#### Many shoppers experience sticker shock on new cars

Average selling price tops \$50,000 for first time, says Kelley Blue Book. Here's why. In Money

#### **College football Week 10:** 6 teams remain unbeaten

After weekend free of upsets, a look at who has best chance to reach playoff. In Sports



FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



make something that is

"not too scary." In Life

# 'Total' ruin is feared in Jamaica

**Hurricane Melissa brings** dangerous winds, rain

**Dinah Voyles Pulver, Thao Nguyen** and Jeanine Santucci **USA TODAY** 

Catastrophic Hurricane Melissa made landfall along the southwestern coast of Jamaica on Oct. 28 with dangerous wind speeds of 185 mph and life-threatening storm surge, preparing to leave a wake of destruction across the island before turning its ferocity on southeastern Cuba.

The storm, now the strongest tropical cyclone of 2025 globally, killed at least seven people before it even hit. Its landfall is one of the most powerful in Atlantic Basin recorded history, the National Hurricane Center said.

It's the third Category 5 hurricane of the Atlantic season - the highest category possible on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

At 10 a.m. Eastern, the National Hurricane Center issued a dire warn-"LAST CHANCE TO PROTECT

#### See MELISSA, Page 2A



Port Royal in Kingston, Jamaica, was already flooding Oct. 27 as Hurricane Melissa approached. RICARDO MAKYN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

#### **Town's Catholic** statues mark another fight of religious liberty

**BrieAnna J. Frank and Peter Blandino** USA TODAY NETWORK

A showdown over Catholic statues on a public building in a Massachusetts city represents yet another fight in a national conversation about the separation of church and state.

Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch commissioned statues of St. Michael and St. Florian, the patron saints of police and firefighters, to adorn its new police headquarters. But more than a dozen residents are suing Koch, alleging that the city is violating religious neutrality as outlined in the state constitution.

A judge granted a preliminary injunction in mid-October, barring the statues from being installed as litigation continues.

Koch told The Patriot Ledger, part of the USA TODAY Network, that the city

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apartment to take out the trash, she

Then he sent her a text message that scared her.

Chelsea Van Thof called the police, a friend, and then set out to find him on that warm Wednesday night in April

ton Memorial Bridge, peering through an 8-foot-high light green wrought iron

She felt her breathing slow. She saw police lights in the distance of a nearby bridge - that's when she knew.

Peter Tripp died by suicide after jumping from the William Howard Taft

came obsessed by the fact that the two



Chelsea Van Thof has advocated for a barrier on Washington's Taft Bridge after boyfriend Peter Tripp's suicide in 2022. PROVIDED BY CHELSEA VAN THOF

# Trump crackdown drawing backlash



Federal agents clash with protesters at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building on Oct. 12, in Portland, Oregon. MATHIEU LEWIS-ROLLAND/GETTY IMAGES

### President says he's ridding crime, others see power grab



"A lot more people are either staving closer to home or not coming out at all."

**Lupe Lopez** East San Jose, California **President Donald Trump** deployed National Guard troops to Washington,

DC, in August. AL DRAGO/REUTERS **Christopher Cann, Michael Loria,** Jack Armstrong, Suzette **Hackney and Terry Collins** USA TODAY NETWORK

In Chicago, federal agents rappelled from Black Hawk helicopters onto an apartment building. In Portland, Oregon, masked officers clashed with protesters wearing inflatable animal costumes. In the nation's capital, police set up checkpoints and troops patrolled the streets.

Since early June, President Donald Trump has surged federal resources into a growing number of Democratic-led cities as part of a widening crackdown on illegal immigration and violent crime.

The deployments have sparked intense backlash, a dizzying number of legal battles and upended daily life in communities flooded with federal agents and National Guard troops.

The Trump administration says the added resources are needed to service the president's mass deportation campaign and clamp down on

See CRACKDOWN, Page 4A

## A partner's death spurs change for bridge

2 spans show difference suicide barriers can make

Laura Trujillo

USA TODAY

He had left their Washington, DC,

She stood on the nearby Duke Elling-

Bridge. He was 29. Almost immediately Van Thof be-

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