



Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

## Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables



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# Trump launches tariffs, saying global trade has 'looted, pillaged, raped, plundered' US economy

By **JOSH BOAK**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump announced plans for sweeping tariffs Wednesday, saying "our country has been looted, pillaged, raped, plundered" by other nations.

The aggressive rhetoric came as Trump showed a willingness to dismantle a global economic system that the United States helped to build after World War II.

"Taxpayers have been ripped off for more than 50 years," Trump said in remarks at the White House. "But it is not going to happen anymore."

The president has promised that factory jobs will return back to the United States as a result of the taxes, but his policies risk causing a sudden economic slowdown as consumers and businesses could face sharp price hikes on autos, clothes and other goods.

The tariffs are expected to follow similar recent announcements of 25% taxes on auto imports; levies against China, Canada and Mexico; and expanded trade penalties on steel and aluminum. Trump has also imposed tariffs on countries that import oil from Venezuela and he plans separate import taxes on pharmaceutical drugs, lumber, copper and computer chips.

None of the warning signs about a falling stock market or consumer sentiment turning morose has caused the administration to publicly second-guess its strategy.

White House trade adviser Peter Navarro has suggested the new tariffs would raise \$600 billion an-



President Donald Trump speaks during an event to announce new tariffs in the Rose Garden at the White House, Wednesday, April 2, 2025, in Washington.

nually, which would be the largest tax increase since World War II. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told lawmakers the tariffs would be capped and could be negotiated downward by other countries, according to the office of Rep. Kevin Hern, R-Okla.

Importers would likely pass along some of the cost of the taxes on to consumers. The Budget Lab at Yale University estimates that a 20% universal tariff would cost the average household an additional \$3,400 to \$4,200. The Republican administration's premise is that manufacturers will quickly increase domestic production and create factory jobs.

Based on the possibility of broad 20% tariffs that have been floated by some White House aides, most analyses see an economy tarnished by higher prices and stagnation. U.S. economic growth, as measured by gross domestic

product, would be roughly a percentage point lower, and clothing, oil, automobiles, housing, groceries and even insurance would cost more, the Budget Lab analysis found.

Trump would be applying these tariffs on his own; he has ways of doing so without congressional approval. That makes it easy for Democratic lawmakers and policymakers to criticize the administration if the uncertainty expressed by businesses and declining consumer sentiment are signs of trouble to come.

Heather Boushey, a member of the Biden White House's Council of Economic Advisers, noted that the less aggressive tariffs Trump imposed during his first term failed to stir the manufacturing renaissance he promised voters. "We are not seeing indications of the boom that the president promised," Boushey said. "It's a failed strategy."

Rep. Suzan DelBene, D-Wash., said the tariffs are "part of the chaos and dysfunction" being generated across the Trump administration. The chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee stressed that Trump should not have the sole authority to raise taxes as he intends without getting lawmakers' approval, saying that Republicans so far have been "blindly loyal."

"The president shouldn't be able to do that," DelBene said. "This is a massive tax increase on American families, and it's without a vote in Congress ... President Trump promised on the campaign trail that he would lower costs on day one.

Now he says he doesn't care if prices go up he's broken his promise." Even Republicans who trust Trump's instincts have acknowledged that the tariffs could disrupt an economy with an otherwise healthy

4.1 % unemployment rate. "We'll see how it all develops," said House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La. "It may be rocky in the beginning. But I think that this will make sense for Americans and help all Americans."

Longtime trading partners are preparing their own countermeasures. Canada has imposed some in response to the 25% tariffs that Trump tied to the trafficking of fentanyl. The European Union, in response to the steel and aluminum tariffs, put taxes on 26 billion euros' worth (\$28 billion) of U.S. goods, including on bourbon, which prompted Trump to threaten a 200% tariff on European alcohol. Many allies feel they have been reluctantly drawn into a confrontation by Trump, who routinely says America's friends and foes have essentially ripped off the United States with a mix of tariffs and other trade barriers.

The flip side is that Americans also have the incomes to choose to buy designer gowns by French fashion houses and autos from German manufacturers, whereas World Bank data show the EU has lower incomes per capita than the U.S.

"Europe has not started this confrontation," said European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. "We do not necessarily want to retaliate but, if it is necessary, we have a strong plan to retaliate and we will use it."

Italy's premier, Giorgia Meloni, on Wednesday reiterated her call to avoid an EU-US trade war, saying it would harm both sides and would have "heavy" consequences for her country's economy. □

# Musk could be headed for a Washington exit after turbulent times at Trump's DOGE

By CHRIS MEGERIAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — DOGE's days appear to be numbered.

Elon Musk recently suggested that he will be done with his work in the near future. President Donald Trump told reporters this week that "at some point, he's going to be going back" to running his companies. As far as the Department of Government Efficiency, Trump said "it will end."

All of that talk was before Musk faced a setback Tuesday in Wisconsin, where voters rejected his choice for a state Supreme Court candidate despite more than \$21 million in personal donations and his campaign appearance over the weekend. There are more problems for the billionaire entrepreneur at Tesla, his electric automaker, which saw a 13% drop in sales in the first three months of the year.

The White House has not disclosed any clear time-



Elon Musk speaks at a town hall Sunday, March 30, 2025, in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

line for closing down DOGE, and the government cost-cutting organization was never supposed to become a permanent fixture in Washington. But it could be reaching a conclusion faster than anti-

pated. DOGE was originally intended to operate until July 4, 2026.

Now there are signs that it already is winding down. DOGE employees have been shifted to various federal agencies, which

are supposed to take the lead on cutting costs. Government-wide layoffs are underway to accomplish some of the goals laid out by Musk and Trump.

"We think probably over the next two or three months,

we'll be pretty much satisfied with the people that are working hard and want to be members of the administration," Trump said last week.

The potential end of DOGE does not mean Trump will stop shaking up Washington. But it appears the administration's efforts will be entering a new phase that is less focused on Musk, whose chain saw-wielding work as a presidential adviser made him a political lightning rod.

DOGE was initially envisioned as an independent advisory panel, with Musk sharing leadership with Vivek Ramaswamy, a biotech entrepreneur. Ramaswamy dropped out and is running for Ohio governor, and DOGE became part of the government. It was stocked with Musk's allies, who were dispatched throughout the bureaucracy to cancel contracts, access sensitive data and push for cuts. □

# Health department layoffs mean that data on drug use and mental health could sit unused

By CARLA K. JOHNSON  
AP Medical Writer

Most teenagers don't use drugs. There's data to show that because of a 50-year-old government survey that may now be in jeopardy. The entire 17-member U.S. government team responsible for the National Survey on Drug Use and Health received layoff notices Tuesday, as part of the overhaul of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

It's not clear whether there is an alternative plan to analyze the data, which local and state governments use to develop prevention measures and treatment services. The federal government distributes grant money to fight the opioid addiction crisis based on it. Researchers use it to study trends in depression, alcoholism and tobacco use.

An HHS spokesman did not

immediately respond to a question about the survey's future.

The nationally representative survey is conducted in person by an independent research group with about 70,000 people each year. It provides a more complete picture than trends in over-

dose deaths, which capture only a small segment of the problem, said Lindsey Vuolo of the Partnership to End Addiction.

"We use its findings on a near daily basis in our research, educational programming and resources, and communication ma-

terials," Vuolo said of the survey.

Before the layoffs, the government team was preparing to analyze 2024 data, the first year where trends would be reliable again since the pandemic disrupted data collection, said Jennifer Hoenig, the laid-off director of the Office of Population Surveys. The data could now sit on the shelf without experienced analysts to untangle it, she said.

"Every person working on it was let go," Hoenig said, noting that the data collection is mandated by Congress. The office is part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which would be absorbed into a new Administration for a Healthy America under Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s plan.

"My team and I care so

much about this data that we want people to understand what is being lost in our country if we don't have it," Hoenig said.

In recent years, the survey has found:

- Seven out of 10 adolescents did not use illicit drugs or drink alcohol in 2023.
- Men 60 and older were more likely than women in the same age group to have a substance use disorder, but women were more likely than men to have had a major depressive episode in 2021 and 2022.
- Lesbian, gay and bisexual young people were about twice as likely as straight young people to have had a substance use disorder in 2023.
- People who report using cannabis in the past year nearly doubled over two decades, from 11% in 2002 to 21.9% in 2022. □



A protester gathers containers that look like OxyContin bottles at an anti-opioid demonstration in front of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services headquarters in Washington on April 5, 2019.

Associated Press

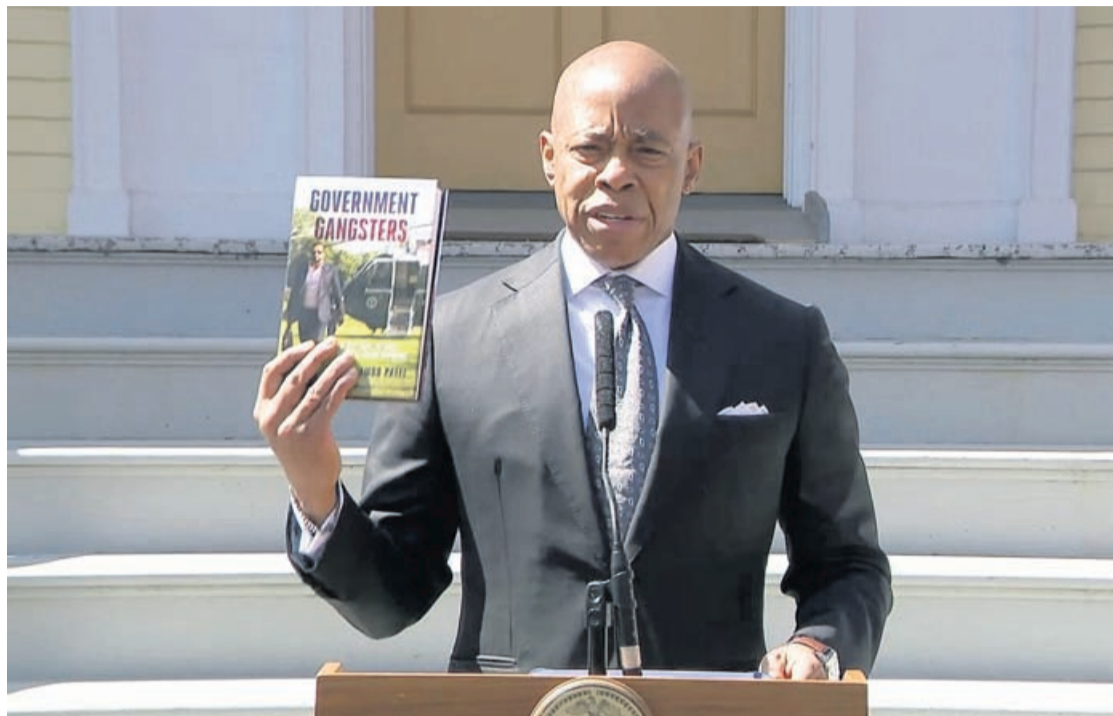
# Judge dismisses corruption case against New York City Mayor Eric Adams

By **JENNIFER PELTZ** and **MICHAEL R. SISAK**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A federal judge dismissed New York City Mayor Eric Adams' corruption case on Wednesday, agreeing it was the only practical outcome while blasting the Justice Department's "troubling" rationale for wanting the charges thrown out namely so the Democrat could help President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown.

The judge, though, denied prosecutors the option to refile the charges after the mayoral election. Judge Dale E. Ho's order to dismiss the case "with prejudice" spares Adams from having to govern in a way that pleases Trump or potentially risk having the Republican's Justice Department revive the charges.

The judge said he wasn't opining on the merits of the case, but that courts can't force prosecutors to move forward. Still, he expressed qualms about the government's move, saying "there are many reasons to be



In this photo taken from video, New York mayor Eric Adams speaks after a federal judge dismissed his corruption case, Wednesday, April 2, 2025, in New York.

troubled" by its reasoning. "Everything here smacks of a bargain: dismissal of the indictment in exchange for immigration policy concessions," Ho wrote. He said he found it "disturbing" that public officials might get special treatment from prosecutors by complying with policy goals. He rejected an alternative

the Justice Department had sought dismissing the case "without prejudice," which would have left room for the charges to be refiled.

"Dismissing the case without prejudice would create the unavoidable perception that the mayor's freedom depends on his ability to carry out the im-

migration enforcement priorities of the administration, and that he might be more beholden to the demands of the federal government than to the wishes of his own constituents," the judge wrote.

The mayor claims victory. Adams lauded the judge's decision during brief remarks outside the mayoral

residence.

"As I said all along, this case never should have been brought, and I did nothing wrong," he said.

"I have always been solely beholden to the people of this city," the mayor added. "No special interests, no political opponents, but just everyday New Yorkers, just you."

Asked about his chances for reelection, Adams said: "I'm gonna win."

He closed by holding up a copy and encouraging people to read FBI Director Kash Patel's 2023 book "Government Gangsters," which alleged a "sinister cabal" at the heart of government. The Justice Department said in a statement that Adams' case had been "an example of political weaponization and a waste of resources." Ho's decision follows a legal drama that roiled the Justice Department, created turmoil in City Hall and left Adams' mayoralty hanging by a thread amid questions about his political independence and ability to govern. □

**Associated Press**

# Man who had gun and knife will plead guilty to trying to assassinate Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh

By **MICHAEL KUNZELMAN**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A California man will plead guilty to trying to assassinate Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh at his home in a suburb of Washington, D.C., nearly three years ago, the defendant's attorneys said in a court filing on Wednesday.

Nicholas John Roske, of Simi Valley, California, was arrested near Kavanaugh's home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, in June 2022. Roske was armed with a gun and a knife, was carrying zip ties and was dressed in black when he arrived in the neighborhood by taxi just after 1 a.m., federal authorities said.

Roske, who was 26 when he was arrested, intends to plead guilty to attempt-

ing to murder a justice of the United States without reaching a plea agreement with federal prosecutors, according to his lawyers. The charge carries a maximum sentence of life

in prison.

Roske's attorneys asked a judge in Greenbelt, Maryland, to schedule a hearing next Monday or Tuesday for him to enter a guilty plea. They say prosecutors have



Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh arrives before President Donald Trump addresses a joint session of Congress at the Capitol in Washington, March 4, 2025.

**Associated Press**

consented to their request. After his arrest, Roske told a police detective that he was upset by a leaked draft opinion suggesting the Supreme Court intended to overrule *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark abortion case, according to an FBI agent's affidavit. Killing one jurist could change the decisions of the nine-member court "for decades to come," authorities said that Roske wrote, adding, "I am shooting for three."

The leaked opinion draft led to protests, including at several of the justices' homes. Roske's arrest spurred the House to approve a bill expanding around-the-clock security protection to the justices' families.

Roske also said he was upset over the school massacre in Uvalde, Texas, and

believed that Kavanaugh would vote to loosen gun control laws, the affidavit said.

Roske was apprehended after he called 911 and told a police dispatcher that he was near Kavanaugh's home and wanted to take his own life.

He was spotted by two U.S. marshals who were part of 24-hour security provided to the justices.

A trial for Roske has been scheduled to start on June 9.

During a hearing in October 2022, U.S. District Judge Peter Messitte said there was a "very high likelihood" that he would order a mental evaluation for Roske to determine if he was fit to assist his defense, enter a possible guilty plea or stand trial. □

# Turkey's protests over the arrest of an Erdogan rival take a new angle: Boycott shopping

By ANDREW WILKS

Associated Press

**ISTANBUL (AP)** — Protests that erupted across Turkey following the arrest of Istanbul's opposition mayor the main challenger to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan took a new direction Wednesday with calls for a one-day shopping boycott. The student groups behind the call also urged businesses to close Wednesday.

Large-scale anti-government protests began last month after the jailing of Ekrem Imamoglu, who faces corruption and terrorism charges that observers say are politically motivated. The government insists the judiciary is independent and free of political interference.

Imamoglu's party supported the call for a boycott.

"I invite everyone to join this boycott and use their power that comes from consumption," said Ozgur Ozel, leader of the Republican People's Party, or CHP, on social media.

Ozel had called for people to shun companies he said supported the government, particularly media



Fine art university students shout slogans as they march past an Espresso Lab coffee bar during a peaceful protest after Istanbul's Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu was arrested and sent to prison, in Istanbul, Turkey, Thursday, March 27, 2025.

firms that did not air images of protests that saw hundreds of thousands flood streets to call for Imamoglu's release and an end to democratic backsliding. The students' boycott call sparked a quick response from the government. Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya called it "sabotage" and a "coup attempt against

our economy," while Trade Minister Omer Bolat said companies that suffer financial losses would be able to file a claim for compensation against those calling for the boycott. Bolat posted images of himself shopping on social media, alongside comments saying it was a "day of protecting the national

economy." The head of Turkey's broadcasting authority announced possible action against news channels that publicized the boycott. Last week, the authority issued a 10-day broadcasting ban for one opposition channel, as well as fines and program suspensions to others. The Istanbul Chief Prosecu-

tor's Office on Tuesday launched a criminal investigation into the opposition's boycott calls.

Rifat Hisarciklioglu, president of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey, said it was wrong to target companies, which he said should be kept out of political discussions.

Meanwhile, the head of an events company who drew the anger of protesters by calling them "traitors" announced it was cancelling concerts, including those by British artists Robbie Williams and Muse as well as Norwegian singer Ane Brun that had been scheduled for later this year.

Imamoglu, in a social media post from the prison where he has been held since March 23, asserted that European politicians had started to cut ties with Turkey.

The European Commission canceled its participation in the Antalya Diplomacy Forum, while European Commissioner for Enlargement Marta Kos said she has cancelled a meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan. □

Associated Press

## Danish prime minister heads to Greenland as Trump seeks control of the Arctic territory

**NUUK, Greenland (AP)**

— Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen is traveling to Greenland on Wednesday for a three-day trip aimed at building trust and cooperation with Greenlandic officials at a time when the Trump administration is seeking control of the vast Arctic territory.

Frederiksen announced plans for her visit after U.S. Vice President JD Vance visited a U.S. air base in Greenland last week and accused Denmark of underinvesting in the territory. Greenland is a mineral-rich, strategically critical island that is becoming more accessible because of climate change. Trump

has said that the landmass is critical to U.S. security. It's geographically part of North America, but is a semiautonomous territory belonging to the Kingdom of Denmark.

Frederiksen is due to meet the incoming Greenlandic leader, Jens-Frederik Nielsen, after an election last month that produced a new government. She is also to meet with the future Naalakkersuisut, the Cabinet, in a visit due to last through Friday.

"It has my deepest respect how the Greenlandic people and the Greenlandic politicians handle the great pressure that is on Greenland," she said in government statement

announcing the visit. On the agenda are talks with Nielsen about cooperation between Greenland and Denmark.

Nielsen has said in recent days that he welcomes the visit, and that Greenland would resist any U.S. attempt to annex the territory.

"We must listen when others talk about us. But we must not be shaken. President Trump says the United States is 'getting Greenland.' Let me make this clear: The U.S. is not getting that. We don't belong to anyone else. We decide our own future," he wrote Sunday on Facebook.

"We must not act out of

fear. We must respond with peace, dignity and unity. And it is through these values that we must clearly,

clearly and calmly show the American president that Greenland is ours." □



Netherlands' Prime Minister Dick Schoof, right, and Denmark's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen arrive for a round table meeting at an EU summit in Brussels, Thursday, March 20, 2025.

Associated Press

# U.S. revokes visas of Mexican band members after cartel leader's face was projected at a concert

By **MEGAN JANETSKY**

**Associated Press**

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — The U.S. State Department revoked the visas of members of a Mexican band after they projected the face of a drug cartel boss onto a large screen during a performance in the western state of Jalisco over the weekend.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau, who was U.S. ambassador to Mexico during the first Trump administration, said late Tuesday on X that the work and tourism visas of members of Los Alegres del Barranco were revoked.

The visa revocations follow widespread outrage in Mexico over the concert as prosecutors in two states have launched investigations into the projected images, and a larger national reckoning over how to address the rise of a popular musical genre criticized for romanticizing drug cartels. "I'm a firm believer in freedom of expression, but that doesn't mean that expression should be free of consequences," Landau wrote on X. "The last thing we need is a welcome mat for people who extol criminals and terrorists."



**Then U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Christopher Landau delivers a statement to members of the media at the Benito Juarez International Airport, upon his arrival to Mexico City, Aug. 16, 2019.**

**Associated Press**

The controversy broke out over the weekend when the face of Nemesio Rubén "El Mencho" Oseguera layered over flames was projected behind the band, originally hailing from Sinaloa, during the concert. Finger pointing ensued among the band, concert producers and the venue. Oseguera is the leader of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel, which has been connected to a ranch authorities say was

used to train cartel recruits and possibly dispose of bodies in Jalisco, where searchers found human bone fragments, heaps of clothing and shoes.

The Jalisco cartel is among other criminal groups in Mexico that have been designated as foreign terrorist organizations by the Trump administration.

While the image was met by applause during the concert, Jalisco prosecutors quickly announced

they were summoning the band to testify in an investigation into whether they were promoting violence, a crime which could result in a penalty of up to six months in prison. The state of Michoacan also announced an investigation into the Los Alegres del Barranco for projecting the same images during a concert in the city of Uruapan. Jalisco Gov. Pablo Lemus said that the state would ban musical performances

that glorify violence, adding that violators would "face monetary and criminal sanctions."

"We know that outrage is not enough," Lemus said. "Of course it's possible to ban (the music)."

Since, a number of the band's future shows have been cancelled, one town's government saying that the show "didn't have the municipal permissions needed" to carry out the performance.

Pavel Moreno, the band's accordion player and back-up singer, didn't respond to questions by fans asking if his visa had been revoked, simply thanking them for support and saying that "everything is fine."

The band was scheduled to play in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 4. While the event hasn't been publicly cancelled, ticket sales websites read: "No tickets available for now on our site" for that date.

The dispute coincides with a larger cultural debate in Mexico as artists like Peso Pluma, Fuerza Regida and Natanael Cano usher in a global renaissance of Mexican regional music, by mixing classic ballads with trap music. □

# Paraguay recalls ambassador to Brazil and suspends dam talks over espionage revelations

**ASUNCIÓN, Paraguay (AP)**

— Paraguay announced Tuesday that it was recall-

ing its ambassador to Brazil a day after Brazilian authorities acknowledged that

their country's intelligence agency spied on Paraguayan officials in 2022. Paraguay's government also said it would suspend negotiations with Brazil over the massive hydroelectric dam it jointly operates with its more powerful neighbor. Paraguay's decision came after Brazil's foreign ministry revealed that the administration of Jair Bolsonaro, the right-wing predecessor of current President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, had conducted espionage against the small South American nation.

Lula's government insisted that it had halted the surveillance against Paraguay immediately after becoming

aware of it, without elaborating on the nature of the operation or whom it targeted.

Brazilian news site UOL reported that the country's intelligence agents had infiltrated Paraguayan computer systems to obtain intel on sensitive tariff negotiations related to the Itaipu dam on their shared border.

Paraguay on Monday said it would stop talks that had been underway for months with Brazil over the costs of hydropower generation from the Itaipu dam until Brazil can clarify "the intelligence action ordered against our country."

Paraguay's Foreign Min-

istry said it had launched an investigation into what exactly occurred between June 2022 and March 2023, when the espionage operation reportedly took place under then-President Bolsonaro. Paraguayan authorities said they had not been aware of any such infiltration.

"It is a violation of international law, the interference in the internal affairs of one country in another," Paraguayan Foreign Minister Rubén Lezcano told journalists.

"We are under constant attack, and the ministry is taking all necessary steps to defend our confidential information." □



**Paraguay Foreign Minister Rubén Ramírez Lezcano speaks during a press conference during his visit in Taipei, Taiwan, Nov. 29, 2024.**

**Associated Press**

## Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never have heard of, but really healthy and delicious.

### Mispel

This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

### Kenepa



Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

### Druif



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of

fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

### Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

### Tamarind



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

### Comcomber chiquito

This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vitamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

### Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

### Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

### Pampuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pampuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □

BELGIAN BISTRO

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## Experience the modern twist of tradition at L'Avenue Belgian Bistro Aruba!



**(Oranjestad)**—Nuzzled up in a cozy nook of The Cove Mall in the sun-kissed paradise of Palm Beach, L'Avenue takes you on a journey to experience the true flavors of Belgium. Offering a selection of traditional Belgian and French cuisine, this bistro brings the old into the new against a backdrop of laid-back luxury.

The new kid on the block, L'Avenue currently holds a unique position in the island's culinary

scene; being the only Belgian-owned, Belgian restaurant on the island. This winning hand is not obtained by many, and L'Avenue's delicious menu and wide selection of Belgian beer, and European and New World wine emphasizes the bistro's unique vision to bring Europe into the palm of your hands!

Once part of the famous Taste of Belgium restaurant, L'Avenue offers a new point of view and brings a fresh life to what was once beloved by both locals and tourists. Crafted by Chef Juan Ludeña and his team, enjoy a superb variety of classic Belgian and French dishes served with a touch of innovation for lunch and dinner, including stews, steak-house quality meat and their famous Moules-frites, served with a variety of delicious and rich broth.



As if that wasn't enough, enjoy your meal under warm, starry lights accompanied by live music performances every day, seated either in a relaxing and cool interior area of the restaurant, or outside against a backdrop of the bright, colorful lights of the Palm Beach strip!

### More information

L'Avenue is situated at The Cove Mall in Palm Beach and is open every day from 11am to 10pm for lunch and dinner. To book a reservation or ask for more information, please contact their phone line at +297 6996400, send an e-mail [info@lavenuearuba.com](mailto:info@lavenuearuba.com), or visit their website at [lavenuearuba.com](http://lavenuearuba.com). □

## Aruba to me

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



Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook

page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Don and Mary Alhart from Pittsford, New York, USA.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is taking pride in the volunteerism of employees of the Marriott Surf Club, whom I see every year. This year, security personnel Mavis Shaw and Cedrick Poulina sported pink shirts on International Women's day to help clean up 'One Happy Island!' Their service to both visitors and community is admira-



ble."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



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

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



**Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Casa del Mar Beach Resort!**

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
 Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
 Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

**The honorees were:**

Emerald Ambassadors  
 Mr. Robert and Mrs. Phyllis Ricchiuti from Poland, Ohio, United States.

Ms. Keyttin Silva representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Casa del Mar Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked Mr.

and Mrs. Ricchiuti for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

**The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:**

- Aruba is a paradise
- Aruba's people
- Aruba's weather
- Aruba's beaches

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □



**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 point easily accessible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking 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 starting from behind Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort up to the Amsterdam Manor roundabout. 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 hue.

**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.

Editor's note: This spot may be my personal favorite, if you couldn't already tell... □

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

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

These “coconut stands” can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of

course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

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



### Did you know about...

## Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 2)

(Oranjestad)—In Yesterday’s issue, we’ve provided some basic rules when driving on the four-lane highways and roundabouts on the island. Today, we want to offer you more tips and tricks when it comes to driving on the roads and highways of Aruba.

#### Speed limit in certain areas

As mentioned in yesterday’s issue, the legal minimum and maximum speed limit on the island is 50 and 80 km/h respectively. However, there

are some areas where it is mandated to drive up to a certain speed. This is always indicated by a circular traffic sign with red border and the number 50 on it. Signs like these are always paired by a similar sign with the number crossed out further down the road. This means that the mandate for this speed is now over; you may increase your velocity. Red borders on traffic sign—whether it’s a circle or triangle—usually signal a warning, prohibition or preference.

Besides the “50” sign, you may also encounter a traffic sign that says “bebouwde kom”. These can be found in San Nicolas and Oranjestad. Bebouwde kom signs are rectangular and blue, and essentially tell you that you are in a heavily inhabited area. The maximum speed limit in a bebouwde kom is 50 km/h. Just like the previous pair, bebouwde kom signs are also paired with a similar sign crossed out.

#### Priority signs

On the main roads of Aruba (not the highways), you may see a yellow, squared sign with a white border. This sign tells you that on this road, you have priority and all other traffic should yield to you. This sign can be seen in Savaneta for example. So, if you are driving on the main road in Savaneta going to San Nicolas, you are driving on a single long road, and other cars that want to get on this main road or cross it, either from an intersection or from a dirt road, must all wait until traffic on the main road is clear. In other words, you do not have to stop for them. This sign too has a counter part that indicates that your priority is over.

Another priority sign you may encounter is a triangle sign with a red border and something that looks like a cross. You’ll see this sign in an intersection. The general rule of thumb for crossing an intersection that do not contain traffic lights, roundabouts, sign or arrows on the road, is to always yield for traffic on your right. However, if you encounter this sign on your side of the intersection, you have priority over the other cars, even the one on your right.

However, be careful not to confuse this sign with a similar up-side down triangle, also found on intersections. This sign is a prohibition sign, telling you that you have to stop and give other cars priority. Of course you also have a “stop” sign that mean the same thing. The stop sign is generally used for tricky intersections with minimal view of opposite incoming traffic.

These are some of the basic rules that you would have to know if you decide to drive on the island. These are of course other traffic signs, and we recommend you visit [aruba-travelguide.com](http://aruba-travelguide.com) for an extensive overview of all traffic signs used on Aruba. □

Picture credits: [aruba-travelguide.com](http://aruba-travelguide.com)



bebouwde kom



end bebouwde kom



end priority



end speed limit



intersection priority



priority



speed limit



stop sign



triangle stop sign

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

(Oranjestad)—Medicinal use of plants have been a part of every culture since the dawn of time. Here in Aruba, this is no exception. Here are some naturally medicinal tips from our elders.

### Sweet potato

According to our elders, sweet potato is mostly useful for low blood pressure.

People who suffer from low blood pressure were advised to eat sweet potato 2 to 3 times a week. However, if you have high blood pressure, it is best not to eat too much sweet potato, as this raises blood pressure. Sweet potatoes are also great for people who work hard labor jobs, and it's been said to be aid blood circulation in the

body, as well as help those with hemorrhoids or diarrhea. Many of our elders opted to plant sweet potatoes themselves, mostly because of how easy it was to do so. Cut the end of a sweet potato let it sit in shallow water until it starts to sprout. Then you may plant it in the ground. Sweet potatoes need plenty of water to grow, especially in the



first week in the ground. It was said that once you start to notice the ground crack underneath the flowers, it is time to harvest. This should happen around month 3.

### Pomegranate

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

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

In terms of medicinal use, pomegranate skins are said to have a few benefits for our health. According to customs, pomegranate skin tea can help those that suffer from diarrhea. Dried pomegranate skin tea is also good for people who have worms. Pomegranate flowers can be boiled to make a drink and this can be used for irritated gums; just take a swig and let the tea sit in your mouth for a couple minutes. □

**Source: Remedi i Kustumber di nos Bieunan (Medicine and Customs of our Elderly) by Dinah Veeris**



## Learn about the history of the famous town hall!

(Oranjestad)—If you've ever taken a stroll through main street Oranjestad, you may have stumbled upon a big green house with beautiful colonial design. This legendary house, now used as a town hall for civil marriages, was once owned by a wealthy doctor and formed part of the elite neighborhood in Oranjestad.

Jacobo Eloy Arends was an Aruban physician, and in lived in Oranjestad during the 1920s. In 1922, he married Maria Monica Lacle, the daughter of well-known business man at the time, Adriaan Lacle.

The two lived a posh life in the city center, and their mansion—once the center for neighborhood parties—now serves as a public town hall for civil marriages and is a cultural monument on the island.

The house was designed by architect Chibi Wever, and constructed under the leadership of famous master carpenter, Dada Picus, who was famous at the time for his construction of beautiful buildings.

The construction of the house started once Jacobo and Maria got engaged. It is said that during the time of construc-



tion, Maria was not allowed to see the building nor be anywhere near the construction site. It wasn't until after her honeymoon that she saw the completed mansion for the first time, furnished entirely by her sisters-in-law.

The mansion also contained the doctor's office, as well as a pharmacy. After the death of Jacobo, the house was in-

herited by his son, an Aruban dentist, who converted Jacobo's office into his own dental practice. Over the years, the house was rented and used by third parties, but eventually fell into disrepair, as the maintenance cost became too high to cover.

The land was sold to Land Aruba in 1986, but it did not see a renovation until 1997.

Nowadays, it serves to host weddings, and is attached to a modern building situated behind—the Aruban census office. Jacobo and Maria's mansion was situated in front of another famous mansion, owned by Jacobo's brother Frederico Maximiliaan (Machi) Arends. Frederico was married to Veneranda (whom the mansion was named after). Their house was also constructed by Dada Picus, utilizing Veneranda's design vision that was inspired by a house she saw in Cartagena, Colombia.

Nowadays, this mansion lies in ruins. However, the Aruban government recently announced its official restoration, with plans to convert this monument into a governmental office and public space for visitors of Oranjestad. □

**Source and pictures credited to: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.**



**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

- 1 Drift onto the beach
- 7 Parting tool
- 11 Texas city
- 12 Lotion ingredient
- 13 Talked at length
- 15 Twin of Romulus
- 16 Docking spot
- 18 Go by
- 21 Tadpole's home
- 22 Con-  
tinuing story
- 24 Under the weather
- 25 Buck's mate
- 26 Carnival city
- 27 Prepared potatoes
- 29 Dis-  
patched
- 30 Cease
- 31 Euro division
- 32 Fighting
- 34 Applied liberally
- 40 Singly
- 41 "Raging Bull" star
- 42 Fencing sword
- 43 Put on, as a play

**DOWN**

- 1 Spider's home
- 2 Com-  
pletely
- 3 Mud bath setting
- 4 Enmity
- 5 Theater worker
- 6 Ode or ballade
- 7 Roman ruler
- 8 Archaic
- 9 Cow call
- 10 Writer Jonson
- 14 Indian coin
- 16 Magnet ends
- 17 Cove
- 19 Ambulance sound
- 20 Virtuous fellow
- 21 Card spot
- 22 Lawn starter
- 23 Place to park
- 25 Ocean measure
- 28 Despise
- 29 Venus's sister
- 31 Insertion sign
- 33 Ties the knot
- 34 Look upon
- 35 Pet perch
- 36 One in a hand
- 37 Really enjoy
- 38 Mine rock
- 39 Silent assent

A	L	O	H	A		V	O	C	A	L	
C	A	R	O	L		A	W	A	K	E	
T	H	E	M	E		S	E	P	I	A	
				E	R	A	S		E	N	
C	L	A	P	T	R	A	P				
H	A	L	L		F	L	E	E	T	S	
A	T	B	A	T		S	T	R	O	P	
N	E	A	T	E	N		R	I	T	A	
				E	M	O	T	I	C	O	N
R	I	B		P	R	O	D				
I	D	E	A	L		N	I	E	C	E	
F	L	A	R	E		I	S	L	A	M	
T	E	N	T	S		C	H	I	P	S	

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

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

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

4-4

**CRYPTOQUOTE**

YDKL HAZ XRR PRWAGR HAZ, FH  
WGMRTQ, MX LDR GRXZCL AW  
K CMWRLMFR AW IDAIACKLR.

— BKLDKGMTR DRJPZGT

**Cryptoquote:** ONE DAY THE LITTLE RABBIT HEARD THE BOY TELL HIS NANNY THAT HE WAS REAL. HE WAS OVERCOME BY LOVE IN HIS HEART. — "THE VELVETEEN RABBIT"

**Cruise ship Schedule: April 1 - 6 2025**

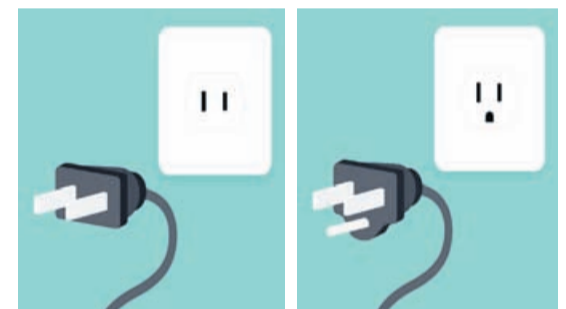
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	01	CELEBRITY REFLECTION	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
		NORWEGIAN VIVA	11.00	21.00	I	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-
WED	02	ROTTERDAM	08.00	17.00	C	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-
THU	03	AIDABELLA	08.00	18.00	B	1
		NORWEGIAN JEWEL	10.30	20.30	C	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-
FRI	04	NORWEGIAN PEARL	10.00	22.00	C	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-
SAT	05	EXPLORER OF THE SEAS	16.30	****	C	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-
SUN	06	RESILIENT LADY	08.00	23.59	B	1
		EXPLORER OF THE SEAS - dept.	****	23.00	C	-
		OCEANIA SIRENA	11.00	21.00	I	1
		LOGOS HOPE	****	****	E	-

**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 basicbut 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.



# This is what forecasters mean when they talk about a 100-year flood

By ISABELLA O'MALLEY  
Associated Press

Weather forecasters sometimes warn of storms that unleash such unusual rain they are described as 100-year or even 500-year floods.

Here's what to know about how scientists determine how extreme a flood is and how common these extreme events are becoming.

What does a 100-year flood mean?

Scientists use math to help people understand how unusual a severe flood is and how to compare the intensity of one flood to another. □

# Classifieds

**Marriott Surf Club**  
Palm Beach  
2 BR 2 Bath  
Cold season Garden view  
Price :\$ 10,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**2000 Marriott destination points**  
For sale  
@ \$5,00 a points  
Transfer fee @ \$3,00 a points  
One time \$300 education fee  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Condo at Aruba Live**  
Noord  
5 min drive to eagle and palm beach  
2 Bedroom 2 Bath  
Ground floor  
Price :\$450 K  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**House for sale**  
Washington noord  
5 Bedroom 4 bath  
5 min drive to eagle and palm beach  
Price :\$650,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Property land**  
Ponton  
10 min drive to  
Eagle beach and palm beach  
434m2 (467,537 sq feet )  
Price :\$220,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
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**Investment opportunity**  
Eagle beach near Gloria  
Commercial building  
2630 m2 lease land (53,820 sqf)  
6 ground floor 6 first floor  
Ready to build  
Price :\$ 750,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Investment opportunity**  
Property land  
At san fuego near national park  
11,667 m2 (125,582,543 sqf)  
Price :\$ 560,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Investment opportunity**  
License company for Bar / restaurant  
With two office spaces with a 3 BR 2 bath house on a 2702m2  
Commercial land at sabana basora  
Price :\$506,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**House for sale**  
Fixer upper  
Pos chigito  
5 min drive to mangel halto beach  
3 BR 2 Bath on a 599 m2 lease land (6447,582 sqf)  
Price : \$200,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**House for sale**  
Wegkustbaterij San Nicolaas  
With and approved permit to built 3 stories giving this project a mesmerizing  
180 degrees ocean view  
Land is 470 m2 (5059,038 Sqf)  
Price :\$200,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**HTTA**  
Halley Time Travel Aruba  
Are you interested in sell  
Your time share in Aruba ?  
Contact the expert 39 years  
Experience transfer over 10,000  
Weeks of time share  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Divi Village**  
Eagle Beach  
2 BR 2 Bath week # 13  
Room # 3512 with 28 weeks remain  
Contract expire : 2036  
Non mandatory maintenance fee  
Price :\$10,000  
Call:011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Divi Dutch Village**  
Eagle Beach  
Studio week # 15 room # 125  
Overlooked the pool  
32 weeks remaining  
Price :\$6000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Casa del mar**  
Eagle beach  
2 BR 2 Bath  
Week # 14 room # 1509  
Price : \$16,000  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**La Quinta beach Resort**  
Eagle Beach  
2 BR 2 Bath week 12  
Room # 2002/2012  
Price :\$9000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Barcelo Resort**  
Palm beach  
All inclusive  
One bedroom platinum  
Week 2-17  
Price :\$10,000 each  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Marriott Surf Club**  
Palm beach  
2 Bedroom 2 bath  
Platinum ocean side  
Price :\$24,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

**Marriott Surf Club**  
Palm Beach  
2 BR 2 Bath  
Gold season ocean side  
Price :\$13,000  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com



**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:**  
Central: Tel.585 1965  
**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**  
**+297 588 0539**

**EMERGENCY**

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	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

**TRAVEL INFO**

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

**AID FOUNDATIONS**

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

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**ARUBA TODAY NEWS**

# Why your favorite reality shows like 'Love is Blind' are using songs you actually know

By **MARIA SHERMAN**  
AP Music Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — When a couple decided to take their relationship further on the most recent season of "Love Is Blind," the moment was soundtracked with a familiar song: Billie Eilish's "Birds of a Feather."

It wasn't a flash-in-the-pan musical surprise. The season was stacked with familiar needle drops: Miley Cyrus' "Wrecking Ball," Justin Bieber's "Holy," Ariana Grande's "Into You," Selena Gomez's "Lose You to Love Me" — a gesture away from the little-known, sometimes generic pop songs that used to meet the show's most emotional moments.

Show creator and Kinetic Content CEO Chris Coelen attributed the pivot to the show's anniversary.

"We decided, in this Season 8, to coincide with our fifth anniversary, to really embrace popular music in a big way," he said. "And so, we ended up using throughout the entire season and in every episode we used popular music cues."

"Love Is Blind" isn't the only reality show that walks the line between what viewers have labeled "real songs" and unfamiliar music.

Where does the unfamiliar music come from?

It's not artificial intelligence, where "nobody controls the copyright," says "The Bachelor" music supervisor Jody



This image released by Netflix shows Nick Lachey, left, and Vanessa Lachey host of "Love is Blind" in Los Angeles on April 16, 2023.

Associated Press

Friedman. "There's too much risk involved with using AI music in these projects." Excluding big-time pop records, the music used on television comes from a number of sources. It can be custom, original music by the show's composers. It can be licensed directly from artists, or from sync agents, production music libraries or a "one stop," what supervisors call a company that has the rights to license both the master recording and the composition rights.

Music supervisors might also turn to covers of well-known songs. On the most recent season of "The Bachelor," Friedman used a cover of Phil Phillips' "Sea of Love," a classic '50s tune. It's more affordable to pay to license a cover than the original recording "and creatively, it's a modern take on an old song," he says.

"Love Island USA" music supervisor Sara Torres also uses covers. "That can bring in other listeners that may not necessarily be into pop, but

if they hear the song in a different genre, it might pull them in, to go back and listen to the original version," she says. Music libraries companies that represent music catalogs for licensing purposes are key, too, because if a song is too expensive to license, a supervisor can instead find a song that evokes the feeling of BTS' "Butter" without having to pay for it.

"The indie libraries, let's say, for TV, could be anywhere from \$1,000-1,500 per needle

drop use," says Friedman. For TV shows in general, bigger commercial songs can range from \$20,000 to upward of \$100,000, with high-profile songs earning more depending on the use, he says. A history of using 'real songs' on dating competition shows

The use of instantly recognizable pop music differs from program to program.

"Love Is Blind" has used popular music in the past, but sparingly.

Coelen points out the use of Lee Ann Womack's "I Hope You Dance" in Bliss Poureetzadi and Zack Goytowski's story in Season 4. But the frequency of Top 40 hits in the most recent season is new. He says the benefit of using these songs, creatively, is that it "elevates the experience," for the viewer: "Emotions are so connected to certain pieces of music, and they can conjure up feelings that we relate to."

Kinetic Content declined The Associated Press' request to speak with the show's music supervisor, Jon Ernst.

"Love Island USA" featured songs like Chappell Roan's "Kaleidoscope" and Sabrina Carpenter's "Please Please Please" in its most recent season. Executive producer James Barker points out that the original U.K. show has always used commercial music, and therefore the U.S. version has endeavored to do the same. □



This cover image released by Scribner shows "Flesh" by David Szalay.

Associated Press

## Book Review: Spare writing style propels tragic story in 'Flesh'

By **ANDREW DeMILLO**  
Associated Press

Istvan, the protagonist in David Szalay's new novel "Flesh," is a character who reveals little in his conversations with others. His clipped responses to questions are akin to the frustrating conversations adults have with teenagers.

That reticence throughout "Flesh" demonstrates how much Istvan remains frozen in time as a shy Hungarian teenager forced to grow up.

Szalay's novel follows Istvan's life in various moments, beginning when he's a 15-year-old who lives alone with his mother. Istvan is coerced into a sexual relationship with a married woman who lives across the hall.

When that relationship ends in tragedy and violence, it upends Istvan's life and overshadows his interactions.

Szalay's straightforward, spare prose helps propel the novel as the effects of that tragedy reverberate throughout his life.

Istvan comes across in much of the novel as someone still stuck somewhat as a teenager, unable to completely interact with others on an adult level. It appears as though physical relationships are the only time he can truly connect with other adults.

The changes to Istvan are subtle but significant as he grapples with the trauma that left him stuck, especially as he forms a relationship with a woman who forces him to see what true connection means. He also learns what it means to confront loss and loneliness.

The power of "Flesh" is Szalay's ability to let these moments speak for themselves, letting these simple interactions tell a tragic story. □

# Here's how the new NFL rules on kickoffs and overtime will work

By JOSH DUBOW  
AP Pro Football Writer

The one-year trial version of the dynamic kickoff in the NFL led to an uptick in the return rate that wasn't quite as much as the league had hoped.

Now the new form of the kickoff that is more like a scrimmage play is permanent with a change for 2025 that the league hopes will lead to a significant increase in returns.

Owners voted Tuesday to move touchbacks on kicks from the 30 to the 35 in hopes that more teams will kick the ball in play instead of giving up an extra 5 yards of field position.

The league also approved changes to the overtime rule, expanded replay assist and made a few other technical changes at the league meetings in Palm Beach, Florida.

Here's an explanation of some of the new rules that will be in place.

## What's new with the kickoff?

The league was mostly pleased with the experimental kickoff put in place for 2024 that led to the rate of kickoff returns increasing from a record-low 21.8% in 2023 to 32.8% last season, while reducing the rate of injuries on what had been the game's most dangerous play. The rule made kickoffs more like scrimmage plays by placing the cover-



NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell speaks during a news conference at the NFL football annual meetings Tuesday, April 1, 2025, in Palm Beach, Fla.

age players and blockers close together to eliminate the high-speed collisions that had contributed to so many injuries on the play. The league said the rate of concussions dropped 43% on returns with a significant reduction as well in lower-body injuries.

The problem last season was many teams still opted to kick the ball in the end zone because the touchback wasn't punitive enough. The average starting field position on a touchback was only 2.4 yards further than the average starting position after returns, which was the 27.6-yard line.

By moving the touchback

to the 35, the league projects that the return rate will rise to somewhere between 60% and 70%, with a similar increase in long returns, adding more excitement to the game.

The league also approved a small tweak to how blockers on the return team are allowed to line up in the setup zone that could lead to longer returns.

## How will overtime change?

The league approved a proposal to make the regular season overtime more like the postseason, with both teams getting a chance at a possession, even if the team that got the ball first scored a touchdown.

## Associated Press

The NFL added regular season overtime in 1974, adding a 15-minute sudden death period that ended on any score. In 2010, the rule was tweaked to a "modified" sudden death that required an opening possession touchdown to immediately end the game instead of only a field goal in both the regular season and playoffs. Overtime then was shortened for the regular season to only 10 minutes in 2017. A rule change in 2022 for the playoffs only gave both teams the chance to score even with a touchdown on the opening possession. Now that will be the case in the regular season, after

the improved field position on kickoffs made winning in OT on an opening possession TD easier.

According to Sportradar, six of the 16 overtime games last season ended on an opening-drive TD for the most overtime games ended on the first drive since the rule change went into effect in 2010. In all, teams that won the overtime toss won 75% of the time last season, according to Sportradar, and have a .606 winning percentage in overtime since it was cut to 10 minutes.

The league kept the 10-minute overtime period instead of expanding it back to 15 minutes like was originally proposed by Philadelphia, which could lead to teams opting to go for 2 and a win if they match an opening-drive TD with one of their own since there might not be time for another possession.

## Replay assist

The NFL expanded its replay assist system to overturn objective calls if there was "clear and obvious" evidence that a foul didn't occur. The calls could include facemask penalties, whether there was forcible contact to the head or neck area, horse-collar tackles and tripping. Replay also would be able to overturn a roughing-the-kicker or running-into-the-kicker penalty if video showed the defender made contact with the ball. □

# Paul Skenes earns his first victory of the season, Pirates beat Rays 4-2

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Paul Skenes needed nearly three innings to warm up Wednesday, then struck out six over seven innings and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Tampa Bay Rays 4-2 at George M. Steinbrenner Field.

Oneil Cruz hit his second home run of the season and drove in another to give Skenes, the 2024 National League Rookie of the Year, his first win of 2025.

The 22-year-old right-hander did not walk a batter and was on the mound when the Rays scored an unearned run in the sixth. Isaiah Kiner-Falefa's throwing error on Jonn DeLuca's ground ball allowed the Rays their only runner in scoring position against Skenes. He scored on Brandon Lowe's groundout.

Skenes generated 13 swings-and-misses, but did not strike out his first batter until the third inning, a career first for him.

Ryan Pepiot pitched five innings for the

Rays, allowing two runs on five hits, striking out three and walking three.

## Key Moment

With one out in the top of the fifth, Cruz drove a changeup from Ryan Pepiot 391 feet to left-center field to give the Pirates a two-run lead.

## Key Stat

It was the first time in his career that Skenes went the first two innings of a game without recording a strikeout. His first strikeout came with two outs in the third inning when he got Lowe to swing and miss on three pitches.

## Up Next

The Pirates head back to Pittsburgh to open their season at PNC Park on Friday against the New York Yankees with RHP Mitch Keller on the mound.

The Tampa Bay Rays head to Texas with Zack Littell set to face RHP Tyler Mahle. □



Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Paul Skenes delivers to the Tampa Bay Rays during the second inning of a baseball game Wednesday, April 2, 2025, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

# MLB's average salary tops \$5 million for first time, AP study shows

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Major League Baseball's average salary broke the \$5 million barrier on opening day for the first time, according to a study by The Associated Press.

The New York Mets, with Juan Soto's record \$61.9 million pay, led MLB for the third straight opening day with a \$322.6 million payroll, just ahead of the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers at \$319.5 million. Those two teams each spent roughly five times as much as the Miami Marlins, who at \$64.9 million ended the Athletics' three-year streak as the lowest spender.

Still, the Mets were down from their record high of



New York Mets' Juan Soto (22) hits a home run as Houston Astros catcher Yainer Diaz reaches for the pitch during the third inning of a baseball game Friday, March 28, 2025, in Houston.

Associated Press

\$355.4 million in 2023. The average rose 3.6% to \$5,160,245.

That was up from a 1.5% increase last year but down from an 11.1% increase in 2023.

Adding Blake Snell, Michael Conforto, Tanner Scott and Kirby Yates, the Dodgers boosted payroll by a big league-high \$69 million from opening day last year.

Baltimore hiked spending by \$66 million, followed by Arizona (\$55 million), San Diego (\$47 million), Philadelphia (\$41 million) and Detroit (\$39 million).

Los Angeles' payroll figure was held down by deferred payments. Shohei Ohtani's \$70 million salary was discounted to a present-day value of \$28.2 million because it won't be paid in full until 2035, causing him to be listed as the 18th-highest-paid player. Other Dodgers with deferred payments include Mookie Betts, Tommy Edman, Freddie Freeman, Teoscar Hernández, Scott, Will Smith and Snell.

Following their record 121-loss season, the Chicago White Sox cut payroll by \$60.8 million, San Francisco by \$39.1 million, Miami by \$31.7 million and St. Louis by \$31.6 million. The American League champion Yankees dropped by \$18.5 million.

Just five teams were under \$100 million, with the Marlins joined by the A's (\$74.9 million), Tampa Bay (\$79.2 million), the White Sox (\$80.9 million) and Pittsburgh (\$87.9 million).

Soto broke the previous high of \$43.3 million shared by pitchers Max Scherzer and Justin Verlander under deals they agreed to with the Mets.

Phillies pitcher Zack Wheeler is second at \$42 million, followed by Texas pitcher Jacob deGrom and Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge at \$40 million each. Of 953 players in the major leagues on opening day, 526 had salaries of \$1 million or more, 55%, and down from 532 last year and 546 in 2023. □



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