

NATION & WORLD ■ IN BRIEF

US, Iranian negotiators reach tentative deal to extend ceasefire and start new nuclear talks

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. and Iranian negotiators reached a tentative agreement Thursday to extend the ceasefire in the 3-month-old war by 60 days and start a new round of talks on Iran’s nuclear program, according to a U.S. official familiar with the matter. Iran did not immediately confirm any deal, and the official noted that President Donald Trump has yet to sign off on it. The emerging memorandum of understanding came as the fragile ceasefire in the war between the U.S. and Iran appeared to be wavering. The latest flare-up in fighting happened less than a day earlier, when Kuwait intercepted missiles fired from Iran, according to U.S. Central Command. The memorandum makes clear that Iran will not be able to impose tolls on the Strait of Hormuz and that Iran will have to remove all mines from the vital waterway within 30 days, according to the official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. During the war, Iran has effectively closed the strait, which had been the conduit

for about a fifth of the world’s traded oil and natural gas. Its closure has sent oil prices skyrocketing around the world. U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent predicted Thursday at a news briefing that the cost of oil could “come down very quickly” once a deal is finalized.

Source: Justice Dept. opens investigation into E. Jean Carroll

WASHINGTON — The Department of Justice has opened an investigation into whether E. Jean Carroll, the longtime advice columnist who has said Donald Trump sexually assaulted her in a New York department store 30 years ago, lied during the course of civil litigation against him, according to a person familiar with the matter.

The person who confirmed the existence of the investigation was not authorized to publicly discuss an ongoing inquiry and spoke on the condition of anonymity. The perjury investigation is being led by the federal prosecutors’ office in Chicago, and acting Attorney General Todd Blanche has had no involvement because of his prior work as Trump’s personal attorney, the person said.

A lawyer for Carroll declined to comment through a spokesperson on Thursday.

It’s the latest in a series of investigations that Trump’s Justice Department has opened into perceived adversaries of the Republican president. The actions, including securing an indictment last month against former FBI Director James Comey, have raised alarm from Democrats and former officials that an institution meant to make prosecutorial decisions independent of the White House is being weaponized against the president’s political enemies.

SIMPLY



APPLICATION FOR PRIVILEGE LICENSE

I have made an application at the Business License Office of the City of Smyrna, GA for AMZ Prime LLC dba **Discount Smoke and Food Mart** located 2387 S Cobb Dr SE, STE A requesting to be the licensed agent for a Privilege license for the sale of Beer and Wine (Package sales). This application will be heard before the License and Variance Board for the City of Smyrna at City Hall, 2800 King Street, Smyrna, Georgia on 06/10/2026 at 10:00 a.m. All concerned persons are hereby notified.

Amreen Khan, Licensee

AMZ Prime LLC  
Dba Discount Smoke and Food Mart  
2387 S Cobb Dr SE, Ste A, Smyrna GA 30082

I have made application with the City of Kennesaw at the business license office for a **Wine Package Sales for Off Premises Consumption Retail Package Alcohol License for: 1885 Grill Kennesaw located at 2840 S Main St Kennesaw, GA 30144.**

The Mayor and City Council will hear said request on June 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at Kennesaw City Hall, 2529 J. O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144. All interested persons are hereby notified of said hearing and invited to attend and be heard relative thereto.

|                               |                                              |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Michael Schroeder<br>Licensee | 1885 Grill Kennesaw<br>Name of Establishment |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|

CITY OF MABLETON — NOTICE OF ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

Jasdaya Enterprise LLC, doing business as Buddy’s Mart, located at 935 Veterans Memorial Hwy. SW Ste. 100, Mableton, Georgia 30126, has applied for a City of Mableton Alcoholic Beverage License Retail Beer, Wine & Sunday sales Off-Premises Consumption.

|                              |                                                 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Swapandeep Singh<br>Licensee | Jasdaya Enterprise LLC<br>Name of Establishment |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

Any person who desires to make objection to the granting of this license must file a written objection with the City of Mableton Business Licensing Division at 6116 Mableton Pkwy, Suite 144, Mableton, Georgia 30126, no later than Friday April 17, 2026.



# GEORGIA MOUNTAIN

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Barstool Sports founder and owner Dave Portnoy, left, tries a slice of “The Portnoy” pizza from Marietta’s Solar Slice Pizza as part of his viral One Bite Pizza Reviews series. On the far right is Zachary Wyatt, owner of the pizzeria.

PORTNOY

From A1

score, where Portnoy fans can submit their own pizza ratings. Business has ramped up for the restaurant since Portnoy’s review, with Solar Slice running out of pizza dough several days in a row. The shop has also paused selling individual slices, requiring customers to order an entire pie in order to keep up with demand. On Memorial Day, Wyatt said he and his team prepped more than 700 pans of dough in anticipation for the holiday. Saturday on social media, Wyatt announced that pizzas were sold out and that the “Portnoy Effect is real.” “At this point, after the Dave Portnoy review, I’ve started to lose sight of time. Days are feeling like weeks, minutes are feeling like hours,” Wyatt said. Portnoy also made a stop in Smyrna for a slice at Ruby’s Sourdough Pizza, where he tried their classic cheese pizza. Before digging in, Portnoy was impressed with the shop’s outdoor area, complete with lawn chairs and a big screen TV playing live sports and movies throughout the day. “Good idea, good vibe,” he said. “Good crisp, could use a little more sauce for my taste. (I rate it) a 6.8, but still, it’s almost worth the

Jack Lindner

Solar Slice Pizza is on Cobb Parkway in Marietta.

price of admission to watch a movie and enjoy the day.” Locals were more positive than Portnoy’s review, with Ruby’s Sourdough receiving a higher 7.5 rating on the community score. Chris Rimby, owner of Ruby’s Sourdough, said he was thankful for his customers’ support, as they were the ones who recommended Ruby’s be included on Portnoy’s list. “That was the part that was touching and brought a little tear to my eye, to be honest with you,” Rimby told the MDJ. “That part of it was incredible.” Similar to Solar Slice, Ruby’s has seen an uptick in customers over the past week, Rimby said, with many citing Portnoy’s review as their inspiration to try it. Since his visit to Cobb, videos of Portnoy’s Solar

A pizza maker takes a pie out of the oven at Solar Slice Pizza.

Slice and Ruby’s Sourdough reviews have racked up more than 140,000 and 105,000 views on YouTube, respectively. Solar Slice Pizza is at 497 Cobb Parkway in Marietta. It’s open daily from 11 a.m. to midnight. For more information, visit solarslicepizza.com. Ruby’s Sourdough Pizza is at 1625 Roswell Street in Smyrna. Its hours are 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:30 to 10 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays. For more information, visit rubysourdoughpizza.com.

SHOOTING

From A1

“This incident is understandably concerning for our community, and our thoughts remain with all those affected. We are thankful that no officers were injured and remain committed to transparency and a thorough, independent review as the process

moves forward,” said Cobb Police Chief Dan Ferrell, in a statement. The GBI is conducting an independent investigation into the shooting. Once the investigation is complete, it will be turned over to the Cobb County District Attorney’s Office for review. In video of the shooting obtained by Fox 5 Atlanta, eight gunshots can be heard, before the person holding the camera films the aftermath of the

shooting. Three officers stand with guns drawn in a parking lot and shout “don’t move,” before approaching someone on the ground. The person filming says “they shot him.” “My hands are shaking right now ... oh my God,” the person filming says.

Megan Jackson is a corps member with Report for America, a national service program that places journalists into local newsrooms.

BUDGET

From A1

The documents did not include a breakdown of where the additional money will go within the departments.

Even as the budget goes up, though, the Marietta City Council is proposing keeping the millage rate — which determines how much homeowners pay in property taxes — stable. Documents show the council is considering keeping the total millage rate flat at 4.692 mills. The general fund millage rate would also stay stable at 2.788 mills. The city is still expected to receive more revenue despite the stable millage rate due to increasing property values. Under Georgia law, increases in property tax revenue, even without raising the mill-

age rate, are considered tax increases and must be advertised as such. The Cobb County Board of Tax Assessors said earlier this year they anticipate the countywide tax digest to grow by about 4%. While this increase may impact commercial properties, it’s unlikely to have a huge impact on homeowners due to Cobb County’s and the City of Marietta both offering residents a floating homestead exemption. The floating homestead exemption, also known as a property assessment freeze, freezes property values on owner-occupied

residential properties at the original purchase price value. The assessment remains frozen for as long as the owner has the home. When the home is sold, the assessed value resets. The Marietta City Council will hold two public hearings to give citizens an opportunity to comment on the proposed budget. The first will be held on June 1 at noon and the second will take place on June 3 at 6 p.m. Both will happen in the Marietta City Hall council chambers. The council is set to vote to adopt the budget during its regular meeting on June 10.

NOTICE OF BUDGET AVAILABILITY AND BUDGET MEETINGS

The City of Powder Springs hereby provides notice that a draft proposed budget for Fiscal Year 27 is available for review at [www.powderspringsga.gov](http://www.powderspringsga.gov). The public is invited to provide comments or ask questions by sending an email to [info@powderspringsga.gov](mailto:info@powderspringsga.gov). First reading and public hearing is scheduled for June 1, 2026 followed by second public hearing and proposed adoption on June 15, 2026 at City Hall Council Chambers, 4483 Pineview Drive and via ZOOM. The ZOOM details will be available on the City’s website.