

# International NEWS MEDIA

JULY 2021

## SUNI LEE STEPS INTO THE SPOTLIGHT, SOARS TO ALL-AROUND GYMNASTICS GOLD



Sunisa Lee competes on uneven bars at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 on July 29, 2021 in Tokyo, Japan.

TOKYO — The first Hmong refugees arrived in Minnesota in 1975. Today that population has grown to 80,000 people, its members now represented throughout business, government and culture in the North Star State.

On July 29, a daughter of that diaspora added a new milestone to the Hmong American story: Olympic champion.

Sunisa Lee, an 18-year-old from St. Paul won the women's gymnastics all-around gold medal, scoring 57.433 to hold off Brazil's Rebeca Andrade by .135 and the Russian Olympic Committee's Angelina Melnikova by .234 at Tokyo's Ariake Gymnastics Centre. Fellow American Jade Carey placed eighth, scoring 54.199.

With her win, Lee, the first Hmong American to make a U.S. Olympic Team, becomes the fifth American woman to win the Olympic all-around title in the past five tries. Combining the Olympics and world championships, a U.S. woman has now won every global all-around title since 2011.

The feeling was "surreal," Lee said, her shiny new gold medal hanging from her neck. "It's crazy" she repeated, over and over again. - Chrös McDougall/Team USA

## Hidilyn Diaz wins PH's first-ever Olympic gold

By IVAN STEWART SALDAJENO

MANILA – After 97 years, the elusive Olympic gold has finally been taken by the Philippines.

Hidilyn Diaz became the first Filipino athlete to win it all in an Olympic event after winning the women's 55-kg. weightlifting competition at the Tokyo International Forum in Japan on Monday night.

Diaz, the 2016 Rio Olympics silver medalist, prevailed in a neck and neck showdown with China's Liao Qiuyun in the clean-and-jerk lift as their battle for the gold went down the wire.

Finishing tied with Diaz in the snatch with a 97-kg. maximum lift, Liao lifted 126 kg. in her final lift, forcing Diaz to go for 127 to steal the top spot from Liao.

Diaz, however, smoothly cleared the 127-kg. lift to win it all, also setting an Olympic record in the process.

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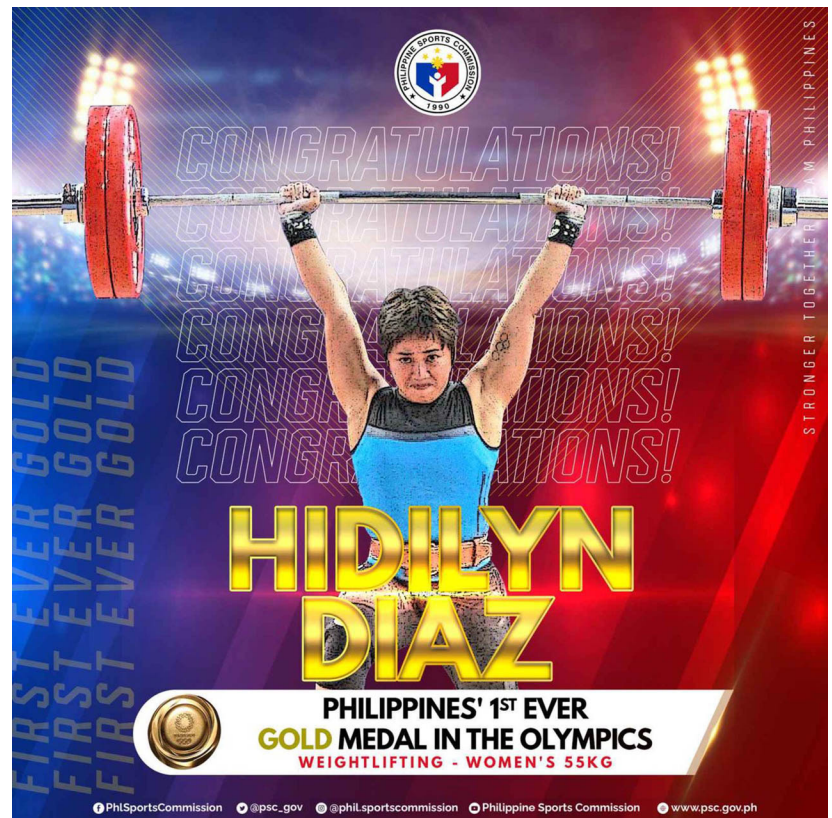


Photo courtesy of Philippine Sports Commission

## NewsBriefs

### Newsom signs into law expansion of medical to undocumented Californians age 50+

Governor Gavin Newsom signed legislation making California the first state in the nation to expand full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility to low-income adults 50 years of age or older, regardless of immigration status – a major milestone in the state's progress toward universal health coverage.

The health care trailer bill, AB 133, makes bold changes toward a more equitable and prevention-focused approach to health care through expanded behavioral health initiatives supporting California youth and people with severe behavioral health challenges.

### Ex-intelligence analyst sentenced to 45 months in prison for disclosing classified information

A Tennessee man was sentenced to 45 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release for illegally obtaining classified national defense information and disclosing it to a reporter.

According to court documents, Daniel Everette Hale, 33, of Nashville, began communicating with a reporter beginning in April 2013 while enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and assigned to the National Security Agency (NSA). Hale admitted to meeting with the reporter in person on multiple occasions and communicating with the reporter via phone, text message, email and, at times, an encrypted messaging platform.

### Honduran national guilty of soliciting murder-for-hire of family members

BEAUMONT, Texas – A Honduran national residing in Port Arthur has pleaded guilty to federal violations in the Eastern District of Texas, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Nicholas J. Ganjei today.

Santos Orellana-Hernandez, 47, pleaded guilty to use of interstate commerce facilities in the commission of murder-for-hire, tampering with a witness by intimidation and threats, and conspiracy to commit witness tampering. Orellana-Hernandez entered his guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Thad Heartfield.

## Mayor Garcetti, Council President Martinez push toward mandatory vaccines for city employees

LOS ANGELES — Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Council President Nury Martinez announced that they would push for mandatory COVID-19 vaccines for City employees, beginning with a requirement that workers either submit proof of vaccination or a weekly negative test.

That requirement is part of a broader push to mandate vaccines for all employees once the federal Food and Drug Administration gives full approval. It comes as the highly contagious Delta variant continues to drive an alarming surge in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths among the unvaccinated in Los Angeles County and across the country.

"The fourth wave is here, and the choice for Angelenos couldn't be clearer — get vaccinated or get COVID-19," said Mayor Eric Garcetti. "So please, visit your doctor's office, or a local drug store, or one of our many free sites and get the vaccine right now, because it could mean the difference between

life and death for you or a loved one.. I urge employers across Los Angeles to follow this example."

"Angelenos have stayed inside for over a year to protect themselves and others. I think it's safe to say that we're getting tired of putting our lives on hold to protect people who don't want to protect themselves and get vaccinated," said Council President Martinez.

The new policy will require all department heads to verify and keep track of their employees' vaccination status, and submit reports to the Personnel Department detailing that information. Each employee will be required to show proof of full vaccination to their department's HR representative. In the absence of that proof, employees must produce proof of a negative COVID-19 test on a weekly basis. Discussions are ongoing with the City's labor partners about the specific testing implementation plan.

### 1st PAYING CUSTOMER ON NEW SHEPARD WAS THE YOUNGEST TO FLY TO SPACE



Oliver Daemen was the first paying customer to fly on board New Shepard, marking the beginning of commercial operations for the program. He joined Jeff Bezos, Mark Bezos, and Wally Funk aboard the first human flight on July 20. At 18-years-old and 82-years-young, Oliver Daemen and Wally Funk represent the youngest and oldest astronauts to travel to space.

### FBI Media Alert:

### FBI alerts New Mexicans to be on lookout for business email compromise scams

The FBI is alerting New Mexico businesses, school districts, and government agencies to be on the lookout for business email compromise (BEC) scams, which so far have cost more than \$1 million in the state.

A New Mexico county recently lost approximately \$500,000 in a BEC fraud, while a small private school system in the state avoided being scammed out of more than \$55,000 through quick action by employees.

So far in 2021 (January to June), 29 BEC incidents were reported in New Mexico with a loss of \$1,025,317.

In a typical business email compromise (BEC) scheme, the victim receives an email they believe is from a company they normally conduct business with, but this specific email requests funds be sent to a new account or otherwise alters the standard payment practices.

If you discover you are a BEC victim, immediately contact your financial institution to request a recall of funds and your employer to report irregularities with payroll deposits.

As soon as possible, file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at [bec.ic3.gov](http://bec.ic3.gov).

All other frauds can be reported to [ic3.gov](http://ic3.gov).



## WHY WE GO

"I really hope that there will be millions of kids all over the world who will be captivated and inspired about the possibility of them going to space one day."— Richard Branson, Founder, Virgin

### BECOME AN ASTRONAUT

This year, we'll be making a limited number of tickets available for future spaceflights. Take the leap with us as we get one step closer to filling the world with

### UNITY 22 SPACEFLIGHT



Virgin Galactic Unity22 Crew. (Left to right): Dave Mackay, Chief Pilot; Colin Bennett, Lead Operations Engineer; Beth Moses, Chief Astronaut Instructor Richard Branson, Founder Virgin Galactic; Sirisha Bandla, Vice President of Government Affairs and Research Operations; and Michael Masucci, Pilot.

## USA gold medal count: 14

The United States has won 14 gold medals at the 2021 Olympics, which is third among all countries in Tokyo through July 29. Who has won Olympic gold for Team USA? Here's a full list of the athletes that have won gold for Team USA thus far during the 2021 Olympics.

Sport	Athlete(s)	Event
Basketball	Stefanie Dolson, Allisha Gray, Kelsey Plum, Jackie Young	Women's 3x3
Fencing	Lee Kiefer	Women's foil final
Gymnastics	Sunisa Lee	Women's all-around
Shooting	Vincent Hancock	Men's skeet shooting
Shooting	Amber English	Women's skeet shooting
Shooting	William Shaner	Men's 10m air rifle
Surfing	Carissa Moore	Women's shortboard
Swimming	Chase Kalisz	Men's 400m individual medley
Swimming	Caeleb Dressel, Blake Pieroni, Bowen Becker, Zach Apple	Men's 4x100m freestyle relay
Swimming	Lydia Jacoby	Women's 100m breaststroke
Swimming	Katie Ledecky	Women's 1500m freestyle
Swimming	Bobby Finke	Men's 800m freestyle
Swimming	Caeleb Dressel	Men's 100m freestyle
Taekwondo	Anastasija Zolotic	Women's taekwondo final

## Blue Origin safely launches four commercial astronauts to space and back

Blue Origin successfully completed New Shepard's first human flight today with four private citizens onboard. The crew included Jeff Bezos, Mark Bezos, Wally Funk and Oliver Daemen, who all officially became astronauts when they passed the Kármán Line, the internationally recognized boundary of space.

Upon landing, the astronauts were greeted by their families and Blue Origin's ground operations team for a celebration in the West Texas



From left to right: 18 years old Oliver Daemen, Mark Bezos, Jeff Bezos and 82 year old Wally Funk (BlueOrigin)

- A Historic Mission
- Wally Funk, 82, became the oldest person to fly in space.
  - Oliver Daemen, 18, was the first ever commercial astronaut to purchase a ticket and fly to space on a privately-funded and licensed space vehicle from a private launch site. He also became the youngest person to fly in space.
  - New Shepard became the first commercial vehicle under a suborbital reusable launch vehicle license to fly

paying customers, both payloads and astronauts, to space and back.

- Jeff and Mark Bezos became the first siblings to ever fly in space together.

"Today was a monumental day for Blue Origin and human spaceflight," said Bob Smith, CEO, Blue Origin. "I

am so incredibly proud of Team Blue, their professionalism, and expertise in executing today's flight. This was a big step forward for us and is only the beginning."

Blue Origin expects to fly two more crewed flights this year, with many more crewed flights planned for 2022.

## IMMIGRATION UPDATE



HOSTED BY AWE E ABAYARI



50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

Send your questions to: [radiotvanchor1@gmail.com](mailto:radiotvanchor1@gmail.com)  
[www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari](https://www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari)



## Hidilyn Diaz wins PH's first-ever Olympic gold...from Page 1

Her 224-kg. total is also an Olympic record.

"I don't know what to say. It's a dream come true. I just want to say that we Filipinos are strong. We Filipinos can compete here at the Olympics. We can do it," a high-spirited Diaz was quoted as saying by Xinhuanet.

Diaz has also assured herself of a total of PHP33 million from various people who pledged monetary rewards to the gold medal winners.

Malacañang joined the entire nation in celebrating the country's first-ever Olympic gold medal since it joined the most prestigious quadrennial event in 1924.

"The Palace congratulates Hidilyn Diaz for bringing pride and glory to the Philippines for winning the country's first-ever Olympic gold medal," Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said in a statement.

"Congratulations, Hidilyn. The entire Filipino nation is proud of you. Laban, Pilipinas! (Fight Philippines!)," he added.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Martin Andanar said Diaz's golden performance showcased the Filipinos' talent as world-class athletes.

"We are one with the Filipino nation in celebrating the remarkable and historic success of Hidilyn Diaz in the recently held Women's 55-kg. Weightlifting Competition during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games," Andanar said. "This win gave the Philippines its very first Olympic gold medal and showcased (the) Filipinos' talent as world-class athletes."

### SENATE COMMENDS DIAZ

Meanwhile, the Senate adopted a resolution commending and congratulat-

ing Filipina weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz for winning the first-ever gold medal for the Philippines in the 32nd World Olympics currently being held in Tokyo, Japan.

The chamber adopted Senate Resolution No. (SRN) 739 sponsored by Senate President Vicente C. Sotto III in consideration of SRNs 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, and 804.

Sotto, in his sponsorship speech, said Diaz's sacrifices and self-discipline in achieving her Olympic goal were beyond compare as she trained and lived in exile in Malaysia since February 2020 when the Malaysian government imposed its movement control order in April 2020 to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. "She's the epitome that everything is achievable if you focus and work hard to reach your dreams no matter how high or impossible it may seem," Sotto said. (PNA)



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA

**An Exclusive Interview by AWE ABAYARI with CARLOS PUENTE, PhD**

**International Lawyer and a Political and Economic Analyst • Expert in Eastern European Countries • University Professor and a Book Author**

For more of the interview: [www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari](http://www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari) • [www.youtube.com/AANewsMedia](http://www.youtube.com/AANewsMedia)

In the United States, life is slowly returning to normal although some safety measures and restrictions are still in place.

**Awee Abayari:** *What is the general situation in Europe?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** Europe started the vaccination earlier than the USA, but the USA introduced a quick vaccination program. The USA was the country with the largest number of people infected by the coronavirus with more than 622,000 deaths. In Western Europe in the United Kingdom, more than 128,000 people died compared to Italy with 127,000 deaths, France with 111,000 deaths, Germany with 91,000 deaths and Spain with almost 81,000 victims. The Russian Federation has suffered about 141,000 deaths.

The USA has exceeded Europe with a huge vaccination program that has protected its population so the country could resume economic activities slowly. In Europe, different countries took different measures and some of them were unwise and some governments adopted hasty decisions that provoked new waves of infections mainly among the youngsters. In mid 2021, the European economic activity is recovering in a solid way in a few countries but countries whose economies depend on tourism will need more time. This is the situation of Spain, Portugal, and Greece.

**Awee Abayari:** *What is Europe's opinion on the origin of Covid-19?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** It was very confusing how the pandemic appeared outside of Asia. The first country that declared the existence of a virus was People's Republic of China while suffering a pandemic but it was communicated to the WHO only by January 19, 2020 when some experts had been alerted about the existence of the Covid virus by the end of 2019 in Wuhan. Wuhan is known as the place with laboratories focused on virus and pandemics. The virus probably arrived in the North of Italy due to the worldwide visitors to the International Milan Fair that took place between the 24th and 27th of January. The virus spread quickly across Europe and the rest of the world.

**Awee Abayari:** *How would you evaluate the way the European Union managed the pandemic?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** At the beginning of the pandemic, each country applied the policy of every man for himself. There was a lack of coordination and solidarity. Italy remained alone fighting the pandemic with very little resources. While the countries of the European Union refused to send medical equipment, doctors and nurses, the Russian Federation did it. Europe was not ready for an event like this and there was competition among Member States of the EU to deal with the Chinese suppliers for respirators and masks!

When the first vaccines Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca became available, the president of the European Commission, Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, decided the centralization of the strategies to buy millions of units of vaccines. I personally doubt that the European Commission acted in the most efficient way. Besides, in the contracts to purchase doses of vaccines, secret clauses were included and even the price paid remained unknown. Some lawyers declared that it was a reason for the resignation of Ms. Ursula von der Leyen.

**Awee Abayari:** *How long do you think will it take for the world to recover from the pandemic and why?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** I remember that a year ago I already declared that the Western economy will not recover easily from the level of 2019. The pandemic provoked a huge economic crisis via supply and demand. The economy in 2021 is not the same economy we left behind and some activities have been replaced by other activities, work-from-home came and will remain, the way to purchase goods have been transferred from local shops to Amazon. Until now, hundreds of thousands of businesses are shut down and millions of people have lost their jobs. The pandemic has opened the door to a new form of society.

**Awee Abayari:** *What industries / economic sectors have been adversely affected and what has been its impact on the priorities of people towards business, work, school, housing/ lifestyle?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** Most economic sectors that depend on intensive labor will be more affected than others. The demand for some goods will become less and the building sector will continue to develop. People who suffer from the psychological effects of the pandemic will demand more detached houses and fewer units in condominiums. Work-from-home and open universities will become more popular. This situation will cause a negative side effect but will be compensated with the new technologies to avoid loneliness and social isolation. New jobs will appear in the field of human and social relations.

### RECOVERY

**Awee Abayari:** *What are "corona bonds" and do you think it will help improve the European economy?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** "Corona bonds" are the eventual joint debt issued to member states of the EU. The European Investment Bank

(EIB) might supply the necessary funds backed by the European Union. European governments are not sure if such financial mechanism can help fight against the pandemic and can help to recover the EU economies, afterwards. Not all member states agree on a joint debt and some EU countries have been calling the Corona bonds to be issued by EIB: Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Ireland, Portugal, Greece and Slovenia. In fact, the joint debt means the mutualization of national debts. The richer countries of the EU: Germany, Netherlands, Austria and the Scandinavian countries oppose the system. Germany has always pointed out that each country must be responsible for their national finances. The alternative could be the "Eurozone bailout fund", as part of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) which is a EU agency based in Luxembourg, and may provide financial assistance such as loans and supply capital to banks in difficulty.

**Awee Abayari:** *How has the global tourism been affected by the coronavirus situation?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** The tourism sector has been affected and it hit most negatively those countries whose Gross National Product (GNP) depends greatly on tourism. All activities related to tourism are also affected: airlines, hotels, cruise ships, services, other means of transportation, travel agencies, etc. Spain is one of the European countries that suffer most from the crisis since tourism represents 15% of its GNP and the economy of several regions fully depends on the tourism industry.

**Awee Abayari:** *Do you agree that the plans of Spain to "accomplish its goal to welcome nearly 45 million international tourists" is feasible and "to recover half of the international tourism this year", according to the Spanish Tourism Minister, is a "prudent goal"?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** The prediction of the current minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Ms. Reyes Maroto is completely unreal. Spain still fears the arrival of the 5th wave of the pandemic. Several European countries, mainly Germany and France have advised its citizens not to visit Spain for the time being. Britain has also imposed some restrictions for the eventual visitors while Russia is still having problems with visas.

**Awee Abayari:** *How does the EU face the challenge of "unauthorized immigration"?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** Unfortunately, for the European Union, unauthorized immigration is a big problem which has not been solved yet. There are three types of immigration in Europe: immigrants for economic reasons, political refugees and immigrants because of the wars supported by the NATO countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

The influx of immigrants from the Middle East and Africa have fallen into the hands of the mafia trafficking in human beings. They know the weakness of the European Union in facing this problem. Some time ago, I published an article dealing with this situation. I emphasized then that a common asylum system exists under the Dublin Regulation. This is based on Regulation (EU) 604/2013, that establishes the mechanisms to determine which State is responsible for examining asylum applications, and Regulation (EU) 603/2013 establishing the "Eurodac" declaring that "the Member States shall take without delay the fingerprints of the applicant for the international protection of people fourteen years and older".

Paradoxically, Hungary decided to comply with these European Union rules but it was not accepted by the other Member States. Spain is suffering from a huge violation and assault on its borders in the territories of Ceuta and Melilla in Northern Africa. The free entrance of immigrants in violation of the Spanish border policy is part of the ideology of the Podemos party in coalition with the Socialist Party of Pedro Sánchez which is now ruling Spain.

**Awee Abayari:** *What is the future of the European Union post Covid-19?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** The future of the European Union will not be affected by the COVID 19 pandemic, although the lack of coordination between the Member States and the European Commission had many mistakes. One of the most significant examples has been the use of different vaccines in various countries to vaccinate their population. While most Member States used Pfizer or Moderna, Hungary, Slovakia and others have used Sputnik that has not been approved by the European Health Agency yet.

From an economic point of view, the future of the EU is not very different from what happens in the United States. The most important countries of the Union: Germany, France and Italy have used important mechanisms to fight the economic crisis, but the recovery to 2019 levels will not be achieved before 2024. Other European countries, like Spain, have committed many mistakes since the social-communist government tries to implement political and economic measures not compatible with individual freedom and the principle of market economy included in the Spanish Constitution in force since 1978.

**Awee Abayari:** *As an economic and political expert, what advice would you give on how the world can face its present problems at the same*

*time prepare for future challenges?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** The Covid 19 pandemic has shown us the weaknesses of Western economies as a result of globalization. It is important that Western countries adopt urgent measures for reindustrialization in strategic sectors. It is not admissible that the United States or the European countries did not have industries prepared to immediately produce masks, respirators and other materials necessary to combat the pandemic. Additionally, in other sectors, such as telecommunications and electronic components, a common standard must be established worldwide to cooperate in the manufacture of microchips and other basic and fundamental elements. Covid 19 will not be the last pandemic that has punished the world with millions of deaths.

**Awee Abayari:** *How good is Europe's concept of multilateralism, especially after the pandemic experience, in conjunction with the other countries around the world?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** Multilateralism is the action of several countries to pursue a common target. In fact, it is a political concept opposite to unilateralism in international relations. There are several international organizations working on the basis of multilateralism as international alliance like the United Nations and the World Health Organization. In Europe, the European Union was born, among other reasons, because most European countries are small in size and with a weak economy. The European Union has cooperation agreements with countries around the world. We are immersed in a globalized world with its advantages and its defects. However, from an economic and commercial point of view, globalization can represent some advantages with respect to the dynamism of responses to certain problems: the experience has shown us that we must move towards a world based on relations with multilateral agreements. Globalization involves the expansion of global markets to improve dynamic economic activities and the exchange of goods and financial resources. Globalization encourages the removal of trade barriers and global markets.

**Awee Abayari:** *What for you are the most important threats to our global security and what drastic measures should be taken to confront them especially with the increasing cyberattacks?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** In a global world with sophisticated technological means: the functioning of the economy, the management of energy resources, the health system, defense, research, etc. depend on an efficient security protection system. There is a high risk that one or more countries will be the target of cyberattacks. This means that the governments of developed countries must maintain close collaboration and constant exchange of information to ensure an efficient level of security. International terrorism is a great threat in developed countries and especially to Western countries but it is not the only one threat. Often some countries, especially China and Russia, have been accused of being the cause of attacks on basic sectors of the Western economy, but it has been shown that it is not necessary to be a country to provoke a cyberattack. To avoid this situation, it would be advisable to create a Committee for security and fight against hackers within the United Nations. The problem is not solved with mutual accusations but with dialogue and negotiation.

### THE FUTURE

**Awee Abayari:** *What is your opinion about the Big Tech companies like Amazon, Apple, Facebook, Twitter, Microsoft and Google in the use of their social media platforms?*

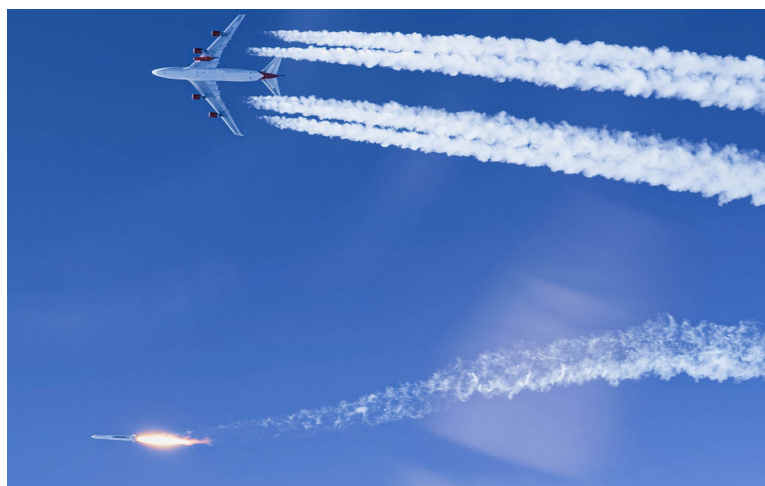
**Dr. Carlos Puente:** All the companies you've mentioned have made life easier for billions of people around the world, but they can also pose a threat to our privacy. The thousands of millions of data that the users of the aforementioned platforms are not safe from being transferred to other companies that do not have authorization or that it may fall into the hands of criminals or terrorists. Individual freedoms must be guaranteed by international organizations or inside the United Nations or the OECD and not only by governments, since many cannot do it or do it for their own benefit.

**Awee Abayari:** *The world's billionaires are now entering the space race. In a recent statement, Richard Branson of Virgin Galactic said he "hopes to launch full -revenue commercial flights in 2022". Is this the "new future"?*

**Dr. Carlos Puente:** When Neil Armstrong took his first step on the moon he said "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind". The great companies arose after the initiatives of great men who knew how to see the future that others did not see. This is the great lesson that the politicians of our time must learn: freedom and private initiative must be sufficiently protected against current social-communist ideologies if we want humanity to progress and not regress. Richard Branson has also made his first step for commercial flights maybe not in 2022 but in the near future.

**Awee Abayari:** *Thank you .*

## SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE FIRST DUTCH MILITARY NANOSATELLITE



The launch started after the rocket was released by the mothership. (Photo: Virgin Orbit)

The first Dutch military satellite was launched successfully today from Mojave Air & Space Port in California. The BRIK II nanosatellite was launched into orbit by Virgin Orbit. BRIK II is an experimental project of the Royal Netherlands Air Force, with this launch the Netherlands Ministry of Defense has officially entered the space domain. Representatives of the Ministry of Defense and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Washington, D.C. were present at the launch.

In cooperation with Dutch industry and knowledge institutes, the choice has been made to explore scalable and affordable capacities for the military use of space. The launch is a first test to demonstrate the potential of nanosatellites for military and civilian use. *NLintheUSA*

## July is Nelson Mandela International Month

The Nelson Mandela Foundation invites everyone to join in honoring Madiba's birthday by contributing to meeting the immediate needs of the most vulnerable communities.

While the Mandela Day call to action remains a general call to reach out to those in need, this year, our focus will be on the challenge of food security. Before Covid-19, the statistics showed us that one in four six-year-olds in South Africa suffered from stunting due to malnutrition. The ravages of the pandemic will surely worsen this devastating reality. By harnessing our Each1Feed1 programme to Mandela Day and developing the

4Cans4MandelaDaycampaign, we aim to ensure that basic foodstuffs reach the most vulnerable communities this July. In the longer term, we are committed to using our research and advocacy capacity to address the systemic issues which cause food insecurity in our country. We believe that getting this right is fundamental to social cohesion and respect for the rule of law.

Over Mandela Month, July 2021, the public is encouraged to contribute to the Each 1 Feed 1 food distribution network by donating non-perishable food items at all participating malls for Mandela Day.

## 47 Women Entrepreneurs Complete the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs AWE

On July 15, the closing event was held in Barcelona of the third edition of AWE in Spain which took place in Aragon and Catalonia

Through a partnership between the U.S. Consulate in Barcelona, Foment del Treball, and the Government of Aragon, 17 women entrepreneurs and social innovators from Aragon and 30 entrepreneurs from Catalonia have completed their training at the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE), a program funded by the U.S. State Department that advances female entrepreneurship. AWE empowers women entrepreneurs around the world to launch or expand their business ideas, and is helping to build a global network of women entrepreneurs both within Spain and in more than 80 countries.

165 Spanish entrepreneurs have already completed this program. The first edition in Spain took place in 2019 in Gran Canaria and Tenerife, thanks to a collaboration with Heroikka Association and Casa África. In 2020, the second edition took place



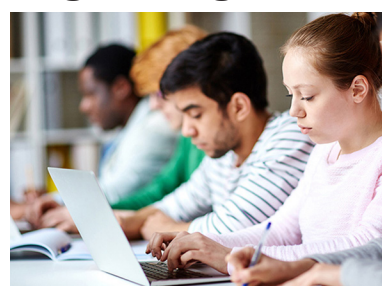
with two cohorts of participants from Valencia and Seville, thanks to the support of WStartupC, Valencia Activa, and Junta de Andalucía. This year we have organized the third edition in Aragon and Catalonia, with the support of Foment del Treball and the Government of Aragon, through the Technological Institute of Aragon (ITAINNOVA) and LAAAB.

## EU donates EUR 1 million to enhance developing countries' negotiating skill-set

The European Union has contributed EUR 1 million (just over CHF 1 million) over the period 2021-2022 to help developing countries and least-developed countries (LDCs) participate effectively in global trade negotiations. This donation to the WTO's Global Trust Fund will finance training and other capacity-building activities for government officials to help them better understand and implement WTO agreements and to enhance their negotiating skills.

Over 2,900 activities have been organized under this fund over the past 20 years.

WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala said: "Trade has the potential to help economies grow, make businesses prosper and improve



peoples' lives across the world. The EU's generous donation will help ensure that trade officials from developing countries and LDCs have the know-how to make this a reality."

Overall, the EU has donated approximately EUR 26.5 million (CHF 28.5 million) to the various WTO trust funds in addition to individual contributions from EU member states.

## REMAINS OF U.S. PILOT MIA IN WWII FOUND IN AUSTRIA

On April 28, 2021, a recovery team of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) of the U.S. Department of Defense found the remains of an U.S. Army Air Forces pilot shot down near Wiener Neustadt, Austria, during World War II.

Although his identity has not yet been confirmed by DNA analysis, it presumed that the remains found belong to Lt. Henry Donald Mitchell of Fort Smith, Arkansas. He has been missing in action since July 8, 1944, when his aircraft, a Lockheed P-38 Lightning, was shot during a mission over Lower Austria.

## President Duterte accepts World Bank's apology, expects more accurate education assessment

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has accepted the apology of the World Bank (WB) recently after the financial institution prematurely published an assessment of Filipino students' academic ability, noting, however, that he wanted to know the true assessment of the students' performance.

The World Bank has apologized for issuing a report revealing 80 percent of Filipino children do not have the essential math and reading skills they should have depending on their academic level.

In his public address, President Duterte said the Department of Education (DepEd) is focusing on a new set of data that will be soon presented to the financial institution so that they can amend their statistics and data inputs.

In welcoming the World Bank's apology for its report, the President said he hoped the organization would be more cautious in the future.

"I would not want to begrudge World Bank. But itong mga international whatever bodies working on the problems of the world should be very careful in their statistics," President Duterte said.

"It is not good to, you know, commit a wrong internationally."

The World Bank has published a study reflecting the low



performance of Filipino students without giving DepEd the chance to provide inputs.

The report was based on three assessments the Philippines previously participated: the Program for International Student Assessment in 2018, the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study in 2019, and the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics also in 2019.

Education Secretary Leonor Briones said the report "insulted" and "shamed" the Philippines and she had requested the World Bank to issue an apology.

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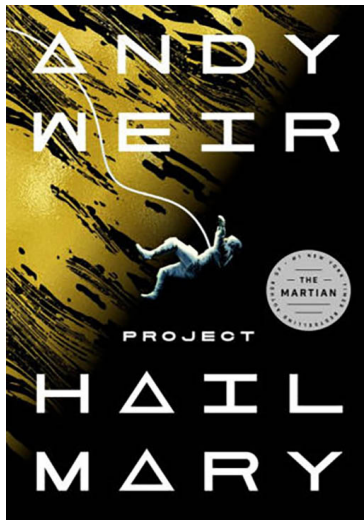
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## INM Book Choice

### Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLER  
From the author of *The Martian*, a lone astronaut must save the earth from disaster in this "propulsive" (*Entertainment Weekly*), cinematic thriller full of suspense, humor, and fascinating science—in development as a major motion picture starring Ryan Gosling.



"An epic story of redemption, discovery and cool speculative sci-fi."—USA Today

"If you loved *The Martian*, you'll go crazy for Weir's latest."—The Washington Post

Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission—and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish. Except that right now, he doesn't know that. He can't even remember his own name, let alone the nature of his assignment or how to complete it.

All he knows is that he's been asleep for a very, very long time. And he's just been awakened to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but two corpses for company. His crewmates dead, his

memories fuzzily returning, Ryland realizes that an impossible task now confronts him. Hurling through space on this tiny ship, it's up to him to puzzle out an impossible scientific mystery—and conquer an extinction-level threat to our species.

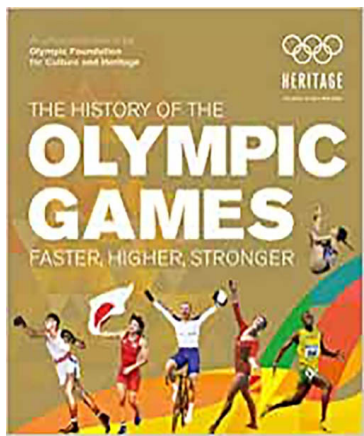
And with the clock ticking down and the nearest human being light-years away, he's got to do it all alone.

Or does he? An irresistible interstellar adventure as only Andy Weir could deliver, *Project Hail Mary* is a tale of discovery, speculation, and survival to rival *The Martian*—while taking us to places it never dreamed of going.

### The History of the Olympic Games Faster, Higher, Stronger by Museum, The Olympic Museum

Published in association with the International Olympic Committee, *The History of the Olympic Games: Faster, Higher, Stronger* is the definitive illustrated chronicle of the world's biggest sporting event.

Featuring stunning photographs and artefacts from the archive of the Olympic Museum, it tells the story of more than 120 years of sporting excellence, from the birth of the modern Olympics in Athens in 1896, right up to the delayed Tokyo 2020 Games. Packed with fascinating and stories and profiles of iconic athletes from across the globe, it's a definitive journey through every single iteration of the Olympics. It also includes rare documents that il-



luminate some of the most incredible events in Olympic history, allowing readers to get closer to the world's greatest sporting spectacle than ever before.

## How to Protect Yourself and Others When You've Been Fully Vaccinated

Safer Activities for You and Your Family

- If you are fully vaccinated, you can participate in many of the activities that you did before the pandemic.
- To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.
- Wearing a mask is most important if you have a weakened immune system or if, because of your age



or an underlying medical condition, you are at increased risk for severe disease, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated. If this applies to you or

your household, you might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission in your area.

- You should continue to wear a mask where required by laws, rules, regulations, or local guidance. - CDC

## What are the benefits of walking?

Two benefits of walking are that it's easy to do and has a low risk of injury. Walking also is free or low-cost because you don't need special equipment, clothing, facilities, or training. Because walking can easily fit your schedule, needs, and abilities, it's a good way to start getting active if you've been inactive.



Health benefits  
Like other kinds of regular physical

activity, walking at a brisk pace also may offer health benefits, such as

- lowering your risk of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, and type 2 diabetes
- strengthening your bones and muscles
- helping you burn more calories
- improving your fitness
- lifting your mood

## Smoking and COVID-19



COVID-19 has many people feeling stressed, alone, or worried about their health. It's a lot to deal with if you're trying to stop smoking or stay smokefree if you've already quit. But not smoking (or using any tobacco products) is one of the best ways to protect and improve your health. As a smoker, you or the people who care about you may be worried about a connection between COVID-19 and smoking. Scientists are still learning about the disease, but we know that:

- Being a current smoker increases your risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Smoking weakens the immune system, which makes it harder for your body to fight disease.
- If you continue to smoke, you have a greater risk for respiratory infections like pneumonia, colds, or flu.
- COVID-19 impacts many of the same organs of the body as smoking. For those with heart or lung disease caused by smoking, you are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

But there is good news: Soon after you stop smoking your body begins to heal. Within the first few weeks and months, your lungs start to work better and your risk for a heart attack goes down. The longer you go without smoking, the more time your body has to recover.

No matter how old you are or how long you've been smoking, quitting smoking improves your health and can add years to your life.

## What foods are in the Fruit Group?

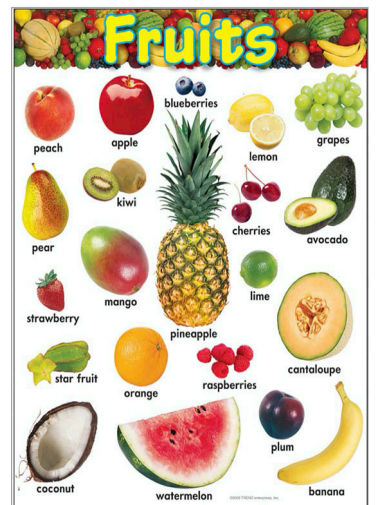
Any fruit or 100% fruit juice counts as part of the Fruit Group. Fruits may be fresh, canned, frozen, or dried, and may be whole, cut-up, pureed, or cooked. At least half of the recommended amount of fruit should come from whole fruit, rather than 100% fruit

How much fruit is needed daily?

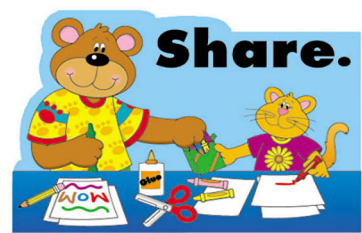
The amount of fruit you need to eat depends on your age, sex, height, weight, and level of physical activity.

What counts as a cup of fruit?

In general, 1 cup of fruit or 100% fruit juice, or 1/2 cup of dried fruit can be considered as 1 cup from the Fruit Group. - USDA



## • Good Manners •



## Public Affairs with AWEE ABAYARI



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For questions:

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## US District Court for the Southern District of Texas rules that DACA policy "is illegal"

On July 16, 2021, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas held that the DACA policy "is illegal." The Court granted summary judgment on plaintiffs' Administrative Procedure Act (APA) claims; vacated the June 15, 2012 DACA memorandum issued by former Secretary of Homeland Security Napolitano; remanded the memorandum to DHS for further consideration; and issued a permanent injunction prohibiting the government's continued administration of DACA and the reimplementing of DACA without compliance with the APA. The Court, however, temporarily stayed its order vacating the DACA memorandum and its injunction with regard to individuals who obtained DACA on or before July 16, 2021, including those with renewal requests.

Consistent with this order, DHS will continue to accept the filing of both initial and renewal DACA requests, as well as accompanying requests for employment authorization. However, pursuant to the July 16, 2021 order from the Southern District of Texas, DHS is prohibited from granting initial DACA requests and accompanying requests for employment authorization. Also consistent with that order, DHS will continue to grant or deny renewal DACA requests, according to existing policy.

## DENTAL CARE



### Dental Benefits for Children in Medicaid

Medicaid covers dental services for all child enrollees as part of a comprehensive set of benefits, referred to as the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. Though oral screening may be part of a physical exam, it does not substitute for a dental examination performed by a dentist. A referral to a dentist is required for every child in accordance with the periodicity schedule set by a state.

Dental services for children must minimally include:

- Relief of pain and infections
- Restoration of teeth
- Maintenance of dental health

The EPSDT benefit requires that all services must be provided if determined medically necessary. States determine medical necessity. If a condition requiring treatment is discovered during a screening, the state must provide the necessary services to treat that condition, whether or not such services are included in a state's Medicaid plan.

Each state is required to develop a dental periodicity schedule in consultation with recognized dental organizations involved in child health care.

Dental services may not be limited to emergency services for children entitled to EPSDT. - [Medicaid.gov](http://Medicaid.gov)

## How to recognize and avoid phishing

Scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. But there are several things you can do to protect

### How To Recognize Phishing

Scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They may try to steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. If they get that information, they could gain access to your email, bank, or other accounts. Scammers launch thousands of phishing attacks like these every day — and they're often successful. The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center reported that people lost \$57 million to phishing schemes in one year.

Scammers often update their tactics, but there are some signs that will help you recognize a phishing email or text message.

Phishing emails and text messages may look like they're from a company you know or trust. They may look like they're from a bank, a credit card company, a social networking site, an



online payment website or app, or an online store.

Phishing emails and text messages often tell a story to trick you into clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

They may

- say they've noticed some suspicious activity or log-in attempts
- claim there's a problem with your account or your payment information
- say you must confirm some personal information
- include a fake invoice
- want you to click on a link to make a payment
- say you're eligible to register for a government refund
- offer a coupon for free stuff

## FIND A LAWYER AND AFFORDABLE LEGAL AID

Individual lawyers (also called attorneys) are experts in different areas of the law. Some attorneys specialize in a certain field of law, such as business, civil, criminal, or juvenile law. You will need to determine which type of attorney is right for your legal situation. Once you find an attorney, ask about their experience, areas of expertise, and questions such as, "How would you handle my case?" and "What do you charge for your services/what is your fee structure?"

Besides asking your friends and family for the name of a good lawyer or checking the phone book, you can find legal aid online. - [USA.gov](http://USA.gov)

## Real Estate News



### Competing with all cash offers: Which contingency waivers are worth the risk

BY TANYA SVOBODA

#### HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFER STAND OUT WITHOUT WAIVING CONTINGENCIES

Your REALTOR® can help you decide what, if any, contingency waivers are appropriate for your specific situation. There are ways to make your offer stand out without waiving contingencies at all. Here are a few:

- Ask the seller what their "ideal offer" entails.
- Start with your highest and best offer.
- Get pre-approved for your home loan.
- Conduct a home inspection but offer to buy the home "as-is."
- Be flexible with your closing and move-in timeline.
- Offer to pay a portion of the seller's closing costs.
- Offer more earnest money.
- Have an inspector ready to go to increase the turnaround time involved.

Going up against all-cash offers can be disheartening for homebuyers in a hot real estate market. Remember that contingencies are there to protect you, so carefully consider the possible ramifications that may occur should you choose to waive any number of these common contract contingencies. An experienced real estate agent can help you decide which waivers are really worth the risk.

## LET FHA LOANS HELP

FHA loans have been helping people become homeowners since 1934. How do we do it? The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) - which is part of HUD - insures the loan, so your lender can offer you a better deal.

- Low down payments
- Low closing costs
- Easy credit qualifying

What does FHA have for you?

Buying your first home?

FHA might be just what you need.

Your down payment can be as low as 3.5% of the purchase price. Available on 1-4 unit properties.

#### Financial help for seniors

Are you 62 or older? Do you live in your home? Do you own it outright or have a low loan balance? If you can answer "yes" to all of these questions, then the FHA Reverse Mortgage might be right for you. It lets you convert a portion of your equity into cash.

Want to make your home more energy efficient?

You can include the costs of energy improvements into an FHA Energy-Efficient Mortgage.

How about manufactured housing and mobile homes?

Yes, FHA has financing for mobile homes and factory-built housing. We have two loan products - one for those who own the land that the home is on and another for mobile homes that are - or will be - located in mobile home parks. Ask an FHA lender to tell you more about FHA loan products.

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## What's Happening?



### Carnegie Hall Citywide: Ensemble Connect

Enjoy a musical meditation on a summer evening with Ensemble Connect at the Madison Square Park. This unique program explores the ambient sounds and tranquil tones of mallet percussion, featuring vibraphone and marimba. There's music by Ellington and the late Chick Corea, plus one of Satie's Gnossiennes, and John Psathas's Fragment—a gentle work with a simple melody.



### America's Got Talent-Las Vegas Opening November 4, 2021

A celebration of comedy, music, danger, dance and so much more! MGM Resorts International, Fremantle and Syco Entertainment, three entertainment powerhouses have collaborated to produce this must-see, variety-style production for audiences of all ages.

### "The Whitney Houston Hologram Concert" at The Flamingo Las Vegas

Whitney Houston is an absolute legend, and now thanks to modern technology, you can experience the superstar again with "An Evening with Whitney: The Whitney Houston Hologram Concert" at the Flamingo Las Vegas.



### Renée Fleming & Emerson String Quartet at the Kennedy Center, February 28, 2022

The Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet reunites with Kennedy Center Artistic Advisor at Large Renée Fleming for another "rapturous recital" with Simone Dinnerstein, pianist and Special Guest Uma Thurman on February 28, 2022.



Hailed as "America's leading string quartet" by the Washington Post, the Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet will surely end the Fortas season on a high note.

FOX PBC PAY-PER-VIEW  
**PACQUIAO VS SPENCE JR**  
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"He lives for the challenge and the competition. Manny loves hearing that the Las Vegas odds and the media favor Errol Spence," said Freddie. "Manny knows it's a tough fight – probably his toughest – but that's why he began his conditioning so early in the Philippines. Usually, jet lag keeps him out of the gym for one day the first week he arrives

in Los Angeles. Not this time. He has been here every day, training two and half to three hours each afternoon. I usually hold off sparring the first week, but Manny insisted on sparring yesterday, so we brought in Maurice Lee (5'11) and Alexis Rocha (5'10), who went two rounds each with Manny. Manny has achieved so much in his boxing career and in his life. But every-

one in camp can sense this fight has a special meaning. It is not just about beating a top pound-for-pound fighter or winning more titles. This time it's all about boxing immortality for Manny Pacquiao. I am a Red Sox fan, and I can tell he wants to go out like Ted Williams did, hitting a home run in his last at bat. By the way, Ted Williams was also 42 when he did that."

## Exemplary hospitality worker honored as LVCVA Hospitality

LAS VEGAS – The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) today honored the second quarter winner of the Hospitality Heroes recognition program during its board of directors meeting. Hospitality Heroes celebrates frontline hospitality workers whose hard work and dedication help make Las Vegas a world-class destination.

Samantha Fry, pool operations manager at Treasure Island Hotel & Casino, received the Hospitality Heroes Industry Award after an independent selection committee of local business leaders chose her out of a field of 130 nominations.

Fry started at Treasure Island in 2012 as a lifeguard at age 16 and has remained at the property for nearly a decade while earning her high school diploma and a bachelor's degree at UNLV. She was promoted to a management position in 2016, overseeing the pool, cabanas and VIP guests.



## WORLD FORUM ON GASTRONOMY TOURISM



The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Basque Culinary Center (BCC), VisitFlanders and the City Of Bruges have announced new dates for the 6th UNWTO World Forum On Gastronomy Tourism.

Held under the theme 'Gastronomy Tourism: Promoting Rural Tourism and Regional Development', the Forum will take place 31 October - 2 November 2021 in Bruges, Belgium.

The event will focus on the contribution of gastronomy tourism to social and economic integration. It will also highlight its untapped potential for job creation, regional cohesion and sustainable growth. Building on UNWTO's work on advancing innovation across the tourism sector, the Forum also represents a unique opportunity for experts from across the growing field of gastronomy tourism to share new ideas and best practices and place the two sectors at the center of plans for recovery.

## Resorts World Las Vegas Opens

### FRED SEGAL MARKET POWERED BY AMAZON'S JUST WALK OUT TECHNOLOGY

LAS VEGAS – Resorts World Las Vegas, which recently opened its doors to the public last month, debuted the first-ever store in a Las Vegas resort to utilize Amazon's Just Walk Out technology.

On Monday, July 26, the Resorts World Las Vegas luxury destination welcomed guests to experience the Fred Segal Market powered by Just Walk Out technology. The Fred Segal Market offered a special assortment of drinks, candy, snacks, souvenirs, and Grab & Go food items in a location adjacent to and connected with the Fred Segal Men's shop.

"We are excited to work with Resorts World Las Vegas as they offer their customers a fast, convenient way for their guests to shop for the items they might need quickly during their resort stay," said Cameron Janes, Vice President of Physical Retail at Amazon. "We're thrilled that Resorts World Las Vegas's selection of Amazon's Just Walk Out technology brings the effortless experience of a checkout-free store to a new city and a new industry for the first time through the Fred Segal Market."

Shopping at Fred Segal Market



powered by Amazon's Just Walk Out technology is designed to be an effortless experience.

Guests will simply enter the market using a credit card and the technology will detect what shoppers take from or return to the shelves in the store. When guests have completed their shopping experience, they can just leave the store and their credit card will be charged for the items they took.

"As we have strived to create a resort that encompasses the most technologically advanced offerings throughout the complex, we are thrilled to continue this effort with the use of Amazon's Just Walk Out technology," said Matt Pinal, Vice President of Retail at Resorts World Las Vegas. "It's exciting to not only welcome such an iconic brand like Fred Segal to our retail portfolio, but to be able to expand their retail space and utilize such an innovative technology in the adjacent market that will provide convenience and ease to our guests is truly a great accomplishment."

## ... On Leadership ...

No point in stressing over something you can't change. Move on & grow stronger.

The one who follows the crowd will usually go no further than the crowd. Those who walk alone are likely to find themselves in places no one has ever been before.  
*Albert Einstein*



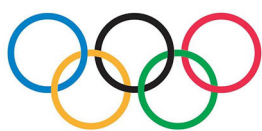
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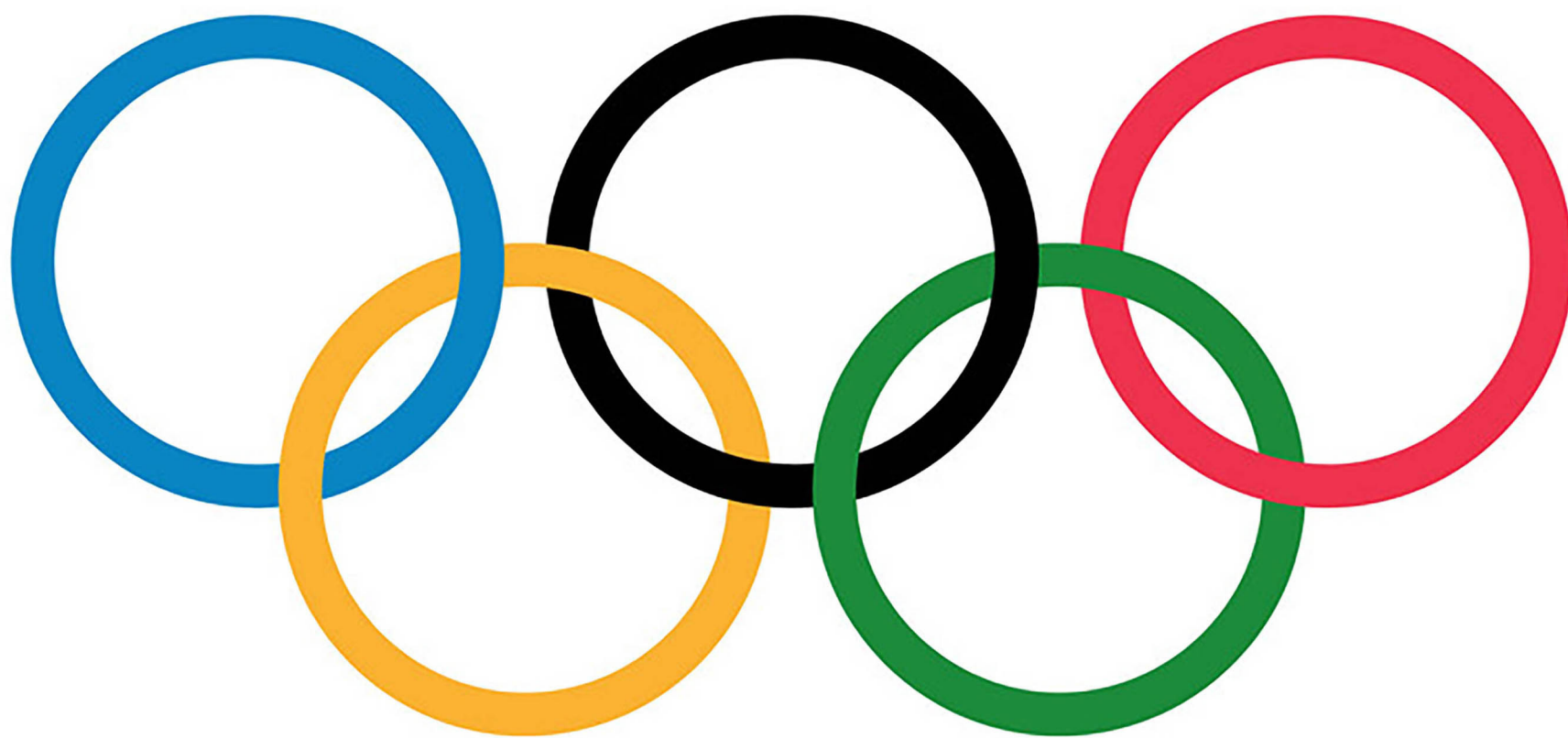
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The Olympic Flag consists of a white field bearing five equal interlocking rings of blue, dark yellow, black, green, and red with separations wherever two rings intersect.

In 1914, when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) held its 20th anniversary meeting in Paris, the Olympic flag was displayed for the first time. The design was conceived by the French educator Pierre, baron de Coubertin, who developed the modern Olympic movement. The five rings symbolized the "five parts of the world" in which the Olympic movement was active, according to Coubertin. The five colours of the rings and white were chosen because they incorporated the colours of all national flags in existence at the time the Olympic flag was created ,

In addition to flying the traditional Olympic flag, Olympic organizing committees in cities hosting the Games often fly a flag of their own incorporating a version of the five-ring logo. - *Britannica.com*