



100 million customers’ AT&T call data stolen

Records could provide criminals a relationship web to target victims

BY JOSEPH MENN
AND AARON GREGG

Hackers stole records detailing the phone contacts of almost all AT&T Wireless customers in one of the most serious breaches of sensitive consumer data in recent years, the company disclosed in a securities filing Friday.

The cache includes the numbers called or texted by more than 100 million customers between May 1 and Oct. 31, 2022, as well as one day in January 2023. It contains the numbers themselves as well as the frequency and combined durations of the interactions, but not the customer names or the content of those communications, AT&T said.

Since most numbers can be tied to real names, such records illuminate who is close to whom. That would provide a road map for criminals who could impersonate a friend or relative to trick a victim. Texts from financial institutions could be mimicked to get an account holder to divulge passwords, and workplace relationships could reveal the identity of U.S. spies.

“This data could be used by spies, scammers and other bad actors to target specific people or to improve the feasibility of scams by impersonating the numbers of people you regularly call,” said technologist Cooper Quintin of the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

The ability of U.S. intelligence to access similar calling records was one of the most alarming and

SEE AT&T ON A14

Baldwin’s ‘Rust’ case tossed out by judge

Ruling says prosecutors improperly hid potential evidence from defense

BY SAMANTHA CHERY
AND MARÍA LUISA PAÚL

Alec Baldwin’s “Rust” shooting trial was dismissed Friday, after a judge ruled that prosecutors improperly withheld potential evidence from the defense team. The ruling was a shocking end to the Emmy Award-winning actor’s years-long effort to clear his name after a prop gun discharged in his hand on a film set in 2021, releasing a live bullet that killed cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and wounded the film’s director.

Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer said in her ruling that prosecutors had failed to properly inform defense lawyers of live ammunition in their possession, which may have been connected to the shooting. “The state’s woeful withholding of this information was intentional and deliberate,” she said.

The actor had been on trial for involuntary manslaughter since Tuesday, as prosecutors argued that his reckless handling of a prop gun on the set of the low-

SEE BALDWIN ON A14



SARAH L. VOISIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

After Maui’s fires, a battle for a town’s sacred water

Long before Lahaina burned to the ground, canals crisscrossed the community. Spring-fed pools and taro patches dotted downtown. The seat of the Hawaiian Kingdom was a small island in the middle of a sacred pond off modern-day Front Street.

So much water coursed through Lahaina, on its path from the mountains to the ocean, that early European visitors christened it the “Venice of the Pacific.”

But over two centuries, everything changed. American colonizers landed on Hawaii and flocked to Lahaina. Sugar plantations and land developers followed, steadily siphoning and diverting, draining the area dry. Wetlands were buried under parks and parking lots. The town was transformed into a tinderbox.

When flames finally came for the old Lahaina town in August, they killed at least 101 people and destroyed thousands of homes.

Since then, Maui’s oldest struggle — for

Locals see a chance to restore the ancient ecosystem of Lahaina, once flush with wetlands. It won’t be easy.

BY REIS THEBAULT IN LAHAINA, HAWAII

Ke’eaumoku Kapu stands near the site of his Na ‘Aikane O Maui Cultural Center, which burned down in August.

its most precious resource — has only grown more intense. The fire has forced a reckoning over the ways outside interests have historically exploited the island’s natural environment. But for those who want change, Lahaina’s wholesale destruction has presented an unprecedented opportunity to reimagine the town from the groundwater up, a chance to restore the wetlands and the hallowed site at their heart.

“Right now, believe it or not, even though people say our town is gone, I look at it as the opposite,” said Ke’eaumoku Kapu, standing outside the charred remains of his Na ‘Aikane O Maui Cultural Center, near the now-buried wetlands.

Kapu is part of a growing group of Native Hawaiian leaders, local advocates and elected officials who are pushing to revive the town’s pre-colonial ecosystem. The campaign could eventually lead to a showdown with powerful private firms

SEE LAHAINA ON A8

BY EMILY HEIL
AND FRITZ HAHN

Unlike so many other storied cocktails, the Orange Crush’s origins are undisputed. Without the fog of centuries obscuring which monocle-sporting bartender first coined the term or which long-closed Gilded Age establishment first served the drink, the crush’s biography is well known: Once upon a time (1995, in fact), at the Harborside Bar & Grill in Ocean City, Md., bartenders came up with a concoction of vodka, freshly squeezed oranges and triple sec, which they topped off with a splash of lemon-lime soda.

So begins the history of the Orange Crush, a drink whose popularity quickly spread, making it a summertime staple at bars and crab shacks not just in Maryland but all along the Mid-Atlantic coast. Nearly 30 years on, its legend has reached a new inflection point. Thanks to swift legislative action this summer, the Orange Crush is set to become the official cocktail of the great state of ... Delaware.

Yes, the state located less than 10 miles north of the drink’s actual cradle was the one to give it this distinction, a move that recogniz-

Maryland invented the ORANGE CRUSH.



Now Delaware is claiming it.

REY LOPEZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; FOOD STYLING BY LISA CHERKASKY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

es the drink’s ascension — but that might just be ruffling a few Old Bay-scented feathers.

“Meet you at the boardwalk at noon,” joked Derek Brown, a Washington-based drinks expert who grew up in Maryland. Brown was careful to say that while many Delaware bars make a good crush, bragging rights for the drink rightly belong to his native state. “On one side, I do recognize that Delaware has that claim — they’ve made a good Orange Crush,” Brown said. “However, this legislation is a little like saying, ‘I went to your house and stole something and it’s mine now.’ Saying that possession is nine-tenths of the law doesn’t make it so.”

The bill establishing the drink in the First State’s firmament, adopted by the legislature late last month and now awaiting the governor’s pen, does not — exactly — attempt to rewrite the drink’s history. “The Orange Crush cocktail is *claimed* to have been originated by bartenders in Ocean City, Maryland in 1995,” the legislation states (the added emphasis is

SEE ORANGE CRUSH ON A9

MAKE YOUR OWN

The recipe for the Harborside Orange Crush Cocktail. A9

ELECTION 2024

Biden trains fire on Trump

NEW PASSION AT MICHIGAN RALLY

Aims to stem tide of calls asking him to leave race

BY YASMEEN ABUTALEB
AND CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.

DETROIT — President Biden, turning up the volume on his case for another term, delivered his most forceful defense yet of his candidacy in a fiery rally here Friday, charging that Republican Donald Trump was receiving a “free pass” and unspooling a list of factors he said rendered Trump unfit to serve as president again.

Before a crowd of more than 2,000 enthusiastic supporters chanting “Don’t you quit” and “We’ve got your back,” Biden accused journalists and pundits of fixating on his verbal slip-ups while ignoring Trump’s criminal conviction and the accusations of sexual assault and rape against him.

“Mr. Trump raped her,” Biden, emphasizing the word “raped” as he read from a judge’s ruling in a case in which Trump was found civilly liable of defaming writer E. Jean Carroll after she accused him

SEE BIDEN ON A4

Eclipsed: Democrats worry good news on economy being buried. A5

Losing Clooney: The fundraiser where some say Biden was frail. A6

MSNBC leans forward: “Morning Joe” plays arbiter of Biden fray. C1

RFK Jr. apologizes to accuser via text

Woman who alleges he groped her calls his message ‘disingenuous’

BY PETER JAMISON

Independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has privately apologized to a woman who accused him of sexual assault, saying he does not remember the alleged incident and that any harm he caused was “inadvertent.”

In a story published last week in Vanity Fair, the woman, Eliza Cooney, described inappropriate behavior and sexual advances from Kennedy when she worked as his family’s weekend nanny in the late 1990s, including an incident in which Kennedy approached her from behind and allegedly groped her in a pantry. At the time, Cooney was 23. Kennedy was 45 and married, with five children.

“I have no memory of this incident but I apologize sincerely for anything I ever did that made you feel uncomfortable or anything I did or said that offended you or hurt your feelings,” Kennedy wrote in a text message to Cooney sent at 12:33 a.m. on July 4, two

SEE KENNEDY ON A10

IN THE NEWS

Cosmic surprises The latest dazzling image from NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope shows two intertwined galaxies nicknamed the Penguin and the Egg. A10

A local music maven dies Joe Lee was a dealer of obscure albums whose store was the informal center of the D.C. scene. B1

THE NATION Rudy Giuliani’s bankruptcy case was thrown out, opening the door for seizure of his assets. A3
At the Alamo, restoration has sparked conflict over how a new museum will portray slavery. A3

THE WORLD A security force has been in Haiti just weeks, but citizens already doubt its efficacy. A11
Cease-fire talks hit snags as Israel and Hamas neared a deal, officials said. A12

THE ECONOMY The Biden administration unveiled a \$1.7 billion push to boost production of electric vehicles by retooling 11 auto factories. A13
As consumers reject higher prices, snack giants PepsiCo and Conagra confront recent revenue declines. A14

THE REGION The District received mixed reviews from residents and business owners over its handling of the NATO summit that just wrapped up. B1
Compass Coffee’s hiring spree is an anti-union tactic to dilute next week’s vote, some workers say. B1

SPORTS An ex-Nats prospect finds his calling as part of the barnstorming Savannah Bananas, who come to D.C. tonight. D1
At Wimbledon, Carlos Alcaraz and Novak Djokovic advanced to Sunday’s men’s final, a rematch of the thriller they staged last year. D1

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