

Top Global News



Trump Rejects Iran's Peace Counterproposal; Oil Prices Surge

President Trump declared Iran's latest response to a U.S. ceasefire proposal "totally unacceptable," sending oil prices sharply higher on Monday morning. Brent crude rose roughly 2.9% to above \$104 a barrel while WTI climbed above \$97, as the Strait of Hormuz — effectively closed since the start of the war roughly ten weeks ago — remains shut.

Iran's counterproposal, delivered through Pakistani mediators, demanded U.S. recognition of Iranian sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz and compensation for war damages. The Iranian Revolutionary Guard separately threatened to target U.S. sites in the Middle East if Iran-flagged tankers come under fire again, after U.S. forces disabled two Iranian oil tankers last week.

Analysts note the deadlock continues to ripple across the global economy. The UN Development Program estimates roughly 8.8 million people are at risk of being pushed into poverty, and potential economic losses to the Asia-Pacific region could reach \$299 billion. A senior Saxo Bank strategist described Trump's comments as nudging "in the direction of re-escalation — potentially more shooting" while still expecting a fresh diplomatic olive branch.

Trump-Xi Summit Set for Beijing This Week as World Watches

President Trump is set to visit Beijing from May 13–15 at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, China's Foreign Ministry confirmed. The high-stakes summit agenda spans trade, technology, rare earth export controls, Taiwan, the Iran war, and artificial intelligence.

Ahead of the summit, U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng will meet in South Korea on Wednesday to discuss economic and trade issues. Analysts say the two sides will try to ensure recent escalations — including U.S. sanctions on Chinese refiners buying Iranian crude and Beijing's countermeasures — don't derail a truce reached in South Korea last year.

The summit is being watched closely from Moscow, Brussels, and Tokyo. Any U.S.-China cooperation on reopening the Strait of Hormuz could offer near-term oil price relief, while a potential energy deal in which Beijing buys more U.S. oil and natural gas could displace Japanese and European market share. One analyst suggested the summit could reduce China's support for Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

UK PM Starmer Faces Pressure After Labour Suffers Major Local Election Losses

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer's Labour party suffered major losses in local elections held across Britain last week. So far, Starmer has rejected calls for his resignation, but the results have put significant political pressure on his government. An Ipsos-BVA survey done for La Tribune Dimanche found 91% of French respondents were pessimistic about France's economic situation, and 88% expressed concern over the future of the global economy — capturing a broader European mood amid the Middle East energy crisis.

Top US News



Hantavirus Cruise Ship Passengers Land in Nebraska for Evaluation

At least 17 Americans who were aboard the hantavirus-stricken cruise ship MV Hondius arrived in Omaha, Nebraska early Monday, where they will be evaluated at a highly specialized quarantine unit. One of the passengers has tested positive for the virus and another has mild symptoms, according to U.S. health officials.

Passengers from other countries have been returning to their home countries after weeks aboard the ship. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stressed that the risk of sweeping contagion is small, though the outbreak has triggered public concern about another potential pandemic-level event. Two New Jersey residents may also have been exposed to hantavirus after contact with an infected person who traveled on the MV Hondius.

White House Eyes Federal Gas Tax Suspension as Pump Prices Climb

U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright suggested Sunday that the Trump administration may consider suspending the federal gas tax to give Americans relief at the pump, saying the administration supports "all measures" to lower energy prices. The federal gas tax stands at 18.4 cents per gallon.

Wright said the administration has already tapped the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, revised EPA regulations on gasoline blends, and asked refiners to shorten maintenance schedules to keep pumping more fuel. He said gas price projections depend heavily on whether the Strait of Hormuz reopens — a critical channel whose effective closure since late February has caused the world's most severe energy shock in history.

The ongoing energy crisis is hitting lower-income consumers disproportionately, with higher prices at the pump exacerbating an economic divide. Economists have warned that if disruptions extend into the second half of 2026, a global recession is possible.

NYC Murder Rate Hits Record Low for First Four Months of 2026

New York City recorded the fewest murders in recorded history for the first four months of 2026, the NYPD announced Monday. There were 76 homicides from January through April — breaking the previous record low of 86 set in 2018 — amid a citywide drop in major crime of 9.5%.

April alone saw just 19 murders, also the lowest ever recorded for a single month since CompStat tracking began in 1994. Burglary declined 21.5%, auto theft fell 20.2%, and robbery dropped 13.8% over the same period. NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch credited "precision policing" targeting illegal guns and violent gangs.

Top NJ/NY News



LIRR Strike Threat Looms as Talks Resume Monday; May 16 Deadline Approaches

Negotiations between the MTA and five Long Island Rail Road unions resumed Monday — just days before a threatened strike deadline of May 16 that could shut down the nation's largest commuter railroad and disrupt service for roughly 300,000 daily riders.

The sticking point is the final year of a proposed four-year contract: unions are seeking a 5% raise while the MTA is offering 3%, arguing that going higher could force system-wide fare increases. Both sides have agreed to retroactive raises of 3% for 2023, 3% for 2024, and 3.5% for 2025. Hundreds of unionized LIRR workers rallied at Massapequa Station on Saturday as part of a "day of action."

The MTA has warned that if a strike occurs it will have no choice but to halt LIRR operations entirely. A contingency plan includes shuttle bus service from five Long Island locations to subway stations in Queens. MTA Chair Janno Lieber said he believes sides are making progress and called a strike "crazy."

New York Knicks Sweep 76ers, Advance to Eastern Conference Finals

The New York Knicks are headed back to the Eastern Conference finals after dominating the Philadelphia 76ers 144–114 in Game 4, completing a second-round sweep. The victory caps a dominant postseason run and sets up a high-stakes conference finals matchup. Earlier in the series, Jalen Brunson scored 35 points in a 137–98 blowout in Game 1.

New Jersey Approves High School Girls Flag Football with NFL Support

New Jersey has officially approved flag football as a high school sport for girls, with support from NFL teams in Philadelphia and New York. The move comes as flag football continues to grow in popularity as a safer alternative to tackle football, and follows similar approvals in other states. The initiative is backed by the NFL as part of its effort to expand the sport's reach among young women.

Dorchester Elementary School News & Events

End of School Year Approaching: Last Day June 18 with Early Dismissal

The 2025–2026 school year at Dorchester Elementary is winding down. The last day of school for students in the Woodcliff Lake School District is June 18, 2026, with a 12:30 PM early dismissal. There will also be no school on May 22 and May 25 for Memorial Day Weekend. Families should plan accordingly as the calendar heads into its final weeks.

PFA Meeting Scheduled for May 12 at BOE Board Room

A PFA (Parent Faculty Association) meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, at the BOE Board Room. Parents and community members interested in school activities, upcoming events, and end-of-year planning are encouraged to attend. PFA meetings are a key avenue for parent engagement at Dorchester Elementary.

Top Tech News



Nintendo Hikes Switch 2 Price to \$499.99 in U.S. as Memory Crunch Bites

Nintendo announced it will raise the price of the Switch 2 in the United States from \$449.99 to \$499.99, effective September 1, 2026. Japan will see prices rise even sooner — from ¥49,980 to ¥59,980 starting May 25. The company issued a formal apology to customers and cited "changes in market conditions" as the driver.

The root cause is the global AI-driven memory chip shortage. Memory chip prices have nearly doubled in recent months due to AI data center demand, forcing both Nintendo and Sony to raise console prices. Nintendo's financial forecast for the year ending March 2027 reflects approximately ¥100 billion in added costs from rising component prices and tariff measures, and the company now projects an 11% decline in profit and forecasts selling 16.5 million Switch 2 units — down roughly 17% from last year's 19.86 million.

Intel Reportedly Lands Major Apple Chip Deal, Sending Chip Stocks Surging

The Wall Street Journal reported that Intel landed a deal to make chips for Apple, a significant development that sent chip stocks soaring last week. Intel shares surged following the news, Micron Technology crossed \$700 for the first time, and AMD broke through a \$700 billion market cap. Top chip names added over \$400 billion in combined market value in a single session. The deal signals Apple is diversifying its chip manufacturing partnerships beyond its tight historical supply chain as AI-driven demand for advanced semiconductors intensifies.

GitHub Copilot Transitions to Usage-Based Billing on June 1

GitHub officially confirmed that all Copilot plans will move to usage-based billing on June 1, 2026, replacing the existing premium request unit (PRU) system with GitHub AI Credits tied to token consumption. Base subscription prices remain unchanged — Copilot Pro stays at \$10/month, Pro+ at \$39/month — but usage of advanced agentic features, chat, and code review will now draw down a monthly credit balance.

The company cited unsustainable inference costs as the reason for the change, noting that a multi-hour autonomous coding session can consume far more compute than a quick chat question but previously cost users the same amount. Monthly subscribers will migrate automatically on June 1. New sign-ups for Pro and Pro+ plans have been temporarily paused since April 20. Code completions and Next Edit Suggestions remain unlimited on all paid plans and will not consume AI Credits.

AI News



Claude Code Rated Top AI Coding Tool for May 2026

Multiple developer reviews and comparisons in May 2026 place Claude Code at the top of the AI coding tool rankings. Anthropic's terminal-native agent runs in the shell, reads entire codebases, edits files, runs commands, and creates pull requests autonomously. It earned this position largely on the strength of Claude Opus 4.7, released April 16, which pushed SWE-bench Verified scores from 80.8% to 87.6% and SWE-bench Pro from 53.4% to 64.3%.

Developers highlight Claude Code's 1 million token context window as a key differentiator — enabling full codebase analysis across 25,000–30,000 lines of code without chunking. Rakuten reported resolving 3x more production tasks with Opus 4.7 versus the prior Opus 4.6 model. Claude Code is now available across multiple surfaces: terminal, VS Code extension, JetBrains plugin, GitHub Actions, and mobile.

GitHub Copilot's Billing Model Shift Reshapes Agentic Coding Economics

As GitHub Copilot moves to usage-based billing on June 1, developers are reassessing which AI coding tool fits their workflow and budget. The shift reflects how deeply agentic AI has changed the product: longer context windows send more repository data to models, tool-calling creates multiple API calls per user action, and autonomous coding sessions can run for hours — all at costs that far exceeded what GitHub could absorb under a flat subscription model.

For annual subscribers who stay on their existing plans, model multipliers are increasing sharply. Anthropic's Opus 4.7 will jump from a 7.5x multiplier to 27x under the legacy PRU system. One developer community discussion noted that "the expensive part is no longer autocomplete — it's agents reading repos, running tools, doing long reasoning passes, reviewing pull requests, and spinning up cloud workspaces."

Cursor, Claude Code, and Codex Converging Into Composable Stack

Rather than one tool dominating AI-assisted development, Cursor, Claude Code, and OpenAI Codex are forming a composable coding stack, according to developer analyses. The consensus pattern for professional developers: use Cursor for daily IDE editing (autocomplete, inline suggestions, visual diffs), Claude Code for complex tasks requiring deep codebase understanding (large refactors, architecture changes, security audits), and Codex for long-running background tasks and parallel automated transformations.

Cursor pushed Composer 2 and parallel agents this spring, while Claude Code's April update brought improved agentic planning and expanded extended thinking. Meanwhile, OpenAI moved Codex pricing to token-based credits in April 2026. The AI coding tools market is now estimated at \$12.8 billion in 2026, up from \$5.1 billion in 2024, with 90% of professional developers using at least one AI coding tool daily.

Ukraine News



Russia Breaks 3-Day Ceasefire as Drone Strikes Continue Across Ukraine

Russia broke the U.S.-brokered three-day ceasefire that was supposed to run from May 9–11, launching drone strikes that killed one person and injured 19 across Ukraine, the Kyiv Independent reported. Ukrainian Air Force said it intercepted all 27 drones launched by Russia overnight. A Russian drone struck an apartment building in Kharkiv's Industrial district less than

24 hours into the ceasefire, though no casualties were reported from that specific attack.

Despite the violations, Ukrainian officials did not publicly comment on ceasefire breaches. The three-day pause was agreed to coincide with Russia's May 9 Victory Day celebrations and included a planned exchange of 1,000 prisoners of war from each side. Earlier in the ceasefire period, Ukrainian officials reported nearly 150 battlefield clashes and multiple drone and artillery strikes across the country.

Putin Signals War May Be 'Coming to an End,' Signals Willingness to Meet Zelensky

Russian President Vladimir Putin suggested his country's war on Ukraine may be "coming to an end" and said he would be willing to meet Ukrainian President Zelensky in a third country if a peace deal is finalized — a shift from his usual insistence on hosting talks in Moscow. Putin made the remarks after Victory Day events in Moscow following Russia's most scaled-back military parade in years, with no heavy military hardware on display.

Analysts remain skeptical. A fellow at Chatham House noted there have been "plenty of promises over the last 18 months that the end of the war was imminent" with none turning into reality. Broader peace talks remain stalled, with Ukraine rejecting Putin's demand to surrender territory.

Hungary's Pro-EU Peter Magyar Sworn In as Prime Minister, Kyiv Eyes Reset

Peter Magyar was sworn in as Hungary's new prime minister, with Kyiv watching closely for a possible reset in ties. Magyar's Tisza party resoundingly defeated Viktor Orbán's Fidesz in parliamentary elections on April 12, pledging a pivot away from Budapest's pro-Moscow direction and a mend in relations with the EU. The transition is seen as potentially significant for Ukraine, as Hungary under Orbán had been one of Russia's most sympathetic voices within the EU.

Top Financial News



S&P 500 Notches Sixth Straight Weekly Gain; Futures Flat on Iran Deadlock

Wall Street wrapped up its sixth straight winning week on Friday, a first for both the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite since 2024. The S&P 500 topped 7,300 for the first time ever, driven by strength in memory stocks — the Roundhill Memory ETF (DRAM) soared nearly 30% for the week. The Nasdaq rallied more than 4% over the week while the Dow rose 0.2%.

On Monday morning, U.S. stock futures are hovering near the flatline after President Trump rejected Iran's counterproposal, sending oil prices surging and keeping geopolitical uncertainty elevated. S&P 500 futures traded just below an all-time high. Nasdaq 100 futures rose slightly, supported by continued strength in Micron Technology and AMD shares.

April CPI Report on Tuesday to Test Rally; Powell's Fed Chair Term Ends Friday

This week is set to be one of the most pivotal stretches for markets in Q2 2026. The April Consumer Price Index (CPI) report arrives Tuesday at 8:30 AM ET, with consensus calling for headline CPI to rise 0.6% month-over-month and 3.7% year-over-year — a potential reset for Federal Reserve expectations.

Friday, May 15 marks the end of Jerome Powell's term as Fed Chair. The U.S. Senate is expected to confirm Kevin Warsh as Powell's successor this week. Warsh is viewed as more open to rate cuts, but the most recent FOMC meeting showed three dissenting voters, and a rate cut still appears unlikely without significantly softer inflation data. BlackRock's Rick Rieder said the economy "may slow somewhat from its prior path, due to the Iran war and subsequent oil price shock."

Top Stock News

Memory Chip Stocks in Focus as Nvidia Earnings Approach May 20

The memory chip rally that drove markets to fresh records last week remains in focus as Nvidia prepares to report earnings on May 20. Nvidia Technology crossed \$700 for the first time ever and AMD broke through a \$700 billion market cap on Friday. The Roundhill Memory ETF surged nearly 30% for the week, with analysts and investors loading up ahead of Nvidia's closely watched quarterly report. JPMorgan's trading desk expects mega-cap AI names to build on their recent momentum heading into Nvidia's results.

Roblox Tumbles 24% After Cutting Full-Year Bookings Guidance

Roblox shares fell sharply after the online game platform slashed its full-year 2026 bookings forecast, citing the impact of new safety measures including age-based accounts, age verification, and stricter content monitoring. The company forecast revenue of \$5.87 billion to \$6.14 billion for the full year, down from a prior outlook of \$6.02 billion to \$6.29 billion. The move highlights a difficult trade-off for consumer platforms between stronger safety protections and near-term engagement.

SoftBank Planning \$100 Billion AI & Robotics IPO for 'Roze' Platform

SoftBank is reportedly planning to create and list a new AI and robotics company called Roze in the U.S., with a potential valuation of up to \$100 billion. The company is expected to include robotics and data center-related assets, fitting Masayoshi Son's broader bet that AI will need physical infrastructure, robotics, and industrial automation — not just software models. A Roze IPO would test public-market appetite for large-scale AI robotics platforms.

MOVIES



The Sheep Detectives

In theaters May 8, 2026
George Hardy is a shepherd who reads detective novels to his beloved sheep every night, assuming they can't possibly understand. But when a mysterious incident disrupts life on the farm, the sheep realize they must become the detectives. As they follow the clues and investigate human suspects, they prove that even sheep can be brilliant crime-solvers.



My Hero Academia: More

In theaters May 2, 2026
Eight years later, Deku and his friends are on their adult hero journeys, but something is bothering Uraraka...



Swapped

In theaters May 1, 2026
A small woodland creature and a majestic bird, two natural sworn enemies of the Valley, magically trade places and set off on an adventure of a lifetime to switch back. Their journey soon uncovers a greater threat—one that could endanger not only their species, but the entire valley they call home.



That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime the Movie: Tears of the Azure Sea

In theaters May 1, 2026
After concluding the opening ceremony of the Demon Kingdom Federation Tempest, Rimuru and his companions are invited by the Celestial Emperor Hermesia of the great elven nation — the Magi Dynasty Salion — to visit her private resort island. As the group enjoys their brief vacation, a mysterious woman named Yura appears. A new incident unfolds against the backdrop of the boundless azure sea.

The Big Break

Opens May 12, 2026
A costumed mascot, fueled by an unyielding ambition to break into the entertainment industry, unexpectedly finds himself in a high-stakes situation: a chance encounter with a renowned Hollywood agent at a boisterous children's birthday party, where he must use his comedic timing and infectious energy to make a lasting impression, all while navigating a chaotic environment filled with cake, confetti, and the boundless enthusiasm of screaming kids...& Adults.



Flower Bot

Opens May 17, 2026
In a scorching hot desert, Betty, a young robot still grieving her kind, discovers a miraculous flower. To protect her, Betty will have to face the elements and her ties to the past...



Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan: Ghost War

Opens May 20, 2026
When an international covert mission unravels a deadly conspiracy, Ryan is forced back into the world of espionage to confront a rogue black-ops unit.