From: CNN's 5 Things PM
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] Big cooldown coming, sperm counts, short shorts
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 5:12:47 PM

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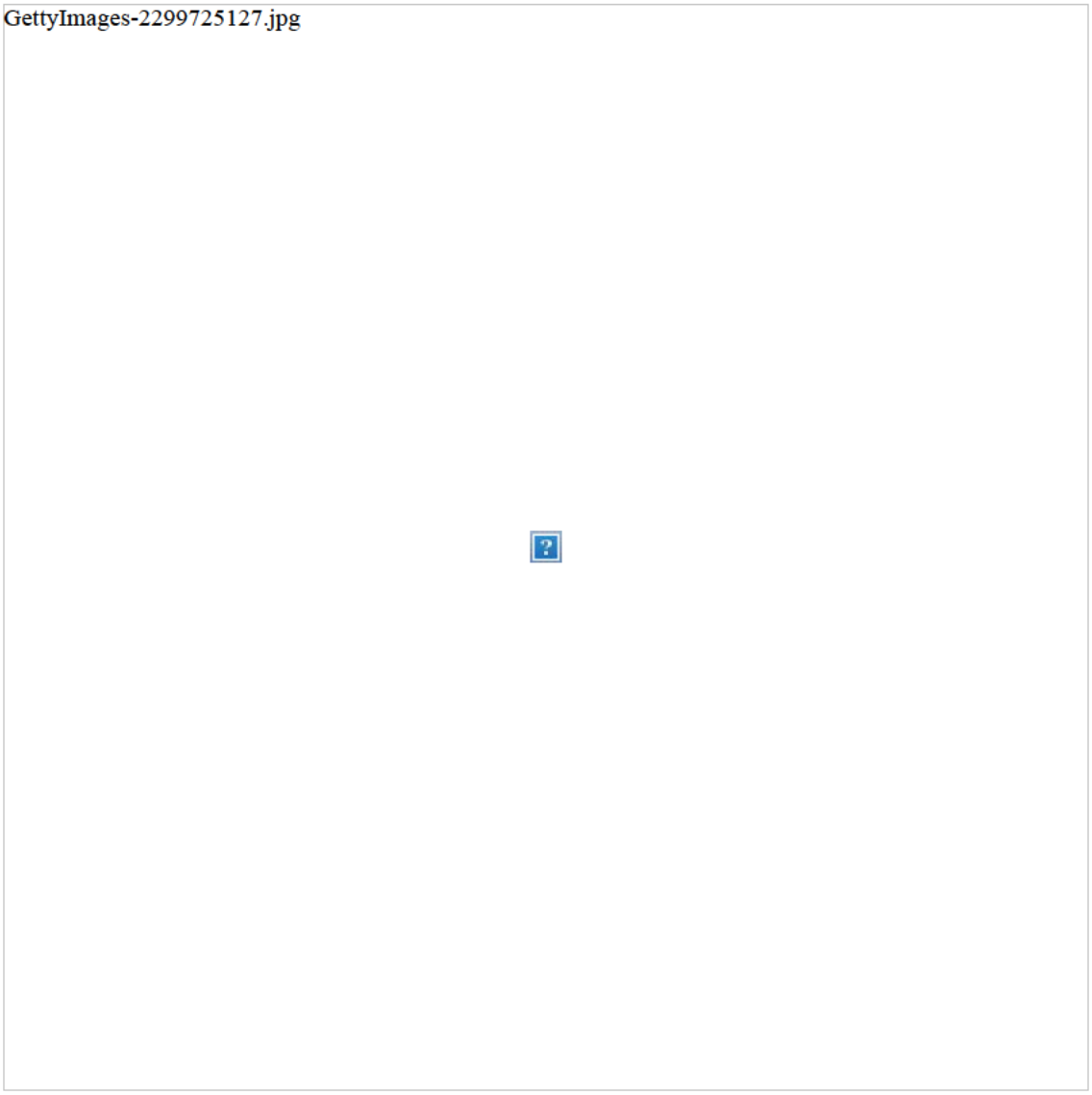
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 View in browser

By Daniel Wine, CNN

The deeply unpopular war with Iran continues to weigh on Americans' wallets. A new estimate breaks down the cost for the average household.

Here's what else you might have missed during your busy day.

GettyImages-2299725127.jpg



Taughannock Falls State Park in Ithaca, New York. (Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images)

1

Big cooldown

The chilliest temperatures since spring are finally on the way as a strong cold front slices across the US this week. See how far they will drop.

Sign up: Get the CNN Weather newsletter

2

Called into ‘question’

Some right-wingers target marginalized or minority groups by discussing them as a problem that needs to be solved. This time they’re going after Indian Americans.

3

Sperm counts

Are they really dropping worldwide? It’s complicated because the findings vary across populations. A urologist explains what the results mean for individual men.

4

Leap second

An international meeting is considering a fundamental change to timekeeping, potentially severing the ancient link between time and the motion of the Earth.

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5

Short shorts

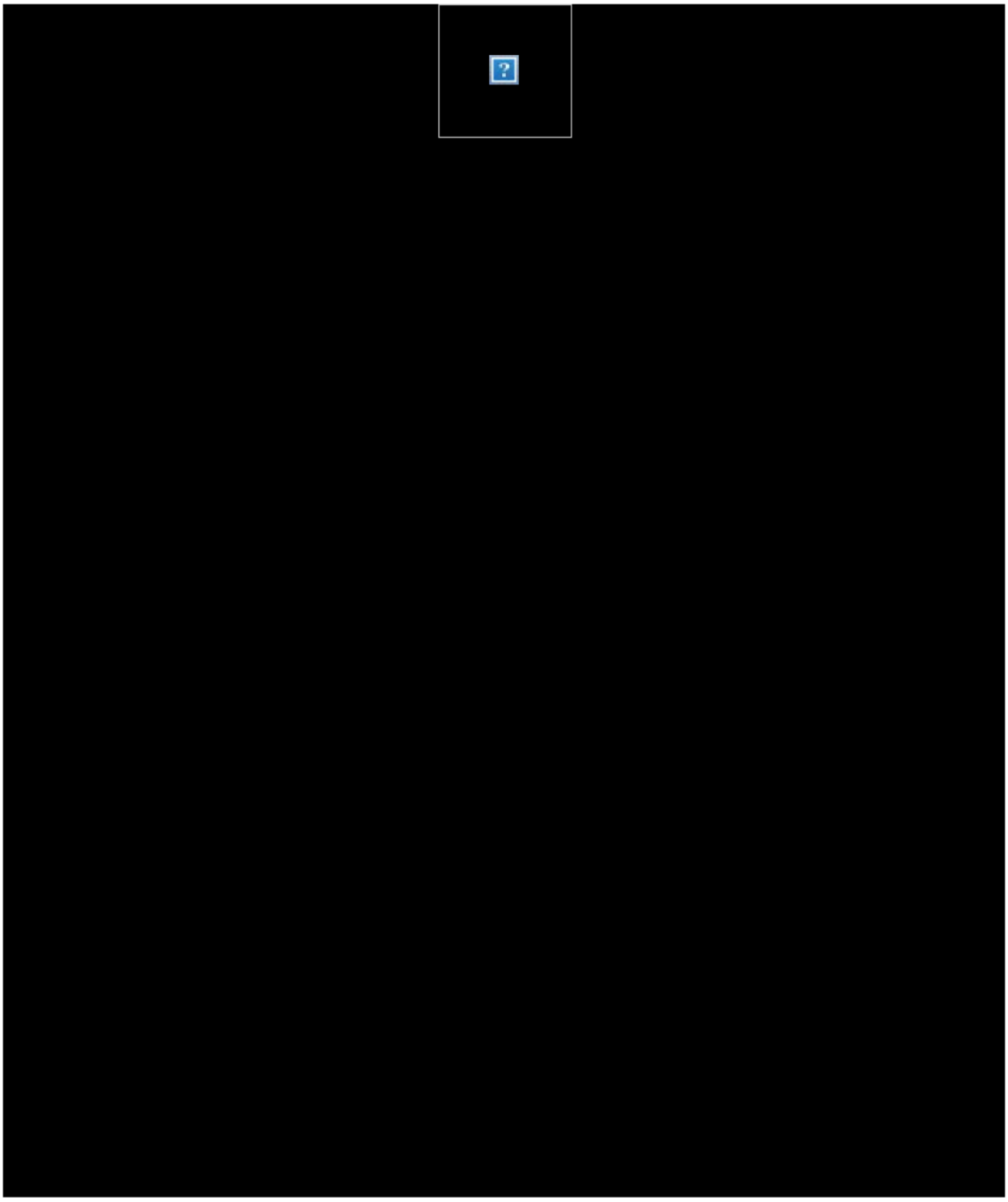
You may have an idea about what fashion people wear to runway shows. Then the avant-garde photographer comes along and proves

you wrong.

Watch: The most famous sport shorts in fashion

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watch this



01:49

Under fire: Comedian Shane Gillis is facing backlash for jokes he made during his opening monologue on "Saturday Night Live." Some called his tone misogynistic.

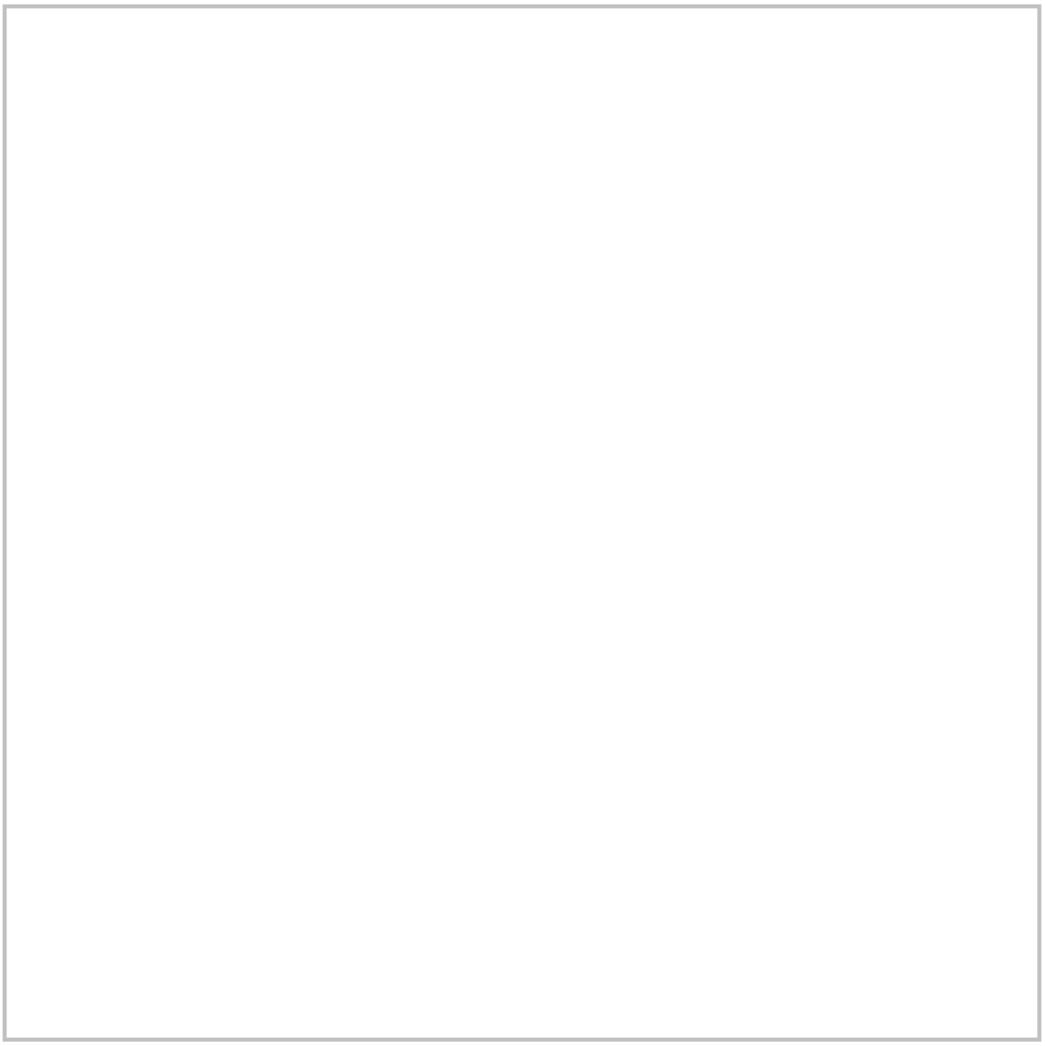
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top headlines

- Pope Leo diagnosed with lung cancer and has part of right lung removed, Vatican says
- Man dies after being 'ejected' from Goliath roller coaster at Six Flags Over Georgia
- Duane Davis sentenced to 40 years to life for the death of Tupac Shakur
- White House ousts Kimberly Guilfoyle as US ambassador to Greece

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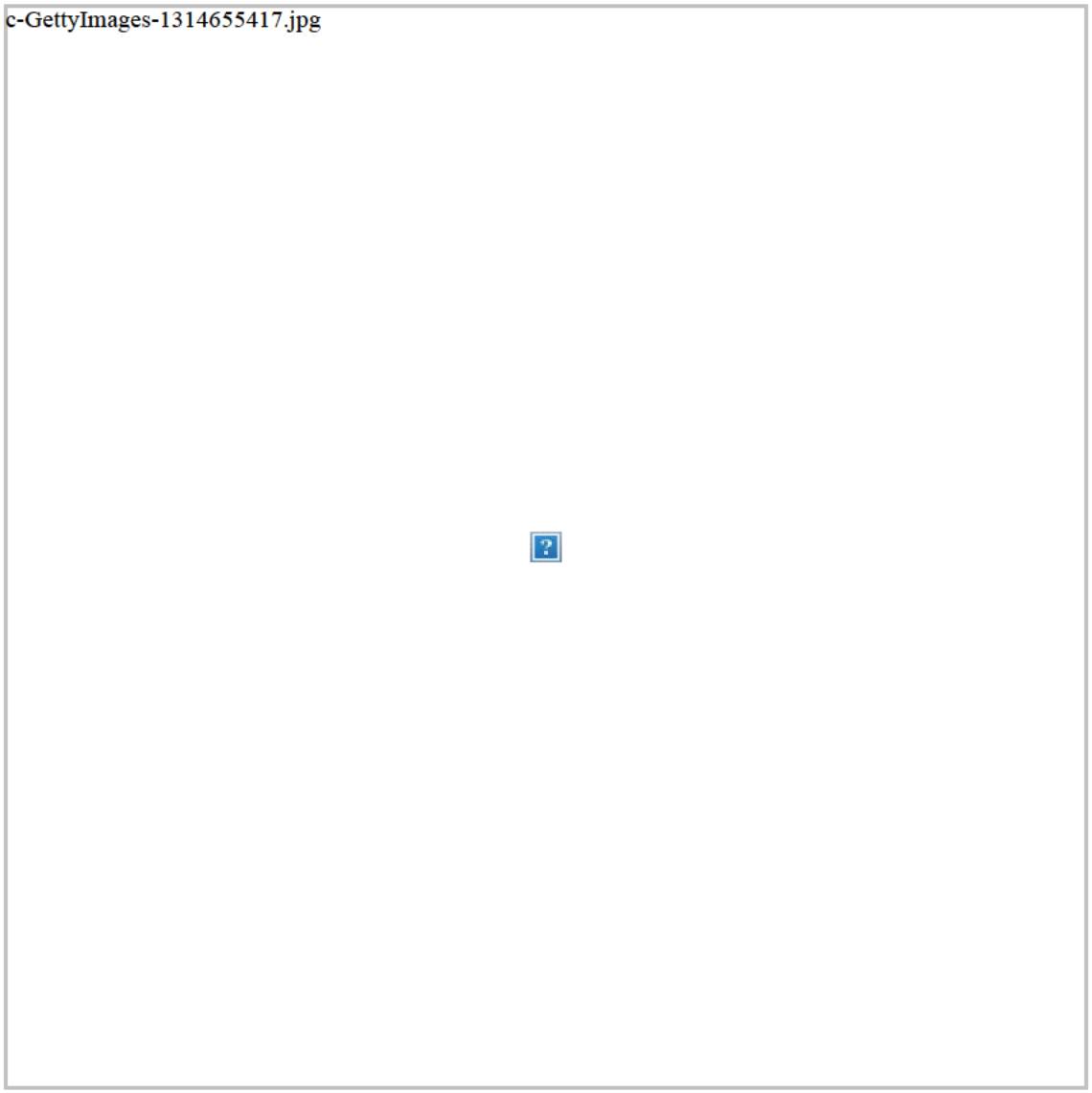


18 weird little hacks Costco shoppers should know

Do you shop at Costco? Then you know the thrill of saving money. But you might be missing other smart ways to stretch your dollars. Check out our list of genius money hacks — almost as good as that $1.50 hot dog!

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check this out



(Philippe Clément/Arterra/Universal Images Group/Getty Images)

On the rebound: Giant tortoises once pushed to the brink of extinction now outnumber humans in the Seychelles, a new survey found. Here's how they did it.

for cnn subscribers

- 'Humans are always fascinated by tragedy:' How the Titan sub implosion unfolded

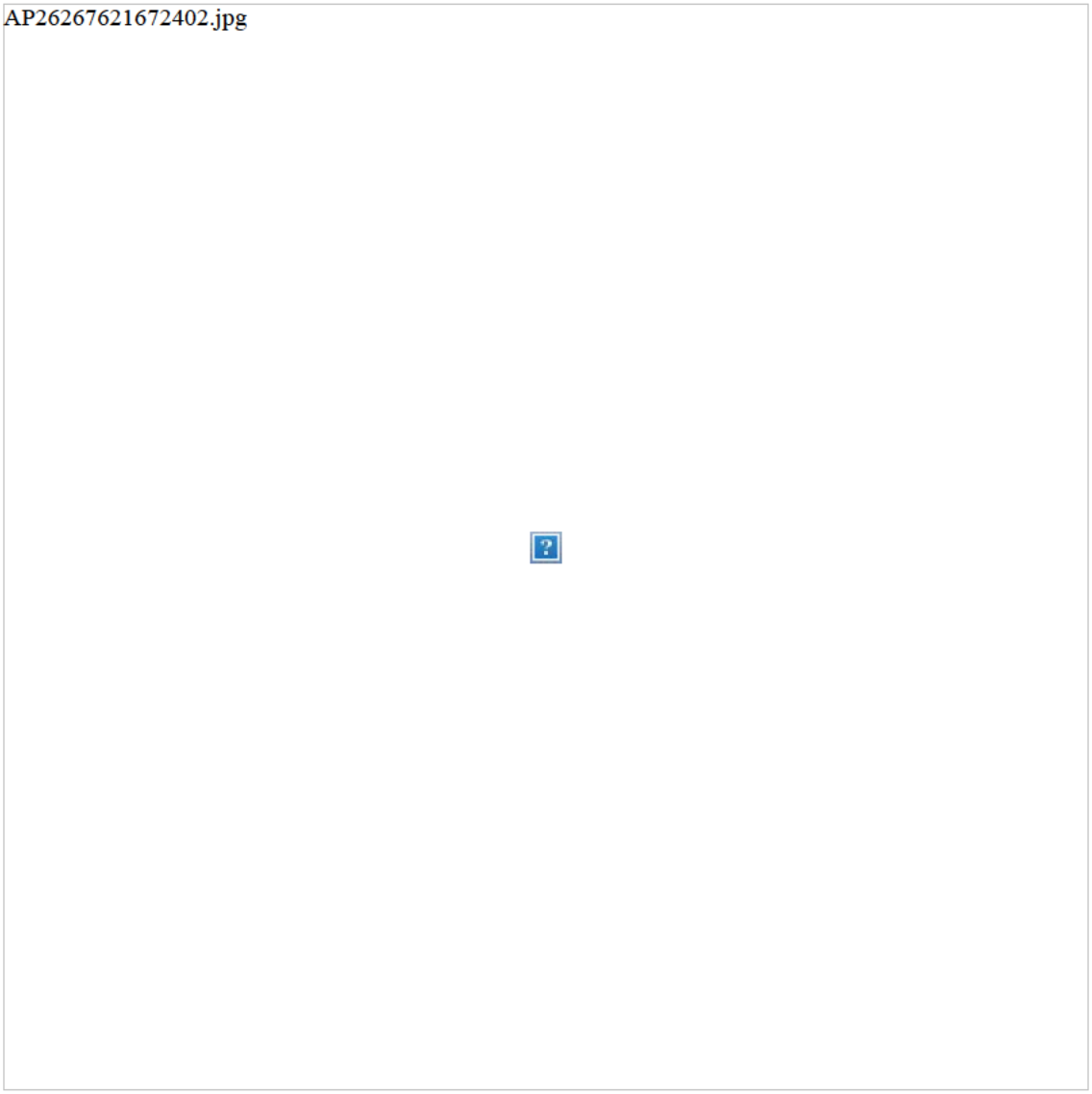
- Analysis: Democrats will face a harsh reality if they win the midterms
- Buried bodies, cleared rubble, Israel's yellow line: How war is hampering the search for Gaza's missing

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quiz time

AP26267621672402.jpg



(Mariam Zuhaib/AP/File)

Republican Sen. Roger Marshall said gas prices would decide the midterms. Which state does he represent?

A. Alabama

B. Arkansas

C. Louisiana

D. Kansas

⬇ *Scroll down for the answer.*

CNN & Jubilee Town Hall with James Talarico

Get ready for a next-generation town hall event with Texas Senate candidate Rep. James Talarico as he faces voters directly and answers questions live, moderated by CNN's Erin Burnett. Submit your questions here and watch Wednesday at 8 p.m. ET on CNN or stream live with an All Access subscription.

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thanks for reading

Most popular in yesterday's newsletter: Friends and family thought they knew almost everything about her. Then Antoinette Forbes disappeared

Quiz answer: D. The senator from Kansas made that declaration in July, and GOP candidates across the country — including Marshall — are facing surprisingly competitive races.

We'll see you tomorrow.

Today's edition of 5 Things PM was edited and produced by CNN's Kimberly Richardson and Gina Park.

We hope this caught you up on today

We want to hear from you. Questions, ideas or feedback?

Let us know



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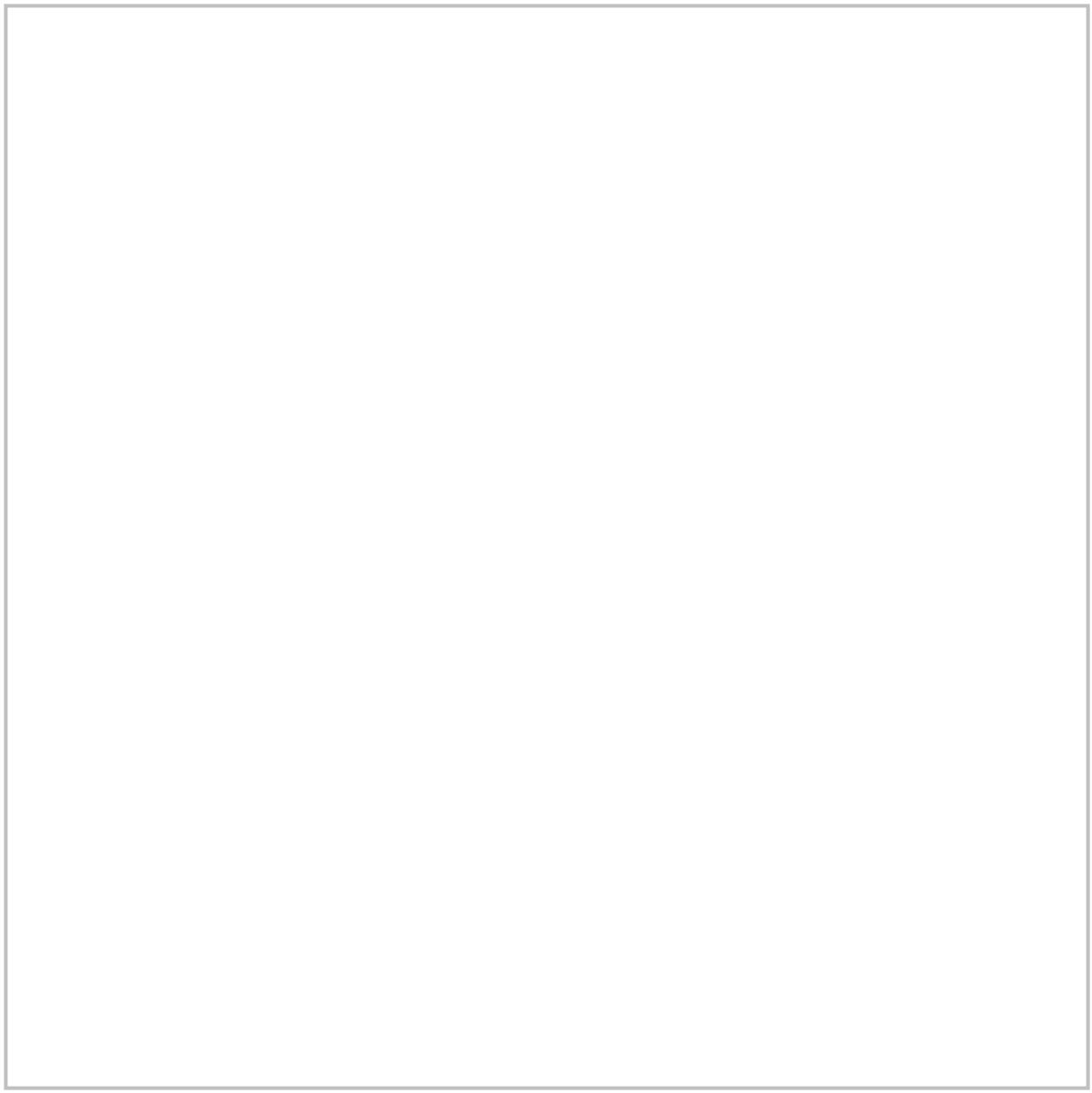
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From: The New York Times
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] The Morning: Screen Time
Date: Saturday, October 10, 2026 7:01:13 AM

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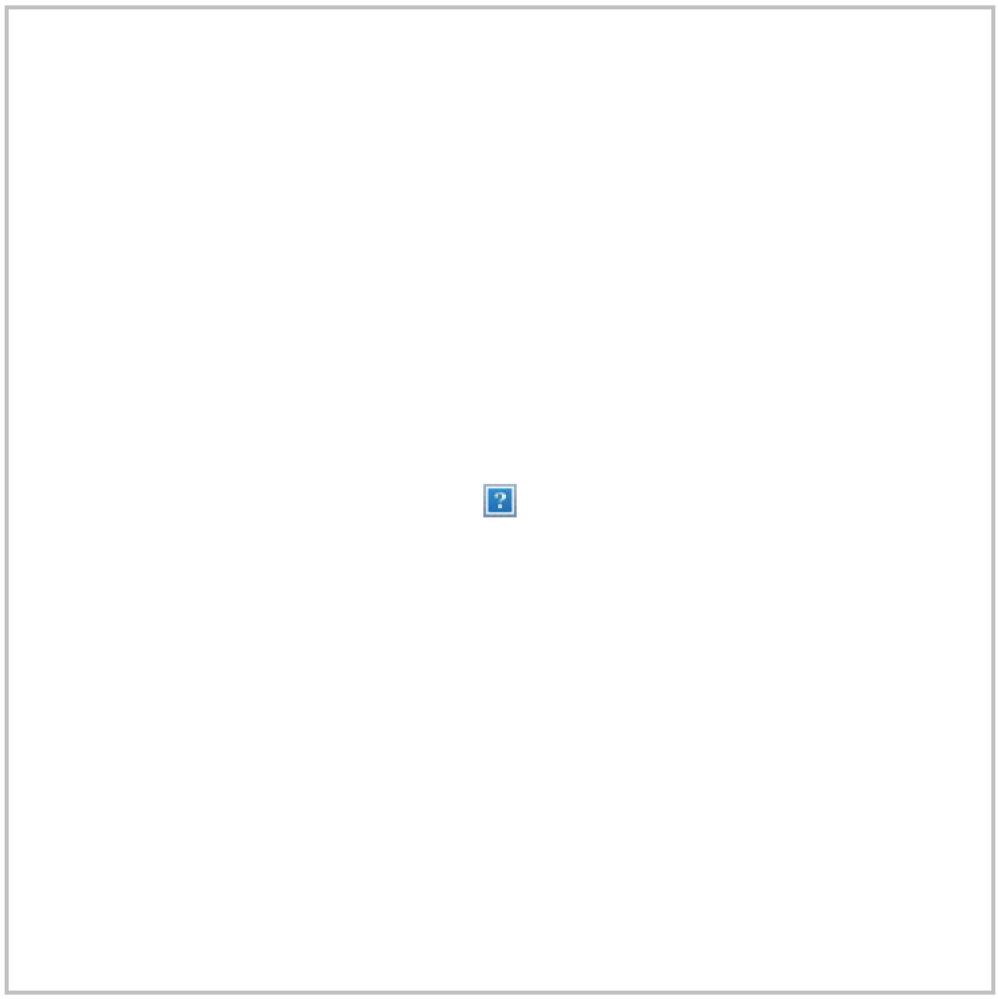
The Morning

October 10, 2026



Read on site

Good morning. Hurricane Isaias made landfall last night as a Category 2 storm, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without power. We've got details on that below, but we're starting with a look at fall movie season. Let's dive in.



María Jesús Contreras

Screen time

By Melissa Kirsch

That moment in a movie theater when the lights go down is such a sacred threshold. When the chattering and fidgeting fade and the crowd goes silent, there's a feeling of shared anticipation, like we're all embarking on an exciting trip.

That experience was amplified last week when I was in an audience of more than 1,000 people for a screening of the new documentary "Cameron Winter at Carnegie Hall." The film features Winter, the dazzlingly talented 24-year-old singer-songwriter and frontman of the band Geese, alone at the piano and singing. The performance was, as my colleague Lindsay Zoladz wrote, "utterly magical." But equally magical for me was the experience of seeing a movie with

that many people, in this case at Lincoln Center during the New York Film Festival. A bunch of strangers agreeing to be silent and focused on a screen as a communal activity — so rare in an age when we're so frequently staring at our own personal screens.

Fall always lures me to the theater, a combination of the awards-season deluge of exciting films and a formative adolescent memory of emerging from a matinee of "Stand by Me" and noticing the changing October light. As I do each year, I've made a list of what I want to see, a sort of cinematic advent calendar. October alone could sate even the most insatiable cinephile.

This weekend, one could do a technology double feature, with Aaron Sorkin's "The Social Reckoning," his follow-up to the 2010 Facebook thriller "The Social Network," and the four-hour documentary "Musk," about the world's richest man. I'm also interested in the Romanian director Cristian Mungiu's "Fjord," starring Sebastian Stan and Renate Reinsve as a conservative couple who are accused of abusing their children. Our critic Alissa Wilkinson told me it's great and "provocative on purpose."

If you'd prefer not to be provoked, or provoked in a different way, next weekend brings the arrival of a new adaptation of "Sense and Sensibility," starring Daisy Edgar-Jones. There are also two exciting nonfiction films coming Oct. 16: "Once Upon a Time in Harlem," about a 1972 party at Duke Ellington's apartment that reunited leading lights of the Harlem Renaissance, and "You Can See Everything," the buzzy, three-hour documentary about the founder of the fraudulent blood-testing company Theranos, from Nathan Fielder and Lance Oppenheim.

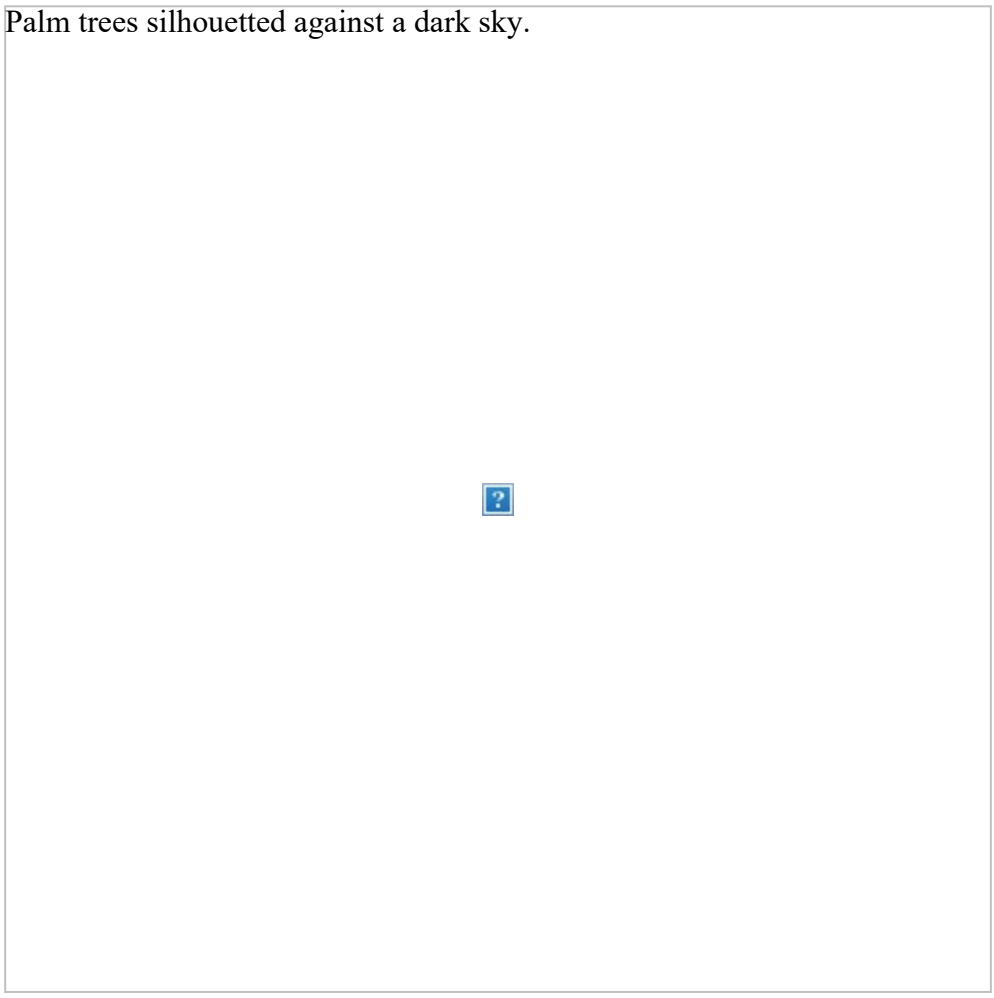
On Oct. 23, "The Only Living Pickpocket in New York" opens, a thriller starring John Turturro as an aging thief who gets mixed up with a dangerous crime family. "Small New York films don't always get made anymore," Alissa noted, praising this one's fidelity to the geography of the city. There's also Taika Waititi's "Klara and the Sun," based on Kazuo Ishiguro's novel, whose trailer is creepily compelling. It's about an A.I. companion, played by Jenna Ortega.

If you prefer your fantasies more fantastical, "Wicker" stars Olivia Colman as a medieval fisherwoman who commissions a local basket-maker to weave her a husband. The husband is played by Alexander Skarsgard; as soon as I learned

this, I could not conceive of anyone more perfect to play a person made from woven plant fibers.

And there are more films to look forward to later in the year — “Cameron Winter at Carnegie Hall” opens on Nov. 20.

HURRICANE ISAIAS



Florida last night. Hilary Swift for The New York Times

The storm’s eye came ashore about 8:30 p.m. Central time on Friday near

Destin, Fla., lashing the Gulf Coast with heavy rains and howling winds that toppled trees and flooded highways. Follow our live coverage here.

It landed with maximum sustained winds of 105 miles per hour as a Category 2 hurricane, but dropped quickly over the next half-hour to a Category 1, with winds of 85 m.p.h. By early this morning, it had downgraded further to a post-tropical cyclone. At one point on Friday, the storm had reached Category 3 status. Read about the science behind its rapid intensification.

Isaias is the first Atlantic hurricane of the 2026 season, which has been relatively quiet partly because of a powerful El Niño. And it is the first hurricane in two years to strike the mainland United States.

More on the storm:

- Beach towns on the Alabama coast typically spend early October preparing for the season's biggest event: the National Shrimp Festival. This year, the hurricane "ruined all of that."
- See how sky-high weather balloons helped meteorologists understand the storm.
- As Isaias approached, forecasters were confronted with a striking split in their data: The traditional models said one thing, and experimental A.I. models said another.

THE LATEST NEWS

Midterm Elections

- Republicans are suddenly racing to defend a Senate seat in Kansas, where polls show Democrats with a real chance for the first time in nearly a century.
- More Democrats are confident there will be a blue wave in November. But history shows that such waves can produce notably different outcomes.

- President Trump has attacked the integrity of U.S. elections on more than 70 percent of the days since he returned to office. See how he does it.

Trump Administration

- President Trump said he had reached an agreement with Vladimir Putin of Russia to immediately import Russian diesel into the U.S., despite a Russian ban on fuel exports.
- He also said the White House would investigate Lisa Cook, a governor at the Federal Reserve, on accusations that she committed mortgage fraud.
- Vice President JD Vance said he would not watch the Pentagon's planned execution of the 2009 Fort Hood shooter and cast doubt on whether the plan would go forward at all.
- Katie Zacharia, a conservative commentator, was named the next White House press secretary.

Health Care

- Millions of people with private Medicare coverage are being forced to change their insurance for next year and will face higher premiums.
- Trump has started sending $500 "refund" checks, along with a signed letter taking credit for the payments, to Americans enrolled in Obamacare.

Around the World

- Investigators in the **United Arab Emirates** said that the co-pilot who attacked the captain of a FlyDubai flight had intended to carry out a Sept. 11-inspired suicide mission by crashing into an **Israeli** airport.
- Leaders of the Gen Z protest movement in **India** said they were detained in New Delhi. Demonstrators across the country had been met with walls of security forces as they tried to agitate against changes to the voter rolls.

- Houthi attacks on the airport in **Riyadh**, Saudi Arabia's capital, killed three people.
- **Israel** denounced the decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Navi Pillay, a human rights lawyer who chaired a commission that found that Israel had committed genocide in Gaza.

Other Big Stories

- The New York Police Department released body-camera footage from officers who arrived on the scene after an ICE agent shot a man in his car Thursday. Watch it here.
- Mike Ditka, the Super Bowl-winning, sideline-shouting coach of the Chicago Bears — known to many as "Da Coach" — died at 86.
- The F.B.I. arrested a man in Pennsylvania on suspicion of carrying out the computer hack that stole sensitive information about thousands of the agency's employees.

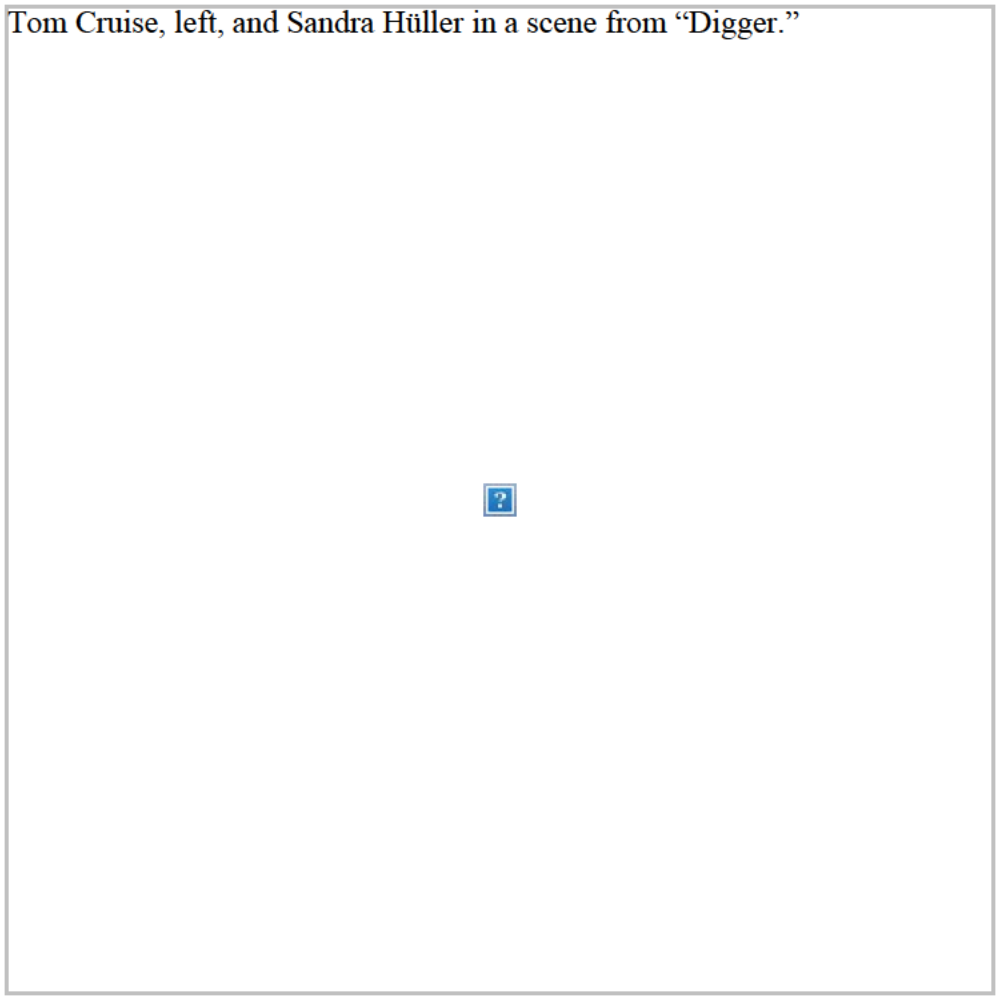
GAME OF THE WEEK

Chicago White Sox vs. Cleveland Guardians, Game 5: There's probably no Major League Baseball team having more fun than the White Sox. They have one player who swears that ice cream cones are good luck, another who wears a wizard hat in the dugout, and the whole team dances before games. It's strange, but apparently effective: No other team in baseball history has emerged as a playoff contender after three straight 100-loss seasons. (The South Side squad really was the laughingstock of baseball a few short years ago.)

Now, the White Sox are on the road for a do-or-die American League division series game against the Cleveland Guardians, whose offense proved dominant earlier this week. The winner will head to the semifinals; the loser will be done for the year. First pitch is tonight at 8 p.m. Eastern. — *Matthew Cullen*

THE WEEK IN CULTURE

Film and TV



Tom Cruise and Sandra Hüller in “Digger.” Warner Bros. Pictures, via Associated Press

- The Tom Cruise film “Digger” bombed at the box office. David Gelles, host of our climate newsletter, says it should nonetheless be recognized for its go-for-broke attempt to dramatize the catastrophic effects of climate change. Sign up to get Climate Forward delivered to your inbox.
- “Fjord,” which won the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival and opened in the United States this weekend, is morally ambiguous. Some viewers

don't like that.

- Hear Aaron Sorkin explain how he evolved Mark Zuckerberg's character in "The Social Reckoning," the sort-of sequel to "The Social Network."

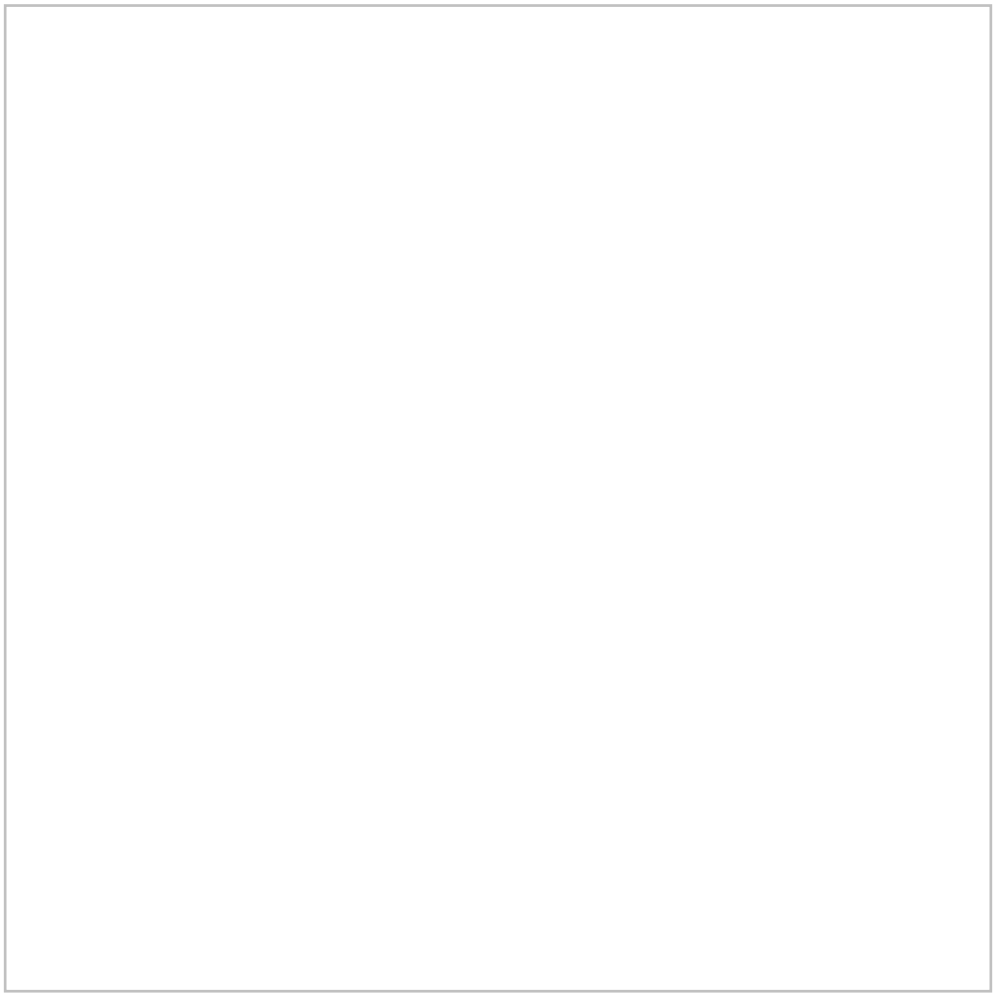
Music

- Karol G, the Medellín-born singer, became the first Latin woman to headline Coachella. On the latest episode of Popcast, she discusses her fame and Spanish-language music.
- A North Carolina man was sentenced to 18 months in prison for using A.I. to defraud streaming platforms and musicians of millions of dollars in royalties.

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RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Kate Sears for The New York Times

By Melissa Clark

One-Pan Roasted Vegetables and Polenta

Yewande Komolafe lets the oven do most of the work in her colorful one-pan roasted vegetables and polenta. To make it, she bakes cornmeal, brussels sprouts and sweet potatoes together until the polenta is thick and porridge-like and the vegetables are thoroughly tender. Then she runs it all under the broiler to crisp and brown the edges. A little fresh lemon juice right at the end adds brightness, while some crumbled goat cheese lends a creamy tang. It's a cozy early autumn meal.

REAL ESTATE



Tony Cenicola for The New York Times

The Hunt: Even after stretching their budget, a family couldn't buy their Southern California home from their landlord, so they moved to New York's Hudson Valley. What did they find? Play our game.

What you get for $900,000: A Tudor Revival in Salt Lake City, a farmhouse in Woodbury, Conn., and a Craftsman in Denver. Which would you choose?

LIVING

Repurposed: Two architects transformed a Cold War-era radio tower that once served as the set for a zombie movie into a unique home. Go inside.

"Looks messy, helps frogs": A backyard pond can promote biodiversity, especially during the winter. Learn how.

ADVICE FROM WIRECUTTER

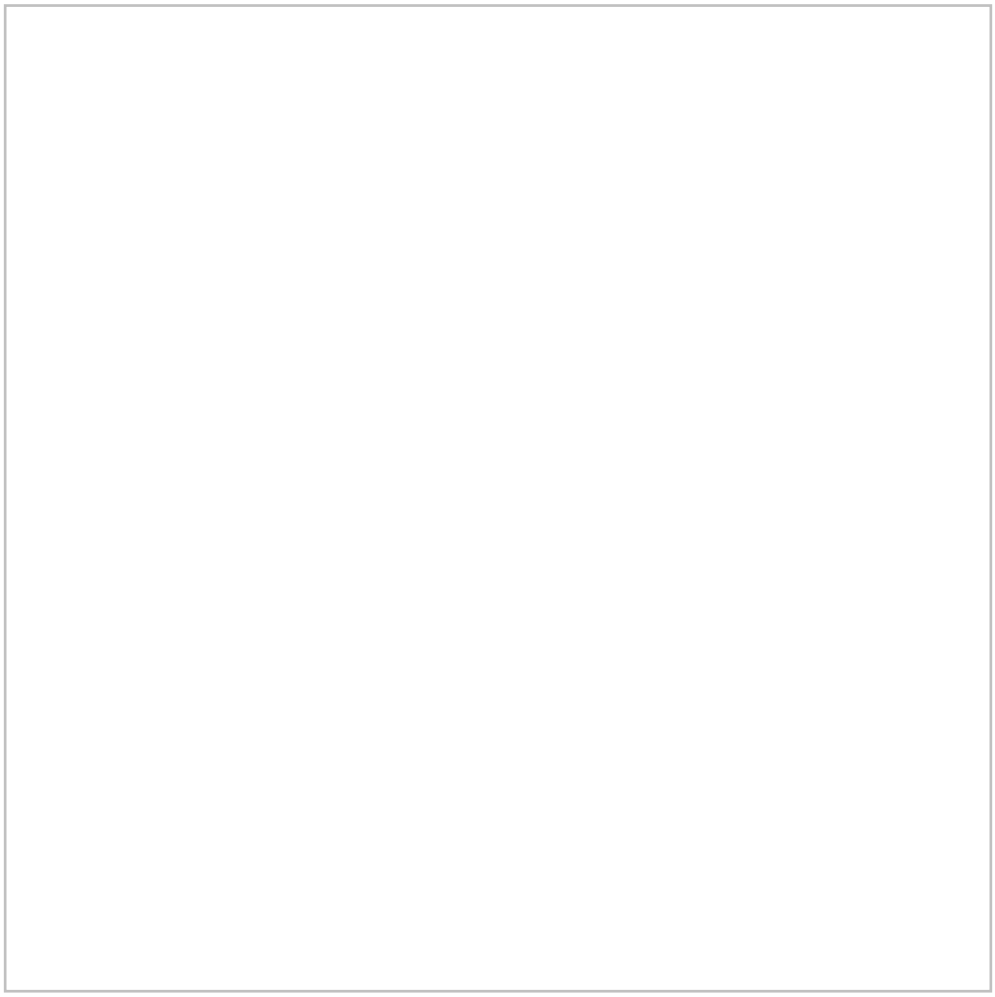
Make a cheap but fun Halloween costume

You don't need to spend a fortune to whip up a fun, easy Halloween costume. Start with stuff you already own.

My colleague easily made a Kermit the Frog meme costume with a green T-shirt, a glass mug and felt triangles. A tube of red lipstick smudged around the mouth could turn you into a vampire. Finally, there's a whole genre of fun "attach a thing to a shirt" costumes. A few colorful balloons on a tee, and suddenly you're a bunch of grapes or a gumball machine.

If you do buy something, make it something you can use it for non-costume purposes in the future. While we're on Halloween: We found some great, non-junky decor that'll charm and spook for years to come. — *Annemarie Conte*

NOW TIME TO PLAY



Here is today's Spelling Bee. Yesterday's pangrams were *gentility*, *intelligently*, *negligently* and *tellingly*.

Take the news quiz to see how well you followed this week's headlines.

And here are today's Mini Crossword, Wordle, Crossplay, Connections and Strands.

Thanks for spending part of your weekend with The Times. — Melissa

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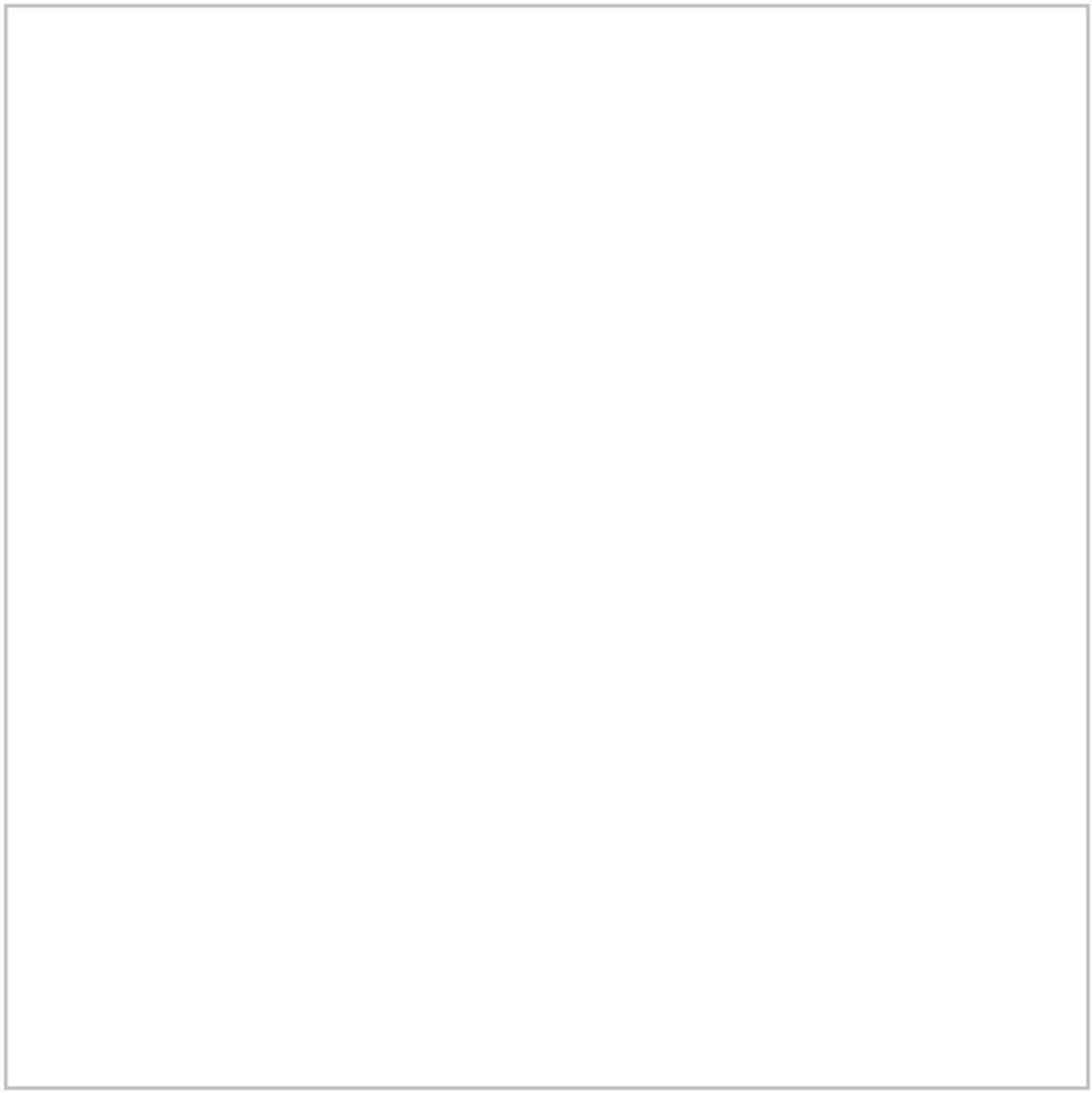
The New York Times Company. 620 Eighth Avenue New York, NY 10018

From: The New York Times
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Date: Friday, October 9, 2026 6:51:08 AM

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The Morning

October 9, 2026



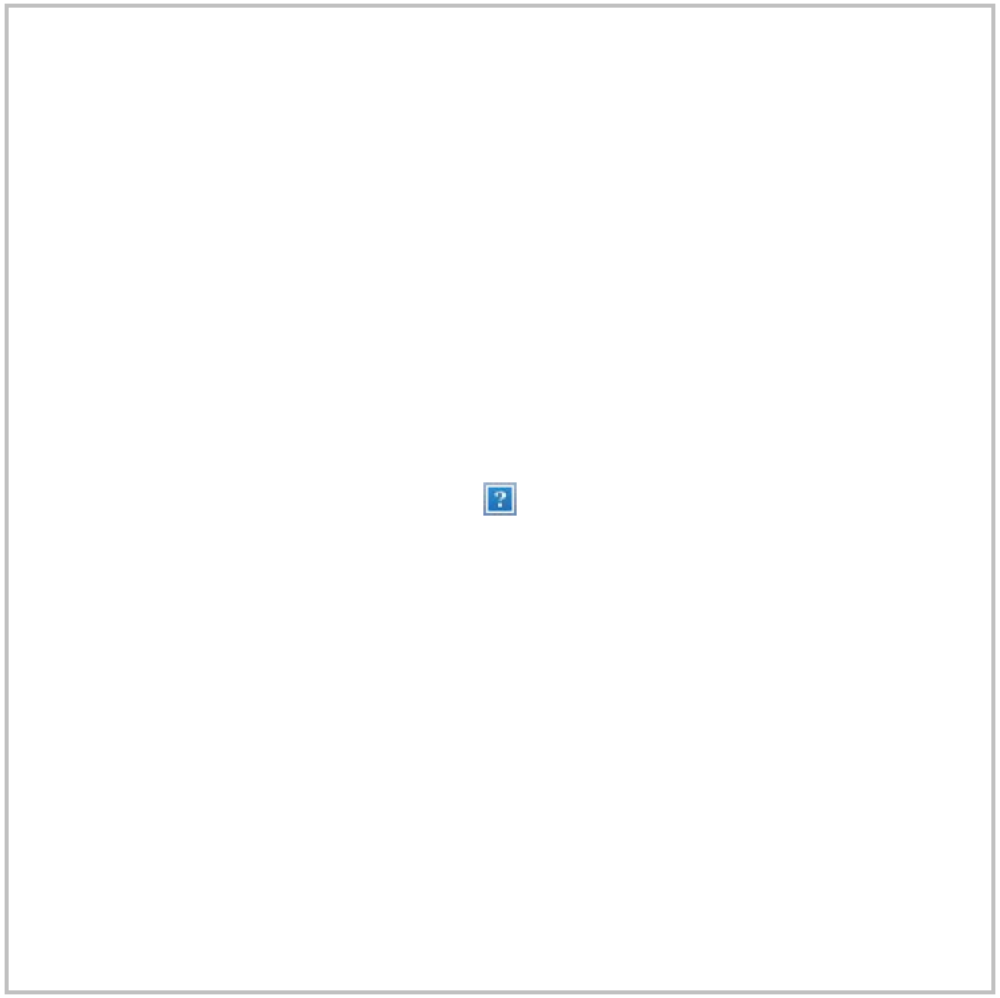
Read on site

By Sam Sifton

Good morning. The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Navi Pillay, a South African human rights lawyer who led a United Nations commission last year that found that Israel had committed genocide against Palestinians in

Gaza. (The Israeli government denounced the report.) And Hurricane Isaias is strengthening. The Gulf Coast could start feeling its impact as soon as this afternoon.

There's more below. But first, let's see where our fish comes from.



The New York Times

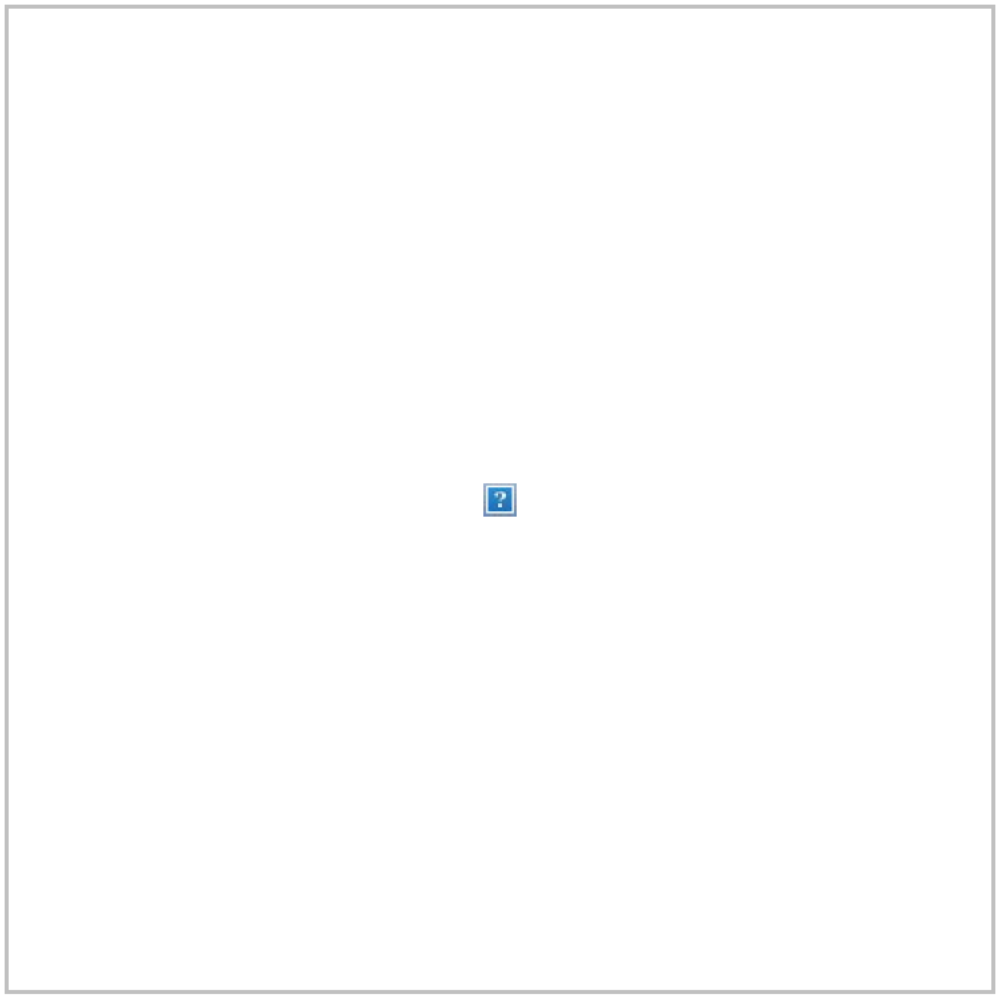
Fish food

We humans eat a lot of seafood. Global consumption of fish has doubled in the last 60 years. Unsurprisingly, that is having an effect on the number of fish in the sea. Something like a third of the world's stocks are being harvested at unsustainable levels. We can't go on like this.

Fish farming — aquaculture is the fancy term — was meant to help. After all, why harvest what's left of our wild fish under unpredictable conditions out at

sea when you can grow fish under relatively controlled ones? And by some measures, it's working. More than half of the fish we consume now comes from fish farms, most of them in China, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Norway.

But what do you think those farmed fish eat? Wild fish, harvested all over the world and ground into fish meal. They eat a lot of it. At some Norwegian fish farms, for example, a single salmon might consume up to five times its weight in fish meal as it grows to market size. That's a lot of anchovies.



The New York Times

Which is a conundrum. Aquaculture, meant to relieve the pressures of overfishing, is actually making overfishing worse. Beyond this, a new investigation shows that it is powered by murky, dangerous, environmentally destructive and sometimes illegal economic engines.

The investigation was led by Ian Urbina, a former Times journalist who for

years has run the Outlaw Ocean Project, an investigative journalism nonprofit based in Washington. Ian worked with dozens of reporters from as many countries to research and independently corroborate it, boarding fish meal ships and visiting fish meal factories and aquaculture farms all over the world to find evidence of the industry's dangers. The work took five years, Ian told me yesterday.

The team found many tales of bad actors at sea and on the mainland. Here are some of the highlights:

The ships. More than 10,000 vessels around the world supply the fish meal industry. Reporters went aboard ships in the South China Sea and at the far edges of the North Atlantic Ocean. They reviewed logbooks and interviewed workers. Working conditions on some of the ships were wretched. The work was dangerous, occasionally fatal. And hundreds of the vessels were discovered fishing in closed or protected waters, ignoring quotas on certain species, or fishing without licenses. Their nets scraped the ocean floor, destroying ecosystems that used to feed humans directly, but now were being used to provide feed for farms far away.

The plants. There are 1,400 fish meal factories around the world. Ian's team visited some in Peru, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Mauritania, Senegal and Thailand. Workers in them shovel mounds of decaying fish into giant machines that cook them, press them dry and grind them into fish meal. That's not just smelly work. It's a health hazard. The awful stench of rotting fish, which radiates for miles in every direction, comes from a chemical that has been found to be carcinogenic. Occasionally, the plants burst into flames. More than 16.5 million people — including nearly two million under the age of 15 — live within a mile of one. The tension can lead to unrest, to protests or strikes. Sometimes there has been violence.

The farms. Aquaculture facilities are where the stinky fruit of all this labor ends up — sometimes well inland from the sea, as in China, which has made remarkable progress in fish farming. (They use a lot of antimicrobials and antiseptics, though, which bring other dangers.) In Norway, by contrast, fish farms are made up of huge pens in the open ocean. Fed a diet of fish meal, the salmon within them produce, Ian writes, "three times as much waste in a year as the country's 5.6 million residents flush down their toilets." That sewage falls

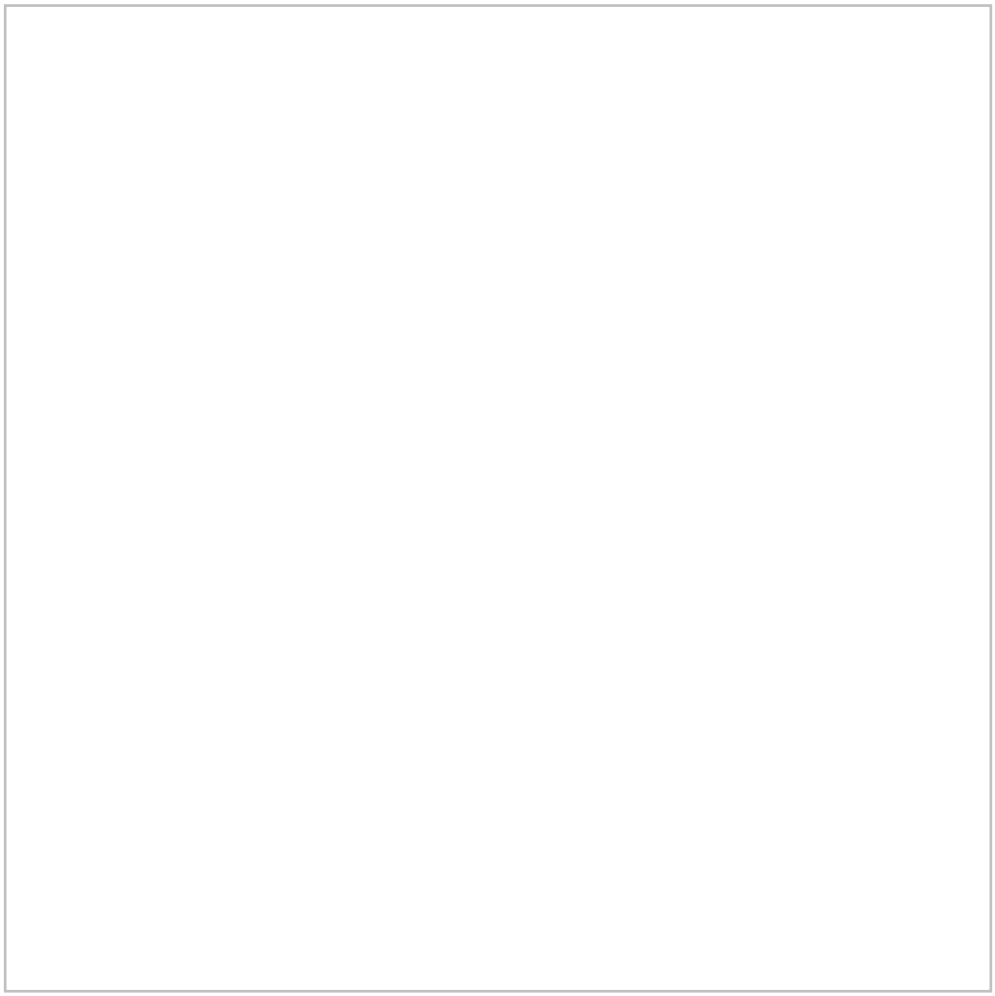
to the ocean floor, where it forms a toxic sludge that asphyxiates all beneath it.

The plate. Since 2022, the United States has been the world's largest importer of seafood, bringing in enormous quantities of farmed shrimp, salmon, tilapia and catfish. In part that's because American health and environmental regulations make it very expensive to farm fish here. So grocery chains and restaurants buy the cheaper stuff from abroad and sell it to us beneath advertising claims that claim it's ethical and sustainable. Often, it's anything but.

"By using seafood caught in poor countries to grow seafood for rich countries," Ian told me yesterday, "today's fish farming is driving ocean depletion, labor abuse, rampant pollution and violent civil unrest far from our dinner plate."

Which is to say, I've only scratched the surface. I really urge you to read the whole story. The United Nations says that by 2035, almost two-thirds of the seafood eaten worldwide will be farmed. Most of it will likely be raised on fish meal. That's what's for dinner.

THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE



Navi Pillay Fabrice Coffrini/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

Navanethem Pillay, known as Navi, resisted the apartheid regime in her native South Africa and later served as a judge on the International Criminal Court. The Norwegian Nobel Committee, which organizes the prize, said that Pillay's work had "significantly enlarged the scope and impact of international law" and "shown that legal measures can help prevent acts of war and violence." The committee's chair said Pillay's award was "a message to those who are attacking" and undermining international law. Learn more about Pillay.

FREE TO READ

First families: Michelle Obama took aim at Trump's White House renovations in an essay.

Smuggler's notch: The authorities have arrested men arriving in Miami from Cuba twice this week for illegally transporting birds to the United States. How the men tried to conceal them is … interesting.

Your pick: The most clicked link in The Morning yesterday was a guide to the most lucrative college degrees.

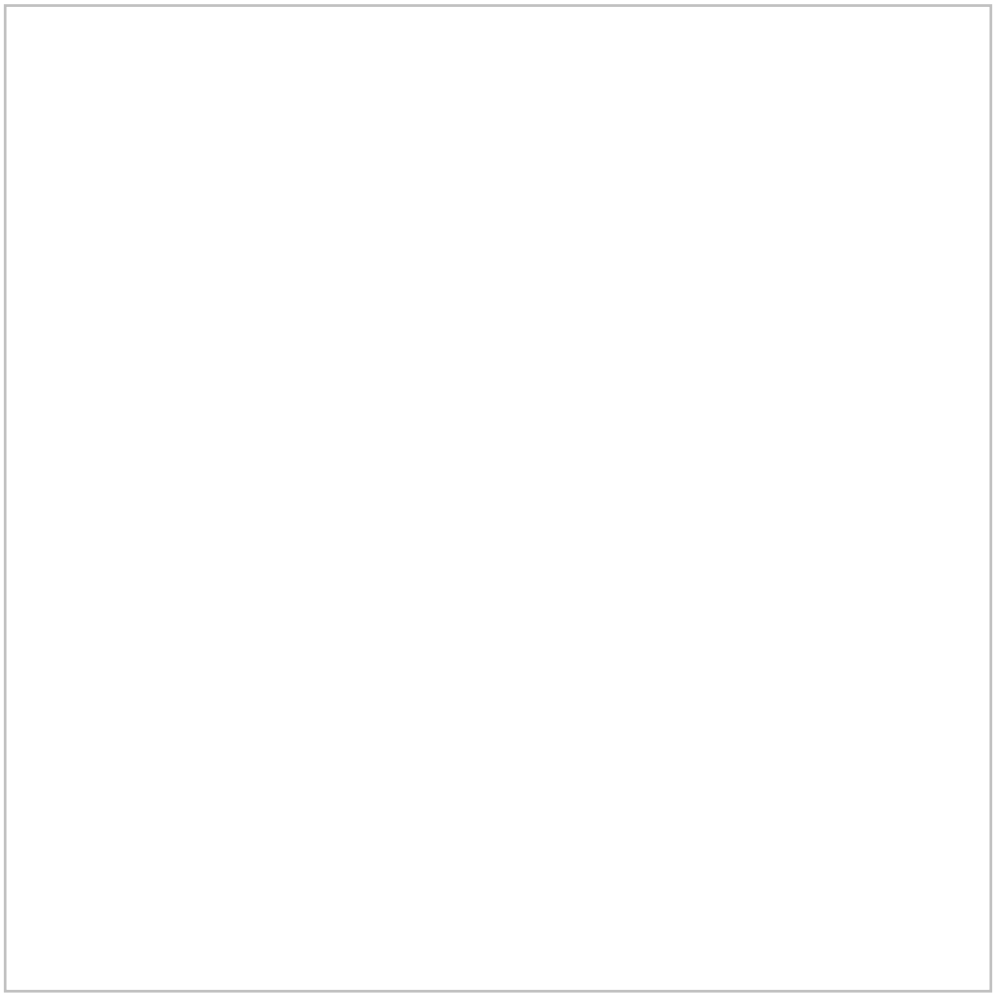
Link to history: Cecily Gemmell, Winston Churchill's last surviving personal secretary, has died at 97. She accompanied her boss to 10 Downing Street, where he worked; to Monte Carlo, where he gambled; and to Marrakesh, Lake Como and the Dolomites, where he painted. Read about her incredible life.

THE LATEST NEWS

Hurricane Isaias

- Hurricane Isaias, already a Category 2 storm, is gathering strength as it approaches the Gulf Coast. Track it live here.
- Residents in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida were stocking up on food and water.

Midterm Elections



The Michigan Senate candidates Dr. Abdul El-Sayed and Mike Rogers debated last night. Pool photo by Paul Sancya

- Personal attacks dominated the first debate between Michigan Senate candidates: "You going after my mom?"
- In Maine, the rising cost of heating oil driven by the war with Iran is putting Senator Susan Collins on the defensive.
- Use this interactive tool to map each party's path to the majority.

The Military

- The U.S. is preparing options to restart major combat operations against Iran, although Trump appears ambivalent.
- The U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, whose crew endured food shortages and mental struggles during a 322-day deployment, returned to its home

port in San Diego.

- The Pentagon said the execution by firing squad of the Army officer convicted in the 2009 Fort Hood shooting would be public and streamed live.

Trump Administration

- A federal judge temporarily extended a pause on Trump's effort to bar CNN, MS NOW and Politico from the White House.
- Trump's attempts to uncover a "grand conspiracy" at the Justice Department have increased dysfunction and infighting there.
- Vice President JD Vance said Microsoft would be suspended from the H-1B visa program, which allows companies to hire skilled foreign workers and is popular with tech firms.
- On the campaign trail this week, Trump was spotted wearing a suit from a chain store. Was it a comment about affordability?

Around the World

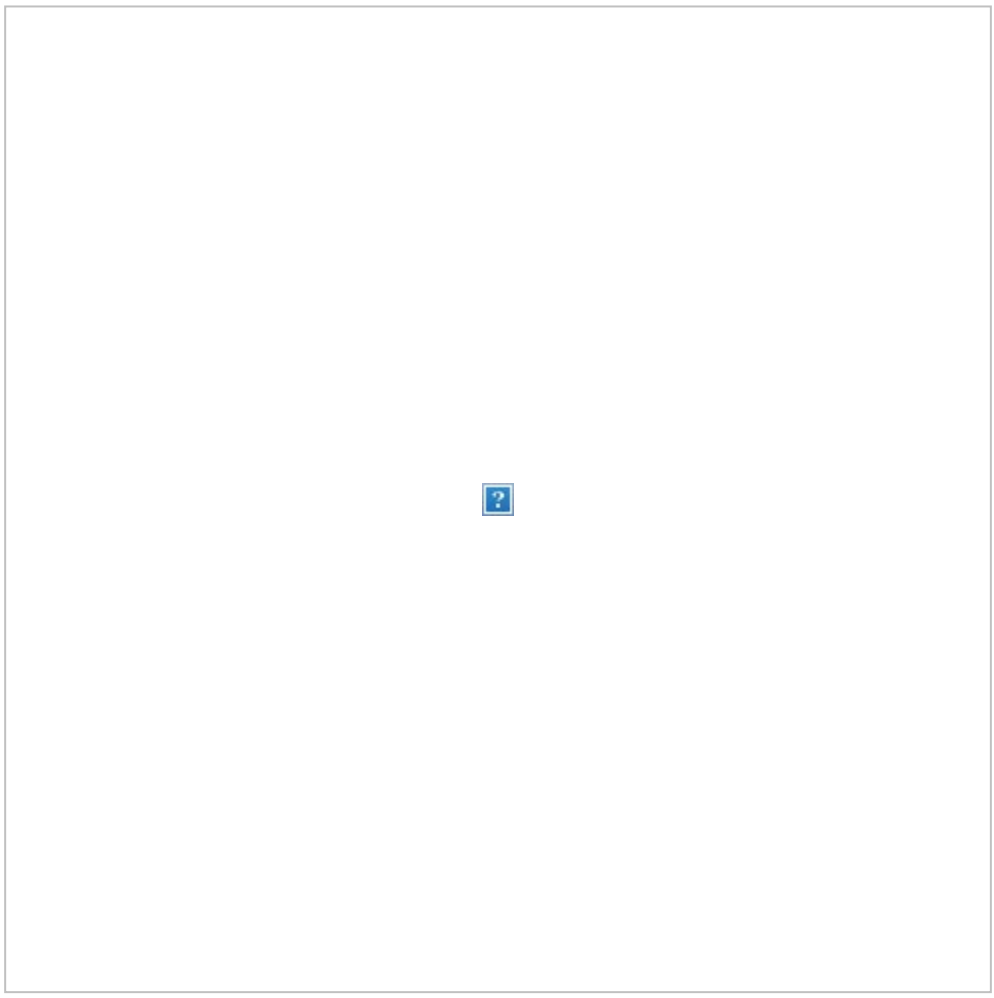
- A rural village in **Britain** voted to become independent in protest of a government plan to house asylum seekers nearby.
- In **Spain**, thousands of people took to the streets in memory of the woman who became the face of the country's housing crisis.
- A vague account of the death of a woman who worked at a plague research institute is a typical response for **Russia**.

Other Big Stories

- An ICE agent in New York shot and wounded a man during an attempted arrest. The man was in a car with a 5-year-old in the back seat.
- A 5-year-old in Florida died after a digital whiteboard fell on him in his classroom.
- The U.N. secretary general warned that neurotechnology was advancing

so rapidly that government access to people's brains could one day threaten human rights.

IN ONE IMAGE



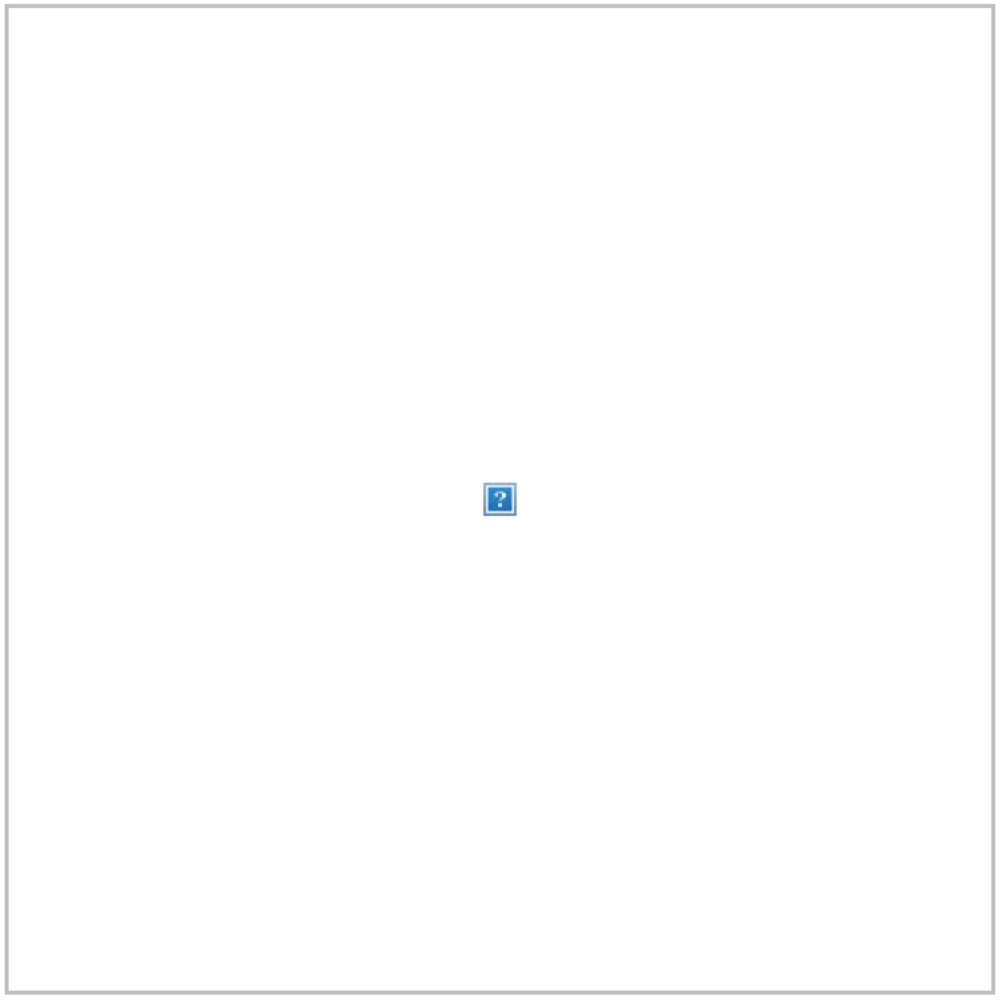
If you didn't know better, you'd think this image was a photo from a FedEx store.

A.I. image generators once struggled to replicate human features, haphazardly attaching six- and seven-fingered hands to arms that bent at inhuman angles. But the hands here look pixel-perfect. So how do you spot the fake?

Your turn: Try finding everything amiss in this image. Then click here to see what you missed. (*Hint: There are at least eight problems to find. But it's hard, and you can take that from us: After this article was published, readers wrote*

in to point out that we missed one!)

OPINIONS



Pablo Delcan

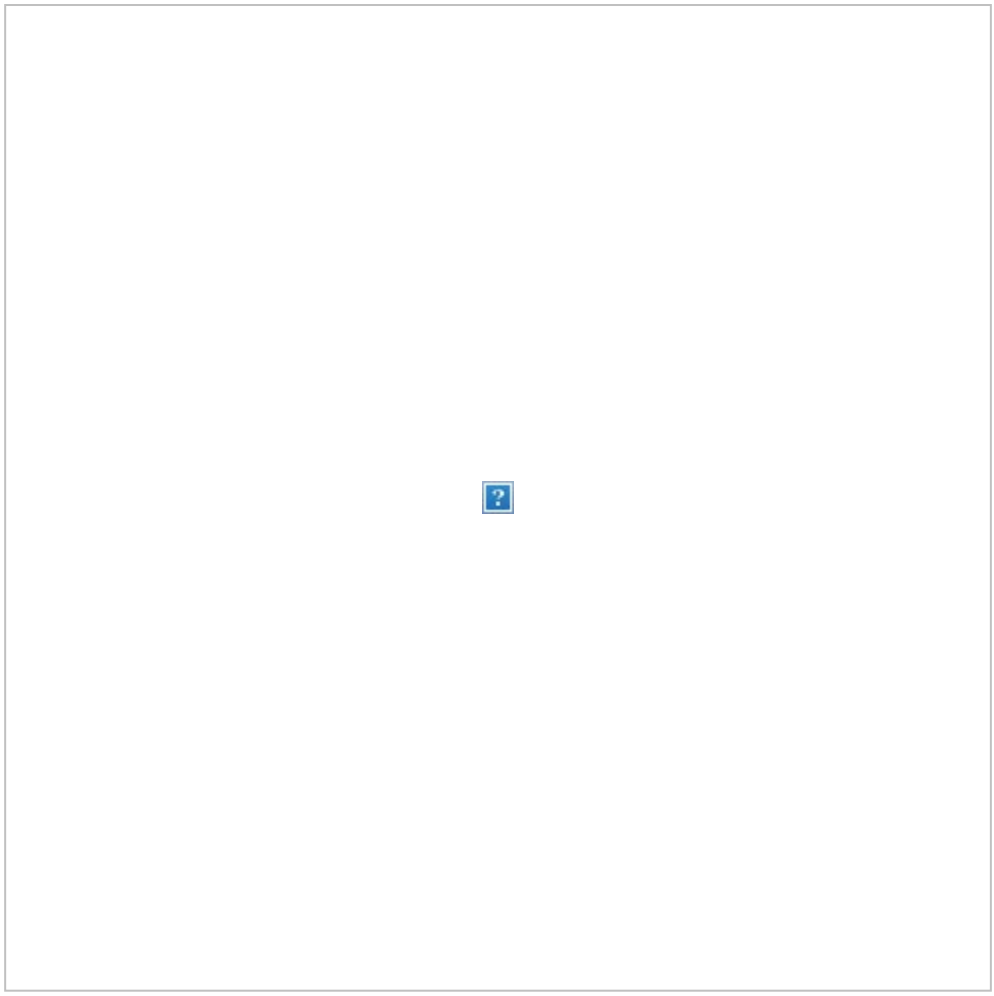
The increase in Trump's profanity is not owing to cognitive decline, John McWhorter writes. It's a way of trying to attract attention.

Don't blame screen time for mental health problems in teenagers, a psychiatrist argues. A lack of proper diagnosis and treatment appears far more influential.

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TODAY'S NUMBER



Fare gates at a New York City subway station. Marco Postigo Storel for The New York Times

35 percent

— That is how much fare evasion in New York City's subway system dropped

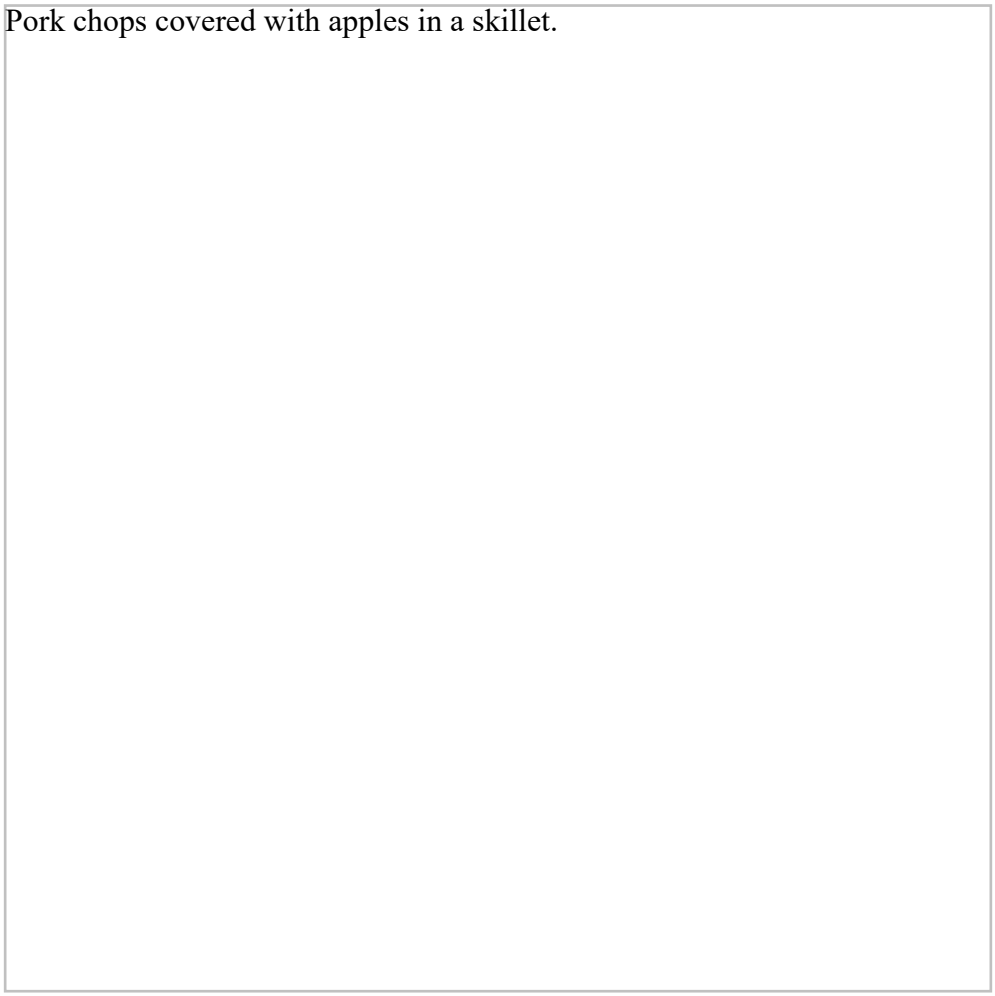
across 20 stations where the authorities installed a batch of electronic, metal-and-glass fare gates. At two of those stations, fare beating fell 72 percent when turnstiles were replaced with the new gates. Guess which borough they're in.

SPORTS

W.N.B.A.: The Las Vegas Aces center A'ja Wilson won her fifth Most Valuable Player Award. No other player in the league has won more than three.

M.L.B.: The Cleveland Guardians defeated the Chicago White Sox 9-5, forcing a winner-take-all Game 5 in the American League division series.

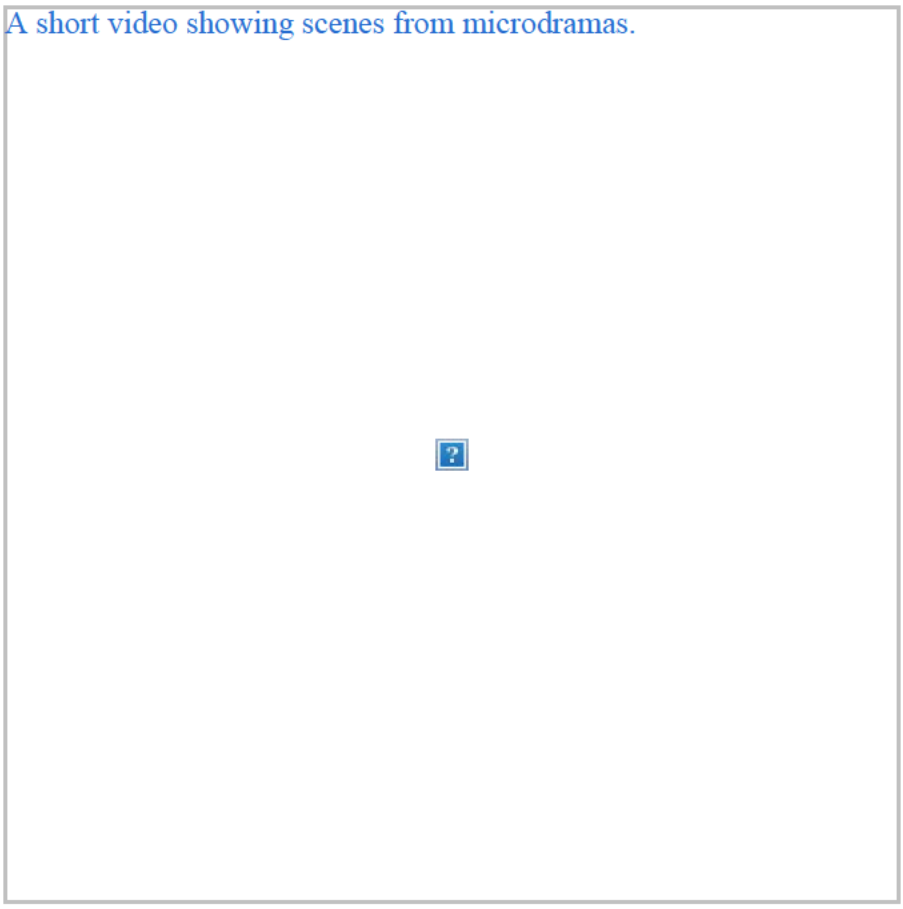
RECIPE OF THE DAY



Christopher Testani for The New York Times

Embrace the season: Make Ali Slagle's recipe for skillet pork chops and apples with miso caramel. Sounds complicated. It's not. Just sear the chops, cook sliced apples in the rendered fat, then add a mixture of miso, brown sugar, vinegar and water and simmer until it's glossy and thick. (I love this comment on the recipe: "Execute as written for optimal dank-ness.") Maybe with some roasted little potatoes on the side, showered in salt, and a mound of sautéed leafy greens? Autumnal.

SOAPS FOR GEN Z



The New York Times

Let's take a look inside the world of microdramas, those short-form tales of sexy werewolves and boy-toy Mafiosi that are the world's fastest-growing source of streams. Are they the future of Hollywood, or the end? A reporter went to Los Angeles to find out.

(No spoilers, but if people used to compare the experience of watching a show like "The Sopranos" to reading a great novel, this article says, "watching a microdrama is like being electrocuted onstage at the circus.")

More on culture

- The Canadian poet and essayist Anne Carson was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature yesterday. A 2013 profile said that her work "can seduce even people who don't like poetry." Here are five books to get you started.
- There's a new Roy Lichtenstein show up at the Whitney in New York, and our critic Jason Farago calls it "the most momentous exhibition of

the season." Read the argument and then, if you can't get to the museum, at least revel in the pictures of the paintings.

THE MORNING RECOMMENDS

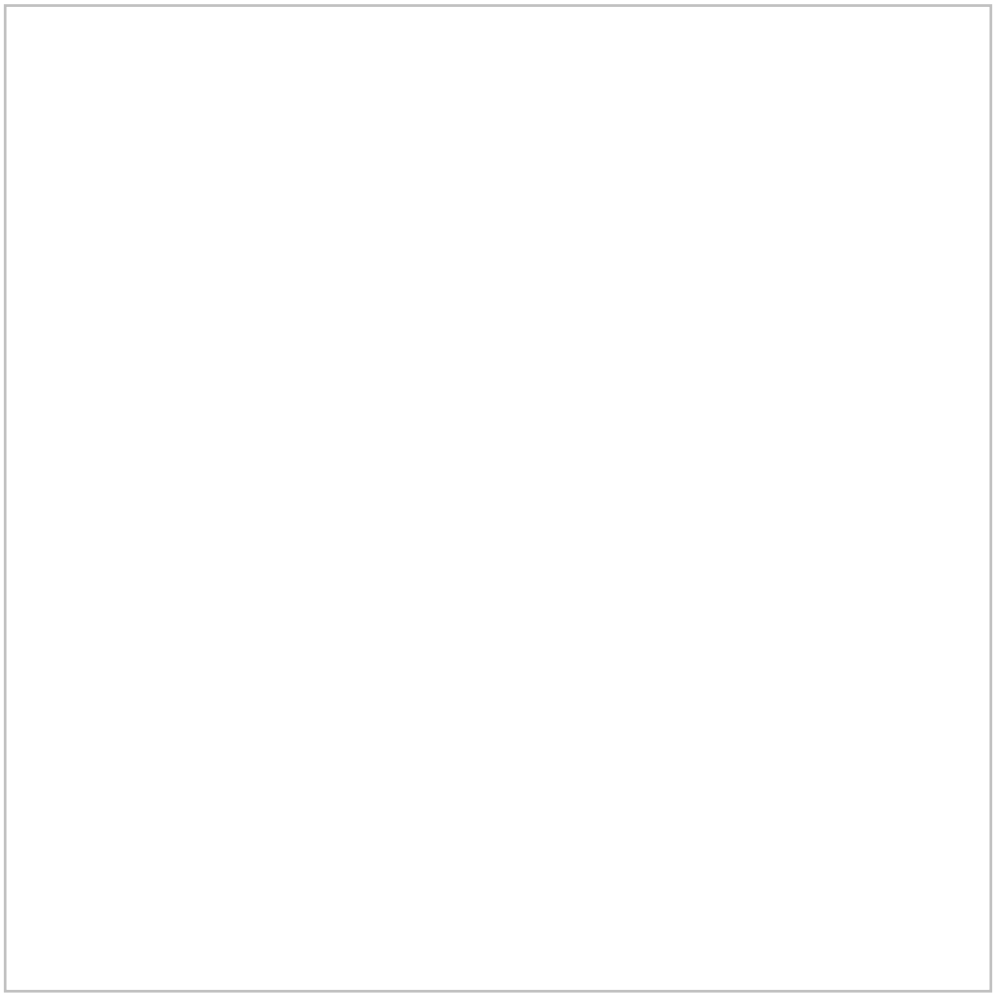
Read something scary. The best-selling fantasy writer Kat Dunn gave us a list of novels that retell classic tales of terror, stories that "pick apart a familiar tale and give us something fresh, frightening and feverishly brilliant."

Prevent burnout at work, with tips from experts.

Glow up your face (and maybe your neck) with the best retinol products tested by the serum-runners at Wirecutter.

Take our news quiz.

GAMES



Here is today's Spelling Bee. Yesterday's pangrams were *machine* and *mechanic*.

And here are today's Mini Crossword, Wordle, Connections, Crossplay and Strands.

Thanks for spending part of your morning with The Times and me. I'm off Monday and Tuesday for the holiday and a fishing thing. My friends will take care of you while I'm gone. See you on Wednesday. — Sam

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Subject: [External] Dems Says GOP Broke Senate Rules In Jack Smith Hearing
Date: Friday, October 9, 2026 4:42:46 AM

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Legal Ethics

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026

TOP NEWS

Dems Says GOP Broke Senate Rules In Jack Smith Hearing

By Courtney Bublé

The Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee have accused Republicans of violating committee rules during a hearing last week with former special counsel Jack Smith.

Letter attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Cornell Defendant Seeks To Nix James As Special Prosecutor

By Andrea Keckley

One of the seven men accused of drugging and raping a fellow Cornell University student at a fraternity home has asked a New York state court to void Gov. Kathy Hochul's appointment of New York Attorney General Letitia James as special prosecutor in the case.

2 documents attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Gov't Attys Could Face Sanctions Over AI Use Omissions

By Madeline Lyskawa

A U.S. Court of Federal Claims judge has ordered four government attorneys to explain why they shouldn't be sanctioned for making factual misrepresentations about the U.S. Army's use of artificial intelligence to evaluate contract proposals.

Opinion attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

POLICY & REGULATION

IP Rights Group Urges Against Litigation Funding Disclosure

By Elliot Weld

An inventor rights advocacy group has told a federal courts rules committee that requiring the disclosure of who is funding civil litigation would put independent inventors at a disadvantage when trying to enforce patents against a larger company.

Letter attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

WHITE COLLAR

7th Circ. Backs Ex-Chicago Atty's Tax Fraud Conviction

By Asha Glover

LAW FIRMS IN TODAY'S NEWS

Arnold & Porter

The Seventh Circuit affirmed a man's two-and-a-half-year prison sentence for tax fraud, witness tampering and contempt Thursday, rejecting his argument that the government didn't present sufficient evidence to prove that he was guilty of filing false corporate and individual income tax returns.

☐ Opinion attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

LITIGATION

Sheppard Mullin Hit With Class Action Over Data Breach

By Jake Maher

A former Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP paralegal launched a proposed class action against the firm in California federal court on Wednesday over a cyberattack it had in August, in which she says at least 1,000 people's names and Social Security numbers were stolen.

☐ Complaint attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Fla. Court Vacates $5 Law Firm Sales In Litigation Funder Suit

By David Minsky

A Florida state court vacated an order allowing a discount sale of an attorney's $20 million worth of shares in three law firms to a litigation funder seeking to collect on an out-of-state judgment, saying the auction notice wasn't issued properly.

☐ 4 documents attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Fed. Circ. Told Trade Secret Suit 'Never' Should've Been Filed

By Ivan Moreno

A Federal Circuit panel focused Thursday on when a business analytics software company's unsuccessful trade secret case against a rival may have crossed the line into bad faith litigation, warranting nearly $2.8 million in attorney fees from a Utah federal judge.

Read full article » | Save to favorites »

US Atty Video Lets Harvard Researcher Probe Motive

By Julie Manganis

A rare video statement released by Massachusetts U.S. Attorney Leah Foley after her office charged a Russian national and Harvard researcher with smuggling frog embryos last year could be seen as "objective evidence" that the prosecution was driven by vindictiveness, a federal judge said on Thursday.

☐ Order attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Benefits Co. Wants Sanctions For 'Frivolous' TCPA Suit

By Aneeta Mathur-Ashton

A Florida-based dental insurance carrier has asked a Michigan federal judge to sanction a dental practice and its attorneys at Bock Hatch & Oppenheim LLC and Shenkan Injury Lawyers, saying they pursued a baseless junk fax class action for years that resulted in millions of dollars in defense costs.

☐ Motion attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Buzbee Faces $970K Fee Bid In Dismissed Conspiracy Cases

By Lynn LaRowe

A Mississippi lawyer is asking a Texas state court to award her more than $970,000 in fees after defeating claims that she and her law firm conspired with rapper Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter and Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP to retaliate against prominent Houston plaintiffs attorney Tony Buzbee and two of his former clients.

☐ Motion attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

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Bock Hatch
Boies Schiller
Bracewell LLP
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Fla. Panel Trims Punitive Damages Claim By Ex-Marvel CEO

By Carolina Bolado

The former CEO of Marvel Entertainment can request punitive damages against his neighbor in a feud over the surreptitious collection of DNA evidence but not against the neighbor's attorney or a Chubb affiliate accused of helping him, a Florida appeals court has ruled.

☐ Opinion attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

EXPERT ANALYSIS

Opinion

Illinois Should Vacate Convictions Tainted By Racist Counsel

After the Illinois Supreme Court's recent suspension of a public defender's law license over racist online threats, prosecutors should move to vacate the convictions of every Black client he represented, as an attorney's racial animus is a serious conflict of interest akin to structural error, says Adam Murphy at Fordham Law.

☐ Complaint attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Series

Mentalism Makes Me A Better Lawyer

Convincing strangers I can read their minds may seem like an unusual second career for a legal practitioner, but both disciplines share several important requirements, including trust and preparation, says Warren Biro at Manatt.

Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Lex Machina Damages

LEGAL INDUSTRY

Analysis

New Fraud Division Flexes Might In Latest Enforcement Policy

By Phillip Bantz

The National Fraud Enforcement Division's new corporate enforcement policy emphasizes the quick pursuit of certain types of fraud through data analysis and staff resources, expands the target list beyond traditional healthcare providers and highlights the division's growing dominance within the U.S. Department of Justice, experts say.

Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Split Congress Could Spur Competing Probes, Cleary Finds

By Courtney Bublé

If the new year brings an era of divided Congress, then "dueling investigations" into the same topics should be expected, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP said in a report it released Thursday.

☐ Report attached | Read full article » | Save to favorites »

Fla. Judge Says Oct. 7 Attack Was 'Inflection Point' For U.S.

By David Minsky

U.S. District Judge Roy K. Altman addressed a small group of attorneys in a Florida law office to speak on his book about the October 2023 Hamas-led attack on Israel, saying public debate over facts surrounding the event and

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U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts
U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois
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U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
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U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. District & Bankruptcy Courts of Southern District of Texas
U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts
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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

underlying feud has reached an "inflection point" in America.
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From: ADL Antisemitism Briefing
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] Three Years After 10/7: "The Way Forward Is Together"
Date: Thursday, October 8, 2026 4:35:32 PM

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ADL Antisemitism Briefing

A weekly wrap of ADL's reports, updates and analysis on antisemitism around the world.

- Three Years After 10/7: "The Way Forward Is Together"
- Watch: Remembrances from the Nova memorial site
- Act: Tell Congress to protect the Jewish community
- UNacceptable: Calling for better leaders at the UN
- Convening an intelligent response to AI
- Op-Ed: A deeply distorted portrayal of the war in Gaza
- Event: ADL on Exclusion of Jewish and Israeli Voices in Culture
- Event: ADL on Memes, Manifestos and Mass Violence
- What ADL talked with Austin law enforcement cadets about

THIS WEEK'S TOPLINE

Three Years After 10/7: "The Way Forward Is Together"

Three years after October 7, we are still mourning. But we also are rebuilding. We are fighting back. We are not allowing those who hate us to define us.

ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt has been in

October 7 Names We Lost



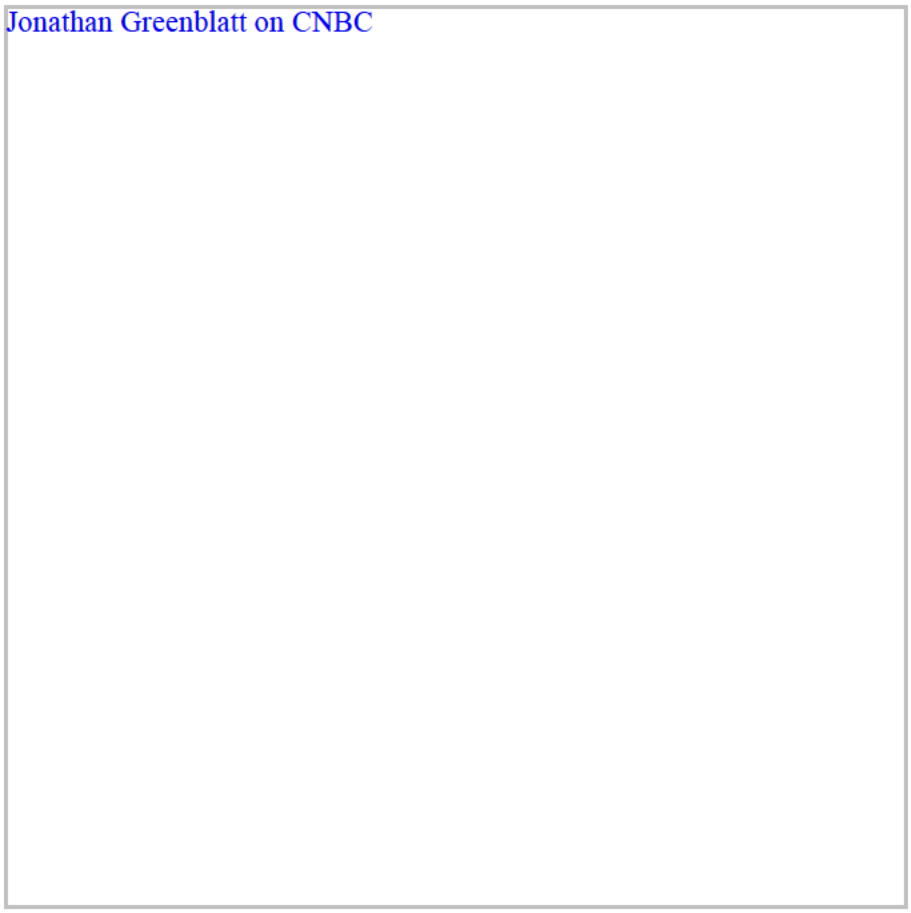
Israel alongside our Israel-based colleagues to represent our community in standing with the victims and the families of those murdered, those injured, and so many others who were not physically attacked that day but were still in need of healing and support.

We invite you to **watch a conversation** Jonathan had yesterday with CNBC from the site of the Nova Music Festival memorial, where he made clear that antisemitism thrives on division, but that Jews and non-Jews, Arabs and Israeli and every one of us all have the same path forward: living side by side, with Jewish people recognized for who they are, not besieged by hate.

If you would like to display your support for the 10/7 victims on your social media, we encourage you to share ADL's post with the above graphic.

Watch: Remembrances from the Nova memorial site

Jonathan Greenblatt on CNBC



TAKE ACTION TODAY

Speak Out: **Tell Congress to Protect the Jewish Community.** Since October 7, many Jews in the United States have felt unsafe wearing Star of David necklaces or kippahs or publicly identifying as Jewish. Threats against Jewish students, synagogues and JCCs have caused some Jews to take a step back from taking part in the community. We all deserve to feel safe. That's why ADL is advocating for the Jewish American Security Act, a comprehensive approach to combating antisemitism. **Click here to urge your Member of Congress to support the Jewish American Security Act.**

Take Action Now

WHAT'S NEWS

UNacceptable Leadership: United Nations member states are about to choose the organization's next leader, and the stakes for the Jewish community could not be higher. For years, antisemitism has been allowed to take root in parts of the UN system, including its human rights bodies, eroding the institution's credibility and its ability to protect all people equally. The ADL-founded J7 Task Force, representing the largest Jewish communities outside Israel, is calling on UN member states to elect a Secretary-General who will confront antisemitism head on and restore accountability to the UN. **Click here to add your name and tell UN member states: elect a leader with integrity.**

An Intelligent Response to AI: Last week, ADL presented at the Stanford Trust and Safety Research Conference about our groundbreaking **ADL AI Index™.** Our AI Index is one of the first comprehensive evaluations of how artificial-intelligence tools used by billions of people respond to antisemitic and extremist content. At the event, we talked with influential researchers about our innovative research and next steps. In parallel, ADL convened a group of experts across social science, law, civil society and industry to discuss AI and extremism. The group grappled with ongoing challenges and made progress in building a community of practice on these vital issues.

A deeply distorted portrayal of the war in Gaza: The public praise of the film NAZA, which offers a deeply distorted and problematic portrayal of the war in Gaza, is hardly surprising in a climate where narratives that vilify Israel are so readily embraced. But what else may be driving the reaction? ADL's Ken Jacobson notes the rush to support a negative narrative many already believe about Israel. He also argues there may be something deeper behind the film's disturbingly enthusiastic reception: an eagerness to realign the post-Holocaust moral equation by saying that Jews too are guilty of genocide. **Read the rest of Ken's insightful op-ed.**

DON'T MISS THESE ADL LIVE EVENTS

State of the Arts: Exclusion of Jewish and Israeli Voices in Culture

When: Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1 P.M. ET / 10 A.M. PT

Join ADL's Ratings & Assessments Institute for a timely and important webinar on the State of the Arts report. ADL and leaders in the arts and culture space will give you a closer look at the research, including documented cases of exclusion, harassment and erasure, and have a conversation about the broader implications for American culture. The conversation will feature **Jean Meltzer,** author, founder and CEO of Jewish Joy LLC; **Seth Pinsky,** CEO of 92NY; **Shlomi Rabi,** Founder and Managing Director of Bridgewell Arts; and **Danny Barefoot,** Senior Director of the ADL Ratings & Assessments Institute.

→ **Register Now**

Memes, Manifestos and Mass Violence

When: Thursday, Oct. 15, 6 P.M. ET / 3 P.M. PT

Join the experts from the ADL Center on Extremism for a webinar on the disturbing rise of online communities that glorify violence, spread antisemitism and extremism, and exploit young people. This live event will reveal in-depth insights into this toxic ecosystem and the threat of memetic violence.

→ **Register Now**

MAKING PROGRESS WITH ADL

ADL Austin recently led a conversation about "The Challenge of Policing Today" with nearly one hundred Austin Police cadets. The discussion provided an opportunity for the cadets to examine the history of the Holocaust, the role of police under the Nazis, and the implications of the Holocaust for law enforcement today, focusing on their relationship to the

Law enforcement at ADL Austin education event

people they serve and the core values of the profession. This event was part of the Law Enforcement and Society program and was offered in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Museum San Antonio.

In addition to training opportunities such as this one, **ADL works closely with law enforcement,** providing information and intelligence to help them identify and disrupt emerging threats and protect communities from extremism, antisemitism and hate.

SOCIAL SPOTLIGHTS

@ADL

> *Anti-Israel groups across the country have marked the third anniversary of October 7 with open support for terror. Our analysts have tracked open admiration for Hamas and calls for Zionists and Zionism to be confronted and abolished on signs, fliers, and social media posts. The ADL Center on Extremism is monitoring this activity this week, including from over 200 events across the country. Here's some of what we've seen so far.*

@JGreenblattADL

> *I will never forget sitting with Larry Butler in Nir Oz today. Larry survived October 7 and shared with us, in his own words, what that terrible day was like. He made Aliyah from Philadelphia fifty years ago and built a beautiful life in Nir Oz — a family, deep friendships, and a community he loves. On October 7, that life was shattered. Members of his family were affected, and he lost many dear friends. Three years after the massacre, Larry's story must continue to be told. We have a responsibility to listen, to remember and to make sure the truth of October 7 is never diminished or denied.*

@ADL

> *Congratulations to our Levenson Family Defender of Democracy Award honorees, @SenJackyRosen and @SenatorLankford. As co-chairs of the Senate Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Antisemitism, they've proven that protecting Jewish Americans is*

not a partisan issue. Their partnership gives us hope for the future.

Senator Rosen at ADL Spotlight on Hate

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To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] 6,000 Miles From America, The Premiere 'Nationalist' Confab Welcomes A Notorious Israeli Official
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6,000 Miles From America, The Premiere 'Nationalist' Confab Welcomes A Notorious Israeli Official

The location really says it all

JOHN LOFTUS
OCT 8 · PREVIEW

READ IN APP



(Photo by Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images)

The National Conservatism Conference (NatCon) kicked off its latest event Tuesday, bringing together American and Israeli conservative intellectuals, academics, and influencers dedicated "to the idea of the nation, to the principle of national independence [and] to the revival of the unique national traditions." The conference also invited fanatical members of the Israeli government, as well as an Israeli rabbi who once called for the mass slaughter of innocent civilians.

Founded in 2019 by academic Yoram Hazony, a dual U.S.-Israeli citizen, NatCon has since hosted five conferences in the United States and smaller events in Brussels, London and Rome. NatCon's 2022 manifesto **outlined** its "Nationalist

Conservative" principles, one of which states that "a world of independent nations each pursuing its own national interests and upholding national traditions that are its own" is "the only genuine alternative to universalist ideologies now seeking to impose a homogenizing, locality-destroying imperium over the entire globe."

NatCon's decision to host the conference in Jerusalem this year comes at a time when conservatives are fiercely debating America's relationship with Israel and whether it serves U.S. interests, and when more and more American citizens are **expressing disapproval** of the Israeli government and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. They even decided to welcome a notorious member of the Israeli government, the pro-genocide finance minister and leader of the Religious Zionism Party, Bezalel Smotrich.

In a speech Tuesday, Smotrich **said** that Israel "can and must bear a growing responsibility for its own security" but that he "can and must show why the alliance with Israel is in America's interests, too." He claimed that while the U.S. and Israel are shifting "from a relationship of dependence to a partnership between two independent nations," it is also time to "deepen the alliance" and that the two countries share common enemies, such as the Iranian Regime. **(RELATED: Top Israeli Official Openly Calls For Genocide As US Seeks Peace: 'All Of Lebanon Must Burn')**

"Israel recognizes the American friendship and support it received over the years, but it's precisely because of that the time has come to deepen the alliance, to move from dependence to partnership between two independent nations," Smotrich said.

Smotrich's history of extremist and incendiary rhetoric directed at civilians is well-documented. In 2023, he **said** a West Bank village "need[ed] to be wiped out." In 2024, he **called** for the "total annihilation" of Rafah, Deir al-Balah, and Nuseirat, three urban and refugee areas in the Gaza Strip. And in August of that year, Smotrich said that causing two million Gaza civilians to die of hunger "might be justified and moral," but that the world would not allow it.

Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu, an Israeli rabbi and extremist whose visa was **revoked** by the Biden administration in 2022, was also among those scheduled to speak

Tuesday, as was Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar.

In May 2007, Eliyahu **called** on Israel to "carpet bomb the general area from which the Kassams were launched, regardless of the price in Palestinian life" in a letter to then-Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

"If they don't stop after we kill 100, then we must kill 1,000," he said of Palestinians. "If they do not stop after 1,000, then we must kill 10,000. If they still don't stop, we must kill 100,000, even a million. Whatever it takes to make them stop."

In 2008, Eliyahu urged the Israeli government to carry out "state-sanctioned revenge" against Arabs after a terrorist attack killed eight students, Israeli media outlet Haaretz reported at the time.

"I'm not talking about individual people in particular, I'm talking about the state," Eliyahu **wrote** in a newsletter, according to Haaretz. "[The state] has to pain them to the point where they scream 'Enough,' to the point where they fall flat on their face and scream 'help.' Not for the sake of satisfying the need for revenge but for the purposes of deterrence." **(RELATED: ROOKE: Anti-Vance Crew Turn To The Worst Possible Allies To Influence The MAGA Base)**

Sharing the same stage with Smotrich, Orthodox Christian Rod Dreher **gave** a speech Tuesday, as did **Jeremy Boreing**, a Christian and host of "The Jeremy Boreing Show." Dreher argued that "Western civilizational renewal requires a radical change of life for all of us. To use an old-fashioned word, it requires repentance." Boreing called on Americans "to become a moral and religious people once again" to prevent illiberal factions of the right or left from taking over the government and turning it into an instrument of tyranny.

Other speakers Tuesday included **Kevin Roberts**, the president of the Heritage Foundation, and **Rusty Reno**, editor of the conservative Christian magazine First Things. During his speech, Roberts described Jerusalem as the "perfect place for conservatives across the West to gather this week so that we can unite." Reno argued that if an "American or English or French patriot can achieve just one-

tenth of what has been achieved, built, celebrated, and defended in this place [Israel], I would submit that the future of Western civilization will be the brighter for it."

Several of Wednesday's speakers, however, struck a noticeably different tone. Whereas Tuesday's speeches seemed to dismiss the foreign policy divide on the American Right — which has only grown wider since the start of the Iran War — and the fact that a **vast majority of Americans now view** Israel and Netanyahu unfavorably, several younger speakers openly discussed it. They also called into question whether labeling critics of the Iran War or America's relationship with Israel "antisemites" is a smart and effective strategy...

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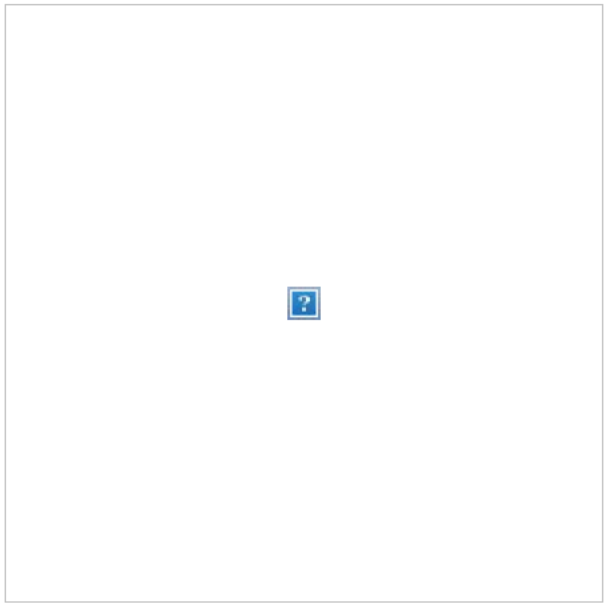
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From: Stav Gottesgnade, Jewish Federation of Howard County
To: Superintendent
Subject: [External] October 7: Three Years Later, We Remember
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 9:01:49 AM

You don't often get email from stav@jewishhoco.org. Learn why this is important

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Dear Community Members,

Three years.

Three years since families awoke to unimaginable horror. Since communities were shattered. Since lives were taken, hostages were torn from their homes, and families were changed forever.

Three years, and yet, for so many, October 7 has never truly ended.

It lives in the empty chair at the table. In a country that has spent the years since October 7 living through war, loss, uncertainty, and trying to heal. And in a world that faces rising antisemitism and hatred of the Jewish people.

The calendar has continued to move forward, but grief does not follow the calendar. And neither does memory.

Here in Howard County, thousands of miles away, through the Jewish Federation of Howard County, we have spent these three years connecting and reminding the people of Israel that distance does not mean disconnection.

This year, that truth became heartbreakingly personal for our own community.

During Federation's Israel Week, we had the privilege of welcoming Captain Dr. Ori Yosef Silvester z"l, Shay Ouzan, and Avital Shindman to Howard County. Ori stood with us on Yom HaZikaron, Israel's National Day of Remembrance, and spoke about those he lost, about his service, and about the responsibility he carried as both a physician and an officer. Throughout his visit, many in our community had the opportunity to sit with him, listen to him, laugh with him, ask questions, and get to know the person behind the uniform.

Just five weeks later, Ori was killed while serving in Lebanon.

Suddenly, the losses we read about and mourned from afar included a face we knew. A voice we remembered. A person who sat beside us and shared a piece of himself with our community.

Ori's loss reminded us that the consequences of October 7 did not end on that day. They ripple through families, communities, and generations—and even across an ocean into our own Howard County community. But October 7 is not only a story of what was taken.

We have watched communities begin to rebuild. We have witnessed people show up for neighbors and strangers. We have seen families carry tremendous grief while somehow continuing to choose life. As a community, we made an impact too. JFHC's 2023 Israel Emergency Fund raised over $125,000 from our community here in Howard County to support the Jewish Agency for Israel's initiatives to rebuild and support families whose lives were devastated by terror.

Again and again, we have been reminded that hope does not mean forgetting.

As we mark this difficult anniversary, perhaps one of the most meaningful messages we can send is a simple one:

We remember you. We are still here. And we are still with you.

This October 7, we invite you to turn remembrance into action and connection.

Write a Letter to an Israeli

We invite you to **write a personal letter or message sharing words of support, hope, or solidarity.** I will personally take each letter with me to Israel and work with the Jewish Agency for Israel to deliver it to Israelis and communities deeply affected by the war, including communities near Gaza. Let someone know that, three years later, their story still matters and they are not alone. **Email me to send a personal letter by October 20th.**

Join Us for a Special Israel Café

As Israel approaches its upcoming election, **join us for a special Israel Café on Thursday, October 22** focused on understanding this important moment in Israel. Together, we will continue learning, asking questions, listening, and staying connected to what is happening in Israel. **Click here for information and to**

register.

Continue the Conversation After the Election

We also invite you to **register for a special post-election Zoom program with Haviv Retting Gur on Wednesday, October 28**, hosted by Jewish Federations of North America, for another opportunity to learn, reflect, and stay engaged with Israel following the election. **Click here for more information** and to register for the session.

Three years later, there is still grief.

But there is also love. There is rebuilding. There is community. There is life. And there is hope.

May we honor the memory of those we lost not only through our tears, but through the way we live, the relationships we continue to build, and the communities we choose to strengthen.

May we carry their stories forward.

With love, solidarity, and prayers for peace,
Stav Gottesgnade
Jewish Federation of Howard County Community Israel Director

Jewish Federation of Howard County | 10630 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 400 | Columbia, MD 21044 US

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Constant Contact

From: Jonathan Greenblatt - ADL CEO
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] What we must remember
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 8:29:08 AM

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ADL

Dear William,

I still remember when I heard the news.

I stayed awake through the night, watching, calling, texting, trying to understand.

Three years later, I am in Israel, sitting with survivors and families and visiting places where so many lives were destroyed. Remembering the parents, children, siblings, grandparents and friends who were murdered on October 7.

So much has changed since then.

The Middle East has shifted dramatically. Threats that once seemed distant have become impossible to ignore. Perhaps nowhere is that clearer than with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

And last year, the final living Israeli hostages held in Gaza finally came home. The process of bringing home those who were killed in captivity followed. October 7 did not affect only those who were physically attacked that day in the communities along the Gaza border or at the Nova festival. Its impact spread through every part of Israeli society. Healing will take years. Decades. Lifetimes.

The same is true, in different ways, for Jewish communities outside Israel. Many had friends and loved ones who were killed or injured on October 7. And quickly in countries around the globe, an explosion of antisemitism has

entered spaces many Jews once assumed were safe — campuses, workplaces, streets and online communities.

So what do we do now? We remember.

We remember the people who were murdered. We remember those who were kidnapped. We remember the extraordinary courage of ordinary Israelis who ran toward danger to save people they had never met.

Remembering is not passive. Memory carries obligations.

We cannot dismiss murderous ideologies as rhetoric or assume that fanaticism will moderate itself with time. We must push back on those who seek to diminish, "contextualize" or justify the Hamas attacks on October 7.

And we must continue to fight antisemitism wherever it appears.

But perhaps the most important obligation is to help build what comes next. To stand with the people of Israel not only in moments of tragedy, but through the long and difficult process of recovery. To strengthen the resilience of Jewish communities everywhere as they struggle with the violence, harassment and hate that have become a common thread in diaspora nations. And to work toward a future of regional coexistence in which Israelis can live securely.

Today, standing again in the places where it happened, one thing is even clearer to me: We cannot undo October 7, but we can decide what we carry forward from it.

We can remember.
We can listen.
We can act.

We can make sure that the lessons paid for at such an unbearable price are never forgotten.

And we must do the work every single day to turn the tide against hate so that we are able to live safely, proudly and openly in Israel, in America and in every country around the world.

Sincerely,

JG signature

Jonathan Greenblatt

CEO and National Director

ADL

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From: CNN"s 5 Things AM
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] Ballot drop boxes are back in focus
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 6:52:12 AM

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5 Things: A CNN Newsletter

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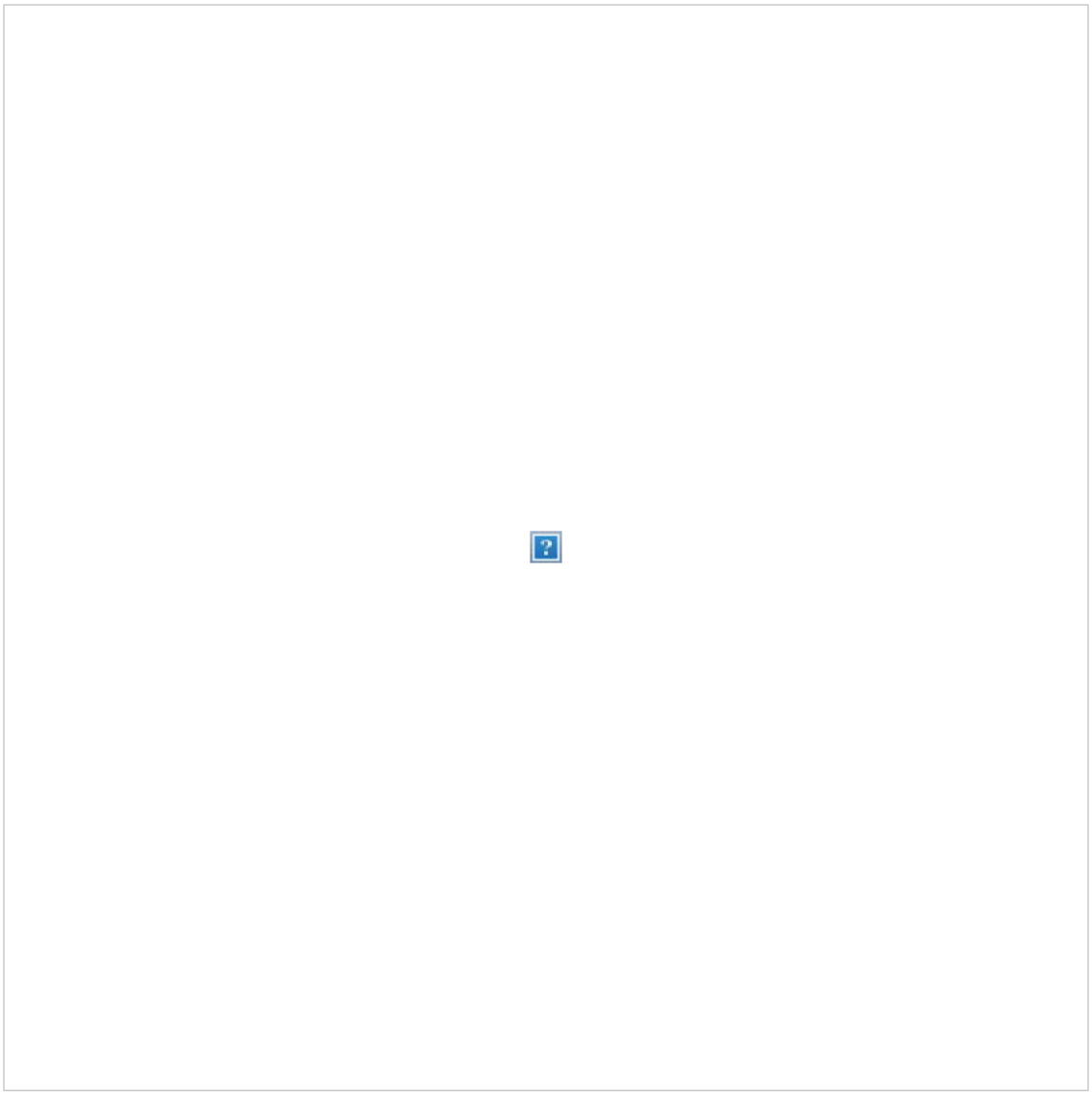
Good morning. Let's catch you up. Election officials are pushing

voters to use drop boxes rather than mailboxes, and Tropical Storm Isaias has the Gulf Coast on alert for a hurricane. Plus, researchers are narrowing in on a possible clue in the Amelia Earhart mystery.

- Alexandra Banner, lead writer

Let's Begin

To mail or not to mail?



A ballot drop box in Renton, Washington, on September 24, 2026. (David Ryder/Reuters)

Election officials are urging voters to use ballot drop boxes as concerns grow that changes at the US Postal Service could delay mailed midterm ballots.

The USPS has reduced trips between local post offices and processing centers, meaning some mail can sit longer before receiving a postmark — and even a one-day delay could put a ballot at risk in states with strict deadlines. The concern isn't hypothetical: A recent study found rejection rates for late-arriving ballots roughly doubled in areas affected by the USPS' processing changes.

Drop boxes, where available, offer voters a way to bypass the mail altogether. But as they take on a bigger role, officials are also working to make them more secure. Several were damaged in recent elections, prompting some cities to add safeguards, including surveillance cameras, fire suppression devices and sensors that can detect tampering.

+ **Read more:** Election officials push voters to 'use the drop box rather than the mailbox'

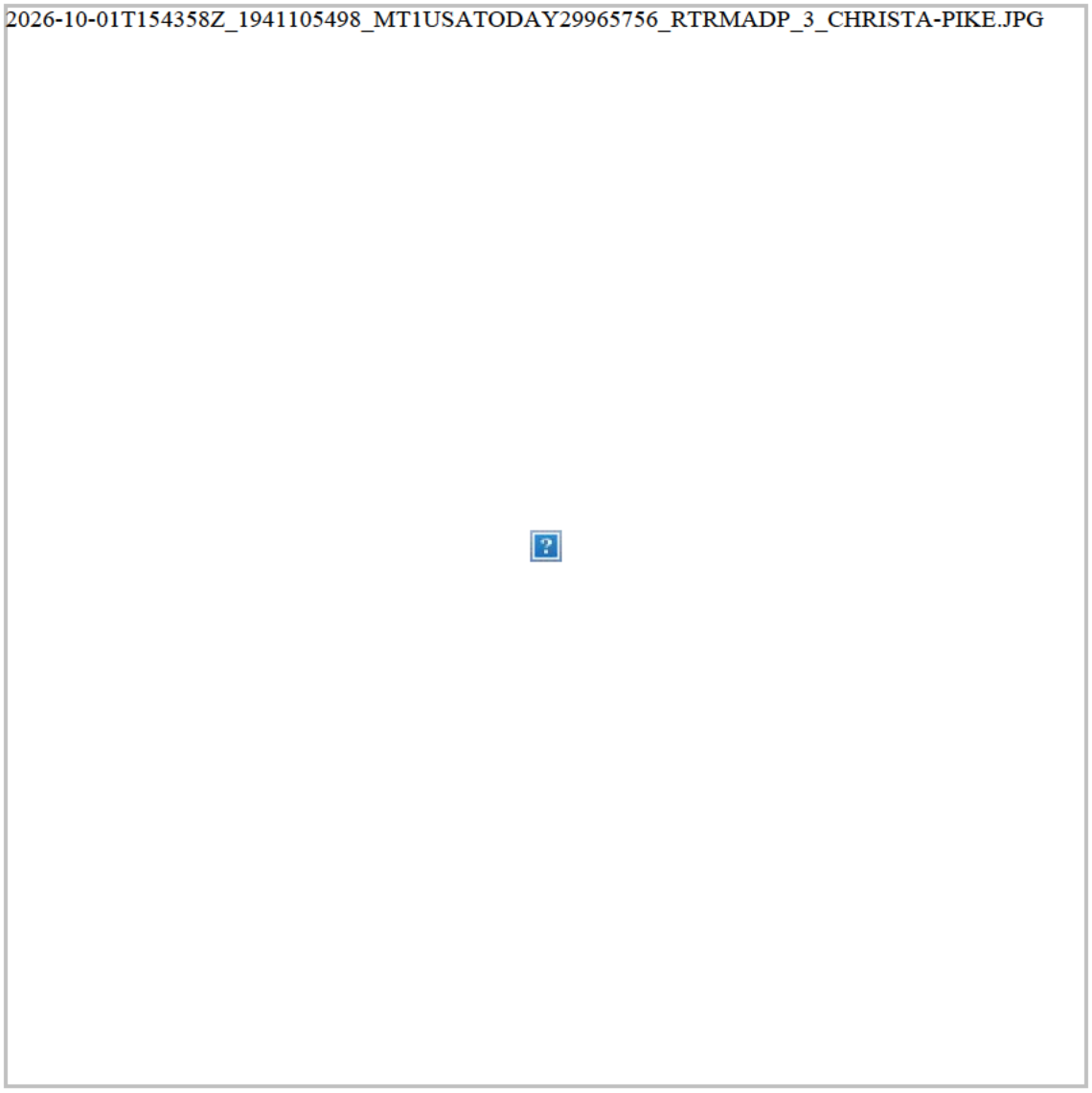
+ **USAFacts:** Who shows up to the midterms? The past two midterm elections have drawn higher voter turnout than in recent decades.

Editor's note: CNN has partnered with the not-for-profit USAFacts to share government data and insights that we believe are relevant to our audience.



Crime & Courts

Christa Pike is conscious after botched execution



Christa Pike appears in court in 2012. (Dipti Vaidya/Imagn Images/Reuters)

A week after surviving a failed execution, Tennessee death row inmate Christa Pike is conscious and speaking, her attorneys say. Pike, who was set to become the first woman executed in the state in 200 years, survived two ostensibly lethal doses of pentobarbital after executioners struggled to place her IV lines. Pike's lawyers said they believe problems with the IVs caused the drug to flow into her body rather than her bloodstream. She is now receiving medical care, and her attorneys are seeking a court order to preserve evidence from her botched execution.

+ Read more: Christa Pike is conscious and speaking + Attorneys ask for evidence to be preserved

+ Video: Catch up on the latest in the case



Weather Watch

Gulf Coast faces hurricane threat

A tropical storm is expected to become Hurricane Isaias and batter parts of the southern US later this week. The system is forecast to turn north toward the Gulf Coast and rapidly strengthen into a Category 2 hurricane with 100 mph winds by Friday, bringing threats of heavy rain, powerful winds and flooding across multiple states. The storm's exact track remains uncertain, but anyone along the Gulf Coast from Louisiana to Florida's Big Bend should monitor the forecast closely.

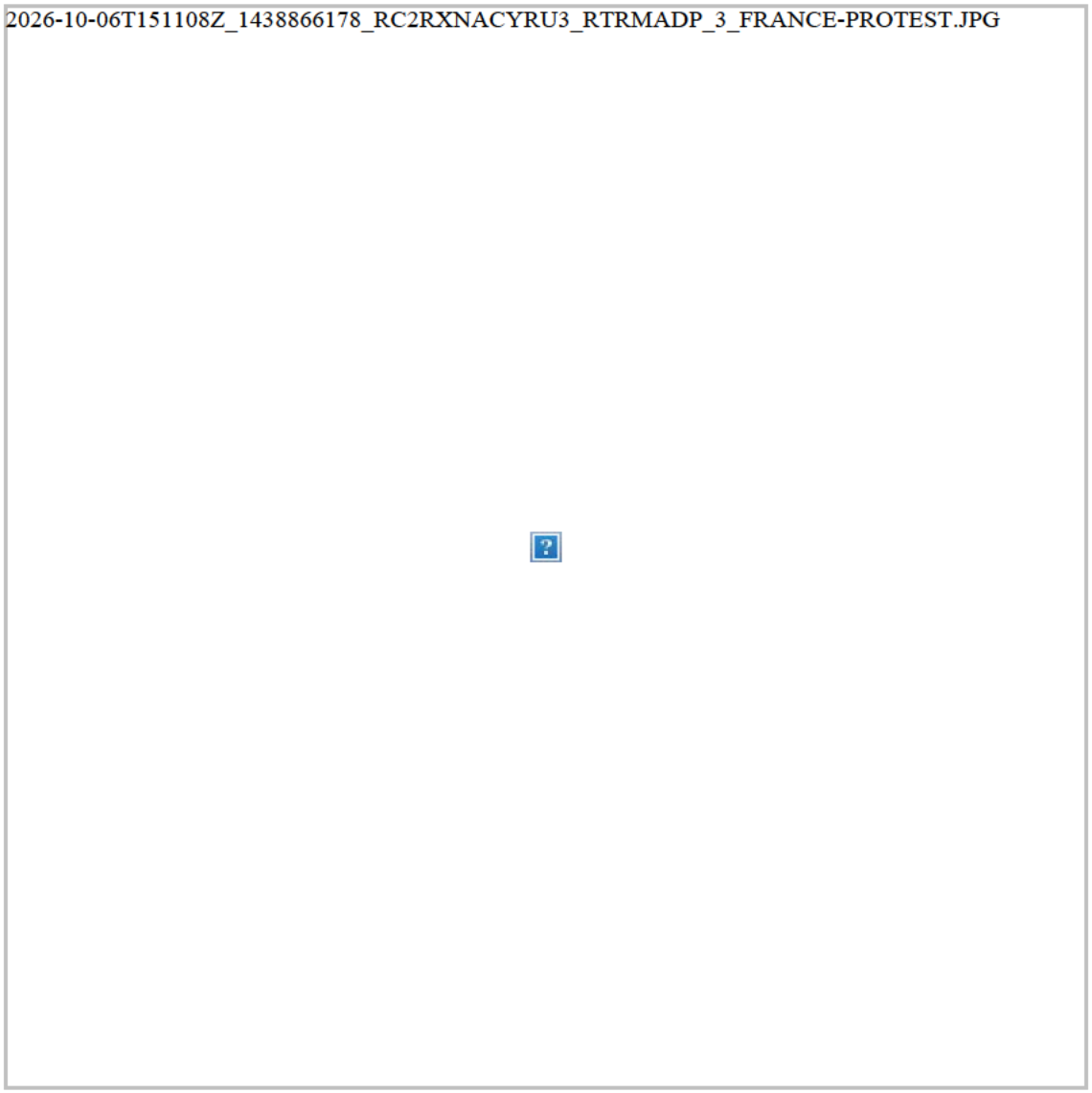
+ Read more: Hurricane Isaias could soon take shape

+ Get live updates and alerts: Download the CNN Weather app



Tensions Flare

France faces biggest student-led protests in decades



A protester throws a garbage bin into burning objects during a demonstration in Paris on Tuesday. (Abdul Saboor/Reuters)

More protests are expected across France in the days ahead as students voice anger over overcrowded classrooms, teacher shortages and dilapidated school buildings. They blame the problems on years of underinvestment and accuse the government of ordering police to crack down on the movement. On Tuesday, police fired tear gas and clashed with demonstrators across the country. Hundreds of schools have been forced to close and more than 6,000 people have been taken into police custody over the past few weeks, most of whom are minors with no previous criminal record.

+ **Read more:** France's protests highlight a debt crisis that could spill over to the rest of Europe

+ **Video:** Why do the French protest so much?

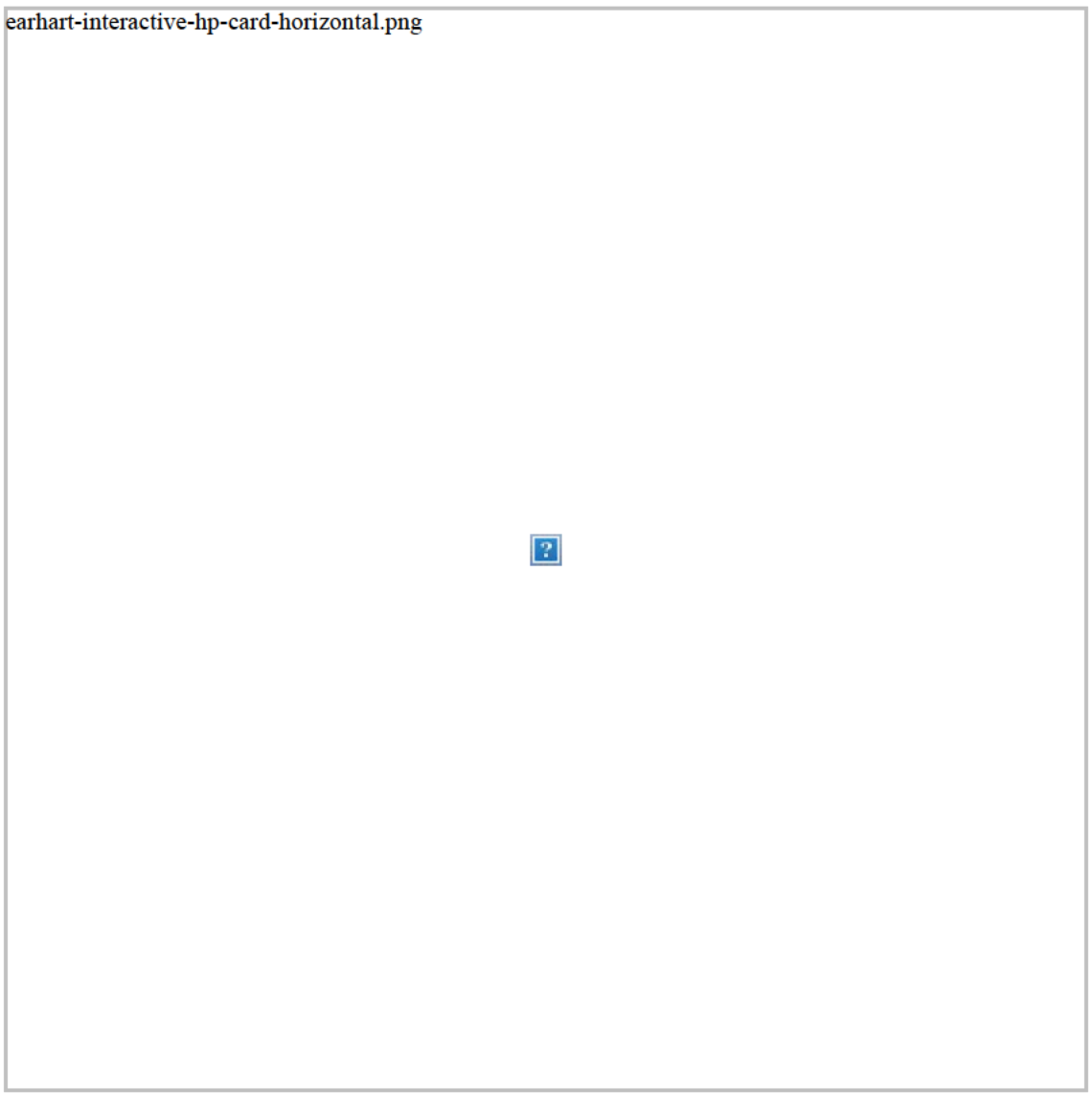
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Seven secret things to do if you have Amazon Prime

Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you might be missing out on huge savings and a chance to earn extra cash on every purchase you make. These seven different hacks could help you save money, earn cash, cancel unwanted subscriptions, and much more.

Worth Your Time

Amelia Earhart: Castaway or crash victim?



Amelia Earhart disappeared in 1937 during a daring attempt to become the first woman to fly around the world. But nearly 90 years later, what happened to her remains a mystery. Despite dozens of searches, her plane has never been found, fueling theories that she and navigator

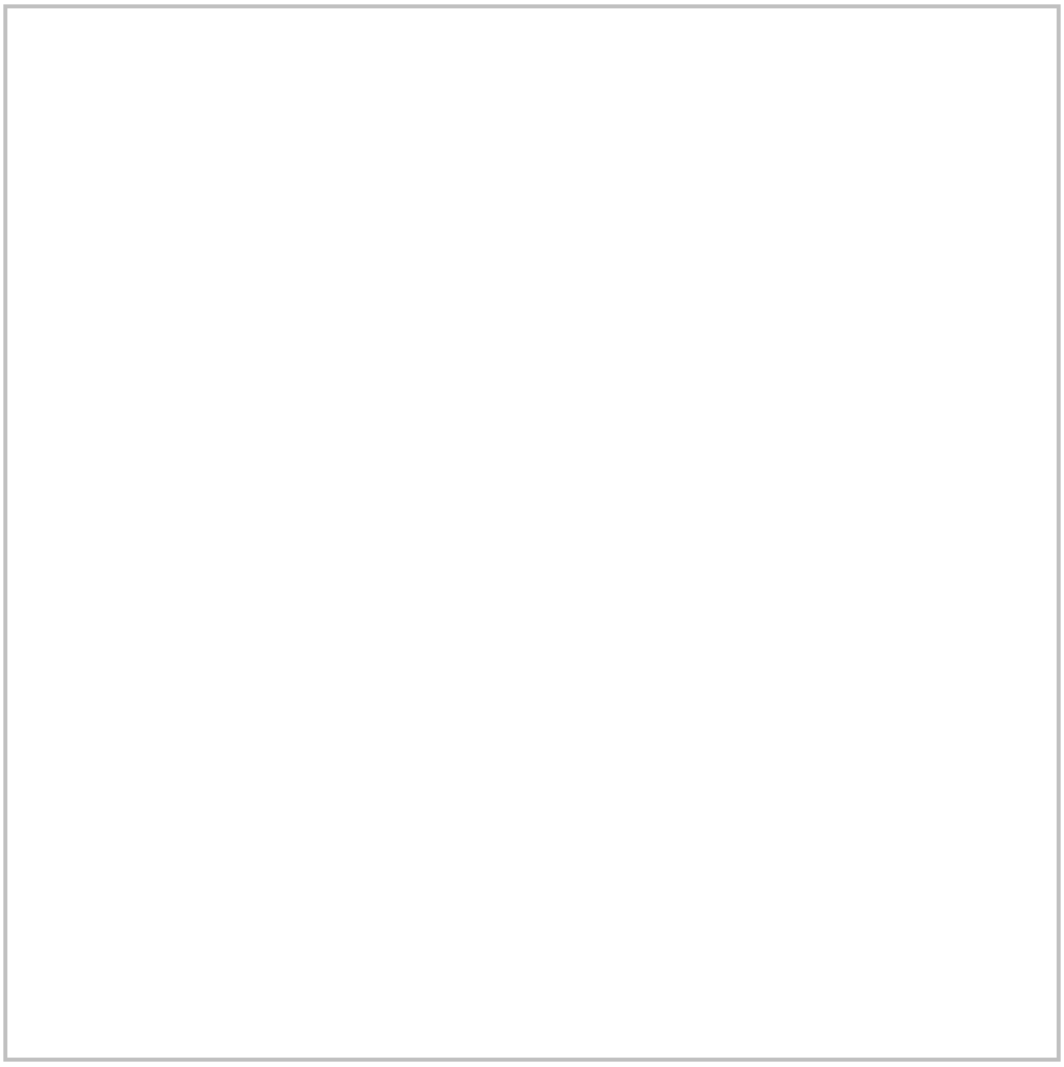
Fred Noonan either crashed into the Pacific or landed on Nikumaroro Island and survived for a time as castaways. This week, researchers are heading to the remote island as part of a $900,000 expedition to investigate satellite imagery of an object that could either be Earhart's plane — or simply a tree.

+ Interactive story: The enduring quest to solve Amelia Earhart's disappearance

+ Don't miss a discovery: Sign up for Wonder Theory, CNN's science newsletter

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11 foolish things Americans are wasting money on

You're smart about saving money by shopping clearance, eating out less, and picking affordable streaming services. But there are still some tips you might not know that could help you save even more.

Before you go

Video: Why Delta changed its loyalty program

Delta Air Lines overhauled its frequent flyer program in 2024, changing how travelers earn status. CNN's Randi Kaye asked CEO Ed Bastian if it's now harder to move up the ranks and whether more

changes are coming.

Mystery surrounds Russia plague scare

The Trump administration is struggling to get clear answers about the death of a Russian woman who worked at a plague laboratory.

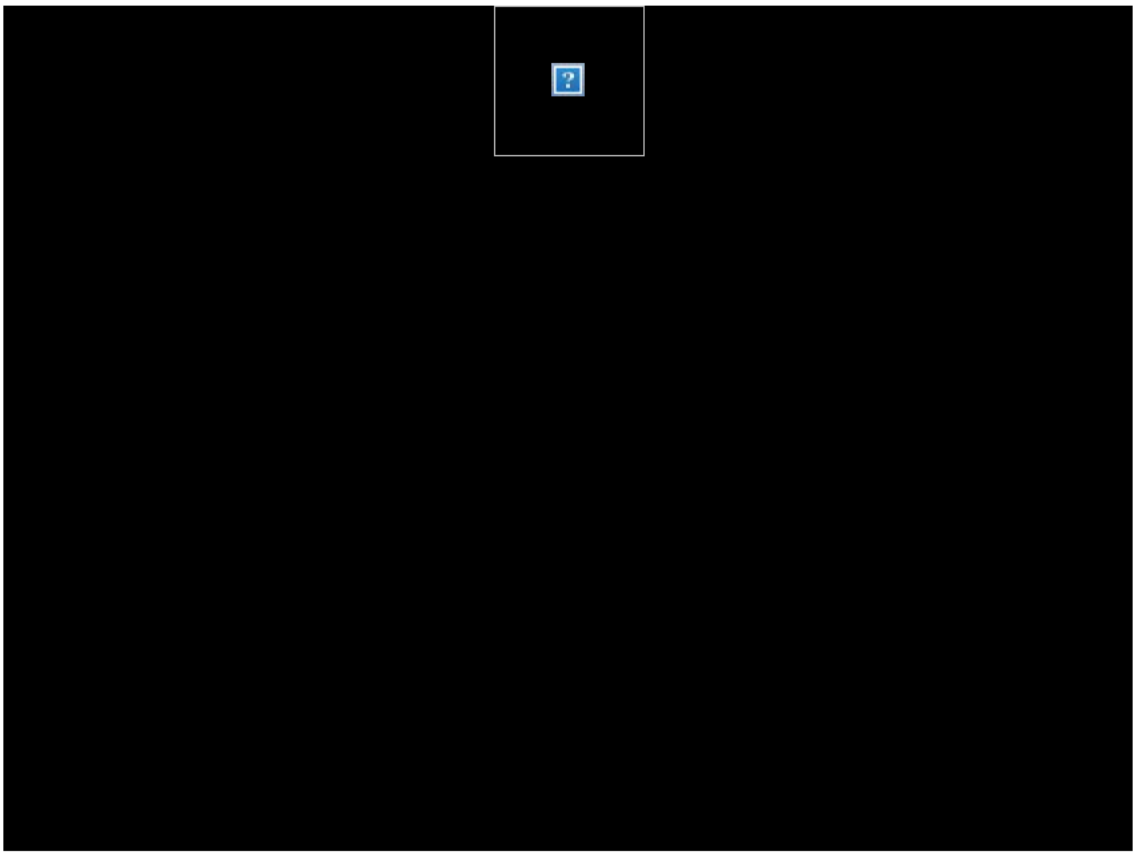
For subscribers: On the front lines of a measles outbreak

As measles rages, one clinic in Pennsylvania is leaning on years of hard-won trust to keep people safe and healthy.

Israel marks a somber anniversary

Memorials are taking place across Israel today to mark the third anniversary of the October 7 Hamas attack.

Video: Hayride carrying 21 people crashes





00:44

Pick of the day

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Four pairs of sneakers



hese are the best Prime Day shoe discounts worth buying

Our health and fitness editor has worn and reviewed hundreds of shoes, so she set out to find the very best deals on the pairs that get her seal of approval. Here, you can shop markdowns on options from New Balance, Hoka, Brooks and more.

Thanks for reading

5 Things AM is edited by CNN's Andrew Torgan.

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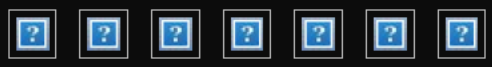
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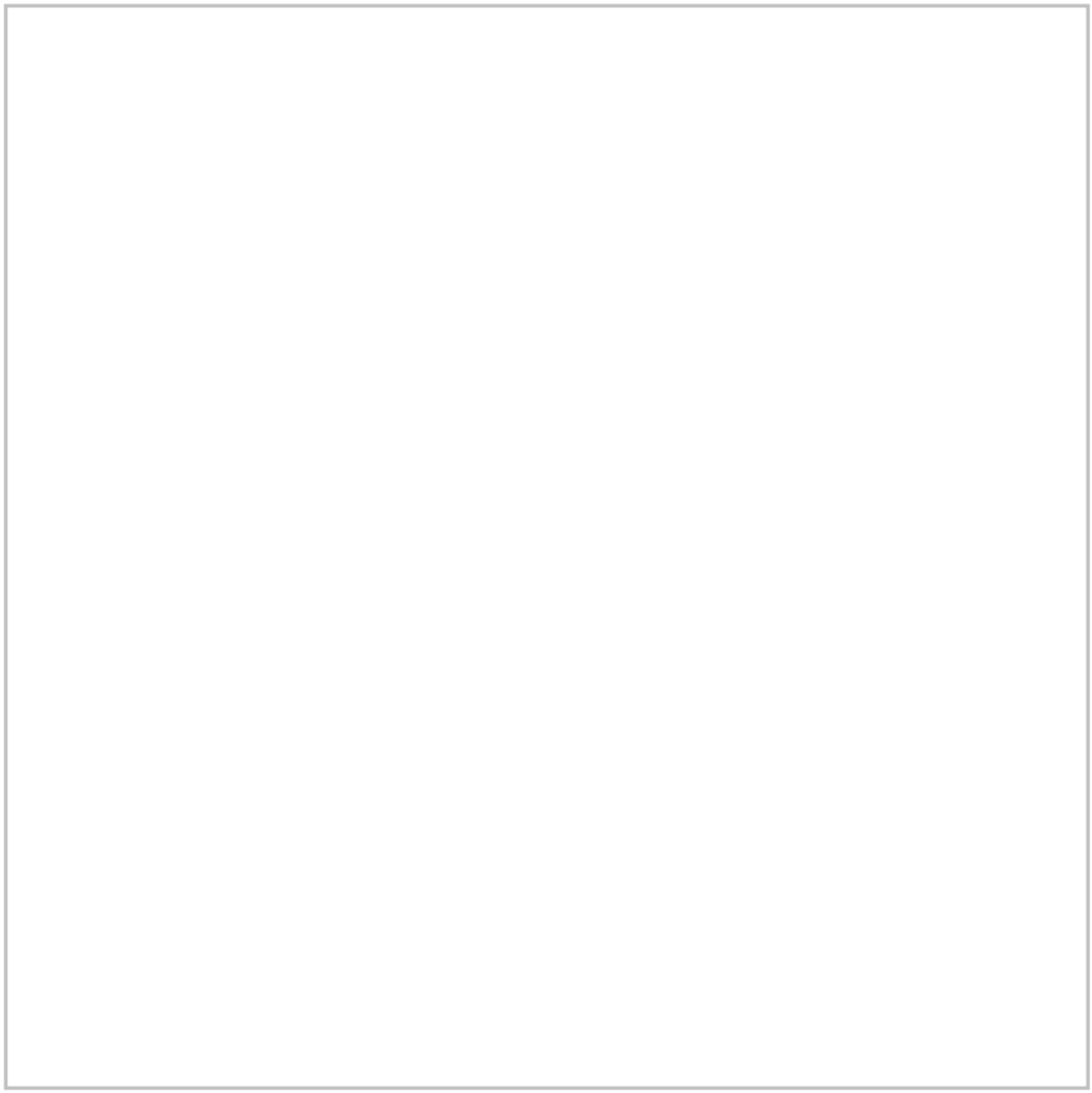


From: The New York Times
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] The Morning: France in crisis
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 6:45:11 AM

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The Morning

October 7, 2026

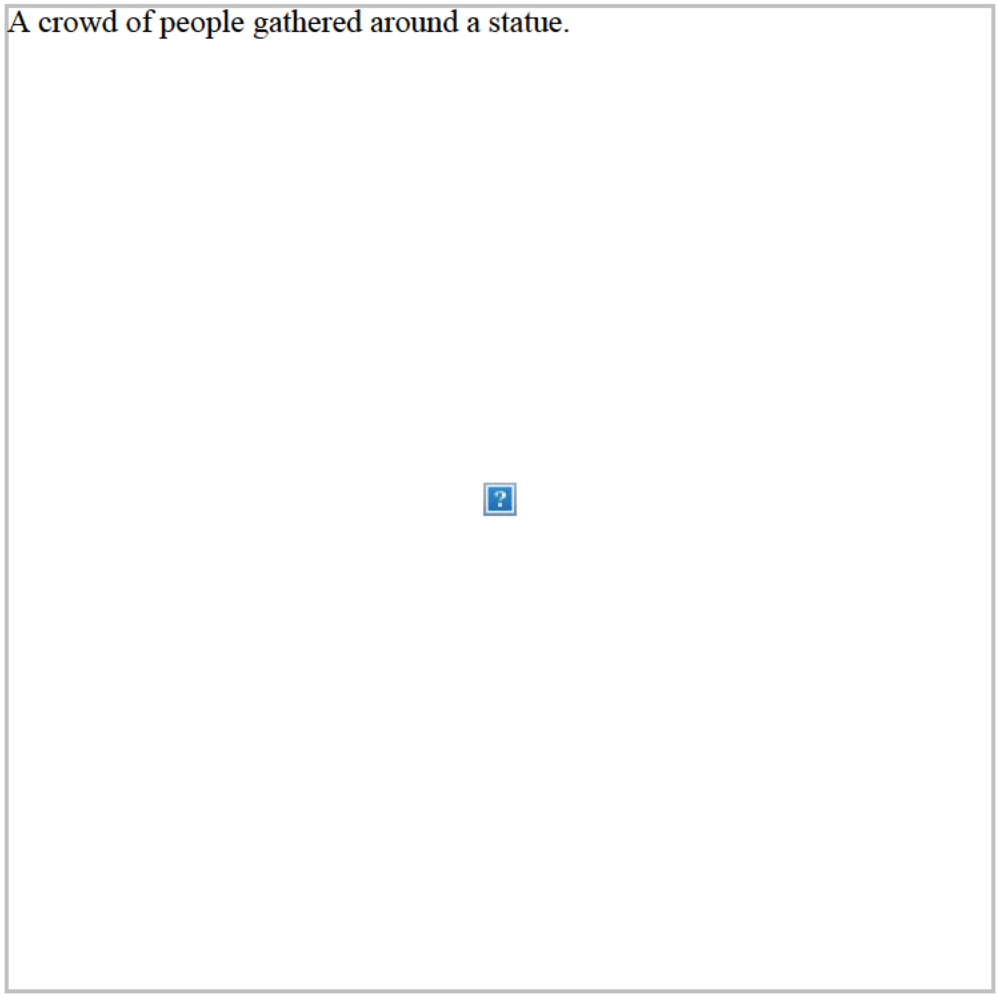


Read on site

By Sam Sifton

Good morning. It has been three years since the Oct. 7 attacks in Israel. Christa Pike regained consciousness after two botched execution attempts. And Lionel Messi played his last game with Argentina's national team.

There's more news below, including a look at the future of Washington's Lafayette Square. But first, let's go to France.



At the Place de la République in Paris yesterday. Dimitar Dilkoff/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

French drain

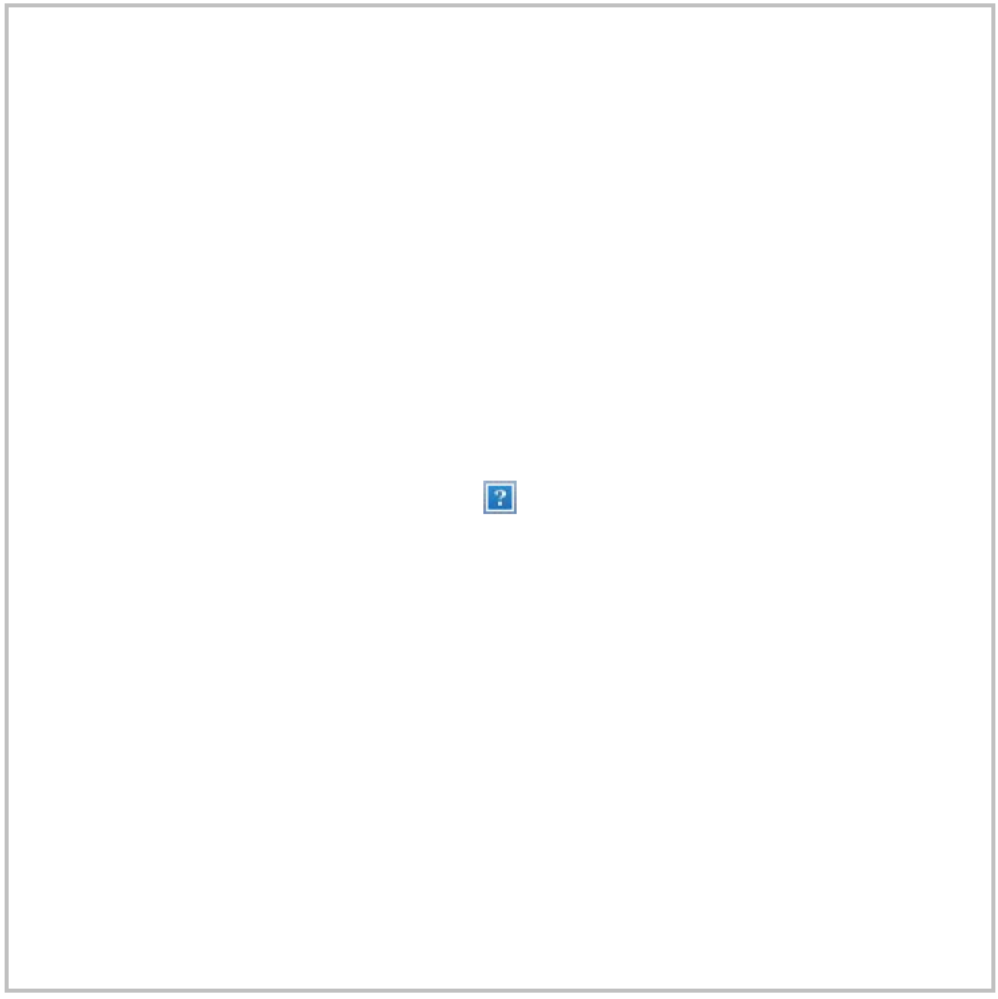
It is an autumn of discontent in France. Students are demonstrating and workers are striking. Mariners have blockaded ports to protest surging fuel costs. Financial markets are rattled, and bond yields are soaring. The nation will replace a term-limited President Emmanuel Macron next spring, and its politics are turbulent.

Mark Landler, our Paris bureau chief, puts it well in his reporting:

> France suddenly finds itself engulfed by crisis — not a single spasm of unrest, but a cascade of disruption that is roiling city streets, trading floors and public offices across the country. France's "rentrée," or "return," as the French call the back-to-school and back-to-work season, has been anything but orderly.

Why? The proximate cause is student anger over conditions in the nation's schools. An austere new budget offered by Macron won't dampen the sentiment — the proposal would cut billions of euros in public spending. But the markets are jittery, too, fearful that France could tumble into an all-out financial crisis. Meanwhile, the far-right candidate for president, Marine Le Pen, could take over the country and break from European Union rules. Le Pen is leading in the race, according to recent polls. It's a lot!

In the streets



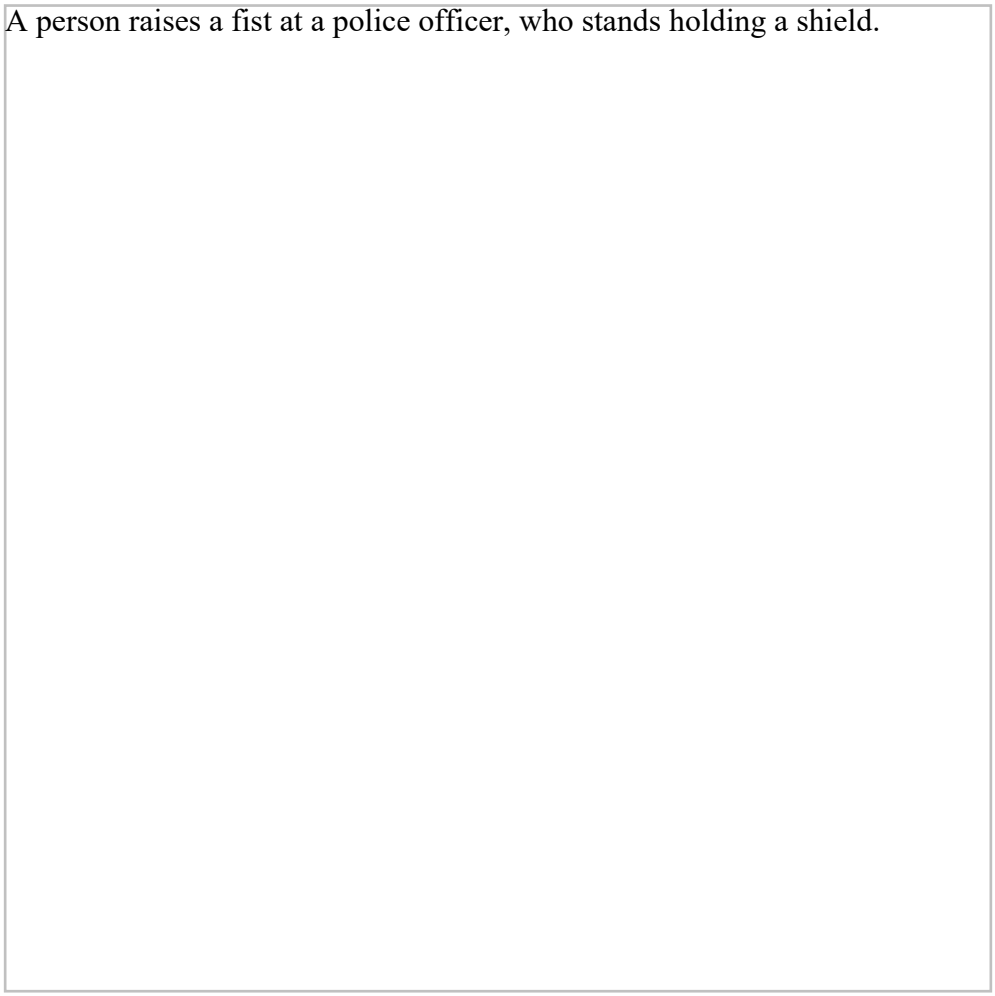
In Paris. Kenzo Tribouillard/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

There were more than 40 demonstrations across France yesterday, as labor activists, teachers, parents and university students rallied to support high schoolers who have spent the past two weeks blockading schools. They're upset about understaffing, overcrowded classrooms and decrepit buildings. One of the protesters in Paris told The Times he was happy that so many adults had joined the protests. "We feel like we're not alone," he said.

Another lamented the state of suburban schools. Hers is in the Marais, in the heart of Paris, and she said she was one of the lucky ones. "The buildings are falling apart, their teachers are absent all the time, their classes are overcrowded," she said. "We have 36 people in our class, and we are among the privileged."

The government said more than 250,000 people had joined the marches. (One union said it was twice that many.) They were mostly peaceful, though a fire was set in Lyon yesterday and the authorities deployed tear gas on the crowds in Marseille and Paris. Some were suspicious. "The government is pushing them to violence, so that public opinion will turn against them and their demands won't be heard," one union member told The Times.

Beyond the schools

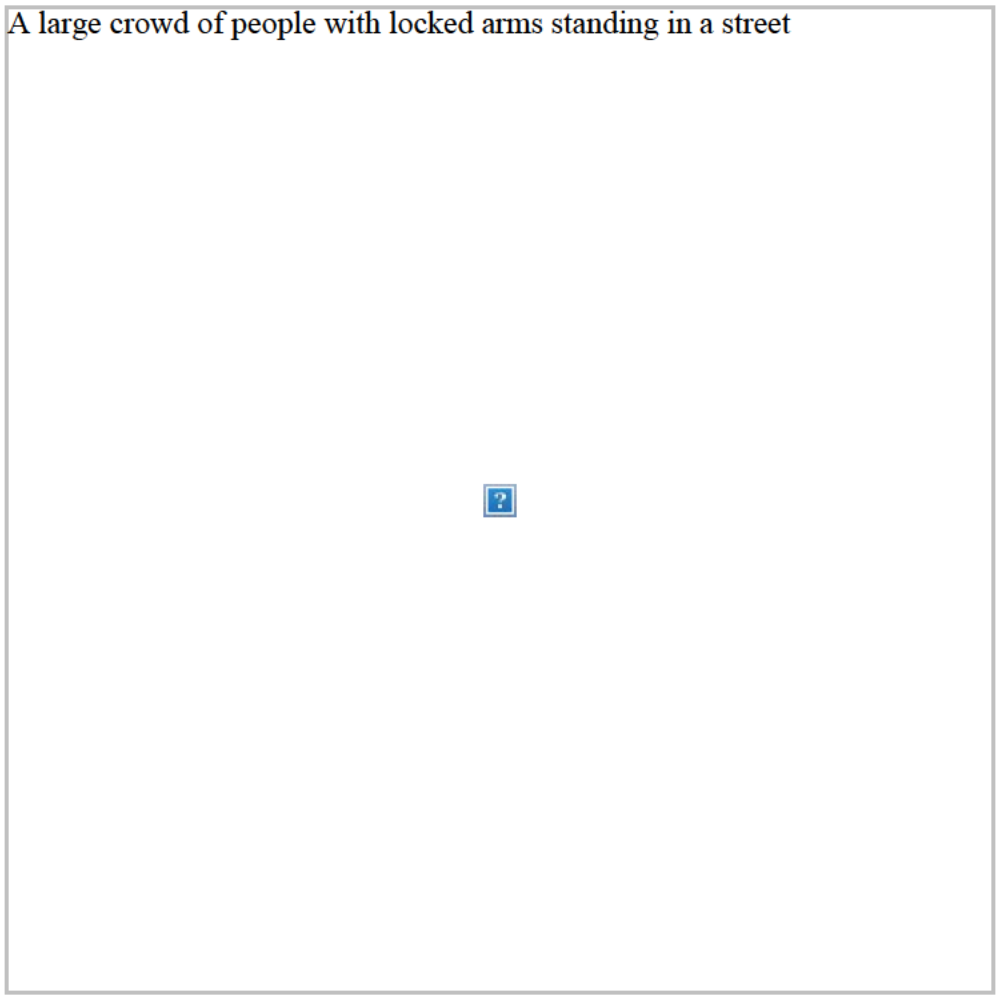


In Bordeaux. Philippe Lopez/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

The anger in France is not simply about education. The country's debt stands at around $4 trillion, nearly 120 percent of the value of everything it makes in a year. The cost of servicing that debt will be near $100 billion next year. Add on the costs of health care and pensions for the country's aging population, as well as increased military spending as France supports the war in Ukraine. Now the folks who watch and run the country sound nervous. Next year's presidential elections intensify that jumpiness.

"It's not just a debt crisis or bond-market crisis," one European political analyst told Mark. "The investors I'm talking to are worrying about an existential political and constitutional crisis. It's all of these issues coming together in a deeply unhelpful way for whoever wins the presidential election."

No easy remedy



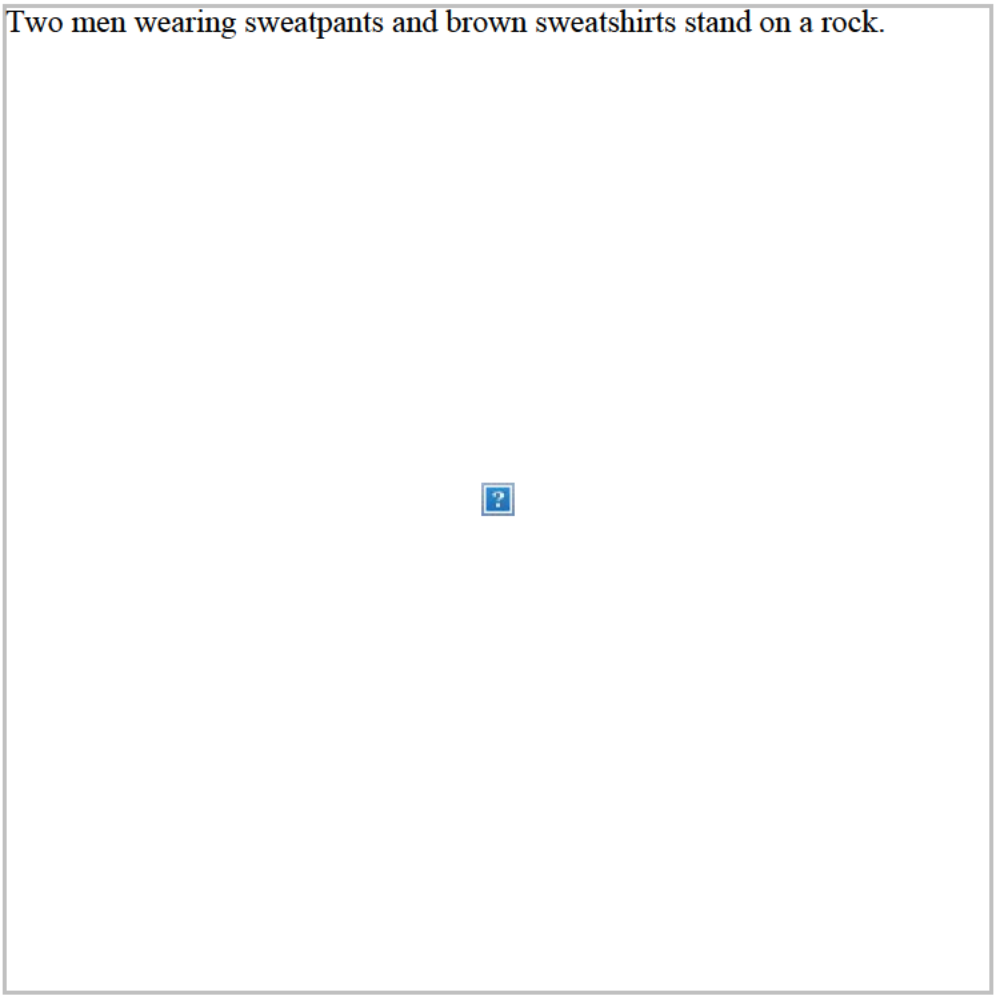
In Toulouse. Ed Jones/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

I tracked Mark down in Paris yesterday and asked him what to make of all of it — the students and the nation's mood. He told me he spent some time with young people in the suburbs last week and found them genuine and idealistic, mostly well intentioned. He offered a caution as well. This crisis isn't going away, and when it comes to protests, "the French have a lot of muscle memory." Again he puts it well:

> But there are no easy remedies, certainly not from a cash-strapped, debt-laden French government. As the protests expand, other groups with grievances will be tempted to join in. That could change their mostly peaceful character. The question many here are asking is whether France is on the cusp of something like the yellow-vest movement, which disrupted the country, often violently, between 2018 and 2020.

Now, let's see what else is happening in the world. *Allons*.

10/7, THREE YEARS LATER

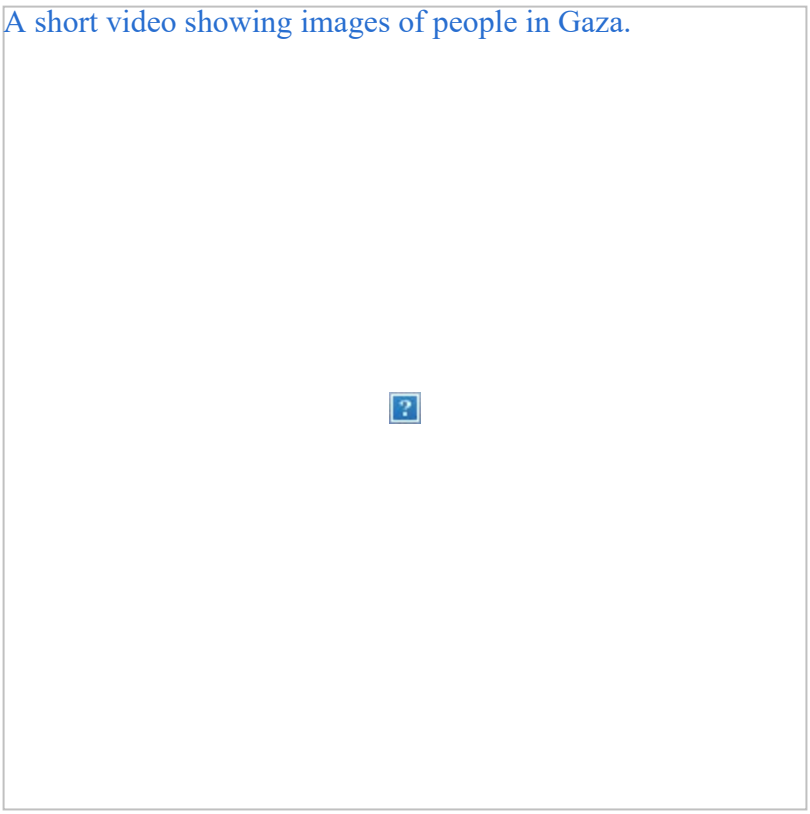


Gali Berman, left, and his twin brother. Ziv, outside their temporary home in Kibbutz Beit Guvrin, Israel. last year. Avishag Shaar-Yashuv for The New York Times

Three years ago, militants from Hamas stormed out of Gaza, slaughtered about 1,200 people in southern Israel and retreated with about 250 hostages. In the war that followed, Israel killed tens of thousands of Palestinians and flattened much of the territory. The two stories below reflect life in each community since

Oct. 7, 2023.

- Gali and Ziv Berman, twin brothers, were snatched from their kibbutz by Hamas gunmen when they were 26 and freed two years later. Read how they're rebuilding their lives.
- Israeli strikes on Gaza, though less frequent now, haven't stopped. Saher Alghorra, a photographer for The Times, has documented how residents are coping. **Watch the video below to see his images.**



The New York Times

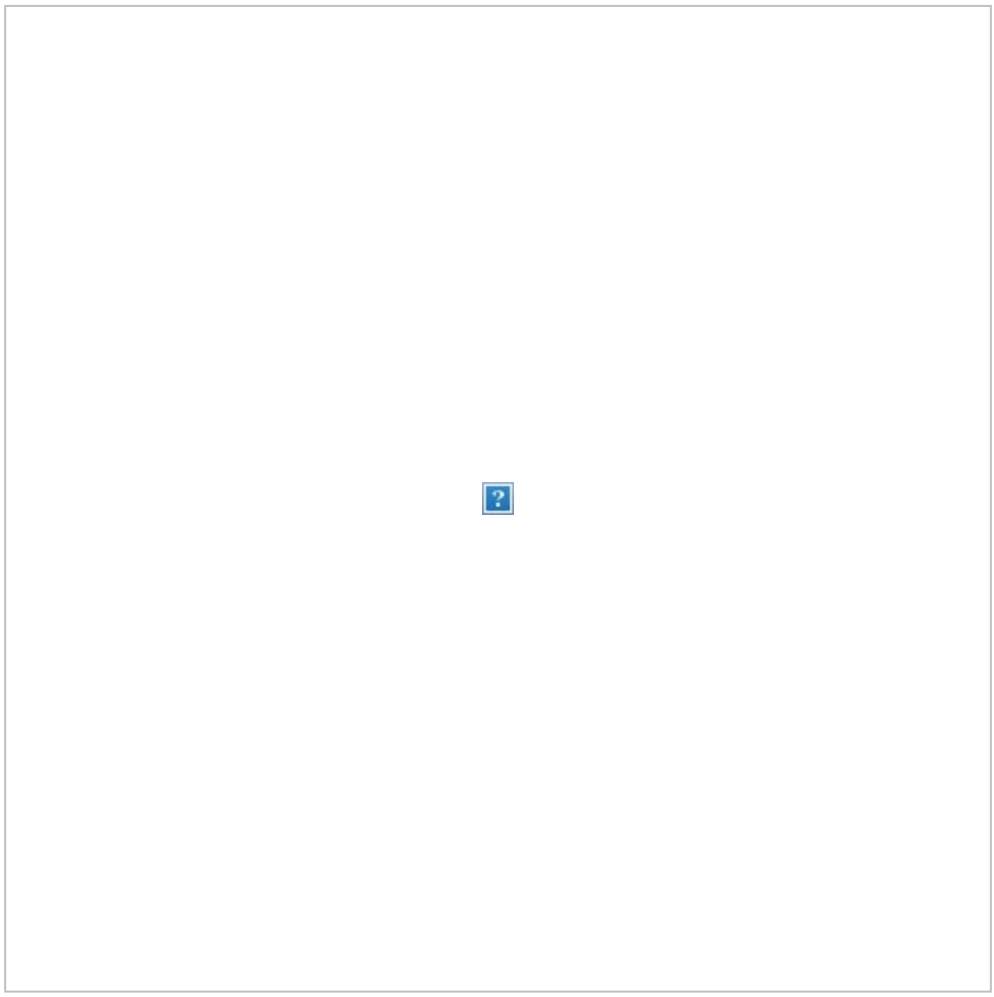
FREE TO READ

Spot the Spyder: This beloved adult tricycle has become a victim of the Trump administration's trade war with Canada. How did that happen?

Take the physical challenge: The Nickelodeon show "Double Dare" first aired 40 years ago this week. Bring on the slime.

Your pick: The most clicked link in The Morning yesterday was a video about ancient artifacts revealed by melting glaciers in Switzerland.

Keep out: Lafayette Square, steps from the White House, is a historic protest site. See how President Trump plans to fence it off.



The New York Times

THE LATEST NEWS

Politics

- Trump does not plan to reimburse taxpayers for the more than $10 million he already spent on TV ads promoting himself, White House officials said.
- The Justice Department is filling the ranks of its civil rights division with

conservative partisans and conspiracy theorists.

- The U.S. trade deficit — the difference between what the country imports and what it exports — hit a 17-month high, despite Trump's tariffs.

Around the World

- **Kenya** recorded its first case of Ebola, in a man who had recently arrived from **Congo**, which is at the center of a severe outbreak.
- The police in **Britain** said they had arrested a seventh man as part of an investigation into an incident near an air base used by the United States, on suspicion of planning terrorist acts.
- A far-right party in **Germany** won the speakership in a state legislature, for the first time since the Nazi era.

Artificial Intelligence

- China's booming A.I. sector has given local researchers a reason to stay in the country. But China still has trouble luring talent from overseas.
- Hospitals in Canada are using A.I. to train new surgeons.
- OpenAI released solutions to 377 advanced math problems. Mathematicians weren't happy.

Crime

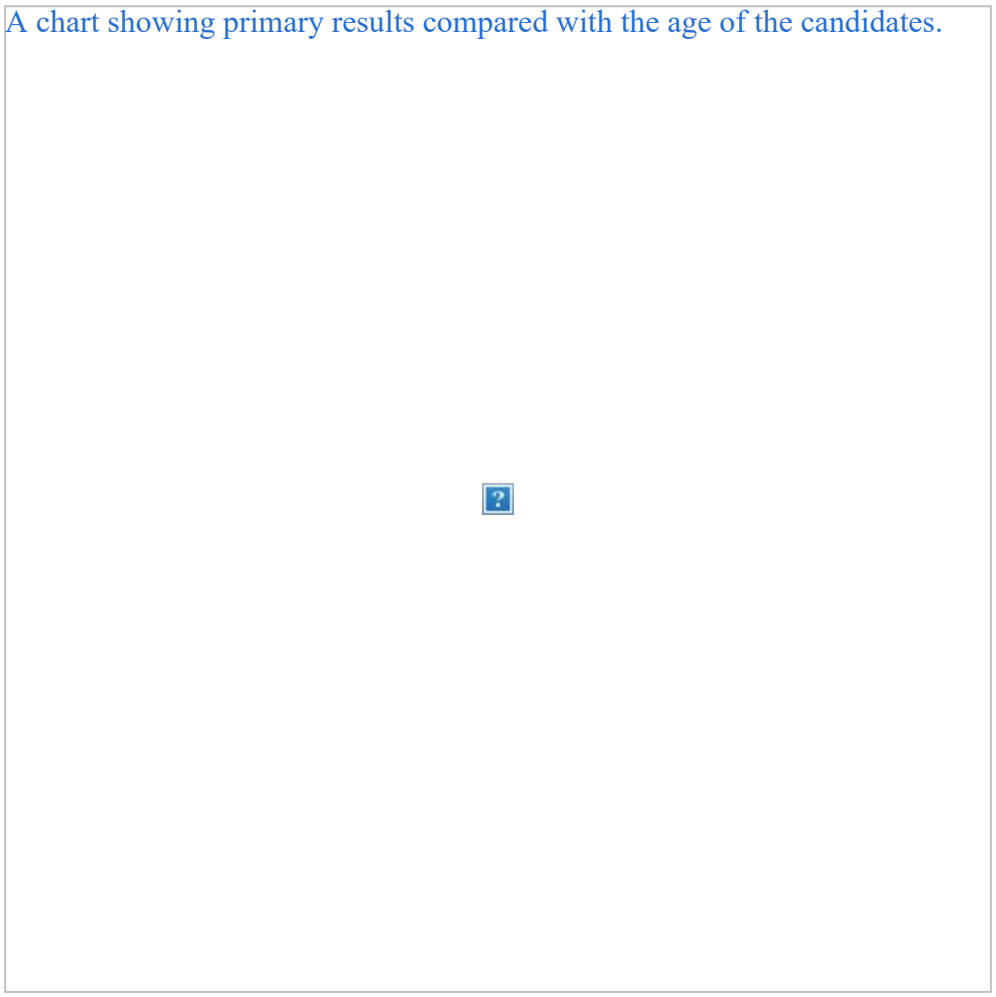
- A Southern California couple were arrested and charged with conspiring to abuse 15 of their children, nearly all of whom were born to surrogates.
- The authorities in Rhode Island arrested a man in a murder case from 1985 after collecting his DNA from a water bottle he tossed at a rock concert.

Other Big Stories

- Paramount closed its deal to acquire Warner Bros. Discovery, putting David Ellison, the son of the tech mogul Larry Ellison, in control of a vast media empire now called Skydance.

- Henri Kagan and Kenso Soai won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their work on asymmetric organic synthesis.

IN ONE CHART



The New York Times

Americans say their representatives in Washington are too old, but we keep re-electing them. The Times analyzed 143 partisan primary Senate and House races with an incumbent and a challenger in 2026. Nearly half featured an incumbent 65 or older. Only seven of those lost; 57 won. Explore the details of our gerontocracy here.

OPINIONS

Foreign countries are flooding A.I. models with propaganda. To resist their influence, think like a spy, a former senior intelligence officer suggests.

As trade disruptions become more common, now may be the time for the United States to reclaim its onetime position as a shipbuilding leader.

The Anniversary Sale ends soon: Morning readers, enjoy our best offer.

Don't miss this opportunity to expand your interests with expert coverage of news, culture, business and more. Save now: $1/week for your first year.

TODAY'S NUMBER

130 million

— That is at least how many names an election commission struck from India's voter roll, a number larger than the population of Mexico. Learn why it happened, and what's happening as a result.

MESSI'S 'LAST TANGO'

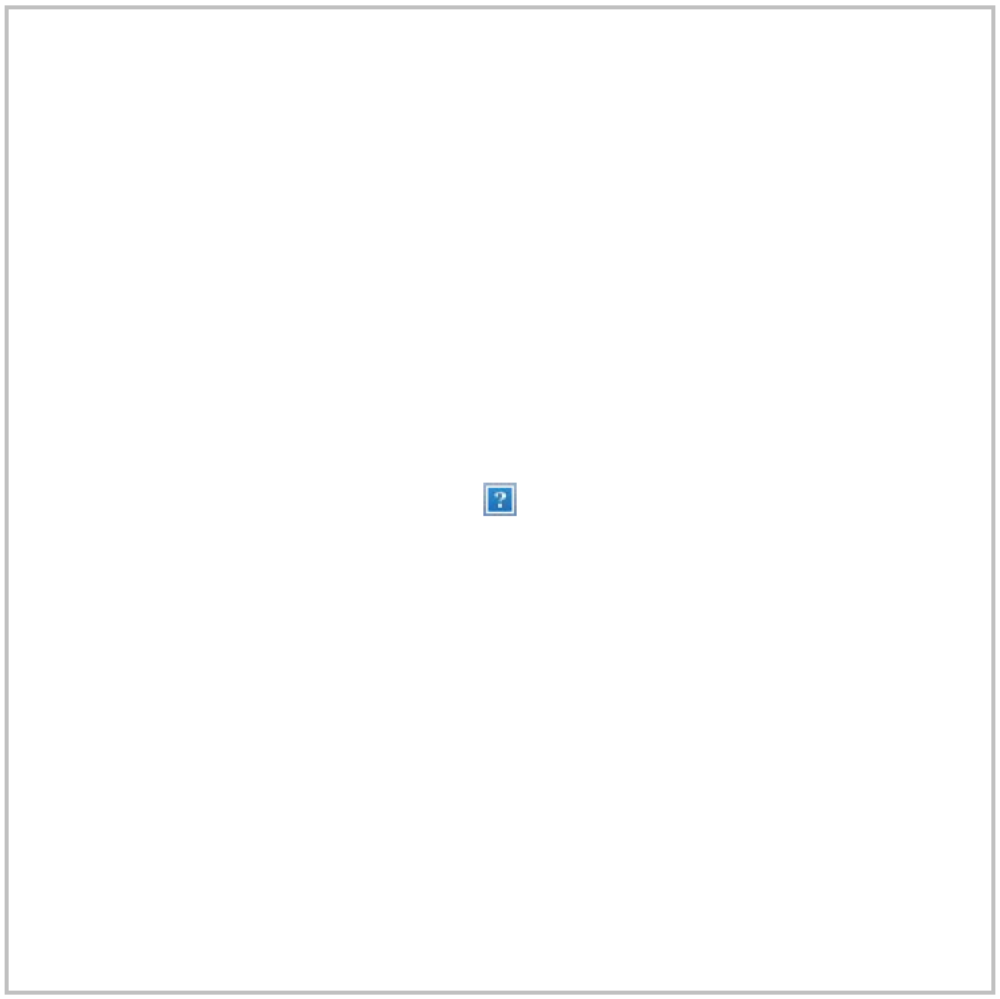


Lionel Messi Luis Robayo/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

Last night, Lionel Messi played his final game for Argentina's national team. Our correspondent Emma Bubola was there. She sent in this dispatch:

> They were wearing Messi jerseys, holding Messi cutouts, scrawling Messi's name on their foreheads. Argentines packed a stadium in Buenos Aires to watch their idol, possibly the world's greatest soccer savant, play his final game for their country last night. For Argentines, Messi was much more than a sports hero. In a country hobbled by a chaotic economy and far removed from the center of world affairs, Messi brought Argentina the spotlight. With him, they were excellent — often the best. Outside the stadium last night, supporters distributed stickers with a world map. They had Argentina at the center.

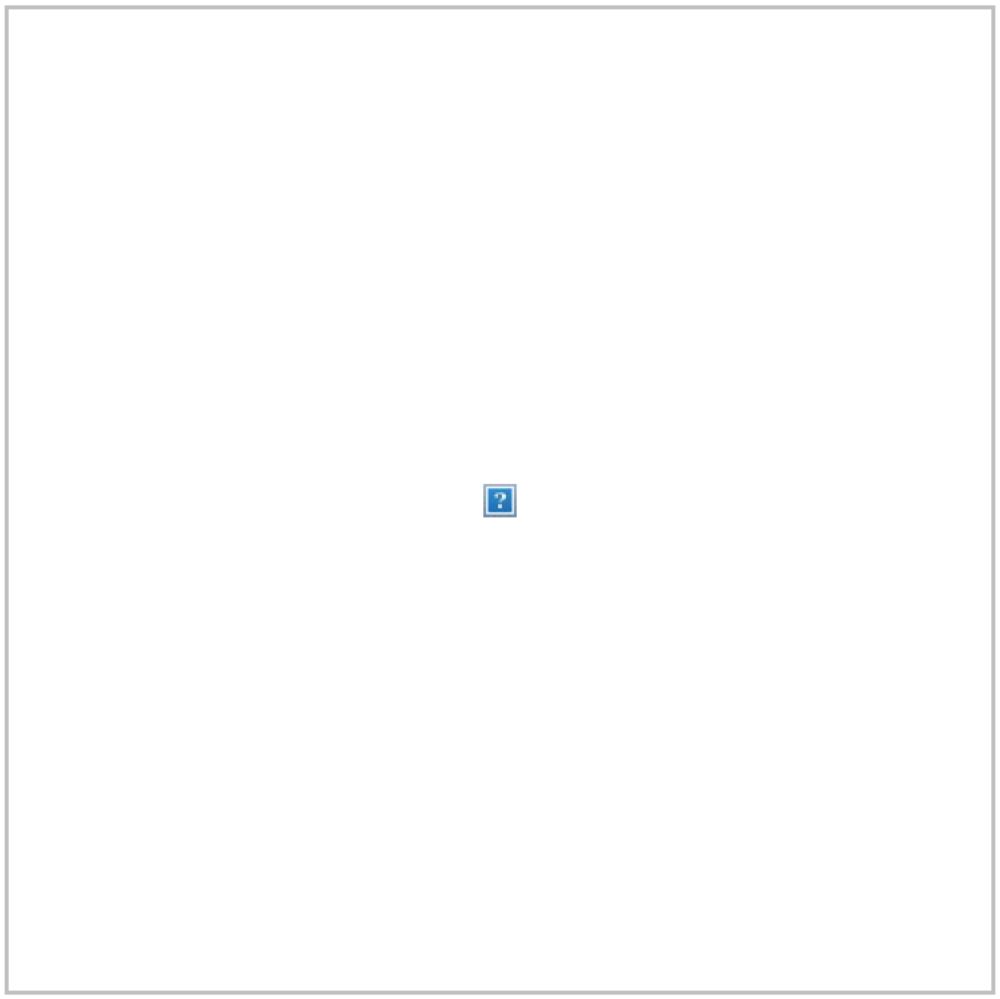
RECIPE OF THE DAY



Rachel Vanni for The New York Times. Food Stylist: Spencer Richards.

Here's an easy midweek dinner: chicken and white bean stew, with a bunch of kale stirred in at the end. It's a great reminder of the excellence of chicken breasts poached in broth. Have a Parmesan rind in the fridge? Add that early and it'll bring an additional thrum of flavor to the whole.

A LEGACY REVISITED



The author Cormac McCarthy in 1973. David Styles

There's a new biography of the novelist Cormac McCarthy, by Tracy Daugherty. Dwight Garner reviewed it for The Times, and his sentences crackle. Dwight opens with a scene of McCarthy writing in bed, his typewriter balanced on a piece of wood in his lap. Then:

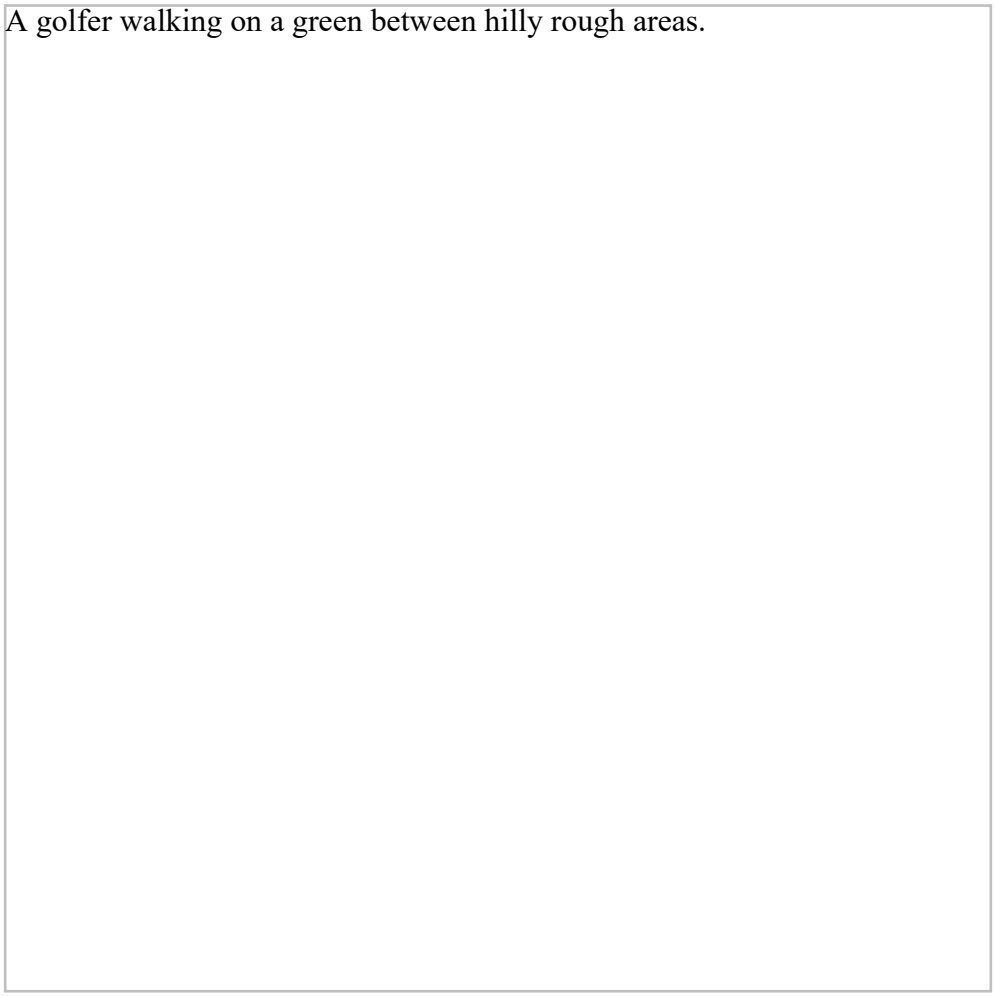
> He didn't stay in bed all the time. His life, in this telling, was also packed with cars, cheap hotel rooms, interstates, young women, crazy friends, dive bars, and wives and children left behind, not necessarily in that order. If his life were a stock car, one side would have a dull matte finish and the other would have flames running down the side.

Read the whole, delicious thing.

More on culture

- The National Book Foundation announced the finalists for the 2026 National Book Awards, across the categories of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, translated literature and young people's literature. See who made the cut.
- Stephen King's 1974 novel, "Carrie," has been a paperback best seller, an Oscar-nominated film, a Broadway flop, a network TV movie and a big-screen remake. Now it's a series. Here's what to know before you watch that.
- Eva Marie Saint seduced Cary Grant in "North by Northwest" and won an Oscar for her role as Marlon Brando's love interest in "On the Waterfront." She died at 102.

THE MORNING RECOMMENDS



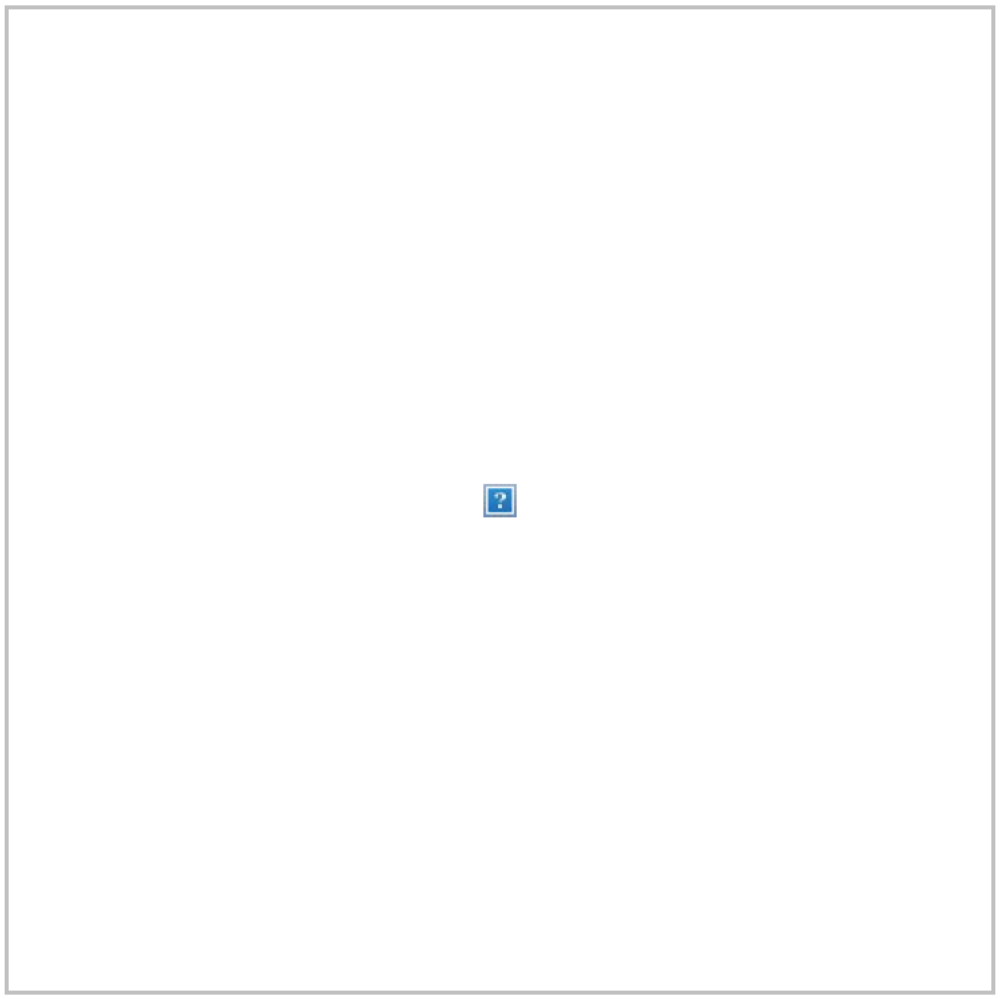
Owen Richards for The New York Times

Golf at St. Andrews in Scotland, the sport's birthplace — or just enjoy more beautiful photographs of the course and its history.

Let us help you find your next great book.

Pack your lunch. It's cheaper than the options at the salad bar and often more delicious, too. You'll need a lunch box. The deskbound busy bees at Wirecutter have found a few.

GAMES



Here is today's Spelling Bee. Yesterday's pangram was *notched*.

And here are today's Mini Crossword, Wordle, Connections, Crossplay and Strands.

Thanks for spending part of your morning with The Times and me. See you tomorrow. — Sam

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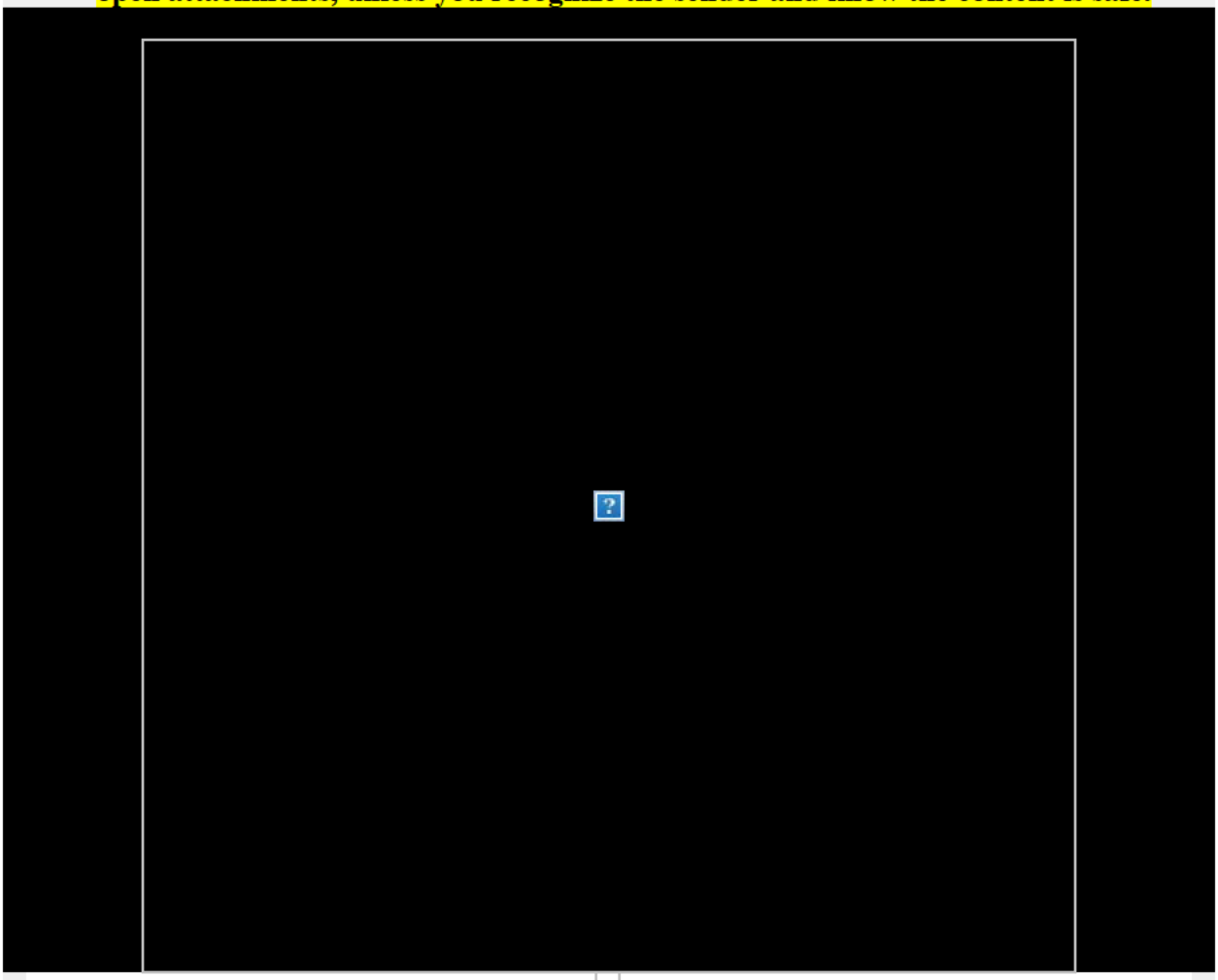
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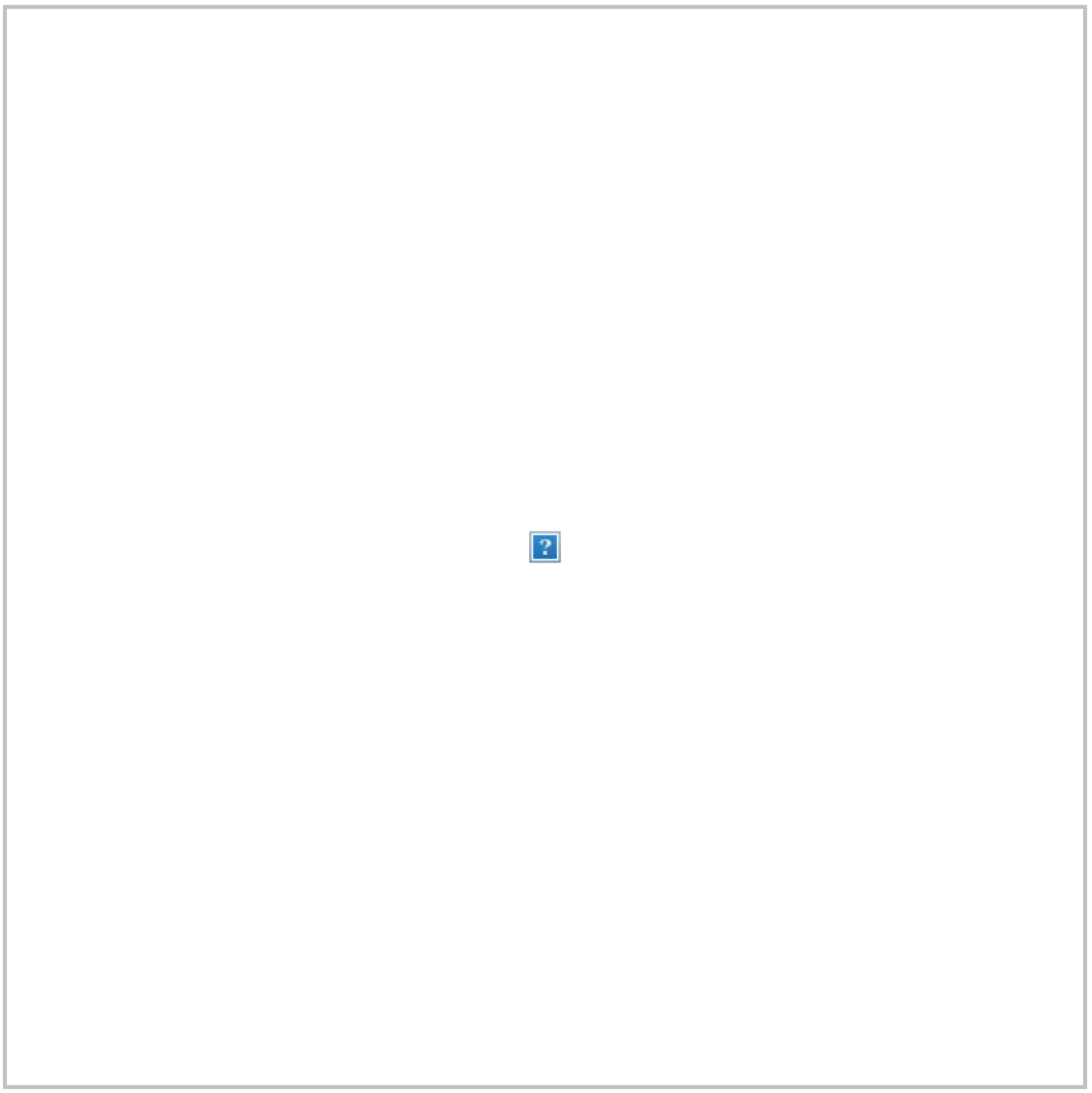
Zeta Logo

The New York Times Company. 620 Eighth Avenue New York, NY 10018

From: Daily Caller
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] 'I Have His Ashes' Virginia Woman Claims Dem Governor Restored Voting Rights To Dead Felon
Date: Saturday, October 3, 2026 6:13:23 AM

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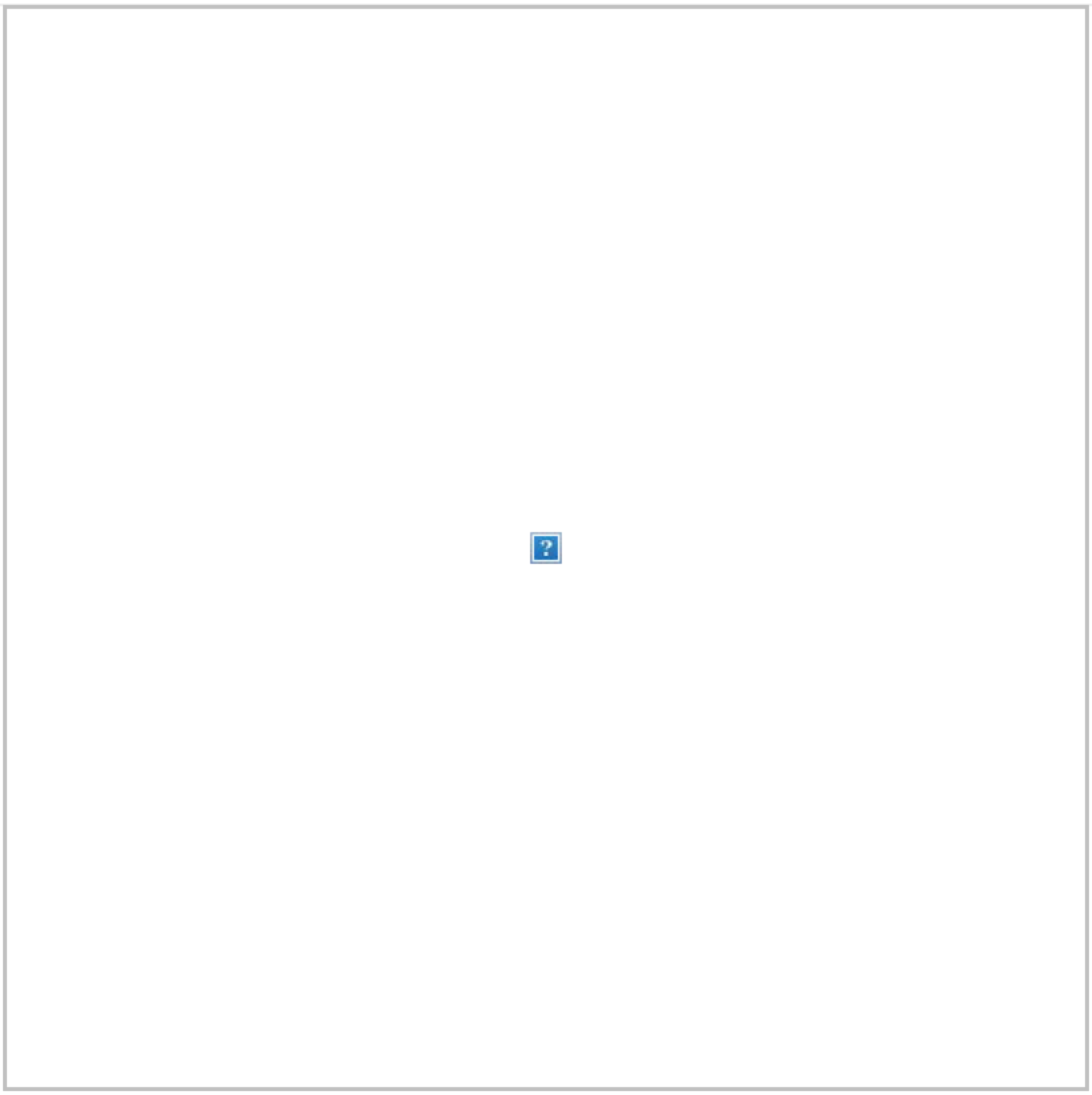


‘I Have His Ashes’ Virginia Woman Claims Dem Governor Restored Voting Rights To Dead Felon

Democratic Virginia Gov. Abigail Spanberger may have restored voting rights to a felon who has been dead for ten years.

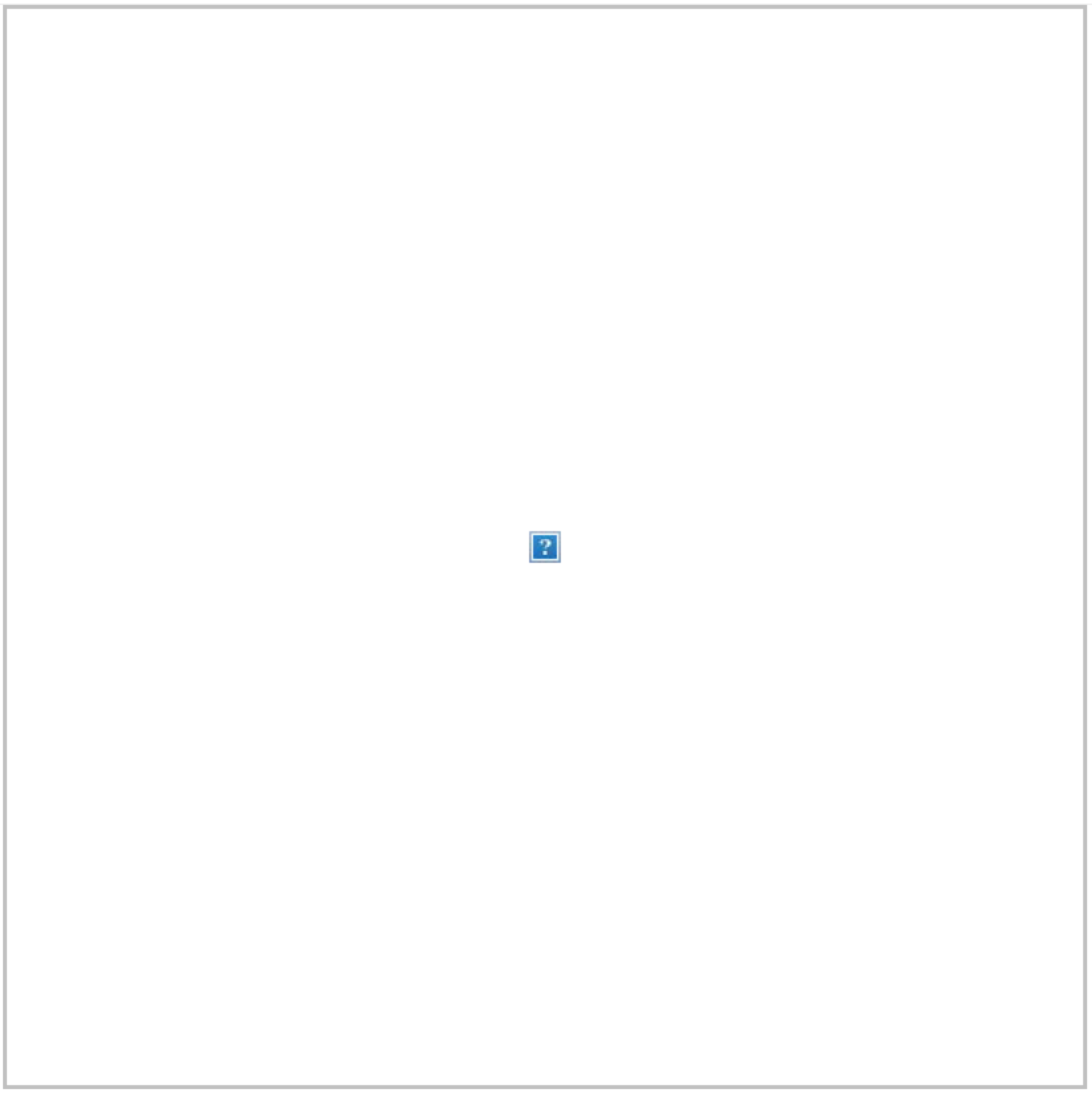
AOC, Bernie Sanders Introduce Bill To Ban Feds From Using Flock Cameras

Democratic Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York and two senators introduced legislation Friday to effectively end the federal use of ALPRs.



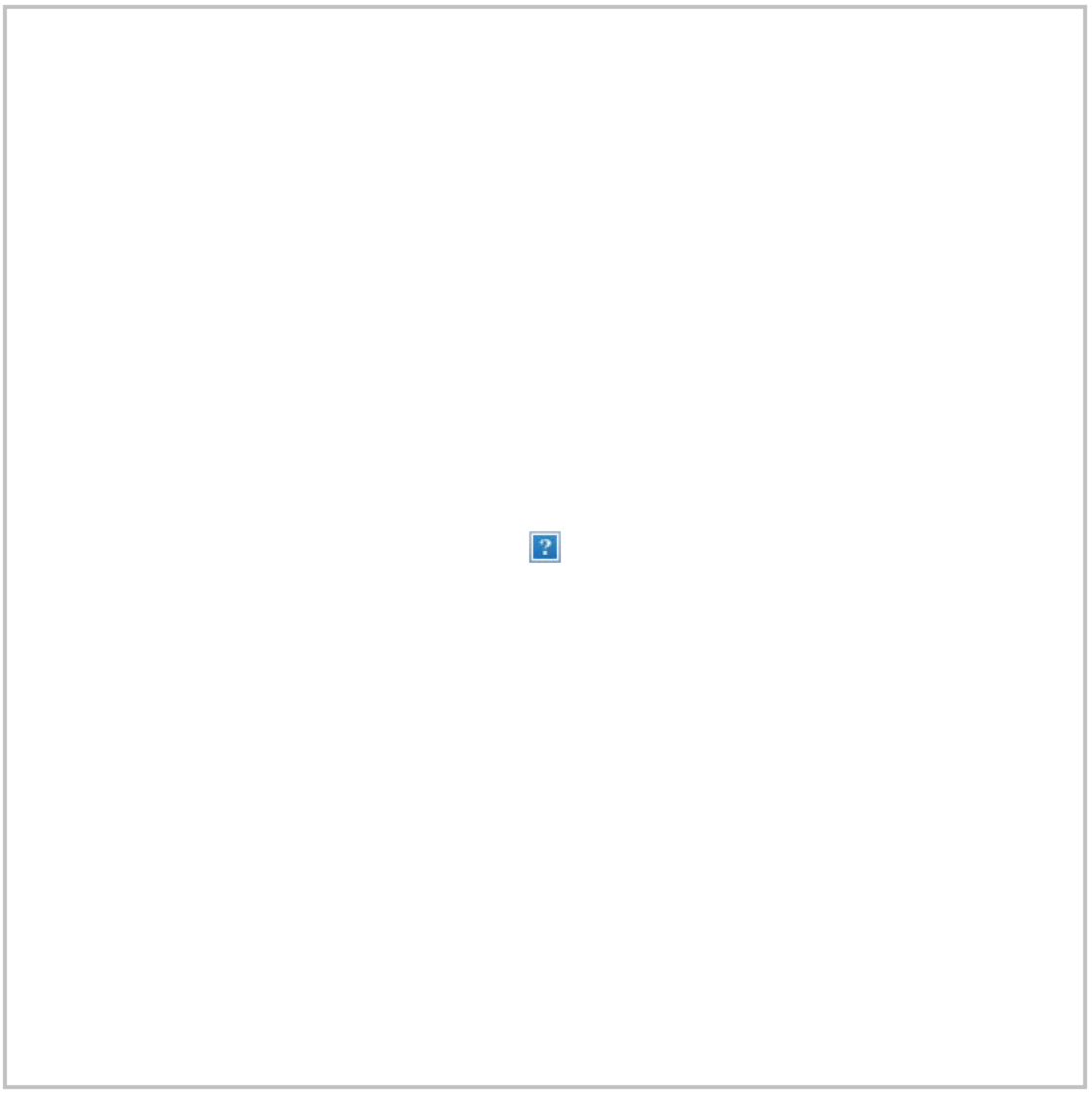
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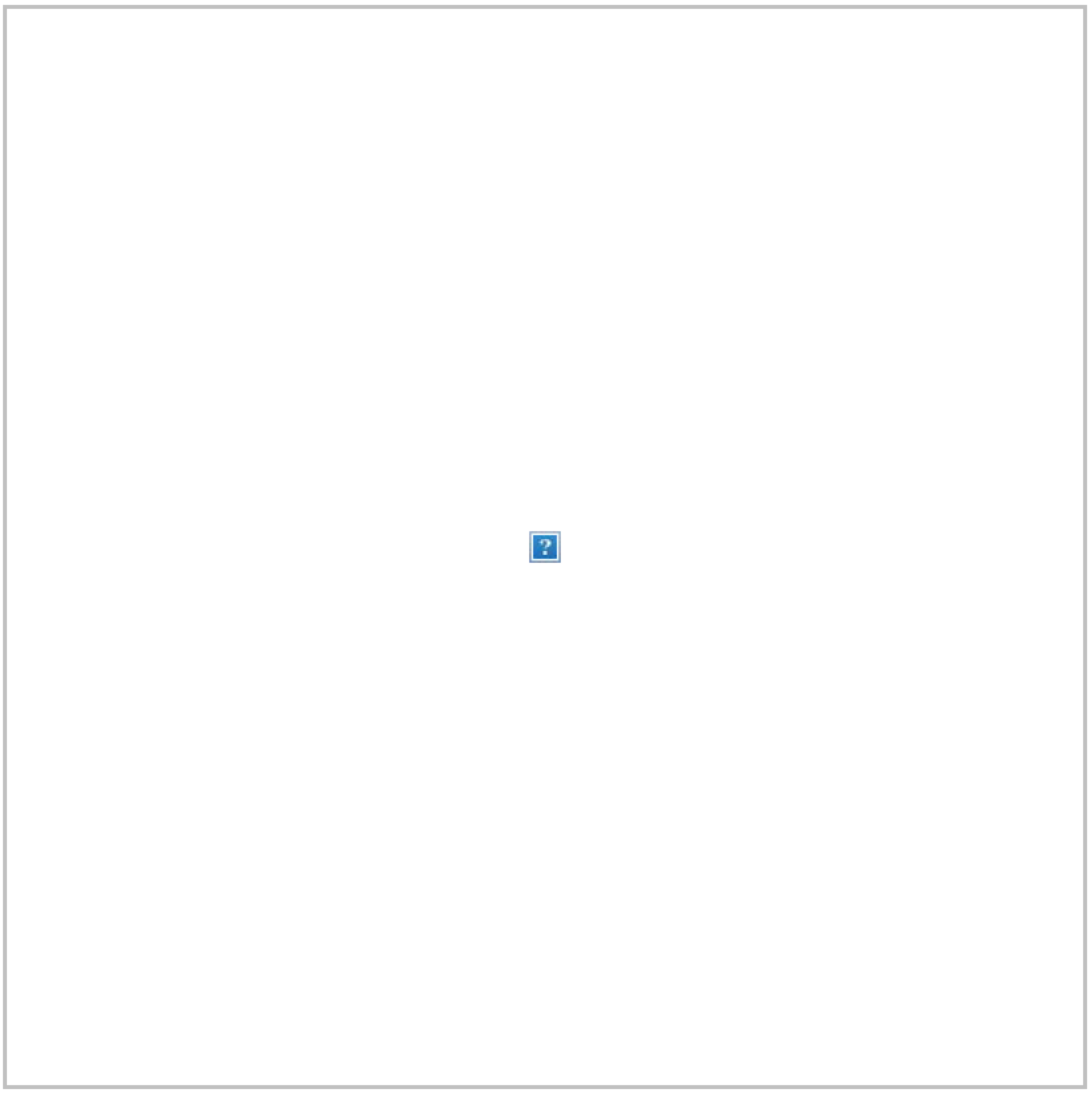
Interior Department Mourns Loss Of Iconic American Landmark

The 90-foot Hōlei Sea Arch, a 550-year-old lava formation in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, has collapsed into the Pacific after years of erosion.



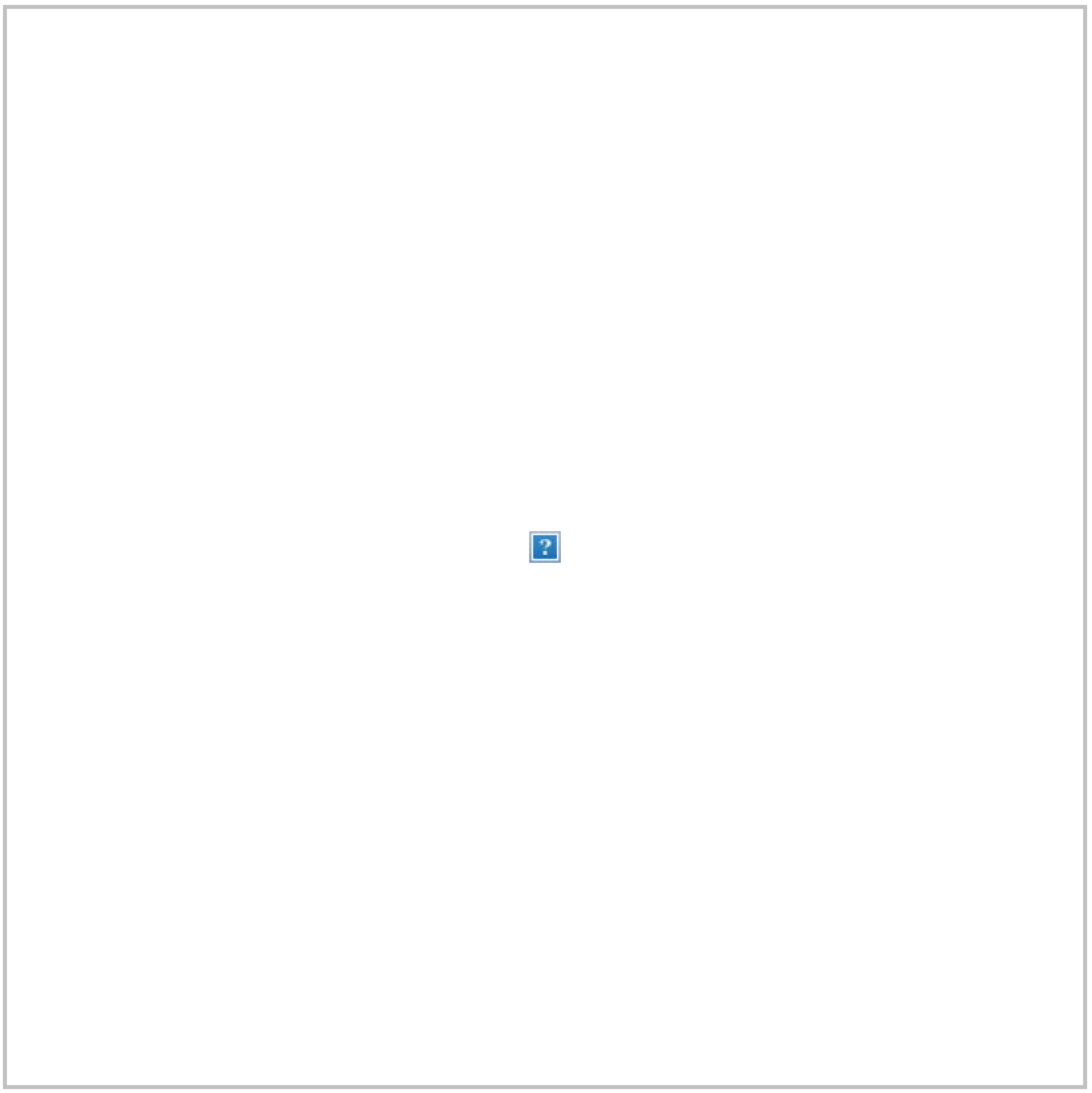
Israeli Opposition Accuses Netanyahu Of Being Too Pro-Palestine

Yisrael Beytenu's Avigdor Liberman is attacking Netanyahu from the right, casting the prime minister as the real backer of a Palestinian state.



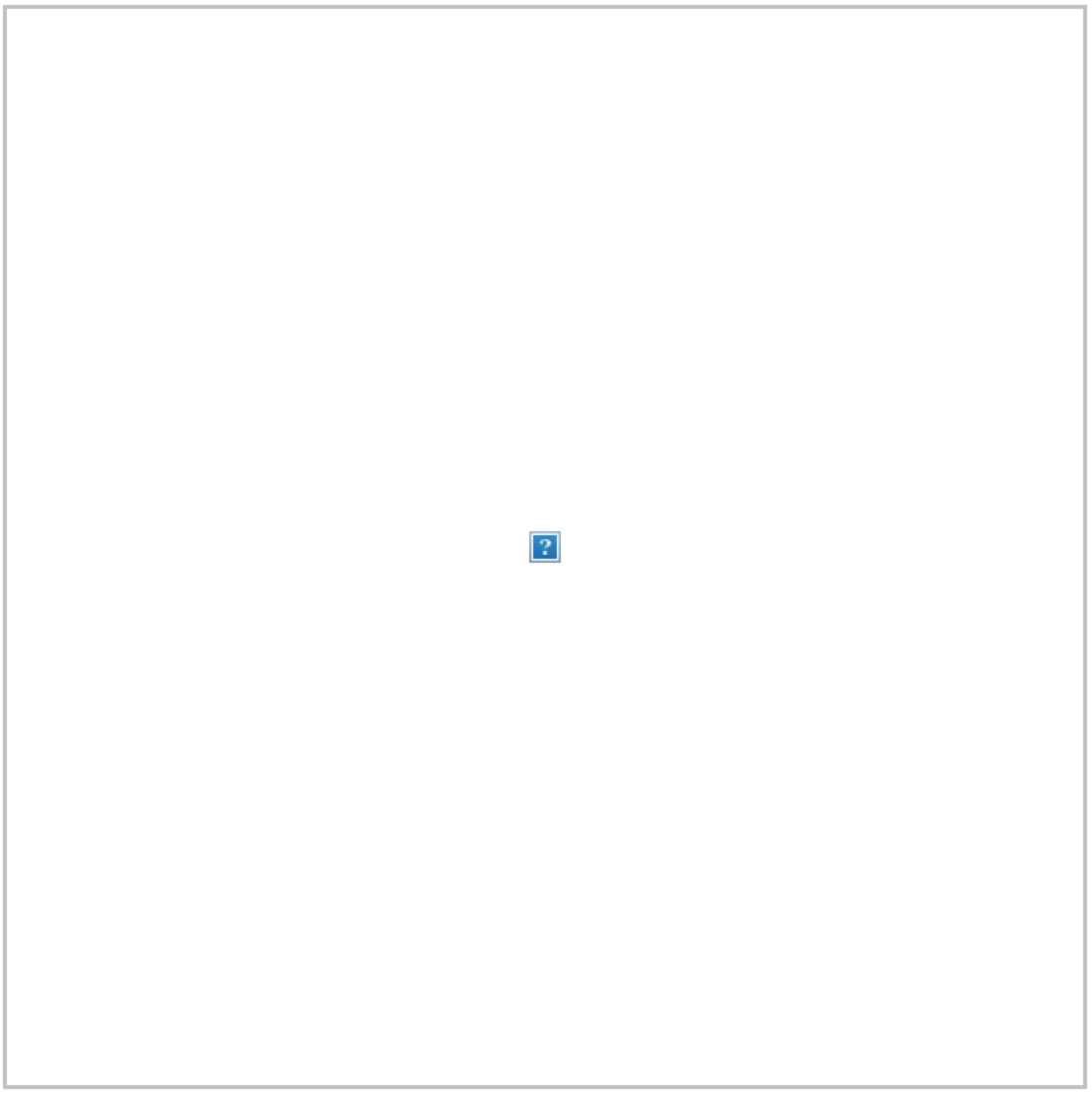
Could We See An Upset? Dodgers' Shohei Ohtani Admits He Won't Be 100% Healthy In Postseason

Throughout the summer, Dodgers star Shohei Ohtani has been compromised by left knee and right biceps ailments, and that will continue into the fall.



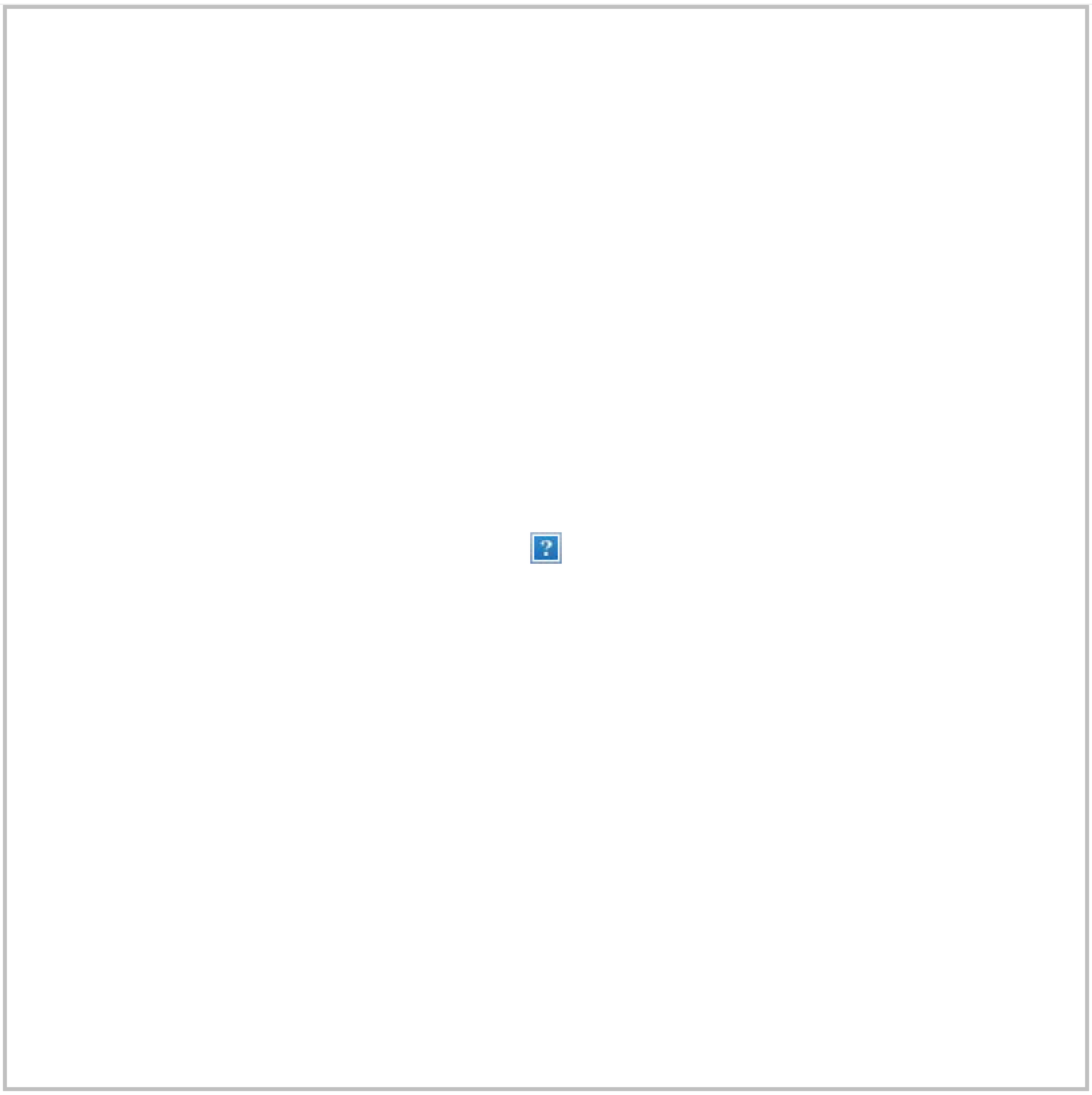
GOP Staffer Allegedly Fired Over Innocent ‘OK’ Hand Gesture

Former GOP staffer says the Indiana Republican Party fired him for sharing the “okay” sign in an event photo.



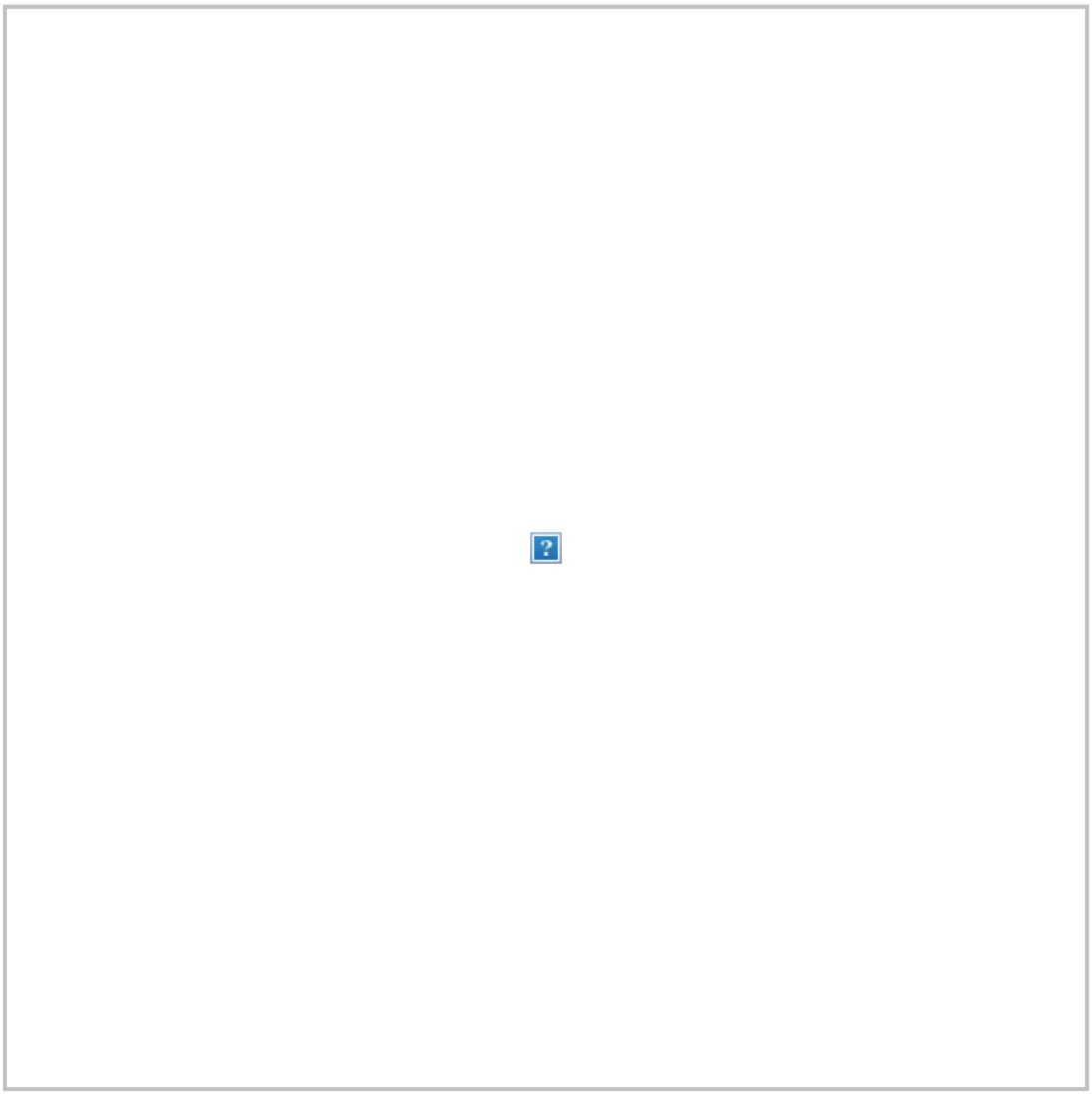
Trump Says Midnight Hammer Strikes Hit ‘Drug Factories Slash Nuclear Facilities’ In Iran

President Donald Trump, at a rally in Oklahoma, says Midnight Hammer strikes on Iran hit “drug factories slash nuclear facilities” in Iran.



Trump DOJ Confirms It Will Not Appeal Historic Ruling Ending Red Tape For Gun Suppressors

The Department of Justice formally notified Congress it will not appeal a ruling that ended paperwork and registration requirements for suppressors.



How To Crack Down On Corrupt Politicians? Make Them Pay. Literally

In an exclusive interview with the Daily Caller, Richard Ryan explains how his CivicBond initiative can hold politicians accountable.

Infamous Murderer ‘Critically Ill’ After Surviving Two Botched Lethal Injections: REPORT

Christa Gail Pike remains hospitalized in Tennessee after she survived two botched attempts to execute her with the lethal injection.





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From: ADL Antisemitism Briefing
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] [NEW] State of the Arts: The Exclusion of Jewish and Israeli Voices
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2026 4:29:07 PM

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ADL Antisemitism Briefing

A weekly wrap of ADL's reports, updates and analysis on antisemitism around the world.

- ADL reports on exclusion of Jewish and Israeli voices in culture
- What Does the U.S. Public Think About This?
- Activist networks organizing to exclude Jewish & Israeli artists
- Video: What's in the State of the Arts initiative?
- Event: Join ADL and leaders in arts/culture to discuss the findings
- Act: Tell museums to address antisemitism
- ADL co-sponsored CA Safe Worship Zone Act is now law!

THIS WEEK'S TOPLINE

State of the Arts: Advancing Jewish Inclusion in Arts, Entertainment and Culture

> ***"Jewish artists are being canceled, blacklisted and pushed out of American cultural life. We knew the situation was bad, we just didn't know how bad, and no one had documented it this way before"***
> — Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL CEO

Explore ADL's new release — it's a first-of-its-kind body of research and

digital platform that documents the systemic exclusion and marginalization of Jewish and Israeli artists, authors and performers across American cultural life. The initiative brings together a comprehensive look at three major cultural sectors — museums, live entertainment venues and publishing — alongside a survey of public attitudes and companion investigation into the activist networks driving this exclusion.

Leading museums throughout the country are leaving Jewish identity out of their DEI commitments. Authors are being told to remove Hebrew words and change Jewish character names. Jewish and Israeli performers are being harassed off stages and dropped from lineups.

In some cases, it's exclusion, silencing and erasure. In others it's "simply" looking the other way. But looking the other way is exactly how exclusion starts, how it becomes normalized, and eventually, how we see it become institutionalized. The arts industry needs to wake up before Jewish voices are silenced entirely.

ADL is calling on museums, publishers, literary agents, venues and cultural institutions to acknowledge the problem, stop looking the other way and address it urgently.

→ **Click here to add your voice.** Tell museums to enact policies to honor and protect the Jewish community.

Key Findings:

- **"Behind the Frame": A Quiet, Systemic Erasure in America's Museums**
  A systematic evaluation of antisemitism and Jewish and Israeli representation across 40 leading art museums, developed in consultation with an expert panel of artists, curators, collectors and museum leaders. See which institutions were recognized for their strong efforts, and which were rated as deficient.
- **"Missing Chapter": Suppression of Jewish Voices in Publishing**
  This report, based on secondary research and interviews with authors and publishing professionals, identifies anti-Jewish trends reshaping the publishing industry since 10/7, ranging from the suppression of

books at the acquisition stage to blacklisting Jewish, Israeli and Zionist authors to 'review-bombing' books with negative ratings.

- **"Dark Stage": Jewish & Israeli Performers Are Being Canceled and Harassed**
  This report documents cases across the country that show how Jewish, Israeli and Zionist artists face growing scrutiny, protest, disruption and cancellation across live music, comedy, dance, film and campus programming.

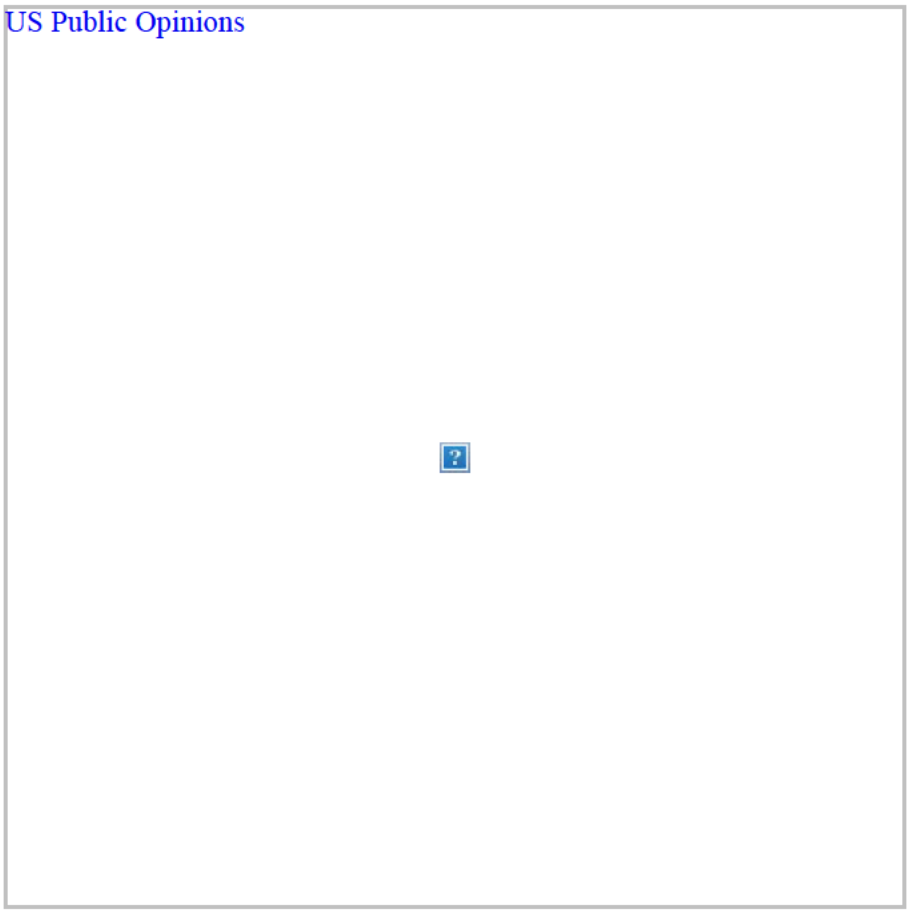
Alongside the research, ADL released **resource and best practices guides** showing museums, publishers and venues exactly how to take action against antisemitism in the arts, as well as practical resources for Jewish authors, artists and performers to help them navigate, respond to and report antisemitism within the cultural sector.

> ***"This is what literary antisemitism looks like. It doesn't announce itself with swastikas. It hides behind excuses, shifting standards, institutional silence, community exclusion and decisions that become impossible to separate from the climate surrounding Jewish voices after 10/7."***
> — Author/photographer Alyssa Rosenheck

Dig into the State of the Arts

What Does the U.S. Public Think About This?

US Public Opinions



A survey of nearly a thousand U.S. adults, conducted by ADL, **suggests that this exclusion may not be being driven by audience demand:** strong majorities of survey respondents said they would support Jewish and Israeli inclusion across galleries, performances and books, even as many respondents said it was “understandable” that others would avoid such work, a disconnect that may help explain how exclusion takes root.

This research provides preliminary data suggesting a possible gap between perceived market risk that industry insiders are asserting, what Jewish and Israeli authors are being told, and the actual audience demand.

ADL Investigates: The Activist Networks Organizing to Exclude Jewish & Israeli Artists

There are activist networks organizing to infiltrate and pressure cultural institutions, including major museums, to exclude Jewish and Zionist artists and disrupt their operations.

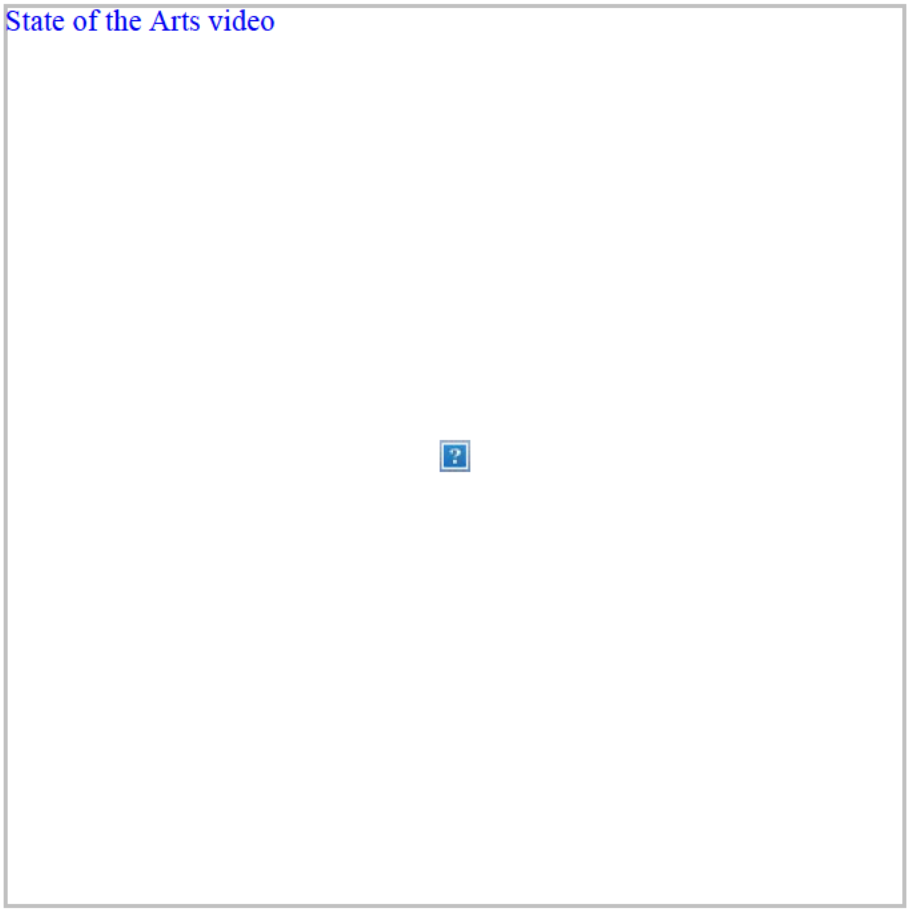
ADL has tracked a prominent and escalating trend of anti-Zionist protests

targeting cultural institutions, including Jewish and Holocaust museums and Jewish entertainers. These trends have involved violence and physical intimidation, harassment, Holocaust trivialization, expressions of support for terror and antisemitic tropes, vandalism, extreme forms of disruption, organized blacklisting and coercive exclusion.

→ **Read more from this ADL investigation's findings.**

VIDEO: What's in the State of the Arts initiative?

State of the Arts video



Danny Barefoot and Luda Isakharov of the ADL Ratings & Assessments Institute take a moment to explain the human cost of bias against Jewish artists, and what this new initiative can help us do to make things better.

EVENT: State of the Arts: Exclusion of Jewish and Israeli Voices in Culture

When: Oct. 13, 1 p.m. ET / 10 a.m. PT

Join ADL's Ratings & Assessments Institute for a timely and important

webinar on the **State of the Arts** report. ADL and leaders in the arts and culture space will give you a closer look at the research, including documented cases of exclusion, harassment and erasure, and have a conversation about the broader implications for American culture.
→ **Register Now**

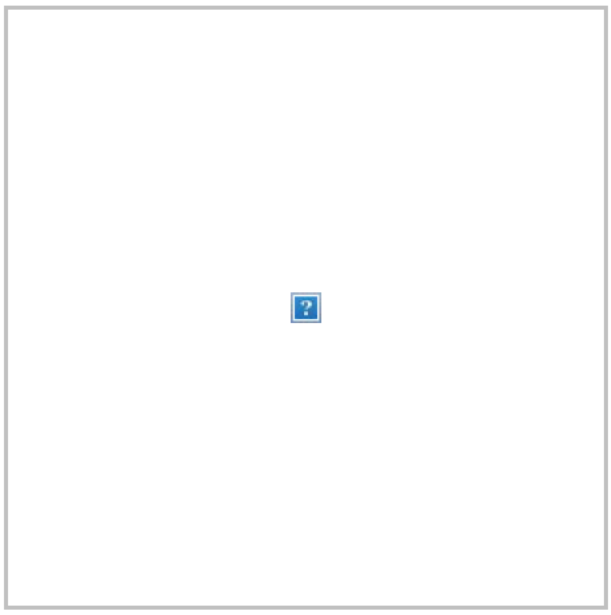
TAKE ACTION TODAY

Speak Out: **Tell Museums to Address Antisemitism.** Museums are a battleground in a coordinated effort to push Jews and Israelis out of American cultural life. Curators are under real pressure, and the result is an erasure of Jewish and Israeli artists. **Join ADL in urging museums to enact policies to honor and protect the Jewish community.**

Take Action Now

MAKING PROGRESS WITH ADL

Last week, the joint ADL and Jewish California co-sponsored California's Safe Worship Zone Act was enacted as **Governor Newsom signed it into law** at Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles.



The location was not by coincidence — just last December, violence broke out when protestors obstructed and assaulted congregants attempting to access their place of worship. The new law creates a 100-foot zone around house of worship entrances where no one may approach a congregant within 8 feet without their consent.

This victory would not be possible without the countless phone calls, tens of

thousands of emails and hundreds of constituent meetings pushed by the community. ADL advocacy absolutely made a difference in getting our elected leaders to act.

SOCIAL SPOTLIGHTS

@JGreenblattADL

> *A UN body that operates under an automatic anti-Israel majority cannot claim neutrality while handing activists and governments a target list for economic warfare against the Jewish state. Companies, investors and policymakers should reject this politicized pressure campaign.* ***More info.***

@ADL_NYNJ

> *.@NYCMayor Mamdani's antisemitism strategy finally landed and only confirms what we already knew: this mayor does not treat the hate facing Jewish New Yorkers as an emergency and refuses to acknowledge the different shapes it takes. Since he took office 271 days ago, ADL has recorded hundreds of antisemitic incidents in NYC, nearly 40% of which were related to Israel. After throwing out the IHRA definition on his first day in office, nine months later, his signature strategy still refuses to replace it with any working definition of antisemitism. He has looked the other way as flags glorifying terror groups have been flown outside synagogues, a deliberate act meant to intimidate families walking in to pray, and as crowds gathered outside houses of worship voicing support for the same groups. At the same time, he continues prioritizing his anti-Israel agenda over the basic promises he made to Jewish New Yorkers. Our expectations have not changed: zero tolerance for antisemitism and extremism in city government, real protection for Jewish institutions, a clear and formal definition of antisemitism that the city actually uses, and city contracts, pensions and procurement kept free of ideological boycotts. ADL will keep tracking and fighting antisemitism in New York City and across the country, whether or not this mayor is willing to do the same.*

@ADL

> *Our Spanish language landing page makes it easier for Spanish-speaking communities to access ADL's critical resources in the fight against antisemitism and hate. Explore **"ADL en Español"** and follow @adl_es for more updates.*
> *#InternationalTranslationDay*

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From: Christina Paulos
To: Bill Barnes
Subject: [External] Key October Dates and SCOTUS Term Preview
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2026 1:04:34 PM

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More About The Well

Thursday, October 1, 2026

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Hi Bill—

The Supreme Court's 2026-2027 term begins on Monday, Oct. 5, and promises to be defined less by a single blockbuster case than by a continuing struggle over the machinery of government: who controls elections, how far the executive branch may act without Congress, when federal courts should intervene in fast-moving political disputes and, ultimately, which high-stakes questions the justices choose to resolve.

And with the 2026 midterm elections and their outcome providing the context, the term will no doubt test how the court balances its role as a final arbiter against the

accelerated demands of its emergency docket.

In fact, those tests are already underway.

As it stands now, the high court's initial docket has at least 25 consequential cases. Read TWN's Supreme Court Preview of the 2026-2027 Term that highlights the key cases and issues you'll be hearing about in the coming weeks and months.

Happy reading, happy voting, and have a great October!

Cheers,
Christina

—
Christina Paulos
Managing Director
@TheWellNews

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Happening in October

1 — October National Month Celebrations: Cybersecurity Awareness Month; Energy Awareness Month; Pedestrian Safety Month; Substance Abuse Prevention Month
1 — Maine 2nd Congressional District debate featuring Democratic candidate Matt Dunlap and Republican candidate Paul LePage
1 — Maine Gubernatorial Debate featuring Democratic candidate Hannah Pingree, Republican candidate Bobby Charles, and independent candidate Rick Bennett
1 — Metallica begin Las Vegas residency at the Sphere
1 — U.S. fiscal year begins
2 — Annual Orionid meteor shower, with up to 15 meteors visible through Nov. 7 — expected to peak on Oct. 21 — occurs as the Earth passes through the debris of comet 1P/Halley, a.k.a. Halley's comet
2 — Austin City Limits Music Festival begins
2 — Congress breaks for Columbus Day State Work Period
2 — Elections — subscribe to TWN's 2026 election email series — deadlines in first week of October:

- **Alaska & Rhode Island:** 10/4 voter registration deadline
- **Arizona:**
  - 10/5 voter registration deadline
  - 10/7 early voting begins
- **Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee & Texas:** 10/5 voter registration deadline
- **California:** 10/5 early voting begins
- **Illinois:** 10/6 deadline to register to vote at the office of the election authority
- **Indiana & Ohio:**
  - 10/5 voter registration deadline
  - 10/6 early voting begins in Indiana & early in-person absentee voting begins in Ohio
- **Louisiana:** 10/5 in-person and by-mail voter registration deadline
- **Missouri:** 10/7 voter registration deadline
- **Nebraska:** 10/5 early voting at the county clerk or election commissioner office begins
- **Nevada:** 10/6 deadline to register to vote by personal appearance or by mail
- **New Mexico:** 10/6 voter registration deadline and first day of in-person early voting at county clerk's office
- **South Carolina:**
  - 10/2 in-person voter registration deadline
  - 10/4 online voter registration deadline
  - 10/5 by mail voter registration deadline

2 — September jobs report released

3 — Bruce Springsteen, Foo Fighters, Dave Matthews perform at Power to the People music festival

3 — Elections: Texas locals

3 — MLB Division Series begins

3 — NBA preseason begins

3 — President Trump campaigns in Ohio with GOP Sen. Jon Husted

4 — Annual Red Mass, with SCOTUS justices expected to attend, held to "invoke God's blessing and guidance on justices, judges, diplomats, attorneys, and senior government officials" ahead of the U.S. Supreme Court's October session

4 — Rescheduled F1 Bahrain Grand Prix held in Malaysia

4 — Saturn at its brightest and closest to Earth this year
5 — U.S. Supreme Court October Term arguments begin
5 — White House correspondents' dinner shooting suspect in court
6 — Amazon Prime Big Deals Days begin
6 — Annual Draconid meteor shower, with up to 10 meteors an hour visible — expected to peak on Oct. 9 — associated with Comet 21/P Giacobini-Zimmer
6 — Elections & debates:

- **Alaska:** general in Juneau
- **Georgia:** gubernatorial town hall debate featuring Republican candidate Rick Jackson and Democratic candidate Keisha Lance Bottoms
- Iowa: locals
- **Michigan:** gubernatorial debate featuring Republican candidate Rep. John James and Democratic candidate Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson
- **Wisconsin:** Turtle (Rock County) Roger Anclam recall election

6 — Former California mayor sentenced after pleading to acting as an agent of the Chinese government
6 — National Book Awards finalists announced
6 — U.S. Supreme Court hears ERISA claim standards case
7 — 25th anniversary of Afghanistan invasion
7 — U.S. Supreme Court hears case on the Air Force's hazardous-waste permit application
8 — Election debates:

- **Georgia:** U.S. Senate debate featuring Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff, who is running for reelection, and Republican Rep. Mike Collins
- **Maine:** U.S. Senate debate featuring Republican Sen. Susan Collins, who is running for reelection, and Democratic candidate Troy Jackson
- **Michigan:** U.S. Senate debate featuring Republican candidate former Rep. Mike Rogers and Democrat Abdul El-Sayed

8 — New York Comic Con opens
9 — Nobel Peace Prize winner announced
10 — Ice Rink at Rockefeller Center opens
10 — National Wildlife Refuge Week begins

- **RELATED READ |** World's Largest Man-Made Wildlife Corridor to Debut Soon in California

10 — World Soundtrack Awards and Concert held in Belgium
11 — Chicago Marathon
11 — MLB League Championship Series begins
11 — World Health Summit opens in Germany
12 — Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day: financial markets remain open
12 — IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings Week begins in Bangkok
13 — Elections & debates:

- **Alabama:** special general runoff for Montgomery City Council District 3
- **Colorado:** recall for president of the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District
- **Iowa:** U.S. Senate debate featuring Republican senatorial candidate Rep. Ashley Hinson and Democratic candidate Iowa State Rep. Josh Turek
- **New York:** gubernatorial debate featuring incumbent Gov. Kathy Hochul and Republican candidate Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman
- **Oregon:** recall for Position 2 of the Lake County School District 7 school board

14 — Chicago International Film Festival begins
14 — Election debates:

- **Iowa:** gubernatorial debate featuring Republican candidate Zach Lahn and Democratic candidate Rob Sand
- **Maine:** gubernatorial debate featuring Democratic candidate Hannah Pingree, Republican candidate Bobby Charles, and independent candidate Rick Bennett

14 — Engineering, Science & Technology Emmy Awards
14 — National Fossil Day
14 — Roku and Fox Corp shareholders vote on proposed combination
14 — U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation National Civics Bee Championship begins
14 — U.S. Supreme Court hears case on who qualifies as a "consumer" under the VPPA
17 — Academy Museum Gala

17 — Artistic Gymnastics World Championships begin

17 — iHeartRadio Fiesta Latina in Florida

17 — WNBA Finals begin

18 — Country Music Hall of Fame Medallion Ceremony

18 — Victoria's Secret fashion show

19 — 2026 United Nations Biodiversity Conference begins including meetings of COP 17, CP-MOP 12 and NP-MOP 6

19 — Alberta referendum on whether it should remain a province of Canada

19 — Election debate: **Kentucky** U.S. Senate debate featuring Republican Rep. Andy Barr and Democrat Charles Booker

20 — Annual Taurid meteor shower visible in the Northern Hemisphere, with up to five very slow meteors visible — the shower occurs as the Earth passes through debris left behind by Comet Encke

20 — NBA season begins

21 — AFI FEST opens

21 — Election debate: **Michigan** U.S. Senate debate featuring Republican candidate former Rep. Mike Rogers and Democrat Abdul El-Sayed

21 — Jazz at Lincoln Center 2026 Ertegun Jazz Hall of Fame induction concert series

22 — Billboard Latin Music Awards

22 — Election debate: **Connecticut** gubernatorial debate featuring incumbent Gov. Ned Lamont and Republican candidate State Sen. Ryan Fazio

23 — Drug Enforcement Administration Red Ribbon Week — the largest drug prevention effort in the U.S. — begins

23 — Suspect in Charlie Kirk shooting appears in court

23 — World Series begins

24 — National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Class of 2026 livestreamed ceremony

25 — Marine Corps Marathon

26 — Macklemore begins "Free Palestine" tour

28 — Federal Open Market Committee decision on interest rates announced

30 — Breeders' Cup World Championships horse racing begins

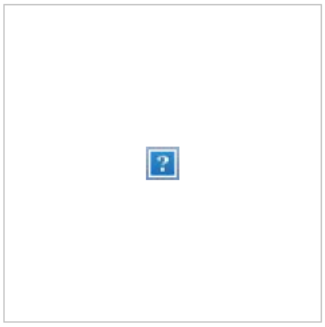
30 — Daytime Emmy Awards

31 — Halloween

For more information on politics and election dates, and filing deadlines, visit our Electorate Empowered page.

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Most Read in September



White House Releases Itinerary for Xi's State Visit to Washington

Chinese President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump met at the White House on Sept. 24 during the first state visit by a Chinese leader to Washington in 11 years. The visit comes as the United States and China remain engaged in a trade dispute and face disagreements over technology, security policy and Taiwan.



Protest Planned as Judge Orders 30 Days' Notice Before Kennedy Center Demolition

A group opposing President Donald Trump's changes to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts planned a rally and human chain around the Washington complex. Word of the rally spread, as a federal judge ordered the administration to give at least 30 days' notice before undertaking any demolition or other major change to the building.



Trump Takes First Marine One Flight From New White House Helipad

President Donald Trump made the first Marine One departure from a new White House South Lawn helipad, leaving for New York ahead of a schedule of meetings and a speech to the United Nations General Assembly.

House Adopts Resolution Condemning Socialism

The House adopted a Republican-backed resolution condemning socialism and the Democratic Socialists of America, with eight Democrats joining Republicans in support. The 220-192-2 vote was framed by GOP



leaders as a midterm election message.



[COMMENTARY | We Have a Bipartisan Solution to the Pediatric Anesthesiologist Shortage]

Frederick Mansfield, MD, FASA, a partner anesthesiologist at U.S. Anesthesia Partners, writes on the current shortage of pediatric cardiac anesthesiologists. With veteran specialists retiring faster than new doctors can replace them, he urges Congress to expand fellowships and loan repayment programs to bolster the workforce before it vanishes.



[Problem Solvers Make Bipartisan Push to Restore Planned Surface Transportation Cut]

Members of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus urged House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., and Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., to restore federal surface transportation funding slated to be dramatically cut this coming fiscal year.



[Bill Biggart, the Only Journalist to Die on 9/11, Lives On in His Art and in All Those Devoted to News]

Bill Biggart spent most of his life moving between the darkroom and the street, covering conflicts, chronicling the lives of ordinary people, until the morning he followed the smoke toward the World Trade Center. Twenty-five years later, Wendy Doremus, his widow, is still curating and making new discoveries within the massive amount of work he left behind.

[US, Denmark and Greenland Sign Arctic Security Agreement]

The United States, Denmark and Greenland formally signed an agreement expanding American military access and security responsibilities in Greenland while affirming Danish sovereignty over the Arctic territory.

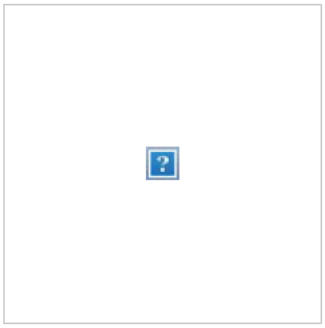




[25 Years On, a Brother's Quest to Honor the Memory of One of 9/11's Bravest Continues]
Twenty-five years after a New York City firefighter ran through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel with 60 pounds of gear on his back toward the burning World Trade Center, his brother Frank Siller remembers every moment of that day.



[First Lady to Announce Expansion of Her Foster the Future Initiative at UN Gathering]
First Lady Melania Trump visited New York to announce the expansion of her Fostering the Future Together coalition, a global initiative aimed at increasing children's access to education technology while promoting online safety.



[COMMENTARY | America Can't Champion Small Businesses While Pricing Them Out of Health Insurance]
Ramiro A. Cavazos, president and CEO of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, writes on rising health insurance premiums squeezing small businesses. He urges policymakers to pursue reforms that increase competition throughout the health care system, address growing insurer consolidation, and rein in anticompetitive practices that drive up costs for employers and workers alike.

[Trump Bars CNN, MS NOW and Politico From White House]
President Donald Trump announced that CNN, MS NOW and Politico were barred from the White House effective immediately because of their coverage of his administration and said other news organizations could face similar action.

President-trump.jpg

massie-2.jpg

[Massie Seeks Hegseth Impeachment Over Iran, Other Actions]
Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky., introduced eight articles of impeachment against Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, accusing him of conducting unauthorized wars, disregarding civilian-protection laws and using the Pentagon to retaliate against a member of Congress.

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[UN General Assembly Endorses More Accurate World Map, US Votes No]
The U.N. General Assembly voted to promote the replacement of the traditional Mercator world map with equal-area projections designed to portray the size of Africa and other regions more accurately. The resolution, introduced by Togo on behalf of the African Group, passed 164-1, with six countries abstaining. The United States cast the only opposing vote.

[McConnell, Senators Demand Answers on Delayed Taiwan Aid Before Xi Visit]
Senate Republicans demanded that the Trump administration explain why hundreds of millions of dollars in congressionally approved security assistance for Taiwan remain unobligated and why a $14 billion weapons package has not received final approval.

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5 Things: A CNN Newsletter

Thursday, October 1, 2026 View in browser

October has arrived — and with it, a full slate of news. Today, a pilot

is drawing praise worldwide for thwarting an apparent terrorist attack. Plus, we'll recap key moments from CNN's California governor debate and look at how SpaceX's megarocket could usher in a new era of spaceflight.

- Alexandra Banner, lead writer

Let's Begin

A pilot's remarkable bravery

Screenshot 2026-10-01 at 12.40.35□AM.png

Flydubai pilot Smit Machchhar. (Israel Foreign Ministry/Reuters)

Indian pilot Smit Machchhar has been hailed as a hero after fighting off a savage attack by his copilot and helping prevent an apparent hijacking on Wednesday.

The Flydubai plane was heading from Dubai to Israel with more than 170 people on board when Captain Machchhar was stabbed by his colleague, leaving him badly wounded as the plane plummeted 17,400 feet in less than two minutes. During the struggle, he managed to unlock the cockpit door, allowing passengers to rush in, subdue the alleged attacker and help bring the aircraft under control. Machchhar is now receiving medical treatment, while the alleged attacker is being questioned by Saudi authorities.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is crediting the hero pilot with "preventing a 9/11 disaster." Machchhar's story has also captivated people across his home country: "The pilot from Mumbai who proved to be a hero," the Times of India wrote, reflecting a sentiment shared by many around the world.

+ More on Captain Smit Machchhar: The 'jovial' pilot and father who thwarted the Flydubai attacker

+ Live updates: Questions remain over the attacker's identity and motive

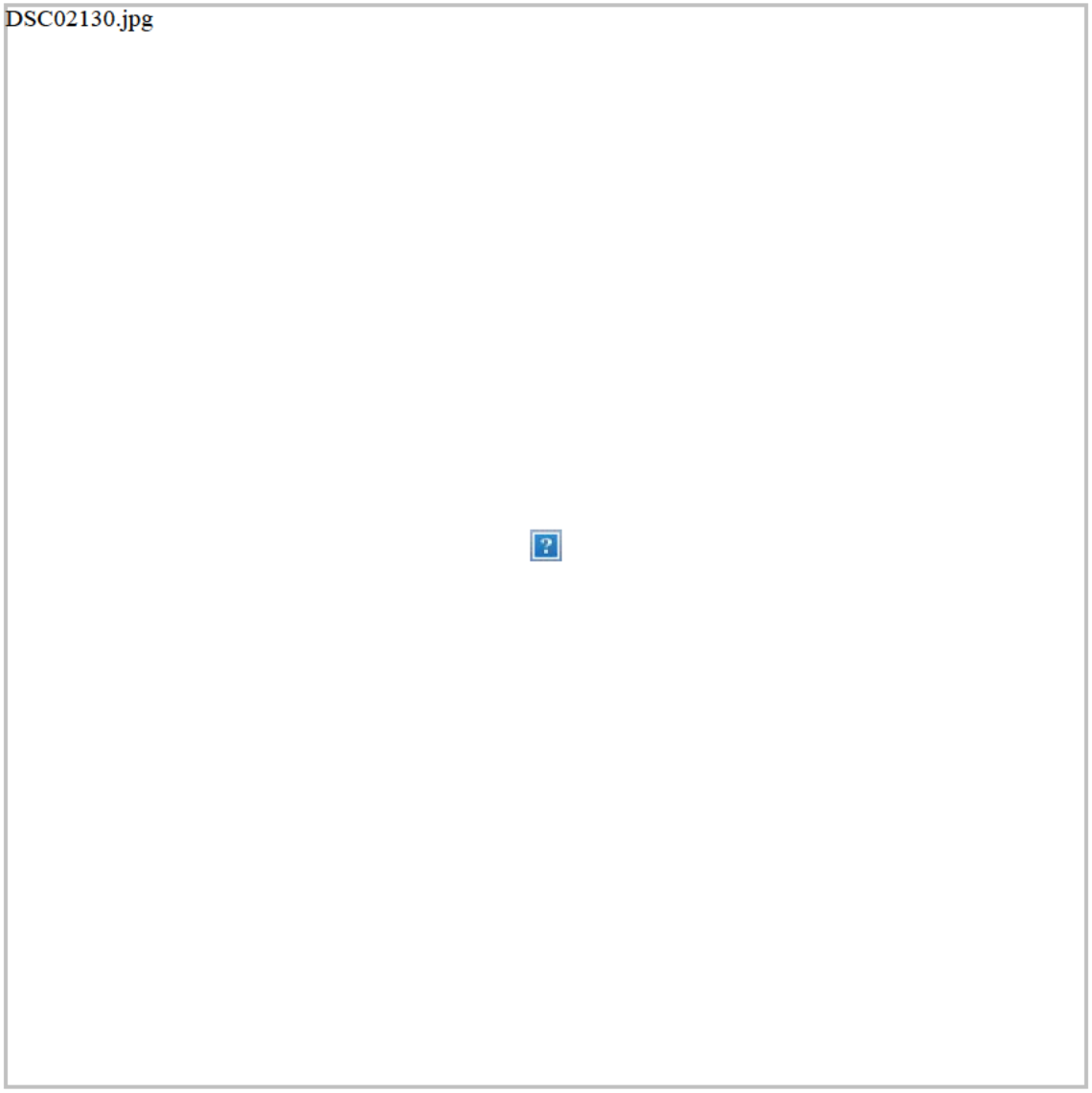
+ Video: Netanyahu says pilot's bravery prevented a 9/11-type disaster



Campaign Trail

Takeaways from CNN's California governor debate

DSC02130.jpg



California gubernatorial candidates Xavier Becerra, left, and Steve Hilton during the debate.

A heated debate unfolded Wednesday between Democrat Xavier Becerra and Republican Steve Hilton, who are vying to succeed California Gov. Gavin Newsom. The candidates sparred on a range of topics, including immigration, affordability and how they would address the impact of AI. However, the policies of President Donald Trump and, to a lesser extent, Newsom underpinned most of the debate. Becerra sought to tie Hilton to Trump at nearly every turn, while Hilton tried to put some distance between himself and the

president. Hilton, meanwhile, blamed Democrats, who control California's state government, for many of the state's woes.

+ **Recap:** Key moments from CNN's California governor debate

+ **Video:** Candidates trade barbs during gubernatorial debate



Space Race

A new era for SpaceX

SpaceX's Starship reached orbit for the first time on Monday, a major milestone for the most powerful rocket ever built — but its success could also herald the end of two of the company's most important workhorses. As Starship flights ramp up, SpaceX plans to phase out its Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon spacecraft, which have become critical to satellite launches and NASA missions. The transition is already causing concern across the space industry, where companies are scrambling to secure remaining Falcon 9 launches amid fears of higher costs and a growing bottleneck for getting spacecraft into orbit.

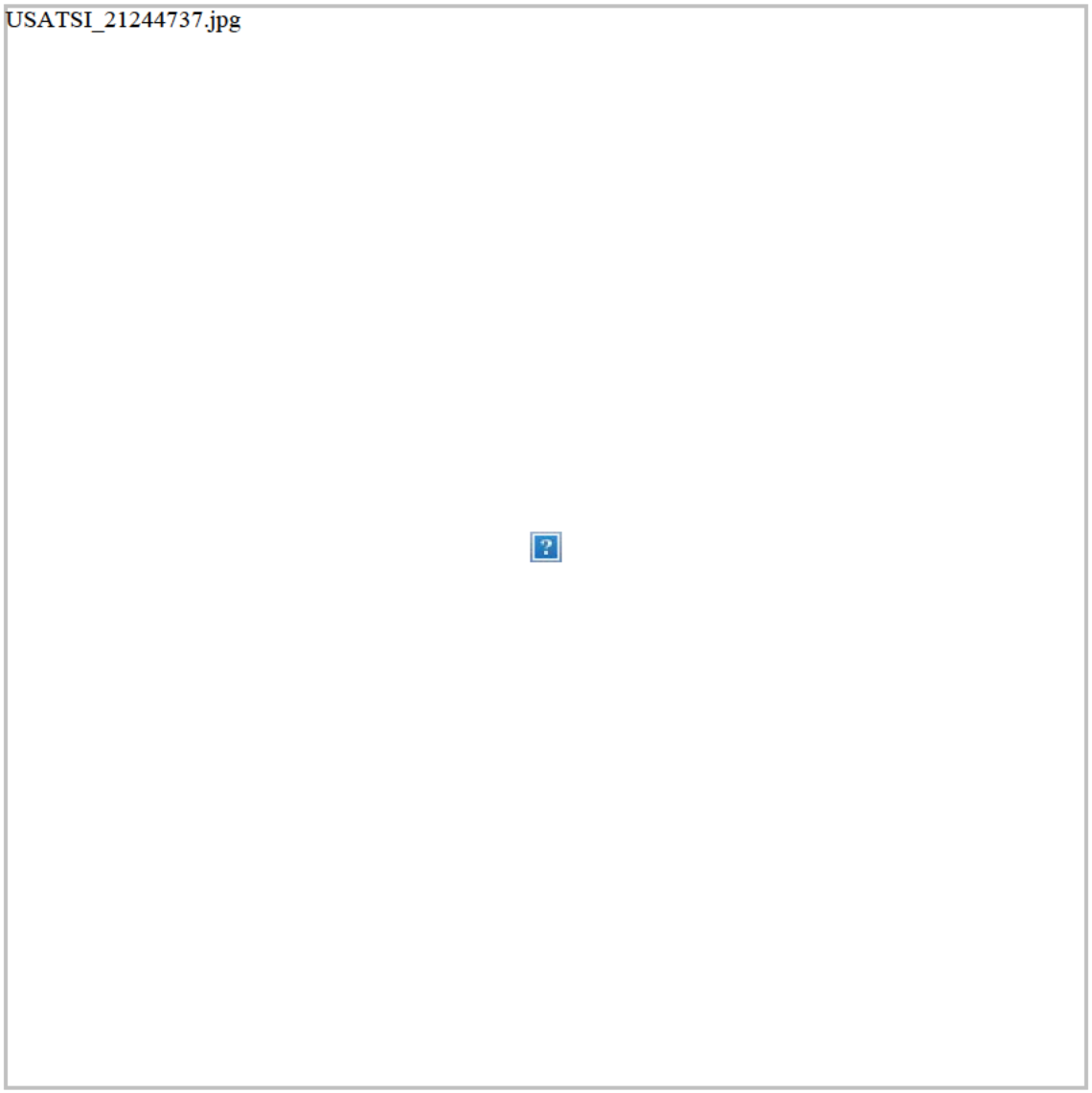
+ **Read more:** SpaceX's megarocket is on the verge of paradigm-shifting success. It's spurring a 'crisis'

+ **Video:** Starship splashes down with dramatic fireball



Failed Execution

Death row inmate still alive after two doses of lethal drug



Christa Pike at a court hearing on January 12, 2001. (Knoxville News Sentinel/USA Today Network)

Tennessee death row inmate Christa Pike is still alive after state officials attempted to execute her Wednesday for a 1995 murder. Attorneys for Pike, 50, said she was loudly snoring after receiving two doses of the lethal drug pentobarbital. A death penalty expert described the failed execution as unprecedented, and Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee halted executions for the rest of the year while an investigation plays out. In past cases, seven other people have survived execution attempts after teams were unable to access a vein to administer lethal injection drugs, but no one is known to have survived after receiving the drugs

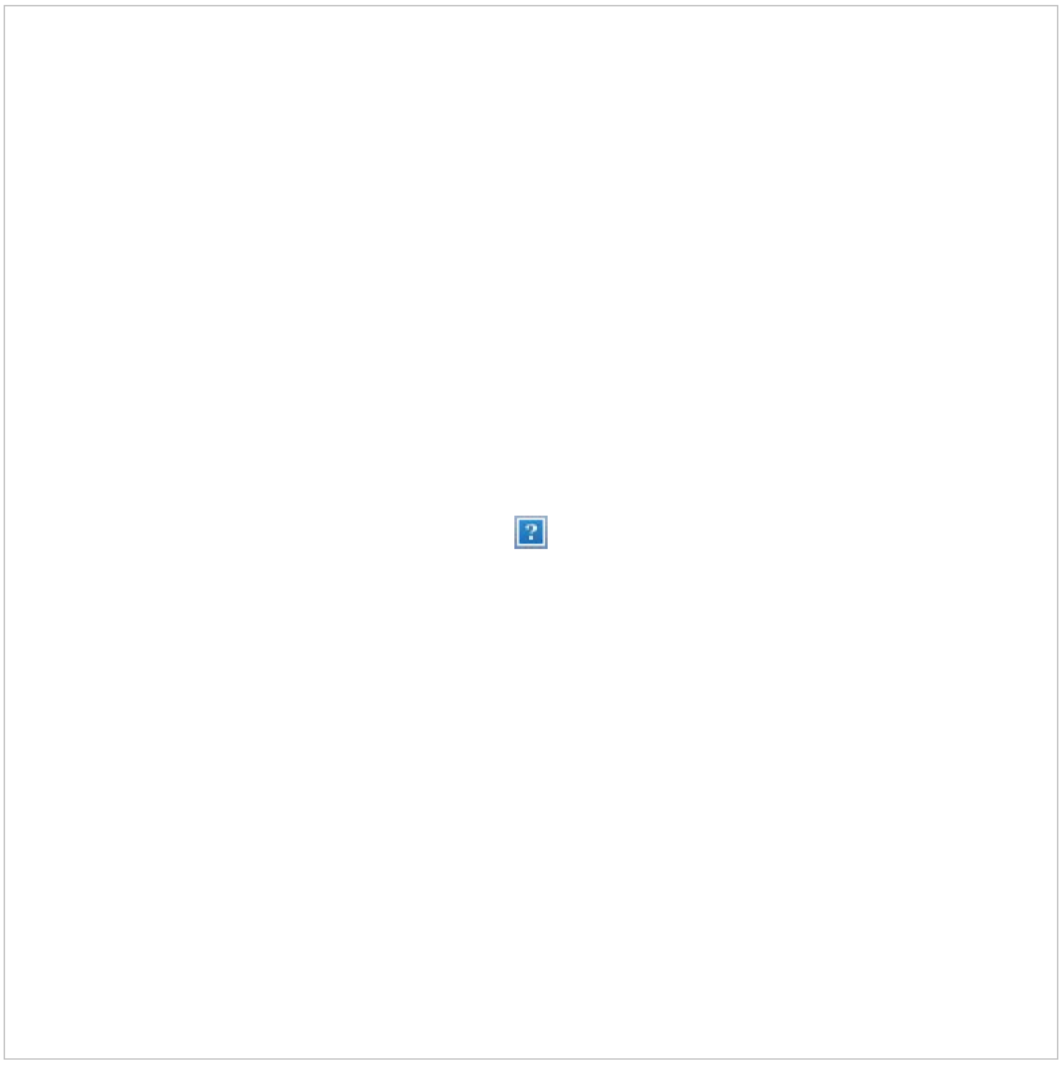
used in such executions.

+ **Read more:** Tennessee death row inmate still alive after failed state execution attempt, lawyers say

+ **Video:** What happened during Christa Pike's failed execution

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Midterm Elections

Emerging signs of a Democratic advantage

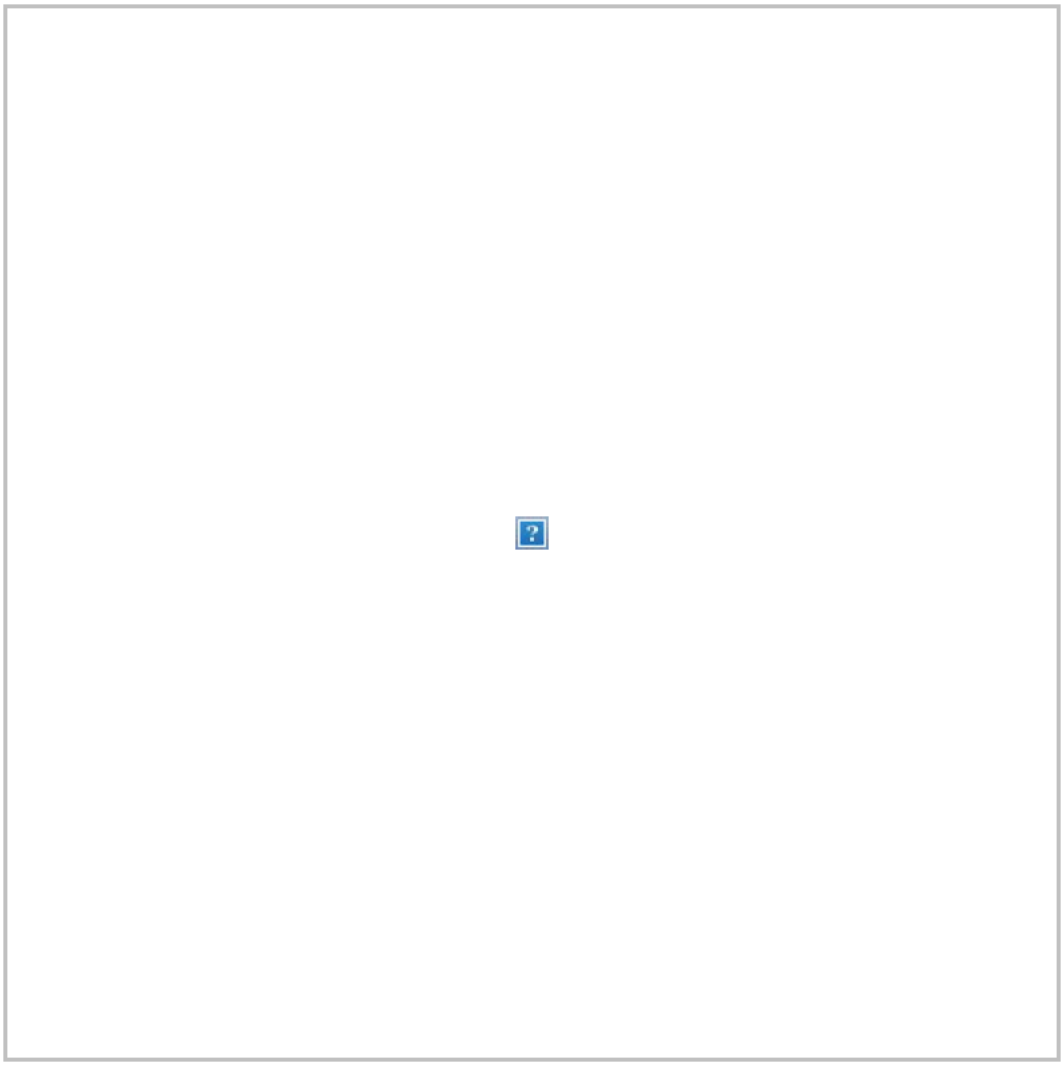
Election Day may still be a month away, but more than 690,000 Americans have already voted across at least 29 states. Early data shows Democrats accounting for a larger share of ballot requests than at this point in 2024 in several states with key Senate or governor races. In Iowa, Democrats account for 67% of ballot requests, up from 54% at this point in 2024, with similar increases in Pennsylvania, Maine and North Carolina. In Virginia, early voting is also moving faster in areas that backed Kamala Harris in 2024 than in those that supported Donald Trump. These numbers are consistent with other signs of stronger Democratic enthusiasm, though they could also reflect Republicans' growing preference for other forms of voting.

+ **Read more:** Early voting data shows signs of a Democratic advantage

+ **For subscribers:** Tracking early voting in the 2026 US midterm election

+ **20/26 Vision:** Sign up for CNN's midterms newsletter

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Your home equity is an asset - are you using it?

Get cash to pay off high-interest debt or fund a home renovation. Compare home equity options and see what you may qualify for in just minutes.

Before you go

Here's what's happening at Paris Fashion Week

Paris Fashion Week is perhaps the most anticipated stop on the fashion calendar, with storied houses like Chanel, Celine, Dior and Louis Vuitton staging lavish productions to present their collections. See some of the week's standout moments.

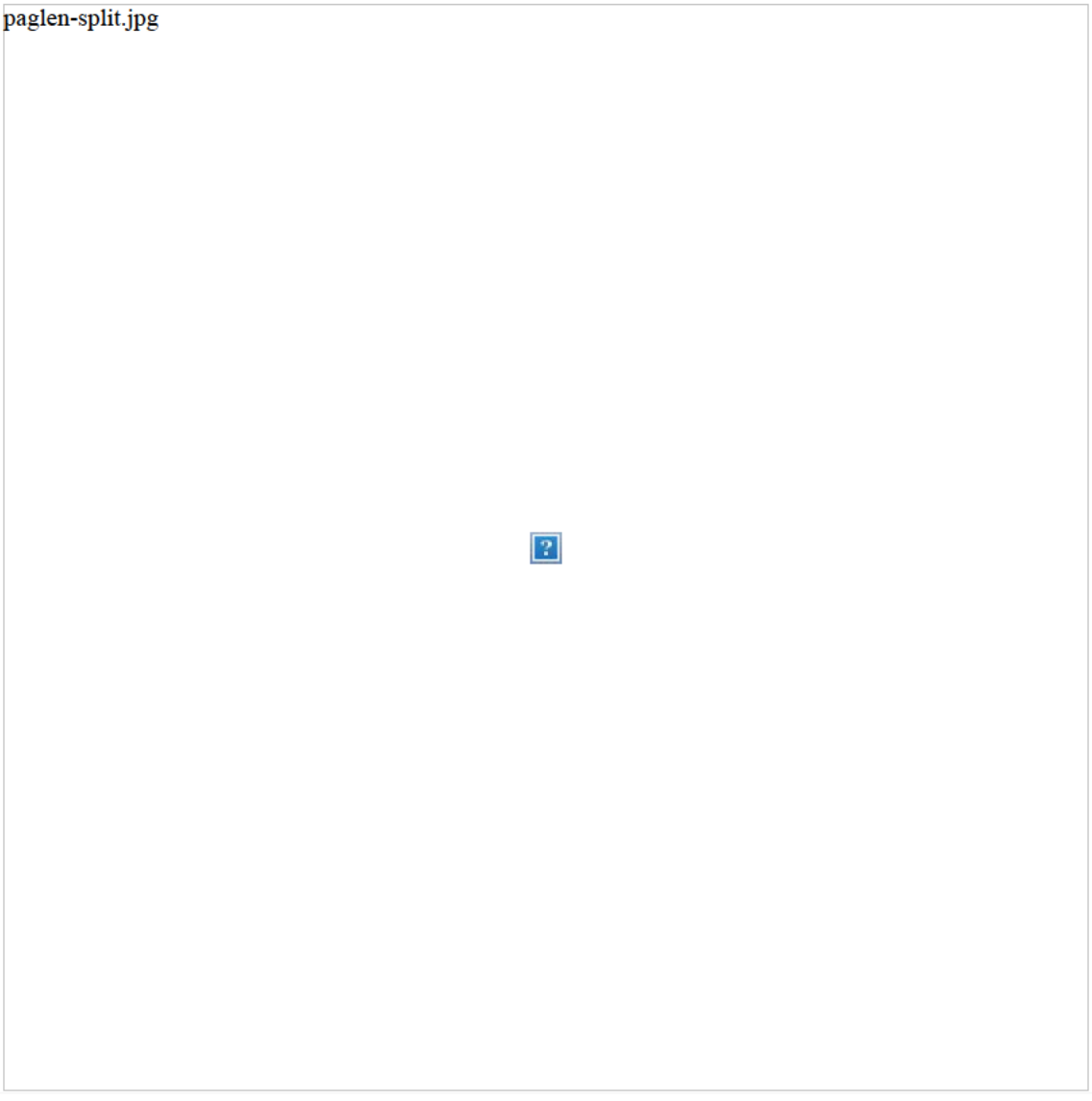
The VA has a staffing problem

For subscribers: The Department of Veterans Affairs built dozens of new veteran health centers, but now can't find enough doctors and staff.

The 'Adams and Eves' of facial recognition technology

Below are some of the original faces the US military used to develop facial recognition technology, featured in an exhibition by artist Trevor Paglen.

paglen-split.jpg

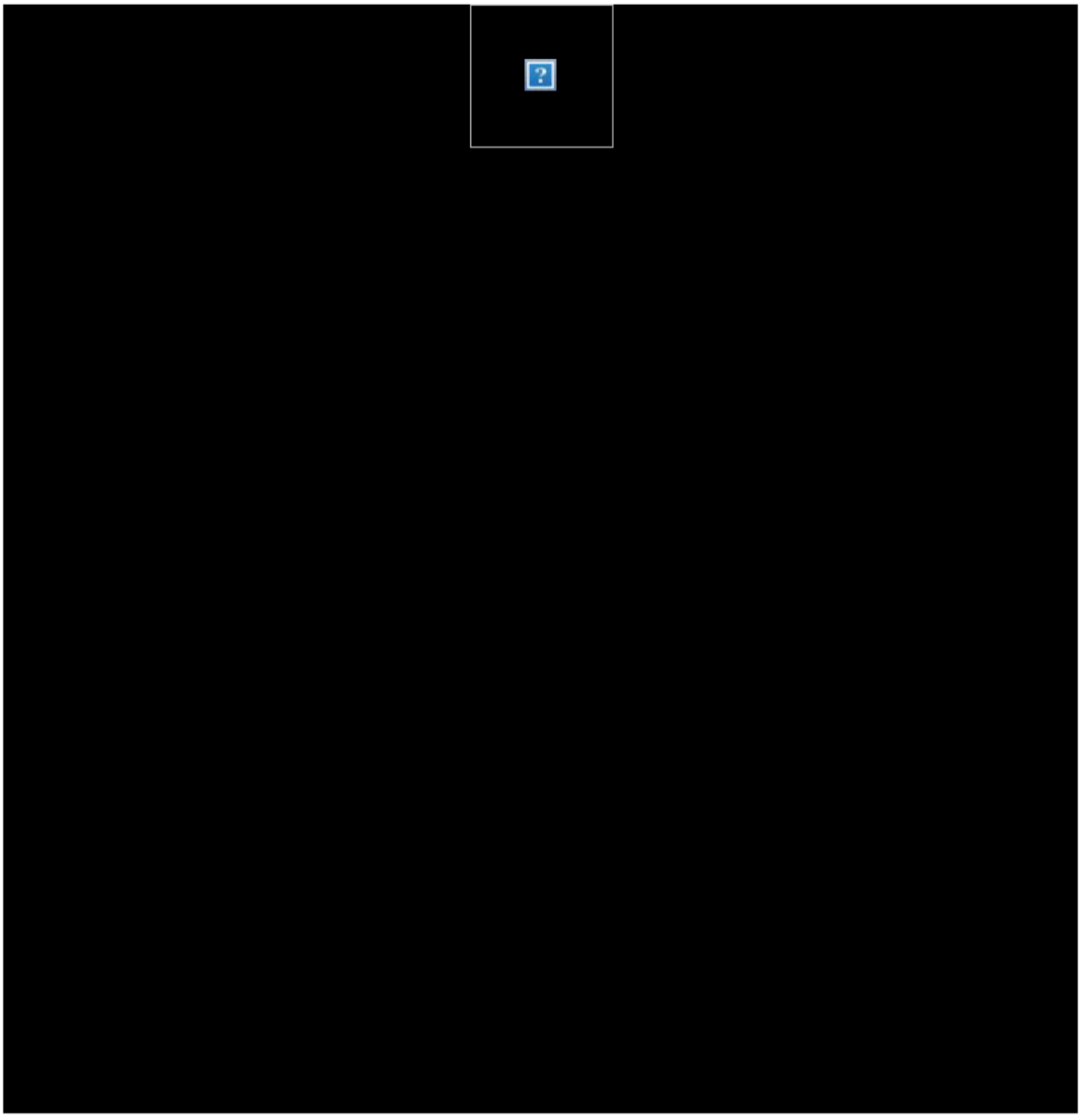


(Courtesy of Trevor Paglen)

Welcome to ‘Doctober’: 12 documentaries that have the world buzzing

Documentaries are all the rage, tackling everything from disgraced Theranos founder Elizabeth Holmes to the horror in Gaza. Here’s a look at some of the buzziest ones.

Video: Go inside the museum of disgusting food, if you can stomach it





01:20

Pick of the day

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Close-up of someone wearing a multi-colored Patagonia fleece jacket

Patagonia takes up to 50% off fall fleeces and more

Patagonia has just quietly refreshed its Web Specials sale section with tons of new deals just ahead of Amazon Prime Day. The markdowns are up to 50% off and include some end-of-summer offers on rain jackets as well as the season's first autumn discounts on fleeces,

winter coats and parkas.

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