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Researchers Announce New Effort To Relocate Amelia Earhart's Plane Reprinted From NBC News,

July 2, 2025-

By Tom Costello, Jay
Blackman and Melissa
Chan

Researchers on Wednesday announced a new expedition to find Amelia Earhart's plane, based on evidence that suggests the famed aviator may have crash-landed on a remote island in the South Pacific.

A satellite photo may appear to show the remains of Earhart's plane peeking through the sand on the small, remote and inhospitable island lagoon of Nikumaroro in Kiribati, nearly 1,000 miles from Fiji, according to Richard Pettigrew, the executive director of the nonprofit Archaeological Legacy Institute in Oregon.

In one of the world's most intriguing mysteries, Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan vanished while attempting to fly around the world exactly 88 years ago on July 2, 1937.

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Now, Purdue University – which had employed Earhart and helped fund her historic flight – said it will send a team to Nikumaroro in November in hopes of digging up her Lockheed Electra 10E aircraft and returning what's left of it.

"We believe we owe it to Amelia and her legacy at Purdue to fulfill her wishes, if possible, to bring the Electra back to Purdue," Steve Schultz, Purdue's general counsel, said.

The satellite photo was captured in 2015, a year after an intense tropical cyclone shifted the sand, potentially revealing the plane, said Pettigrew, who took the evidence to Purdue.

He said the size and composition of the object matches Earhart's plane. The location is also close to Earhart's planned flight path and almost precisely where four of her radio calls for help seem to originate. Said Pettigrew, who has traveled to Nikumaroro.

"It satisfies all of the criteria," he said. "Everything fits.

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The Taraia Object alongside the Electra fuselage and tail. Archaeological Legacy Institute 2025

The archaeologist, who has tried to solve Earhart's disappearance for years, said other evidence, including the discovery of American-made tools and a medicine vial, suggests Earhart may have been on Nikumaroro.

Still, there's been no clear proof of her presence there, Pettigrew said, and the object seen in the satellite photo has been elusive. In images taken since 2015, it is hidden under the sand again, he said.

"What we lack now so far is what you call, what I call the smoking gun evidence," he said.

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TIGHAR executive director Ric Gillespie doubts they will find that proof.

Gillespie's team on The Earhart Project has conducted a dozen expeditions over 35 years and recovered other physical evidence it believes shows Nikumaroro is where Earhart landed and died. But he believes the object in the satellite image is a coconut palm tree with a root ball, washed up in a storm.

"We've looked there in that spot, and there's nothing there," he said.

Gillespie, who published the book "One More Good Flight: The Amelia Earhart Tragedy" last year, said the plane would be not hidden in the sand but buried in coral rubble.

"I understand the desire to find a piece of Amelia Earhart's airplane. God knows we've tried," he said. "But the data, the facts, do not support the hypothesis. It's as simple as that."

Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean

The trailblazer worked at Purdue, serving as a career counselor for women and an adviser on its aeronautical engineering department, from 1935 until her disappearance in 1937, according to the university's website.

Schultz, Purdue's general counsel, said Earhart's post-flight plan was to return the plane to the school to be studied by future aeronautical engineers and aviation students.

The Purdue Research Foundation has given the first phase of the expedition a line of credit of \$500,000, Schultz said.

It will take six days for the team of explorers to get to NiRekumaroro by boat in November, he said. They'll then have another five days on the island to find the object in the sand and identify it as the missing plane.

"If we hopefully solve the mystery and confirm that it is, then there will be further efforts to bring it back, hopefully to a permanent home," Schultz said.

Dates To Remeber

August

None

September

Sept. 1st: Labor Day

Sept. 7th: Grandparent's Day

Sept. 22nd: Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

Birthdays

August

None

September

None

Wisconsin Supreme Court's Liberal Majority Strikes Down 176-Year-Old Abortion Ban
Reprinted From The July 2, 2025 AP-By Todd
Redmond



Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul delivers remarks following hearing before Dane County Wis. judge Diane Schlipper which challenges a 174-year-old feticide law in Madison, Wis., May 4, 2023. (John Hart/Wisconsin State Journal via AP, File) (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The Wisconsin Supreme Court's liberal majority struck down the state's 176-year-old abortion ban on Wednesday, ruling 4-3 that it was superseded by newer state laws regulating the procedure, including statutes that criminalize abortions only after a fetus can survive outside the womb.

The ruling came as no surprise given that liberal justices control the court. One of them went so far as to promise to uphold abortion rights during her campaign two years ago, and they blasted the ban during [oral arguments](#) in November.

Ban outlawed destroying 'an unborn child'

The statute Wisconsin legislators adopted in 1849, widely interpreted as a near-total ban on abortions, made it a felony for anyone other than the mother or a doctor in a medical emergency to destroy "an unborn child."

The ban was in effect until 1973, when the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion nationwide nullified it. Legislators never officially repealed it, however, and conservatives argued that the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 decision to overturn Roe reactivated it.

Ruling: Post-Roe laws effectively replaced ban

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Wisconsin Supreme Court's Liberal Majority Strikes Down 176-Year-Old Abortion Ban

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Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul, a Democrat, [filed a lawsuit](#) that year arguing that abortion restrictions enacted by Republican legislators during the nearly half-century that Roe was in effect trumped the ban. Kaul specifically cited a 1985 law that essentially permits abortions until viability. Some babies can survive with medical help after 21 weeks of gestation.

Lawmakers also enacted abortion restrictions under Roe requiring women to undergo ultrasounds, wait 24 hours before having the procedure and provide written consent, and receive abortion-inducing drugs only from doctors during an in-person visit.

“That comprehensive legislation so thoroughly covers the entire subject of abortion that it was clearly meant as a substitute for the 19th century near-total ban on abortion,” Justice Rebeca Dallet wrote for the majority.

Sheboygan County District Attorney Joel Urmanski, a Republican, defended the ban in court, arguing that it can coexist with the newer abortion restrictions.

Dane County Circuit Judge Diane Schlipper [ruled](#) in 2023 that the 1849 ban outlaws feticide — which she defined as the killing of a fetus without the mother’s consent — but not consensual abortions. Abortions have been available in the state since that ruling, but the state Supreme Court decision gives providers and patients more certainty that abortions will remain legal in Wisconsin.

Urmanski had asked the state Supreme Court to overturn Schlipper’s ruling without waiting for a decision from a lower appellate court.

Liberal justices signaled repeal was imminent

The liberal justices all but telegraphed how they would rule. Justice Janet Protasiewicz stated on the campaign trail that she supports abortion rights. During oral arguments, Dallet declared that the ban was authored by white men who held all the power in the 19th century. Justice Jill Karofsky likened the ban to a “death warrant” for women and children who need medical care.

A solid majority of Wisconsin voters in the 2024 election, 62%, said abortion should be legal in all or most cases, according to AP VoteCast. About one-third said abortion should be illegal in most cases and only 5% said it should be illegal in all cases.

In a dissent, Justice Annette Ziegler called the ruling “a jaw-dropping exercise of judicial will.” She said the liberal justices caved in to their Democratic constituencies.

“Put bluntly, our court has no business usurping the role of the legislature, inventing legal theories on the fly in order to make four justices’ personal preference the law,” Ziegler said.

Urmanski’s attorney, Andrew Phillips, didn’t respond to an email. Kaul told reporters during a news conference that the ruling is a “major victory” for reproductive rights.

Heather Weininger, executive director of Wisconsin Right to Life, called the ruling “deeply disappointing.” She said that the liberals failed to point to any statute that explicitly repealed the 1849 ban.

“To assert that a repeal is implied is to legislate from the bench,” she said.

Court dismisses constitutional challenge

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin [asked the Supreme Court](#) in February 2024 to decide whether the ban was

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constitutional. The court dismissed that case with no explanation Wednesday.

Michelle Velasquez, chief strategy officer for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, said Wednesday's ruling creates stability for abortion providers and patients, but she was disappointed the justices dismissed the constitutional challenge. She hinted that the organization might look next to challenge the state's remaining abortion restrictions.

Kaul said he has no plans to challenge the remaining restrictions, saying the Legislature should instead revisit abortion policy.

Democratic-backed Susan Crawford defeated conservative Brad Schimel for an open seat on the court in April, ensuring liberals will maintain their 4-3 edge until at least 2028. Crawford has not been sworn in yet and was not part of Wednesday's ruling.

Abortion fight figures to play in 2026 court race

Abortion figures to be a key issue again next spring in another race for a state Supreme Court seat. Chris Taylor, a state appellate judge who served as Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin's policy director before a stint as a Democratic legislator, is challenging conservative Justice Rebecca Bradley.

Taylor's campaign sent out an email Wednesday calling the ruling a "huge victory" and asking for donations. She issued a statement calling the decision the correct one and blasting Bradley's dissent as "an unhinged political rant."

Bradley wrote that the four liberal justices fancy themselves "super legislators" and committed "an affront to democracy."

HIGH FUNCTIONING ANXIETY CAN LOOK LIKE:



Neglecting your needs
to please others

Difficulty relaxing +
feeling tension in
your body

Feeling easily reactive
when things happen
that are outside of
your control



Your worth is dependent
upon your productivity
+ accomplishments

Hiding your feelings +
always looking as though
you have it altogether

Mind is constantly
racing + you find it
hard to focus

Holding yourself to
unrealistic standards
+ shaming yourself when
you don't meet those
expectations

NYC Students Beginning To Show Signs Of Reading Progress, New Data Shows
Reprinted From The July 2, 2025 NY Daily News-By Cayla Bamberger



A student reads a book (Shutterstock)

New York City students are showing early signs of progress in reading after the Adams administration [overhauled how the subject is taught in public schools](#), according to new data released Wednesday.

The school system is still far from where it needs to be to ensure that all students who graduate know how to read proficiently. But elementary school reading scores on [quick, periodic assessments known as “screeners”](#) increased by 2.5 points over a year — driven in part by considerable gains in the youngest grades, the data shows.

“It’s really, really promising news, because what it’s showing is progress,” First Deputy Chancellor Dan Weisberg told the Daily News. “So the hard work that our educators and support staff are doing on the field, you can see here, is really paying off.”

Some experts [caution against drawing sweeping conclusions](#) from screener data, which is captured three times each year and typically used as a diagnostic tool to help identify struggling readers so teachers can intervene in real-time.

But Weisberg, the [outgoing second-in-command of the public schools](#), said the data is “highly correlated” with state test scores, and offers system leaders a glimpse of whether students are performing at or above the national median. Close to 42% of elementary school students crossed the threshold on the spring screener, the data showed.

The literacy push, known as “NYC Reads,” [launched in less than half of school districts during the 2023-24 school year](#) before expanding to all elementary schools citywide last fall.

Each district selected one of three pre-approved literacy programs rooted in the [“science of reading”](#) — referring to a wide body of research about how children learn to read. All place a greater emphasis on phonics, which teaches children about the relationships between letters and sounds.

Screener scores from phase-one districts — which have had more time for implementation — posted slightly larger gains than those in the second cohort: 2.8 and 2.3 points, respectively. Students in kindergarten through second grade, who were exposed to the curriculum at a younger age, notched a 3.2-point boost, according to the data.

While not unexpected in a school system as large as New York City’s, test scores have been slow to catch up.

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NYC Students Beginning To Show Signs Of Reading Progress, New Data Shows

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Annual state exams showed [reading scores dropped citywide last year](#) — with students in the second phase outperforming their peers in the first cohort using the new literacy programs. Education leaders chalked up the discrepancy to an “implementation dip,” predicting students would turn a corner as they adjusted to the new ways of learning and their teachers mastered new instructional methods.

The results of this year’s tests have yet to be released, but Weisberg likes his chances.

“That doesn’t mean that just because screener scores increase, that state test scores are going to increase, but it’s a promising sign,” the first deputy chancellor said.

In April, Adams and the chancellor announced NYC Reads is expanding next school year to older students for the first time, starting with 102 middle schools in eight districts.

“As we close out this school year, we are proud to be able to share early results on our citywide investment in evidence-based reading and mathematics instruction for our students — delivering the education our children deserve,” Mayor Adams and Schools Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos said in a joint statement.

Math screener scores show the share of elementary school students scoring above national benchmarks increased by 3.2 points, though the grade levels are [not formally included in “NYC Solves.”](#) the math equivalent of NYC Reads.

Efforts To Fight Domestic Violence In The Bronx Hampered By Reluctance Of Victims

Reprinted From The July 19, 2025 NY Daily News-By Rocco Parascandola



Bronx DA Darcel Clark. (Barry Williams/ New York Daily News)

Nearly 1,000 domestic violence arrests in the Bronx over the first three months of 2025 were not prosecuted by the [District Attorney’s office](#) because victims declined to cooperate with prosecutors — a number that points to deeper issues that continue to hamper law enforcement efforts.

The unwillingness of domestic violence victims to work with authorities, experts say, is fueled by an array of factors that include poverty, limited access to social services and a distrust of authorities, experts said.

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[Prof. Nicole Saint-Louis](#), social work program director at Lehman College, said the Bronx statistics aren't completely shocking given the various systemic issues — many victims are poor and don't have access to the resources needed.

Moving out of the home, for example, could force victims into shelters. Victims also worry their abusers will beat them again if they cooperate with prosecutors — and often don't have confidence the system can protect them.

"Instead of asking why they won't cooperate the question should be, 'What will make survivors feel safe enough to cooperate,'" Saint-Louis said.

Bronx DA Darcel Clark said her office is working on ways to better help domestic violence victims.

"Even if there is ultimately no [prosecution], we continue to offer services to victims," said spokeswoman Patrice O'Shaughnessy. "Our goal is to ensure that the first time we interact with a complainant we are offering a helping hand to guide our community through this process, not simply asking for their attendance at a court date."

O'Shaughnessy noted that prosecutors can sometimes use other evidence to pursue a case if the victim won't cooperate but that the DA's office is "steadfast in our commitment to encourage victim and witness cooperation."

Recently, she said, "we began to utilize [assistant district attorneys], crime victim advocates and therapists as part of a Violence Response Team dedicated to assisting victims of non-fatal shootings and felony assaults, as soon as possible after the crime."

Dr. Kendra Doychak, of the [John Jay College](#) of Criminal Justice, said such an approach can help domestic violence victims feel empowered and to building trust in law enforcement.

"Maybe it alters the relationship they have with the criminal justice system," said [Doychak](#), director of the MA program in forensic psychology. "They did help me — maybe I'm a bit more willing to trust them in the future."

Doychak also said there are many reasons domestic violence victims decide not to cooperate. Victims often blame themselves or minimize the trauma, noting for instance, that the abuser "is still a good father."

"She may want to abuse to stop," Doychak said. "But she doesn't want him to be prosecuted."

According to [NYPD](#) data, 1,166 citywide arrests — both felonies and misdemeanors — in the first three months of the year were not prosecuted because victims of all kinds did not want to cooperate with investigators.

Of that total, according to the data, 1,116 of those arrests — a stunning 96% — were in the Bronx. It's not clear why the disparities are so acute between the Bronx and other boroughs.

Of that total, O'Shaughnessy said, 965 arrests were for domestic violence, defined as involving family members and those in intimate relationships.

The overall decline prosecution issue in the Bronx is particularly acute in three of the borough's 12 precincts, where 34% of all arrests were not prosecuted — 133 in [47th Precinct](#), which covers several neighborhoods, including Williamsbridge, Wakefield and Edenwald; 125 in the 44th Precinct had 125 such arrests and 124 in the 40th Precinct had 124, according to the data.

The NYPD data is included in its Declined Prosecution Analysis, which was ordered in 2020 by the court-appointed federal monitor tasked with overseeing various police reforms after a judge in 2013 ruled the stop and frisk tactics by nation's largest police department [violated the constitutional rights](#) of minorities.

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The quarterly reports, which include arrests by patrol officers but not by those assigned to housing projects or the subway system, provide a window into which cases are not prosecuted and why.

The NYPD, which did not comment on the data, uses the information to [flag and review](#) the tactics of officers who in the span of 12 months made at least three arrests that a DA's office declined to prosecute.

Citywide in the first three months of the year, officers on patrol made 44,021 arrests, of which nearly 13% — 5,612 — were not prosecuted for any of about two dozen reasons, most notably the 2,519 listed in the “prosecutorial discretion” category.

Such decisions — which often come under fire — are made for different reasons. For instance, prosecutors dealing with first-time offenders accused of a minor crime, such as petty larceny, will offer the accused the chance to participate in a diversion program and complete a drug rehab program or see a mental health professional in the hopes or prevent recidivism.

Hegseth Moving First Female Superintendent From Naval Academy To New Post

Reprinted From The July 19, 2025 USA Today-By Maureen Groppe

WASHINGTON – Defense Secretary [Pete Hegseth](#) is changing the leadership of the U.S. Naval Academy, moving to replace the first woman to hold the prestigious post with the first Marine Corps general to do so.

Hegseth [announced Friday](#) that Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Michael J. Borgschulte has been nominated as superintendent of the Naval Academy by [President Donald Trump](#) who wants Vice Adm. Yvette Davids, the current superintendent, to instead serve on the chief of naval operations staff.

The moves are the latest [changes to the upper ranks](#) of the military since Hegseth's confirmation. He and Trump fired the military's most senior officer, Air Force Gen. CQ Brown, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Gone, too, is Adm. Lisa Franchetti, who was the first woman to lead the Navy.

Before his nomination for defense secretary, [Hegseth said on a podcast interview](#) that women "straight up" do not belong in military combat roles. He [reversed his position weeks later](#) as he faced an uphill path to Senate confirmation.

Davids, who has overseen the Naval Academy since January 2024, is being moved from that premier position earlier than the usual tenure. But she is not retiring, as is required for former superintendents unless Congress approves a waiver.

Secretary of the Navy John C. Phelan said in a statement Davids and Borgschulte both “represent the very best of naval service.”

Davids said she's honored to be nominated as a deputy chief of naval operations, and looks forward “continuing to serve alongside America's strongest warfighters.”

Both Davids and Borgschulte must be confirmed by the Senate.
