premiere in Los Angeles.

"This movie exists because hundreds and hundreds of people poured years of their lives into trying to tell the most beautiful story that they could using their hands, using their imagination," Knight explained in an interview with AFP. "That is something that computers can't do," added the filmmaker, who is also the CEO of Laika, the



Travis Knight speaks onstage at the Wildwood Q&A during the 29th SCAD Savannah Film Festival on October 26, 2026 in Savannah, Georgia.

U.S. studio behind "Coraline."

In the age of artificial intelligence, Knight extols the virtues of stop-motion, an animation technique in which the movements of tiny physical objects are captured one frame at a time, to create the effect of fluid motion when played back. "It is a celebration of humanity because what you're seeing in this film is human creativity, human

artistry, human effort on a grand scale," he said.

"Computers can try to emulate things that we've gone through, but a computer has never felt loss. It's never felt joy. It hasn't fallen in love. It hasn't had its heart broken."

- 'Universal' -

"Wildwood" is the story of Prue McKeel (Peyton Elizabeth Lee) and her quest to rescue her brother, who has been taken by the

crows into the Impassable Wilderness or the forests outside Portland, Oregon, which are hidden from mere mortals.

Along with her friend Curtis (Jacob Tremblay), Prue discovers a fantastic world, but one in which ambition and grief are fueling discord that could erupt in conflict.

"It is a big sweeping fantasy story," Knight said. "But it also is an exploration of mature themes and profound

emotional things that everyone goes through at various times in their lives." Lee told AFP that Prue's journey resonated for her, and recalled some of her own challenges in adolescence.

"I didn't go into a magical forest," Lee joked, but said she did understand "that idea of being a young person that feels so mature and so grown up, and feels like they have a really firm grasp on the world and reality, and then it's sort of all put into question." "And all of a sudden, you have to rethink everything," she added.

Tremblay also said he could identify with Curtis, who tries to emulate the courage he sees in his favorite comic book and game characters. The actors whose voices are featured in the film also helped shape how their characters move. Their gestures were filmed as they recorded their lines, so that animators could incorporate those mannerisms into the movie.

Angela Bassett, Carey Mulligan, Mahershala Ali and Awkwafina are all part of the cast.

For its technical team, "Wildwood" marks a milestone in terms of the expressions created, and the menagerie of animals featured.

"Every film we've done has been R and D (research and development) for the next one," said animation supervisor Brad Schiff, who explained that the subtleties in facial movement achieved were impossible just a few years ago.

The film, inspired by Colin Meloy's book of the same name, is an ode to Portland, where Laika is based. "It is a very specific place," said Knight, who lives in the Pacific Northwest city.

"The more specific, the more intimate you make something, ultimately the more universal it becomes." □

Jay-Z to perform at Super Bowl LXI halftime show: NFL

Los Angeles, United States
Rapper Jay-Z will perform at the Super Bowl LXI halftime show this February in Los Angeles, the NFL announced Monday. Jay-Z's Roc Nation entertainment company has produced the star-packed Super Bowl halftime show each year since 2020, selecting the headliners, but the hip-hop mogul has not previously performed himself at the event.

"When we first reached an agreement with Roc Nation to produce the show, I had just one request: that Jay-Z take the stage himself one day, whenever the moment felt right to him," NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said in a joint statement.

"I couldn't be more excited for fans around the

world to experience the artistry, creativity and cultural impact he will bring to the Super Bowl stage."

The announcement did not specify whether Jay-Z would be the sole head-

liner.

It came after Jay-Z who is married to pop megastar Beyonce performed two shows last weekend at Los Angeles' SoFi Stadium, which will serve as the ven-

ue for the Super Bowl on February 14.

Those gigs served as the culmination for a year-long tour celebrating the 30th anniversary of his debut album "Reasonable Doubt."

"From 'Reasonable Doubt' to standing on the Super Bowl halftime stage, this has been a journey," said Jay-Z, whose real name is Shawn Carter.

"Thirty years of music, work, and culture on the world's biggest stage. This run continues to be a dream come true."

In an indication of the level of star power Jay-Z could potentially bring with him to the halftime spectacular, he was joined on-stage in Los Angeles by John Legend, DJ Khaled, Dr Dre and Snoop Dogg. □



Jay-Z attends the FIFA World Cup 2026 Round of 16 match between Brazil and Norway at New York New Jersey Stadium on July 05, 2026 in East Rutherford, New Jersey.



Britain's King Charles III, delivers a speech at Aberfan and Merthyr Vale Community Centre, in Wales on October 21, 2026, marking the 60th anniversary of the Aberfan disaster in which 144 people lost their lives when a colliery spoil tip collapsed

Charles to tackle thorny legacy of slavery on Caribbean trip

Nassau, Bahamas

King Charles III began a Caribbean tour in the Bahamas Tuesday where he is expected to "acknowledge the great suffering of the past" in the face of pressure to apologize for the slave trade.

The 77-year-old king, who is receiving treatment for an undisclosed form of cancer, will also highlight climate threats facing low-lying islands during the visit to three countries in nine days. He will first make solo visits to the Bahamas and Guyana, before being joined by his wife, Queen Camilla, for the final leg in Antigua and Barbuda, where he will address a Commonwealth heads of government (CHOGM) summit.

On the first stop in the Bahamas, Charles is expected to say "some of what is best in Bahamian culture today, the most joyful, the most hopeful, the most bright, was born out of darkness." "(It is) only right that we should acknowledge the great suffering of the past in these islands and beyond, even as we rejoice in the successes of the present, and build new opportunities for the future," he is expected to add at a youth rally.

Several of the former colo-

nies have demanded the king take a new step toward making amends for colonization and the transatlantic slave trade, from which his ancestors profited for centuries.

Last month Jamaica where Charles remains head of state filed a petition in an appeals court in London "to advance Jamaica's push for reparations for the African ancestors who suffered under hundreds of years of enslavement".

Charles has previously called slavery the "darkest days" of British history, and will address colonial issues at each stage of the trip.

Few in royal circles will have forgotten a turbulent 2022 trip to Jamaica by Prince William, when he and Princess Catherine were met with anti-monarchy protests and calls for reparations. Guyana's President Irfaan Ali, who is to meet with Charles during the visit, told ITV News the king's recognition of the "darkest days" was just the "first step".

"Now, moving to the apology is the next step," said Ali, demanding accountability from the former empire which he said "exploited the region", "destroyed lives" and "created underdevelopment".

Modern monarchs have to various degrees expressed remorse for Britain's central role in chattel slavery, but none has yet formally apologized. The debt-laden UK government has balked at the idea of financial compensation.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey told Sky News ahead of the government meeting from November 1 to 4, that it "wouldn't hurt" for the king to apologize. Botchwey also said the "time has come" to discuss reparations, in the form of financial payments or otherwise.

- Climate resilience -

Buckingham Palace has insisted the tour is an opportunity for the king to look forward, meet young people and discuss pressing issues like climate change. On arrival Tuesday in the Bahamas, Charles is also expected to highlight the particular facing low-lying islands face from climate change, saying that, "our world cries out for healing." According to Botchwey, the Commonwealth, which includes 56 member countries with the king at its helm, is an important anchor in a "world that is almost spinning out of control". □



Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi speaks during the Board of Governor's Meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria on September 14, 2026.

U.N. nuclear watchdog chief urges Iran to grant

United Nations, United States

IAEA chief Rafael Grossi urged Iran during a UN Security Council meeting on Tuesday to grant immediate access to his agency so it can verify the Islamic republic's nuclear materials.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has not had access to key nuclear facilities in Iran since Israel, joined by the United States, launched a 12-day conflict in June 2025 that included strikes on nuclear sites.

Nuclear facilities have also been hit in the latest war, which erupted on February 28, and the IAEA has repeatedly called for access.

"I invite Iran to work with the IAEA without any further delay to clarify outstanding safeguards questions and to give the IAEA the information and access the agency requires, so that it can verify all relevant facilities and material, as is Iran's legal obligation," Grossi said.

The Security Council meeting followed a resolution passed by the IAEA board last month that referred Iran to the top U.N. body over its nuclear "non-compliance." The resolution, submitted by Britain, France, Germany and the United States, marks the first time Iran has been referred to the Security Council in 20 years for failing to comply with its nuclear reporting obligations.

The move has been seen as largely symbolic as China and Russia hold power to veto any sanctions against their ally Tehran. Both countries were joined by Niger in voting against the IAEA resolution.

Iran's U.N. representative, Amir Saeid Iravani, called out the Security Council's "silence" regarding the U.S.-Israeli strikes against his country.

"Today's meeting is an illustration of an established double standard in which the aggressor is shielded with impunity, the victim is placed under criticism, and the language of non-proliferation is cynically appropriated to advance geopolitical objectives," he said.

Before the June 2025 strikes, the IAEA calculated that Iran possessed approximately 440 kilograms of uranium enriched to 60 percent, which is close to the 90 percent needed to make a bomb and well above the 3.67-percent limit set by a 2015 now-defunct agreement with Iran.

Since June 2025, the fate of the stockpile has remained uncertain.

U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly threatened to renew strikes against Iran, possibly after the midterm elections next week. □

Dutch broadcaster pulls out of Eurovision over Israel 'sensitivities'

The Hague, Netherlands

The Netherlands will not participate in next year's Eurovision Song Contest, its public broadcaster NPO said Tuesday, citing "sensitivities" over Israel's participation.

The Dutch withdrawal is the latest in a series of boycotts from countries unhappy at Israel's inclusion in the annual music festival, given its military campaign in Gaza sparked by the October 7 Hamas attacks.

"We have known for some time that Israel's participation elicits various reactions in society and causes discussion and division," said Jurre Bosman, NPO's media director, in a statement. "Therefore, after consultation with the Board of Broadcasters, the NPO has decided to forgo participation in 2027," added Bosman.

The Dutch decision brings to an end a series of flip-flops over its participation, highlighting the divisive nature of the debate in the country and more broadly. In August, the AVROTROS broadcaster, which selects the Dutch entry and broad-



Bulgarian singer Dara performs during a concert in front of National Gallery of Art after winning the Eurovision Song Contest with her song "Bangaranga" in Sofia on May 19, 2026.

casts the show, had pulled out, saying the event can "no longer be considered neutral" given divisions over the Gaza war.

But a month later, NPO stepped in to replace AVROTROS, saying it would take on the responsibility, only to reverse course with its decision on Tuesday.

Jet de Ranitz, NPO's executive chairman, acknowl-

edged their decision would disappoint many Dutch Eurovision fans and stressed that the contest would still be aired on the public channels.

However, De Ranitz said: "We must conclude that it is currently too early to participate in the Eurovision Song Contest in 2027."

"Due to the sensitivities sur-

rounding the themes currently at play, we have decided to take a step back for the time being," added De Ranitz.

- 'Bangaranga' -

In August, organisers announced they were excluding any country involved in an armed conflict from hosting the competition.

But that has not prevented

withdrawals, with Ireland already announcing they will not take part and the head of the Spanish public broadcaster also coming out in favour of a boycott. Earlier this month, the Czech public broadcaster pulled out, but cited spending cuts as the reason.

Next year's contest, the world's biggest live televised music event, will take place on May 15 in Bulgaria's Black Sea city of Burgas.

It will be the first time the Balkan nation has hosted the contest, coming after Bulgarian singer Darina Yotova, known as Dara, won this year's contest in the Austrian capital Vienna with the catchy floor-filler "Bangaranga".

Since its launch in 1955, Eurovision has become the ultimate pop platform, catapulting Swedish icons ABBA to worldwide fame, as well as boosting the likes of Celine Dion, Cliff Richard and Olivia Newton-John.

The 2026 competition was watched by 131 million viewers, down 35 million from the year before after five countries boycotted it over Israel's participation. □

Pakistan's last antique restorers give old treasures new life

Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Sitting outside his small shop in a warren of alleyways in the ancient Pakistani city of Rawalpindi, Ahsan Shakeel buffed an antique brass pot to a high shine, pressing it against a mechanised wheel.

"We've removed all the dents, but it still needs pol-

ishing," the 72-year-old restorer, among the last still practising his craft, told AFP as the spinning buffer sent fine metal dust into the air.

Quitting a job as a hotel cook, Shakeel followed in his father's footsteps to become an antiques restorer, opening his workshop in

the Bhabra Bazaar market in densely populated Rawalpindi in 1980.

Today, he is one of the last master restorers preserving antique metalware in Pakistan.

Rawalpindi's roots stretch back to prehistoric human settlements and over centuries the garrison city evolved into a major commercial hub where metalcraft from the Mughal and British colonial periods converged.

Moving inside his shop, Shakeel navigated wall-to-wall shelves stacked with centuries-old ewer jugs, samovars for boiling, dishes, jars and teapots, most of which were made of copper or brass.

He took down various items and enthusiastically explained to AFP their materials and origins.

The vintage items are now

increasingly rare in the modern era in which they have been replaced by stainless steel and plastic kitchenware.

"I used to travel everywhere, Lahore, Gujranwala, Karachi, back and forth (to purchase antiques)," he said.

- 'Life back into the dead' -

Shakeel procures the items he restores mostly from scrap yards, ports, or household clearances.

"Often, the condition of the items is so bad that no one would buy them," he said.

The shop owner and his colleague Shakeel Ahmed restore the battered items by hammering out dents, re-tinning the interiors over coal fires, and polishing the metal. A badly damaged item could take a few days to fix.

After restoration, a piece can sell between \$100 and \$1,000. Shakeel's customers are mostly collectors or antique enthusiasts, including foreigners.

Today, he mostly relies on online platforms and messaging applications to buy and sell antiques.

"I don't have the same health anymore, so I travel less," he said.

Prices for antiques are on the increase but the number of customers has fallen over time, Shakeel said.

"The money doesn't turn over quickly in this business. It's a very slow trade," he said.

"Customers who still exist, they are not many. They collect these things because they understand these items. Those who don't understand them would think it's all useless," Shakeel added. □



Antique dealer Shakeel Ahmed works on an artefact at his restoration workshop in Rawalpindi on October 20, 2026.

Another treasure of Aruba's beaches: Sea Glass!

(Oranjestad)—It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process.

It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass.

The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass.



The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges.

Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds

of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass.

Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown, green and clear glass.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day!

Even if we didn't mean to

pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! □

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



(Oranjestad)—One of the most famous Aruban snacks or appetizers is "funchi hasa" (fried polenta sticks), a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Before we start, get to know the basics

What is funchi hasa? Funchi, or Aruban polenta, is a popular side dish

for local dishes, like soups, stews and fried fish. Made from a corn flour, water and butter mixture, this appetizer is traditionally eaten alongside a warm meal. However, locals also like to fry sticks of funchi for a quick and filling snack.

Ingredients (measured by heart)

1. Polenta flour/Funchi flour
2. Water
3. Butter
4. Salt to taste

Directions

Bring water to a boil in a medium-sized sauce pan. Add in some salt and butter to taste in the boiling water and let this dissolve and melt. Then, gradually add the flour

while stirring with a wooden spoon. The mixture will start to begin to harden pretty fast, so be careful not to add too much. At this phase of cooking, you want a goopy thick mixture, but thin enough so you can continue to stir to get all the lumps out.

After reaching a semi-firm, yet flexible texture, grab a baking pan or any large, deep plate, and pour the mixture in. Be sure that this plate is wet or greased so that the mixture does not stick to the bottom. Let this cool completely while it firms up for the last time. Once it's cooled you can enjoy it as is, topped with some butter or shredded cheese. Or, you can take it to



another level of deliciousness.

When your funchi is firm enough, cut it into strips (size is up to you). Heat up some oil in a pan and fry those babies up! After frying, you can top it with some cheese or enjoy it with your favorite dipping sauce.

Photo credit of fried funchi sticks: Jacqueline Felida on Pinterest.

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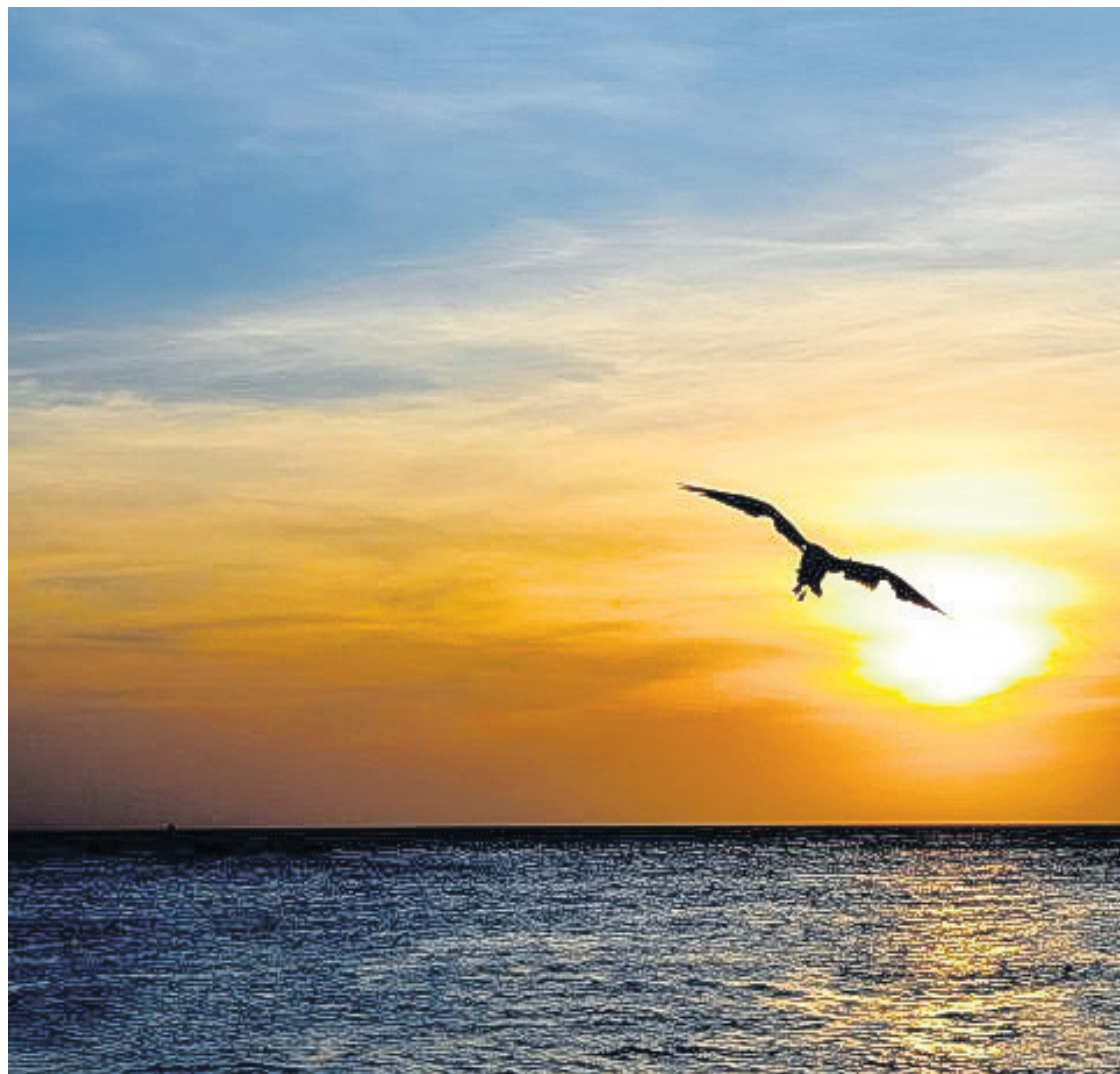
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A castaway's haul of coconut shrimp, beer battered fresh fish & crispy calamari.

Disclaimer: specials are subject to change without prior notice.



Best spots to view the sunset



(Oranjestad)—What can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset? Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House

Of course, being one of the highest points easily accessible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breathtaking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach

Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either Manchebo Beach or at Eagle Beach, which stretch along the entire western coast of the island. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!

Arashi Beach

Another beach that has to be considered as another great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for

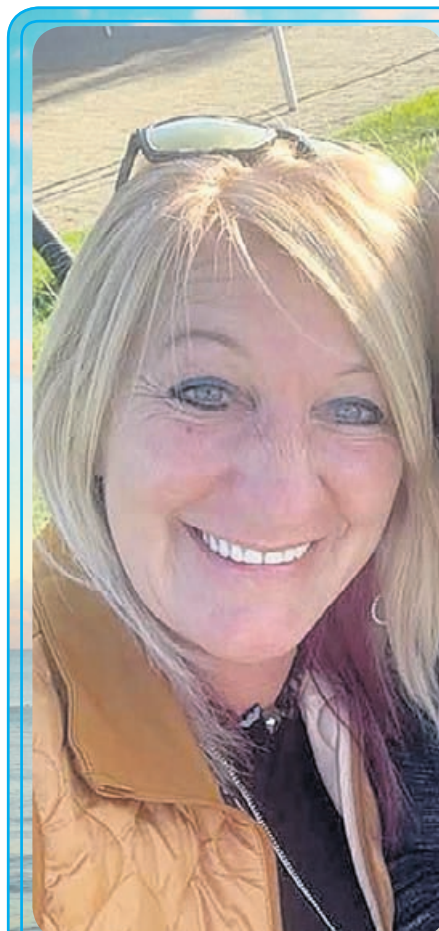
miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple

Hooiberg Hill

These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to get your daily workout in and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation

If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back. hue.□



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to
Katie Brienza!

(Oranjestad)—Recently, a little bird told Aruba Today that today is Katie Brienza's birthday. Congratulations, Katie!

Hailing from New York, Katie is currently visiting Aruba along with her husband Billy and grandson Julian, as well as her brother and sister-in-law Lucia. Today marks a "milestone birthday" as Lucia told Aruba Today, celebrating her 60th birthday alongside friends and family.

Besides being her birthday, Katie is a long-time friend of Aruba, so the Aruba Today would like to give a special shout-out today. Happy Birthday Katie; we wish you all the best. Thank you for being a faithful visitor to Aruba. We hope you and your family have the best time today!□

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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 BarHow to plan the most relaxing vacation on Aruba
because sometimes we all just need a minute...

(Oranjestad)—Taking a trip to a Caribbean island can be very exciting, especially if it's a completely different environment to what you're used to. While Aruba is known to have many attractions to fill up your itinerary, the island is also a great vacation destination to just sit back and disconnect from everyday life. Here's how to plan the perfect "chillcation" on Aruba.

Step 1: Commit to unplugging



We live in a highly digital world where everyone has a smart phone. We are constantly engaged with the online world through text messages, emails and social media content. It can be addicting for some, which is why the first step to taking the most relaxing vacation is a commitment to unplugging from the online world. We recommend

you set an auto-reply for emails and phone calls, as well as silencing non-urgent groupchat conversations and social media notifications. In Aruba you should be kicking your feet up with a cold, refreshing drink in hand—not your work laptop!

Step 2: Choose a quieter resort



These are usually the smaller ones. Some hotels even offer an all-inclusive experience so you don't have to worry about cooking. But if you want a taste of authentic Aruban cuisine, of course there are many spots you can go to get a hearty stew, fresh fried fish and funchi (polenta)—just ask a local! While Aruba remains a family-friendly destination, there are some hotels exclusive for adults. For singles and couples, 'adults-only' resorts like Bucuti & Tara could be a better option for

a quieter vacation.

Step 3: Plan an itinerary with relaxation as top priority



Of course while you're here, you're not going to want to miss out on what Aruba has to offer—the sites, the trips, the activities. So, do some research before hand and plan your itinerary with some of the things you REALLY want to experience. At the same time, leave a couple days empty; this is where you'll be taking your sweet time just enjoying your vacation. Sleep in, have a long breakfast by the beach or have a refreshing dip in the ocean—just kick back, relax and enjoy the moment! You could also try going to some spa centers, like the Purun Spa in Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, the eforea spa at Hilton Aruba Ca-

ribbean Resort and Casino, The Spa at Tierra del Sol or A Taste of Heaven at the Costa Linda Beach resort!

Step 4: Take a breath



While you're taking it easy, take a moment to reflect on yourself too. Life gets busy sometimes and we all lose track once in a while, but it's important to always come back to you! And sometimes this means getting away—for a few days—from your every day work and obligations. With that cool drink in hand and your feet in the sand, remember how beautiful life is and how lucky we all are to have people in our lives to share our most special moments with.

For us, we could only hope that Aruba is a part of those special moments too! ☐

Adriaan Lacle: One of Aruba's richest men in the twentieth century



(Oranjestad)—The name Adriaan Lacle may ring a bell to locals as one of the main roads on the island, but about a century ago, Adriaan Lacle was a rich businessman, well-known for his generosity, wealth, and taste.

Adriaan was born in 1866 and was the eldest of six children. Not much is known about his childhood upbringing or any of his earlier business ordeals, but during his hay day he often

helped people get loans, was a well-established trader, and owned several plots of land. In fact, he commissioned the construction of the famous La Quinta Carmen manor—now a restaurant. Though he himself never lived in the beautiful manor, his own house also reflected his success and good taste. Currently, renovations are taking place to restore the Lacle house. It can found in the back streets of main street Oranjestad.

Regarding his personal life, it has been said that he was married twice during his lifetime. He had his first daughter during his first marriage but lost his wife soon after her birth. During his second marriage, he fathered 16 children. However, it has been said that only 11 of those 17 made it past 18 years of age. Perhaps two of his most well-known daughters are Maria Monica Lacle and Maria Veneranda Lacle, who went on to marry successful brothers Eloy

Arends and Maximilian Arends, respectively. Their houses are still standing; Eloy and Maria Monica's mansion functions as the townhall, used to host civil marriages, while Maximilian and Maria Veneranda's house stands on the opposite side of the road to them—though currently under renovation after years left in ruin. ☐

Source: De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba) by Evert Bongers.



Article by Etnia Nativa

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Episode CCCLXXV -375

The Island That Forgot How to Read Itself

Continuing the conversation begun in "The Aruba We Inherited, the Aruba We Leave Behind" (Episode CCCLXXIV, 374).

We become familiar with a place long before we truly understand it. We recognize Aruba's roads, divi-divi trees, cacti, and rock formations, yet familiarity can create the illusion of knowledge. But, familiarity is not understanding.

A landscape becomes more than scenery when we learn to interpret it—to ask why things grow where they do, how the land has shaped human choices, and what it reveals about the relationship between people and their environment.

Consider the cactus. We recognize it as a symbol of Aruba's arid landscape, but looking closer reveals a lesson in adaptation, biodiversity, and survival. The cactus has not changed. Our understanding of it has. The difference is not in what we see, but in what we have learned to discern.

The same applies to a traditional cunucu house, an old place name, a stone formation, or a path through the countryside. Each holds clues to how people understood their surroundings, used available resources, and adapted to the island's conditions.

The challenge is to move beyond recognition and begin asking questions. Why was a house built that way? What can a place name reveal about its history? How did earlier generations learn to live with limited water and natural resources?

Such questions transform familiar surroundings into opportunities for discovery. Yet modern life often encourages us to move quickly, photograph places, and recognize landmarks without exploring their deeper meaning. We can see Aruba every day without becoming more knowledgeable about it.

Learning to interpret our surroundings is about more than curiosity. It can inform how we approach water scarcity, biodiversity, land use, and development. Traditional knowledge offers valuable observations, while modern science helps us investigate, test, and expand our understanding. Both require us to remain curious, examine evidence, and question what we assume to know.

To read a landscape is not to assume we already understand it. It is to observe carefully, recognize the limits of our knowledge, and remain willing to learn. This is where education can make a difference. Can we teach children to read a landscape as attentively as they read a page—to recognize native plants, investigate place names, understand traditional building methods, and explore how Aruba's natural conditions have shaped its people? Because learning to understand an island begins with learning how to look at it differently. Can we teach children to read a landscape as attentively as they read a page? Can they learn to



identify native plants, investigate the origins of place names, explore traditional building methods, and understand how Aruba's natural conditions have shaped its people? Imagine an outdoor lesson in which a cactus introduces adaptation and biodiversity, a walk through the countryside reveals the relationship between geography and settlement, or an old cunucu house inspires questions about materials, climate, and human ingenuity.

Such experiences teach more than facts about Aruba. They cultivate a way of thinking: observing closely, questioning assumptions, connecting evidence, and seeking explanations. And learning should not end with childhood. Adults, too, can become so accustomed to their surroundings that they stop questioning what they see. Curiosity has no age limit; it requires only the willingness to look again.

A society that learns to interpret its environment is better equipped to make informed decisions. It can approach development with greater understanding, consider environmental challenges more thoughtfully, and recognize how choices about the island affect the natural systems that sustain life.

This does not mean that every land-

scape feature holds a hidden message or that every traditional practice offers a ready-made solution to modern problems. It means that careful observation raises better questions, while knowledge helps us seek meaningful answers.

Perhaps this is the distinction we need to recover: not merely to recognize the island, but to learn how to read it. Aruba does not have to change for us to discover something new about it. Sometimes, what must change is the depth of our attention.

A cactus becomes more than a familiar plant. A stone formation becomes more than a feature of the terrain. An old path becomes an invitation to explore the relationship between geography and human experience.

The island is not silent. We may simply have become less practiced at asking it questions.

Perhaps the challenge is not how much we know about Aruba, but how willing we are to keep learning from it.

Because there is a difference between living on an island and knowing how to read it. □

Come curious. Leave connected.
Discover Etnia Nativa.
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or etnianativa03@gmail.com

Snakes of Aruba

Arikok National Park is home to various unique plant and animal species such as Aruba's rare endemic rattlesnake *Crotalus unicolor*). This rattlesnake is locally known as the 'Cascabel'. But Aruba has two more snake species living on the island: the Santanero and the Boa.

Cascabel (*Crotalus unicolor*)

The small Cascabel or Aruba Island Rattlesnake averages 70 cm in length. The body color is often uniform gray or light brown. There may be a faint pattern of diamond shaped markings on the back. This pattern is most noticeable on younger snakes. The most distinctive feature of this snake is the rattle at the end of its tail which makes a buzzing sound when the snake is alarmed. Cascabels are shy and not aggres-

CASCABEL
(*Crotalus unicolor*)



SANTANERO
(*Leptodeira bakeri*)



BOA
(*Boa constrictor*)



sive, but their venom can be dangerous to humans. It is best to leave this snake alone. Do not attempt to catch or kill it.

Cascabels hunt by waiting under bushes and fruiting trees to catch passing lizards, mice, rats, small rabbits, and an occasional bird. This is often considered to be one of the rarest rattlesnakes in the world. The range of the Cascabel is restricted to the rugged and mountainous areas of the island mostly within Arikok National Park. The Arikok National Park was designated in the early 1980s to include most of the rattlesnake's population, providing a safe refuge in which the snake can be protected and monitored. The government has also implemented outreach and education initiatives to change local perception of the snake and highlight its ecological and economic importance – it is now being promoted as a national symbol.

Arikok's partnership with the Toledo zoo has safeguarded the rattlesnake ex-situ and led to a number of research projects collecting critical data on the Cascabel's abundance, life history and habitat requirement to help guide future conservation efforts.

Santanero

The slender Santanero or Aruban Cat-eyed Snake is typically less than 50 cm long. This snake is recognizable by the large scales on the top of its head and by its pattern of dark brown bands alternating with light brown bands. The belly is plain white or cream colored without any markings. This snake is shy and not aggressive. How-

ever, it has enlarged teeth at the back of its mouth and mild venom which is not dangerous to humans. However, the venom can paralyze small lizards and frogs. Santaneros are most active at night when they search for food. During the day, they hide under rocks or leaves. They frequently climb trees and cactus. Santaneros eat toads, frogs, insects, and lizards. You may find Santaneros near dams during periods of rainy weather or crossing roads at night. This snake is found island wide. A Santanero in your garden will keep away the unwanted insects. If you encounter a Santanero around your garden, please do not harm this species.

Boa (*Boa constrictor*)

Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. Newborn Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly is white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly. Boas are a non-native species. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all types of habitats. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1. Interstellar emitting star cloud
7.

DOWN

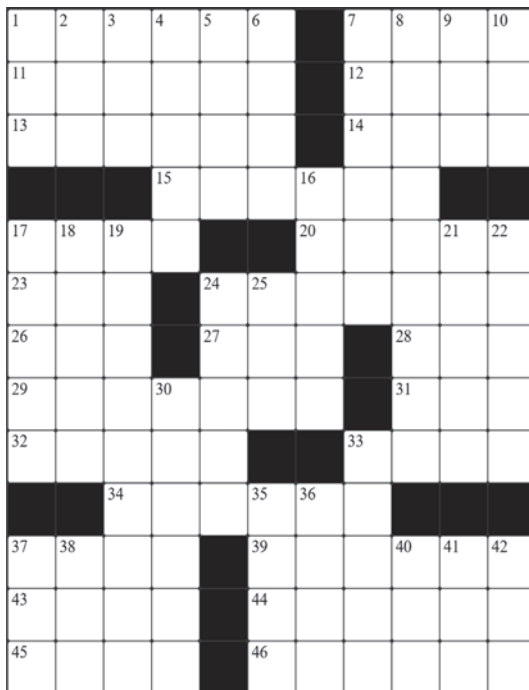
11. Starting bid
12. This is one
13. Writer
Defoe
14. Gift-wrapping need
15. Line about 23° from the equator
17. Physics amount
20. Egyptian crosses
23. -- Dhabi
24. Relinquish
26. Fist bump
27. Brynner of "The King and I"
28. Refiner's supply
29. Eroded
31. Depressed
32. French thanks
33. Lairs
34. Sweet drink
37. Physics topic
39. Plaza resident of children's books
43. Act the nomad
44. Fan
45. Nasty

DOWN

1. Silent assent
2. Clean Water Act org.
3. Stiller of films
4. Pecks and pounds
5. Lewd look
6. Singer
Guthrie
7. Stage work
8. High-gravity phenomenon
9. Trophy
10. Look upon
16. Sao --
17. Sir's counterpart
18. Ease up
19. Exploding star
21. Canadian native
22. Gushes forth
24. Jaded type
25. Ump's call
30. Old suppliers
33. Salivate
35. Maryland player, for short
36. Noted baseball family name
37. Radius's place
38. Low digit
40. "-- not for me to say"
41. Yacht spot
42. Mess up



Yesterday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR

is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for 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.

10-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

Z A G S A C C F K J B , T O M A B ' C

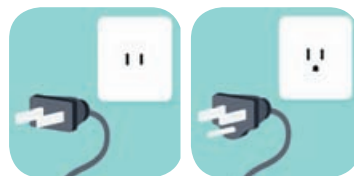
R Y B K X K R B K I T U S A B

C E S S B . -- C T M A S M S Z T O S X

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: OCTOBER IS A HALLELUJAH! REVERBERATING IN MY BODY YEAR-ROUND. --- JOHN NICHOLS

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

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



Electrical power

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

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or

10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE	
OCTOBER	
26 MON	MSC POESIA Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 18:00 Berth: C
27 TUE	CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 18:00 Berth: B CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: C GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: I
28 WED	CARNIVAL GLORY Arrival: 9:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: B FREEDOM OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 17:00 Berth: C CELEBRITY REFLECTION Arrival: 10:30 Departure: 23:00 Berth: I FREEWINDS Arrival: 6:00 Departure: Berth: E

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

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

Difficulty: ★★★

10/28

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★

10/27

Prediction markets open new front for U.S. election misinformation



People cast their vote during early voting at a polling station in Kansas City, Kansas, on October 20, 2026.

Washington, United States

The U.S. midterms are playing out against a controversial new scoreboard, as the nation votes in its first major elections since prediction markets went mainstream.

With hundreds of millions of dollars on the line, experts are warning that the proliferation of live odds into news coverage and on social media could sow confusion -- and provide fodder for misinformation.

Concerns range from motivated actors taking extreme measures to sway markets, to voters overtrusting the odds and baselessly blaming fraud where election results differ.

President Donald Trump has already made unsubstantiated allegations of fraud central to his political movement ahead of the November 3 vote.

Polymarket and Kalshi are allowing users to buy and sell contracts on thousands of outcomes related to the midterms, despite surveys showing most Americans oppose betting on elections.

The companies have also partnered with prominent news organizations.

"They're more and more becoming part of how Americans understand elections," said Davina Hurt, government ethics director at Santa Clara University's Markkula Center for Applied Ethics.

"Elections are not games," she told AFP. "My concern

is that we've reached a point where financial market expectations carry more weight in the public's mind than the votes themselves."

- 'Not a promise' -

Prediction market trading has surged amid legal battles over whether they should be regulated as federal commodities or under state gambling laws. Kalshi said its markets offer unique data distinct from polling, that probabilities do not guarantee outcomes and that efforts to manipulate odds are canceled out by other buyers. "Kalshi should be seen as a complement to traditional polling," head of communications Elisabeth Diana told AFP. "On prediction markets, you trade what

you think will happen. On polls, you say what you want to have happen."

Yet experts expressed fears over markets being misconstrued, especially as Polymarket and Kalshi issue race "projections" on social media.

A high probability "is not a promise," Hurt said. "When the prediction fails, that's not evidence that elections fail. But people are going to read that in."

- Los Angeles -

When Republican Spencer Pratt lost the Los Angeles mayoral primary in June, right-wing influencers pointed to prediction market odds which showed him favored to advance to the general election as evidence of fraud.

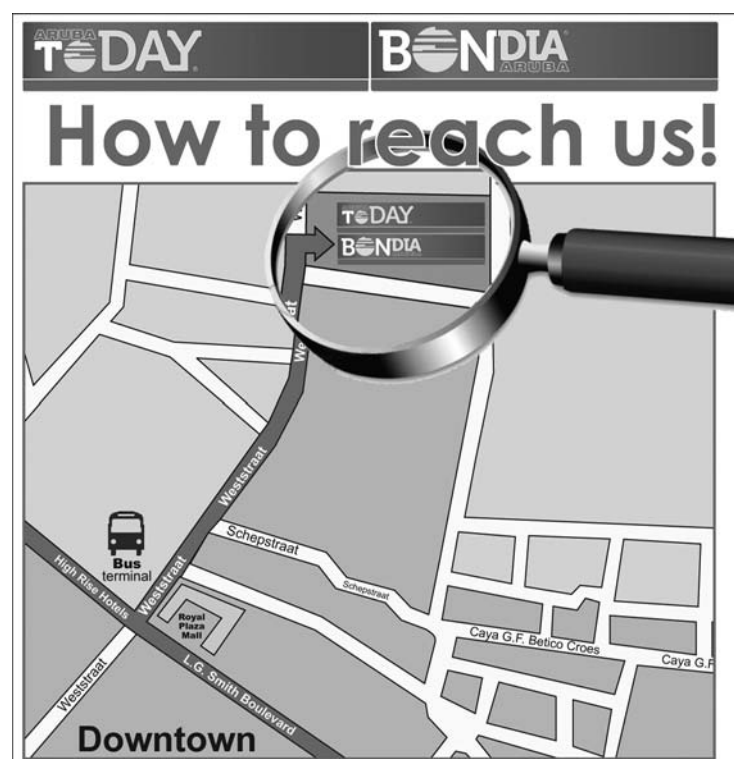
Some X posts spreading

misinformation carried "paid partnership" tags, prompting backlash and action from Polymarket and Kalshi.

"The June primary reinforced how quickly expectations about election outcomes can become confused with actual election results," said Michael Sanchez, spokesman for Los Angeles County's registrar's office.

In a recent memo shared exclusively with AFP, Kalshi told its paid partners they "shall not call into question the integrity or accuracy of any official vote tally result, legal ruling, or other official or formal determination in connection with the election."

Partnerships will be terminated with those who post without evidence "that an election result has been corrupted, rigged, compromised, or otherwise improperly administered," it said. □



HEALTH



DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad Hospital
7:00 pm/10:00pm
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San Nicolas IMSAN
24 HOURS
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad: Oduber

Tel. 582 1780

San Nicolas: Seroe Preto
Tel. 584 4833

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

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Netflix shares drop on slowing engagement, revenue growth

San Francisco, United States

Netflix stock dropped more than five percent Tuesday afternoon after its quarterly earnings release failed to assuage investor concerns about a slowdown in viewer engagement and revenue growth.

"We know there's some investor concern about our view hours growth," the company said in a letter to investors, referring to how the company measures engagement, and added that it was "confident" it could accelerate that growth.

The California-based streaming giant has struggled to meet investor expectations for several quarters as it faces competition from other streamers, gaming and sports.

Netflix "has underperformed significantly over the last 6-12 months" and investors are concerned "about soft engagement trends, decelerating revenue growth, a slower margin expansion outlook, and most recently content ex-



ecutive leadership changes," John Belton, a portfolio manager at Gabelli Funds, told AFP in a statement.

In its third quarter ending in September, Netflix recorded \$12.87 billion in revenue and \$3.7 billion in net income, above investor expectations, according to FactSet.

It did not provide overall figures for subscriber view hours in the quarter, but noted that in India the metric increased 24 percent compared to the same period last year.

In July, Netflix said subscribers spent 97 billion hours watching content in the

first half of the year, a 2 percent increase over the first half of 2025.

It stopped reporting subscriber numbers in the first half of 2025.

But the company touted growth outside the US while acknowledging challenges stateside.

"We do need better exe-

cution in the U.S. Our content around the world is largely working," co-CEO Ted Sarandos told investors on an analyst call Tuesday, highlighting engagement, subscribers, revenue and profits across Latin America, Europe and Asia.

"The U.S. is also working. It's just not growing as fast as it could or as fast as we'd like," Sarandos continued.

- Job cuts -

The company will also reportedly cut around 6 percent of its workforce, or 1,000 jobs, according to media reports.

Among them were seven high-level employees in charge of television deals and content, the Hollywood Reporter reported last week.

The company also recently replaced chief content officer Bela Bajaria, who oversaw popular shows including "Stranger Things," "Bridgerton," and "Squid Game," in addition to pushing the company's live entertainment strategy, according to CNBC. Netflix appointed former Disney executive Peter Rice to be its new content chief.

"Peter Rice understands talent relations, and in a competitive market, creative talent have choices of where they want to work," Sarandos said on the call Tuesday.

-Diverse formats-

Competition from other streamers has forced Netflix to work harder to attract and retain both paid and ad-supported members.

The company has increasingly dipped into live sports with agreements to stream major events like the Olympics and World Cup in addition to gaming and shorter-form content. The NFL and WWE are also on board to stream live events.

In the U.S., it reached 7.8 percent of streaming television viewers in July compared to YouTube's 14.2 percent, a record for the Google-owned site, according to media analytics firm Nielsen.

SpaceX strikes AI chip lease deal as Musk warns rivals

New York, United States

SpaceX said Monday it has struck a deal with private equity giant Apollo Global Management to lease specialized chips for developing artificial intelligence. The contract, which has yet to be finalized, runs for about five years and is worth roughly \$40 billion, plus interest and certain fees, Elon Musk's company said in a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Apollo will buy the graphics processing units (GPUs), considered the most powerful chips for building generative AI models.

The chips are Nvidia's Vera Rubin GPUs, which Nvidia began rolling out in the second half of this year. Apollo is to make the processors available gradually starting in the first half of 2027.

xAI, Musk's AI company that was absorbed by

SpaceX in February, built two massive data centers in Memphis, Tennessee, Colossus 1 and 2, in just two years. Together they house several hundred thousand GPUs.

These data centers and the chips they run, known as cloud infrastructure, are essential for developing and running large AI models.

Apollo has already helped finance Musk's AI ambitions. In January, it led a \$3.5 billion financing package that allowed an investment fund to buy Nvidia chips and lease them to xAI for Colossus 2.

SpaceX also rents out computing capacity to Anthropic, the maker of the Claude chatbot, and to Google, deals that have

become a major source of revenue for the company. SpaceX is currently expanding Colossus 2, whose computing power should more than double by the end of the year compared with the end of September, according to Musk.

Musk previewed the deal Sunday on X, saying debt markets "have almost entirely shut off access to money for any company that doesn't have substantial revenue independent of AI data centers."

He presented the GPU agreement as proof of investor confidence in SpaceX, in contrast to newcomers to the cloud market, so-called "neoclouds" such as CoreWeave or Nebius.

"The 200+ neoclouds are going to see guppy-level death and consolidation," Musk wrote. "Some will make it through, but not many." □



U.S. President Donald Trump presents the National Medal of Science to Elon Musk during the "Golden Age of American Innovation Summit" at the Institute of Peace in Washington, DC, on October 8, 2026.

Cavs edge T'Wolves in overtime despite superb Edwards

Los Angeles, United States

The Cleveland Cavaliers ended the Minnesota Timberwolves' perfect start to the NBA season, winning 127-125 in an overtime thriller despite 47 points from Anthony Edwards.

Donovan Mitchell and James Harden led the scoring for the victorious Cavs, with 26 and 19 points apiece, as Cleveland moved to 2-1.

"Tough win for us, especially early in the season," said Harden, who added four rebounds and nine assists. The Timberwolves, having won their opening three games, led for much of the night, with a 15-point advantage in the first half.

Edwards, only cleared to play late after being listed as questionable with a right knee injury, had made an electric start, with 11 points in the first quarter.

But the Cavaliers rallied to pull level in the third quarter, and then had to come from behind again after slipping to a seven-point deficit in the fourth.

Harden's driving floater with 10 seconds remaining tied the game, and a blocked Edwards layup with four seconds left sent it to overtime at 113-113.

With just a minute left in overtime, Edwards tied the



Anthony Edwards #5 of the Minnesota Timberwolves drives to the basket around Peyton Watson #8 of the Cleveland Cavaliers during overtime at Rocket Arena on October 26, 2026 in Cleveland, Ohio.

game again with a trey so close to the arc that a video replay was required.

But Mitchell re-established Cleveland's lead with a go-ahead midrange jumper, and when Minnesota's Jonathan Kuminga missed a free throw with 30 seconds left, the Cavaliers pulled clear.

Harden made two more free throws, leaving the Timberwolves requiring three points, but Edwards' clutch effort bounced off the rim.

Peyton Watson poured in

two more free throws for Cleveland to bury the contest.

"We made a lot of mistakes on both ends of the basketball in that first half... second half, we did a better job," said Harden.

Elsewhere, the Oklahoma City Thunder improved to 4-0 with a hard-fought 125-114 win over the Phoenix Suns.

Ajay Mitchell led the scoring with a career-high 30, supported by Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, who added 26.

"This league is about winning games, and that's all that matters," said Gilgeous-Alexander.

"We were just ready to go. Guys were ready to go. Guys were ready to step up," added the reigning NBA Most Valuable Player.

- 'Perfect night' -

The Houston Rockets also stayed perfect with a 120-110 win over the Atlanta Hawks.

It is their first 4-0 start since 2014, with star Kevin Durant

rested for the entire fourth quarter in an ultimately comfortable win.

Giannis Antetokounmpo recorded his first triple-double with new team Miami even as the Heat (0-4) suffered a 113-109 loss to the Dallas Mavericks.

Antetokounmpo, a two-time league MVP who left the Milwaukee Bucks this summer, scored 29 points with 14 rebounds and 11 assists.

Mavericks teen star Cooper Flagg also scored 29, with 11 assists, six rebounds and a career-high five steals.

The Grizzlies also improved to 4-0 with a 110-105 win over the Utah Jazz, while Brandon Miller scored 39 points as the Charlotte Hornets beat the Washington Wizards 110-103. And the Golden State Warriors earned their first victory of the season with a 134-114 triumph over the Denver Nuggets.

Stephen Curry made 8-of-8 field goal attempts for 24 points. "Just staying patient. We've been working on some offensive approach where I know I get a lot of attention, trying not to force things," he said.

"I didn't know it was going to be a perfect night like that, but glad it all came together." □

Valkyries beat Dream to reach brink of WNBA title

San Francisco, United States

Kiah Stokes and Veronica Burton each scored 13 points to spark Golden State over Atlanta 64-55 on Monday as the Valkyries reached the brink of winning the Women's NBA Finals.

Tiffany Hayes and reserve Cecilia Zandalasini each added 12 points for the Valkyries while Stokes and Burton each pulled down a team-best eight rebounds.

Golden State seized a 3-2 lead over the Dream in the best-of-seven championship series, which continues on Thursday in Atlanta.

"We're not done yet. We've got one more," Stokes said. "We need two hoops, 94 feet and each other and that's all we need."

The Valkyries, in only their second WNBA campaign, kept Dream star Angel Reese to seven points on 2-of-8 shooting, although she grabbed a game-high 15 rebounds.

Golden State dominated defensively, keeping Atlanta to a season low in points on 19-of-65 (29 percent) shooting from the floor.

"That has just been our staple all season. We really rely on our defense," Stokes said.

"They are tough. We have to make sure we're all doing our part. It's a team for a reason."

Stokes had a game-high four blocked shots and has had at least three blocks in every finals game. Rhyne Howard led Atlanta with 20 points while Jordin Canada added 12.

In only their second WNBA campaign, the Valkyries have been a hit with spectators in the home arena of the NBA Golden State Warriors.

"You all are amazing," Stokes screamed to a cheering crowd moments after the triumph. "We couldn't do this without you all." □



Cecilia Zandalasini #24 of the Golden State Valkyries shoots over Isobel Borlase #20 of the Atlanta Dream during the fourth quarter in game five of the WNBA Finals at Chase Center on October 26, 2026 in San Francisco, California.



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Prescott fires Cowboys to 38-21 win over plummeting Eagles



Dak Prescott #4 of the Dallas Cowboys hands the ball off to Tyler Goodson #32 of the Dallas Cowboys during the first quarter against the Philadelphia Eagles at Lincoln Financial Field on October 26, 2026 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

New York, United States

Dak Prescott passed for three touchdowns and 212 yards as the Dallas Cowboys bounced back with a 38-21 thumping of the injury-ravaged Philadelphia Eagles, who plunged to a fifth straight NFL loss.

The Cowboys, whose offense had misfired in back-to-back losses to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Green Bay Packers, pulled emphatically clear of their NFC East rivals in the second half to move to 3-4.

CeeDee Lamb made two superb touchdown catches and George Pickens added a third, while the Cowboys also ran for 204 yards spearheaded by Javonte Williams, who had a touchdown and a career-high 155 rushing yards.

With their first win in Philadelphia since the 2021 season, Dallas remained in pursuit of the division-leading New York Giants (4-2-1).

Meanwhile, the Eagles suffered their fifth straight defeat, having lost starting quarterback Jalen Hurts for the season due to blood clots.

The Eagles' woeful injury record worsened as star running back Saquon Barkley, on his return from a two-game absence with a hamstring issue, left the field with a back injury.

In an even first half, two excellent catches by Cowboys receivers helped Dallas fight back after the Eagles' rushing game had put Philadelphia ahead twice.

After an early Dallas 55-yard field goal, Barkley exploded 29 yards for a first down -- breaking a tackle and then appearing to grab his troublesome hamstring -- but soon after rushed wide to the pylon for an eight-yard TD.

The Cowboys hit back. Prescott sent a touchdown pass to Lamb, who took a spinning catch in the far corner of the end zone.

In the second quarter, running back Dameon Pierce rushed five yards around the Cowboys defense to put the Eagles back ahead 14-10.

On the kickoff return, Tyler Goodson appeared to have done sensationally to run 99 yards for a touchdown, slaloming left and right to avoid tackles, but it was wiped out by a holding penalty.

Still, Dallas again responded, going into halftime ahead as Prescott sent a 21-yard corner-pocket TD to Pickens, who managed to tap his toes barely in bounds.

After the break, backup Eagles quarterback Tanner McKee found Makai Lemon for the rookie wide receiver's first NFL touchdown to briefly retake the lead.

But that was as good as it got for Philadelphia.

Prescott launched a second touchdown pass to Lamb, who claimed it over his shoulder, followed by a successful two-point conversion.

"That's a guy that gets open, I just have to give him a chance, and he's going to go make the play. And so, credit to him. He makes my job easy," said Prescott, who completed 15-of-27 passes with no interceptions or sacks.

Williams rushed into the end zone with barely two minutes remaining to ensure victory.

Philadelphia coach Nick Sirianni, whose team sank to 2-5, said he was not about to give up on the Eagles' playoff hopes despite their latest loss. □

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