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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021

Today, variably cloudy, strong wind, showers, high 68. **Tonight,** partly cloudy, windy, cooler, low 43. Tomorrow, mostly sunny, seasonable, high 65. Weather map is on Page B12.



A coffin maker in Nova Iguaçu, Brazil, this month. A dangerous virus variant first found in Brazil is now stalking neighboring nations.

NEWS ANALYSIS

In Biden Plan, Schumer Fills A Pivotal Role

By CARL HULSE

WASHINGTON — President Biden laid out his ambitious vision for a post-pandemic America on Wednesday night. Now it is up to Senator Chuck Schumer to make it a reality.

Mr. Schumer, a New York Democrat and the majority leader, insists that he is willing to negotiate with Republicans on the president's second monumental piece of legislation, seeking a consensus that some of the moderate Democrats, including Senator Joe Manchin III of West Virginia, are demanding.

But it is already clear that the odds of such a compromise are vanishingly slight, leaving Mr. Schumer with an exceedingly difficult path to delivering on Mr. Biden's promises.

With Republicans suffering sticker shock from more than \$4 trillion in new spending proposals outlined by Mr. Biden, and offering their own infrastructure package that is a tiny fraction of the cost, the gulf between the two parties could not be larger. Yet a handful of Democrats who could be crucial swing votes believe it is misguided and politically dangerous to pass legislation this big without buy-in from the other party.

Mr. Schumer said he was willing to give efforts at bipartisanship some time, but with a tight window to push through any major legislation before the political warfare of the midterm elections drown out any chance of making a law, his patience extends only so far.

"Now look," he said in an interview this week in his Capitol leadership suite, "there's a number of people in our caucus who believe strongly in bipartisanship and want us to try that. And that's fair. And we will. And we've made a good start."

He pointed to some modest measures like a water projects bill that passed on Thursday with support from both parties. But on crucial components of Mr. Biden's plan - like the tax in-

Continued on Page A15

EMBOLDENED President Biden, 100 days in, is altering what it means to be a Democrat. PAGE A16

Covid Takes a Frightful Turn in South America

By JULIE TURKEWITZ and MITRA TAJ

BOGOTÁ, Colombia — In the capital of Colombia, Bogotá, the mayor is warning residents to brace for "the worst two weeks of

Uruguay, once lauded as a model for keeping the coronavirus under control, now has one of the highest death rates in the world, while the grim daily tallies of the dead have hit records in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Peru in recent days

Even Venezuela, where the authoritarian government is notorious for hiding health statistics and any suggestion of disarray, says that coronavirus deaths are up 86 percent since January.

As vaccinations mount in some of the world's wealthiest countries and people cautiously envision life

Virus Damage Tearing Through Economy and Social Fabric

after the pandemic, the crisis in Latin America — and in South America in particular — is taking an alarming turn for the worse, threatening progress made well beyond its borders.

Last week, Latin America accounted for 35 percent of all coronavirus deaths in the world, despite having just 8 percent of the global population, according to data compiled by The New York

Latin America was already one of world's hardest hit regions in

2020, with bodies sometimes abandoned on sidewalks and new burial grounds cut into thick forest. Yet even after a year of incalculable loss, it is still one of the most troubling global hot spots, with a recent surge in many countries that is even more deadly than before.

The crisis stems in part from predictable forces — limited vaccine supplies and slow rollouts, weak health systems and fragile economies that make stay-athome orders difficult to impose or maintain.

But the region has another thorny challenge as well, health officials say: living side-by-side with Brazil, a country of more than 200 million whose president has consistently dismissed the threat of the virus and denounced measures to control it, helping

Continued on Page A6



Deadly Stampede in Israel

Dozens were killed on Thursday at a Jewish religious celebration that drew thousands. Page A11.

Navalny Network Shuts Under Kremlin Pressure

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI

MOSCOW - Associates of Aleksei A. Navalny said they were shutting down their nationwide network of regional offices on Thursday even as the imprisoned Russian opposition leader vowed, in an online court appearance, to keep fighting the "emperor with no clothes" in the Kremlin.

Disbanding Mr. Navalny's 40

Putin Steps Up Moves to Suppress Dissent

regional offices became inevitable in recent weeks, an aide to Mr. Navalny said, amid the Kremlin's latest efforts to stifle political dissent. Prosecutors are seeking to have Mr. Navalny's movement de-

clared an extremist organization. A Moscow court this week ordered Mr. Navalny's groups to halt all public activity pending a final ruling in the extremism case.

"Alas, we must be honest: It's impossible to work under these conditions," the aide to Mr. Navalny, Leonid Volkov, said in a YouTube video, warning that continuing to operate would expose supporters of the opposition

Continued on Page A11

Economic Surge in U.S. Lifts Hopes for the Year As People Aim to Spend

New York by July 1

By MICHAEL GOLD and JULIA JACOBS

Mayor Bill de Blasio declared on Thursday that New York City would fully reopen on July 1, conjuring up a tantalizing vision of a summer in which the nation's largest city would throw open its doors and return to its pre-pandemic vibrancy.

"This is going to be the summer of New York City," Mr. de Blasio said at a news briefing. "We're all going to get to enjoy the city again, and people are going to flock here from all over the country to be a part of this amazing moment."

The mayor's promise brought hope that after more than a year of restrictions, New Yorkers and tourists could once again swarm shops and galleries, baseball fans could watch games at sports bars, and sweaty revelers could dance until the wee hours at nightclubs.

Yet restoring the city to its earlier state, before it was stifled by the virus and scarred by profound losses, will pose a significant chal-

Many of the city's large employers have set their sights on a fall return, which will keep workers away from Manhattan's business districts until then. The hospitality industry does not expect tourism, a key economic engine of the city, to return to pre-pandemic levels for years. Transit officials do not believe ridership on the subway, which is still closed for two hours each night, will completely rebound until 2024.

The city's devastated cultural sector has yet to bounce back. Mr. de Blasio hailed the impact a reopening would have on the theater industry, but full-scale productions on Broadway — one of the city's crown jewels and a key draw for tourists — will not return until September at the earliest, the Broadway League confirmed in a statement.

Mr. de Blasio's authority to lift virus-related restrictions, which were imposed by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, is also limited. But should the reopening proceed, its success will still depend on the willingness of wary residents and workers to return to crowded spaces.

"Don't get me wrong, I would love to be fully open again," said Miguel de Leon, the wine director at Pinch Chinese in SoHo. "But I just want to make sure that these lines that they are drawing don't feel so arbitrary."

Even as the spring has brought New Yorkers back out of their homes, many shared Mr. de Leon's cautious view. They were

Continued on Page A8

Mayor's Goal: Open | Relief Payments Fuel Growth in Quarter

By NELSON D. SCHWARTZ

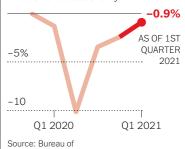
Consumers shook off the pandemic blues as 2021 began, putting stimulus checks to work buying cars and other goods and helping set the stage for what could be the fastest economic growth in decades.

The initial reading on the country's first-quarter economic performance, delivered Thursday by the Commerce Department, showed that much remained far from normal. Even with a big jump in personal income, there was only a modest increase in spending on services like travel, dining and even health care.

But economists say that is already changing as more vaccinations are delivered and coronavirus-related business restrictions are eased. With better weather, savings accumulated during a long year of lockdowns, and an itch to make up for forced inactivity, Americans will have plenty of reasons to go out and spend.

"Consumers are now back in the driver's seat when it comes to economic activity, and that's the

Percent change in G.D.P. from the last quarter of 2019, adjusted for inflation and seasonality



way we like it," said Gregory Daco, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics. "A consumer that is feeling confident about the outlook will generally spend more freely."

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Over all, the broadest measure of the economy - gross domestic product - grew by 1.6 percent in the first three months of 2021, compared with 1.1 percent in the final quarter of last year. On an annualized basis, the first-quarter growth rate was 6.4 percent.

Total economic output should return to prepandemic levels by summer — in fact, Mr. Daco believes it has already done so. His firm estimates that the economy will expand by 3.1 percent in the second quarter, or about 13 percent on an annual basis. For the year, it expects growth of 7.5 percent, the best performance since

Continued on Page A14

As Masks Begin to Come Off, A Delicate Dance Takes Form

By MATT RICHTEL

Mark Rasch hopped on his bike Tuesday in Bethesda, Md., pedaled off for an afternoon ride, and realized he forgot his mask. As he turned back for it, news came on the radio over his earbuds: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said masks were no longer required outdoors for fully vaccinated people unless they were in a crowd.

Mr. Rasch, a lawyer, rode on, naked from nose to chin for the first time in a year. He reached nearby Georgetown and found he was nearly alone in that almost everyone else there remained masked.

"I wondered if there was a store I could go into without wearing a mask to buy a mask?" he said. Instead, he went home, and told his

wife: "Nothing is changing, but

it's happening quickly." It's springtime of the pandemic. After the trauma of the last year. the quarantined are emerging into sunlight, and beginning to navigate travel, classrooms and restaurants. And they are discovering that when it comes to returning to the old ways, many feel out of sorts. Do they shake hands? Hug? With or without a mask?

It's a confusion exacerbated by changing rules, state and federal, that vary by congressional district or even neighborhood, all while the very real threat of infection remains, in some places more than others.

Many states and cities are Continued on Page A8

INTERNATIONAL A10-12

'They Call It Social Cleansing'

The long-ignored slaying of a transgender woman in Honduras has drawn the notice of a human rights court. PAGE A10

Palestinian Vote Delayed

President Mahmoud Abbas said the May elections wouldn't occur, prolonging a West Bank-Gaza split. PAGE All NATIONAL A13-19

Water Cleanup Measure Passes

and imposes other curbs.

The Senate voted 89 to 2 to spend \$35 billion to shore up aging water systems, a sign that bipartisanship on public works projects is possible.

Florida Passes Voting Limits Gov. Ron DeSantis is expected to sign a Republican-led bill that cuts drop boxes, makes absentee ballots harder to get

Racial Gap at Elite Schools

This year only eight Black students were offered slots at Stuyvesant, one of New York's top high schools, and numbers were tiny at others, too. PAGE A18 TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-9

Fallout Over Ruined Doses

Emergent BioSolutions' chief announced executive changes and said he took "full responsibility" for vaccine manufacturing problems.

SPORTSFRIDAY B8-11

Quarterbacks Lead N.F.L. Draft

The Jets tried again at quarterback, drafting Zach Wilson. The Jaguars, at No. 1, chose Trevor Lawrence. PAGE B8

A Sheikh and a Scandal

A horse owned by Dubai's ruler is favored at the Kentucky Derby. Why rights groups want him barred. PAGE B9



BUSINESS B1-7

Fur, Feathers and Open Roads Some long-haul truckers fight loneli-

ness with dogs, cats, birds and even mini-pigs in the cab. Wheels.

Big Tech Wins the Pandemic

The top five giants raked it in not in spite of, but because of, the Covid crisis, raising hard questions. Analysis.

WEEKEND ARTS C1-14

A Look Into America's Past

Dawoud Bey's photographs in a Whitney Museum show expose rich histories hidden beneath the surface.

GrahamFest95 Goes Virtual

The Martha Graham Dance Company celebrates its 95th anniversary with films pairing dances with art. PAGE C1

OPINION A22-23

Farhad Manjoo

PAGE A23





Partly sunny, windy 70/45 • Tomorrow: Mostly sunny 69/56 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021 - 82

Giuliani got 2019 warning on Russia

He continued contacts after FBI told him about operation to smear Biden

BY ELLEN NAKASBIMA. SHANE HARRIS AND TOM HAMBURGER

The FBI warned Rudolph W. Giuliani in late 2019 that he was the target of a Russian influence operation aimed at circulating falsehoods intended to damage President Biden politically ahead of last year's election, according to people familiar with the mat-

The warning was part of an extensive effort by the bureau to alert members of Congress and at least one conservative media outlet, One America News, that they faced a risk of being used to further Russia's attempt to influence the election's outcome, said several current and former U.S. officials. All spoke on the condition of anonymity because the matter remains highly sensitive.

Gioliani received the PBI's warning while deeply involved with former president Donald Trump's 2020 reelection campaign and related activities in Ukraine to surface unflattering or incriminating information about the Biden family. The revelation comes as the FBI this week seized Giuliani's cellphone and other electronic devices as part of a long-running criminal investigation into whether the onetime New York mayor and personal SEE GIULIANT ON AS

Arizona audit stirs fears of partisanship in vote counts

BY ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN AND JOSH DAWSEY

More than five months after the 2020 presidential election, and after numerous failed attempts to overturn the results, former peesident Donald Trump has seized on a new avenue to try to call the outcome into question: a hand recount of 2.1 million hallots cast in Arizona's largest county.

ers said the for mer president has become fixated on the unorthodox process underway in Phoenix, where the GOP-led state Senate took ballots and voting equipment from Maricopa County and turned them over to Cyber Ninjas, a private contractor whose chief executive has echoed baseless claims that the election was fraudulent but has now promised a fair review of the November results.

Ensconeed at his private club HEE ARIZONA CIN AS

Voting laws: Florida is the latest to pasa far-reacting restrictions. A10



Relatives of covid-19 victims gather outside a New Delhi hospital morgue. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi faces growing anger over his handling of the current devastating wave of cases and for continuing to hold large rallies for state elections.

In India's virus surge, a moment of reckoning for nationalist Modi

His image as a singular leader appears to be 'in tatters' as deaths and dissatisfaction mount

BY JOANNA SLATER AND NIBA MASIH

NEW DELHI - As he surveyed the thousands of people gathered at an election rally in eastern India on April 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appeared jubilant, "Everywhere I look, as far as I can see, there are crowds," he said, his arms spread wide. "Visu have done an extraordinary thing.

At the time, India was recording more than 200,000 coronavirus cases a day. In the western state of Maharashtra, oxygen was running short, and people were dying at home because of a shortage of hospital heds. In Modi's home state of Gujarat, crematoriums were being overwhelmed.

Those seems were just a prelude to the devastation now unfolding in India, It is recording more infections daily - at last count 379,000 - than any other country since the start of the pandemic. Hospitals are turning away severely ill patients, and their relatives are frantically searching for medical oxygen

For Modi, the most powerful Indian prime minister in five decades, it is a moment of reckoning. He is facing what appears to be the country's biggest crisis since independence, a calamity that is challenging his vision of a proad, self-reliant nation.

Modi's own lapses and missteps are an increasing source of anger. As coronavirus cases skyrocketed, Modi continued to hold buge election rallies and declined to cancel a Hindu religious festival that drew milons to the bunks of the Ganges River,

despite pleas from health experts. Rather than making urgent preparations for a second wave of cases in an already weak health-cure system, the government put much of its focus on vaccinations - a campaign too limited to blust the oncoming disaster. The government repeatedly chose self-congratulation over caution, publicly stating that the pandemic was in its "endgame" in India as recently as last

Modi swept to a landslide reelection victory in 2019, offering Indians a muscular brand of nationalism that views India as a fundamentally Hindu country rather than the secular republic envisioned by its founders. He has cultivated an image as a HEE INDIA ON A14

Virus aid: The U.S. is delivering more than 5100 million worth of supplies to India. A14

Growth speeds up in 1st quarter

ECONOMY ON VERGE OF ERASING LOSSES

But inflation is picking up; jobs haven't returned

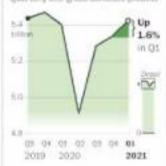
BY ANDREW VAN DAM AND RACHEL SHEEL

The U.S. economic recovery picked up speed, with the economy growing 1.6 percent in the first three months of the year because of rising coronavirus vaccinations and massive federal stimulus spending. The economy is on the verge of regaining all of its pandemic losses in coming months.

The GDP report, released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) on Thursday, showed that consumers are spending more on things like cars and homes. Plus, a record boost in household aftertax income suggests there's more consumer spending power waiting in the wings.

The rosy economic news came the same day as news of the third straight week of improvement in jobless claims, according to the HE ECONOMY ON AN

After a strong start to 2021, the recovery takes shape



Note: Quarterly total, adjusted for inflation and swaponality Source: Bureau of Colmente Analysis

A sport's old guard vs. the dopers

Horse racing's elite cracked down with private eyes, political muscle

BY GUS GARCIA-ROBERTS

Scott A. Robinson was in the market for revenge. A Lamborghini-driving horseman, he'd n rich selling farn supplements online. But he claimed he was owed money by a former business partner he'd met at New Jersey's Meadowlands

Then the track's security chief offered to help, Robinson said, connecting him with a private investigation firm called 5 Stones Intelligence, which was known for its formidable federal connections. Robinson met them and agreed to pay \$30,000 for their services, he said, hoping they could belp prove his case.

Eager for payback, Robinson SEL JOCKEY CLUB ON AS



Horseman Scott A. Robinson met with FBI agents at a Florida hotel and was arrested for horse doping in 2020.

Teen's death ignites call to reform foster system

BY TIM CRAIG AND RANDY LUDLOW

COLUMBUS, OHIO - Ma'Khia Bryant and her sister lived with house in a middle-class neighborhood, next to a cornfield along the edge of the city limits here.

Residents described the neighborbood as quiet and most of those interviewed said they did not even know that the sisters were foster children until April 20, when Bryant, 16, was shot and killed by a Columbus police officer when he saw her swinging a knife at a woman during a disturbance in front of the foster home.

Bryant's grandmother. Hammonds, Ma'Khia called her that afternoon asking for help. She told her grandmother that there was trouble at the foster home involving a former foster child who had previously lived at the residence. for a visit and was upset over the condition of the house, sparking an argument, Hammonds said.

The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation is investigating the case, which has raised questions about police officers' use of deadly force. But the disturbance at the house and Bryant's death also are indicative of deeper problems in the state's fester care system, said foster parents and child welfare advocates, many of whom are now calling for reforms to the overwhelmed and disjointed system caring for

SEE COLUMBUS ON ARE

IN THE NEWS



NFL draft The Jacksonville Jaguars, as expected, make Clemson QB Trevor Lawrence the No. I overall pick, DI

Homeless in D.C. The overall count is lower, but the number of chronically homeless. people has risen, city leaders said. Bl.

THE NATION

Enthusiasm for the Johnson & Johnson vaceine doesn't appear to have flagged despite a temporary hadt in its distribution because of rare blood clots, All

His first 100 days in office over, President Biden now faces a test of agility: A4

Democrats are trying to push Medicare expassion as part of Biden's \$3.8 trillion families plan, defying the White House, A5 A court said the EPA most bun the pesticide chlorperifos, which has

been linked to neuro-

logical damage in childreit, unless it can prove the chemical is

Republicans raffied behand Sen. Tim Scott (S.C.) as Democrats and activists criticized his suggestion that they're using race as a political weapon, A20

THE WORLD

Families in the Philippines are scrambling to find care for revid-19 patients, often to no avail. They blame the government of Rodrigo Palestinians will post-

pone their first elections

amid disputes with Israel over voting in East Je-

in almost a generation

THE ECONOMY

A lawsuit against the U.S. Agriculture Department says its guidance of three daily servings of milk products benefits the dairy industry, not the public. Alii The FAA agreed to pay 844 million to resolve a lawsuit brought by for-

A semiconductor

sbortage is widening be-

yond automakers, with

Apple and Somsting

mer employees who al-Growth and developleged that their jobs ment are at the center of were outsourced because of age discrimination, A17

Alexandria's mayonal Anti-gay messaging is throwing a shadow over the GOP nomination

contest for Virginia's

bestenant governor. 313

warning of production

Hackers targeting the

D.C. police department

briefly leaked the per-

sonnel files of several

current and former offi-

The end of Maryland's

universal outdoor mask

localities grappling with

what their rules should

mandate has left some

problems, All

THE REGION

INSIDE



WEEKEND A redefined show goes on

Behing the scenes at Signature Theatre's filming of "Midnight at the Never Get."

STYLE A tale of 'Transition'

The Quadrant Series' video plays look at D.C. through the eyes of Black. artists, C1

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Business & Finance

burst of growth brought Athe U.S. economy to just a hair below its pre-pandemic size in the first quarter, extending what is shaping up to be a rapid, consumerdriven recovery this year. A1

- Amazon reported record quarterly profit as demand remained robust for the company's deliveries and its cloud-computing and advertising businesses. A1
- China is reining in the ability of the country's internet giants to use big data for lending, money-management and similar businesses. A1
- ◆ U.S. air-safety regulators have launched an audit into how a Boeing factory tweak led to a recent safety issue with some of the plane maker's 737 MAX jets. B1
- ♦ The S&P 500 rose 0.7% to close at a record. The Dow also gained 0.7%, while the Nasdaq added 0.2%. B11
- ◆ Comcast posted a 55% rise in quarterly profit, buoyed by its broadband and wirelessphone units that continued to add more customers. B1
- · Endeavor's shares ended 5% higher in their first day of trading, capping a two-year effort by the entertainment company to go public. B1
- · Global auto makers that had expected the semiconductor supply crisis to subside in the spring are now warning that chips will remain scarce for months. B1
- McDonald's said new menu items helped it beat sales expectations in the U.S., while business abroad remained volatile due to shifting Covid-19 restrictions. B3

World-Wide

- · AstraZeneca has struggled to pull together the full data necessary to apply for U.S. approval of its Covid-19 vaccine, further delaying its efforts to secure the FDA's go-ahead. Al
- · Moderna plans to spend billions of dollars to increase the production of Covid-19 vaccines and potentially triple its yearly output of doses in 2022. A7
- Biden's major economic initiatives so far propose \$6 trillion in new federal spending for the next decade, far more than any recent president at a comparable point in their terms. A2
- · SAP admitted it provided software to Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions, becoming the first company to benefit from a DOJ program that encourages firms to self-report. A10
- · Senate lawmakers introduced legislation that would strip military commanders of their authority to decide whether to prosecute sexual-assault cases. A6
- Florida's Republican-led legislature approved a measure that adds new rules for voting by mail, including restrictions on ballot drop boxes. A3
- The recent death of Chadian President Déby at the hands of rebels has dealt a blow to the Franceled stabilization strategy for Africa's Sahel region. A8
- China's population increased in 2020, the nation's statistics bureau said. It didn't elaborate, saying detailed data would be released in a coming census report. A8



Mode & Technology B4 Arts in Review A12-13 Opinion. Business News. B2-3 Sports... Hused on Street, 812 U.S. News... A2-4,6-7 M1-12 MI-12 Worther AI3
BII World News A3-10

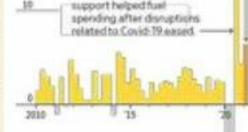


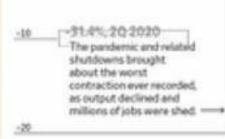




Pent-up consumer

demand and government





Note: But are adjusted for inflation and seasonality at an arroad rate Source Commons Department

U.S. GDP level \$20 trillion 34 Economic factors that .12 resulted in the 6.4% increase 20 Services Business investment Government 0.5 Housing -0.9 Provote

nolity of an arrival role.

Source Commerce Department

U.S. Economy **Bounces Back** Near Its Peak

Consumers lead burst of activity, bring nation within 1% of the level reached pre-pandemic

By JOSH MITCHELL

A burst of growth brought the U.S. economy to just a hair below its pre-pandemic size in the first quarter, extending what is shaping up to be a rapid, consumer-driven recovery this year.

Gross domestic product, the nation's broadest measure of goods and services, grew at a 6.4% seasonally adjusted annual rate in January through March, the Commerce Department said Thursday. That left the world's largest economy within 1% of its peak, reached in late 2019 before the coronavirus pandemic hit the U.S.

Households, many of them vaccinated and armed with federal stimulus dollars, drove the first-quarter surge in output by shelling out more for cars, bicycles, furniture and other bigticket goods. The government not only spent hundreds of bil-lions of dollars on stimulus payments but also on vaccines and aid to businesses. "If you had asked me a year

ago where we would be today, I certainly would not have said we would have recouped the pre-pandemic levels of economic activity," said Gregory Daco, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics. "Everything about this crisis has been unique. The speed and the magnitude of the contraction in economic activity was unprecedented. The amount of policy support put in place was extremely rapid."

Hush Money Bikes, a bicycle shop that opened last year in Lancaster, Pa., has fielded newbike requests from customers as far away as California, said co-owner Ted Houser. Shops are running low on bikes across the U.S. given all the demand, and manufacturers are Please turn to page A2

- Biden plan would redistribute trillions of dollars.
- Heard on the Street: Economy isn't too hot for the Fed... B12

Amazon's Profit More Than Triples

By Sebastian Herrera

Amazon.com Inc. reported record quarterly profit as demand remained robust for its deliveries, cloud-computing and advertising businesses, capping a blockbuster earnings season for the world's largest technology companies.

The Seattle company's profit in the year since the pandemic started exceeded \$26 billion, more than the previous three vears combined. Net income from January to March more than tripled to \$8.1 billion, and revenue of \$108 billion far exceeded the average of analyst estimates on FactSet.

Amazon said it expects sales from April to June to reach between \$110 billion and \$116 billion, which would mark three consecutive quarters with more than \$100 billion in revenue. The company's shares rose about 3.5% in after-hour trading Thursday.

The tech giant's success in the past year has catapulted the company to new heights, after consumers flocked to online shopping during pandemic lockdowns. Amazon's dominant grip over e-commerce and continued expansion into new industries have strengthened its power, although the company continues to face challenges from regulators and Please turn to page A6

China Steps Up Oversight of Tech

By LINGLING WEI AND STEPHANIE YANG

China is reining in the ability of the country's internet giants to use big data for lending, money-management and similar businesses, ending an era of rapid growth that authorities said posed dangers for the financial system.

On Thursday, China's central bank and other regulators ordered 13 firms, including many of the biggest names in the technology sector, to adhere to much tighter regulation of their data and lending practices.

Their aim, said analysts: To curb a revolutionary business model that let China's Big Tech develop and use powerful payment apps and other information about hundreds of millions of users. Among the firms required to

conduct the restructuring: technology conglomerate Tencent Holdings Ltd., which owns the popular social-media app WeChat; ByteDance Ltd., owner of the short-video app TikTok; and the financial arms of fooddelivery giant Meituan, ridesharing provider Didi Chuxing Technology Co. and e-commerce firm JD.com Inc. Spokespeople for Tencent,

Meituan, Didi and JD.com didn't respond to requests for comment. ByteDance declined to comment. An article published Thursday by the official Xinhua News Agency said all of the 13 firms had agreed to rectify their business practices as required.

The move is the latest in a wider effort by China's ruling Communist Party to shake up the so-called "platform economy," or internet-based businesses that over the past dehave into grown colossuses with relatively light regulatory oversight.

Last year, President Xi Jinping personally stepped in to block an attempt by the founder of online marketplace Alibaba, billionaire Jack Ma, to do an initial public offering of his financial-technology company, Ant Group.

Some Chinese officials said Mr. Ma's plans exposed what they said were "deep-rooted" problems that could jeopardize the country's financial security.

The crackdown also comes as China's leaders make greater demands for its tech entrepre-

Please turn to page A8

Dozens Killed in Israel Stampede



At least 38 people were killed in a stampede at a religious bonfire festival in northern Israel early Friday. Israel dispatched medical teams and a rescue unit to the scene. A8

Inside the Fight Over Student Loan Losses

A banker who studied program sees deficit of \$500 billion as borrowers fail to repay

By Josh MITCHELL

In 2018, Betsy DeVos, then U.S. education secretary, called JPMorgan Chase & Co. Chief Executive Jamie Dimon

Repayments on federal student loans had come in persistently below projections. Did Mr. Dimon know someone who could sort through the finances to determine just how much trouble borrowers were in?

Months later, Jeff Courtney, a former JPMorgan executive, arrived in Washing-

suming task has been compil-

ing British data from almost

four months of vaccinations in

the U.K., including efficacy, vi-

rus-transmission and safety

statistics, people close to the

process said. The FDA is ex-

pecting to see the data, ac-

cording to one of those peo-

ple, adding to the complexity

of AstraZeneca's submission.

The extra data are also likely

ton. And that's when the trouble started.

According to a report he later produced, over three decades, Congress, various administrations and federal watchdogs had systematically made the student loan program look profitable when in fact defaults were becoming more likely.

The result, he found, was a growing gap between what the books said and what the loans were actually worth, requiring cash infusions from the Treasury to the Ed-

Please turn to page A11

New York Cheesecake in Japan Comes With a Big Side of Rules

U.S. Navy's recipe is strictly regulated by officials in Yokosuka; 'so rich and thick'

A piece of cake

By Alastair Gale AND CHIEKO TSUNEOKA

YOKOSUKA, Japan-When Hirano restaurateur Koji tweaked his recipe for New York cheesecake with a touch of Japanese cream cheese, he wasn't worried only about what his customers would think. Government inspectors were due to come and

sample the dessert. If the graham cracker crust, rich cream cheese filling and dark cherry topping passed muster,

he would become

an authorized purveyor of New York cheesecake-at least as it is defined by a group of Japanese officials nearly 7,000 miles from Midtown. "The screening was very

strict," he recalled later. There are places that take

their cheesecake seriously, and then there's the city of Yokosuka, where the classic American dish comes with a

side order of military discipline. Yokosuka, hour south of To-

kyo by train, plays host to the U.S. of these people. Please turn to page All

AstraZeneca Delayed In FDA Approval Bid

By JENNY STRASBURG AND THOMAS M. BURTON

AstraZeneca PLC executives have struggled to pull together the full data necessary to apply for U.S. approval of its Covid-19 shot, according to people familiar with the matter, further delaying its efforts to secure the Food and Drug Administration's go-ahead.

One especially time-con-

The company said last to lengthen any FDA review. month that it would apply for The AstraZeneca shot is approved and being used in large what is known as emergencyuse authorization for its vacnumbers around the globe, incine by mid-April. It has recluding across much of Eucently told U.S. officials it Please turn to page A7 might need until mid-May to finish its application for an Vaccination push meets rural FDA review, according to one

skeptics. Moderna sets target of three billion doses in 2022.



WSJ. MAGAZINE

SPRING STYLE

FRIDAY 30 APRIL 2021

WORLD BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

USA \$2.50 Canada C\$3.00

Greener future

Young people deserve a new deal for the environment — FT VIEW, PAGE 16

By a wide margin

Brokers' high lending levels are sign of trouble ahead — GILLIAN TETT. PAGE 17



IPO boom time

Record number of listings beats dotcom-era peak — ANALYSIS, PAGE 10

US economy powers back close to pre-pandemic output levels

GDP expands 6.4%
 Stimulus and jab rollout fuel rebound
 Biden pushes new \$2.3tn bill

JAMES POLITI AND LAUREN FEDOR ELASHINGTON MANTA BADKAR — NEW YORK

US continuic mitput moved close to prepandemic levels in the first sparter, highlighting the accelerating recovery trumpeted by Joe Biden in his first joint address to Congress following massive fiscal stimulus and a highly successful coronavirus vaccination rollout.

Gross domestic product grew 6.4 per cent on an annualised basis in the first three months of 2023, or 1.6 per cent compared with the previous quarter, according to data released by the US commerce department yesterday.

The improvement brought US real GDP just I per cent shy of its prepandemic level as consumers spent lavishly on goods, drawing on stimulus cheques and savings piles as the economy began to reopen

Speaking to Liwmakers on Wednesday night on the eve of his 100th day in office, Biden hailed the country's revival from the struggles of lockdowns, declaring America was "ready for take off".

"We are working again. Dreaming again. Discovering again. Leading the world again. We have shown each other and the world: there is no quit in America," Bidensaid.

Despite the quick bunnceback in the world's largest economy, fiden appealed for lawmakers to approve his sprawling spending agenda, which is designed to plough trillions of additional government funds into investments over the next decade to correct deficiencies in public goods.

After enacting a \$1.9tn fiscal stimulus plan in March, Biden has turned his focus on winning support for a \$2.5tn infrastructure spending bill be called a "blueprint for blue-collar America" and a \$1.8tn expansion of the social safety net. "We can't stop now — we're in a competition with China and other countries to win the 23st century," he said.

The US president wants to pay for the next stages of his economic programme



joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden leaving the White House yesterday with higher taxes on corporations and the wealthy, which has triggered abacklash from Wall Street and corporate America, opposition from Republicans and even some wariness among fellow Democrats.

Biden used his speech to reiterate his intention to raise revenues from big business and high income households to fund government spending. "It's time

Inside

President's speech focused relentlessly on middle class rowsto coce. PASE 4

The first 100 days just how radical is Biden?

set READ, PAGE 15

for corporate America and the wealthiest I per cent of Americans to pay their fair share. Just pay their fair share," he said. "Look, I'm not out to punish any one, but I will not add to the tax borden of the middle class of this country."

As the Biden administration presses ahead with more sweeping fiscal intervention in the US economy, the Federal Reserve signalled it would keep providing monetary support for the recovery.

At an FOMC meeting, US central bank officials kept their asset purchase programme at \$120bn per month in debt purchases, even though they acknowledged the recent boost to activity.

"Anual progress on varcinations and strong policy support, indicators of economic activity and employment have strengthened. The sectors most adversely affected by the pandemic remain weak but have shown improvement," the committee said.

Economists are optimistic that the recovery will continue to power ahead. "We foresee the US economy's spring bloom turning into a summer boom," said Oxford Economics Lydia Boussour, who expects second-quarter annualised growth of 15 per cent. "For 2021, the economy will likely grow around 7.5 per cent, its strongest performance since 1951, with consumer spending advancing over 9 per cent – a record."

Meanwhile, Biden yesterday headed to Georgia to meet former president Jimmy Carter, before holding an event to promote his economic packages, as he tries to ramp up public support for the legislation.

Briefing

- Navalny's network forced underground Allies of the pided Russian opposition leader have closed down his offices, saying that work was 'impossible in their current form' as the Kremfin's crackdown on political rivals intensifies. - 7461 2
- Moderna raises jab supply target to 3bn Modernasapsthat it will increase its global supply of Covid-19 vaccines to up to 3bn nest year as the US drugmaker expands its capacity to tackle new and existing strains of the virus.— PAGE 4

Copper price soars to 10-year high

The metalin above \$10,000 for the first time in a decade as the rebound from the pandemic unleashes a demand surge from China and the developed world unmatched by supply... PAGE 10



- ➤ Young activists score key court victory. The top court in Germany has demanded changes to the country's clamate law, saying that it places too much of a burden on future generations to reduce carbon emissions. — PASE 2, FT VIEW, PASE 34.
- Meituan exposé puts heat on food apps Food-delivery apps in China have come under fire for their treatment of staff after a television exposé by an under over Beijing official posing as a rider for Seituan who carned \$6 for a 12-hour shift. — PAGE 8
- EU vows strict controls on crisis funding flussels has insisted it is putting in place tough new processes to ensure that the EU's 4750bn recovery fund is not frittered away, amid fears about the potential for fraud and seaste in the plan.—PASE 2

Datawatch

Urban idlers Unemployment rates aged 15 *, 2019 (tr) Country average *Rural * Other France UK Loedon Germany * Berlin

UK enjayed lower pre-pandemic unemployment rates in total areas fluer in their major sites. In Franch country paths, however, julifers hat a were higher fluer for the country's average, exceeding 10 per service 2016.

French military to punish anti-immigrant generals

French army and government officials are to punish generals, including Christian Piquemal, above, who signed up to a rightering journal's article that bemoaned France's 'disordegration' because of immigrant 'hordes' and Islamist radicalism, and that hinted at a coup d'état. Far-night leader Marine Le Pers, set to be Emmanuel Macron's main rival in nest year's presidential elections, endorsed the declaration's thinly vieled call to arms.

Analysis = PAGE 3

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Tencent and ByteDance among techs in the crosshairs of Chinese regulators

YUAN YANG - BELING

Chinese officials have called in 13 tech companies to "rectify prominent problems" on their platforms, in a sign that the regulatory pressure on the fintech sector has extended beyond Jack Ma's Ant Group.

Tencent, ByteDance and the fintech affiliates of Baidu, JD.com, Meituan and Didi were among the 13 summoned to a meeting with officials from the People's Bank of China and other Chinese banking, securities and foreign exchange regulators, according to state news agency Xinhua.

A campaign that began when regulators halted the initial public offering of And last year appears to be apreading to other Chinese tech companies, which have increasingly ventured into financial products in recent years. Ant, which was asked this month by the same group of regulators to restructure itself, was not called in again.

While praising the "overall positive" development of the fintech sector in recent years, the regulators complained of anti-competitive practices and harm done to consumerably the sector.

The regulature demanded that the platforms introduce similar changes to those imposed on Ant, in line with recent guidelines issued to the finited sector. The new rules mean that the platforms will have to increase their capital to cover 30 per cent of the loans they offer jointly with banks.

Analysts have warned that the rules will raise financing costs for larger fintech companies and cause the overall sector to shrink significantly, but that some smaller players may enjoy more spaceto expand. The "improper links" between payment services and other financial services must be broken, the regulator said. For example, payment platforms can not be used to overly promote loans, cutting off an important advertising channel for credit products.

Transparency over transactions must also be increased. In contrast to the traditional state owned banking sector, mobile payment platforms such as Tencent's WeChat. Pay, Ant's biggest competitor, have shared much less transaction data with the rovernment.

Companies must also apply for personal credit reporting licences to "break data monopolies". Two government led agencies hold such licences, and it is unclear what they will demand to issue licences. The regolators also demanded that the platforms better manage financial risk when making loans.

A Nikkei Company

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES						INTEREST BATES			
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THE ARTISAN OF EMOTIONS - SINCE 1860

LAPD reverses ban on protest weapons

After judge's revision of recent court order, department lifts freeze on certain projectiles.

By Kevin Rector

The Los Angeles Police Department has lifted a week-old moratorium on the use of certain hard-foam projectiles at protests after a federal judge revised her recent court order restricting the weapons' use.

The LAPD confirmed Thursday that it is putting its 37-millimeter projectile launchers back in the field for use, albeit under several remaining restrictions in U.S. District Judge Consuelo B. Marshall's revised restraining order.

"The LAPD appreciates the court's thorough review of all the facts and circumstances," the department said in a statement to The Times. "We are committed to exercise the needed restraint in the use of crowd control tactics while also maintaining the critical need to protect the community, as well as our police offi-

Marshall's revised order, issued Wednesday, allows the LAPD to fire 37-millimeter hard-foam projectiles at the ground in front of protesters after declaring a gathering unlawful and issuing a dispersal order. It requires those weapons be used only by trained officers, and says they cannot be used to target individuals "unless absolutely necessary to prevent imminent serious bodily injury" to officers or others.

The initial order said ich weapons, which fire five foam rounds at a time, "may only be used on persons who pose a threat of serious bodily harm" to officers and oth-

[See **LAPD**, A12]



REAL ESTATE is booming in the Sierra town of Truckee, Calif. Many people who can now work virtually are leaving big cities and moving into areas where they used to only be able to spend weekends.

Remote work altering, unsettling resort areas

Vacation spots become primary homes during pandemic

By LIAM DILLON

TRUCKEE, Calif. — For years, Ben Jarso couldn't mix work and play. He worked at Facebook in Silicon Valley and on weekends drove almost four hours to Lake Tahoe to hit the ski slopes. When pandemic-related work restrictions freed him to work remotely, he decided to merge his passions.

Truckee, a town on the lake's north shore, was a perfect choice with Wi-Fi-ready houses and easy access to his favorite ski resort. He started making offers on properties. Again and again he lost out. Turns out too many other people had the same idea.

He finally got a house, but it took quick action. He contacted the seller as soon as the four-bedroom home popped up on his real estate app, made the first offer and agreed to no inspection requirements. His new \$900,000 home has a large pine deck and two fireplaces, and boasts views of



BEN JARSO, an avid skier, moved from the Bay Area to Truckee, where he got a house for "a steal."

1st-dose appointments fall

L.A. County officials are alarmed by a 50% drop in vaccine bookings as demand cools. CALIFORNIA, B1

Donner Lake.

"I think it was a steal," said Jarso, a 31-year-old product man-

The Lake Tahoe property boom is a vivid example of a trend that emerged last spring when white-collar workers got the mandate to start working remotely. Those with the money and newfound freedom to work from anywhere have headed to the mountain, beach and desert wonderlands where they used to only be able to spend their weekends.

Housing markets are hot nationwide, but few areas have seen the surge in home prices and residents as outdoor vacation destinations.

"You can live your life on vacation," said Rich La Rue, a real estate broker in the Palm Springs area. "All the things that you love to do: hiking, biking, whatever it is. A property comes on the market here and it's a feeding frenzy."

Case in point: the average ask-[See Remote, A9]

growth surges in first quarter

The 6.4% annual rate signals a 'rip-roaring' spring and summer for recovering economy.

By Don Lee

WASHINGTON — Just a year after a new coronavirus blew a crater-size hole in the U.S. economy, the recovery gained momentum in the first quarter as growth surged at a strong 6.4% annual rate, government data released Thursday show.

Economists and government policymakers believe there's more good news to come. The rebound is likely to grow even stronger in the months ahead, restoring millions of jobs and putting the nation on track in 2021 for the fastest growth since the 1980s.

What is expected to keep the boom going are the combined effects of massive federal spending proposed by President Biden, greater vaccination rates that will encourage millions of people to resume spending and billions of dollars in COVID-inspired savings and pent-up demand.

There are some caveats that accompany the rosy forecasts, including product shortages, bottlenecks and higher prices, especially in sectors such as construction, auto manufacturing and other industries struggling to meet demand for materials such as lumber and semiconductors.

Both personal income and the saving rate rose [See GDP surge, A7]

In Georgia, Biden marks Day 100

At a drive-in rally in the crucial state, he thanks supporters for help, and asks for more. NATION, A12



CHRISTINE LIGORETTI of Aliso Viejo mailed her hospitalized mother a package that she never received. The box included a crucifix.

COLUMN ONE

Precious pieces left by COVID

A Bible, a cellphone, a sweater — victims' family members cherish items picked up at the hospital.

By Marisa Gerber PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANIA MAXWELL

he siblings and their mother gathered in a circle around the family table. One by one, they pulled items from the plastic bag they'd picked up from the hospital lobby. Their mother went first, selecting her husband's reading glasses, devotional booklets and Bible, a reminder of their nightly routine of reading

the word of God together. The eldest daughter selected a shirt her father had worn in the hospital, as well as his cellphone, and two other sisters picked

[See Belongings, A6]

Jewish festival turns deadly

Dozens are reported killed and scores injured during a stampede at a religious gathering in Israel. world, A3

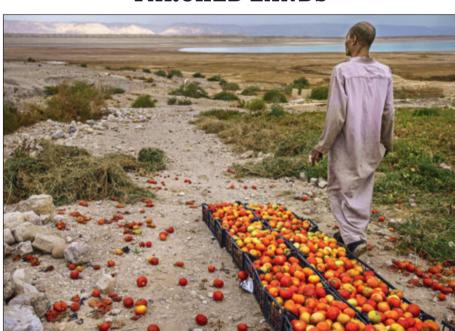
5 charged in Lady Gaga dog stealing

Pop star's pet walker was shot and two of her French bulldogs taken in the brazen assault on Feb. 24. california, b1

Mostly sunny and hot.



PARCHED LANDS



MARCUS YAM Los Angeles Times

"WE CAN'T use tractors here," says Hassan Kanazri, a farmer in Ghor Haditha, Jordan. The shrinking Dead Sea has left sinkholes, weakening the land.

A KINGDOM'S CRISIS

Climate change exacerbates Jordan's water woes

By Nabih Bulos

GHOR HADITHA, Jordan — The first time people here saw a sinkhole, they thought a small asteroid had slammed into the Dead Sea's salt-encrusted shore. Then others appeared.

One swallowed the edge of a stateowned building. Another opened near a house and forced the family to move. Worried farmers scanned their fields and abandoned their harvests. At one point, a chunk of highway collapsed, disappearing several stories deep and leaving a lone PVC pipe that ran like a high wire over the crater.

Finally, the residents of Ghor Haditha realized, the problem was literally beneath their feet, a symptom of the Dead Sea's death and a disturbing measure of the parched land Jordan has become. This small kingdom has long ranked high on the list of water-poor countries. But a mix of a ballooning population, regional conflicts, chronic industrial and agricultural mismanagement and now climate change may soon bring it another distinction: the first nation to possibly lose viable sources of

The sinkholes are a harbinger of a future [See Jordan, A4]

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FÚTBOL El Barça cae ante el Granada (1-2) y deja líder al Atlético



Las autonomías prolongarán las restricciones tras el fin de la alarma

Cataluña prepara una reforma legal para mantener el toque de queda

JESSICA MOUZO, Barcelona Los gobiernos autónomos prevén mantener restricciones por la pandemia más allá del fin del estado de alarma, que decae el 9

Un millón de vacunados con AstraZeneca esperan una solución

PABLO LINDE. Madrid Las autoridades sanitarias deciden hoy qué hacer con los menores de 60 años que recibieron la primera dosis de la vacuna de AstraZeneca contra la covid y han estado a la espera de la segunda desde que se restringió su uso por algunos casos de trombosis. Son más de un millón de personas, casi todas en trabajos esenciales, que aguardan a saber cómo se completa su in-PAGINAS 22 Y 23

de mayo. Desaparecerá así el paraguas juridico que ha sostenido medidas como el toque de queda o el cierre de territorios, pero aun así las autonomías buscan fórmulas para mantenerlas.

Cataluña ultima un cambio en su ley de salud pública destinado a dar cobertura al toque de queda después del dia 9, mientras que Asturias o Andalucía preparan documentos para acotar las restricciones. El Pais Vasco, Galicia, Castilla y León y Castilla-La Mancha se han manifestado a favor de una prórroga del estado de alarma que el Gobierno descarta. La Comunidad Valenciana y Aragón se acogerán a leyes autonómicas para justificar sus medidas. Los expertos alertan del limbo jurídico en que pueden caer las medidas que decidan las autonomias, como sucedió el pasado verano, cuando hubo decisiones judiciales dispares al respecto. Con una incidencia media acumulada de 230 casos por 100.000 habitantes en 14 dias, la transmisión comunitaria del virus persiste.



"Señoras presidenta y vicepresidenta"

Joe Biden presentó su ambicioso plan social en una sesión conju ta del Congreso encabezada por la vicepresidenta, Kamala Harris, y la presidenta de la Cámara de Representantes, Nancy Pelosi. "Señora presidenta, señora vicepresidenta; ningún presidente ha dicho antes estas palabras", afirmó Biden. PAGNA 5 / EDITORAL EN LA PAGNA 10

El mercado laboral pierde 137.500 empleos de enero a marzo

Madrid y Cataluña sortean la destrucción de puestos de trabajo

MANUEL V. GÓMEZ, Madrid El mercado laboral español destruyó 137.500 puestos de trabajo en el primer trimestre del año. según la Encuesta de Población Activa (EPA). El descenso es inferior al del mismo trimestre del año anterior. El paro se redujo en 65.800 personas debido al descenso de la población activa-las que tienen o buscan empleo- en más de 200.000. La tasa de paro es del 16%, sin contar a los afectados por ERTE. Tres comunidades sortearon la pérdida de em-pleo: Madrid (40.400 puestos de trabajo más), Cataluña (33,300) y Cantabria (1.200).

Las empresas pagan por sociedades un tipo efectivo del 8.3% del beneficio

LAURA DELLE FEMMINE, Madrid El tipo efectivo del impuesto de sociedades fue el pasado año del 8.3% respecto a los beneficios, según el informe anual de la Agencia Tributaria. Desde 1995, este porcentaje ha caido casi 11 puntos, desde el 19,1%. Si se mide so-bre la base imponible, el tipo efec-tivo ha bajado del 22% al 19,4% en ese período. La recaudación cayó casi un tercio en 2020. Pagesa 38





valni, ayer en un vide

Alexéi Navalni comparece demacrado desde prisión



ELECCIONES MADRID 4M

Ayuso usa la identidad madrileña como gran eje de su campaña

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Joe Biden engage la bataille contre les inégalités

- ▶ Devant le Congrès, le président américain a fait de la lutte contre les inégalités, financée par la taxation des plus riches, la priorité de son mandat
- ▶ Joe Biden veut aider davantage les familles des classes moyennes, en relevant le taux marginal fédéral d'imposition sur le revenu
- ► Après cent jours à rebours de l'ère de Donald Trump, le démocrate jouit d'une forte popularité et désarçonne les républicains, qui peinent à trouver des angles d'attaque PAGES 4-5 ET 18-19

III ÉDITORIAL LE PRÉSIDENT **DES TRAVAILLEURS**



La taxation des plus riches fait son chemin à travers le monde

Dans une note aux accents surprenants, le Fonds monétaire international s'est positionné en faveur d'une « injection d'égalité pour tous» PAGES 18-19

FRANCE

L'idée d'une taxation exceptionnelle ne séduit pas les économistes PAGES 18-19

L'exécutif est totalement opposé au retour de l'impôt sur la fortune

ALLEMAGNE

Le débat sur l'imposition du patrimoine agite le pays

Covid La peur d'une nouvelle vague estivale

élaborés, les modélisations de l'Institut Pasteur s'accordent sur un point: une levée trop rapide des restrictions entraînerait un rebond épidémique. Alors que les services de réanimation restent engorgés, les différentes hypoentreveir une quatrième vague qui pourrait s'amerore des juin, et dent l'ampleur sers détermi-née par le rythme de la vaccina-tion et la contagiosité n'elle des variants qui circuleront d'ici là Le chef de l'Etat, qui a choisi la

vendredi pour s'exprimer, devait décliner sen calendrier du déconfinement, en tenant compte de ces données alarmantes et en pri-vilégiant une approche territorialisée de la gestion sanitaire.

PAGES 8-10

Politique

Le Pen ciblée pour son soutien aux généraux séditieux

La présidente du Rassemblement national avait appuyé le texte paru dans aleurs actuelles= PAGE 11

entre le Venezuela et la Colombie

Amérique latine

Désordre armé

à la frontière

Europe

Le premier ministre slovène sur les traces de Trump et d'Orban

Musique

Avec «Fortitude», Gojira pousse un cri puissant pour la planète

PAGE 24

Horizons

Après le gel, voyage au pays des « arbos » et des « vitis »

PAGE 23

Planète

La vie marine du monde entier menacée par la pollution chimique

CARTOONING FOR PEACE

Justice

Comment la France a décidé d'extrader les militants italiens

Les sept personnes arrétées ont été condamnées en Italie pour leur participation à des attentats PAGE 12

Elections

Le Grand-Est, une région qui peine à trouver son unité

Jean Rottner, le président LR sortant, est bien placé pour garder son siège



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FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021

Breaking news at chicagotribune.com

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

City to allow more people indoors

Lightfoot eases restrictions, ready to reopen United Center and expand outdoor festivals

THE PERKS OF THE SHOT

Cities, companies offer incentives to boost COVID-19 vaccinations

By Carla K. Johnson and Michelle R. Smith Associated Press

Free beer, pot and doughnuts. Savings bonds. A chance to win an all-terrain vehicle. Places around the U.S. are offering incentives to try to energize the nation's slowing vaccination drive and get Americans to roll up their sleeves.

These relatively small corporate promotion efforts have been accompanied by more serious and far-reaching attempts by officials

in cities such as Chicago, which is sending specially equipped buses into neighborhoods to deliver vaccines. Detroit is offering \$50 to people who give others a ride to vaccination sites, and starting Monday will send workers to knock on every door in the city to help residents sign up for shots.

Public health officials say the efforts are crucial to reach people who haven't been immunized yet,

Turn to Perks, Page 7



A man in a cannabis-themed costume hands out free pot during a "joints for jabs" event in New York.

MARK LENNIHAN/AP

Report: Negligence at VA home

Watchdog shows large-scale mismanagement from the top during an outbreak at the LaSalle Veterans Home that led to 36 deaths. **Chicagoland, Page 3** By Gregory Pratt and Alice Yin Chicago Tribune

Chicago sports fans are set to return to the United Center next month for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic started,

restrictions touted as the latest step toward a normal summer with more bustle and less isolation.

The city also is relaxing its pandemic rules on indoor gatherings, such as the number of people allowed inside bars, restaurants and churches, Mayor Lori Light-

foot announced Thursday.

Outdoor events including

farmers markets, festivals

officials announced Thurs-

day, among other loosened

and outdoor shows also will be increasing capacity, Lightfoot said.
"Thelieve that the summer

"I believe that the summer of 2021 will look more like '19 than '20," Lightfoot said, echoing a common catchphrase of hers while keeping mum on hotly anticipated annual bashes such as Lollapalooza. "With our announcement today, I think we're signaling we feel very optimistic about what the summer is going to look like, including some big events, and that's as far as

I'll go today."
The United Center, home of the Chicago Bulls and Blackhawks, and other large indoor venues will be

Turn to Chicago, Page 7

"The planned site for the park by the Spire skyscraper site downtown is not a location that really helps bring this city together, either. But children do travel on that road, and this name would help them see the possibilities. I'm trying to bring this city together, and that road does that." — 17th Ward Ald. David Moore



Cars on Lake Shore Drive pass through Grant Park last April. ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Drive for Lake Shore

After much rancor, renaming iconic Chicago roadway for DuSable now steps away from reality

By John Byrne Chicago Tribune

There were accusations of racism, concerns over address changes and an alternate plan pushed by Mayor Lori Lightfoot. But after the noise quieted

Thursday, Chicago moved a step closer to renaming the iconic Lake Shore Drive to honor the Black man credited with founding the city nearly 250 years ago.

Now all it will take is a final signoff next month from the City Council to

rechristen Lake Shore Drive from Hollywood Avenue to 67th Street for Jean Baptiste Point DuSable, an explorer of Haitian descent.

The debate didn't go down easy, though. Things got tense during the Transportation Committee hearing when the Lightfoot administration brought forward an alternate ordinance to rename the drive with different wording than what 17th Ward Ald. David Moore had proposed.

A city lawyer said it was simply cleaning up some phrasing to ensure the outer drive was completely redubbed for DuSable without affecting the inner drive, where there are thousands of addresses that would need to be changed.

But Moore said it seemed like an eleventh-hour move to backdoor him, calling the city's proposal "racist (expletive)."

When some aldermen

Turn to Lake Shore, Page 7

Nephew of Daley facing charges

Case of collapsed bank ensnares 11th Ward alderman

By Jason Meisner and John Byrne Chicago Tribune

Chicago Ald. Patrick Daley Thompson, nephew and grandson of the city's two legendary mayors, was charged Thursday as part of a federal investigation into the collapse of a cloutheavy bank in his family's longtime Bridgeport neighborhood, records show.

Thompson, who has served as 11th Ward alderman since 2015, was charged in a seven-count indictment with filing false tax returns and lying to Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. officials about \$219,000 in loans and other payments he'd received from Washington Federal Bank for Savings before it was shuttered in 2017.

Washington Federal collapsed in 2017, leading to federal charges against a number of the bank's executives and former customers alleging a multiyear, \$31 million embezzlement scheme that preceded the

institution's failure.
An arraignment date for
Thompson has not been

In a statement released by his lawyer Thursday afternoon, Thompson said his "conscience was clear"

Turn to Probe, Page 6



Tom Skilling's forecast High 57 Low 41

Chicago Weather Center: Forecast on back page on A+E \$3.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere 173rd year No. 120 © Chicago Tribune



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Page Six.

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