



Hurricane Erin hits closest point to U.S.

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U.S., EU lock in trade deal lowering tariffs



European Commissioner for Trade Maros Sefcovic said the U.S. trade deal does not include wine and spirits, adding that the door was not closed to tariff reductions for the sector and others not included in the deal.

YVES HERMAN/REUTERS

Auto tariff relief may be seen in weeks

Andrea Shalal and David Lawder
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – The United States and the European Union on Aug. 21 locked in a framework trade deal reached last month that includes a 15% tariff on most EU imports, including autos, pharmaceuticals, semiconductors and lumber.

In a 3½-page joint statement, the two sides listed the commitments made, including the EU’s pledge to eliminate tariffs on all U.S. industrial goods and to provide preferential market access for a wide range of U.S. seafood and agricultural goods.

Washington will take steps to reduce

the current 27.5% U.S. tariffs on cars and car parts, a huge burden for European carmakers, once Brussels introduces the legislation needed to enact promised tariff cuts on U.S. goods, it said.

President Donald Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the deal on July 27 at Trump’s luxury golf course in Turnberry, Scotland, after an hourlong meeting that followed months of negotiations.

The two leaders met again Aug. 18 as part of negotiations aimed at ending Russia’s war in Ukraine, with both lauding their trade framework deal as an historic accomplishment. The statement

said the deal could be expanded over time to cover additional areas and further improve market access.

A senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly, said European carmakers could see relief from the current U.S. tariffs within “hopefully weeks.”

The joint statement was “a play to hold each other accountable” and ensure that both sides carried out the pledges announced last month, the official said.

The statement said U.S. tariff relief on autos and auto parts would kick in on the first day of the month in which the EU introduced the legislation, offering the prospect of retroactive relief

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State Police increase focus on drunken driving

Jalen Williams
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

To combat late summer and Labor Day holiday impaired driving, state officials have created a task force to increase enforcement and messaging about the dangers of driving drunk.

The “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign, which runs through Sept. 1, is a collaboration with the Michigan State Police (MSP) and county and municipal law enforcement agencies to try to and stop crashes involving impaired drivers.

“Impaired driving is totally preventable, yet more than 12,000 people are killed each year because someone selfishly decides to drive under the influence. Law enforcement officers nationwide are joining us to help stop impaired drivers and save lives,” NHTSA Chief Counsel Peter Simshauser said in a release.

Officials say from mid-August through the holiday they see an uptick in crashes involving drivers who are under the influence. During the heightened enforcement period, officers will be focusing on motorists who are under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

“Getting behind the wheel of a vehicle after you’ve been drinking or taking drugs endangers you, your passengers and everyone else on the road,” said Alicia Sledge, director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP). “We are encouraging people to make the right choice and find a sober ride home if they plan on consuming alcohol.”

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Project Connect offers housing, utility aid

Janis Reeser
AI-assisted reporter
Sturgis Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The St. Joseph County Housing Task Force will host Project Connect & Veteran Stand Down on Oct. 3. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Centreville Fairgrounds Henningsen Show Arena, 316 E. Charlotte St., Centreville, according to a community announcement.

A free lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The St. Joseph County Transportation Authority is offering free transportation to the event with 48-hour notice. To arrange transportation, call 269-273-7808 or 800-964-5700.

Project Connect & Veteran Stand Down aims to provide resources and support services to the community. Food assistance will be available, including food boxes while supplies last. Support services will include utility assistance information, housing information and senior home repair information.

Additional resources will cover topics such as aging adults, employment, education, legal aid, family services, mental health and substance use. Medical screenings will be offered, including free flu shots and immunizations for most individuals. Other health services will include blood pressure and glucose checks, stroke screenings and a pre-screen for a vision clinic. Hygiene

items and haircuts will also be available.

Veterans will have a dedicated Stand Down area and must bring a photo ID. For more information about the Stand Down, call 269-966-5600 ext. 33563.

Agencies and organizations interested in registering a booth may contact event chair, Laura Brott at BrottL@michigan.gov.

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