

# The Washington Post

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

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## Data rebuts Trump's claims on new jobs

Immigration measures haven't benefited U.S. natives, figures show

BY LAUREN KAORI GURLEY

President Donald Trump and White House leaders say that American workers are winning because of his immigration crackdown. But the data doesn't back that up.

Since the summer, Trump officials have been trumpeting the idea that job creation is booming for U.S.-born workers. Trump said so, too, during a prime-time address last month aimed at assuaging Americans' concerns about the economy.

"In the year before my election, all net creation of jobs was going to foreign migrants. Since I took office, 100 percent of all net job creation has gone to American-born citizens," Trump declared. "One hundred percent."

Trump administration officials also said recently that more than 2.5 million U.S.-born workers gained jobs in 2025 as 1 million immigrants left the workforce.

But economists on both sides of the political aisle say they have seen no evidence that American-born workers are getting jobs by the millions or moving en masse into positions abandoned by deported immigrants.

In fact, data shows that U.S.-born workers are doing moderately worse under Trump than they were under President Joe

SEE U.S. BORN ON A18

## A fertility start-up tries to unlock a key to aging

Firm trying to reshape IVF is studying ovaries' role in women's health

BY ELIZABETH DWOSKIN

For as long as she could remember, Dina Radenovic was a meticulous planner, determined to leave as little as possible to chance. But Radenovic — a physician, research scientist and biotechnology investor — felt gripped by uncertainty over how to plan for one of her most long-held goals: becoming a mother. She thought about freezing her eggs, but enduring two weeks of potentially uncomfortable and nauseating injections felt impossible: It would have meant missing work.

So in December 2022, Radenovic, then 27, found herself alone in her kitchen in New York jabbing her abdomen with a needle, the first step in the arduous in vitro fertilization process. Egg retrieval alone requires roughly two weeks of daily shots that flood the body with hormones — often triggering a range of physical and emotional side effects — to induce the ovaries to produce as many mature egg follicles as possible.

But Radenovic wasn't trying to have a baby. She was experimenting on herself in a clinical trial that aimed to alter the experience of families struggling with infertility. If everything went according to plan, this would be Radenovic's only hormone shot.

SEE GAMETO ON A4

## Authorities open criminal investigation into fatal Swiss fire



STEPHANIE LECOCQ/REUTERS

People comfort each other outside the Constellation bar at Switzerland's Crans-Montana resort on Friday. After watching footage of the incident, officials said the fire that killed 40 people attending a New Year's party was started by sparklers on champagne bottles that came close to Constellation's ceiling. **Story, A13**

## Taking aim at a little-known artery clogger

BY DANIEL GILBERT

A fatty particle can clog arteries just as surely as cholesterol but often goes undetected, striking seemingly healthy people unaware of the danger. Though tests are widely available, they aren't routinely ordered — in part because there are no approved treatments for the genetic disorder.

Now, cardiologists waging a campaign against lipoprotein(a) say they are reaching a turning

### Quest for drugs targeting a dangerous fatty particle nears the finish line

point. Five experimental drugs are in late stages of development and aim to prove that lowering levels of Lp(a) — pronounced "L-P-little-A" — reduces heart attacks and strokes. Results from the

most advanced clinical trial are expected in the first half of 2026.

Cardiologists, drugmakers and Wall Street analysts are optimistic that these new drugs can effectively treat a disorder that is estimated to affect about 20 percent of the world's population. Even if they prove effective, the cost of a novel drug — as well as the scant public awareness of Lp(a) — could be a barrier to treating patients who might benefit.

"There are over a billion people

on our planet that have elevated lipoprotein levels and that are at increased risk," said Steve Nissen, a cardiologist at Cleveland Clinic whose team is leading trials on four drugs targeting Lp(a). "We will have a massive educational job to do."

Discovered in the 1960s, Lp(a) is prone to getting stuck in the arterial wall like the particle that doctors call "bad" cholesterol, but it carries another protein that

SEE HEART ON A5

## FBI says it foiled a mass killing

### N.C. SUSPECT SAID TO BE INSPIRED BY ISIS

Officials allege he plotted a Dec. 31 'martyrdom op'

BY JEREMY ROEBUCK

Federal authorities said Friday they disrupted a plan by an 18-year-old, inspired by the Islamic State, to attack patrons at a grocery store and fast-food restaurants outside Charlotte.

Christian Sturdivant had drawn up detailed plans for what he described as a New Year's Eve "martyrdom op" to target patrons with hammers and knives, officials said. He was charged with attempting to provide material support to a foreign terror organization after he discussed his intentions last month with two undercover law enforcement officers posing as Islamic extremists.

"It was a very well-planned, thoughtful attack," Russ Ferguson, the U.S. attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, said at a news conference announcing the arrest. "He was preparing for jihad, and innocent people were going to die."

Ferguson stressed that FBI agents had Sturdivant, a Burger King employee and grandson of a Christian minister, under surveillance for days leading up to his arrest Wednesday. At no point during that period did authorities believe he posed an immediate danger to public safety, Ferguson said.

Authorities also believed Sturdivant suffered from sufficiently serious psychiatric problems that they sought earlier in the week to have him involuntarily committed for care, Ferguson said. SEE FBI ON A6



ILLUSTRATION BY CHLOE MEISTER/THE WASHINGTON POST; MICHAEL LARIS/THE WASHINGTON POST; LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA'S CHARLOTTE LAROY PAPER NAPKIN COLLECTION

## Historic paper trail is being preserved

Va. woman's napkin collection highlights moments in 20th-century history

BY MICHAEL LARIS

When Charlotte LaRoy was in elementary school, she had a quiet revelation.

Paper napkins are beautiful.

It was the 1940s, she was the daughter of a federal food-safety scientist, and she was just discovering the spectacular variety of face-and-finger wipes.

She noticed their size, shape,

color, design, texture — and "ability to do the business that they do, which is blow your nose, pick up something you spilled on the floor," LaRoy said.

That early fascination seeded what over decades would become a paper napkin collection worth preserving. LaRoy kept sliding new finds into a blanket box under her bed — until, some years ago, she finally walked into the

Library of Virginia. LaRoy handed them over, more than 1,100 in all, surprising and delighting curators. They are now being preserved in perpetuity alongside documents from the Founding Fathers and tomes dating to the 15th century.

LaRoy built a collection that is head-shaking in its scope, from the elegant to the everyday, offer-

SEE NAPKIN ON A7

## GPS, a pillar of daily life, faces increasing attacks

Aircraft, phones, power grids seen as at risk amid rise of electronic warfare

BY CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT

The pilots flying into Denver International Airport could tell something was wrong. In urgent calls to air traffic controllers, they reported that the Global Positioning System was going haywire, forcing them to rely on backup navigation systems for more than a day. The Federal Aviation Administration issued a warning to air traffic in the area.

Eight months later, in October 2022, it happened again — this time at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, which shut down a runway as pilots and air traffic controllers scrambled over two days without GPS to guide them.

Federal officials have not said who was responsible for interfering with the systems or why it took so long to get them back online, though they've said the Denver incident was unintentional.

But the disruptions stoked fear about the security vulnerabilities of GPS, a satellite network relied on daily by 6 billion people, businesses and governments.

Over the past two years, inter-

ference with the U.S. Global Positioning System has grown dramatically, threatening a network that is highly vulnerable to attack in a conflict. The danger could be posed by enemy or rogue nations — or even just hobbyists with commercially available equipment. Efforts by the Pentagon to upgrade GPS have been delayed by years and have cost billions, as adversaries are developing increasingly sophisticated ways to jam and trick the system with false signals that make it think it is somewhere it isn't.

And it's not just civilian airline traffic at risk. The underpinnings of modern life and entire economies could be disrupted by a broad attack on the fragile satellite system — power grids, financial systems, cellphone networks — raising the prospect of catastrophe in an era of increasing electronic warfare.

"You really can't overstate how economically and militarily dependent we are on GPS," said Todd Harrison, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. "The system was not originally designed to be this critical, and it was not originally designed to be protected against the wide range of threats it faces today."

A widespread outage, he said, "would take us back to a World War II-era economy and military."

SEE GPS ON A10

## IN THE NEWS

**Big blow for 26-year lawsuit** An appeals court said a state law enacted in 2024 prevents Gary, Indiana, from continuing its long-running case against gun companies. A3

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**A chaperone** assigned to monitor a teen worked 40 straight hours before the 16-year-old's death by suicide in Maryland. B13

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