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Last week: DJIA 34382.13 ▼ 395.63 1.1% NASDAQ 13429.98 ▼ 2.3% STOXX 600 442.53 ▼ 0.5% 10-YR. TREASURY yield 1.639% OIL \$65.37 ▲ \$0.47 EURO \$1.2147 YEN 109.35

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**AT&T** is in advanced talks to combine its WarnerMedia division with Discovery, in a deal that would unwind the telecom giant's signature bet on media as pressure on the traditional entertainment business mounts. **A1**

◆ **Microsoft** directors decided Bill Gates needed to leave the company's board in 2020 as they probed his prior romantic relationship with a female staffer. **A1**

◆ **U.S. companies** across industries have been buying back stock and raising dividends at a brisk pace this year, in a sharp reversal from 2020. **A1**

◆ **The CDC's** updated pandemic guidance is raising questions among employers about whether to speed up employees' return to the office. **B1**

◆ **At Home's** largest shareholder plans to oppose a deal to take the retailer private because it says the sale price is too low. **B2**

◆ **Bright Machines** is nearing a merger with a SPAC to go public in a deal that would value the company at about \$1.6 billion. **B5**

◆ **JD.com's** logistics arm is looking to raise as much as \$3.4 billion through an initial public offering in a Hong Kong listing. **B5**

## World-Wide

◆ **Israel's prime minister** ruled out the prospect of an immediate cease-fire in the deadly flare-up of Middle Eastern violence, defying growing international demands for de-escalation and concerted mediation efforts by regional and world powers. **A1**

◆ **U.S. health officials** reiterated that vaccinated individuals are at low risk of catching or spreading Covid-19 but left the future of mask mandates up to local jurisdictions and businesses. **A6**

◆ **Biden's plan** to offer Americans the chance to attend community college for free faces skepticism about whether it would broaden access to higher education. **A3**

◆ **The president's** tax-enforcement plan leaves open crucial questions over how much money it will generate and how well the IRS will implement it. **A4**

◆ **Police departments** in large metro areas are building up patrols and implementing new tactics to prepare for what they say could be a violent summer. **A3**

◆ **Maduro's** authoritarian government seized the headquarters of one of Venezuela's last remaining independent newspapers. **A11**

## JOURNAL REPORT

Climate Technology: The Electrification of (Almost) Everything. **R1-8**

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Palestinians say funeral prayers for the victim of an Israeli airstrike in Gaza City, and a car smolders after a Hamas rocket landed in Ashkelon, Israel, on Sunday, as violence escalated.

## Israel Says Strikes to Go On As Gaza Death Toll Mounts

BY FELICIA SCHWARTZ  
AND JARED MALSIN

TEL AVIV—Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel ruled out the prospect of an immediate cease-fire in the deadly flare-up of Middle Eastern violence on Sunday, defying growing international demands for de-escalation and concerted mediation efforts by regional and world powers. Civilian casualties mounted

a week after fighting intensified, with at least 42 people killed in an attack on an apartment complex, Palestinian officials said. The deadliest action in seven days of an Israeli military operation. First responders in central Gaza City could be seen pulling bodies from the rubble as they searched for survivors and screams emanated from beneath the wreckage. In Gaza, 192 people, includ-

ing 58 children and 34 women, have been killed since Monday, according to the Palestinian health ministry. In Israel, 10 people, including one child, have been killed, according to Israel's emergency response service. Israel said it has killed at least 75 Hamas militants. Hamas has fired 2,800 rockets. *Please turn to page A8*

◆ **Israel's Iron Dome** withstands barrages.....A8

## INSIDE



## BUSINESS &amp; FINANCE

New guidelines prompt companies to look at speeding up return to the office. **B1**



## SPORTS

A Moneyball experiment in soccer is put to the test at English club. **A16**

## Stop That Dancing—'Footloose' Comes to the Pandemic-Era Prom

Schools offer alternate activities, unusual locations; eating pretzels at the mall

BY TE-PING CHEN  
AND VALERIE BAUERLEIN

Toward the end of prom night at a community event hall in Grand Prairie, Texas, students started doing something forbidden. They started dancing.

The prom queen and king had just been crowned. The senior song, Post Malone's "Congratulations," was play-

ing, and excitement in the room was high. Some attendees jumped up from their chairs to take part in the banned activity, much to the dismay of the chaperones and the DJ, who urged everyone to sit down.

After proms across the country were canceled last year, they're back on at many schools this spring, with some *Please turn to page A12*

## AT&amp;T Seeks Tie-Up for Media Assets

Deal with Discovery would consolidate a business buffeted by cord-cutting

AT&T Inc. is in advanced talks to combine its sprawling WarnerMedia division with Discovery Inc., according to people

By Cara Lombardo,  
Dana Ciniulla  
and Drew Fitzgerald

familiar with the matter, in a deal that would unwind the telecom giant's signature bet on media as pressure on the traditional entertainment business mounts.

The talks, which likely value the AT&T business at well over \$50 billion with debt, could lead to an agreement by Mon-

day, the people said. They cautioned that the talks could still fall apart.

A deal between WarnerMedia, which owns cable channels such as HBO, CNN, TNT and TBS as well as the Warner Bros. television and film studio, and Discovery, which has a portfolio that includes its namesake network and HGTV, would further consolidate a media business buffeted by cord-cutting and competition from streaming video.

Discovery Chief Executive David Zaslav is expected to head the new company, people familiar with the matter said.

It is uncertain whether Jason Kilar, the current chief executive of WarnerMedia, will stay on in a lesser role.

The potential tie-up would be a surprising U-turn by AT&T. *Please turn to page A4*

## Gates Left Board Mid-Investigation

Microsoft directors in 2019 began probe into employee's allegation of a sexual relationship

Microsoft Corp. board members decided that Bill Gates needed to step down from its board in 2020 as they pursued an investigation into the bil-

By Emily Glazer, Justin Baer, Khadeeja Saffar and Aaron Tilley

lionaire's prior romantic relationship with a female Microsoft employee that was deemed inappropriate, people familiar with the matter said.

Members of the board

tasked with the matter hired a law firm to conduct an investigation in late 2019 after a Microsoft engineer alleged in a letter that she had had a sexual relationship over years with Mr. Gates, the people said.

During the probe, some board members decided it was no longer suitable for Mr. Gates to sit as a director at the software company he started and led for decades, the people said. Mr. Gates resigned before the board's investigation was completed and before the full board could make a formal decision on the matter, another person familiar with the matter said.

Microsoft received a concern in the latter half of 2019. *Please turn to page A2*

## Share Buybacks, Dividends on Rise

BY CAITLIN MCCABE

After a year of hoarding cash, U.S. companies are ready to reward investors again.

Companies across industries have been buying back stock and raising dividends at a brisk pace this year. That is a sharp reversal from 2020, when they suspended or cut such programs, warning of the urgent need to preserve liquidity in the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. Already this year, U.S. com-

panies have authorized \$504 billion of share repurchases, according to Goldman Sachs Group data through May 7, the most during that period in at least 22 years. The pace of announcements trounces even the 2018 bonanza that followed the sweeping tax overhaul of late 2017.

U.S. companies also ramped up dividend spending in the first quarter, data from S&P Dow Jones Indices show, increasing their payments by an aggregate \$20.3 billion on an

annualized basis. That marks the largest quarterly increase since 2012.

"The Covid clouds are clearing, and optimism is starting to come back in," said Lori Calvasina, head of U.S. equity strategy at RBC Capital Markets. "It's a natural time for companies to be thinking about using [those strategies] again."

The increased desire among companies to spend comes as the U.S. economy is edging toward normalcy, and as execu-

*Please turn to page A6*

## Batteries Challenge Natural Gas As America's No. 1 Power Source

The dominant fuel faces disruption a decade after displacing coal

BY KATHERINE BLUNT

Vistra Corp. owns 36 natural-gas power plants, one of America's largest fleets. It doesn't plan to buy or build any more.

Instead, Vistra intends to invest more than \$1 billion in solar farms and battery storage units in Texas and California as it tries to transform its business to survive in an electricity industry being reshaped by new technology.

"I'm hellbent on not becoming the next

Blockbuster Video," said Vistra Chief Executive Curt Morgan. "I'm not going to sit back and watch this legacy business dwindle and not participate."

A decade ago, natural gas displaced coal as America's top electric-power source, as fracking unlocked cheap quantities of the fuel. Now, in quick succession, natural gas finds itself threatened with the same kind of disruption, only this time from cost-effective batteries charged with wind and so-

*Please turn to page A12*

## Oldies but goodies

Creative thinking needed to deal with ageing US population — OPINION, PAGE 19

## City reawakens

Developers pour back into London property — BIG READ, PAGE 17



## Don't like Mondays?

The least popular days for heading into the office — PILITA CLARK, PAGE 20

# AT&T closes in on content streaming deal with Discovery

- Plan would create \$150bn unit
- Latest test of Netflix's dominance

JAMES FONTANELLA-KHAN AND ANNA NICOLAOU — NEW YORK

AT&T is nearing a deal to combine its content unit, WarnerMedia, with rival Discovery to create a media giant with an enterprise value of \$150bn, just a few years after acquiring the owner of CNN, HBO and Warner Bros.

The board of directors of AT&T were meeting yesterday to approve the deal, said two people with direct knowledge of the matter. The agreed deal is expected to be announced in the coming days, the people said.

The combination would merge one of Hollywood's most valuable catalogues — spanning the Warner Bros film and television studios, the HBO network and a portfolio of cable channels including CNN — with Discovery, which has had success with a new streaming service aimed at unscripted cooking and home renovation shows.

After years of watching Netflix dominate the streaming landscape, the world's largest media and tech companies have sought to fight back with their own services. In the past year and a half, Disney, Apple, WarnerMedia, Comcast and Discovery have all launched streaming platforms as they battle for a piece of the future of entertainment.

The structure of the deal remains unclear but AT&T, which has a market value of about \$230bn, is expected to control most of the combined entity. Discovery has a market value of \$24bn.

AT&T's decision to merge its content unit with Discovery comes five years after it agreed to take over Time Warner

for \$85.4bn, as the telecoms group looked to transform itself into the world's largest content and distribution company.

In 2019, John Stankey, AT&T chief executive, and David Zaslav, Discovery chief, discussed combining their programming into a single streaming service that would charge customers about \$8 a month (excluding HBO).

But when Disney revealed that it would offer its trove of Star Wars, Pixar, Marvel and Disney classics for only \$7 a month through Disney Plus, the plan was scrapped.

Discovery, the company behind HGTV, the Oprah Winfrey network and broadcaster Eurosport, in January launched a \$5 a month streaming service. This followed the launch of HBO Max, WarnerMedia's new flagship streaming service which debuted in the US last year for \$15 a month.

HBO Max and Discovery Plus have made some headway in the streaming race. Discovery in April said it had reached 15m subscribers across its streaming business, while HBO Max signed up nearly 3m subscribers in the first quarter, reaching 9.7m retail subscribers by the end of March.

However, both companies are vying against much larger rivals: Netflix has 208m subscribers globally, while Disney Plus has lured 10.4m subscribers in only a year and half since launching.

Bloomberg first reported news of the talks between AT&T and Discovery. AT&T and Discovery declined to comment.

## Resisting pressure Netanyahu says Israel to take on Hamas 'with full force'



Israeli troops and armour at the Gaza border near Sderot yesterday — SA VETROUCH

MEHUL SRIVASTAVA — TEL AVIV KIRAN STACEY — WASHINGTON

Benjamin Netanyahu warned yesterday that Israel's biggest military offensive against Hamas in seven years would "take time" despite UN calls for a ceasefire.

Speaking to the nation after a security cabinet meeting, Israel's prime minister said the country would continue its military campaign against the Islamist group that controls Gaza "with full force".

"There is talk about international pressure. There is always pressure but all in all we are

receiving very serious backing. First of all from the US," he said.

Israel's security cabinet approved plans for the Israeli military to continue its operations in Gaza, according to local media. The military wants the Islamist group to return the bodies of two soldiers before it considers a long term truce, an Israeli government aide said earlier. Also at stake is the fate of two Israeli civilians held in Gaza, the aide said.

Netanyahu's warning came as international efforts to de-escalate the crisis intensified after a seventh day of fighting. UN secretary-general António

Guterres started a meeting yesterday of the 15-member security council in New York by calling on both sides "to allow mediation efforts to intensify and succeed".

The death toll in Gaza stood at 181, including 85 women and children, Gaza health officials said. Israel has reported 10 dead from the Hamas attacks, including two children.

Attempts by Egypt and Qatar to broker a ceasefire failed yesterday when Israel's military struck the homes of a senior Hamas leader, according to an Egyptian diplomat.

Nowhere to run page 3

### Briefing

► **Greensill investors press Credit Suisse** More than 1,000 customers of the Swiss bank who invested in the \$20bn suite of funds linked to the collapsed supply chain finance company have demanded compensation from the lender. — PAGE 6

► **UK withholds support for Biden tax plan** British finance minister Rishi Sunak has held back support for the US president's bid for a minimum global business levy, as he seeks to ensure the deal includes a fair system for taxing Big Tech. — PAGE 4

► **Hardline Iran cleric to run for president** Judiciary chief Ebrahim Raisi, allegedly involved in mass executions of political prisoners in the 1980s, has announced his intention to contest the June 18 election. He is seen as the leading candidate. — PAGE 4

► **Dogfight for canines to check cargo**

A rush to meet anti-terrorism rules on screening cargo flights has sparked a surge in demand for sniffer dogs and X-ray screening equipment in time for a July deadline. — PAGE 8



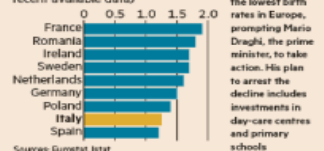
► **Ransomware attack on Axa Asian unit** The insurance group has revealed that one of its Asian units has been the victim of hackers, after a group of cyber criminals claimed to have seized troves of sensitive data from the company. — PAGE 10

► **Colao in tech push to beat Italian red tape** Ex-Vodafone chief Vittorio Colao, now minister for technological innovation, has vowed to speed up the rollout of an online portal to slash bureaucracy as part of a €248bn economic recovery bid. — PAGE 2

► **Blank-cheque shares slide after deals** Shares in special purpose acquisition companies have fallen following takeover announcements, as enthusiasm wanes and even big transactions by household names fail to attract investors. — PAGE 6

### Datawatch

**Baby bust**  
Children per mother (2020 or most recent available data)



Italy last year recorded one of the lowest birth rates in Europe, prompting Mario Draghi, the prime minister, to take action. His plan to arrest the decline includes investments in day-care centres and primary schools.



### Scientists warn as Europe throws open its doors

Europe is reopening as its vaccine programme accelerates, with France lifting its travel ban, Spain's six-month old 'state of alert' lapsing, and Italy and Germany loosening Covid rules. But although infections have halved from early April, they remain high in some places, with deaths per week of at least 1,000 in most of those countries. Many health professionals fear the level of protection remains too low to guard against further rises in infections.

Vaccine test — PAGE 2

## Bond downgrades by Chinese agencies soar as Beijing seeks to slash credit risk

EDWARD WHITE — SEOUL

Domestic rating downgrades of corporate bonds in China have more than tripled this year, underlining Beijing's efforts to reduce risk in the country's \$17tn credit market following several high-profile defaults.

Global rating agencies and fund managers have long criticised China's artificially high corporate credit ratings and low default rates, pointing to a lack of transparency and the assumption the state will bail out struggling companies. Some 566 bonds were downgraded in the first four months of 2021, compared with 109 in the same period a year ago, according to data from information provider Wind.

The increase followed a warning in November by Liu He, China's vice-premier, that Beijing would have "zero

tolerance" for corporate malfeasance in the aftermath of a series of defaults by state-owned companies. Regulators have put pressure on debt underwriters, domestic rating agencies and auditors in an effort to encourage more timely disclosure of risks, analysts said.

Among the hundreds of downgrades this year were bonds issued by HNA, the formerly acquisitive conglomerate that has grappled with debt and liquidity problems for almost five years, and Tsinghua Unigroup, a computer chip investor that has faced questions over bond repayments since 2018.

Chinese regulators have struggled for years to improve transparency in the country's corporate debt market. Increasing scrutiny by regulators has become acute for debt-laden state-owned enterprises, analysts said.

The focus has sharpened since a bond

default by state-backed Yongcheng Coal and Electricity in November sent shockwaves through China's financial system. Xiaoxi Zhang, an analyst with Gavekal Dragonomics, said China's leaders had singled out "hidden debt" as a priority this year.

Charles Chang, greater China country lead at S&P Global Ratings, said Chinese companies' poor disclosure of risks was starting to improve. "If that regulatory push is working, you should see an increase in timely action that flags underlying distress... that doesn't mean there is an increase in distress, it just means that there is an increase in the indication of that distress," he said.

Five domestic rating and auditing firms contacted by the Financial Times did not respond to requests for comment.

Additional reporting by Sherry Fei Ju

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### World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				
	May 14	May 7	%Week	
S&P 500	4173.85	4232.90	-1.39	
Nasdaq Composite	13429.98	13752.24	-2.34	
Dow Jones Ind.	34382.13	34777.78	-1.14	
FTSE100	7104.28	7172.40	-0.97	
Euro Stoxx 50	4017.44	4034.25	-0.42	
FTSE 100	7043.61	7126.71	-1.21	
FTSE All-Share	4012.07	4096.18	-1.23	
CAC 40	8395.14	8395.51	-0.01	
Nikkei	15416.54	15399.95	-0.11	
Hang Seng	28664.47	28313.37	-1.25	
MSCI World	2892.48	2893.48	-0.33	
MSCI EM	1292.78	-	-	
MSCI ACWI	688.54	-	-	

CURRENCIES				
	May 14	May 7	%Week	
\$ per £	1.213	1.214	-0.08	
€ per \$	0.801	0.800	0.12	
¥ per \$	109.435	109.585	-0.14	
¥ per £	154.173	151.263	1.92	
£ per €	1.095	1.096	-0.09	
€ per \$	0.024	0.024	-0.04	

COMMODITIES				
	May 14	May 7	%Week	
Oil WTI \$	65.45	64.85	0.93	
Oil Brent \$	68.79	68.19	0.88	
Gold \$	1821.80	1813.15	0.48	

INTEREST RATES				
	price	yield	chg	
US Gov 10 yr	148.84	1.63	-0.03	
UK Gov 10 yr	106.61	0.96	-0.04	
Ger Gov 10 yr	116.36	0.08	-0.01	
Japan Gov 10 yr	106.61	2.35	-0.03	
US Gov 30 yr	106.09	-0.66	0.00	
Ger Gov 30 yr	-	-	-	

FUTURES				
	price	prev	chg	
Feed Futures CBOT	0.07	0.07	-	
US 3m Bill	0.02	0.02	0.00	
Euro Libor 3m	-0.55	-0.55	0.00	
UK 3m	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Prices are latest for action. Data provided by Bloomberg

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## FTWEEKEND FESTIVAL THE REAWAKENING

4 September 2021

We are back! We look forward to welcoming you once more to Kenwood House Gardens. We will have our usual eclectic line-up of speakers and subjects. On our minds will be everything from the future of the UK to the chances for November's climate change summit. Infusing it all will be the spirit of reawakening. Selected sessions will be available digitally but for the fizzing spirit of the Festival come to Kenwood House.

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GAGSIAN

ROTHSCHILD



A Palestinian man whose wife and three children were killed. Israel said it was trying to destroy a tunnel network used by Hamas.

## DEADLIEST DAY YET IN GAZA AS EFFORTS AT CEASE-FIRE FAIL

**Airstrike Kills at Least 42 — Netanyahu  
Vows to Use 'Full Force' on Hamas**

By IVAD ABUHEWEILA and PATRICK KINGSLEY  
GAZA CITY — Diplomats and international leaders were unable on Sunday to mediate a cease-fire in the latest conflict between Israel and Hamas, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel vowed to continue the fight and the United Nations Security Council failed to agree on a joint response to the worsening bloodshed.  
The diplomatic wrangling occurred after the fighting, the most intense in Gaza and Israel in seven years, entered its deadliest phase yet. At least 42 Palestinians were killed early on Sunday morning in an airstrike on several apartments in Gaza City. Palestinian officials said, the conflict's most lethal episode so far.  
The number of people killed in Gaza rose to 197 over the six days of the conflict, according to Palestinian officials, while the number of Israeli residents killed by Palestinian militants climbed to 11, including one soldier, the Israeli government said.  
On Sunday afternoon, the street bombed in the airstrike made for a desperate scene as Anas al-Yazji, a graphic designer, clambered over the rubble, searching for his fiancée, Shaimaa Abul Out. There was a wallet squeezed between the fragments of the shattered walls, a necklace, a Quran, even a few handbags.  
But 12 hours after Israel struck the building — aiming, the Israeli Army said, at an underground Hamas tunnel network — there was still no sign of Ms. Abul Out.  
"I will wait here until we find her," Mr. al-Yazji, 24, said as a yellow digger shoveled rubble from one pile to another. "Then I will bury her."  
By nightfall, the fighting showed no sign of letting up.  
"Citizens of Israel," Mr. Netanyahu said in a speech on Sunday afternoon at the headquarters of the Israeli Army in Tel Aviv, "our campaign against the terrorist organizations is continuing with full force."  
He added: "We want to exact a price from the aggressor, as in all types of terrorism. To restore the quiet and security and to rebuild deterrence and governance will take time."  
Mr. Netanyahu's pledge came amid rising international criticism of Israeli airstrikes in Gaza, which began last Monday after Hamas fired rockets at Jerusalem following a month of rising tensions between Palestinians and Israelis in the holy city.  
The Israeli Army says its goal is to destroy the military infrastructure of Hamas, the Islamist militant group that controls the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian enclave of about two million people that is

Continued on Page A12

## Mayoral Candidate Found Ways to Help Donors

By MICHAEL ROTHFELD  
Eric Adams, the Brooklyn borough president, had begun making the rounds for a nascent mayoral campaign when he arrived at a small gathering in spring 2018.

The real estate developer David Schwartz had invited associates to meet Mr. Adams — and cut him a check — at his company's Manhattan offices. Mr. Adams delivered a short stump speech, talking about his conversion to a plant-based diet and how as mayor he would ensure that schoolchildren no longer ate pizza that resembled cardboard, according to people who were there. He raised \$20,000 that day, records show.

Mr. Schwartz's company, State Property Group, had recently sought city permission to erect a tower in Downtown Brooklyn nearly twice as tall as zoning al-

**Adams's Fund-Raising  
Pushed the Limits of  
Campaign Laws**

lowed. Six months after the fundraiser, Mr. Adams endorsed State's zoning change, despite objections from the local community board.

Mr. Adams, 69, a former police officer who is among the leading candidates in the June Democratic primary for mayor, has termed money the "enemy of politics" and called for complete public financing of campaigns. Yet his dealings with Mr. Schwartz offer but one example of how, across his 15 years in elected office, he has used government power to benefit donors and advance his political ambi-

tions.

Mr. Adams's relationships with his donors, as a state senator and then as borough president, have at times drawn attention and prompted investigations. His ties to developers have increasingly come under fire by critics of the gentrification that is sweeping across Brooklyn and much of the city. He has never been formally accused of wrongdoing. But a review by The New York Times of campaign filings, nonprofit filings, lobbying reports and other records shows that, to a greater degree than is publicly known, he has continued to push the boundaries of campaign-finance and ethics laws.

Since taking office as borough president in 2014, Mr. Adams has cut a wide swath in raising money for his campaign. He has amassed the largest war chest of any of the

Continued on Page A16

## Fully Opening Schools in Fall Challenges City

By ELIZA SHAPIRO

For over a year, Lilah Mejia has spent her days cooped up in her living room, supervising her five school-age children's remote learning on a jumble of iPads and laptops. She is completely exhausted by the work, but at the moment, she is considering not sending her children back to their Lower East Side classrooms come fall.

She just isn't sure whether New York City will keep them safe from the coronavirus.

Across the city in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, Renata Gomes is struggling with an entirely different frustration. Her daughter is technically back in her high school, but many of her teachers are working from home because of waivers granted for medical conditions. As a result, Ms. Gomes's daughter and her classmates are still staring at screens, but from their physical classrooms. What Ms. Gomes wants is for the city to provide full-time, in-person classes in September — something her daughter and many children across the city don't yet have access to.

"When we talk about this fall, the teachers and administration keep talking about last fall," said Ms. Gomes, a member of a newly formed parent group pushing for a return to normal schooling. "We understand that was really tough, but this is an opportunity to go back to normal as much as possible."

Though New York City is on the cusp of a major reopening — including of its bars and restaurants at full capacity, as well as 24/7 subway service — it cannot completely return to normal without restoring its school system, with roughly one million students, to

Continued on Page A7

## Civilian Deaths on Both Sides Raise Specter of War Crimes

By DECLAN WALSH

The Israeli missile that slammed into a Palestinian apartment complex exacted a shocking toll: eight children and two women, killed as they celebrated a major Muslim holiday, in one of the deadliest episodes of the war between Israel and Palestinian militants that has raged for nearly a week.

Israel said a senior Hamas commander was the target of the Friday attack. Graphic video footage showed Palestinian medics stepping over rubble that included children's toys and a Monopoly board game as they evacuated the bloodied victims from the pulverized building. The only survivor was an infant boy.

"They weren't holding weapons, they weren't firing rockets and they weren't harming anyone," said the boy's father, Mohammed al-Hadidi, who was later seen on television holding his son's small hand in a hospital.

"Oh, love," he said to his son.  
Civilians are paying an especially high price in the latest bout of violence between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, raising urgent questions about how the laws of war apply to the conflagration: which military actions are legal, what war crimes are being committed and who, if anyone, will ever be held to account.



Mourning one victim in a week of fighting. At least 11 Israelis and 197 Palestinians have died.

Both sides appear to be violating those laws, experts said: Hamas has fired more than 3,000 rockets toward Israeli cities and towns, a clear war crime. And Israel, although it says it takes measures to avoid civilian casualties, has subjected Gaza to such an intense bombardment, killing families and flattening buildings that it likely constitutes a disproportionate use of force — also a war crime.

In the deadliest attack yet, Israeli airstrikes on buildings in Gaza City on Sunday killed at least 42 people including 10 children,

Continued on Page A12



Migrants at the U.S. border, about to be taken to an immigrant processing center in Yuma, Ariz.

## Pandemic Sends New Faces Across U.S. Border

By MIRIAM JORDAN

YUMA, Ariz. — Standing by the hulking border wall, a U.S. Border Patrol agent watched as a car dropped off passengers at the edge of a road on the Mexican side. "Oh, no," he muttered. "Here come some more."

In the next hours, dozens of people would descend a bare hillcock,

**Arriving From Brazil,  
India and Venezuela**

pass a puddle where the Colorado River trickles and, without fanfare, pass through a gap in the rust-beam barrier that soars between the United States and Mex-

ico. They had completed the final leg of journeys that began weeks or months earlier in Brazil, Cuba, India and Venezuela.

Carrying dusty backpacks and dreams of new jobs in new cities, the unauthorized migrants did not sprint across the road to hide in the vast alfalfa fields, as so many border crossers have in the past.

Continued on Page A20

## Profiteers Pounce to Exploit India's Covid Misery

By HARI KUMAR and JEFFREY GETTELMAN

NEW DELHI — Within the world's worst coronavirus outbreak, few treasures are more coveted than an empty oxygen canister. India's hospitals desperately need the metal cylinders to store and transport the lifesaving gas as patients across the country

**Phony Medical Supplies  
Put Lives at Risk**

gasp for breath.  
So a local charity reacted with outrage when one supplier more than doubled the price, to nearly \$200 each. The charity called the

police, who discovered what could be one of the most brazen, dangerous scams in a country awash with coronavirus-related fraud and black-market profiteering.

The police say the supplier — a business called Varsha Engineering, essentially a scrapyard — had been repainting fire extinguishers and selling them as oxygen canisters.

Continued on Page A5



NATIONAL A14-17, 20

**A Year of Invaluable Lessons**  
College in a pandemic wasn't the experience that most students had in mind. But some found a silver lining. PAGE A14

**A Progressive Prosecutor's Test**  
Larry Krasner reduced incarceration in Philadelphia. A challenger blames him for a spike in shootings. PAGE A15

TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-7

**Taking Shots Door to Door**

Frantic efforts to vaccinate people in an underserved area of Philadelphia underscore a difficult new stage of the nation's inoculation campaign. PAGE A6

INTERNATIONAL A8-13

**Eternal Enemies? Maybe Not.**

Czech archaeologists say etchings on a bone found in a Slavic settlement are sixth-century Germanic runes. PAGE A8

**A Rebranding in France**

Marine Le Pen, the main challenger to President Emmanuel Macron next year, is recruiting centrists. PAGE A9



BUSINESS B1-5

**Tensions Before Gates Divorce**

Microsoft investigated whether Bill Gates sought an "intimate relationship" with an employee, and he acknowledged an affair 20 years ago. PAGE B1

**Slow Internet in Rural Areas**

In communities without broadband, it's a struggle to recruit employees. PAGE B1

ARTS C1-6

**Podcasts With a Melody**

Music-filled and Spotify-exclusive — shows like "Black Girl Songbook" and "60 Songs That Explain the '90s" have learned to live and prosper within the constraints of copyright law. PAGE C1

**Confronting a New Reality**

Two exhibitions that recently opened at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art grapple with how to move forward in a post-George Floyd, pandemic-era world. PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19

**Charles M. Blow**

PAGE A19



SPORTSMONDAY D1-6

**Reaching the Top, or Not**

Only 44 people are credited with making it to the peak of all of the world's 14 tallest mountains. But some experts ask: Just what is the summit? PAGE D1



0 354 613 9

## COLUMN ONE

### How a rising rapper's killing unfolded

An Instagram post, a home invasion and a group of teens: New details emerge about Pop Smoke's death.

BY MATTHEW ORMSETH

**A**t 2 a.m., a black BMW rolled past a house the rapper Pop Smoke was renting in the Hollywood Hills.

The driver circled back and stopped. A security camera across the street captured a passenger getting out and sneaking toward the back of the house before returning a minute later. The car sped off.

The budding rap star was a few miles away at a recording studio on Sunset Boulevard. He returned two hours later and again a car pulled up — an Infiniti sedan with its headlights off. This time, four people emerged and slipped into the shadows along the side of the house.

Ten minutes later, three of them ran back into the camera's frame. The footage showed the fourth walk out the front door holding a purse and a gun.

Inside, the musician lay sprawled at the foot of a staircase, dying from a gunshot wound to the chest.

The death of Pop Smoke, whose real name was Bashar Barakah Jackson, stunned the music world in February of last year. Now, details of the slaying and how detectives tracked his alleged killers have come to light.

In court this month, Los Angeles Police Department detectives described a home invasion they allege spiraled quickly into murder. A heist conceived by teenagers, the crime was as brazen as it was pointless — a killing that robbed the rap world of one of its brightest young artists, while netting the alleged killers a watch they sold for just \$2,000. Dead at 20, Jackson would not know the breadth of the critical acclaim and commercial success his music received after he was gone.

A few hours after the killing, Frank Flores and [See Pop Smoke, A8]



CAROLYN COLE Los Angeles Times

### FIRE SEASON BEGINS EARLY

Firefighters battle the Palisades blaze near Topanga Canyon, where the fire grew past 1,300 acres and forced evacuations. Experts say conditions are making wildfire a year-round threat. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Messing with mammograms?

Radiologists say COVID vaccine can cause false alarms

BY MELISSA HEALY

After more than a year of anxious waiting, women newly vaccinated against COVID-19 are flocking back to mammography clinics to catch up on routine tests that were delayed by the pandemic. In some cases, they're met with one more pandemic surprise: a false red flag for breast cancer.

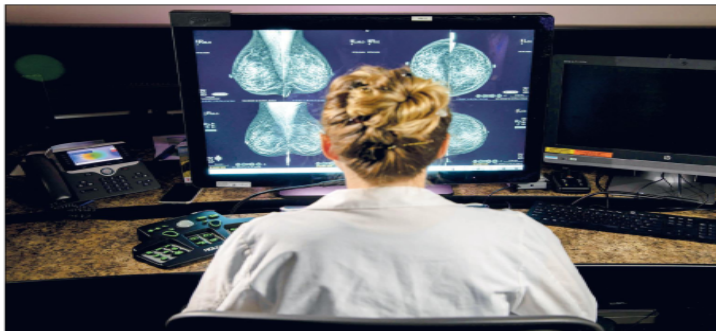
Like a sore arm or slight fever, lymph nodes enlarged by the immune system's response to a COVID-19 vaccine are virtually always a sign that the shot is doing its job. But to the medical specialists who scour mammograms for signs of malignancy, the unexplained appearance of swollen lymph nodes typically sparks concern and a recommendation that the patient be called back for further testing.

The result has been new uncertainties for women and the doctors who care for them.

If it's a false alarm, women certainly don't need the worry-inducing call reporting an "abnormal reading" on their mammogram. And few welcome the additional tests that tend to follow.

But as much as doctors wish to spare their patients unnecessary angst, they also want to avoid missing a signal that could be important.

"It's a bit of a balancing act," said Dr. Lisa Mullen, a breast imaging specialist at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. With many basic ques- [See Mammograms, A7]



JAYL CLENDENIN Los Angeles Times

**DR. HANNAH MILCH** reviews a mammogram at UCLA Medical Center. After the COVID-19 vaccines rolled out, she and others began seeing ambiguous results.

## Parents weigh the risks as adolescents can get shots

BY HAYLEY SMITH

Nearly every phase of California's COVID-19 vaccine rollout has been met with a mixture of enthusiasm and angst. But few groups have been as eager — or as concerned — as the latest to wrestle with the availability of vaccines: parents.

The state on Thursday expanded eligibility for COVID-19 vaccines to adolescents from the ages of 12 to 15. In Los Angeles and

many other counties, people in that age group must be accompanied by or receive consent from a parent or guardian to receive their shot.

Some parents are jumping at the chance to protect their kids from COVID-19, and from its rare but worrisome counterpart, multi-system inflammatory syndrome in children, or MIS-C. Downtown L.A. resident Ginny Brideau has already secured an appointment for her 12-year-old daughter,

Iolani, to be vaccinated at Ralphs on Monday.

"Being able to go out [to the] movies, library, grocery store, see good friends, get to church — it will be a good thing," Brideau said.

But others have expressed hesitation because of the newness of the vaccine, which was authorized for the age group by the Food and Drug Administration last week, and because coronavirus case rates already appear to be dropping. [See Adolescents, A7]

## Mexico also facing a crisis with migrant children, families

BY PATRICK J. McDONNELL

**REYNOSA, Mexico** — After a weeks-long trip from her native Honduras, Juana Cruz Funez couldn't understand why she and her daughter, Itzy, 8, had been denied their goal: entry into the United States.

"I heard people could stay in America if we came with our children," a sobbing Cruz said moments after the U.S. Border Patrol expelled mother and child back across the Rio Grande to this Mexican border city.

Cruz, 40, and her daughter were among the ranks of hundreds of migrants, al-

most all Central Americans — mostly women and children — squatting in a public square a block from the Rio Grande here.

In the United States, the debate about the Southwest border has focused on an almost two-decade high in Border Patrol apprehensions, along with a sharp uptick in arrivals of families and unaccompanied minors.

But with most migrants, including the Cruz family, quickly returned under pandemic health protocols, Mexico is facing its own crisis — an escalating humanitarian emergency caused by what authorities and advo- [See Mexico, A3]

### Playoff matchups fall into place for Clippers, Lakers

Fourth-seeded Clippers get series against Dallas, and defending champs face play-in game versus Golden State. **SPORTS, D1**

**Pandemic success story takes a turn** Taiwan imposes new restrictions as it battles its worst COVID-19 outbreak since the crisis began. **WORLD, A4**

**Weather** Drizzle and some sun. L.A. Basin: 70/60, B6

Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper.



FATIMA SIBRAIE Getty Images

### ISRAEL STEPS UP ATTACKS

Palestinians search through the rubble after Israeli airstrikes in Gaza City. One assault involving multiple strikes killed 42, medics said. **WORLD, A3**

## New test for police overhaul advocates

Coming elections will show if crime surge has dulled desire for change

BY GRIF WITTE  
AND DAVID WEIGEL

One of the top candidates for mayor of New York is a former police captain who has said addressing the city's surging violent crime rate will be his highest priority.

In New Mexico, a Democrat running for Congress in a left-of-center suburban district has been put on the defensive for supporting a measure to cut spending on law enforcement.

And in Philadelphia, the country's most prominent liberal district attorney is facing a vigorous challenge from a police-union-backed prosecutor he once fired.

It has been less than a year since George Floyd was murdered by a police officer in Minneapolis, spawning a national movement to reimagine the American criminal justice system and end race-based abuses.

Yet with shootings spiking in cities nationwide during the pandemic, there are growing signs that the thirst for change is being blunted by fears of runaway crime.

Critical tests of just how far the pendulum has swung will come in the next several days and weeks, with a nationwide flurry of elections for mayor, district attorney and members of Congress. Although Republicans have long

SEE POLITICS ON A4

## Police shootings of children prompt push for new training

BY KIMBERLY KINDY,  
JULIE TATE,  
JENNIFER JENKINS  
AND TED MELLNIK

Stavian Rodriguez squeezed his 15-year-old body through the drive-through window of the Okie Gas Express convenience store, poking his hands out first so police could see they were empty. He jumped to the ground, holding his hands in the air, and then lifted his shirt to reveal a gun tucked into his front waistband. Using the tips of his thumb and index finger, Rodriguez gently pinched the end of the barrel far from the trigger — and dropped the weapon to the ground.

As the gun hit the pavement, Rodriguez raised his right hand, pocketing a volley of bullets burst out and the teenager sank to the ground, surveillance and camera footage show. Dozens of Oklahoma City police officers had responded last November to the 911 call at the convenience store,

SEE SHOOTINGS ON A20

## Dozens killed in predawn Israeli airstrikes



MOHAMMED SALEM/REUTERS

**TOP:** A 6-year-old girl is pulled to safety Sunday after Israeli airstrikes caused the collapse of three buildings on a main road near Shifa Hospital and buried several Palestinian families beneath mounds of rubble.

**RIGHT:** Rockets fired from the Gaza Strip, seen Sunday from the southern Israeli city of Sderot, are intercepted by Israel's missile defense system.



JACK GUZZ/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

**Lost lives, lost homes**  
Residents describe the effects of Israeli raids on Gaza City. A15

## Whatever gets the jab done, leaders say

To sway vaccine hesitant, officials offer burgers, beer, even millions of dollars

BY JOEL ACHENBACH,  
ARIANA EUNJUNG CHA,  
FRANCES STEAD SELLERS  
AND KEVIN WILLIAMS

The first incentives were relatively modest: doughnuts, hunting licenses, baseball tickets. And cheeseburgers. Beer. Whiskey. Maybe even a savings bond, enough to buy a nice toaster someday.

The United States has a surplus of coronavirus vaccine doses on its hands, and long gone are the days when people waited hours to get jabbed. Dwindling demand has forced governors and mayors to get creative.

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) tried to market the vaccines by offering burgers and fries from Shake Shack, which he dutifully, awkwardly ate on camera while trying to keep a straight face.

Now, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine (R) has upped the ante. He's



AMANDA VOISARD FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

**Tamar Kelly drinks a free beer after receiving a dose of coronavirus vaccine at a walk-up clinic in D.C. this month.**

offering \$1 million to five adults, provided they are vaccinated. That's \$1 million each. They'll be chosen by lottery once a week, starting May 26.

Separately, he'll hand out full-ride scholarships at a public state university to five vaccinated teenagers.

SEE VIRUS ON A8

## People of color grow more visible in far-right activism

Multiracial layer adds to fraught debate over addressing extremism

BY HANNAH ALLAM  
AND RAZZAN NAKHLAWI

Brandon Rapolla is not who springs to mind as the face of the far right.

Rapolla's brown skin, a reflection of his multiracial ancestry, is at odds with images of White guys in self-styled militias wearing camouflage in the woods. The militia stereotype is so entrenched, Rapolla said, that airline ticket agents have refused to believe him when he gives them a heads-up that he's on a domestic terrorism watch list.

"This one lady — she was Asian — she said, 'Darling, you don't look like a domestic terrorist. It's

a mistake,'" Rapolla recalled. "I said, 'Nope, I am. That's what I'm labeled as.'"

Rapolla, a 46-year-old former Marine, has participated in four armed standoffs with the federal government, including the "Bundy Ranch" episode in 2014. He was active in two far-right factions — the Oath Keepers and the Three Percenters — and co-founded the Pacific Patriots Network to boost cooperation. His trajectory, he said, shows how people of color are carving space in movements that are generalized as exclusively White in membership and racist ideology.

Rapolla's father has roots in China and Guam, while his mother is a mix of Scandinavian, Inuit, Mexican and Greek ancestry. None of that matters, he said, when he stands alongside fellow "patriots" who share his concerns about government overreach and Second Amendment rights.

SEE RACE ON A10

## IN THE NEWS



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

**NRA holds its sway** Despite the group's loss in bankruptcy court, its grip on the gun-control debate persists. A7

**Liz Cheney** After losing her GOP leadership post, she continued to slam Donald Trump and didn't rule out a presidential run. A6

**THE NATION**  
White supremacists attacked Johnny Cash for marrying a "Negro" woman. But was his first wife Black? A2  
**As President Biden** faces a flurry of unexpected crises, Republicans are depicting a country in chaos, while the White House says his response shows he's in control. A3

**THE WORLD**  
Once home to one of Russia's largest polluters, a Siberian town is struggling to define its future after its paper mill was closed. A12

**A transgender** social media star in Cameroon is facing five years in prison under a law that bans same-sex relations. A16

**THE ECONOMY**  
Some consumer-friendly air purifiers destroy the coronavirus, and they have FDA certifications to prove it. A17

**THE REGION**  
Alexandria will pull all police officers from public school hallways, ending a program that began nearly three decades ago, after a contentious city council vote. B1  
**D.C. has struggled** to

get students routine vaccinations during the pandemic, raising questions about the city's ability to provide coronavirus inoculations. B1

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**MONDAY**  
The deadline arrives for federal income tax filing and payment.

**The Supreme Court** issues orders and opinions.

**TUESDAY**  
President Biden visits the Ford Rouge Electric Vehicle Center in Michigan.

**The U.S. Chamber of Commerce** hosts a global forum on economic recovery.

**Housing starts** for April are estimated at 1.705 million.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Biden travels to Connecticut to speak at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy graduation ceremony.

**THURSDAY**  
Jobless claims for the week ended May 15 are estimated at 460,000. The Supreme Court meets for a conference.

**FRIDAY**  
Biden meets with South Korean President Moon Jae-in at the White House.

**Italy** hosts a Group of 20 summit on global health.

## INSIDE



### STYLE

#### Hearts burst for Bennifer

The reunion of Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez is the ultimate gift for our nostalgia-obsessed culture. C1

#### Hugs and ughs

With increasing vaccination rates comes a trend not everyone embraces. C1

BUSINESS NEWS	A17
COMICS	C6
OPINION PAGES	A18
LOTTERIES	B3
OBITUARIES	D5
TELEVISION	C5
WORLD NEWS	A12

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## Un 10 para Rafael Nadal en la final de Roma

En la antecala de Roland Garros, el español derrotó a Nole Djokovic y conquistó por décima vez el título en el Foro Itálico; fue por 7-5, 1-6 y 6-3. Deportes, página 8



## FRANCIA REAVIVA EL DEBATE SOBRE EL LENGUAJE INCLUSIVO

—cultura

El Ministerio de Educación de ese país reforzó su oposición a que se modifique la escritura con el propósito de abarcar ambos géneros. Página 24

## WHATSAPP, ENREDADO EN UN ULTIMÁTUM A LOS USUARIOS

—economía

Generó temores y confusiones con un cambio en los términos y condiciones de uso; el Gobierno busca frenar su nueva política de privacidad. Página 22

# LA NACION

LUNES 17 DE MAYO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

## Ofensiva opositora: rechazan postergar las PASO si avanza la reforma de la procuración

**REACCIÓN.** La cúpula de Juntos por el Cambio condicionó el acuerdo para modificar el calendario electoral por la pandemia a que se frenen los cambios en el Ministerio Público Fiscal

La cúpula de Juntos por el Cambio se reunió anoche de urgencia ante el avance del oficialismo para aprobar la reforma del Ministerio Público Fiscal, que flexibiliza las mayorías para elegir al procurador general y pone en riesgo la estabilidad de los fiscales que impulsan investigaciones sobre funcionarios

de gobierno. Tras denunciar que el kirchnerismo busca "garantizar la impunidad" de sus funcionarios, el bloque opositor advirtió que condicionará su respaldo a la postergación de las elecciones—acordada días atrás con el Gobierno—a que se abandone el proyecto de reforma de la procuración.

Tras prometer cambios en la iniciativa aprobada en noviembre en el Senado, el ministro de Justicia, Martín Soria, acercó posiciones y el kirchnerismo estaría a 4 o 5 votos del quórum. Con esa meta en marcha, mañana buscará darle dictamen a la reforma, lo que le permitirá llamar a sesión la semana próxima. Página 16

Un encuentro para "postergar" las internas  
Jaime Rosenberg  
Página 16

Se frena el desembarco de  
Máximo Kirchner en el PJ  
Javier Fuego Simondet  
Página 20

## No llega al productor el beneficio de la supersoja

**SIN DERRAME.** En el campo se quejan porque reciben solo el 36% del precio

Productores agropecuarios del interior, aquellos que producen en campos alquilados o afectados por la sequía, se quejan de que, pese al precio récord que alcanzó la soja la semana pasada en el Mercado de Chicago, reciben solo el 36% de esos valores, por efecto de las retenciones y de la brecha cambiaria. Testimonios recogidos por LA NACION advierten que no habrá impacto en las economías de los pueblos chicos. Página 21

## Alivio en Boca: en los penales eliminó a un River marcado por el Covid

—deportes

"Nos sacamos una espina", admitió Carlos Tevez tras el superclásico en el que Boca superó 4-2 en los penales a River y pasó a las semifinales de la Copa de la Liga. La confesión del capitán reflejó el alivio que significó para los xeneizes superar al equipo de Gallardo, que el sábado había perdido a 15 futbolistas por Covid.



Buffarini ya anotó el cuarto penal de Boca, el de la victoria, y el grupo se abraza con Rossi, que atajó dos remates de River

MAURO ALFIERI

## El peor día de violencia entre Israel y Hamas: 42 muertos

**MEDIO ORIENTE.** A pesar de los esfuerzos por sellar una tregua, se intensificaron los bombardeos en Gaza

TEL AVIV (DPA).— Mientras crecía la presión internacional para alcanzar una tregua entre el grupo islamista Hamas e Israel, las operaciones militares israelíes conti-

nuaron ayer en el enclave palestino, donde murieron 42 personas, en la jornada más sangrienta desde el comienzo de las hostilidades, el lunes pasado. Página 10

## Sin ley, seguirán cerradas las escuelas por decreto

**CORONAVIRUS.** Lo confirmó anoche el Presidente; dijo que con la virtualidad "disminuyen los contagios"

El presidente Alberto Fernández confirmó anoche que si el Congreso no aprueba antes del viernes la ley que le otorga facultades para disponer restricciones a la circulación, esas medi-

das serán prorrogadas mediante un decreto de necesidad y urgencia. En ese sentido, defendió la escolaridad virtual "porque asegura menor cantidad de contagios". Página 2

## "Zoomfobia": cada vez más chicos resisten las clases virtuales

Crecen las dificultades, especialmente en jardín y en primaria

Página 3

## Morre aos 41 o prefeito Bruno Covas

Tucano tratava câncer desde 2019; sobrenome, discurso moderado e luta contra o autoritarismo marcaram trajetória



**"A força de Bruno Covas vem do seu exemplo e do seu caráter. Sua garra nos inspira e seu trabalho nos motiva."**

**João Doria**  
governador de São Paulo

**"Nossa solidariedade aos familiares e amigos do Bruno Covas. Que Deus conforte o coração de todos!"**

**Jair Bolsonaro**  
presidente da República

**"Tivemos uma convivência franca e democrática. Vá em paz, Bruno!"**  
**Guilherme Boulos**  
adversário na eleição



Sob pétalas de rosas, cortejo do prefeito Bruno Covas passa pela avenida Paulista, em São Paulo. Ronny Santos/Folhapress

Bruno Covas (PSDB), que emergiu como prefeito da maior cidade do país com discurso de moderação em um cenário político polarizado, morreu neste domingo (16), aos 41 anos, em São Paulo, em decorrência de um câncer descoberto em 2019.

Exames constataram, em abril, que os tumores originados no trato digestivo se alastraram para o fígado e os ossos. Ele se licenciou em 2 de maio, quando foi internado no Hospital Sírio-Libanês.

Nesse período, chegou a ser intubado, apresentou melhora, mas voltou a piorar na sexta-feira (14), e o quadro foi declarado irreversível pelos médicos.

A aposta no centrismo o reconduziu à prefeitura paulistana em 2020, ao derrotar adversários à esquerda e à direita. Então vice, assumira em abril de 2018, quando João Doria (PSDB) saiu para disputar o governo estadual.

A doença e a vocalização de uma posição antiautoritária que mirou Jair Bolsonaro mudaram a imagem de Covas, até então conhecido pela boemia e por ser neto de Mario Covas (1930-2001).

Prefeito em exercício desde o dia 3, Ricardo Nunes (MDB) assume o cargo em definitivo. Cotidiano B1

**Covas é o primeiro a morrer no cargo em São Paulo** B3

**ANÁLISE Igor Gielow**  
Nas mãos do MDB, capital será teste para pretensões de Doria B4

**Ricardo Nunes assume a cidade sob incertezas** B4

**Nem os secretários vão mudar, afirma o novo prefeito** B4

### Cidade da morte de Floyd espera reforma policial

Um ano após a morte de George Floyd, que gerou a maior onda de protestos antirracismo nos EUA desde Martin Luther King, Minneapolis vive alívio pela condenação do ex-policial branco Derek Chauvin —que sufocou Floyd com o joelho por quase dez minutos. A cidade, porém, ainda aguarda por mudanças na polícia, relata a enviada Marina Dias. Mundo A10



A atriz Eva Wilma  
Fábio Braga - 8.dez.2015/Folhapress

### Em dia mais letal do conflito, Israel mata 42 pessoas em Gaza

Mundo A16

### Fachin deu aval à PF para buscar provas contra Toffoli

O ministro do STF Edson Fachin autorizou a Polícia Federal a acessar dados de duas operações ligadas à Lava Jato do Rio em uma apuração preliminar que resultou no pedido de inquérito contra Dias Toffoli. As informações ajudaram a embasar relatório em que a PF diz ser preciso apurar suposto crime de corrupção em venda de decisões. Toffoli diz jamais ter ganho os supostos valores ilegais. Poder A8

### Ilustrada B9 A estrela sai de cena

Morta aos 87, Eva Wilma fez história nos palcos, na televisão e no cinema.

### Dias Melhores B6

Corais em PE são replantados em luta contra degradação

### Esporte B8

Uniformes do Brasil terão acessibilidade na Paraolimpíada

### Vacinação no Brasil

% da população vacinada*	2ª dose	1ª dose
<b>Brasil</b>	<b>11,9</b>	<b>24,1</b>
MS	12,6	31,6
RS	12,5	30,0
BA	12,1	26,8

### Cobertura da primeira dose\*



Total de doses aplicadas	19,2 mi	38,8 mi
1º SP	5 mi	9,6 mi
2º MG	2 mi	4 mi
3º BA	1,4 mi	3 mi

### Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,6 mi</b>	<b>435,8 mil</b>
16.mai**	63,3 mil	1.915
Variação***	6,9%	-20,4%
Em 24 h	34,6 mil	971



### EDITORIAIS A2

**Pesadelo tributário**  
Acerca da derrota bilionária do governo no STF.

**Sandice impressa**  
Sobre discurso bolsonarista contra urna eletrônica.



Rubens Cavallari/Folhapress

### PALMEIRAS E SÃO PAULO FAZEM A FINAL DO PAULISTA

Victor Luiz comemora gol na vitória do Palmeiras por 2 a 0 que derrubou o técnico do Corinthians; time buscará o bicampeonato contra o São Paulo, que fez 4 a 0 no Mirassol Esporte B7

### Marcus André Melo Bolsonaro tem mudança única entre populistas

A trajetória de Bolsonaro guarda uma singularidade: nenhum dos demais populistas do mundo sofreu metamorfoses tão profundas no mandato. Sua ascensão ao poder está associada à rejeição à velha política —que, no entanto, abraçou. Opinião A2

**CPI vai pressionar Pazuello sobre compra de vacinas**

Poder A4

### Governo faz pacote para caminhoneiro

O governo federal prepara um pacote de benefícios a caminhoneiros. Além de voucher para atenuar o efeito de reajustes do diesel, a ideia inclui linhas de crédito e programa de renovação de frota. O pacote foi um pedido expresso de Bolsonaro. Mercado A19

**ENTREVISTA DA 2ª Isabel Wilkerson**  
País em que vida vale menos explica recorde de Covid A18

**semináriosfolha**

**Exploração Sexual Infantil**

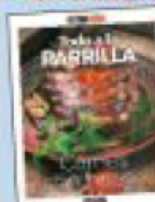
5ª edição

**18 DE MAIO**  
9h às 11h

Acompanhe ao vivo o debate online sobre infâncias e juventudes impactadas pela violência no Brasil

folha.com/exploracaoainfantil

Saiba mais na página A7



Desde mañana pueden vacunarse todos los que cumplen 65 este año

## Pandemia desnudó urgencia de apoyar industria farmacéutica

Tomás Mateo Balmelli dijo que es indispensable tener soberanía sanitaria fortaleciendo la producción local de medicinas. Ex capitán de la Albirroja pide a la gente que se vacune.

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

### Arzobispo alerta de situación catastrófica de la Catedral



**Susto.** Un incendio afectó la parte posterior del principal templo católico de Asunción. Una de las imágenes rescatadas fue de la Virgen Dolorosa (foto pequeña).

PÁGINA 16

Cada uno recibió USD 1 millón  
**9 gobernadores no rinden cuentas del uso de fondos de Ley de Emergencia**

PÁGINA 4



**Leandro Oviedo, el peculiar caso del pueblo con solo 4 enfermos de Covid**

PÁGINA 40

En vez de programas sociales  
**El ingreso básico universal es opción contra la pobreza, según especialistas**

PÁGINA 11

**ETIOS**  
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# LE FIGARO

« Sans la liberté de blâmer, il n'est point d'éloge flatteur » Beaumarchais

**HENRI GUAINO**  
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EST EN RUINE » PAGE 20

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OU LE MUSÉE RÊVÉ DE FRANÇOIS  
PINAULT À PARIS PAGES 32 ET 33



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**FIGARO OUI  
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Approuvez-vous  
la décision du  
gouvernement d'interdire  
la manifestation  
en soutien aux  
Palestiniens à Paris ?

OUI 83%	NON 17%
------------	------------

TOTAL DE VOTANTS: 254 962

**Votez aujourd'hui  
sur lefigaro.fr**  
Selon vous, un candidat  
de gauche peut-il  
se qualifier pour le second  
tour de la présidentielle  
2022 ?

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ARCHITECTES, AGENCE PIERRE-  
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FABIEN CLAIREFOND

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## En recul à travers l'Europe, la gauche en plein désarroi

Quarante ans après l'élection de François Mitterrand, la gauche française, profondément divisée, se réduit comme peau de chagrin. Un phénomène que l'on retrouve chez nos voisins.

La gauche n'est plus ce qu'elle était. En France comme en Europe. Parmi les vingt-sept pays de l'UE, il n'y a plus que six diri-

geants seulement à être éti-  
quetés sociaux-démocrates.  
En 2002, ils étaient treize,  
alors que l'UE comptait  
quinze États membres...

Et la tendance n'est pas près  
de s'inverser. Coïncée entre  
une gauche radicale et des  
écologistes en plein essor, la  
social-démocratie peine à se

trouver un espace politique.  
Dans l'Hexagone, certains  
socialistes n'hésitent même  
plus à envisager de faire l'im-  
passe sur 2022 pour mieux se

concentrer sur l'après-prési-  
dentielle. À leurs yeux, la  
gauche est trop désunie pour  
pouvoir espérer peser sur  
l'élection.

→ LA TENTATION DE L'IMPASSE MINE LA GAUCHE FRANÇAISE → LE GRAND DÉSARROI DES TRAVAILLISTES BRITANNIQUES → L'ALLIANCE EN PANNE DES DÉMOCRATES ITALIENS  
AVEC LE MOUVEMENT 5 ÉTOILES → LE SPD ESSORÉ PAR UNE DÉCENNIE DE COGESTION → CETTE GAUCHE DANOISE QUI GOUVERNE À DROITE PAGES 2 À 5 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



Hagards, parfois violents, des hommes et des femmes errent nuit et jour en quête d'argent ou de drogue aux alentours de la place Stalingrad, dans le 19<sup>e</sup> arrondissement. Pour les habitants, la vie est devenue impossible. PAGE 19

### Dans l'enfer du quartier Stalingrad à Paris, supermarché du crack

### Bombardements sans relâche contre les positions du Hamas à Gaza

L'aviation israélienne a durci ce week-end ses frappes contre la bande de Gaza, visant notamment des immeubles de hauteur dont l'un abritait les locaux de plusieurs médias internationaux, ainsi que les demeures de chefs islamistes. Depuis le début de cette flambée de violence, 192 Palestiniens ont été tués et près de 40 000 ont été déplacés dans l'enclave côtière. PAGES 8 ET 9

**ÉDITORIAL** par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

### Gauche morte, droite piteuse

Rose fanée, pétales à terre, épines toujours piquantes : quarante ans après l'entrée de François Mitterrand à l'Élysée, voilà à quoi ressemble la gauche française. Frappée, comme toutes ses cousines en Europe, par la fin d'un cycle historique, elle est condamnée à alterner bouffées nostalgiques et discours fanatiques. Race, genre, identité - ce triangle des Bermudes de l'intelligence - remplace désormais les anciennes luttes sociales. Une forme sophistiquée du nihilisme, le « wokisme », tient lieu d'imaginaire. Les derniers tenants de la social-démocratie redistributive en sont les premières victimes. L'écologie politique, elle aussi traversée de courants troubles, voudrait emporter ce qu'il reste du rafiot. Sur nombre de thèmes - autorité, immigration, laïcité -, la poussée de l'opinion contredit avec force l'angélisme de ceux qui voulaient changer la vie. Le paradoxe est que cette large majorité reste minoritaire dans le débat. Un Persan qui viendrait s'installer en France et n'écouterait que la radio publique pourrait penser que Benoît Hamon représente deux

tiers des citoyens. « La gauche : le Bien. La droite : une maladie », écrivait drôlement Jean Cau. Cette asymétrie morale persiste et se renforce même à mesure que le poids électoral des socialistes et de leurs satellites décline. La droite, malgré tout, reste timide, presque honteuse. L'erreur serait, une fois encore, de se contenter des notions (indispensables) de compétence et de performance pour abandonner l'atmosphère

**On demande une vision, un programme, un chef**

culturelle à ceux qui se proclament progressistes. Le grand dérèglement contemporain qui protège l'impunité et désarme l'autorité doit trouver une réponse intellectuelle et morale. L'équivoque entretenue par le président de la République n'en est pas une. Les palinodies de Renaud Muselier en Paca non plus. Les revirements opportunistes du Rassemblement national encore moins. On demande une vision, un programme, un chef pour que la gauche morte ne laisse pas derrière elle, en ultime méfait, la droite la plus bête du monde. ■

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**The Guardian** For 200 years

# Britain opens up – but experts warn public to stick to meeting outdoors

**Denis Campbell**  
**Jessica Elgot**

People should ignore today's easing of lockdown and avoid socialising indoors in pubs and restaurants to stop the new Indian variant leading to a third wave of Covid-19, according to health experts.

A former government chief scientific adviser, a leading public health specialist and the union representing Britain's doctors are urging the public to stick to meeting outdoors to reduce the risk of catching or spreading the infection.

Prof Sir Mark Walport, a former director of the Wellcome Trust and a chief scientific adviser to ministers

until 2017, urged the public to be cautious, saying: "My personal judgment is that I will do things outside as far as possible. My advice is that just because you can do something doesn't necessarily mean you should." Asked by Sophy Ridge on Sky News if that meant he would avoid going inside a pub, he replied: "For the moment, yes."

Martin McKee, a professor of public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, backed Walport. He said: "Based on the precautionary principle and on the experience in earlier waves, I am very concerned [by the variant first detected in India]. Personally I will not be going indoors in bars or restaurants for some time."

Under the rule changes in England groups of six people or two households will be allowed to meet indoors in homes, pubs, cafes and restaurants for the first time since last autumn. Rules are also being relaxed in Wales

and in most of Scotland. However, the British Medical Association also recommended that people keep meeting outside for now.

"We are urging the public, and young people in particular, to take a cautious approach to social and physical contact, to continue practising 'hands, face, space' and to meet outdoors wherever possible," said Dr Richard Jarvis, co-chair of the BMA's public health committee.

"People must look at their own personal risk and adjust their activities accordingly. We are asking people to take a cautious approach as we enter the next stage of lockdown."

Cases linked to the Indian variant more than doubled in a week, from 520 to 1,313, the most recent official

figures showed. Bolton, Blackburn, Erewash in Derbyshire and Moray in Scotland have been among the initial hotspots. However, cases are now being detected all over the country, including in London, Essex, Hertfordshire and Cambridge.

Matt Hancock, the health secretary, warned that the variant could "spread like wildfire" among unvaccinated groups and is likely to replace the Kent variant as the UK's dominant strain. The Scientific Advisory Group on Emergencies fears the Indian strain could be 40-50% more transmissible and, if it is, "would lead to a substantial resurgence in hospitalisations (similar to, or larger than, previous peaks)".

However, Hancock

## Fake certificates

Researchers find hidden markets selling fake Covid vaccine and test documents for as little as £25

8 →

## UN warns of crisis as conflict in Gaza rages

**Oliver Holmes** Jerusalem  
**Bethan McKernan**  
**and Julian Borger** Washington

The eruption of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is heading for an "uncontainable security and humanitarian crisis", the UN secretary general has warned after a day of significant escalation, with 42 Palestinians killed by airstrikes in Gaza.

The death toll made it the deadliest single attack since fighting broke out between Israel and the Palestinian militant group Hamas a week ago. Fifty Palestinians were injured.

Air-raid sirens sounded for the seventh day in a

4 →



▲ Six-year old Suzy Eshkuntana is rescued from the rubble of her home after being trapped for seven hours. A pre-dawn strike by Israeli forces killed her mother and all four of her siblings; she was later reunited with her father in Shifa hospital, Gaza City PHOTOGRAPH: ASHRAF AMRA/ANADOLU AGENCY/GETTY



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