THE BIGGEST PIECE OF MARS ON EARTH IS GOING UP FOR AUCTION IN NEW YORK / A2





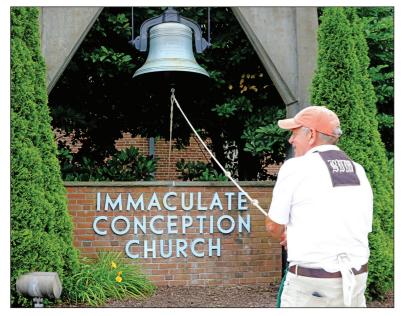
Monday, July 14, 2025 | **thewesterlysun** com

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL



Photos by Harold Hanka, Special to The Sun

On a hot and humid day, hundreds of worshippers turned out for the annual Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel procession on Sunday in Westerly. A cherished tradition of Westerly's tight-knit Italian-American community, this year's feast, the 97th annual celebration, began July 9 with a Mass celebrated by Rev. Joseph Pescatello at Westerly's Immaculate Conception Church, along with the "Crowning of the Blessed Mother/Jesus" statue and the traditional enrollment into the scapular and consecration to the Blessed Mother. On Sunday, the final day of the traditional four-day celebration, following a Mass celebrated by Bishop Bruce A. Lewandowski in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, a three-mile street procession through local streets was held. At dusk a band concert courtesy of the Westerly Band and fireworks display at Cimalore Field completes the festival.





Above, faithful reach out to touch statue following Mass and prior to procession. At left, John Ventilato, a member of the feast committee, waits for the sign to toll the bell as

In Texas, rains bring new threat of flooding

The search for victims was briefly paused on Sunday

By Gabriela Aoun Associated Press

KERRVILLE, Texas — More heavy rains in Texas on Sunday temporarily paused a weeklong search for victims of catastrophic flooding along the Guadalupe River and led to high-water rescues elsewhere as officials warned that the downpours could again cause waterways to surge.

It was the first time a new round of severe weather had paused the search since the July Fourth floods, which killed at least 129 people. Authorities believe more than 160 people may still be missing in Kerr County alone, and 10 more in neighboring areas.

In Kerrville, where local officials have come under scrutiny over the failure to adequately warn residents about the rising water in the early morning hours of July 4, authorities went door-to-door to some homes after midnight early Sunday to alert people that flooding was again possible. Authorities also pushed phone alerts to those in the area.

During the pause in searches, Ingram Fire Department officials ordered crews to immediately evacuate the Guadalupe River corridor in Kerr County, warning the potential for a flash flood is high.

Late Sunday afternoon, the Kerr County Sheriff's Office announced that search teams in the western part of that county could resume their efforts. The Ingram Fire Department would resume their search and rescue efforts Monday morning, said agency spokesman Brian Lochte.

Latest flooding damages dozens ofhomes

Gov. Greg Abbott said on X that the state was making rescues in San Saba, Lampasas and Schleicher counties and that evacuations were taking place in a handful of others. Texas Task Force 1, a joint state and federal urban search and rescue team, had rescued dozens of people in the Lampasas area, Abbott said.

Holy Communion is offered.

Lawmakers visit 'Alligator Alcatraz' after being blocked

Dems comdemn new Fla. detention center

By Jennifer Peltz and Alexandra Rodriguez Associated Press

OCHOPEE, Fla. — Democratic lawmakers condemned Florida's new Everglades immigration detention center after visiting Saturday, describing it as crowded, unsanitary and bug-infested. Republicans on

the same tour said they saw nothing of the sort at the remote facility that officials have dubbed " Alligator Alcatraz."

The state-arranged tour came after some Democrats were blocked earlier from viewing the 3,000-bed detention center that the state rapidly built on an isolated airstrip surrounded by swampland. So many state legislators and members of Congress turned up Saturday that they were split into multiple groups.

"There are really disturbing, vile conditions and this place needs to be shut the hell down," U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, a Democrat, told reporters after visiting the agglomeration of tents, trailers and temporary buildings. "This place is a stunt, and they're abusing human beings here."

Cage-style units of 32 men share three combination

toilet-sink devices, the visitors measured the temperature at 83 degrees (28 degrees Celsius) in a housing area entranceway and 85 (29 Celsius) in a medical intake area, and grasshoppers and other insects abound. she and her fellow Florida Democrats said.

Although the visitors said they were not able to speak with the detainees, Rep. Maxwell See Alligator, A5 The latest round of flooding damaged about 100 homes and knocked down untold lengths of cattle fencing, said Ashley Johnson, CEO of the Hill Country Community Action Association, a San Saba-based nonprofit.

"Anything you can imagine in a rural community was damaged," she said. "Our blessing is it was daylight and we knew it was coming."

With more rain on the way, county officials ordered everyone living in flood-prone areas near the San Saba River to evacuate. Johnson said people were being moved to the San Saba Civic Center, which has become a safe, high place for people to receive aid and shelter.

"Everyone is in some way personally affected See Floods, A5

New tax break for auto loans could save some buyers thousands

But will it boost sales? Some are skeptical

By David A. Lieb Associated Press

Millions of people receive a federal tax deduction for the interest they pay on home loans. Under President Donald Trump's new tax-cut law, many people for the first time also could claim a tax deduction for interest on their vehicle loans.

The new tax break will be available even to people who don't itemize deductions. But there are some caveats that could limit its reach. The vehicles must be new, not used. They must be assembled in the U.S. And the loans must be issued no sooner than this year, to list just a few qualifications.

Here are some things to know about the new auto loan interest tax deduction:

Candidate Trump promised an auto loan interest tax break

Trump pledged while campaigning last year to make interest on car loans tax-deductible. He said it would make car ownership more affordable and "stimulate massive domestic auto production."

The idea made it into the big tax-cut bill passed by Congress, which Trump signed into law See Autos, A5



A long line of unsold 2024 Bronco utility vehicles sit on display at Ford dealership in Denver, Nov. 28, 2024.

AP file photo

SPORTS



Crochet shines for Red Sox in first shutout. **B1**

ENTERTAINMENT



'Superman' soars to a **B5** \$122 million debut

FRONT PORCH NEWS



Westerly High School grads read at DCS **B**8



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