

“All the News  
That’s Fit to Print”

# The New York Times

**THE WEATHER**  
Today, mostly cloudy, high 53. To-  
night, cloudy, some rain at times,  
low 47. Tomorrow, cloudy early with  
a bit of rain, mostly cloudy late, high  
50. Weather map is on Page B11.

VOL. CLXXV . . . . No. 60,710

© 2025 The New York Times Company

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



ALESSANDRO FALCO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Where Solar Power Is a Luxury**  
Just outside Belém, the city in Brazil where the world is meeting to discuss climate change, electricity is a very recent arrival. Page A4.

## In a Tick Bite, a Fatal Puzzle Seems to Be Solved

**By JOSEPH GOLDSTEIN**

The 47-year-old JetBlue pilot went to a barbecue, where he ate a hamburger, at roughly 3 p.m. He returned to his suburban New Jersey home and mowed the lawn for an hour. By 7:20, he was in the bathroom, vomiting. By 7:37, he was unconscious. Soon, his son was trying to resuscitate him.

The pilot, Brian Waitzel, was declared dead later that night. The conclusion of an autopsy: “Sudden unexplained death.”

Now, more than a year after Mr. Waitzel died, a team of doctors says it has found an answer.

alpha-gal once with her husband years ago, as they sat on the back porch of their home in Wall Township, in Monmouth County, reading the paper. She came across an article about people stricken with meat allergies after tick bites — it sounded like a plotline out of science fiction. “I said to my husband, ‘You should read this,’” she recalled.

It seemed too exotic to worry about in Wall Township, where her husband had grown up. They were just inland from some of the Jersey Shore’s wealthier beach towns.

Continued on Page A22

### A Year Later, Doctors Detect a Pest-Borne Red Meat Allergy

The physicians linked his death to a growing menace: an allergy to red meat triggered by a tick bite. They published their findings last week in a medical journal, asserting that it is the first death of its kind linked to the tick-borne allergy, called alpha-gal syndrome.

The pilot’s widow, Pieper Waitzel, said she recalled discussing

## A Billion Acres Of U.S. Waters Can Be Drilled

**By MAXINE JOSELOW and LISA FRIEDMAN**

The Trump administration on Thursday announced a plan to allow new oil and gas drilling across nearly 1.3 billion acres of U.S. coastal waters, including a remote region off Alaska in the northern Arctic where drilling has never before taken place.

The plan is one of President Trump’s most significant steps yet to increase the production of fossil fuels, the burning of which is dangerously heating the planet.

It comes at the same time that dozens of countries have been calling for a phaseout of oil, gas and coal at the United Nations climate conference in Belém, Brazil, an event that the United States is skipping this year.

Under the proposal made public on Thursday, the Interior Department would hold as many as 34 sales of leases in federal waters spanning roughly 1.27 billion acres, an area more than half the size of the United States. That includes six sales of leases off the California coast that would almost certainly set up a clash with Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat who has promised to block drilling there and has emerged as one of Mr. Trump’s chief adversaries.

The plan also mandates seven auctions of leases through 2031 in the Gulf of Mexico, which Mr. Trump calls the Gulf of America. It would permit drilling in part of the eastern Gulf, near Florida, where many Republican officials have sought to block oil exploration, saying it could lead to oil spills and jeopardize military activities.

Fishing and tourism industries along the Gulf Coast were devastated by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster, which killed 11 people and spilled millions of gallons of oil.

In a notable break with the president, Senator Rick Scott, a Florida Republican who has introduced legislation to prohibit drilling off his state, said he had urged Trump administration offi-

Continued on Page A16

## In a City of Money, Precious Coins Never Shone

**By DAN BARRY**

On the 11th floor of a downtown Manhattan building, just around the corner from the Holland Tunnel, sits one of the world’s finest collections of coins. Stored behind a series of locked doors in a massive, climate-controlled vault, the coins tell the story of civilization, from antiquity to today.

A Sumerian clay tablet from about 2000 B.C.E. Early Chinese forms of money shaped like miniature tools. A silver French penny from the age of Charlemagne. A medal given by the Lincoln administration to a Native American chief, pierced by a bullet. More than 800,000 other telltale coins, medals and objects of wonder.

But apart from scholars, members and the occasional enthusiast, almost no one sees this treasure, which is one reason its guardian, the American Numismatic Society, is leaving the city where it was founded in the mid-19th century — and moving to Toledo, Ohio.

The society announced on Thursday that it will be making a “strategic” relocation to an Art Deco building on the spacious campus of the Toledo Museum of Art. The \$20 million plan, to be completed in 2028, would make possible its long-harbored vision of a state-of-the-art money museum, a dream that has proved elusive in New York.

The American Numismatic Society’s collection includes Roman coins marking Caesar’s assassination, with Brutus on one side.

“One of our members said that this will mean a terrible loss to New York City,” the society’s executive director, Ute Wartenberg Kagan, said. “But if no one uses it, what’s the loss?”

Wartenberg Kagan, a scholar of ancient Greek coinage, left the British Museum in 1998 to join the American Numismatic Society and someday establish a proper money museum where one belonged, in the city of Wall Street. But exorbitant costs and space

constraints conspired against those plans, as did an apparent indifference to the charms of numismatics.

So: Hello, Toledo!

Wartenberg Kagan said that she and several other colleagues are eager to make the 560-mile move west, where the society has already bought the building that will house its collection as well as a library, auditorium and education center. The population of the

Continued on Page A13



TODD HEISLER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Sons of Commerce Chief Cash In as He Pushes A.I.

### Lutnick’s Role as Promoter of U.S. Industry Overlaps With Family’s Businesses

This article is by **Eric Lipton, Michael Rothfeld, David Yaffe-Bellany and Ana Swanson.**

MIAMI — Kyle Lutnick, the 29-year-old scion of his family’s real estate business, traveled in July to Amarillo, Texas, to walk a dusty tract of land with the head of an artificial intelligence start-up called Fermi America.

He was touring the site of a future data center with Toby Neugebauer, a billionaire who is building one of the behemoth facilities that will power the next generation of A.I. Mr. Lutnick’s company was helping raise capital for the center, banking millions in fees in the process.

“Polite young man,” Mr. Neugebauer said in an interview.

A month later, Kyle’s father, Howard Lutnick, was photographed with Mr. Neugebauer at an event near the White House that celebrated Fermi’s partnership with a South Korean company on the same data center project.

This sequence of events — a son making money on a project his father is boosting as a federal official — has come up repeatedly since President Trump tapped Howard Lutnick to head the Commerce Department, according to an investigation by The New York Times.

In that role, Mr. Lutnick has twisted the arms of American allies, dangling policy favors in exchange for investments in U.S. industrial projects. At times, these tactics have created opportunities for his family’s clients to gain access to much-needed foreign capital, The Times found.

Mr. Lutnick, for example, demanded that the South Korean government invest billions of dollars in U.S. industry to reduce tariffs. Mr. Neugebauer is vying for a share of those investment dollars to build the data center that Mr. Lutnick’s family is also helping to finance.

The job of commerce secretary has always been to promote American industry through deal-making at home and abroad, and the position has traditionally been

Continued on Page A18

#### More on the White House

**AUTISM** The C.D.C. changed language on its website to echo the health secretary’s vaccine skepticism. PAGE A16

**SWASTIKAS** The Coast Guard softened its stance on hate symbols, saying displays are merely “politically divisive.” PAGE A22

**‘PUNISHABLE BY DEATH’** The president accused Democrats of sedition for reminding troops not to obey illegal orders. PAGE A16

**BRANDING** The Oval Office study has become a room for the president to display merchandise that he gives as gifts. PAGE A14

## Epstein Scandal Risks Career Of Ubiquitous Public Scholar

**By MARK ARSENAULT**

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Of the many prominent roles Lawrence H. Summers has held over his career in government and Harvard University, the part he has played the longest is omnipresent public intellectual, appearing practically anywhere there is a microphone to deliver confident takes on the economy or global events.

Not even a knack for picking fights and provoking controversy has kept one of the country’s best-known economists from TV screens, newspapers, podcasts, social media and elite forums — perhaps until now.

Embarrassing revelations about his chumminess with a notorious sex offender, the disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein, could quiet him.

They have, for the moment, cost him his lofty teaching position at Harvard and positions on prominent boards, including the artificial intelligence company, OpenAI. And now, Harvard has said it will review the connections between



Lawrence H. Summers remained powerful after controversial statements about women.

Continued on Page A17



AARON SCHWARTZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Memorial for Dick Cheney**  
As Liz Cheney and Washington luminaries honored the former vice president, many noticed who was not invited. Page A20.

INTERNATIONAL A4-11	BUSINESS B1-6	WEEKEND ARTS C1-10	OBITUARIES A23, 26	OPINION A24-25
<b>Japan’s Counter to Bear Attacks</b> Residents in the northern region of Akita are living in fear after dozens of assaults on humans. Riot police and the army have been sent to help. PAGE A10	<b>A New Self-Driving Taxi</b> With the arrival of Amazon’s Zoox robot taxi to compete with Waymo, autonomous services are gaining momentum. But there are pros and cons. PAGE B1	<b>A Message in the Wires</b> In a major retrospective at MoMA, Ruth Asawa’s undulating looped-wire sculptures and drawings of flowers hint at personal depths. PAGE C1	<b>German 1960s Twin Sister Act</b> Alice and Ellen Kessler, 89, who were nightclub stars and regular guests on international variety shows, chose to end their lives together. PAGE A26	<b>Jennifer Weiner</b> PAGE A24

“IS IT ELECTRIFYING? G

D, YES!

THE NEW YORK TIMES

OEDIPUS ★ BROADWAY ★ 89 PERFORMANCES LEFT