

The Asian Reporter

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Naomi Osaka wows Wimbledon crowd with Lucy Liu-inspired white kimono



COURT FASHION. Naomi Osaka of Japan walks onto the court to play against Elsa Jacquemot of France in the first round women's singles match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London. Wimbledon's strict rules about all-white clothing did not prevent Osaka from making another fashion statement as she walked onto the grass at the All England Club. Osaka wore a flowing kimono with swinging sleeves and elaborate embroidery as she walked onto the court. See story on page 13. (AP Photo/Maja Smiejkowska)



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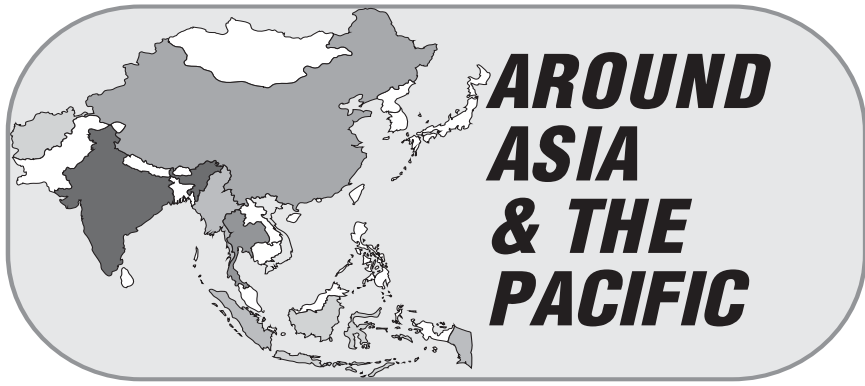
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Malaysia extends search for MH370 for another year

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia has extended for another year its contract with marine robotics company Ocean Infinity for a deep-sea search in the southern Indian Ocean for the wreckage of a Malaysia Airlines flight that disappeared 12 years ago. The cabinet approved the extension of a “no-find, no-fee” agreement with Ocean Infinity until June 30 next year, Transport Minister Anthony Loke said. “This decision is a manifestation of the government’s continuous and unwavering commitment to provide a closure for the next of kin of the passengers aboard flight MH370,” he said in a statement. The extension enables Ocean Infinity to complete the remaining 2,868-square-mile search area, after temporarily redeploying its primary search assets to fulfill other commercial contracts, he said. The Boeing 777 plane vanished from radar shortly after taking off on March 8, 2014, carrying 239 people, mostly Chinese nationals, on a flight from Malaysia’s capital, Kuala Lumpur, to Beijing. Satellite data showed the plane turned from its flight path and headed south to the far-southern Indian Ocean, where it is believed to have crashed. An expensive multinational search failed to turn up any clues to its location, although debris washed ashore on the East African coast and Indian Ocean islands. A private search in 2018 by Ocean Infinity also found nothing. Malaysia gave the nod last year to Ocean Infinity to renew the search for Flight 370 at a new 5,800-square-mile site in the southern Indian Ocean. Ocean Infinity, which has headquarters both in the U.S. and Britain, will be paid \$70 million only if wreckage is discovered. Loke said Ocean Infinity vessels are expected to be redeployed to the MH370 mission between November and April next year, when calmer sea offers the safest and most effective window for the underwater operations.

Hong Kong police arrest booksellers

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong police arrested two people on suspicion of selling seditious publications and receiving funds from foreign political organizations, acting under a recent national security law. The government’s statement did not identify those arrested, but local media outlets, including the Chinese-language newspaper *Ming Pao*, quoted unidentified sources saying one was Hunter Bookstore’s owner Leticia Wong. Wong, a pro-democracy former district councillor, who has remained outspoken after many leading activists were jailed under a crackdown following massive anti-government protests in 2019. If confirmed, her arrest would be widely seen as the latest step to stifle dissent in the Asian financial hub. The Associated Press could not independently verify the identities of those arrested. Police did not immediately respond to e-mailed questions. Wong could not be reached by phone. The arrests occurred a week before the 29th anniversary of the former British colony’s return to Chinese rule. Critics say Beijing’s promise to allow the city to maintain its western-style civil liberties after the 1997 handover is increasingly threadbare. According to the statement, the two arrested are in charge of a shop in Sham Shui Po district, where Wong’s bookstore is located. They were detained on suspicion of sedition under the 2024 national security law and of dealing with assets known or believed to represent proceeds of indictable offense under a separate law.

7.2 magnitude earthquake strikes off northern Japan

TOKYO (AP) — A powerful earthquake struck off the northern coast of Japan during the morning rush hour last month, but the country’s meteorological agency said there was no danger of a tsunami and no serious injuries were reported. The temblor shook dozens of towns across northeastern Japan and was even mildly felt in the capital of Tokyo. It hit in an area where strong earthquakes have repeatedly been reported in recent months, including one that triggered a weeklong mega-quake caution advisory in December. In the town of Hashikami, a school principal recounted how her car shook sideways when the quake struck as she was driving to work. Children already gathered at the school were safe, she said, though some were crying in fear. The quake — off the eastern coast of the Iwate prefecture — had a magnitude of 7.2, upgraded from an initial reading of 6.9, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. Its depth was about 30 miles, the agency said. The U.S. Geological Survey also reported the quake, giving its magnitude as 6.9. Eight people were injured in the northern prefectures of Aomori and Iwate, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency said. Japanese media had no report of life-threatening injuries and the injuries that were reported were mainly from falling or being hit by falling objects. In Tokyo, Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi told reporters that her government’s emergency team is “putting people’s lives first,” while assessing information and preparing for relief operations, if needed. She urged residents in the affected regions to use caution against possible aftershocks. Tomoko Nagane, the primary school principal in Hashikami, in Aomori prefecture, told NHK that classes were cancelled for the day and that all children returned home safely. Footage on Japan’s NHK public television showed several towns, including Sendai and Morioka, with the broadcaster’s reporters saying they felt the shaking for a couple of minutes but have not seen any damage. Videos showed people commuting as usual. The East Japan Railway Co., which operates trains in northeastern regions, said some bullet trains and local lines were temporarily suspended for safety checks. Nuclear power plants and facilities, including the Fukushima Daiichi plant which was damaged by the 2011 massive quake and tsunami, and a spent fuel reprocessing plant in Aomori, have not reported any abnormalities from the earthquake, government spokesperson Minoru Kihara said. Japan, which sits on what is known as the Pacific Ring of Fire, is one of the world’s most earthquake-prone areas.



BOBBING TO THE BEAT. Nine-year-old DJ Rinoka performs at the Tokyo Dome before a Yomiuri Giants baseball game in Tokyo. DJ Rinoka is a celebrated techno artist at just nine years old. And she’s the world’s youngest DJ, listed as such in Guinness when she was six. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

Japan’s DJ Rinoka bobs to the beat as a child prodigy techno artist

By Yuri Kageyama
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Never mind she isn’t old enough to get into a club.

Japanese DJ Rinoka still is a celebrated techno artist at just nine years old. And she’s the world’s youngest DJ, listed as such in Guinness when she was six.

“It’s fun when people get excited at the live performances,” she told The Associated Press recently.

She decided to become a DJ after seeing Amelie Lens and Nina Kraviz on YouTube when she was four. She thought they were so cool she asked for a Pioneer DDJ-200 machine for Christmas.

“I like a cool, fast, intense style,” she said in the interview, while wearing a cap with her own logo.

DJ Rinoka has other typically childlike interests like her pet gecko and a stuffed animal collection, including a toy dog called KoroChan that accompanies her everywhere, including on stage. The gecko stays at home.

DJ Rinoka has a busy schedule, performing at Tokyo’s professional baseball team Yomiuri Giants’ games and appearing with much older DJs at events.

It’s with a total and delightful conviction that she gets the groove going, pushing and turning buttons, as she bobs her body.

DJ Rinoka doesn’t use her surname publicly, and her parents wish her to remain anonymous to maintain as normal a childhood as possible for their only child.

She takes hip-hop dance lessons and enjoys crafting things out of paper and aluminum foil. She also has schoolwork.

Techno has roots in American cities like

Detroit and heavily uses electronic instruments, like the now-coveted Roland machines. Its genres include the intense, hypnotic acid house that Rinoka likes.

Just about all of it has a heavy pounding beat, or kick, that makes you want to dance away your troubles.

The music has evolved and spread, and its top DJs now create music for club-goers to dance to around the world.

It’s so universal — it’s loved and understood by a young Japanese girl.

“The music will continue,” DJ Rinoka says thoughtfully.

But she doesn’t have to think too hard when asked which she would choose: being a DJ or a caretaker for a lot of geckos.

“The geckos,” she exclaimed. “They are so cute.”

□

Small plane crashes into Beijing high-rise, killing the pilot and injuring 13

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese authorities said a small plane that crashed into a building in Beijing killed the pilot and injured 13 others.

The authorities of the Chaoyang district, a vibrant business area, said a two-seat light sport aircraft collided with a high-rise building near the East Third Ring Road in late June and caused the casualties.

The short statement on WeChat did not identify the building or the pilot, who the authorities said was the only person on the craft.

The global flight-tracking service provider Flightradar24 said the plane crashed into the

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The Asian Reporter is published on the first Monday each month.

News page advertising deadlines for our next two issues are:

August 3, 2026 edition:

Space reservations due: Wednesday, July 29 at 1:00pm

Artwork due: Thursday, July 30 at 1:00pm

September 7, 2026 edition:

Space reservations due: Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 1:00pm

Artwork due: Thursday, Sept. 3 at 1:00pm

Asian Currency Exchange Rates

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| South Korean Won | 1554.4 |
| Sri Lankan Rupee | 335.27 |
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Taipei Zoo welcomes a pair of red pandas from China, first in over a decade

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A zoo in Taiwan's capital received a pair of endangered red pandas from China in June, in the first exchange of animals in more than a decade as tensions between the two sides run high.

The pandas, a 3-year-old male and a 2-year-old female, have been in quarantine for a month. They will be acclimated to their new home in the Taipei Zoo before being unveiled to the public.

The two pandas have yet to be named. While the male panda immediately began to explore his new home and ate, the female remained cautious and preferred to observe, the Taipei Zoo said.

Taipei last received red pandas from a zoo in China's Fujian province in 2014, according to the *Taipei Times*. The animals are endemic to China, as well as Nepal, Laos, and Myanmar, among others.

Taipei will send white-handed gibbons to Shanghai as part of the exchange, the *Taipei Times* said.

While tensions between China and Taiwan, the self-ruled island that Beijing claims as part of its territory, remain high and official contacts between the two governments are cut off, city-level exchanges have continued.

In these photos released by the Taipei City Zoo, female (top photo) and male (bottom photo) red pandas, part of a pair received from China, in the first such exchange in more than a decade, are seen in enclosures at the Taipei City Zoo in Taiwan. (Taipei City Zoo via AP)



Malaysia bans social media accounts for children under 16 but questions remain

By Eileen Ng
The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysia began enforcing rules barring millions of children younger than 16 from having social media accounts, joining a growing global effort to tighten safety protections. Not all families approved, and critics raised concerns about data protection and potential surveillance.

Social media platforms with at least 8 million users in Malaysia, including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube, must implement age-verification systems and block users under 16 from creating accounts.

Malaysia's Communications and Multimedia Commission said age verification for existing users will be rolled out over the next six months. Users identified as under 16 will have a month to download or transfer data, including photos and videos, before restrictions or other actions are applied.

Companies that fail to comply could face penalties of up to 10 million ringgit (\$2.5 million). Parents whose children manage to bypass the law will not be penalized.

The government said the measures are aimed at protecting children from harmful content, cyberbullying, and platform features designed to encourage excessive use.

Countries including Australia, Brazil, and Indonesia have introduced or announced age-based restrictions or requirements for children's access to social media. Others including Britain, France, Spain, Denmark, Thailand, and South Korea are studying or developing similar approaches.

Malaysia's regulator said the rules are not intended to prevent children from accessing digital technology. Platforms are required to improve user safety, discourage excessive use, and take action against underage accounts and harmful content.

Technology companies have yet to describe how they will comply.

Clara Koh, Meta's director of public policy for Southeast Asia, has cautioned that Malaysia's under-16 ban could backfire by driving teenagers away from protected apps and into unregulated corners of the internet.

Governments around the world face pressure to address concerns about social media's impact on children's mental health and online safety. In March, a U.S. jury ordered Meta and YouTube to pay millions of dollars in damages in a case alleging that platform design features contributed to harm suffered by a young user.

Malaysian families have varying views

In Kuala Lumpur, Saravanan Ganasan and Jayaradha Veerasamy, whose children are 12 and 15, said they approve of the changes. They already had banned their kids from using social media, believing minors lack the psychological capacity to cope with it.

Devices are kept out of bedrooms, screen time is limited to common areas, and their son is not allowed to lock his phone with a password.

"Exposure is what we fear," Saravanan said. "The wrong kind of exposure will do damage to the mind."

Aadhavan Saravanan, 15, said he believes he would be addicted to social media if allowed full freedom. "Social



SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY. Jayaradha Veerasamy, right, and Saravanan Ganasan, second left, stand with their 12-year-old daughter Saarah Saravanan, left, and their 15-year-old son Aadhavan Saravanan at a park in Petaling Jaya, near Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The parents say they approve of the rules barring millions of children younger than 16 years old from having social media accounts. They had already banned their kids from using social media, believing minors lack the psychological capacity to cope with it. Devices are kept out of bedrooms, screen time is limited to common areas, and their son is not allowed to lock his phone with a password. (AP Photo/Eileen Ng)

media is, like, a luxury and it's not a necessity," he said.

The couple said the restrictions have forced their children to develop offline life skills. Aadhavan reads books in a backyard mango tree and repairs broken household appliances, while their daughter cooks and does crafts.

"A lot of parents are very scared that children get bored," Jayaradha said. "But boredom is actually very good because they start thinking out of the box."

But Shaun Hew, in the Kuala Lumpur suburb of Cheras, said the new restrictions go too far.

Hew believes social media allow his kids to spend time productively, as long as there is proper adult oversight. His 11-year-old son uses platforms to learn cooking and his daughter, 14, uses YouTube for exam preparation.

He worries a sudden cutoff could cause teenagers to rebel and find unregulated ways to bypass internet blocks.

Some express concerns over privacy and safety

Some critics said Malaysia's decision could increase the risks of data privacy breaches and expand state surveillance.

"It is very much following the trend, but in a way that is raising alarms due to requiring a government ID for age verification," said Benjamin Loh, social science lecturer at Monash University in Malaysia. He said social media companies could end up storing sensitive personal data without sufficient safeguards.

Loh said the decision also could unintentionally affect stateless individuals, undocumented residents, and members of marginalized communities including LGBTQ+ people who rely on anonymity online for safety.

Without penalties on parents, families can easily bypass the law by creating accounts for their children, he added.

"This is a major gap that, unless regulators are willing to fix, will result in the law having little effect in stopping children from using social media," he said.

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Japan's Eiko Kadono, author of *Kiki's Delivery Service*, still believes in the magic of books at 91

By Yuri Kageyama
The Associated Press

KAMAKURA, Japan — Eiko Kadono, the author behind Japan's most famous — and almost certainly most beloved — literary witch, has a little trouble going up the stairs these days.

At age 91, she's still writing every day and hasn't stopped loving the color pink, dressing up, or believing in the magic of books.

Kiki's Delivery Service, which was first published in 1985 and turned into a 1989 animation film by Hayao Miyazaki's Studio Ghibli, is among 200 books she has written.

"I never tire of writing," she told The Associated Press at her home in the picturesque seaside town of Kamakura, south of Tokyo.

With a little pink gate, the house is filled with books, pink chairs, and her collection of animal figures.

"I'm probably a child at heart," Kadono says with a small laugh.

Wearing her signature boldly framed glasses, Kadono is dressed in a colorful smock that her daughter designed especially for her.

She explains proudly that the sleeves are elastic at the wrists so they can be pulled up easily when she writes.

"I love to write"

These days, she uses a keyboard, punching the keys slowly, one at a time. But when she is creating a story, it still all starts with writing by hand. She also draws pictures.

"I want to write so that the reader can visualize what I am writing," she said. "I love to write."

Still quick with her retorts, laughs, and thoughts, Kadono shrugs off how she's wearing a wig. She doesn't understand why people might want to hide that. She



wears red lipstick and acts a bit shy about her wrinkles.

Still, her writing hasn't basically changed over the years. Though when she looks back on her past writing, she feels it's wordier than her current crisp style.

The *Kiki* series in the original Japanese spans six books and three spinoffs. The first installment was translated into English in 2020 by Delacorte Press. It is now in 25 foreign languages.

Kiki and the New Magic

Now, the second in the series, *Kiki and the New Magic*, is set for release in August in English, translated by Emily Balistreri and illustrated by Yuta Onoda.

Kadono, who won the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2018, never set out to become a writer. She was basically a housewife, married to a designer and raising a daughter.

She lived in Brazil for two years during her 30s and was asked to write about that experience. That's when she discovered she liked writing as a fun thing to do, not as

a job. It was certainly not something she was ordered or pushed to do.

The character of the sprightly, no-nonsense Kiki was inspired by a drawing her daughter did when she was 12: A cute witch was flying on a broomstick toward the moon.

Kadono decided to create a coming-of-age story about a little witch who goes on an adventure, travelling with her black cat Jiji.

The rest is history.

Kiki's Museum of Literature, which opened in Tokyo in 2023, now sells Kadono's smocks, as well as pink mugs and t-shirts decked with the characters she has created, as well as displays rows upon rows of books, including other authors.

"The other-worldly fantasy that Kadono creates has overcome the boundaries of language, to become appreciated by a wide global audience, including children and adults, and won international accolades," reads a statement in pink lettering on the museum wall.



PROLIFIC WRITER. Eiko Kadono, the author of *Kiki's Delivery Service*, speaks during an interview in Kamakura, Japan. At age 91, Kadono is still writing every day and hasn't stopped loving the color pink, dressing up, or believing in the magic of books. In the top right photo, an English-language edition of *Kiki's Delivery Service* is displayed at the Kiki's Museum of Literature in Tokyo. (AP Photos/Ayaka McGill)

Five-year-old Tsukiko Fukuda, who was visiting the museum with her family, had a more to-the-point reaction: The books are fun, and pink is her favorite color, too.

Books bring creation and imagination

Kadono hopes there will be a continuous flux of talented writers of children's books so that the future generation can grow up to love books.

Now is a crucial period, she believes, that may decide whether that can really happen.

The walks in the woods and other activities that captured the imagination of children of the past no longer exist, said Kadono. There are other digital and modern diversions.

And so they must read.

"People must think on their own to be able to create. That's what being human means," Kadono said with a passion in her voice.

"Books are the only thing now that can bring about creation and imagination."

Small plane crashes into Beijing high-rise, killing the pilot and injuring 13

Continued from page 2

CITIC Tower, also known as China Zun, which rises more than 1,700 feet, just east of a major ring road in a cluster of skyscrapers.

The 108-story CITIC tower, shaped like an ancient Chinese wine vessel, is one of the most recognizable skyscrapers in Beijing and is the tallest building in the city.

Flightradar24 posted on social media the path of the plane, a Sunward SA 60L Aurora, which took off from an airport about 30 miles east of Beijing. It headed westward

and ended just east of the East Third Ring Road.

Associated Press photos showed apparent marks of the crash on the glass facade on one side of the CITIC Tower. A hole there had been covered up by the next day.

It was not immediately known what caused the crash in a city with strict airspace controls, including a recent ban on drones. An investigation is underway into the situation, the authorities said.

It was also unclear whether the injured were in the building or were hit by debris, but the statement said they were receiving treatment.

The CITIC tower is a roughly 20-minute drive from Zhongnanhai, a former imperial garden that now serves as headquarters of China's top leadership, and a 15-minute drive from the Forbidden City, a popular tourist attraction.

Social media posts about the crash were scrubbed from China's walled-off internet the day of the crash, though footage made its way outside of China's firewall and circulated on overseas sites such as X.com. A report by financial news platform Caixin about the crash's casualties became inaccessible in less than 24 hours. Chinese authorities consider such incidents to be a

Chinese dissident who fled to South Korea by dinghy is now in Canada

By Kanis Leung
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — A Chinese political dissident who fled to South Korea last month in a dinghy has arrived in Canada, his friend said on social media.

Dong Guangping was aboard a 10.8-foot inflatable boat in the waters off a western South Korean island in May when he was detained by South Korea's coast guard for allegedly violating the country's immigration law. It was his fourth known attempt to flee China.

At a court hearing in South Korea, he told reporters that he hopes to go to Canada to reunite with his wife and daughter, who have already been resettled there, according to South Korean media.

In a post on X, his friend Sheng Xue, a Chinese Canadian activist, said Dong had landed in Toronto

sensitive matter.

Images and videos shared on social media appeared to show debris from a small aircraft near the skyscraper. While the images were consistent with the location, it was not possible to independently confirm their authenticity. One image of the wreckage shows a partial registration number of "B-12." The full registration number of the aircraft is B-12PP.

According to Flightradar24, the aircraft was operated by Shuangyue General Aviation, an apparent reference to Dongshi Shuangyue (Beijing) General Aviation, whose website was not accessible the day after the crash. The firm provides services ranging from private pilot training to aerial sightseeing tours, according to an online platform citing official data.

SA 60L is a product of Starair Aircraft, based in China's central Hunan province. According to Starair's website, the single-engine aircraft accounts for more than 70% of China's light sports aircraft market and has been exported to Australia and the United States.

Its maximum cruise speed is 137 miles per hour and its maximum takeoff weight is 1,322 pounds, the website said.

following an Air Canada flight.

"He just had a big bowl of noodles with eggs, tomatoes, and shrimps," she wrote in the post, adding that she has spent more than 10 years trying to get him out of China.

She attached a photo of Dong in a car with her and another photo of Dong holding a bowl.

Dong, a former police officer in China, has been detained several times for his activism. He lost his job as a police officer in 1999 after he co-signed a letter commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown, according to Amnesty International.

He was imprisoned for three years in 2001 for "inciting subversion of state power" and spent more than eight months behind bars after being arrested in 2014 for participating in a memorial for victims of the Tiananmen crackdown, according to past statements from Amnesty

Continued on page 20

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Robotic elephants draw crowds and controversy in some of India's Hindu temples

By Deepa Bharath
The Associated Press

CHALAKUDY, India — The life-size robotic elephants in Prasanth Prakashan's backyard workshop have ears that flap, tails that swish, and trunks that squirt water.

But that's about all they have in common with their real-life counterparts revered across India as manifestations of the divine. The animatronics, crafted from fiberglass, iron, and rubber, are intended to take the place of live elephants in Hindu temples.

The change pleases animal welfare activists but upsets those who passionately believe real elephants are inextricable from the temple rituals and festivals where they are bestowed superstar status.

The animal welfare group PETA and other nonprofits have donated about 40 robotic elephants, costing about \$6,000 each, to Indian temples to replace live elephants.

A robotic elephant is much lighter and lacks the fluid grace of the majestic pachyderm. Electric motors move its head and eyeballs. Body parts are pliable in an attempt to make them life-like.

Prakashan, who holds a mechanical engineering degree, knows his elephant is far from the real thing.

"You can't create an original elephant just as you cannot duplicate a human," Prakashan said. "But we try to capture the majestic animal's essence as much as we can."

One thing his elephants can't yet do is walk.

"But they will," Prakashan said, smiling. "I'm working on it."

Elephants are seen as symbols of divinity

Venerating elephants is not a concept unique to Kerala or Hinduism.

Buddhists believe elephants are Buddha-like, symbolizing patience, wisdom, and enlightenment. In Kandy, Sri Lanka, 100 decorated elephants parade the streets, the largest carrying the Buddha's tooth relic in a golden casket.

In Kerala, festivals with live elephants are crowd-pullers. The Thrissur Vadakkunnathan temple's annual Pooram parade features about 100 elephants adorned in golden headgear and colorful silk caparisons. The elephants are escorted by handlers who fan them with peacock feathers and yak-hair whisks.

About 40 miles away, the Guruvayur Sree Krishna Temple houses nearly 50 elephants. The temple also holds an annual elephant race and a feeding ritual where, following prayers, the animals are given rice, ghee, jaggery, fruits, and vegetables.

Elsewhere in Kerala, St. George Orthodox Syrian Church in Kunnampulam and the Pattambi Mosque in Palakkad district routinely feature elephant parades during their festivals.

Some temple elephants are celebrities.

An elephant named Thechikkottukavu Ramachandran has close to 150,000 fans on Facebook. Guruvayur Keshavan, arguably the most celebrated temple elephant who died in 1976, has been memorialized with a life-size statue near the temple he served; his life story has been the subject of a film and a television series.

Andrea Gutierrez, a University of Texas professor who researched captive elephants in South Asia, said Kerala's temple elephants are male, which poses a problem. Adult males go through musth, a periodic condition that heightens their aggression. It's a dramatic surge in testosterone — up to 60 times their normal levels.



"But people want these huge impressive tusks, which almost feels like a military presence," Gutierrez said.

Despite tighter restrictions on owning and maintaining elephants, nearly 400 animals are still captive in Kerala, out of about 2,500 across India. That count is down by about half since 2010.

Artists embark on quest to make the perfect robot

Khushboo Gupta, vice president of policy at PETA India, said the aesthetic appeal of live elephants doesn't justify shackling, beating, and separating them from their families. Stressed elephants can also be deadly. For example, nine people died in 2024 from elephant rampages at Kerala temple festivals.

"These elephants are forced to stand there for hours in the heat, with large crowds, drums, and fireworks," Gupta said. "Any trigger could cause them to go on a rampage."

Prakashan, who builds animatronics for malls, parks, and carnivals, got PETA's attention in 2023 with a viral video of robotic elephants at a Dubai festival.

Gupta contacted him and Sooraj Nambiat, another Kochi-based artist who makes elephant sculptures, about making a robotic version for temples. Prakashan's elephants were immediately in demand.

His first was encased in rubber, but he's moved on to more durable fiberglass molds. The moving rubber parts are shaped by artists who pay close attention to minute details, from the animal's wrinkly skin to the veins that pop from its fanning ears. The entire process from mold making to animating the elephant now takes Prakashan and his crew about 15 days.

But being a pioneer comes with challenges.

"It was something we had to figure out on our own," Prakashan said.

Smaller temples embrace the change

Prakashan's first robotic elephant, Irinjadapilly Raman, came to the Irinjadapilly Sree Krishna Temple in 2023.

ANIMATRONIC ELEPHANTS. Prasanth Prakashan, a mechanical engineer, top photo, poses by a robotic elephant in his backyard workshop in Chalakudy, in the southern Indian state of Kerala. The life-size robotic elephants in Prakashan's backyard workshop have ears that flap, tails that swish, and trunks that squirt water. In the bottom photo are unfinished robotic elephants in Prakashan's backyard. (AP Photos/Aijaz Rahi)

giggling and hugging its trunk.

Rajkumar Namboothiri, the temple's head priest, said children would never be able to approach a live elephant so freely.

He said tantric texts, which spell out the rules for daily rituals in Kerala temples, don't require live elephants. He believes the practice came about when elephants were a part of kings' cavalries and palaces a few centuries ago.

"They had trees and forests before," Namboothiri said. "Now, we have concrete jungles, heat, and noise. ... Elephants are tortured and abused. It's not right."

The animals were also chosen as vehicles for deities during processions because of their height. But, that could be accomplished with portable palanquins and chariots, Namboothiri said.

P.C. Subhash, a temple devotee, said he is in favor of upholding tradition with live elephants in larger temples, but believes robotic elephants are more feasible for smaller temples, given the steep costs, including liability insurance coverage.

"I really hope more people come to accept them," Subhash said.

K.I. Purushottaman, president of the Cheekamundi Sri Mahavishnu Temple in Thrissur, said their robotic elephant has brought him peace of mind because he and other administrators feared the possibility

Continued on page 8

On a recent afternoon outside the temple in central Kerala, Raman stood motionless as two children played,



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MY TURN

■ **Wayne Chan**



5 simple rules to find a great Chinese restaurant

As a Chinese American, a common question I'm asked by my friends who aren't Chinese is, "Wayne, what Chinese restaurant would you recommend?" Having lived in the U.S. all my life, as well as spending a lot of time in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, I'm pretty confident in my Chinese culinary critical skills, or CCCS for short. People can usually count on me to provide a handful of great Chinese restaurants, at least in my area of town.

Having sampled a multitude of Chinese restaurants in my life, I've experienced a wide variety of Chinese cuisines across the scale, from the absolutely sublime to food that requires one to put quotation marks around the word "Chinese" in order to specify that what is being presented as Chinese food is really just an approximation of what someone who doesn't really know anything thinks Chinese food is supposed to be.

With my experience and critical eye (and tongue) to know what's what, I thought it might be helpful to create a handy guide anyone can use to help quickly determine whether a Chinese restaurant is, in fact, Chinese, or "Chinese."

Before providing guidelines based on my CCCS, I think it's important to stipulate that I am not focusing my attention on really high-end Michelin-star rated Chinese restaurants that ultimately cost an arm and a leg. My uncle in Hong Kong is the owner of Lei Garden in China and Hong Kong, which is a very prestigious and luxurious Chinese restaurant group found throughout the world. When I visit him there, I basically camp out at one of his restaurants morning, noon, and night. I admit it — I'm a Lei Garden groupie.

If you are planning to spend a lavish amount of money on Chinese food, you don't need my help finding a place. No, what is more satisfying to me is locating the hidden gem — the hole in the wall in the strip mall joint. Finding the diamond in the rough is the name of the game.

So, without further ado, I present, "Wayne's 5 simple rules to find a great Chinese restaurant."

#1 — When you see a Chinese restaurant, pay attention to the restaurant name. If it makes grammatical sense, be wary. Stay away from restaurants where something is golden. "Golden Palace" or "Golden Dragon" are big red flags. You can be sure there's nothing golden in the establishment, and

why a golden dragon would even translate into something tasty is beyond me.

On the other hand, if a restaurant has a name that in English language terms seems non-sensical, you may have hit on something good. If a restaurant has a name like "3 Hen Green Pot" or "China Heen," park the car. This may be a winner.



#2 — While approaching the restaurant, be sure to look for a sign showing the hours of operation. If the sign says the restaurant should be currently open, but the doors are locked, that's a good indication it's a place worth trying. Always remember, a good Chinese restaurant uses the hours of operations sign as more or less an approximation, not something to strictly follow.

#3 — If the restaurant name is non-sensical enough and it happens to be open when it's supposed to be, proceed to the lobby. Then the next thing to watch for is how attentive the staff is when you walk in. If they approach you with a smile and a warm greeting and quickly have menus ready to seat you, be very cautious. Prompt and friendly service is often a warning sign. If you don't feel inclined to leave immediately, you'll need to look for other cues before taking a seat at a table.

If, on the other hand, you wait for a good 5 minutes as harried food servers are walking in and out of the kitchen carrying hot platters of food to patrons, that is a good sign. Add two points if the serving staff actually sees you and still keeps you waiting for another 10 minutes.

#4 — While walking to your table, pay attention to the floor. If it's vinyl tiles or linoleum and slick with so much grease that you could oil skate to your table, slide over as safely as you can and take a seat. More than likely, you're in for a treat.

#5 — After perusing the menu and considering some preliminary choices, once the server arrives and is ready to take your order, a good test is to ask if the kitchen is able to make a substitution, such as switching chicken to shrimp in a dish. If the server readily agrees to make the change, it's still not too late for you to get up and grab a quick bite at the McDonald's across the street.

On the other hand, if the server replies with, "the dish is no good that way," or even starts arguing with you about your request, you've hit nirvana.

We once went to a Chinese restaurant and
Continued on page 12

Filipino lawyers move to raise legacy of Pablo Manlapit, forgotten leader of Hawai'i labor movement

By Jennifer Sinco Kelleher
and Terry Tang
The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Decades before Filipino American agricultural workers organized a historic strike in California, Pablo Manlapit was organizing Filipino laborers in Hawai'i.

Manlapit, who migrated to Honolulu in 1910 to work on sugar plantations, saw the exploitation of other Philippine-born workers — known as “sakadas.” A decade later and at great risk to his livelihood and marriage, he became Hawai'i's first Filipino lawyer and pioneered a Filipino labor union demanding equal pay and an eight-hour workday.

He also persuaded Japanese workers, who were paid more, to join. For these organizing efforts, he was implicated in the 1924 Hanapepe Massacre on the island of Kauai where 16 strikers and four police officers were killed.

The tragedy halted any momentum the strikers had.

Manlapit was imprisoned, exiled to California, and eventually deported. Despite remaining a stalwart labor rights advocate, he died in 1969 in relative obscurity.

Now, over a century later,



EARLY ORGANIZER. This undated photo provided by the Hawai'i State Archives shows Pablo Manlapit, Hawai'i's first Filipino lawyer. Decades before Filipino American agricultural workers organized a historic strike in California, Manlapit was organizing Filipino laborers in Hawai'i. On the right is an undated photo provided by the Hawai'i State Archives that shows workers cutting sugar cane by hand at the Ewa Plantation in Hawai'i. (Hawai'i State Archives via AP)

Manlapit has become a trailblazer to a group of Filipino lawyers who didn't grow up learning about him. The Hawai'i Filipino Lawyers Association is seeking to overturn his conspiracy conviction, a symbolic effort they hope will elevate Manlapit's place in history. They say Manlapit's contributions and Asian American and Pacific Islander history in Hawai'i in general still remain relatively unknown across the U.S. mainland.

“It's a story that needs to be told. A lot of us are second generation, so we don't have knowledge of these stories,” said Daniel Padilla, the group's

president. “His story gets overshadowed ... in the broader labor movement in California.”

Recent revelations of sexual abuse allegations against prominent Mexican American labor leader César Chávez prompted reflection on Filipinos who were key to the U.S. farmworker movement.

That inspired the Filipino lawyer group to explore clearing Manlapit's name. The quest to overturn Manlapit's conviction, the association has said, is about “restoring what was taken from a movement that always belonged to many.”

Filipino American history in Hawai'i typically overlooked



On the right is an undated photo provided by the Hawai'i State Archives that shows workers cutting sugar cane by hand at the Ewa Plantation in Hawai'i. (Hawai'i State Archives via AP)

Filipino Americans have historically been left out by historians, said Kevin Nadal, Filipino American National Historical Society president. Within Filipino American communities, those in Hawai'i — an ocean away — were chronicled less over the decades. Nadal, a psychology professor at City University of New York, didn't learn extensively about Manlapit until researching a Filipino American Studies encyclopedia in 2020.

“It may have been documented through just like oral histories,” Nadal said. “We love oral histories but, if no one writes them down and then it doesn't

become published, then it just gets lost.”

Manlapit's movement was likely the first instance of documented mobilizing by Filipino workers.

“It started with Hawai'i,” Nadal said. “What was happening in Hawai'i, it would have been really hard for people to know that it was happening in California.”

There has been more acknowledgement in recent years. Earlier in May for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center partnered with Hawai'i U.S.

Continued on page 9

Poll: How AAPI adults are being affected by Trump's immigration crackdown

By Terry Tang and Linley Sanders
The Associated Press

Many Asian American and Pacific Islander adults have experienced or witnessed some degree of upheaval because of the Trump administration's heightened immigration policies, an AP-NORC/AAPI Data poll finds, while most say the U.S. is no longer the land of opportunity for immigrants.

A new poll released in June from AAPI Data and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows about half of AAPI adults say they — or someone they know — have been detained or deported within the last year, started carrying proof of immigration status or U.S. citizenship, upended travel plans, or significantly changed their routines because of immigration status.

The findings come after more than a year of immigration crackdowns. The poll indicates that the Trump administration's aggressive approach, which has resulted in multiple clashes between protesters and enforcement officers and led to the shooting deaths of two U.S. citizens in Minneapolis earlier this year, may be changing the way some people in immigrant-heavy communities see the U.S. itself.

AAPI adults are one of the country's fastest-growing demographic, and most AAPI adults in the U.S. were born outside the country. The survey found a majority of AAPI adults — about 6 in 10 — believe the U.S. used to be a great country for immigrants but is not anymore. Only about 3 in 10 AAPI adults say America is a great place for immigrants, while a few, 5%, say it was never a great place for immigrants.

At the same time, AAPI adults are more likely than Americans overall to see the mixing of culture and values from around the world as central to the country's identity.

“America's success story has depended critically on the role of Asian Americans, but also immigrants in general,” said Karthick Ramakrishnan, founder and executive director of AAPI Data. “When you have people who are already in this country, have been here for decades saying, ‘I'm not really sure that this is the best country anymore,’ that's a warning sign.”

“Better safe than sorry” approach

Even some immigrants with legal status have been affected by the Trump administration's policies. One policy that would have hiked fees for certain types of visas was shot down in federal court. Another judge struck

down a policy that “categorically barred” immigrants from 39 Asian, African, Latin American, and Middle Eastern countries from receiving final decisions on asylum, work permit, green card, and citizenship applications.

Khoa Tran, 27, of San Antonio, Texas, came to the U.S. from Vietnam in 2015 at age 15. He gained citizenship four years later. In 2023, he sponsored his wife from Vietnam.

Last year, Tran became concerned when his social media feed kept bringing up posts about how essential it was that even legal immigrants carry documentation. It had not occurred to the couple that his wife should have her green card with her at all times.

“It seemed like we needed to do it. It's literally become like a second form of identification in addition to the driver's license,” Tran said.

He has also seen how international students in his community have put off trips to visit family in Asia due to concerns about student visas.

“They're just scared. They don't know the law around that,” Tran said. “Better safe than sorry.”

About half of South Asian adults — compared to about 4 in 10 AAPI adults overall — know someone who started carrying proof of legal status or citizenship over the last year. South Asian adults are much more likely than East Asian or Southeast Asian American adults to have been born outside the U.S., according to the survey. Many of those immigrants may have green cards or be naturalized citizens, Ramakrishnan said, yet feel “like their presence and their status in this country is under question.”

Cultural identity matters as much as American identity

AAPI adults are likelier to say their family's ancestry or country of origin is “extremely” or “very” important to their personal identity, compared to being an American.

Just over half of AAPI adults say their family's ancestry or country of origin is important to who they are, while 44% say this about their American identity. That extends to AAPI adults who were born in the U.S. About 6 in 10, 59%, U.S.-born AAPI adults say their family's heritage is important to their personal identity, while 47% say this about being an American.

A separate AP-NORC survey conducted in April found that 55% of U.S. adults say being an American is important to who they are, while only 37% said that about their family's ancestry.

Abigail Jeyaraj, 22, of South Hadley, Massachusetts, was born in Texas. Her Indian parents' decision to build a

new life in the U.S. is something she never takes for granted. When she describes her nationality, she identifies herself as not just “American” but South Asian American.

“Especially as a South Asian woman, I'm very sensitive to the fact that I have opportunities that my mother and my grandmother, all the women before that didn't,” Jeyaraj said. “I really try to honor that culture. I try to maintain really strong connections to my family in India.”

Soonho Kwon, 30, of La Mirada, California, was born in Korea. His family settled in New Jersey when he was 8 years old.

“I think I still feel more Korean. I came right around the age where I had very solid memories from growing up in Korea. My immediate family's back there now,” Kwon said. “I'm a naturalized citizen. I'm committed to living here, but identity is a different question.”

Ambivalence around America's 250th anniversary

The vast majority, 73%, of AAPI adults say the mixing of cultures and values from around the world is “extremely” or “very” important to the U.S.'s identity as a nation, compared to only 55% of U.S. adults in the April AP-NORC poll.

Jeyaraj grew up around Dallas and Houston — cities where she was “able to interact with people of so many different races and different cultures that weren't my own.” She credits that experience with making her more

Continued on page 19

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Great-grandson of Wong Kim Ark praises Supreme Court ruling affirming birthright citizenship

By Terry Tang
The Associated Press

The great-grandson of Wong Kim Ark, the Chinese American at the center of the U.S. Supreme Court case that established the constitutional guarantee of birthright citizenship, called late June's ruling a victory for all Americans, saying it reaffirmed that precedent.

"I don't consider this stuff a personal victory," Norman Wong told The Associated Press. "It's an obligation and a duty for every American to care about this because ultimately we're not fighting for the rights of Chinese or Japanese or whatever. We're fighting for rights for all Americans because these are fundamental rights."

Wong, 76, has become an unexpected public face of the movement to protect birthright citizenship. He began giving speeches and interviews in January 2025 — shortly after President Donald Trump issued his executive order declaring children born to people who are in the United States illegally or temporarily are not American citizens.

In a 6-3 decision, a divided Supreme Court upheld a broad interpretation of birthright citizenship, rejecting Trump's arguments.

In an opinion by Chief Justice John Roberts, the court held that the long-settled understanding of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution, adopted after the Civil War, makes anyone born in the U.S. a citizen, with very limited exceptions.

Dissenting Justices Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch, and Clarence Thomas would have upheld Trump's proposed restrictions. The Fourteenth Amendment "was designed and understood to secure equal rights for the freed blacks but has instead been repurposed for political projects that the Reconstruction Congress did not support," Thomas wrote.

Trump said the decision was "too bad for our Country" and wrongly suggested that congress could "easily" address it with legislation. The majority decision rests on



CITIZENSHIP CHAMPION. In the late 1800s, birthright citizenship was legally expanded to the children of immigrants. Wong Kim Ark, who was born in San Francisco in 1873, was returning by steamship from China in 1895 and was denied reentry. He sued and the Supreme Court in 1898 ruled in his favor. The court held that under the Fourteenth Amendment, a child's citizenship depends on birth in the U.S., not a parent's citizenship. (Photo/National Archives)

Is birthright citizenship status secure now?

In April, the birthright citizenship court proceedings also marked the first time a sitting U.S. president attended Supreme Court oral arguments. California Attorney General Rob Bonta recalled sitting in the same row as Trump.

Since Trump's executive order, Bonta, the first state attorney general of Filipino descent, has heard from "hundreds" of people born in the U.S. who have been worried about being stripped of their citizenship because of a parent's immigration status. Most of them have been people of color — Black, Latino, Asian, and Pacific Islander. The high court's decision, while affirming, does not mean they should be less mindful of their rights.

"Everyone who believes in the rule of law, believes in the U.S. Constitution — its durability, its strength, its potency — should breathe a little easier today," Bonta said. "But, the attacks on lawful immigration status, on the U.S. Constitution's protections, rights, and freedoms afforded to people, including birthright citizenship, they will continue."

Chinese American daughter of immigrants makes the case

The Justice Department said in a statement that it's "committed to tackling illegal birth tourism schemes by working diligently with U.S. attorneys across the country to uphold the law."

"Actors seeking to exploit loopholes to obtain automatic citizenship for their children pose a national security threat and will be brought to justice," the department said in a post on the social platform X.

Cecillia Wang, the national director of the American Civil Liberties Union who argued for birthright citizenship in front of the Supreme Court, said in a statement the court "reaffirms a fundamental American promise — if you are born here, you are a citizen."

"A president cannot change the Constitution by executive fiat," Wang said. "Our brave clients and our legal team stand with millions of people around our country who spoke up for one of our most cherished rights."

Bonta previously worked with Wang at the same San Francisco law firm. He described her as brilliant and said that having immigrant parents "was an added dimension to Cecillia's incredible advocacy."

Wang is American-born with parents who legally came to the U.S. from Taiwan as graduate students. The fact that she was the one who got to argue the case nearly 130 years after his great-grandfather won his case made the decision even better, Wong said.

"It's kind of sweet because — especially for Chinese Americans — they were at the forefront of all this anti-Asian hate," Wong said. "There are certain aspects of my life where I think what happened actually prepared me for what's happening now."

Associated Press reporter Mark Sherman in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.

constitutional grounds. It would take an amendment to overcome the decision.

Wong called the executive order Trump issued on the first day of his second term an unconstitutional "decree."

"If it didn't fly in the face of the Constitution, the Supreme Court would have ruled differently today," Wong said. "That's unfortunate that we have a leader that wants the United States to be in his image, but that's not what we're supposed to be. He's supposed to conform to what we the people believe in."

Maintaining birthright citizenship as a right and a family legacy

In the late 1800s, birthright citizenship was legally expanded to the children of immigrants.

Wong Kim Ark, who was born in San Francisco in 1873, was returning by steamship from China in 1895 and was denied reentry. He sued and the Supreme Court in 1898 ruled in his favor. The court held that under the Fourteenth Amendment, a child's citizenship depends on birth in the U.S., not a parent's citizenship.

Norman Wong has always been social justice-minded. While attending the University of California, Berkeley, in the 1970s, he joined the multiracial student-driven Third World Liberation Front. He saw how the term "Asian American" rallied Asian student groups to join forces.

It wasn't until he was in his 50s that he learned Wong Kim Ark was his great-grandfather. His father had spoken very little about family history. But journalists from Chinese-language newspapers approached his father for an interview after seeing his name in old court records.

He never pictured lobbying for another movement in his 70s. But last year, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, the same organization that funded Wong Kim Ark's legal fight, invited him to speak at a press conference. Since then, Wong, who lives in the San Francisco Bay Area, has given interviews, speeches, and even travelled to Washington in April to hear the Supreme Court arguments.

"I consider myself lucky enough to actually have a meaningful role," Wong said. "All that citizenship grants is the stuff that was the promise of America, which is life,

Robotic elephants draw crowds and controversy in some of India's Hindu temples

Continued from page 5

of a fatal elephant attack.

"With a robotic elephant, we don't have that fear," he said. "That's a big relief."

Elephant owners and traditionalists resist

Still, many traditionalists don't believe robotic elephants belong in temples. K. Mahesh rents out his real elephant for festivals about 45 days a year. He believes elephants are holy.

"If you don't believe elephants are sacred, what's the point of a robotic elephant in a temple?" he asked.

Mahesh has had his elephant for 25 years and says the animal "is like a family member or a pet" who brings joy to

all, provided it is treated with care and caution.

Several temple administrators have denounced robotic elephants for rituals and festivals.

Nambiat, the artist, said he can't attend temple festivals anymore because many resent his work.

"This is my trade. ... I'm not out to ruin their tradition," he said. "But, if we don't stop treating elephants like commodities, future generations won't have them."

P.S. Easa, a Kerala-based wildlife biologist and elephant expert, helped draft the state's captive elephant regulations. While hard to enforce, they have helped protect elephants to some extent, he said.

"Sadly, there's a lot of money to be made with elephants," he said. "It's not about spirituality or even tradition. It's religious tourism."

Easa is not sure if robotic elephants will be accepted in his lifetime.

"You cannot change centuries-old tradition anytime soon," he said. "But who knows? Maybe if these robotic elephants can start walking."

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Difficulty level: Medium

#91262

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

Solution to last issue's puzzle

Puzzle #74563 (Easy)

All solutions available at <www.sudoku.com>.

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California to institute Bruce Lee Day, a first for a Chinese American in the state's history

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Martial arts icon Bruce Lee, who was born in San Francisco, will become the first Chinese American in California history with an annual namesake day.

Governor Gavin Newsom signed a law officially designating May 17 as Bruce Lee Day, according to the office of state Assemblymember Matt Haney, who represents San Francisco.

An 18-year-old Lee returned to San Francisco on May 17, 1959, after spending his childhood in Hong Kong.

Lee's daughter, Shannon, who is CEO of the Bruce Lee Foundation, said the honor is a testament to her father's enduring legacy as a bridge between cultures.

"From young people who found confidence and possibility in his philosophy, to families who finally saw themselves represented on screen, to athletes who still draw on his teachings of discipline and inner strength, his reach is profound," Shannon Lee said in a statement.

Haney called Lee the epitome of the best of California.

"At a time when Asian Americans were too often absent from or stereotyped on



screen, Bruce Lee helped generations see themselves represented with strength and dignity," he said in a statement.

The foundation and various Asian American organizations hope Lee will be celebrated every year with voluntary

commemorative activities around the state such as cultural exhibits, public events, and classroom lessons.

Born in 1940 to Chinese parents who were touring with an opera, Lee was allowed to have birthright citizenship. A

BRUCE LEE DAY. A man walks past a mural showing Bruce Lee and a dragon in San Francisco, in this December 30, 2020 file photo. California governor Gavin Newsom has signed a law officially designating May 17 as Bruce Lee Day. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu, File)

few months later, the family returned to Hong Kong where Lee became a child actor and began learning Chinese kung fu. He moved back to the U.S. in 1959 and enrolled in the University of Washington in Seattle two years later. He dropped out and threw himself into practicing and teaching martial arts.

In the '60s, Lee found work in Hollywood, most notably as Kato in the TV series "The Green Hornet," but studios wanted him to play racist stereotypes and paid him less than his white counterparts.

He pivoted back to Hong Kong and soon became a megastar of martial arts flicks, including *The Big Boss* and *Fist of Fury*. Lee died in 1973 at age 32 after an allergic reaction to pain medication.

Lee's name and likeness remain popular. Fans gather on his birthday. A treatment for a proposed TV action series he wrote inspired the HBO Max show "Warrior."

Filipino lawyers move to raise legacy of Pablo Manlapit, forgotten leader of Hawai'i labor movement

Continued from page 7

senator Mazie Hirono on a poster exhibit highlighting sakadas.

Hawai'i's Filipino sakada history inspires later generations

Laborers who left the Philippines for Hawai'i's plantations were key to Filipinos becoming one of the largest ethnic groups in the state today. They made up over half the labor force. Hawai'i became home to the nation's first and only governor of Filipino descent, Ben Cayetano.

Cayetano, 87, said he never felt a need to seek out his Filipino roots growing up poor in Honolulu.

"I was born and raised here so I was more influenced by the local culture, which is a mixture of the Hawaiian culture and all the other cultures," said Cayetano, who graduated from college and law school in Los Angeles.

But honoring sakadas and leaders like Manlapit is a way to also honor the sakada who raised Cayetano as a single father, he said.

Growing up biracial in rural upstate New York, Becky Gardner felt like she couldn't connect with her mother's Filipino ancestry but heard stories about her great-grandfather and grandfather who

were laborers on Kauai plantations. Longing to connect to those roots, Gardner moved to Honolulu to attend law school.

While working as a lawyer in the state Office of Language Access, she advocated for "Sakada Day," commemorating the December 20 arrival of the first contract laborers who left the Philippines to work on Hawai'i's sugar and pineapple plantations.

It was then that Gardner realized she is a sakada descendant.

She typed her great-grandfather's name, Francisco Alcano, into an online database of Filipino laborers and found records detailing his 1928 arrival in Honolulu aboard a steamship named for President Grover Cleveland.

"It made me feel like I was part of Hawai'i's history too," Gardner said.

How to get Manlapit's conviction overturned

The Hawai'i Filipino Lawyers Association is reviewing whether Manlapit's 1924 conviction was wrongful and if there is any legal way to clear his name posthumously, said Padilla, who earned a law degree from the University of Hawai'i.

They're also looking into creating a fellowship at the University of Hawai'i's

law school to explore the possibility of having a legal researcher examine the case toward efforts to formally vindicate Manlapit.

Kainani Collins Alvarez, who grew up on Oahu knowing about her sakada grandfather, is a former public defender who now owns a family-law firm. She wants to apply her criminal defense background to the association's Manlapit cause. Half-white, she feels connected to Hawai'i Filipinos through her mom and a childhood partly spent in the Philippines.

"For me, it's really important to go back and rectify the truth," she said. "History is built on the facts that we knew at the time."

Manlapit wasn't even on Kauai during the 1924 massacre when striking Filipino sugar workers and police clashed violently.

Even though Manlapit was eventually pardoned, the association wants to bring to light evidence showing he was innocent, Alvarez said.

According to a Manlapit biography, he wrote in a 1927 "farewell statement" that he would push to prove his innocence: "I

was railroaded to prison because I tried to secure justice and a square deal for my oppressed countrymen who are lured to the plantations to work for a dollar a day."

An overturning would mean more than a pardon in some ways, Nadal said.

"It would mean more of understanding justice and ensuring that people realize that we can fight for justice and that justice can prevail," he said.

Manlapit's story inspired Khara Jabola-Carolus to become a lawyer in Hawai'i. Like him, she started out as an organizer and activist. She grew up in California and graduated from Hawai'i's law school.

"There's a long history of Filipino organizing," she said. "That's why I wanted to be a lawyer here."

She wants more people to know of Manlapit's life like they would famous Filipino pop stars.

"We need representation and access to seeing ourselves as heroes and movement leaders and not just entertainers," she said. "Like Filipino Americans need to know Pablo Manlapit as much as they know Bruno Mars or Olivia Rodrigo."

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“Awesome.” “Sad.” “Let’s keep democracy going.” Americans weigh in on state of a 250-year-old nation

By Calvin Woodward and Holly Ramer
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Across the United States, many Americans celebrated their country’s 250th birthday by closing their ears to all the partisan shouting. All the fingernails-on-chalkboard screeching out of Washington. All the clamor of social media agitprop.

Instead, in varied ways, they tuned into their own personal concepts of America the Beautiful.

In Associated Press interviews with citizens in the days before the Fourth, auto technician Joe Fuqua-Bejarano, in Topeka, Kansas, sized up “what makes us awesome” as a people. It’s clearly not the politics, in his view, but rather resilience.

“We’ve just all got to find unity somewhere, whether that’s in laughter or perseverance, and keep everybody cool,” he said from the fireworks stand where he’s doing a booming business as a side hustle.

The world’s long-running image of Americans as a brash and confident (if not boastful and jingoistic) lot did not square easily with the tempered enthusiasms and trepidations expressed by many of the people AP interviewed.

“There are lots of points of contention going around,” noted one of them, Christina Zhou, a 25-year-old research assistant from Cambridge, Massachusetts. Yet “there are still a lot of beautiful things that are happening.”

“What I’m trying to do is think about just things that are happening locally,” she added. “It feels a little bit more like within our own personal control.”



“We’re just happy Americans”

In Mont Vernon, New Hampshire, farmer Mindy Dean, 50, and her family planned to milk their goats Independence Day and maybe take in some local fireworks. Or maybe not. The 250th hoopla has been mostly lost on her. “We’re just happy Americans,” she said. “We kinda do our own thing and just enjoy our freedom as Americans.”

In contrast, the goat-free Neil Casey, an 81-year-old retiree from Nashua, New Hampshire, and his friend Maureen Regan, who lives in Cambridge, are free-range celebrants. They’re roaming Boston’s historical sites, like Paul Revere’s house, and as many of the city’s Fourth events as they can manage. They, too, are plugging their ears to discord.

“I’m very much aware of our country and what we’ve been through, you know, so I’m

just trying to immerse myself in the atmosphere of the 250th,” Casey said. Regan took heart in all the soccer fans who poured into the country for the men’s World Cup and praised what they experienced.

“They love everything we have,” she said, “and I want people to not forget that and remember how lucky we are.” Her advice to compatriots: “Just enjoy the moment. Enjoy that we’ve been here for 250 years.”

Still, for some, it is nearly impossible to separate holiday patriotism from steps by President Donald Trump to bend the celebrations toward himself, as with the Fourth of July festivities on the National Mall that culminated in a Trump rally on Saturday night.

When patriotism feels “Republican”

“When you’re celebrating the Fourth of

MIXED EMOTIONS. The George Washington Bridge’s two towers in New York are lit ahead of America’s 250th birthday. Across the United States, many Americans celebrated their country’s 250th birthday by closing their ears to all the partisan shouting. Instead, in varied ways, they tuned into their own personal concepts of America the Beautiful. (AP Photo/Adam Gray)

July right now, it feels like that’s like a Republican thing to do,” said Madeline Capodilupo, 26, a special-education teacher who lives in Boston. She planned to spend the weekend with her fiancé’s family at their Maine beach house.

“It’s just hard to celebrate something when it doesn’t feel like we should be celebrating anything,” she said.

What celebrants celebrated, exactly, is diverse and personal.

Ronald Hall spent 18 months in the Air Force toward the end of the Vietnam War. His wife, Karen, served two years in the Army and took part in Operation Desert Storm during the first Gulf War. While they shopped for vegetables at Detroit’s Eastern Market, Ronald said he’s spent a lifetime celebrating American ideals, which might be distinct from reality.

As a Black man, he said, America’s promise of freedom and equality was at the core. “I grew up remembering the promise,” he said. “That’s what we celebrated: the promise, not the country.”

Old warriors find their faith tested

Veterans are always front and center in America’s big occasions and the 250th is no different. At the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton, residents looked forward to a community celebration featuring a National Guard Black Hawk helicopter, a

Continued on page 15

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Gradin Community Sports Park virtually pulses with activity. With Mt. Hood rising in the distance, the newly updated park in Gresham blends big views with everyday community life – team practices, kids at play, neighbors lingering longer than planned.

Recent improvements complete a vision decades in the making. Work included the addition of new softball and soccer fields along with a central amenity plaza, upgrades to parking areas and walking paths, and much more. Together, they make the park easier to use and more welcoming for the entire community.

These upgrades were made possible through a mix of funding, including Oregon Lottery-backed bonds and grants. The project is a tangible reminder that your lottery play helps create shared spaces right here in the Portland metro area – places where community shows up and stays awhile.



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Gotham signs Australian striker Sam Kerr through the 2030 season

By Anne M. Peterson
AP Soccer Writer

Australian striker Sam Kerr is joining Gotham FC in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) after spending the past six-plus seasons with Chelsea.

Gotham announced signing Kerr to a deal that will keep her with the team through 2030. The move marks a return to the NWSL for Kerr, who previously played for Sky Blue — which later became Gotham — from 2015 to 2017.

She also played for the Chicago Red Stars before moving to Chelsea in November 2019. Kerr remains the NWSL's top regular-season scorer with 77 career goals and led the league in scoring for three straight seasons from 2017 to 2019. She won league MVP awards in 2017 and 2019.

Kerr, 32, also is the all-time leading scorer for Australia, among men or women, with 75 international goals, surpassing men's leader Tim Cahill with 51. She led the Matildas to the semifinals of the 2023 Women's World Cup, hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

"I'm incredibly excited to return to Gotham FC and to this city," Kerr said in a statement released by the team. "This club



GOAL LEADER RETURNS. Sam Kerr of Australia dribbles the ball during the Women's Asian Cup semifinal soccer match between China and Australia in Perth, Australia, in this March 17, 2026 file photo. Kerr is joining Gotham FC in the National Women's Soccer League after spending the past six-plus seasons with Chelsea. (AP Photo/Gary Day, File)

Gotham won the league title last year and in 2023. The team's loaded roster already includes such players as Esther González, who won the 2023 World Cup with Spain, German goalkeeper Ann-Katrin Berger, U.S. midfielder Rose Lavelle, and England defender Jess Carter.

Kerr finished with 17 goals last season for Chelsea. She scored 65 goals in the Women's Super League and won the league's Golden Boot twice. She scored 116 goals in all competitions, tying Chelsea's all-time leading scorer Fran Kirby. Chelsea won five WSL titles, three FA Cups, and three League Cups during Kerr's tenure with the club.

She also played professionally in the W League in Australia.

Kerr is married to American Kristie Mewis, who also played in the NWSL and the English WSL, as well as for the U.S. national team. The couple have a son, Jagger Mewis-Kerr, who was born in May 2025.

was an important part of my journey, and to come back at this moment, with everything Gotham has built, is really special. The ambition here is clear, and I'm looking forward to helping this team compete for trophies and create more history."

Known for her backflip goal celebrations, Kerr is widely considered one of the best strikers in the world. She's the only player to have won a Golden Boot in three different leagues.

"Sam is one of the defining players of her generation and a game-changing talent who has consistently delivered at the highest levels of world football," said Yael Averbuch West, president of soccer operations for Gotham FC. "Her winning mentality, relentless competitiveness, and ability to decide matches in an instant make her one of the most impactful players in the game. Bringing Sam back to Gotham is a landmark moment for our club, and we couldn't be more excited."

As eyes are on the men at the World Cup, the Women's World Cup countdown has begun

By Anne M. Peterson
The Associated Press

While most of the soccer world is focused on the men at the World Cup in North America, the countdown has begun for the 2027 Women's World Cup in Brazil.

The women's tournament is set to start June 24, 2027, hosted by a South American country for the first time. Brazil hosted the men's World Cup in 1950 and 2014.

"I think that the host country, it sleeps and breathes football. So, I think just the energy you're going to see from the public, the general public, and obviously the teams touching down in Brazil, I mean, it's such a unique, special country," FIFA chief football officer Jill Ellis said at an event in Miami. "I think the same energy you're going to

feel right now when you bring the world together, and you have an incredible product in women's football, I mean, the level of quality of the players is so extraordinary that I think, honestly, it will be an epic showcase of football and fandom."

In addition to Miami, a countdown event was also held in Rio de Janeiro. Even in Vancouver, British Columbia, at the World Cup match between Switzerland and co-host Canada, video signage flashed with ads for the upcoming women's tournament.

All eight cities that will host women's matches next year also hosted men's games in 2014: Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Brasilia, Fortaleza, Porto Alegre, Recife, and Salvador.

Qualification for the tournament has already begun. Brazil, which has an automatic spot as host, has never won the women's tournament and it remains to be seen whether Marta, the six-time FIFA World Player of the Year, will be on the national team. The 40-year-old Marta has never won a major international tournament.

Thirteen other teams have also qualified, including Australia, the Philippines, Japan, North Korea, China, South Korea, Argentina, Colombia, New Zealand, Germany, France, Spain, and Denmark.

"There is only one year left until the moment that will be marked in the history of our country. For the CBF (Brazilian soccer confederation) and for all Brazilians, it is a source of great pride to host the Women's World Cup," federation president Samir Xaud said in a statement. "It will be an opportunity to show the world our passion for football and, above all, the strength of Brazilian women's football. We are certain that this will be a transformative World Cup, capable of inspiring girls in all regions of Brazil and leaving a lasting legacy."

The first Women's World Cup was hosted by China in 1991. The United States has won the most titles with four. Spain won the last title in 2023 at the tournament co-hosted by Australia and New Zealand.

Women's soccer has experienced exponential growth in the past decade, with new leagues, increasing viewership, and revenues. The Women's World Cup in Brazil will be the last with 32 teams. In 2031 the event will include 48 teams, like the men's tournament.

5 simple rules to find a great Chinese restaurant

Continued from page 6

specifically asked the server if they could not put monosodium glutamate (MSG) in any of the food, as it gives my wife a headache. Chinese restaurants often use MSG as a flavor enhancer. Ten minutes after digging into the food we ordered, my wife Maya started to feel a dull ache at the back of her neck.

We immediately checked with our server. I said, "Excuse me — we specifically asked you not to put any



BRAZIL 2027. While most of the soccer world is focused on the men at World Cup North America, the countdown has begun for the 2027 Women's World Cup in Brazil. The women's tournament is set to start June 24, 2027, hosted by a South American country for the first time. (Image/FIFA)

The 2031 World Cup is expected to be hosted by the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Jamaica. The formal decision will likely be announced in November.

"I think when we went to 32 there was some noise — are we ready, are there going to be blowouts? We saw an incredibly competitive landscape. We saw debutantes making the knockout rounds. I think the global game is accelerating so fast that countries are closing the gap a lot faster," Ellis said. "Our job is to make sure teams come in there as prepared and ready as they can, so we have the most competitive World Cup. So I think the growth of the game is accelerating rapidly, and I think by 2031 we certainly will have a very competitive World Cup."

MSG in, right?" She replied, "Yes, that's why I told the cook to put less in for your dishes. If we don't put any in, it won't taste right."

I've put these guidelines together with tongue planted firmly in cheek, but I do believe there's a glimmer of truth running through them.

That truth is, there's a time and place for everything. An amazing meal with top-notch service and a glitzy setting? You bet, but there's something to be said for a small restaurant that focuses on one thing and one thing only — serving great food and nothing but that.

More often than not, that's just fine with me.

Humor writer Wayne Chan lives in the San Diego area; cartoonist Wayne Chan is based in the Bay Area.

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Naomi Osaka wows Wimbledon crowd with kimono inspired by Lucy Liu's character in *Kill Bill*

By **Mattias Karén**
The Associated Press

LONDON — Wimbledon's strict rules about all-white clothing did not prevent Naomi Osaka from making another fashion statement as she walked onto the grass at the All England Club.

Osaka, who has made a habit of creating a buzz with her creative outfits at recent Grand Slam tournaments, wore a flowing kimono with swinging sleeves and elaborate embroidery as she walked onto No. 3 Court for her first-round match against Elsa Jacquemot.

After winning 6-1, 7-5, Osaka said she got the inspiration for the outfit from a Quentin Tarantino movie.

"For me, my Japanese heritage means a lot. They say all white at Wimbledon and I thought it would be really cool to come out in a kimono," Osaka said in an on-court interview. "I just get inspired by a lot of different things, and for me, one of my favorite movies is *Kill Bill*. So I really love Lucy Liu's character, O-Ren Ishii, and she comes out in this really iconic white kimono. I always tell people I like to be like a video game character sometimes, I don't want to be myself when I'm playing on the court. And I kind of try to embody her a little."

The Japanese player's latest creation drew a rave reaction from the crowd, many of whom were eagerly waiting with their phones aloft to record her entrance. One female fan shouted "C'mon queen!" as Osaka walked out.

"It's something that we've been waiting for all day, right, what Naomi Osaka is



going to appear in at Wimbledon," said Alicia Molik, the former top-10 ranked player who is doing commentary for the BBC.

Osaka kept her robe on as she bounced on her toes at the net while listening to instructions from the chair umpire. She then removed it and placed it on her chair to begin warmups before the match.

Osaka is far from the first player to make a fashion statement at Wimbledon, and wasn't the only one to do so last month. Seven-time men's champion Novak Djokovic, for instance, walked out for his match on Centre Court in a white blazer

with green details.

But the four-time Grand Slam champion's fashion creations and walk-ons are becoming an eagerly anticipated ritual at both Grand Slam tournaments and other events.

At the Australian Open this year, Osaka walked onto court wearing a wide-brim hat, a veil, and holding a white parasol. At the French Open, she came out for her opening match in a ceremonial black skirt and sleeveless beaded bodice, which she removed to reveal a sequined gold playing dress.

FASHION STATEMENT. Naomi Osaka of Japan walks onto the court to play against Elsa Jacquemot of France in the first round women's singles match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London. Wimbledon's strict rules about all-white clothing did not prevent Osaka from making another fashion statement as she walked onto the grass at the All England Club. Osaka wore a flowing kimono with swinging sleeves and elaborate embroidery as she walked onto the court. (AP Photo/Maja Smiejkowska)

And at the Met Gala in New York, Osaka stunned in an edgy Robert Wun white sculptural fitted dress featuring exaggerated shoulders and adorned with red feathers and a matching headpiece. To complete her look, she wore two-toned red gloves.

The latest ensemble turned plenty of heads even before she stepped onto the grass.

Playing on No. 3 Court meant Osaka had to walk through part of the Wimbledon grounds to get to the stadium, giving some fans a sneak peak of her outfit.

"I could feel, when I walked by someone, they would physically turn their whole body," Osaka said. "I thought that was really fun."

Fellow players, meanwhile, have been full of questions about the kimono.

"I got asked if I only have one, because it's all white, and what happens if I stain it," Osaka said.

At her post-match news conference, Osaka sported a lot more color to show off the Haitian side of her heritage. She wore a red-and-blue Haiti soccer jersey after the country played at a World Cup for the first time since 1974.

"I felt really proud of them," she said.

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U.S. women's flag football team receives youthful infusion ahead of world championships

By Pat Graham
AP Sports Writer

The flyer arrived home from school courtesy of her brother: Local league looking for flag football players.

Intrigued, Akemi Higa asked if she could play. She was just 5 at the time and could already throw the ball some 20 yards.

Many yards passing and TD tosses later, the 17-year-old quarterback from Hawai'i/Las Vegas is part of a youthful wave within the U.S. women's national team pipeline this season. Not a total surprise, given the rise of flag football and how the sport will make its Olympic debut at the 2028 LA Games.

At a training camp in California in June, Higa was trying to secure a roster spot to represent Team USA at the IFAF flag football world championships in Duesseldorf, Germany, later in the summer.

"More people are getting into it and more people are getting better at it," said Higa, the strong-armed QB who's heading to Nevada State University to play flag football. "You start young and grow with the game — constantly learning new ways of playing the game."

The average age (26) on the women's team at this camp is younger by nearly two full years than it was even three seasons ago. What's more, there are a half-dozen players on the roster under the age of 21.

On the men's side, there's a youthful infusion, too. The average age decreased from 29.4 in 2024 to 28.6 this season, with a pair of 21-year-olds, receiver Jorge Cascudo Jr. and safety Justin McMullen, trying to make the squad for Germany.

Final camp to make world team

The recent camp serves as a final evaluation process to whittle the roster from 18 players to a dozen. The men's and women's squads were scheduled to face Canada in Los Angeles as part of USA



Football's Rivalry Series.

Making the team means a chance to gain international experience, which can only help two summers from now when flag football takes the stage at the Olympics.

"That's in the back of my mind," 20-year-old receiver/quarterback Maci Joncich said of the LA Games. "Every single day, everything I do is around that. I wake up and if I'm like, 'You know what? I don't really want to go for a run today. I don't really want work out.' In the back of my mind, it's like, 'Do you want to be an Olympian?'"

Youthful exuberance

Higa is in the running for the QB spot after 45-year-old Vanita Krouch didn't make the 18-person roster. Krouch, a dominant figure in women's flag football, has been dealing with a knee issue. She posted on Instagram: "Plain and simple, I was outplayed these last two training camps, and the women selected earned their spots."

This Generation Z certainly knows their

Xs and Os.

Higa grew up playing the game on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. Her family moved to Las Vegas in 2022 in order to capitalize on the growing popularity of the sport. Higa and her twin sister/receiver, Akiko, have been stars ever since. Over her career at Desert Oasis High School, Akemi Higa threw for 22,476 yards and 371 TDs. Higa, Joncich, and Valentina Fanetti, a 21-year-old from New Jersey, are three of the QBs vying for spots.

"It's crazy just to see how much growth the sport has had," Higa said, "and just how many girls are interested in it."

Women's flag football closes in on NCAA championship status

More than 68,800 girls played high school flag football in 2024, which marked a 60% increase over the year before, according to a survey by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

What's more, women's flag is on track to gain NCAA championship status. If all

SURGING SPORT. This photo provided by USA Football shows Akemi Higa, a player for the women's national flag football team, winding up to pass at a USA Football training camp in Chula Vista, California, on April 17. Higa, a 17-year-old quarterback from Hawai'i/Las Vegas, is part of a youthful wave within the U.S. women's national team pipeline this season. (Mina Creamer/USA Football via AP)

goes according to plan, a title game may take place in the spring before the sport makes its Olympics debut.

Lately, there have been some big names (Mark Cuban, Aaron Rodgers) making philanthropic investments in USA Football to support the women's game. The NFL is promoting the game, too.

Talent is being discovered from all over and across various sports. Joncich played basketball, soccer, and tennis growing up before turning to flag. She's been part of the USA Football program since 2022.

Joncich recently signed with Cal Poly after playing flag football for the University of Florida club team. One of her best memories while there? A mom reaching out to say her daughter was doing a school project on Joncich.

"I sent her one of my jerseys," Joncich said. "This is inspiring me to do better and inspiring me to do more things."

Men's side is younger as well

The roster has a youthful look on the men's side, too. Cascudo and McMullen are trying to make a roster where the oldest player is quarterback Darrell "Housh" Doucette III at 36.

Cascudo has been around the game for a long time with his father, Jorge, a flag-football legend and now coach of the men's national team.

"Growing up in Miami, all you hear is, 'Your dad's the GOAT. Your dad's the Tom Brady of flag,'" Cascudo said. "Growing up, I didn't know what that meant. Getting older, I started to see it."

"It's just amazing to see the sport growing so fast."

As the World Cup grows more global, many fans still struggle to get there

By Leah Willingham, Farid Abduwahed, Salar Salim, and Mark Banchereau
The Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq — For years, Mustafa al Saadi and three hospital coworkers travelled abroad together, following Iraq's national soccer team.

When Iraq qualified for its first World Cup since 1986 — the first in the lifetime of the 32-year-old laboratory technician in Mosul General Hospital's oncology department — they planned another trip.

Only three of the friends boarded the plane. Al Saadi's visa application was still pending as he walked to Mosul's al Muthanna neighborhood to watch Iraq's match against France, while his friends entered the stadium in Philadelphia nearly 6,000 miles away.

"It is a very sad feeling to see your close friends present with the national team in every country in the world, but I am not," al Saadi said, red flares lighting the night sky near the remnants of ancient Nineveh's fortification wall. He tried to reach his friends during the match, but the calls never connected.

For decades, FIFA has worked to make the World Cup more global. The 2026 tournament reflected that effort more clearly than ever, with the debuts of Cape Verde,

Jordan, Uzbekistan, and Curaçao. Yet qualifying for the tournament did not guarantee supporters, journalists, referees, or even some tournament personnel could enter the co-host countries, where immigration policies remained the responsibility of national governments.

Supporters from about a quarter of qualifying nations faced travel bans, heightened entry restrictions, or high U.S. visa refusal rates. The inequalities that shaped who could travel were visible in the stands.

At their match outside Boston, Haiti and Scotland returned to the World Cup stage for the first time in decades. Tens of thousands of kilted Scottish supporters marched through the streets in processions led by bagpipers. Fans screaming "Flower of Scotland" reportedly reached 125 decibels — about as loud as a jet taking off nearby. By contrast, the national anthem of Haiti, whose citizens are subject to U.S. travel restrictions under the Trump administration, rose from a much smaller pocket of supporters waving red-and-blue flags.

For those who couldn't make the journey, the tournament unfolded instead in hometown fan zones and diaspora communities.

In Mosul, hundreds gathered beneath giant screens to watch Iraq's first World Cup match in four decades. In Brockton, Massachusetts — home to one of the largest Cape Verdean communities outside the islands — supporters packed restaurants for the match against Spain before spilling into the streets, where fireworks erupted overhead as people leaned out of cars waving flags. At a university in Dakar, Senegalese supporters climbed balconies and window ledges to watch the team's match against France.

Barriers beyond the field

Before the tournament began, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk warned U.S. immigration policies could undermine access to the World Cup, calling for "a massive rethink" of enforcement to protect "human rights and human dignity."

As part of the Trump administration's broader immigration crackdown, the U.S. last year began requiring some visitors from 50 countries to post visa bonds of up to \$15,000. After FIFA requested an exemption, the admini-

stration waived that requirement for qualified World Cup ticket holders from five participating countries — Algeria, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Senegal, and Tunisia. Supporters still had to complete the standard visa process.

Previous World Cups relied on tournament-specific entry systems that eased travel for many international supporters. Unlike Russia and Qatar, the North American co-hosts generally relied on their existing immigration systems rather than creating tournament-specific entry permits for supporters. Canada required many supporters to apply through its standard visitor visa process, while Mexico continued using its existing visa policies.

Ghanaian journalist Prince Ayim Brown saved money, took extra assignments, and even attended a U.S. Embassy training for reporters preparing to cover the tournament. His visa application was ultimately denied by the same embassy without explanation.

"World Cup is the pinnacle of football — every journalist and every football fan wants to be there," he said.

A State Department spokesperson said the final list of qualified teams had been known for months, giving supporters who required visas time to apply. The department said it deployed more than 600 additional consular staff, made millions of additional visa appointments available, and used the FIFA PASS program to prioritize World Cup-related applications while maintaining the same security standards.

Unable to obtain a U.S. visa this year, Dakar salesman Assane Ly watched Senegal's opener from a fan zone at Cheikh Anta Diop University, where hundreds packed balconies and ledges overlooking a giant screen. He missed the chance to build bonds with fans of other teams in the melting pot of the tournament.

"The World Cup is supposed to be a moment when geopolitics are on hold, when the host country welcomes people from all nationalities, skin colors, and religions to come together to celebrate football," he said.

Another island of Cape Verde

For diaspora communities that spent decades cheering for other countries, the tournament also offered some-

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Japan faces heartbreak again as Brazil scores late to end another World Cup run in the Round of 32

By Kristie Rieken
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The heartbreak was all too familiar for Japan at the World Cup.

The country's national team hung in until the very end but was eliminated from the tournament — the third straight time Japan has had the lead in the knockout round and lost. This year, it was to five-time champion Brazil, 1-2, on a late goal in injury time.

After four previous losses in such matches at World Cups, Japan is still searching for its first knockout victory.

"We were not able to achieve our goal this time but then we can aim for the next World Cup or maybe even one after that," Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu said through a translator. "We should work toward that goal, which is what we've been doing."

Four years ago, Japan led early but eventually fell to Croatia on penalty kicks in the Round of 16. The Samurai Blue suffered a similar fate in the same round in 2018 when they led Belgium 2-0 in the second half but lost 2-3 on a stoppage time goal.

"I don't think history would be gentle to us," Moriyasu said. "But if we are to overcome today maybe we will see a time where history will change."

Things looked good early for Japan. Kaishu Sano put his team ahead in the 29th minute, but Casemiro equalized on a header in the 56th and Gabriel Martinelli scored the winning goal late in injury time.

Japan goalkeeper Zion Suzuki finished with four saves. He declined to answer questions in English after the tough loss despite a strong showing against one of the best teams in the world.

Japan has only beaten Brazil once in 15 matches, with two games ending in draws. The lone victory came in a



WORLD CUP EXIT. Matheus Cunha of Brazil (left, #9) consoles Ao Tanaka of Japan (right, #7) at the end of the World Cup Round of 32 soccer match between Brazil and Japan in Houston. Japan hung in until the very end of the match, but was eliminated from the tournament — the third straight time Japan has had a lead in the knockout round and lost. In the photo on the right, a Team Japan supporter reacts after the team's loss to Brazil. (AP Photos/David J. Phillip)

friendly in October.

"The gap between us is closing now," Moriyasu said. "Brazil is a top-tier team and we're definitely approaching that level."

Then he mentioned the loss in Qatar four years ago before adding: "We have to up our game."

Moriyasu said he told the players after the match they should remember the frustration they felt in that moment and use it to help them grow. Then he took the blame for the loss.

"To win the title was our dream and our goal and we couldn't achieve that," he said. "As a head coach I told them that I was really sorry that I was not good enough to lead them to that level to achieve that goal."

The loss didn't seem to dampen the mood back home,



where fans gathered to watch the match at a viewing site near Tokyo Tower despite it ending at around 4:00am local time.

"I want to say thanks to the players, who never gave up [no matter] how tough the situation may be," Miyu Hashiguchi said in Japanese after watching the match. "They encouraged me to take on the challenge in life."

Ryutaro Mori, a 20-year-old student, was encouraged by Japan's showing against a team of Brazil's caliber.

"It means a lot for Japan," Mori said, "that even against a higher-ranked team, we scored the first goal."

AP video journalist Alessandro Libri in Tokyo contributed to this report.

Americans weigh in on state of a 250-year-old nation

Continued from page 10

World War II ambulance, food trucks, music, and even Uncle Sam on stilts.

The old warriors are keeping the faith. But that faith is being tested.

"I believe this country is the greatest that ever existed," said Leo LeClerc, 83, an Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam. "Our democracy is strong and it will continue to be strong as long as people participate in it."

But, he said. "I don't like what's going on in this country" and "I don't feel very good about the 250th." An independent who voted for Trump in 2016, he now believes a "cult of personality has taken over" around the president.

Tom Gaumont, 74, an Army veteran and former history teacher, remembered the 1976 bicentennial as a more hopeful time, despite the aftershocks of President Richard Nixon's resignation under threat of impeachment.

"I'm kinda sad at this point with what I anticipate," Gaumont said. "I've seen and taught about how these things kind of crumble, so I'm concerned."

"We've lasted this long," he added, "and this is a very existential time in our history."

Allan Bailey, 83, a Republican who also served in Vietnam and later owned a motel, voiced similar pessimism.

"I'm worried about how the country is going, I really am," he said. "I don't know what we're going to leave our children, and that bothers me a lot."

A security guard works to "make the U.S.A. the greatest"

In Dearborn, Michigan, Nabeel Mawari, 38, sounded a more hopeful note. He planned to work at his security guard job while his wife and two young sons celebrated the holiday with relatives. An immigrant from Yemen, now a U.S. citizen, Mawari spoke from his backyard about life in the United States.

"My life is here," Mawari said. "We try to make the U.S.A. the greatest. That's why I'm here. I love this country. The Fourth of July, it is very important."

Then there's the man who, for perhaps very understandable reasons, wanted to stay far away from the political fray.

Gary MacGrath, 77, has been a caricaturist at a suburban Philadelphia fair for 14 years. This year, McGrath's booth was sandwiched right between the local Democratic and Republican Party clubs. Talk about a rock and a hard place. He said he learned as a bartender earlier in life to "never talk about religion or politics" and was heeding that lesson now.

But he did permit himself this: "It's 250 years," he said. "Let's keep democracy going."

Ramer reported from Bedford and Tilton, N.H. Associated Press writers John Hanna in Topeka, Kansas, Mike Catalini in Southampton, Pennsylvania, Michael Casey in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Corey Williams in Detroit contributed to this report.

As the World Cup grows more global, many fans still struggle to get there

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thing new: the chance to finally cheer for their own.

When Cape Verde held Spain to a scoreless draw, Jaysen Gonçalves was there. A veteran of the previous two World Cups, he bought tickets as soon as Cape Verde qualified. Inside the stadium, however, he estimated Spain supporters outnumbered Cape Verde fans roughly 9-to-1.

"It shows," he said. "That is financial."

Back in Brockton, where Gonçalves owns Luanda Restaurant with his mother Amelia, the celebration unfolded very differently.

For more than two decades, World Cup watch parties there had filled with Portugal and Brazil jerseys — reflecting Cape Verde's historical, linguistic, and family ties.

"This year," Amelia Gonçalves said, "it's all Cape

Verde." Children drifted between tables while customers balanced laptops beside plates of cachupa, Cape Verde's national stew. When Cape Verde held Spain scoreless, sparkling wine appeared.

"It was like we won the World Cup," Gonçalves said.

Watching goalkeeper Vozinha make seven saves against Spain left her too emotional to sleep.

"That means he gives us a lot of visibility to the world," she said. "People can see us now. 'Yes, there is a country — an island — called Cape Verde.'"

"Now Mosul is a global city"

Al Saadi's stalled visa application changed what he imagined his World Cup would be. Two friends who received visas had travelled to the U.S. before — one even has family there. Al Saadi said he was still waiting for a response, with no explanation for why his application — submitted a month before the World Cup — remained pending.

The visa process can require paperwork, fees, and in-person interviews. Even getting to that stage had become complicated after the U.S. suspended routine consular services in Iraq, forcing applicants to seek appointments elsewhere.

Instead of joining his friends in Philadelphia, he helped local organizers create the fan zone in al Muthanna. There, a man in Iraq's white jersey strode through the crowd on stilts. Teenage boys danced with Iraqi flags draped across their shoulders as spotlights swept over the square and music echoed between buildings.

"By having this event, we brought the World Cup from America, Mexico, and Canada to the city of Mosul," he said. "Now Mosul is a global city."

Willingham reported from Boston, Salim from Irbil, Iraq, and Bancheureau from Dakar, Senegal. AP journalists Ope Adetayo in Lagos, Nigeria, and Edward Acquah in Accra, Ghana, contributed reporting.



Have a safe & prosperous Year of the Horse!

February 17, 2026 to February 5, 2027

Our Lunar New Year special edition was published on February 2, 2026. To download a copy, visit us online at <www.asianreporter.com>.

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 - Dress children in light, loose clothing.
 - Find a cool place for children to rest and sleep.



multco.us/hot

Events calendar

“Ten Thousand Things”

Currently on view, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). View “Ten Thousand Things,” an exploration of the objects that shape our identities, histories, and cultural narratives curated by podcast host and former civic poet Shin Yu Pai. Museum visitors are able to explore objects highlighted in the podcast alongside newly collected artifacts and stories from local communities. Featured artists include Pai, Anida Yoeu Al, Etsuko Ichikawa, Susie Kozawa, Serena Chopra, Tomo Nakayama, Stewart Wong, Paul Miyahara, and many others. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

“Boundless: Stories of Asian Art”

Currently on view, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Seattle Asian Art Museum (1400 E Prospect St, in Volunteer Park, Seattle). View “Boundless: Stories of Asian Art,” a display highlighting themes central to arts and societies of Asia, such as worship and celebration, visual arts and literature, and clothing and identity. The museum’s south galleries feature art inspired by spiritual life and the north galleries show art inspired by material life. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 654-3210 or visit <www.seattleartmuseum.org>.

“Oregon’s Nikkei:

An American Story of Resilience”

Currently on view, 10am-4pm (Wed-Sat), 11am-4pm (Sun), Japanese American Museum of Oregon at the Naito Center (411 NW Flanders St, Portland). View “Oregon’s Nikkei: An American Story of Resilience,” an exhibit that highlights the discrimination, resilience, and identity of the Japanese American community in Oregon. The display begins in rural Oregon and the streets of Portland’s Japantown where Japanese immigrants embraced American ideals. What they built was abruptly taken away during World War II when people of Japanese descent were imprisoned in American internment camps. From early immigration through current day, the exhibit explores the Japanese American experience and includes the rebuilding of communities and the ongoing fight for justice. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-1458 or visit <www.jamo.org>.

A Tale of Portland’s Historic Chinatowns”

Currently on view, 11am-3pm (Thu-Sun), Portland Chinatown Museum (127 NW Third Ave, Portland). View “Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portland’s Historic Chinatowns,” a display of rare objects such as Chinese opera costumes, theatrical sets, bilingual text, audio-visual media, and more that tell a sprawling transnational story of contact and trade between China and the west, focusing on Portland’s Old Chinatown (1850-1905) and New Chinatown (1905-1950). For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-0008 or visit <www.portlandchinatownmuseum.org>.

Charlene Liu: “Scallion”

Through July 31, 10am-7pm (Thu), 10am-5pm (Fri-Sun), Henry Art Gallery (15th Ave NE & NE 41st St, Seattle). View “Scallion,” a mural presentation by Charlene Liu located in the Sculpture Court at the Henry Art Gallery. The work builds on her ongoing engagement with food as a means to locate culture and heritage amidst diaspora. Rendered in a fluid, multi-layered, visual language, the landscape offers a portal to reflect on how culinary traditions build belonging in place and playfully celebrates the importance of shared food experiences. For info, call (206) 543-2280 or visit <www.henryart.org>.

“Pacific Islanders: Navigators of the Sea”

Through July 31, 10am-5pm (Tue-Fri), World Beat Gallery (390 Liberty St SE, Second Floor, Salem, Ore.). View “Pacific Islanders: Navigators of the Sea,” an exhibit about the art, dance, music, and settlement of people in the Pacific Islands. The display includes weavings, fabric arts, carvings, and cultural artifacts, and a large portion of the gallery focuses on some of the dances of the Pacific Islands, such as Samoa, Tahiti, Aotearoa (New Zealand), Hawai’i, Tonga, Fiji, and the Marshall Islands. For info, call (503) 581-2004 or visit <www.salemmulticultural.org>.

“Echoes of ’76”

Through Aug 1, 10am-4pm (Tue-Sat), Willamette Heritage Center (1313 Mill St SE, Salem, Ore.). View “Echoes of ’76,” a multi-part, multi-disciplinary exhibit that looks at how echoes from the year 1776 continue to be heard in the Mid-Willamette Valley. The display, held as the United States marks its 250th birthday, explores who was living in the Mid-Willamette Valley in 1776 through the languages spoken in the area at the time, the names of places still used today, and how the revolutionary events of 1776 were observed in the community. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 585-7012, or visit <www.willametteheritage.org> or <www.oregon250.org>.

Free Lunch + Play

Through Aug 21, 10am-2pm (Mon-Fri), Portland area parks. Free meals and activities for kids are held at nearly two dozen Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) parks. Free Lunch + Play is a drop-in program held on weekdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm. PP&R staff are on-site serving free lunches and offering games and activities to youth in the community. The program is provided in partnership with Portland Public Schools and the Centennial, David Douglas, and Parkrose school districts. Most sites are open through August 21. Schedules translated into multiple languages are available online. For info, call (503) 823-PLAY (7529) or visit <www.portland.gov>. To view a full schedule of events, visit <www.portland.gov/parks/sffa>.

Free open swims at PP&R outdoor pools

Through Aug 23, Mon, 6:30-8pm, Creston Pool (4454 SE Powell Blvd, Portland); Tue, 1-3:45pm, Peninsula Pool (700 N Rosa Parks Way, Portland); Tue, 6-8pm, Montavilla Pool (8219 NE Glisan St, Portland); Wed, 1-3pm, Grant Pool (2300 NE 33rd



AN AMERICAN STORY. “The Yasui Family: An American Story” is on view through September 6 at the Oregon Historical Society Museum in downtown Portland. The exhibit features photographs, personal journals, documents, objects, and more to explore how one Japanese American family’s story reflects the complexity of the American story. (Photos courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society Museum)

Ave, Portland); Wed, 6:30-8pm, Sellwood Pool (7951 SE Seventh Ave, Portland); Thu, 1:30-3:30pm, Pier Pool (9341 N St. Johns Ave, Portland). Attend free open play and swimming at Portland Parks & Recreation outdoor pools. Sessions are open to all and no registration is necessary. Peninsula Outdoor Pool closes on Monday, September 7; all other outdoor pools close August 23. For info, or to verify free swim times, call (503) 823-PLAY (7529) or visit <www.portland.gov/parks/sffa>.

PP&R Summer Free For All

Through Aug 29, Portland area parks. Portland Parks & Recreation’s (PP&R) Summer Free For All (SFFA) program is offering many family-friendly festivals, concerts, and special events for people to attend. Some highlights include: East Portland Summer Arts Festival (July 11-12, Ventura Park); BridgeCity Soul concert (July 17, Jamison Square Park); Kevin Selfe and The Tornadoes (July 24, Parklane Park); Washington Park Summer Festival (Aug 8-9, Washington Park, Rose Garden Amphitheater); and much more. For info, or to obtain park addresses, call (503) 823-PLAY (7529) or visit <www.portland.gov/parks>. To view a full schedule of events, visit <www.portland.gov/parks/sffa>.

PP&R Movies in the Park

Through Aug 29, 7:30pm (events), dusk (films begin), Portland area parks. Portland Parks & Recreation’s (PP&R) Movies in the Park program is offering many family-friendly films this summer. Pre-movie events begin at 7:30pm. Film screenings begin at dusk and/or when it is dark enough to see the screen. The 2026 season includes: *Kung Fu Panda 4* (2024) (July 24, Brentwood Park); *A Minecraft Movie* (2025) (Aug. 7, Mill Park); *How to Train Your Dragon* (2025) (Aug. 13, Wilshire Park); *The Princess Bride* (1987) (Aug. 15, Irving Park); *Drumline* (2002) (Aug. 16, Lillis-Albina Park); *Lilo and Stitch* (2025) (Aug. 20, Farragut Park); *Ratatouille* (2007) (Aug. 28, Luuwit View Park); *Wicked* (2024) (Aug. 29, Hamilton Park); and more. For info, or to obtain park addresses, call (503) 823-PLAY (7529) or visit <www.portland.gov/parks>. To view a full schedule of films, visit <www.portland.gov/parks/sffa>.

“The Yasui Family: An American Story”

Through Sep 6, 10am-5pm (Mon-Sat), noon-5pm (Sun), Oregon Historical Society Museum (1200 SW Park Ave, Portland). View “The Yasui Family: An American Story,” a display that tells the story of the Yasui family, who were among the millions of immigrants who came to the United States seeking new opportunities during the late 1800s and early 1900s. They established roots in Oregon, started families and businesses, and shaped the social and economic fabric of the communities where they lived. Following the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor during World War II, the U.S. government forcibly removed more than 110,000 Japanese Americans — including U.S. citizens — from their homes and imprisoned them in internment camps, often in harsh, remote areas. After the war, many members of the Yasui family returned to Oregon, although some incarcerated chose not to return home due to persistent racism in their communities. While the Yasui family endured racism and incarceration, they also shared a commitment to equal justice through engagement with the local, state, and national forces that determined — and withheld — their civil rights. Through photographs, personal journals, documents, and objects, the exhibit explores how one Japanese American family’s story reflects the complexity of the American story. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 222-1741 or visit <www.ohs.org>.

“Behind the Shoji” marketplace

Through Sep 7, 10am-5:30pm (Wed-Mon), Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Attend the “Behind the Shoji” show and sale of Japanese and Japan-inspired wares, including textiles, prints, clothing, ceramics, home décor, and more. Located behind the shoji (sliding screens) of the Pavilion Gallery, visitors are able to peruse a variety of curated items often unavailable short of a visit to Japan. For info, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

“Standing for Justice:

The Japanese Americans Shaping Oregon”

Through Oct 25, 10am-4pm (Wed-Sat), 11am-4pm (Sun), Japanese American Museum of Oregon at the Naito Center (411 NW Flanders St, Portland). View “Standing for Justice: The Japanese Americans Shaping Oregon,” an exhibit reflecting on two milestones in U.S. history — the nation’s 250th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the termination of Executive Order 9066 — and what does democracy mean when it is denied, challenged, and ultimately restored. The display is held as part of Oregon’s America 250 commemoration. On July 16 at 6:00pm,



join a book club discussion with Erica Naito-Campbell, author of *Portland’s Audacious Champion*, at the JAMO Annex (431 NW Flanders St, Portland). In addition, a panel discussion with Tiffany Koyama Lane and Elisa Dozono is scheduled for August 15 at 1:00pm at the annex. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-1458, or visit <www.jamo.org> or <www.oregon250.org>.

Cultural activities at the Portland Japanese Garden

July 10, 17, 22 & 25, Aug 1 & 2, 1:15-2:15pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Attend afternoon cultural activities and performances held at the Portland Japanese Garden. Scheduled events feature an ikebana demonstration (July 10), tea ceremonies (July 17, 22, 25), a calligraphy demonstration (Aug. 1), a performance by Oregon Koto-Kai (Aug. 2), and more. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

Samoa Festival

July 11, noon-5pm, Peninsula Park (700 N Rosa Parks Way, Portland). Attend the fifth annual Samoan Festival. The event celebrates Samoan culture through dance, song, art, food, vendors, and more. For info, e-mail <admin@samoapdx.org>, or visit <www.facebook.com/Samoa.PDX> or <www.samoapdx.org/general-1-5-1>.

Ten Tiny Dances

July 11, 7pm, The Round (12600 SW Crescent St, Beaverton, Ore.). Attend Ten Tiny Dances, free performances featuring 10 traditional, ethnic, and contemporary dances on stages measuring only four by four feet. For info, or to obtain a complete schedule and map, call (503) 526-2288 or visit <www.beavertonarts.org>.

Tanabata

July 12, 10am-2:30pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Celebrate Tanabata, also known as the Star Festival, when wishes written on strips of paper called tanzaku are hung on bamboo branches in hopes they will come true. The tradition of writing wishes or prayers comes from the Edo period, when children were encouraged to practice their writing and hang it from bamboo for all to see. Tanabata is one of five seasonal festivals celebrated in Japan since the 8th century. Wish writing (10:30am to 2:30pm) takes place in the Yanai Family Classroom. Musical performances by Takohachi featuring storytelling are scheduled for 10:45am and 11:45am. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

Bon odori folk dancing practice

July 13-29 (Mon & Wed), 7-9pm, Oregon Buddhist Temple (3720 SE 34th Ave, near Powell Blvd, Portland). Take part in free practice sessions for *bon odori* dancing in preparation for ObonFest 2026 at the Oregon Buddhist Temple. Lessons are open to all ages and no experience is necessary. ObonFest is scheduled for Saturday, August 1 and features *bon odori* dancing, entertainment, performances, displays, youth and children’s activities, food, and more. For info, call (503) 234-9456, e-mail <obon.OregonBuddhistTemple@gmail.com>, or visit <www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/bon-odori>.

Hell’s Kitchen

July 14-19, Keller Auditorium (222 SW Clay St, Portland). Watch *Hell’s Kitchen*, a musical from 16-time Grammy Award winner Alicia Keys, whose new songs and greatest hits about growing up in New York inspire a story made for Broadway. Set to the rhythm of the ’90s, the show is a coming-of-age story about a rebellious teen stifled by an overprotective single mother. Ali is lost until she meets her mentor — a neighbor who opens her heart and mind to the power of the piano. The show features favorites such as “Girl on Fire,” “If I Ain’t Got You,” “Fallin’,” “No One,” “You Don’t Know My Name,” and more. The production, which is presented by Broadway in Portland and is recommended for attendees age 8 and above, runs 2 hours, 35 minutes with one intermission. The show contains some strong language and moments with mature themes. For info, showtimes, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 248-4335, or visit <www.portland5.com> or <www.broadwayinportland.com>.

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For timely information about upcoming events, visit <www.facebook.com/TheAsianReporter>.

Events calendar

Continued from page 16

“An Ode to Lloyd Center”

July 16, 5-7pm, Architectural Heritage Center (701 SE Grand Ave, Portland). Attend the opening of “An Ode to Lloyd Center,” a photography exhibit of the Lloyd Center by Horatio Law. Admission on opening night is free. For info, call (503) 231-7264 or visit <www.visitahc.org/exhibits>.

“Steep & Paint”

July 17 & 31, Aug 14 & 28, and Sep 11 & 25, 2-5pm, Lan Su Chinese Garden (239 NW Everett St, Portland). Attend the “Steep & Paint” series at Lan Su. In partnership with Oregon Botanical Artists (OBA), the immersive afternoon experience invites guests to slow down, look closely, and connect with plants through tea, conversation, and hands-on art-making. Each session weaves together horticulture, tea culture, and botanical art. All materials are included. For info, or to purchase tickets (required), call (503) 228-8131 or visit <www.lansugarden.org>.

North Portland Neighborhood Bike Fair

July 18, 10am-1pm, Peninsula Elementary School (8125 N Emerald Ave, Portland). Attend the North Portland Neighborhood Bike Fair. The free, family-friendly event features activities such as learn-to-ride coaching for adults and children, a quick-fix bike repair station, helmet fitting, bike safety stations, a Bike Skills Course, guided community rides in the neighborhood, and more. Participants are welcome to bring their own bikes or borrow one during the event. There will be different bike sizes available for children and adults. For info, call (503) 823-7699, e-mail <timo.forsberg@portlandoregon.gov>, or visit <www.portland.gov> or <Bit.ly/North-Bike-Fair-2026>.

Next Gen Market

July 18, 11am-4pm, Gateway Discovery Park (10520 NE Halsey St, Portland). Attend Next Gen Market, a family-friendly community event showcasing the creativity, innovation, and hard work of Portland’s young entrepreneurs. The event, hosted by REAP’s Youth Entrepreneurship Program (YEP), features shopping, entertainment, entrepreneur spotlights, face painting, food trucks, and more. For info, call (503) 688-2784, e-mail <info@reapusa.org>, or visit <www.reapusa.org>.

Fuji to Hood

July 18, 1-8pm, The Redd (831 SE Salmon St, Portland). Attend Fuji to Hood, an event that brings together Japanese breweries, cideries, food, arts, music, community, and culture. A biennial event held in Japan and Oregon every other year, the Fuji to Hood festival is built around the belief that sharing beer, food, and drink can be catalysts for lifelong friendships and better understanding. General admission tickets include a collectible branded Fuji to Hood glass and 10 drink tickets. For info, or to purchase tickets, e-mail <fujitohood@gmail.com> or visit <www.fujitohood.com>.

Portland Timbers

July 22 & 25, Aug 1, 7:30pm, Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch the Portland Timbers take on Dallas FC (July 22), Real Salt Lake (July 25), and the Seattle Sounders (Aug. 1) in Major League Soccer action. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.portlandtimbers.com>.

“4 Days of Aloha”

July 23-26; July 23-24 (workshops at Clark College); July 24 (Hapa Haole Hula Competition at Esther Short Park); July 25 (Ho’ike & Hawaiian Festival at Esther Short Park); July 26 (Celebration of Cultures at Esther Short Park); Esther Short Park (605 Esther St, Vancouver, Wash.) & Clark College (1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, Wash.). Attend the annual “4 Days of Aloha” celebration featuring hula, music, food, a Keiki Korner (children’s corner), cultural workshops, a hula competition, vendors, Auntie Deva’s Run 4 Aloha (5K, 10K & Keiki Run), and more. For info, call (917) 220-5737 or e-mail <info@kekukuifoundation.com>. To view a full schedule of events, visit <www.4daysofaloha.com>.

Portland Thorns FC

July 24, Aug 15 & 22, Sep 6; July 24, 7pm; Aug 15, 5:45pm; Aug 22, 5:45pm; Sep 6, 1pm; Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch Portland Thorns FC take on Gotham FC (July 24), the Orlando Pride (Aug. 15), the Denver Summit (Aug. 22), and the Washington Spirit (Sept. 6) in the National Women’s Soccer League (NWSL). The Thorns FC squad features Sam Kerr and others. The July 24 match includes Sam Kerr, who has returned to play in the NWSL. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.thorns.com>.

“Asylum & Cemetery”

July 25, 10-11:30am, Architectural Heritage Center (701 SE Grand Ave, Portland). Attend “Asylum & Cemetery: Hawthorne Asylum & Lone Fir Cemetery,” a presentation by Norm Gholston that explores the history of Portland’s 19th-century Hawthorne Asylum and Lone Fir Cemetery through historic images and stories. During the event, both the history and future of Lone Fir Cemetery will be discussed. For info, or to purchase tickets (suggested), call (503) 231-7264 or visit <www.visitahc.org/exhibits>.

Portland Timbers 2

July 26 & Aug 8 & 30, Sep 7 & 14, 1pm, Providence Park (SW 18th Ave & SW Morrison St, Portland). Watch Portland Timbers 2 (T2), the Timbers’ MLS NEXT Pro affiliate, take on the Real Monarchs (July 26), LAFC 2 (Aug. 8), Austin FC II (Aug. 30), Whitecaps FC 2 (Sept. 7), and St. Louis City 2 (Sept. 14). Attendance to T2 games is free. Tickets (required) are available through SeatGeek. For info, or to reserve tickets, call (503) 553-5555 or visit <www.timbers.com/t2>.

A Day in Punjab

Aug 1, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Celebrate Sikh/Punjabi culture at A Day in Punjab, presented by Seattle Center Festál and Sevdar. Activities include free turban tying, Gatka (Sikh martial arts),



NAVIGATORS OF THE SEA. “Pacific Islanders: Navigators of the Sea,” an exhibit about the art, dance, music, and settlement of people in the Pacific Islands, is on view through July 31 at the World Beat Gallery in Salem. (Photos courtesy of the World Beat Gallery)



Bhangra & Giddha (traditional dances), live singing, dhol (drumming), poetry, a Sikh/Punjabi history exhibit, immigrant stories, langar seva (food), activities for children, and more. The 2026 theme is “Sounds of Punjab.” For info, or to obtain event times, call (206) 684-7200 or (234) 738-2327, or visit <www.seattlecenter.com> or <www.sevadarseattle.org>.

Obon festival

Aug 1, 2-9pm, Oregon Buddhist Temple (3720 SE 34th Ave, near Powell Blvd, Portland). Join members of the community at a traditional festival honoring ancestors. ObonFest 2026 features obon dancing, entertainment, performances, displays, youth and children’s activities, food, and more. For info, call (503) 234-9456, e-mail <obon.OregonBuddhistTemple@gmail.com>, or visit <www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/bon-odori>.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

Aug 1-15, Keller Auditorium (222 SW Clay St, Portland). Watch *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, a play about Harry Potter’s head-strong son Albus, who befriends the son of his fiercest rival, Draco Malfoy. The journey includes spells, an epic battle, and a mind-blowing race through time that has the power to change the past and future forever. The production, which is presented by Broadway in Portland and is recommended for attendees age 8 and above, runs 2 hours, 55 minutes with one intermission. The show contains strobe lights and other visual and sound effects. For info, showtimes, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 248-4335, or visit <www.portland5.com> or <www.broadwayinportland.com>.

Sunday Parkways: North Portland

Aug 2, 11am-4pm, McCoy Park, Columbia Park & Annex, McKenna Park, and Downtown St. Johns (Portland). Walk, bike, rollerblade, skateboard, and more around north Portland without motor traffic during a Sunday Parkways event. Entertainment, live music, bike education and repair, activities for both adults and children, vendor marketplaces, and more take place in the parks and along the 6.7-mile route, which has no start or finish. For info, call (503) 823-7599 or visit <www.portland.gov/sunday-parkways/2026>. To receive event updates, text “North” to 1-888-520-0526.

Hiroshima & Nagasaki remembrance

Aug 6, 6-7pm, Japanese American Historical Plaza (NW Naito Parkway near NW Couch St, Portland). Attend “Remembering Hiroshima & Nagasaki,” a commemoration of the anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. The family-friendly program honors lives lost to nuclear weapons. For info, call (503) 274-2720, or visit <www.oregonpsr.org> or <www.jamo.org/event/hiroshima-day-2026>.

“From Hiroshima to Hope”

Aug 6, 6-9pm, Green Lake, Northwest Shore, near the Seattle Public Theatre at the Bathhouse (7312 W Green Lake Drive N,

Seattle). Commemorate the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at “From Hiroshima to Hope.” The free family-oriented program features the personalization of lanterns and koto music beginning at 6:00pm. Performances, speakers, taiko drumming, and more start at 7:00pm. The lantern-floating ceremony and lantern floating begin at dusk. The event is held in remembrance of those who perished in the atomic bombings and all victims of war and violence worldwide. For info, call (206) 623-5124, or visit <www.wingluke.org> or <www.fromhiroshimatohope.org/event-2>.

Vancouver Arts & Music Festival

Aug 7-9, 10am-9pm (Fri-Sat), 10am-8pm (Sun), Esther Short Park (605 Esther St, Vancouver, Wash.). Attend the Vancouver Arts & Music Festival, a three-day event celebrating music, dance, art, culture, and food. For info, call (360) 735-7278 or visit <www.vancouverartsandmusicfestival.com>.

API Health and Wellness Fair

Aug 8, 9am-3pm, Legacy Emanuel Medical Center, Lorenzen Conference Center (2801 N Gantenbein Ave, Portland). Attend the API Health and Wellness Fair, an event featuring free health screenings and blood pressure checks; talks and seminars with health professionals; health and wellness booths providing resources, support, and services to participants; nutrition education; giveaways; and more. The fair, which is free and open to the public, is presented by numerous community partners. To register (recommended), visit <www.eventbrite.com/2026-aapi-health-and-wellness-fair-tickets-1988230609274>.

Beaverton Night Market

Aug 8, 5-10pm, The Round (12600 SW Crescent St, Beaverton, Ore.). Attend the Beaverton Night Market, a free multicultural celebration featuring international food, arts, crafts, and cultural performances. For info, call (503) 526-2503 or (503) 526-2559, or visit <www.beavertonoregon.gov/NightMarket>.

Tibet Fest

Aug 8-9, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Learn about Tibetan cultural heritage at Tibet Fest, a free event presented by Seattle Center Festál in partnership with the Tibetan Association of Washington. The event features traditional and contemporary Tibetan art, music, dance, and more. For info, or to obtain event times, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

Providence Bridge Pedal

Aug 9, 6:30am-12:30pm, various locations (Portland). Take part in the Providence Bridge Pedal, an event at which thousands of cyclists of all ages gather in Portland to ride across the city’s bridges. Rides start as early as 6:30am. Walkers are invited to participate in the 5-mile Bridge Stride. For info, or to register, call (503) 281-9198 or visit <www.providence.org/bridgepedal>.

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BIDS, SUB-BIDS & PUBLIC NOTICES

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

FLATWORKS

234 Southeast Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97214

Bids Due: July 9, 2026, at 2:00pm

LMC Construction is soliciting proposals for the Flatworks Affordable Housing project, a new eight-story multifamily high-rise located on a 0.21-acre site at SE Grand Avenue and SE Pine Street in Portland's Central City.

The project will be comprised of five floors of Type IIA wood-frame construction over a three-story Type IA podium, wrapped in a brick and fiber cement façade. The building will include 143 residential units consisting of a mix of one- and two-bedroom apartments above ground floor resident amenity spaces, including a centralized lobby, mail and package room, community room, secure bicycle storage, fitness center, and staff offices.

Remove Top Roof Deck -

Replace with Basalt and Green Roof:

Please note the intent is to eliminate the Roof Top Patio and extend the Green Roof and Basalt across this area. Please assume the Storefront Door will remain.

Preselected Trades: Shoring & Aggregate Piers has been awarded through previous bidding efforts; additional submissions will not be entertained.

Project Requirements: BOLI Prevailing Wages

Bid Document Link:

<<https://bids.lmconstruction.com/FLATWORKS>>

Bid Submissions and Project Contact:

<bids.flatworks@lmconstruction.com>

19200 SW Teton Avenue, Tualatin, OR 97062

P: (503) 646-0521 | F: (503) 646-6823



LMC Construction is an Equal Opportunity Employer and requests sub-bids from Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Emerging, and Service-Disabled Veteran businesses.

CCB# 161282

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

McMINNVILLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

544 Northeast 2nd Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

Bids Due: July 14, 2026 at 12:00pm

LMC Construction is requesting final proposals for the new McMinnville affordable Housing project in McMinnville, OR. Existing building will be demolished to provide space for the new construction of one, 4-story garden style building. Project will consist of studio, one, two and three bedrooms a total of 72 Units and community space. The building will be surrounded by a variety of amenity spaces that include a courtyard, and pet amenity space. Site Amenities will include a community room, Kitchenette, and bike room.

Bid Document Link:

<<https://bids.lmconstruction.com/McMinnville>>

Bid Submissions and Project Contact:

<bids.McMinnvilleAHP@lmconstruction.com>



19200 SW Teton Avenue, Tualatin, OR 97062
P: (503) 646-0521 | F: (503) 646-6823

LMC Construction is an Equal Opportunity Employer and requests sub-bids from Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Emerging, and Service-Disabled Veteran businesses.

CCB# 161282

INVITATION TO BID

E11004 CAROLINA TRUNK SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT Structures Coatings

JW Fowler (CM/GC or Contractor) is pleased to inform you that your firm has been invited to provide Subcontract pricing for all costs associated with the Structures Coatings Subcontract on the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) E11004 Carolina Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Project (Portland, OR). Please note that JW Fowler is the CM/GC for this project and, in good faith, will not be a self-perform competitor for this scope of work on the project.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Carolina Trunk Sewer Rehabilitation Project is part of the (BES) Large-Scale Sewer Rehabilitation Program. The goals of the Project are to reduce the risk of the deteriorated existing Carolina Trunk in WZ 01 and 03 to provide reliable sewer service, and to add infrastructure for the planned future stormwater separation effort to convey stormwater from the upper Carolina Basin to the Willamette River.

CM/GC CONTACT(S):

Paul Dikov, Assist. Project manager
Phone: (971) 222-9478
E-mail: <pauld@jwfowler.com>

KEY PROCUREMENT MILESTONES:

Due Date / Time: Subcontract bids are due by **July 10, 2026 at 3:00pm PST**

Submission Method: Bid packages shall be submitted via e-mail to <pauld@jwfowler.com> and will be kept confidential.

Pre-Bid Meetings: Not Applicable

Site Visit: Site Visit are at bidders discretion. All Site Visits should be coordinated with the CM/GC contacts listed above.

Questions: Please submit any questions or clarifications requests to the CM/GC regarding this Invitation to Bid at <pauld@jwfowler.com> no later than **July 3, 2026 at 3:00pm PST**.

Issuance of Addenda: The CM/GC will notify all bidders via email of any additional information as it becomes available.



Please e-mail all questions to:
<pauld@jwfowler.com>.

JW Fowler Co. - Oregon
3205 SE 13th Ave., Portland, OR 97202
(503) 623-5373 • jwfowler.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

OREGON METRO

Construction Manager/General Contractor for

ARLENE SCHNITZER CONCERT HALL HVAC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

RFP 4590

Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is hereby requesting proposals for the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Electronic proposals are due no later than 2:00pm, July 8, 2026. Proposals must be received through BidLocker at <<http://bidlocker.us/a/oregonmetro/BidLocker>> no later than the date and time indicated on the RFP cover page.

PRE PROPOSAL MEETING

A voluntary pre-proposal conference will be held at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, located at 1037 SW Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97205 on June 24 at 10:30am. Interested proposers and subcontractors are encouraged to attend the conference to gain information about the RFP requirements.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK

Metro is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide construction management and general contracting services in two phases: preconstruction phase services and construction phase services, and as described in the contract documents.

FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BIDS

All bidders submitting a bid for public improvements over \$50,000 certify that they will pay and comply with the minimum prevailing wage requirements of ORS 279C.800-279C.870 and if applicable 40 U.S.C.276a.

WHERE TO FIND DOCUMENTS

Proposal documents can be viewed and downloaded from BidLocker at: <<https://bidlocker.us/details/6195>>

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Metro may accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned, emerging small businesses and service disabled veteran owned businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services. **Metro Local Contract Review Board Rules require all Proposers to follow and document a specific outreach effort to State-certified Minority, Emerging, Women-owned and Service Disabled Veteran owned Businesses. Certification of good faith compliance and a declaration of any actual utilization pursuant to both programs are required at the time of Bid Opening.**

Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see <www.oregonmetro.gov>.

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Cattle raised in Yamhill County at our family farm in Newberg, Oregon. Beef is available in 1/4, 1/2, or whole cow & processed by our butcher in Portland. For pricing & details, please call (503) 980-5900.

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IMMIGRATION UPHEAVAL. People arrive before the start of a naturalization ceremony at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Miami Field Office in Miami, in this August 17, 2018 file photo. Many Asian American and Pacific Islander adults have experienced or witnessed some degree of upheaval because of the Trump administration's heightened immigration policies, an AP-NORC/AAP Panel poll finds, while most say the U.S. is no longer the land of opportunity for immigrants. (AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee, File)

Poll: How AAPI adults are being affected by Trump's immigration

Continued from page 7

empathetic. Restrictions on immigration and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives left her feeling conflicted about celebrating the country's 250th anniversary. "I'm proud we made it this far as a country," Jeyaraj said. "You have recent actors who are trying to undo that progress. They maybe view it as restoring an ideal, but it's removing so much work that powerful and influential people made to bring us toward an ideal of equality and justice."

The anniversary feels arbitrary to Tran, a math teacher. "I don't think this country is 'founded' at some point in time. It just changes from one form to another," Tran said. "Even the Native Americans (were) a long time here. I'm pretty sure that was more than 250 years."

The poll of 1,075 U.S. adults who are Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders was conducted April 20-28, using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based Amplify AAPI Panel, designed to be representative of the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.4 percentage points. This poll is part of an ongoing project exploring the views of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, which are usually not highlighted in other surveys because of small sample sizes and lack of linguistic representation.

India seeks to recover Everest climber known as "Green Boots"

Continued from page 20

mountaineering boots he wore, lie in Everest's so-called death zone above 26,247 feet. His body has long served as a landmark for climbers on the mountain's northeast route.

The remains are on Everest's Tibetan side, where access is controlled by Chinese authorities and climbing permits are tightly regulated. China closed the mountain to foreign climbers during the 2026 spring climbing season without publicly explaining the decision.

The hiring of the specialists is the first step toward recovering the body, though the operation would still depend on Chinese approval and favorable weather.

It was not immediately clear whether the recovery would be carried out by an Indian, Nepali, or Chinese team. Chinese authorities have not publicly commented on the plan.

"It is not impossible to retrieve the body from Everest, but the first challenge is getting permission from the Chinese officials and then only can they proceed to bring the body down," said Pemba Sherpa, founder of the Kathmandu-based Xtreme Climbers Treks and Expedition.

Nearly 350 people have died while climbing Mount Everest since it was first conquered in 1953. Many bodies are left on its icy slopes because recovery attempts are risky and expensive.

Retrieving bodies from the "death zone" is particularly dangerous. Helicopters cannot land at that altitude, forcing teams of experienced Sherpa guides and high-altitude climbers to move bodies down steep slopes on foot while facing avalanche risks, severe weather, and the effects of extreme altitude and low oxygen.

Gurubacharya reported from Kathmandu, Nepal.

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Myanmar torches \$600 million in seized drugs

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Thick clouds of black smoke billowed into the sky on the outskirts of Myanmar's largest city as authorities burned more than 50 tons of heroin, opium, ketamine, methamphetamine, marijuana, and crystal meth — some \$600 million of confiscated illegal drugs destroyed nationwide.

Myanmar, also known as Burma, has a long history of drug production linked to political and economic insecurity caused by decades of armed conflict. It has been a major source of illegal drugs destined for East and Southeast Asia, despite repeated efforts to crack down, and has long been one of the world's largest producers of heroin and methamphetamine.

Violent political unrest in Myanmar following the military takeover in 2021 — which has led into a civil war between the military government and its pro-democracy opponents, as well as ethnic armed groups — has caused an increase in drug production, according to experts.

In January, the military government claimed the country's largest-ever seizures of illicit drugs and drug-manufacturing equipment, taken from a total of 12 drug production sites during a series of raids in the northern part of Shan state.

This year, the street value of drugs destroyed was more than double last year's total, Police Lt. Col. Aung Myat Soe, of Yangon's Anti-Narcotics Police Force, told reporters at a bus station compound on the edge of the city where drugs were being burned.

In Yangon alone, some \$321 million worth of 31 different types of drugs were set ablaze, Aung Myat Soe said. Events were also held in Mandalay, and in Taunggyi, the capital of eastern Myanmar's Shan state — areas closer to



where the drugs are produced — to mark the United Nations' International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Many areas of Myanmar are controlled by long-established militias organized by the country's various ethnic groups, many of which are involved in fighting against

Chinese dissident who fled to South Korea by dinghy is now in Canada

Continued from page 4

International.

He previously escaped to Thailand and Vietnam, but authorities there deported him back to China. Dong also tried unsuccessfully to swim to a Taiwanese island.

Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada has not immediately commented.

the military-run government in a bloody civil war, alongside pro-democracy groups that sprang up after the military seized control of the country from democratically-elected Aung San Suu Kyi in 2021.

In elections that concluded earlier this year, which international observers said

India seeks to recover Everest climber known as "Green Boots"

By Sheikh Saaliq & Binaj Gurubacharya
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Indian authorities are seeking to recover the body of a climber known as "Green Boots" from the upper slopes of Mount Everest, nearly three decades after the mountaineer died on the world's highest peak.

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police, an Indian paramilitary force, has begun the process of hiring high-altitude recovery specialists to retrieve what it believes is the body of Dorje Morup from Everest's

DRUGS DESTROYED. Thick clouds of black smoke billow into the sky on the outskirts of Yangon, Myanmar, as authorities burn heroin, opium, ketamine, methamphetamine, marijuana, and crystal meth during a destruction ceremony marking the U.N.'s International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Some \$600 million of confiscated illegal drugs were destroyed nationwide. (AP Photo/Thein Zaw)

were neither free nor fair with major opposition groups banned, the military leaders won a landslide victory.

The government claims the country's militias use illicit drugs to fund their insurgencies and are unwilling to engage in any peace process because they do not want to give up the lucrative drug trade.

Some groups are known to be involved in the drug trade currently and in the past, but others also have sought to crack down on narcotics.

The Ta'ang National Liberation Army, for example, which captured significant swaths of the northern part of Shan state in the civil war before signing a ceasefire in October with the military, announced it would destroy about \$5.5 million worth of seized drugs in the group's controlled-area.

northern route in Tibet.

Morup was part of a six-member Indo-Tibetan Border Police expedition on Everest in May 1996. As weather conditions deteriorated near the summit, three climbers turned back, while Morup and two colleagues continued their ascent. All three died in the storm that claimed eight lives across multiple expeditions in what was one of Everest's deadliest disasters at the time.

Morup's remains, widely known as "Green Boots" because of the bright-green *Continued on page 19*

OREGON PROBLEM GAMBLING RESOURCE

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