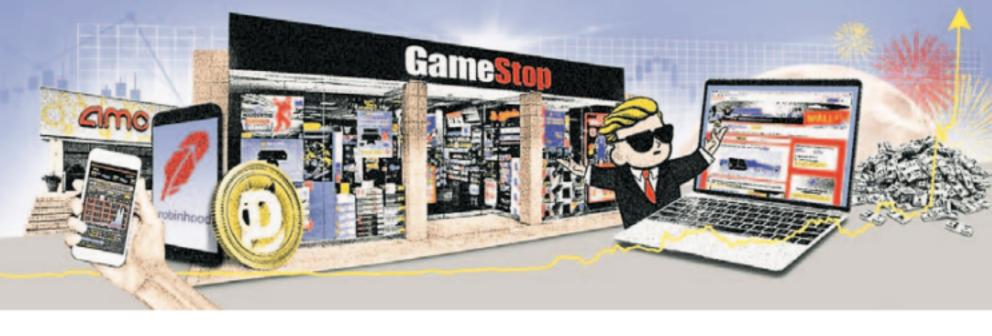
TO THE MOON

Amateur investors sent GameStop stock soaring - minting millionaires and draining savings in the process. How did a group of small-time traders surprise Wall Street?

TO THE MOON premieres Sunday, May 30. Look for The Journal podcast on your favorite podcast app.





THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

DOW JONES | News Corp ****

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021 ~ VOL. CCLXXVII NO. 124

WSJ.com

★★★★ \$4.00

NASDAQ 13736.28 ▼ 0.01%

OIL \$66.85 **\(\)** \$0.64

GOLD \$1,895.70 ▼ \$5.50

YEN 109.84

DJIA 34464.64 A 141.59 0.4%

STOXX 600 446.44 ▲ 0.3%

10-YR. TREAS. ▼ 11/32, yield 1.609%

EURO \$1.2194

What's News

Business & Finance

Tike and soccer superstar Neymar parted ways last year after the company started investigating an allegation by a Nike employee that the Brazilian athlete had sexually assaulted her. Nevmar denies the allegation, his spokeswoman said. A1, A6

- ◆ Google is nearing a settlement of an antitrust case in France alleging the company has abused its power in online advertising, and is likely to pay a fine and make operational changes. A1
- ◆ WeWork gave Neumann an enhanced stock award not extended to other early shareholders as part of a renegotiation of the ex-CEO's giant 2019 exit package. A1
- ◆ Boeing agreed to pay \$17 million in civil penalties for production lapses related to 737 aircraft models in a settlement with the FAA. B1
- ◆ Airbus laid out a plan to return aircraft production to pre-pandemic levels. B2
- **◆** Initial jobless claims fell last week to a fresh pandemic low, extending a steady downward trend. A2
- ◆ The Dow and S&P 500 gained 0.4% and 0.1%, respectively, while the Nasdaq slipped 0.01%. **B11**
- ◆ Acorns plans to go public through a merger with a SPAC in a deal that values the fintech firm at about \$2.2 billion. B3

World-Wide

- ◆ Biden is expected to propose a \$6 trillion budget on Friday that would lay the foundation for his plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure and expand the government's role in providing healthcare, education and other social services. A1, A4
- **♦** Senate Republicans presented a \$928 billion infrastructure plan to the White House, closing the gap with the White House's latest \$1.7 trillion offer as the two sides attempt to break an impasse. A4
- ◆ Members of a WHO-led team investigating the origins of Covid-19 urged the U.N. agency's member states to mandate a second phase of research. A7
- ◆ The FDA and Johnson & Johnson expect to announce within days that contamination problems at a Covid-19 vaccine plant in Baltimore are resolved. A6
- ◆ Prospects dimmed for an independent commission to investigate the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol after most Senate Republicans lined up against the proposal at the urging of GOP leaders. A4
- ◆ Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates are discussing changes to the structure of their foundation to add more governance and independence, as they plan to divorce. A3

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San Jose Mourns Victims of Train-Yard Massacre



REMEMBRANCE: People in San Jose, Calif., paid respects on Thursday at a memorial to the nine people killed by a coworker a day earlier at a light-rail yard. Authorities said the gunman had professed a hatred of his workplace. A3

Nike and Soccer Star Neymar Split Amid Sex-Assault Probe

Athlete's spokeswoman denies allegation, says he and company ended deal for other reasons

By Khadeeja Safdar

Nike Inc. and soccer superstar Neymar parted ways last year after the company started investigating an allegation by a Nike employee

that the Brazilian athlete had sexually assaulted her, according to people familiar with the matter and documents reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.

In August 2020, Nike didn't publicly give a reason for the early end to its endorsement deal with one of the world's most recognizable athletes. Nike's marketing contract with Neymar had eight years remaining, a person familiar

with the matter said.

The woman had told friends as well as Nike colleagues in 2016 that Neymar tried to force her to perform oral sex in his hotel room while in New York City, where she was helping to coordinate events and logistics for Neymar and his entourage, according to the people, including former and current Nike employees, and

the documents. Neymar denies the allegasaid. "Neymar Jr. will vigorously defend himself against these baseless attacks in case any claim is presented, which did not happen so far," the spokeswoman said. She said Nike and Neymar split for commercial reasons.

spokeswoman

The Nike employee filed a Please turn to page A6

◆ How Neymar became soccer's most expensive star..... A6

Biden Set To Unveil \$6 Trillion Spending Proposal

Ambitious plan would fund infrastructure changes but debt would top WWII levels

By KATE DAVIDSON AND KRISTINA PETERSON

WASHINGTON—President Biden is expected to propose a \$6 trillion budget on Friday that would lay the foundation for his plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure and expand the government's role in providing healthcare, education and other social services, according to people familiar with the plans.

The Biden administration's first budget, for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, would put the nation on a path to spend \$8.2 trillion annually by the end of 2031, the people said. Debt would exceed the record level seen at the end of World War II within a few years and reach 117% of economic output by the end of 2031, up from about 100% this year.

The government was on track to spend \$5.7 trillion in fiscal year 2021, according to Congressional Budget Office projections released in February, before Congress enacted Mr. Biden's \$1.9 trillion

Please turn to page A4

◆ Republicans raise their

infrastructure offer...... A4 ◆ Capital-gains plan assumes

April tax rise......A4

WeWork Sweetens Ex-Chief's Exit Deal

By Eliot Brown AND MAUREEN FARRELL

Nearly two years ago, Soft-Bank Group Corp. sought to part ways with WeWork cofounder Adam Neumann when it bailed out the shared-office company. It hasn't been an easy divorce.

Securities filings from earlier this month show WeWork gave Mr. Neumann in February an enhanced stock award valued at about \$245 million, a benefit that wasn't extended to other early shareholders and hasn't been previously reported.

The deal was part of a renegotiation of the former chief executive's giant 2019 exit package meant to end a longrunning dispute between him and SoftBank and help clear the way for a public listing for We-Work, according to people familiar with the matter.

In addition, the final package gave him nearly \$200 million in cash, let him refinance \$432 million in debt on favorable terms and allowed an entity Mr. Neumann controls to sell \$578 million in WeWork stock.

The stock sale was open to all investors while the other benefits were reserved for Mr. Neumann.

The filings also show how, after Mr. Neumann's exit in the fall of 2019, WeWork took big losses as it sold off a number of companies acquired at his di- ing to sell her

Small Players **Beat the Pros**

Small investors' stock picks are beating Wall Street. B1

Performance on basket of stocks popular with individual investors vs. the broad market



Texas Grid Came Close to Bigger Disaster From Freeze

'Black start' units for jolting failed system weren't working properly

By Rebecca Smith

The Texas electric grid came within five minutes of a complete collapse in mid-February. The problem could have been much worse. A little-known network designed to jolt the grid back to life wasn't working properly.

Texas grid operators, like their counterparts all over the country, rely on standby generators called "black starts." Their job is to rescue the grid by supplying electricity to power plants so they can restart after a grid failure—roughly akin to jump-starting a car with a dead battery.

When a freak winter storm hit Texas, nine

of the 13 primary generators designed to get a downed system going again were, at times, out of commission, according to grid operators. And six of 15 secondary generators—the fail-safe for the fail-safe—had periodic trouble as well, including freeze damage and problems getting fuel. Those problems haven't previously been reported.

If grid operators had completely lost control of the situation—they didn't, although they came close—the spotty performance of the black start units could have left Texans without power for much longer than a few days. How long is impossible to say, though by the grid operators' own estimate, a total

Please turn to page A9

Schitt's Creek, but in Real Life: California Town Is for Sale

Nipton has a motel, trading post, 'desert art' and its own cast of characters

By Kirsten Grind

NIPTON, Calif.—In the awardwinning television show "Schitt's Creek," the owners of the tiny town of the same name try to sell it, with no luck. Roxanne Lang feels like she's been living that story line on repeat.

For more than half a decade now, she has been try-Please turn to page $A2 \mid$ own town, an 80-

acre plot of land on the California side of the Mojave Desert, about an hour away from Las Vegas. It's now on the market again for \$2.75 million.

With almost nothing around it for miles, Nipton is located far off Interstate 15, and appears in the middle of the desert almost like a mirage, with a grove

page A9

Art included

Google, France Near Antitrust Settlement

By Sam Schechner And Keach Hagey

Alphabet Inc.'s Google is nearing a settlement of an antitrust case in France alleging the company has abused its power in online advertising, and is likely to pay a fine and make operational changes, people familiar with the matter said.

The French case, which hasn't been previously disclosed, is one of the most advanced in the world looking at Google's dominance as a provider of tools for buying and Please turn to | selling ads across the web.

As part of the case, France's

Competition Authority alleged that the company's advertising server—historically known as DoubleClick for Publishers (DFP) and used by most large online publishers to sell ad space—gave Google's online ad auction house, AdX, an advantage against other auction operators, the people said.

The authority also alleged other forms of self-preferencing between Google's advertising technology tools, they said.

To settle the French charges, Google has offered to improve the interoperability of AdX with advertising servers

run by other companies, as Please turn to page A7

Shooter may have harbored a grudge

In San Jose, emerging details suggest killer targeted certain workers

> BY FAIZ SIDDIQUI, DEREK HAWKINS, BRITTANY SHAMMAS AND REIS THEBAULT

SAN JOSE — As authorities on Thursday continued to investigate the San Jose rail yard shooting that left nine people dead, a portrait of the gunman began to emerge — a transit worker who had apparently researched extremism and spoken of committing violence at his workplace.

All nine victims were employees of the Valley Transportation Authority, a tightknit agency that serves Northern California's largest county and already had weathered months of essential work during the coronavirus pandem-

Authorities publicly identified the shooter as 57-year-old Samuel Cassidy, whom they described as "a highly disgruntled" VTA employee. He worked at the agency for more than a decade, according to family and Santa Clara County records, and police said he died at the scene in an apparent suicide.

"The suspect has been a highly disgruntled VTA employee for many years, which may have contributed to why he targeted VTA employees," Russell Davis, spokesman for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office, said in a statement Thursday evening.

Detectives found three semiautomatic handguns at the scene, SEE SHOOTING ON AS



People gather in San Jose for a vigil to remember the nine rail yard workers who lost their lives in Wednesday's mass shooting.

A bond forged in the rail yard

Odd hours and tough work had made them like family. On Wednesday, they died together.

BY FAIZ SIDDIQUI, SILVIA FOSTER-FRAU AND MARC FISHER

SAN JOSE — They made the trains run on time, got their neighbors to work and, during long shifts and in friendships that deepened over decades, they took care of one another. Nine of them died Wednesday, victims of a mass shooting at the hands of one of their own.

Relatives and co-workers of the victims of the latest mass shooting to shock a commu-

nity and dull the senses of the nation said the cliche about workmates being a family was really true this time. The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority workers at the San Jose rail yard on West Younger Avenue felt a bond born of odd hours and difficult jobs, a bond now transformed by grief, anger and outrage.

They were drivers and repairmen, expert engineers and office supervisors. They made a decent living and they made things work. They bought houses, which rose in value in one of the country's most enduring boom

regions, and they sent children to college.

They lived, their relatives said, an American dream. But the country that lifted them up the economic ladder is also one where too many people get the worst of all calls — the alert that a loved one is missing and then the news that he has been shot to death, for no reason other than that he had gone to work that day.

"I never saw anything like this," said Bagga Singh, the cousin of one victim, Taptejdeep Singh. "I see it over the news all SEE VICTIMS ON AS

Biden sets big goals in budget

PLANS TO RESHAPE ECONOMY, WELFARE

GOP assails cost, tax hikes of \$6 trillion proposal

BY JEFF STEIN

The White House is set to propose on Friday a \$6 trillion budget plan for 2022, as President Biden seeks major changes to the U.S. economy and welfare system, according to two people briefed on the proposal and an internal summary document. The people spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss a matter not yet made public.

The budget stacks together the numerous policy initiatives that Biden has already offered in his first four months in office. He has called for a \$2.3 trillion infrastructure proposal, a \$1.8 trillion education and families plan, and \$1.5 trillion in proposed discretionary spending, though some of this money would be spread out over several years.

Biden has made clear, however, that he wants to negotiate many of these proposals with Republicans, and the figures are likely to fluctuate if talks pick up momentum. But his first formal budget proposal offered Friday locks in his vision of an expanded government, offering more services to a broad segment of Americans, particularly the lowincome.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said the "budget will reflect that [Biden] is going to SEE BUDGET ON A6

Lab-leak theory jumbles politics of the pandemic

GOP claims vindication as Democrats back probe, scientists reassess views

> BY ANNIE LINSKEY, SHANE HARRIS AND DAVID WILLMAN

Senate Democrats lined up alongside Sen. Josh Hawley (Mo.), one of their least-favorite Republicans, to support a measure urging the Biden administration to declassify intelligence on whether the novel coronavirus originated in a Chinese lab. A Democratic-led House subcommittee is pledging an investigation into the virus's origins, including the lab's safety record.

And President Biden, in an unusual public statement, directed U.S. intelligence agencies to "redouble their efforts" to determine the cause of the pandemic, suggesting that while the virus could have jumped from animals to humans, it also could have

escaped from the lab.

The rapid developments mark a new effort by Democrats to show they are pushing to figure out how the pandemic started and, in the process, considering a theory that some initially attributed to conspiracy theorists: that the pandemic that has cost about 3.5 million lives worldwide stemmed from human error at the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

That thesis is far from conclusive; no significant new evidence has emerged to support it, and the pandemic's origins may never be definitively known. Many still believe the virus jumped naturally from animals to humans. But some scientists who dismissed the theory early on have begun reassessing their views, and new evaluations have been recently aired in a recent piece in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. SEE VIRUS ON A10

China upset: Beijing lashed out at the U.S. focus on virus's origin. A10

Facebook: Posts saying virus was man-made no longer banned. A17

'My back is against the wall'

A flood of federal rental aid is slow to reach those who most need it



Toni Snipes, who was laid off because of the pandemic, owes thousands of dollars in back rent and electric bills. She has been trying to receive a piece of the federal rental aid issued to Decatur, Ill.

BY GREG JAFFE

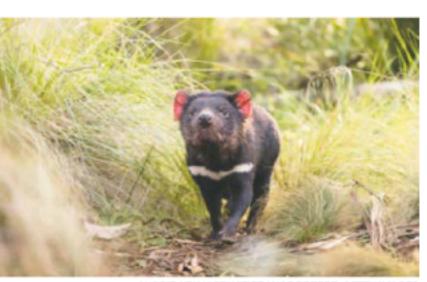
DECATUR, ILL. — Shane Hartman figured that giving away badly needed rental assistance in a city battered by the pandemic recession would be relatively easy. But five months after his nonprofit was tapped by city officials to hand out more than a half-million dollars in federal aid, he had distributed only \$44,772, and had helped just 21 families.

The problem wasn't a lack of need. Decatur's unemployment rate hovered around 10 percent, compared with about 6 percent nationally. Hartman heard regularly from people who were months behind on their rent and desperate for help. But too many of those who came to his office seeking aid gave up before completing the eight-page application that required dozens, and in a few cases hundreds, of pages of financial documents.

By early May, a pile of more than 50 half-finished application packets sat on his desk.

"I would love to have a conversation with someone who wrote SEE ASSISTANCE ON A9

IN THE NEWS



AUSSIE ARK/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Tasmanian devils Births of the marsupials on Australia's mainland after 3,000 years had some conservationists celebrating. A12

'Good to go' Tens of millions are traveling for the Memorial Day holiday, with the pandemic waning and vaccinations on the rise. B1

THE NATION

Lawyers sought dismissal of a suit accusing the Oath Keepers, former president Donald Trump, Rudolph W. Giuliani and a second far-right group of inciting the Capitol riot. A2 The EPA is aiming to rewrite Trump-era rules that curtailed the power of states to protest major energy projects that threaten rivers, lakes and streams. A3 Senate Republicans unveiled a new \$928 billion infrastructure proposal, still far

less than President

Biden has sought. A11

THE WORLD Canadian leader

Justin Trudeau apologized for the World War II internment of Italian Canadians, A13 The military officer who led the ouster of two Malian presidents in nine months will rule the country until a new leader is named or an election takes place next year, an aide said. A14 The purported bomb threat Belarus cited in recently intercepting a plane was sent after the flight was diverted, an email provider said. A15 Spain's postal service faced fire after introducing skin-tone stamps the lightest ones being the most valuable. A15

THE ECONOMY

The debate about Big Tech's power is also playing out in the palms of our iPhone-using

hands, Geoffrey Fowler writes. A16 **Boeing will pay** the U.S. \$17 million in a settlement over missteps in parts usage and plane certifications. A17 The discovery of an eighth noose at an Amazon building site in Connecticut led to a second shutdown of work

THE REGION D.C.'s mayor proposed

for an investigation. A18

a \$17.5 billion budget with major new spending enabled by federal relief and a sunnier forecast for post-covid city revenue. B1

Montgomery County leaders sought to add mental health to the list of valid reasons to be absent from school. B1 The anonymous winners of a \$731.1 million jackpot, the largest in Maryland lottery history, finally stepped up to claim their prize. B3 A man sought by D.C. police over the past

week has been charged in connection with the BUSINESS NEWS COMICS. shooting of a woman OPINION PAGES. and her 5-year-old son LOTTERIES. as they played outside TELEVISION. their home in Shaw. B4

WORLD NEWS.

INSIDE



WEEKEND A refreshing twist for seltzer fans Drunk Fruit turns to Asia

for bold flavor inspiration, and it belongs in your cooler this summer.

STYLE The senator and the movie star Briefly wed John Warner and Elizabeth Taylor weren't the mismatch

CONTENT © 2021 The Washington Post / Year 144, No. 174

B3

.C6

many construed. C1



JUSTIN SULLIVAN Getty Images

MOURNERS ATTEND a vigil Thursday in San Jose for the nine people killed a day earlier at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. The victims were men who ranged in age from 29 to 63 years old.

Co-workers mourn 'family' in San Jose mass shooting

All nine victims were longtime employees of light rail yard

By Hailey Branson-Potts, LILA SEIDMAN AND LEILA MILLER

SAN JOSE — They were described by their colleagues with one word, repeated over and over: family.

The nine men killed in a mass shooting Wednesday at a San Jose light rail yard were all longtime employees at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, ranging in age from 29 to 63.

As the investigation into the shooting continues, a close-knit workplace has been devastated by incomprehensible loss, officials at the transit authority said Thursday, some speaking at a San Jose vigil that night to hon-

or the victims. Those killed were:

■ Abdolvahab Alaghmandan, 63, who worked for the VTA for about 20

The victims

Abdolvahab Alaghmandan, 63 Adrian Balleza, 29 Jose Dejesus Hernandez III, 35 Lars Kepler Lane, 63 Michael Joseph Rudometkin, 40 Paul Delacruz Megia, 42 Taptejdeep Singh, 36 Timothy Michael Romo, 49 Alex Ward Fritch, 49

Details reveal a targeted workplace attack

As investigators examine the San Jose shooting, a picture emerges of an angry gunman, his planning and his victims. CALIFORNIA, B1

years as a substation maintainer.

- Adrian Balleza, 29, who started at the VTA as a bus operator trainee in 2014 and later became a maintenance worker and light rail operator.
- Jose Dejesus Hernandez III, 35, who started at the VTA in 2012 as a transit mechanic, later becoming an electromechanic and a substation maintainer.
- Lars Kepler Lane, 63, who started with the VTA in 2001 as an electromechanic and became an overhead lineworker.
- Michael Joseph Rudometkin, 40, who started in 2013 as a VTA mechanic and went on to be an electromechanic and overhead lineworker.
- Paul Delacruz Megia, 42, who started in the early 2000s as a bus operator trainee and, after several years away, returned to work his way up from [See San Jose, A12]

Get a vaccine and a chance at \$1.5 million

As an incentive for more residents to get COVID inoculations, California will pay out big bucks in prizes.

By Luke Money AND RONG-GONG LIN II

In the latest and most extraordinary effort yet to boost California's flagging COVID-19 vaccination rates. state officials on Thursday announced what appears to be the largest inoculation incentive in the nation: the chance for 10 residents to win \$1.5 million apiece.

The goal of the multimillion-dollar giveaway is simple: Give residents every possible motivation to finally roll up their sleeves as the state's vaccine rollout enters its crucial next phase.

Those prizes — along with 30 additional awards of \$50,000 each — are open to Californians who have gotten at least one dose. Those who have previously received their shots will be entered into the drawings automatically, and there is no need to register, according to state officials.

"These are real incentives. These are an opportunity to say thank you to those not only seeking to get vaccinated as we move forward, but also those that have been vaccinated since we first availed those opportunities a number of months ago," Gov. Gavin Newsom said Thursday.

The grand prize recipients will be chosen June 15, the date the state is set to fully reopen its economy. The \$50,000 winners will be selected in two batches, half on June 4 and the rest on June 11. Should someone under 18 win, the prize will be put in a savings account until they come of age.

Additionally, starting Thursday, the next 2 million people who begin and finish their COVID-19 vaccine series will automatically be eligible for either a \$50 prepaid gift card or a \$50 grocery card that can be used at supermarkets such as Ralphs, Food 4 Less, Albertsons, Vons, Pavilions, Safeway and Andronico's.

Prospective winners can decline the award, or they can accept and remain anonymous, though they are permitted to make their award public, Newsom said.

All California residents are eligible, regardless of immigration status, with some exceptions, such as people who are incarcerated and some government employees, including workers for public health departments and the California State Lottery.

Officials peg the total size of California's incentive program, officially dubbed "Vax for the Win," at \$116.5 million.

To date, providers statewide have administered more than 36.2 million COVID-19 vaccines, according to data compiled by The Times.

But despite that overall progress, California's vaccination pace has slowed. The average number of doses being administered statewide [See Prizes, A9]

GOP ups offer on Biden's plan to rebuild

Counterproposal on infrastructure deal still leaves parties far apart as soft deadline nears.

By Jennifer Haberkorn AND ELI STOKOLS

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans on Thursday issued President Biden an offer of a \$928-billion infrastructure package in an attempt to revive the slowmoving negotiations over a bipartisan plan to repair the nation's roads, bridges and broadband internet.

The latest proposal came days ahead of the White House's self-imposed soft deadline of Memorial Day to have progress on an agreement, which would be Biden's first major bipartisan legislative accomplishment.

Senate Republicans are framing their proposal as in line with what Biden personally told them he found acceptable during a recent White House meeting, which was a \$1-trillion to \$1.2-trillion deal, down significantly from the White House's latest counterproposal of \$1.7 trillion.

"We believe that this counteroffer delivers on what President Biden told us in the Oval Office that day, and that is to try to reach somewhere near \$1 trillion over an eightyear period of time," said Sen. Shelley Moore Capito

[See Infrastructure, A7]

BOWEN LIU For The Times

CHEN GUJI of the Nuosu people in Liangshan, China, has struggled to eke out a living in the cliff-top village of Atulie'er after being excluded from state relocation.

In China, a cultural price to a lifeline out of poverty

Facing assimilation, one minority seeks a 'third way'

By Alice Su

MEIGU, China — Aku Wuwu spoke in an ancient tongue, his eyes closed and head lowered, one arm outstretched as he summoned the soul of a mythic hero.

"Oh ... la!" he cried in Nuosu, the language his people had spoken for centuries deep in the mountains of southwestern China. "Come back!"

The poet stood in a Chi-

students clutching cellphones and texting in Chinese, many of them unable to understand Nuosu. But as Aku raised his voice, punching a fist in the air, they shouted, "Oh ... la!"

These were the moments Aku lived for. His poem, "Calling Back the Soul of Zhyge Alu," spoke of a supernatural warrior who shot down suns and moons at the beginning of creation and is believed to protect the Nuosu today. It also capnese classroom, filled with tured Aku's cry for his peo-

ple: to remember their roots during rapid change and to adapt to modern China without losing their identities amid increasing pressure to assimilate.

"We do not want a substitute spirit," Aku said in his poem. "We do not want a substitute soul."

The dean of the School of Yi Studies at Southwest Minzu University in Chengdu, Aku is among a handful of intellectuals from Liangshan, one of China's poorest

reveals church's secrets

By James Queally AND MATTHEW ORMSETH

The Church of Scientology works hard to keep its inner workings out of the

public eye. It has hired private detectives to keep tabs on straying members, and experts say its lawyers vigorously defend against legal incursions, arguing to judges that Scientology's beliefs are not courtroom fodder.

But at a hearing last week in the rape case against actor Danny Masterson, church officials were unable to stop their practices from being debated in open court.

Three women took the stand to recount sexual assaults allegedly committed by the celebrity Scientologist, and each told similar stories of how church officials tried to stop them from reporting Masterson to police.

One woman testified that a church official instructed her to write a statement showing she would "take responsibility" for a 2001 [See Scientology, A7]

California voters to say yea or nay on sports betting

Initiative backed by tribal casinos qualifies for November 2022 ballot, setting up a fight with excluded card clubs. CALIFORNIA, B1

Lakers take a 2-1 series lead

L.A. pulls away in the second half for a 109-95 Game 3 win over Phoenix. sports, B10

Weather

Morning clouds. L.A. Basin: 76/60. **B6**



MARY ALTAFFER Associated Press

BELOVED AUTHOR DIES

Writer-illustrator Eric Carle, 91, won the hearts of children and parents with classics including "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." CALENDAR, E1

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021

Today, mostly cloudy, rain in the afternoon, cooler, high 67. Tonight, cloudy, rain, low 49. Tomorrow, cloudy, occasional rain and drizzle, high 58. Weather map, Page B12.

\$3.00

U.S. INVESTIGATES UKRAINIANS' ROLE IN 2020 ELECTION

SUSPICION OF MEDDLING

Examining if Officials Used Giuliani to Sow Disinformation

This article is by William K. Rashbaum, Ben Protess, Kenneth P. Vogel and Nicole Hong.

Federal prosecutors in Brooklyn have been investigating whether several Ukrainian officials helped orchestrate a wideranging plan to meddle in the 2020 presidential campaign, including using Rudolph W. Giuliani to spread their misleading claims about President Biden and tilt the election in Donald J. Trump's favor, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The criminal investigation, which began during the final months of the Trump administration and has not been previously reported, underscores the federal government's increasingly aggressive approach toward rooting out foreign interference in American electoral politics. Much of that effort is focused on Russian intelligence, which has suspected ties to at least one of the Ukrainians now under investigation.

The investigation is unfolding separately from a long-running federal inquiry in Manhattan that is aimed at Mr. Giuliani. While the two investigations have a similar cast of characters and overlap in some ways, Mr. Giuliani is not a subject of the Brooklyn investigation, the people said.

Instead, the Brooklyn prosecutors, along with the F.B.I., are focused on current and former Ukrainian officials suspected of trying to influence the election by spreading unsubstantiated claims of corruption about Mr. Biden

Continued on Page A17

Council Backs More Rent Help For New Yorkers

By ANDY NEWMAN

For nearly a decade, New York City has struggled to help homeless people find apartments of their own, as rents hovered in the stratosphere and the number of people stuck in shelters surged past 60,000.

So on Thursday, the City Council took its most dramatic step in years to address the city's housing crisis, voting overwhelmingly to expand a subsidy program in ways that could make apartments affordable to tens of thousands of people who are homeless or threatened with eviction.

"It is my hope that this will give people an opportunity to have a solid roof over their heads for them and their families," City Councilman Stephen Levin, the bill's main sponsor, said during the vote, adding that it would be "an important bill in the lives of many New Yorkers."

The measure, in the nation's largest and one of its most expensive cities, comes as a homelessness crisis is being pushed to the forefront around the country, with a growing encampment in Washington, D.C., blocks from the Federal Reserve and a spike in the homeless population predicted in Los Angeles. Homelessness nationwide was rising even before the pandemic, according to federal officials.

The council voted almost unanimously to sharply increase the value of housing vouchers provided by the city, which have for

Continued on Page A20

They Were Just Children

At least 67 people under age 18 in Gaza and two in Israel were killed during this month's conflict,



PRESIDENT TO PUSH A \$6 TRILLION PLAN AIMED AT GROWTH

Sweeping Budget Seeks Spending Levels Not Seen Since World War II

By JIM TANKERSLEY

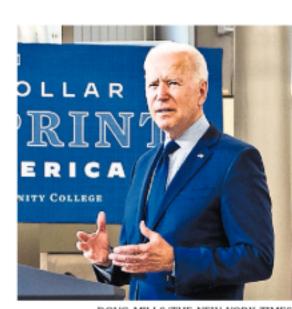
WASHINGTON — President Biden will propose a \$6 trillion budget on Friday that would take the United States to its highest sustained levels of federal spending since World War II as he looks to fund a sweeping economic agenda that includes large new investments in education, transportation and fighting climate change.

Documents obtained by The New York Times show that the budget request, the first of Mr. Biden's presidency, calls for total spending to rise to \$8.2 trillion by 2031, with deficits running above \$1.3 trillion throughout the next decade. The growth is driven by Mr. Biden's two-part agenda to upgrade the nation's infrastructure and substantially expand the social safety net, contained in his American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan, along with other planned increases in discretionary spending.

The proposal for the 2022 fiscal year and ensuing decade shows the sweep of Mr. Biden's ambitions to wield government power to help more Americans attain the comforts of a middle-class life and to lift U.S. industry to better compete globally.

The levels of taxation and spending in Mr. Biden's plans would expand the federal fiscal footprint to levels rarely seen in the postwar era to fund investments that his administration says are crucial to keeping America competitive. That includes money for roads, water pipes, broadband internet, electric vehicle charging stations and advanced manufacturing research. But it also envisions funding for affordable child care, universal prekindergarten and a national paid leave program - initiatives that Republicans have balked at bankrolling. Military spending would also grow, though it would decline as a share of the economy.

"Now is the time to build the



President Biden is focusing on education and infrastructure.

foundation that we've laid, to make bold investments in our families, in our communities, in our nation," Mr. Biden told a crowd in Cleveland on Thursday. "We know from history that these kinds of investments raise both the floor and the ceiling of an economy for everybody."

Mr. Biden plans to finance his agenda by raising taxes on corpo-Continued on Page A14

COUNTEROFFER Senate Republicans floated an infrastructure plan worth a small fraction of President Biden's \$1.7 trillion proposal. PAGE A14

The Final Bough From a Farmer's Last Stand

By ELLEN BARRY

WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. - The morning sun was just slanting through the trees when a crew arrived with chain saws to remove

the last sign of Romaine Tenney. It was only a tree, a gnarled rock maple that stood for generations on the Tenney farm, and somehow survived what happened there on that September night in 1964.

Now Vermont had ordered the

'64 Vermont Land Grab Claims Lone Witness

tree cut down. A chain saw began to whine, and clouds of sawdust bloomed into the air. Then the first limbs began to fall, light and springy, coming to rest in a shower of twigs.

A dozen townspeople stood watching, mourners at a grave-

side. The tree was mostly dead, but they associated it with Mr. Tenney, the bachelor farmer whom they had called "Whiskers," and who had died in such a terrible way.

They were old enough to remember when the Interstate was built, on land taken from farmers up and down the Connecticut Valley. The state offered compensation, but if landowners refused, it could seize land by eminent domain.

Continued on Page A16

In Hong Kong, Jails Filling Up With Dissidents

By TIFFANY MAY and PAUL MOZUR

HONG KONG — A half year after he got out of prison, Daniel Tang has made a habit of going back. He waits in spare, crowded corridors. He greets familiar faces among the fellow visitors and guards. He brings books, postage stamps, writing paper and packets of M&Ms.

Mr. Tang is visiting people like him who were imprisoned for their role in the pro-democracy street protests that rocked Hong Kong in 2019. He travels three hours, round-trip, for a 15-minute chat through a thick plate of glass, sometimes with a total stranger. He summons a cheery, chatty demeanor, when he feels anything

"You owe them your best face," he said. "If you're not feeling right,

don't even bother going." Mr. Tang and many of those he meets with represent a new breed of convict in Hong Kong: activists who opposed the Chinese Communist Party's growing power in the city. This group - often including college students or white-collar professionals — rose up two years ago in a historic campaign of public disobedience that led to clashes with police on the streets and focused the world's attention on the future of the Asian financial capital.

For many, that campaign has ended in courts and jails, crushed by tough new laws imposed by Beijing, mass arrests and the haz-

Continued on Page A8

Visiting Africa, Macron Hopes To Bolster Ties

By NORIMITSU ONISHI and ABDI LATIF DAHIR

PARIS — After nearly three decades of recriminations over France's role in Rwanda's genocide of 1994, the leaders of the two countries stood side by side on Thursday in the Rwandan capital, Kigali, declaring a new chapter in their relations.

After laying a wreath at the Kigali Genocide Memorial and observing a minute of silence, President Emmanuel Macron of France said his country had "a duty to confront history and to recognize its part of the suffering it inflicted on the Rwandan people." President Paul Kagame of Rwanda later said the visit was "about the future, not the past."

Mr. Macron's two-day visit to Rwanda was the fruit of a long and tortuous process of reconciliation between Rwanda and France, one that amounted to his most successful attempt at an often stated goal of finding friends and potential business partners in new corners of Africa as countries like China, Russia and Turkey compete for influence there.

It also clinched something far rarer: a shared understanding by an African nation and a former colonial power of a historical crime the genocide that led to the deaths of 800,000 ethnic Tutsis. At a time when statues of colonialera figures are being toppled in European cities, Mr. Macron has championed the re-examination of painful chapters of history as a

Continued on Page A9



INTERNATIONAL A7-11

Exodus as a Volcano Rumbles

Fearing another deadly eruption, tens of thousands fled a major city in the Democratic Republic of Congo. PAGE A7

Airspace Battle Escalates

Russia rejected some European flights that were avoiding Belarus because a dissident's flight was diverted. PAGE A7 TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-6

U.S. to Pore Over Virus Data

Intelligence officials said they still had a raft of unexamined evidence about the coronavirus's origins.

NATIONAL A12-17, 20

Heartache in San Jose

Silence on Abortion Rights

As a case before the Supreme Court threatens Roe v. Wade, many activists say the president needs to be bolder in defending reproductive rights. PAGE A15

Racism Claim in Mayor's Race

Andrew Yang, running to become New York City's first Asian American mayor, was offended by a cartoon. PAGE A20



WEEKEND ARTS C1-14

Relatives of Taptejdeep Singh, one of the nine men killed by a disgruntled transit worker. Page A13.

Embracing the Torment

With a survey in Europe and stark new works in New York, Arthur Jafa is focusing on more personal themes. PAGE C1

DanceAfrica Celebrates Haiti

This year, the festival explores Vodou, "an acknowledgment of the divine forces of nature." PAGE C7

BUSINESS B1-6

MIKE KAI CHEN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Virus Tracing Apps Fall Short

The glitch-marred efforts by Apple and Google raise questions about the power of Big Tech to set global standards for public health tools. PAGE B1

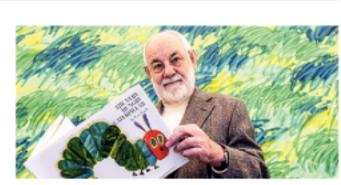
SPORTSFRIDAY B7-9, 12

Fore! Golf Lets the Snark Fly.

It was the eye roll heard round the world, and that one expression by Brooks Koepka has reignited a simmering beef with Bryson DeChambeau. PAGE B7

OPINION A18-19 **David Brooks**

PAGE A18



OBITUARIES B10-11

His Caterpillar Was Captivating

Eric Carle, an author and illustrator of more than 70 children's books, charmed generations with "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." He was 91. PAGE B10





Pressure on Hancock over failure to protect care home residents

Health secretary rejects Cummings claim that he lied about Covid testing

Heather Stewart

Political editor

Matt Hancock was under mounting pressure last night to explain why the government had failed to protect care home residents at the outset of the Covid pandemic, as he sought to

salvage his reputation after Dominic Cummings accused him of lying.

The health secretary claimed for the first time that it "wasn't possible" to test all care home residents for Covid before they were discharged from hospital last March, because the testing capacity was not yet available.

But the shadow social care minister, Liz Kendall, said that explanation "simply doesn't stack up".

"There were over 530,000 tests carried out in the UK by 20 April, yet they couldn't test 25,000 people discharged from hospitals to care homes,

after we saw it sweep through care homes in Italy, France and America?" she said. "The reality is, they wanted to free up the beds and they didn't prioritise older people."

She accused Hancock, who previously claimed to have thrown a "protective ring" around care homes, of changing his story to "wriggle out" of responsibility.

On Wednesday, during seven hours of evidence to MPs, Cummings accused Hancock of promising ministers that all residents were tested before being discharged back to care

The reality is ... that they didn't prioritise older people'

Liz Kendall

Shadow social care minister

homes and then lying about this. Hancock denied the claim, and a No 10 spokesperson said last night: "The prime minister has full confidence in the health secretary and will continue working with him to protect public health and save lives."

The UK has one of the world's worst coronavirus death tolls: more than 127,000 people have died including in excess of 40,000 care home residents.

New data from Public Health England (PHE) released yesterday found that the transfer of patients with Covid from hospital to care homes resulted in 286 deaths. It said 96 outbreaks in care homes were related to this problem - about 1.6% of all care home outbreaks

China fury at broader **US** inquiry into Covid

Vincent Ni China correspondent **Julian Borger** Washington

Joe Biden's decision to expand the US investigation into the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic, with one intelligence agency leaning towards the theory that it escaped from a Wuhan laboratory, has opened a new divide in his administration's already tense relationship with China.

Biden said yesterday that he would publish the results of the 90-day inquiry, which he has made a priority for the intelligence agencies. The move represents a dramatic turnaround from the administration's policy of leaving the investigation to the World Health Organization.

The US called on the WHO to carry out a second phase of its investigation into the origins of the new coronavirus, with independent experts given full access to original data and samples in China. "It is critical that China provide independent experts full access to complete, original data and samples relevant to 28

understanding the source

Clever as Einstein **But did he get** his celebrated theory wrong? News Page 17 →

£11bn: cost of repairing schools in **England**

Richard Adams

Education editor

Schools in England face a repair bill of more than £11bn, nearly double some previous estimates, according to a long-awaited national survey completed by the government.

The survey confirms years of complaints of crumbling and leaking buildings, in some cases riddled with asbestos, and of "temporary" cabins still in use despite exceeding their lifespan.

Meanwhile, the Department for Education's consultation on fire safety in schools was criticised yesterday for only recommending that sprinklers should be installed in any new builds over 11 metres (36ft) high, in effect at least four storeys.

The results of the repairs survey, which involved





FRIDAY 28 MAY 2021

NEWS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

UK £2.90 Channel Islands £3.20; Republic of Ireland €3.20

Off the rails

Will the plan to overhaul railways put trains back on track? — BIG READ, PAGE 21

Activism in action

Investors have given Big Oil a wake-up call — GILLIAN TETT, PAGE 23



Crypto criminals

How digital proceeds of crime are cashed in on the dark web — PAGE 10

Testing times Questions over care homes

Matt Hancock sits in parliament in London yesterday, a day after Dominic Cummings accused him of repeatedly lying about a policy to discharge hospital patients into England's care homes last year during the height of the pandemic.

Cummings, the prime minister's former chief adviser, claimed that the health secretary had promised colleagues that patients being sent into care homes would be tested. Some 30,000 care-home residents are thought to have died from coronavirus.

Answering questions in the House of Commons, Hancock said the "unsubstantiated allegations around honesty are not true".

Full story page 3



UK Parliament/Jessica Taylor

Moscow forces cancellation of flights routed around Belarus

◆ France and Austria carriers hit ◆ EU discusses Minsk sanctions ◆ Fears of politicised airspace

PHILIP GEORGIADIS — LONDON MICHAEL PEEL — BRUSSELS DAVID KEOHANE - PARIS

Two European airlines had to cancel flights to Moscow after Russian authorities failed to approve new routes that avoided Belarus's airspace in response to Minsk's interception of a passenger jet.

Air France and Austrian Airlines sought to reroute flights that would normally fly over Belarus when EU governments demanded that their airlines avoid the country's airspace. The EU was acting in response to the interception of Ryanair flight 4978 by Belarusian authorities on Sunday in order to detain an opposition activist.

Air France and Austrian Airlines said Russian aviation authorities had not approved the new routes, leading to the cancellation of a flight from Paris to Moscow on Wednesday, and from Vienna to Moscow yesterday.

An Air France flight to Russia today was still awaiting permission to use a new route avoiding Belarus. However, several other European carriers, including KLM and a British Airways cargo flight, have been allowed to land in Russia using new flight routes. The Kremlin did not comment and referred inquiries to aviation authorities.

Industry insiders have grown concerned about the politicisation of airspace after the Ryanair flight from Athens to Vilnius was forced to land in Minsk because of an alleged bomb threat. Two of the 126 passengers, antiregime activist Roman Protasevich and his Russian partner, were arrested after the plane landed. However, the supposed bomb threat cited by Belarusian authorities was sent in an email after the plane was diverted, according to email provider Proton Technologies.

"We cannot access or verify the contents of the message. However . . . we can confirm that the message in question was sent after the plane was redirected," the company said.

Ryanair has labelled the forced landing an act of "aviation piracy", and the UK and EU have urged their airlines to avoid Belarusian airspace, banned the state-owned carrier from their airports, and vowed to impose fresh economic sanctions on the regime. The US has requested the immediate release of Protasevich and his partner.

However, Russia has backed Minsk,



The alleged bomb threat was emailed after the flight of Belarus activist Roman Protasevich had

been redirected

calling the EU's reaction "hysteric". Vladimir Putin, Russia's president, and Alexander Lukashenko, Belarus president, are due to meet today in Russia.

Willie Walsh, head of the International Air Transport Association, has said it is "disturbing" to see a flight

diverted "for clearly bogus reasons". EU foreign ministers held initial talks yesterday on punitive measures against Belarus's regime, with the country's lucrative potash sector high on the agenda. The European bloc will target economic structures and financial transactions in Belarus "significantly", Heiko Maas, Germany's foreign minister, said ahead of the Lisbon gathering. Additional reporting by Max Seddon Lukashenko defiant page 4

Philip Stephens page 23

Briefing

 Sunak testifies on Cameron lobbying Chancellor Rishi Sunak defended the Treasury's dealings with Greensill Capital, saying it was "entirely right" for senior officials to hold meetings after David Cameron's lobbying. -- PAGE 2

► Arctic data reveal warming risks rising The risk of global warming reaching the 1.5C mark in the next five years has risen to more than 40 per cent, based on new data from the Arctic, according to the World Meteorological Organization. -- PAGE 4

▶ AT&T paid \$9m in Time Warner bonuses US telecoms group AT&T paid its executives \$9m for completing its 2018 acquisition of Time Warner, an \$85bn deal that was unravelled this month after

delivering negligible returns for investors. - PAGE 9 Campaigners vow to fight Aids relief cuts

Cuts to foreign aid will "directly hamper" global efforts to fight Aids, putting millions at risk, warns a campaigning coalition of politicians and celebrities including Sir Elton John .- PAGE:

 Australia lambasts Beijing over spy trial A diplomatic freeze has worsened after Canberra attacked China's "deeply regrettable" decision to bar its ambassador from a Beijing courthouse where an Australian writer is on trial for spying. - PAGE 8

▶ Deutsche Bank reviews EY after scandal A tender process may lead to Deutsche Bank dropping EY as its auditor after the Wirecard scandal left the Big Four accounting firm under investigation and battling to restore its reputation. - PAGE 9

▶ Pets at Home's lockdown sales top £1bn A surge in pet ownership across the UK during lockdown helped drive Pets at Home's annual revenues over the £1bn level for the first time as its stores were classified as "essential" business. - PAGE 12

Datawatch

Skills shortage amid crisis Manufacturing availability of skills index

2010 13 15 17 19 21 Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond US, according to a survey of chief financial officers Manufacturing companies are noting increased demand, but finding workers to relocate on-site in the pandemic is a greater challenge

There are strong

signs of economic

recovery in the

Commodity prices rise and shine a light on breakfasts

Prices for raw ingredients making up the staples for many breakfasts have sizzled higher since the pandemic began — raising fears that a broad commodity boom could push global food prices up for consumers. Bulk contracts for wheat, oats, coffee, milk, sugar and orange juice have climbed 28 per cent on average since 2019. 'Food inflation is real in many places. It's not going away soon,' said the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Analysis > PAGE 13

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HSBC winds down in North America after 40 years by selling retail banks

TABBY KINDER - HONG KONG

HSBC has sold its US retail banking network, in effect bringing to a close its struggling North America business after a 40-year attempt to run a fullservice bank in the country.

Europe's largest lender first considered a disposal of its lossmaking US division late last year as part of the bank's efforts to make deep cost savings of about \$4.5bn and cut 35,000 jobs.

HSBC yesterday said it had sold 80 of its 148 branches on the east coast to Citizens Bank, which also acquired \$9.2bn of deposits and \$2.2bn of outstanding loans. Ten branches on the west coast have been purchased by Cathay Bank, which has taken over \$1bn of deposits and \$800m of loans. The remaining branches will be wound down.

HSBC said it would not generate a

"significant gain or loss" from the deals with Citizens Bank and Cathay Bank, other than incurring \$100m in costs on the transaction.

The lender, which makes the bulk of its profits in Hong Kong, said it would retain "a small network of physical locations" in the US following the disposal. These would become "international wealth centres" for its private banking and wealth management customers, most of whom are in Asia.

The sales are the latest stage of a plan to redeploy \$100bn of risk-weighted assets from underperforming businesses in Europe and the US to Asia, particularly in wealth and asset management. In February, HSBC said it would expand its fee-generating wealth management business in Hong Kong and mainland China, where it will invest \$3.5bn and hire 5,000 advisers.

The sale of the US network aligns the bank's fortunes more closely with China. HSBC has been used as a political piñata in recent years as tensions have risen between Beijing and Washington.

Noel Quinn, HSBC chief executive, said the bank was exiting the US mass market because it "lacked the scale to compete".

Greg Hingston, head of wealth and personal banking for Asia-Pacific, said: "The US plays a large role in HSBC's Asia growth strategy. Our refreshed strategy in the US will allow us to better serve the needs of our international wealth clients, who continue to consider the US for international education, property, investment diversification, career and family mobility and business expansion, among others." Lex page 24

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURREN	CIES					INTEREST RATES			
	May 27	prev	%chg		May 27	prev		May 27	prev		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4208.96	4195.99	0.31	\$ per €	1.220	1.222	£ per\$	0.705	0.708	US Gov 10 yr	147.99	1.61	0.05
Nasdaq Composite	13764.90	13738.00	0.20	\$ per £	1.419	1.412	€per£	1.163	1.156	UK Gov 10 yr		0.81	0.06
Dow Janes Ind	34459.86	34323.05	0.40	£ per €	0.860	0.865	¥ per €	133.887	133.213	Ger Gov 10 yr		-0.17	0.03
TSEurofirst 300	1718.83	1715.52	0.19	¥ per \$	109.730	109.035	£ index	81.873	81.792	Jpn Gov 10 yr	116.64	0.07	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	4039.05	4031.67	0.18	¥ per £	155.723	153.996	SFr per £	1.274	1.266	US Gov 30 yr	108.18	2.29	0.04
TSE 100	7019.67	7026.93	-0.10	SFr per €	1.095	1.095				Ger Gov 2 yr	106.05	-0.66	0.01
TSE All-Share	4013.50	4015.75	-0.06	€ per \$	0.820	0.819							
CAC 40	6435.71	6391.60	0.69										
Ketra Dax	15406.73	15450.72	-0.28	соммор	ITIES						price	prev	chg
Nikkei	28549.01	28642.19	-0.33							Fed Funds Eff	0.07	0.07	-
lang Seng	29113.20	29166.01	-0.18			Ma	ty 27	prev	%chg	US 3m Bills	0.02	0.02	0.00
MSCI World \$	2969.51	2965.51	0.13	0il WTI \$		(6.57	66.21	0.54	Euro Libor 3m	-0.54	-0.55	0.01
MSCI EM \$	1351.95	1345.49	0.48	Oil Brent \$	5	(8.93	68.73	0.29	UK 3m	0.08	80.0	0.00
VISCI ACWI \$	708.52	707.26	0.18	Gold \$		189	99.75	1887.00	0.68	Prices are latest for edition	Data provi	ided by Mon	ningstar

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BRASIL Querellas y acoso contra las voces críticas con Bolsonaro P6

cine Las plataformas de televisión se comen al viejo Hollywood



Inquietud en el PSOE por el efecto electoral de los indultos

Dirigentes del partido reclaman al Ejecutivo que justifique su decisión

JOSÉ MARCOS, **Madrid**La inquietud se extiende en el
PSOE por el efecto electoral que
podrían tener los indultos a los
presos que encabezaron el *procés*independentista catalán. Su falta
de arrepentimiento y los infor-

Penas de 8 a 53 años a tres yihadistas por los atentados en Barcelona

La Audiencia impone condenas mayores a las que pidió el fiscal

JESÚS GARCÍA, Barcelona
La Audiencia Nacional impuso ayer penas de 8, 46 y 53
años de prisión, más altas de lo que pedía la Fiscalía, a los tres acusados de formar parte de la célula terrorista que atentó en Barcelona y Cambrils el 17 de agosto de 2017. Los autores materiales de los atentados fueron abatidos entonces por los Mossos.

PÁGINA 20

España registra cuatro muertes por trombos tras vacunas de AstraZeneca

PABLO LINDE, **Madrid**La Agencia Española de Medicamentos confirmó ayer que se han registrado 20 casos de trombosis como efecto secundario de la vacuna de AstraZeneca, de los que cuatro resultaron mortales. Se han inyectado cinco millones de primeras dosis del fármaco. Sanidad recomienda sustituir la segunda por Pfizer.

PAGINAS 22 Y 23

mes contrarios del Tribunal Supremo y de la Fiscalía vuelven más polémica la decisión que tomará el Gobierno de Pedro Sánchez. Miembros del grupo parlamentario, alcaldes y dirigentes de Madrid, Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura, Aragón y Castilla y León admiten en privado su incomodidad. Y coinciden en reclamar a La Moncloa que explique a los ciudadanos las razones que le llevan a otorgar el perdón.

Emiliano García-Page, presidente de Castilla-La Mancha, se pronunció ayer con rotundidad sobre la concesión de los indultos. "Sería un grave error", dijo. "Tiene muchas posibilidades de resultar estéril, porque solo sea la muestra de cómo pueden volver a las andadas". El extremeño Guillermo Fernández Vara ya se había definido el miércoles: "No debe ser indultado quien no quiere serlo". La andaluza Susana Díaz eludió el debate: "Es competencia del Gobierno". Incluso Odón Elorza, cercano a Sánchez, expresó sus dudas. Por el contrario, el presidente valenciano, Ximo Puig, y la balear, Francina Armengol, respaldaron al Ejecutivo. El PP trata de forzar un pleno extraordinario del Congreso sobre la medida de gracia. PÁGINAS 14 Y 15

El Gobierno pacta los ejes de la reforma de pensiones

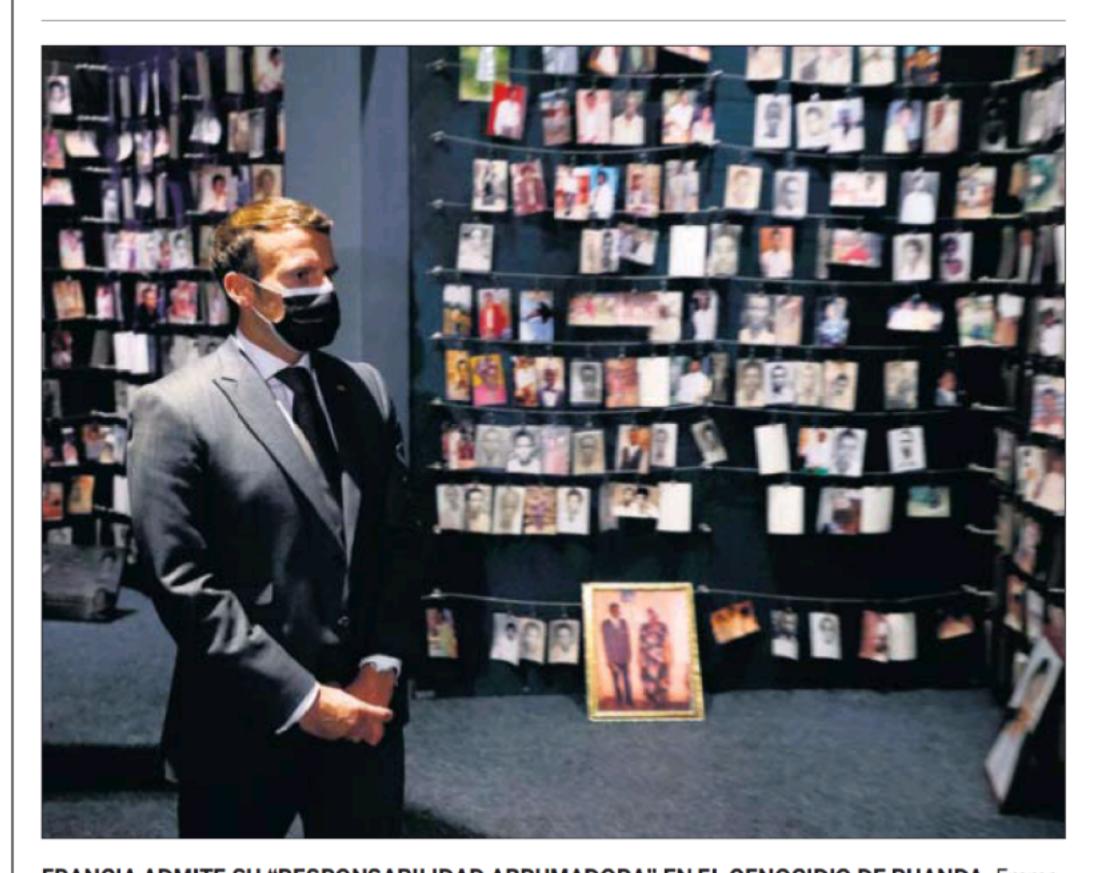
Escrivá acuerda con patronal y sindicatos salvar a los despedidos en 2021 de la norma que endurece la jubilación anticipada

C. PÉREZ / A. MAQUEDA, **Madrid**El Gobierno ha alcanzado un
acuerdo con la patronal y los sindicatos sobre las líneas maestras
de la primera parte de la reforma
de las pensiones. El Ejecutivo tiene ya el visto bueno de UGT,
CC OO y CEOE, según fuentes
consultadas en el Ministerio de la

Seguridad Social y en los agentes sociales, pese a que la patronal mantiene reservas sobre el texto final, que estará listo en unos días. Algunos de los asuntos más delicados se dejan para más adelante y no se aprobarán hasta 2022. Además, el ministro José Luis Escrivá ha acordado con los

agentes sociales que la reforma que penalizará las jubilaciones anticipadas no se aplicará a los afectados por los expedientes de regulación de empleo (ERE) de este año. Solo de grandes empresas están en marcha planes de despidos que afectan a más de 35.000 trabajadores.

Páginas 38 y 39



FRANCIA ADMITE SU "RESPONSABILIDAD ABRUMADORA" EN EL GENOCIDIO DE RUANDA. Emmanuel Macron admitió ayer en el país africano que Francia formó parte del "engranaje que condujo a lo peor" en 1994. En la foto, Macron visita el Memorial del Genocidio en la capital, Kigali. / LUDOVIC MARIN (AFP) PÁGINA 4

Lee sin límites. Tú decides.

SUSCRÍBETE AQUÍ

EL PAÍS

PIERRE SAVATIER e IRÈNE AKSOY Creadores de embriones con mezcla de especies

"Sería inaceptable hacer un cerebro

de humano y mono"

MANUEL ANSEDE, **Madrid**Los científicos franceses Pierre
Savatier e Irène Aksoy crearon
embriones con mezcla de mono y
humano meses antes de que lo
hiciera el equipo del español Juan
Carlos Izpisúa. En una entrevista,
explican esta técnica y sus dilemas éticos. "Si nos limitamos al

cultivo *in vitro*, sinceramente, no veo la caja de Pandora. Nosotros cultivamos embriones muy inmaduros. No estamos hablando de recién nacidos". Tienen clara una línea roja: "Es éticamente inaceptable hacer un cerebro mixto", afirman. "Tenemos las herramientas para prevenirlo".

Clarin

Viernes 28.5.2021

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA - PRECIO: \$ 110,00

Siempre Spielberg Oslo, un filme actual

Produjo para HBO una película sobre la trama entre Israel y Palestina para terminar la guerra en 1993. p. 47 Los grandes europeos, en la búsqueda de técnicos

El Real Madrid, Inter, Juventus y el Bayern, sin conducción. P. 34

Tema del día • Cifras de alto impacto en la segunda ola

Argentina pasó los 40 mil contagios, y levantarían el confinamiento el lunes

El Ministerio de Salud anunció ayer que hubo 41.080 casos de Covid, la cifra más alta registrada en el país. La mayor cantidad se registró en la provincia de Buenos Aires (15.550) y en CABA se llegó a 3.093. Con este número, Argentina superó a España y quedó décimo en el ranking global de casos. De todos modos, el Gobierno mantendría su decisión de suspender el confinamiento el lunes próximo. Y retomarlo luego en la modalidad de cierres intermitentes. P.3

Volverían las clases

Larreta retomaría clases presenciales, al menos en escuela primaria y jardín. DIPLOMACIA CON POLÉMICA

El Gobierno pide, junto a Cuba y Venezuela, que se investigue a Israel y Hamas

Argentina apoyó una resolución de la ONU para que se investigue si Israel y Hamas violaron derechos humanos durante el conflicto reciente en Gaza. El Gobierno se alineó con Cuba, Venezuela, México y Bolivia, y no condenó en ningún momento al grupo terrorista. P. 10

EN LA CIUDAD

Por la recesión, el precio de los departamentos cayó un 17%

Un informe del mercado inmobiliario admite que, por la poca venta y la oferta abundante, el valor en dólares de los departamentos de 2 y 3 ambientes cayó un 4% en el último trimestre y llevan un 17% de declive en lo que va del año. P.16

EN BENAVÍDEZ

Detienen al hijo de Pappo por golpear y encerrar a su pareja

Luciano Napolitano la agredió delante de las hijas y la encerró en un quincho. Ella pudo llamar a su mamá y la Policía lo detuvo.**P.32**

Del Editor

Fernando Gonzalez

Oportunidad y riesgos de la batalla de Pfizer

P. 2



Un partido de la Libertadores, dirigido sólo por mujeres

El empate 1-1 entre Defensa e Independiente del Valle registró un hecho histórico. Sólo dirigieron mujeres. La brasileña Edina Alves fue árbitra, secundada por Neuza Back, Cindy Nahuelcoy y María Carvajal. Todos elogiaron el arbitraje. P. 36

EN PLENA PANDEMIA

Por sorpresa, desplazan a la directora científica del Malbrán

En medio de la suba de contagios de Covid y del desarrollo de nuevas cepas que preocupan al mundo, el Ministerio de Salud hizo renunciar a su cargo a Claudia Perandones, una premiada genetista que trabajaba hacía tres décadas en el Instituto Malbrán como directora científica técnica. La investigadora, nombrada a cargo del Instituto durante la gestión de Macri, será ahora coordinadora ad honorem de una unidad ejecutora de formación. No hubo explicación oficial y, el lunes pasado, el ministro bonaerense Sergio Berni pidió en una entrevista que el ministerio revea la decisión. P. 27

La danza de los directores técnicos en Europa

Gigantes como Real Madrid, Barcelona, Inter y PSG, y entrenadores del peso de Zidane, Conte, Koeman y Pochettino (foto) alientan mil rumores entre salidas y contrataciones. Deportes



LAURENCE DES CARS SERÁ LA PRIMERA MUJER EN DIRIGIR EL LOUVRE

—cultura

Aún preside el Museo de Orsay y la Orangerie, en París, pero el 1º de septiembre asumirá en las salas más visitadas del mundo "con muchas cosas para decir a la juventud". Página 25

EMMA STONE: "CRUELLA ES UNA PERSONA QUE SIENTE UNA GRAN VERGÜENZA"

-espectáculos

La actriz interpreta a una de las villanas clásicas en la versión del director Craig Gillespie, que la ubica en un contexto punk; se estrena hoy por la plataforma Disney+.

LA NACION

VIERNES 28 DE MAYO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

Pese a la suba de contagios, ratifican que las restricciones duras terminan el domingo

covid-19. Ayer, se registraron 41.080 casos; Cafiero dijo que el lunes se vuelve a la etapa previa

El Gobierno ratificó que las restricciones duras implementadas por la pandemia terminarán el próximo domingo y se retomarán el fin de semana siguiente, 5 y 6 de junio, como está estipulado en el decreto de necesidad y urgencia vigente.

Mientras ayer se registraron 41.080 nuevos contagios y se confirmaron 551 muertos, la Casa Rosada indicó que los efectos de las actuales medidas de confinamiento se notarán a partir de la próxima semana.

Así, entre el lunes y el viernes próximos se volverá a la etapa previa, antes de que se restringieran las actividades sociales, económicas, educativas, religiosas y deportivas en las zonas de alto riesgo o en alarma epidemiológica. "Las medidas terminan el lunes 31 y a partir de allí se continúa con las que regían anteriormente", dijo el jefe de Gabinete, Santiago Cafiero. Página 2

Fernández apuntó contra Pfizer

El presidente Alberto Fernández afirmó anoche que el laboratorio Pfizer lo "ponía en una situación muy violenta de exigencias y comprometía al país". Justificó, de ese modo, ladecisión de no comprar las vacunas a ese laboratorio, que les ha permitido a otros países avanzar mucho más rápido con las campa-

ñas de inmunización. La compañía norteamericana Pfizer había realizado en la Argentina una fase de experimentación con ensayos clínicos, lo cual aseguraba prioridad para la provisión de vacunas. Pero luego se frustraron las negociaciones por supuestas "exigencias" que no fueron detalladas. Página 4



SANTIAGO FILIPUZZI

Reconvertirse para enfrentar la crisis

coronavirus— En un contexto de enormes dificultades para el sector gastronómico, con muchos bares y restaurantes que bajan las persianas, una de las pizzerías más antiguas de la ciudad, Güerrín, se ha transformado en un caso singular: se reconvirtió y logró crecer en medio de la adversidad. Página 9

La agitación política aleja a los inversores de la región

pescontento. Elecciones y convulsiones sociales causan un clima incierto

Página 13

Prohibieron salir del país a los siete imputados por la muerte de Maradona

INVESTIGACIÓN. Luque y los otros acusados serán indagados desde el próximo lunes

El juez de Garantías Orlando Díaz decidió ayer prohibir la salida del país del neurocirujano Leopoldo Luque, la psiquiatra Agustina Cosachov y los otros cinco imputados por la muerte de Diego Armando Maradona. A seis meses del fallecimiento del astro del fútbol mundial, la causa es investigada como un homicidio simple con dolo eventual, delito que tiene una potencial pena de entre ocho y 25 años de prisión. Los acusados, que integraban el equipo médico que atendía la salud de Maradona, serán indagados a partir del lunes próximo. Página 28

DESDE ADENTRO

Guzmán ajusta, pero París deberá esperar

Florencia Donovan

-PARA LA NACION-

Paradójicamente, aquello que minó la relación del ministro de Economía, Martín Guzmán, con el kirchnerismo más duro es el capital más valioso que por estas horas tiene la Argentina para ofrecer en la mesa de negociaciones y sortear un default con el Club de París. Las conversaciones con el Club por elvencimiento de US\$2400 millones del próximo lunes entraron en tiempo de descuento. Continúa en la página 20

Aerolíneas tuvo subsidios por US\$705 millones

GASTO. Surge del balance del año pasado que está por presentar la empresa

En el peor año de la historia de la aviación, Aerolíneas Argentinas recibió unos US\$705 millones en subsidios, aunque la pérdida fue algo mayor, según el balance 2020, que someterá a su aprobación en los próximos días. El año pasado, cuando voló el equivalente al 24% de lo que había volado en 2019, por cada \$100 que la compañía facturó, el Estado tuvo que poner \$114 más para soportar la pérdida. Página 19

Jubilación: reconocerían aportes extras a las mujeres

ANSES. Estudian sumarles tres años por hijo; habría 155.000 beneficiarias

Página 22

Asunción, viernes 28, maso 2021



Azote de ola delictiva con mucha violencia tiene en zozobra a la población

www.ultimahora.com

Al drama del Covid se suma la inseguridad en las calles

Félix María Quiñónez fue dado de alta el miércoles y falleció ayer a manos de asaltantes después de retirar su préstamo de G. 43 millones para pagar los gastos de hospitalización.

Podría bajar edad para vacunarse Todavía se tienen dosis para 100 mil personas porque hay una baja afluencia a vacunatorios

Afto XLVIII - Nº 36.498 - 64 págistas - G. G.000

No afectará a los transportistas Petropar aumenta desde hoy el precio de sus combustibles, incluido el gasoil

PÁGINA 16

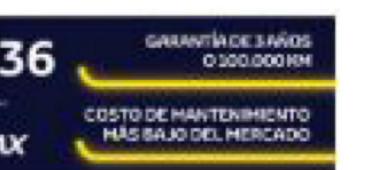




2 muertes en medio de problemas con oxígeno en Oviedo







FOLHA DE S.PAULO

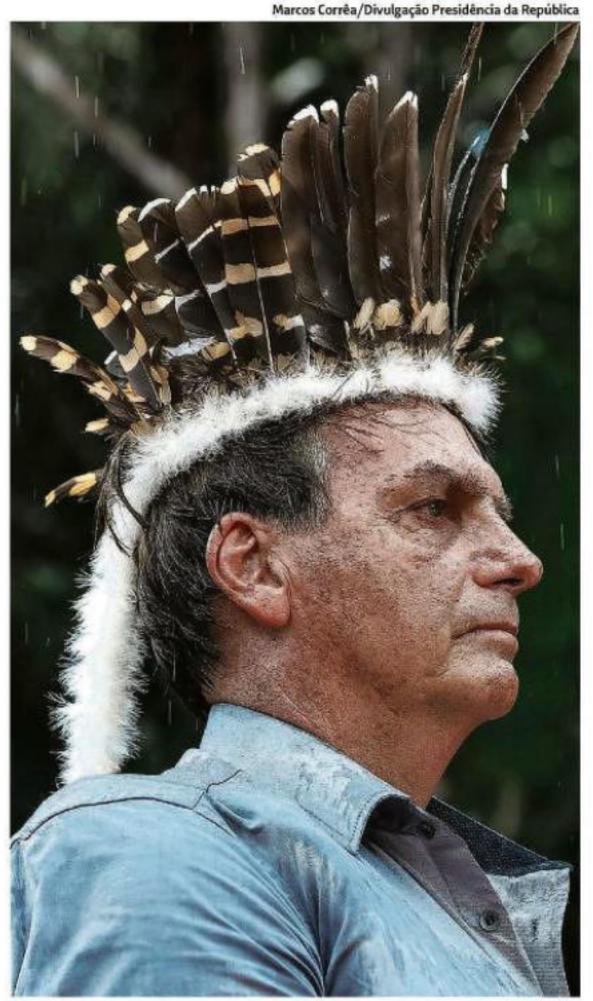
HÁ 100 ANOS

UM JORNAL A SERVIÇO DA DEMOCRACIA

ANO 101 * N° 33.658

SEXTA-FEIRA, 28 DE MAIO DE 2021

R\$ 5,00



Jair Bolsonaro ouve Hino Nacional durante visita a terra indígena yanomami, em São Gabriel da Cachoeira (AM)

SEXTA-FEIRA, 28 DE MAIO DE 2021

Bolsonaro descartou oferta de 100 mi de doses até maio

Vacinas em contrato citado por diretor do Butantan salvariam 80 mil vidas

O diretor do Instituto Butantan, Dimas Covas, declarou na CPI da Covid que uma oferta da instituição desdenhada pelo presidente Jair Bolsonaro em outubro de 2020 possibilitaria a entrega de 100 milhões de doses da vacina Coronavac até maio. O contrato evitaria 80.300 mortes, calcula o epidemiologista Pedro Hallal.

Em vez do acordo proposto dois meses antes, o governo federal assinou em dezembro a encomenda de 46 milhões de doses com entrega até abril deste ano, e, em fevereiro, novo entendimento para mais 54 milhões. Segundo Covas, entraves políticos e burocráticos, além de afirmações presidenciais, congelaram a negociação.

Hallal, professor da Universidade Federal de Pelotas e coordenador do maior estudo epidemiológico sobre coronavírus no Brasil, estimou as vidas que seriam poupadas se o Ministério da Saúde tivesse recebido até este mês os 49 milhões de doses extras ofertados pelo Butantan, além dos 51 milhões contratados.

Até esta quinta (27), morreram no Brasil de Covid 456.753 pessoas. Poder A6

Análise Igor Gielow

Depoimento de Dimas Covas dá sustentação a acusações de inépcia do presidente A7

Documento mostra 24 reuniões com 'ministério paralelo' da pandemia A4

Por vacina, SP vai pedir comprovante de residência

Medida da Prefeitura, que valerá a partir de hoje, é para evitar que pessoas de outras cidades procurem a rede paulistana. saúde B2

Para furar fila, busca por atestado falso cresce no centro da capital B3

Periferia vê mais óbitos e menos vacinados, diz USP

Pesquisa afirma que, de março de 2020 a abril de 2021, regiões pobres de São Paulo tiveram mais internações e mortos por Covid e as menores taxas de imunização. Já as ricas tiveram mais vacinados e menos óbitos, saúde B2

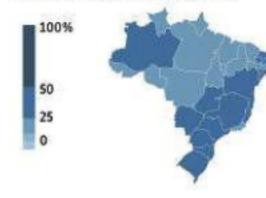
STF decide anular delação de Cabral que cita Toffoli

Com voto do próprio Dias Toffoli, o Supremo Tribunal Federal decidiu nesta quinta (27) anular a delação do ex-governador fluminense Sérgio Cabral que cita o ministro do STF por suposta venda de sentenças no Tribunal Superior Eleitoral. Dos 11 integrantes da corte, 7 votaram para revogar a decisão que homologou a colaboração premiada, alvo de recurso da Procuradoria-Geral da República após vir à tona, na Folha, que a Polícia Federal pedira para investigar Toffoli. Poder A9

Vacinação no Brasil % da população vacinada*

13,4	27,3
17,0	36,6
16,1	33,8
13,1	30,8
	13,4 17,0 16,1

Cobertura da primeira dose*



Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos 456,8 mil		
Total	16,3 mi			
27.mai**	63,2 mil	1,766		
Variação*	** 3,4%	-7,9%		
Em 24 h	65,7 mil	2.130		

Brasil 🙈 Estável

Dados das 20h de 27.mai *Acima de 18 anos **Média móvel de 7 dias ***Em relação a 14 dias

ação no Supremo contra lockdown

Governo entra com

O presidente Jair Bolsonaro e o ministro André Mendonça (AGU) ingressaram com ação direta de inconstitucionalidade no STF contra lockdowns e toques de recolher, adotados no interior de SP e por RN, PE e PR. saúde BI

Gasto menor com vírus gera R\$ 41 bi de superávit

Despesa do Tesouro no combate à pandemia cai de R\$45 bilhões para R\$20 bilhões, o que contribuiu para superávit de R\$41 bilhões de janeiro a abril. Resultado é o 4º melhor para o período da série iniciada em 1997. Mercado A20

Caso de assédio fez Nike deixar Neymar

O rompimento entre empresa e atleta, em agosto de 2020, deu-se devido a um suposto assédio sexual de Neymar a uma funcionária da Nike. О pai dele negou as acusações. в9

Jovem que denunciou Saul Klein relata abuso

Cotidiano B5

EDITORIAIS A2

Controle precário Sobre restrições a atividades em SP e outros locais.

Anatomia da injustiça Acerca de vieses no reconhecimento de suspeitos.



Luiz F. Vianna

Nelson Sargento era, sim, um general do samba

Nelson Sargento, que morreu após contrair Covid aos 96, em ensaio no Rio, em 2014 Claudia Martini -10.5et.14/Agência Enquadrar/Agência O Globo

Ilustrada B11 e B12

Mauro Calliari

Jaime Lerner foi um dos maiores no urbanismo

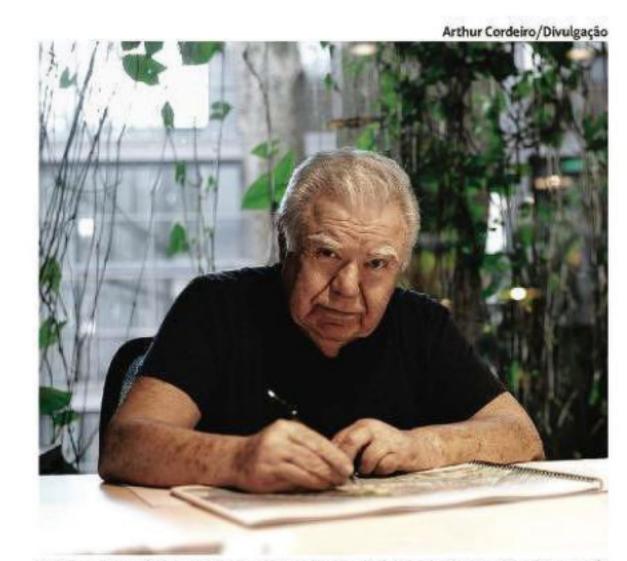
Poder A11

Cotidiano B4

Morto aos 73, Jorge Carrara se tornou o melhor crítico de vinhos do país

Ilustrada B13 Autor do clássico infantil 'Uma Lagarta Muito Comilona', Eric

Carle morre aos 91



Jaime Lerner, morto aos 83 anos, em foto de março de 2018



Reprodução da capa de 'Uma Lagarta Muito Comilona'

Presos descrevem tortura da polícia no lacarezinho

Denúncias de agressão foram feitas à Justiça por seis presos durante a operação da Polícia Civil, a mais letal do Rio de Janeiro, que matou 28 pessoas. Para os juízes de custódia, os relatos não tornam ilegais as detenções. Cotidiano B6

Senado aprova salário mínimo de R\$ 1.100 para 2021

Mercado A18

ONU vai apurar possíveis crimes de guerra de Israel

O Conselho de Direitos Humanos da ONU aprovou abertura de investigação sobre possíveis crimes cometidos no conflito entre Israel e o Hamas. O Brasil foi um dos 13 países que se abstiveram. A12

Exclusão digital priva famílias pobres do auxílio

Estudo do FGV/Cemif, de junho a setembro de 2020, mostra que 20% dos entrevistados das classes D e E não receberam a ajuda por falta de celular, 22% por limites de internet e 23% por falta de espaço para instalar aplicativos. Mercado A16

Cientistas dizem saber 'consertar' doses de Oxford

Saúde B4

Silvio Almeida

Negacionismo e delinquência

Adoro quando a burrice orgulhosa de um negacionista é desmascarada. Mas o fato é que a CPI não é feita para um debate conceitual sobre ciência. Poder A9

lefigaro**.fr**

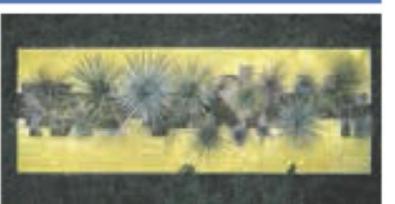
STÉPHANE COURTOIS

AU-DELÀ DU MYTHE,

LA VÉRITABLE HISTOIRE

DE LA COMMUNE DE PARIS PAGE 16

JARDINS L'AGENDA DE L'ÉTÉ DES FESTIVALS ET FÊTES DES PLANTES PAGE 29



FIGARO DEMAIN

Climat: les entreprises relèvent le défi du développement durable CAHIER SPÉCIAL



CORONAVIRUS Biden relance la piste du laboratoire chinois PAGE 6

PROCHE-ORIENT La France et Israël en froid après les propos de Le Drian

AUTOMOBILE
L'Europe se lance
dans la course
à la production
de batteries
pour véhicules
électriques
PAGES 20 ET 21

COSMÉTIQUE Un entretien avec le chef Thierry Marx PAGE 28

Mozambique,
le djihadisme
prospère
sur le trafic
de drogue
Débats

autour du monde: un entretien avec Michael Herzog et Ghaith al-Omari

 Le bloc-notes d'Ivan Rioufol

 L'analyse d'Eugénie
 Bastié

PAGES 14, 15 ET 17

FIGARO **OUI** FIGARO **NON**

Réponses à la question de jeudi :

Pensez-vous que l'épidémie de Covid-19 aura disparu cet été?

OUI **17%**

M 00108 - 528

NON **83** %

TOTAL DE VOTANTS: 158246

Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr

Pensez-vous que l'on connaîtra un jour la vérité sur l'origine du Covid-19?

FABIEN CLAIREFOND - YANN MONEL

Entre police et justice, les raisons de la discorde

Alors que l'exécutif s'efforce d'apaiser les tensions, notre sondage Odoxa-Backbone Consulting indique que les Français soutiennent davantage la police que la justice.

Une semaine après la manifestation des policiers et leur prise à partie du garde des Sceaux et de l'institution judiciaire, pointée pour son «laxisme», venait le

temps des explications. Lors d'une table ronde du «Beauvau de la sécurité», jeudi, Éric Dupond-Moretti, le ministre de l'Intérieur Gérald Darmanin et les syndicats de police ont tenté d'apaiser les tensions, propositions concrètes en main. Mais le terrain est miné depuis longtemps entre les deux institutions. Pour les Français, le match tourne globalement en faveur de la police, comme le montre le sondage Odoxa-Backbone Consulting pour *Le Figaro* et Franceinfo. Les policiers sont jugés plus courageux (80%, contre 49% pour les juges), plus efficaces (63%, contre 42%) et moins laxistes (27%, contre 46%).

→ LES DOSSIERS QUI NOURRISSENT LA COLÈRE DES POLICIERS → PERQUISITIONS, PROCÉDURE, PV... CE QUE LA POLICE DOIT AMÉLIORER SELON LA JUSTICE
→ DARMANIN, MINISTRE SOUS SURVEILLANCE → « EN MATIÈRE DE DÉLINQUANCE, LA JUSTICE EST LE MÉDECIN, PAS LA MALADIE » PAGES 2 À 4 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

Sans présenter d'excuses et niant toute « complicité » de la France dans le génocide de 1994, le chef de l'État a reconnu à Kigali une « responsabilité accablante » des dirigeants de l'époque et suggéré que les victimes « puissent peut-être pardonner ». PAGE 5

«Je viens reconnaître nos responsabilités»

En Paca, le grand malaise des élus de la droite

L'alliance de Renaud Muselier avec LREM a provoqué un profond trouble dans le camp des Républicains, chez les élus comme chez les militants. Thierry Mariani, le candidat du RN, qui espère tirer profit de cette stratégie, est déjà crédité d'une forte progression dans un sondage Elabe publié mercredi 26 mai. En cas de duel au second tour, la tête de liste RN et le président de région sortant seraient au coude-à-coude avec 50 % d'intentions de vote, mais Mariani serait largement en tête au premier tour. PAGES 8 ET 9

ÉDITORIAL par Vincent Trémolet de Villers vtremolet@lefigaro.fr

Macron au Rwanda:

Impuissance publique

angloss se console en expliquant que rien n'a changé : un jour, c'est Beauvau qui crie le plus fort; le lendemain, c'est Vendôme. Il se souvient des policiers contre Badinter, de Pasqua contre Méhaignerie, de Manuel Valls contre Christiane Taubira... La tension entre le maintien de l'ordre et l'État de droit, c'est vrai, ne date pas d'hier. Mais, aujourd'hui, le désordre s'étend, l'Etat s'affaisse, le droit s'essouffle. Quand des policiers meurent sous les coups des islamistes, les balles des bandits, il ne s'agit plus d'une controverse théorique entre les tenants de la sécurité et les défenseurs de la liberté. Un élu, pour un regard, subit la bastonnade des délinquants et un médecin découragé par la violence gratuite ferme son cabinet. Adolescente tuée au couteau à Ivry-sur-Seine, femme brûlée vive à Mérignac, viol dans les rues de Paris : les seuils sont franchis un à un. Dans la France de l'impunité, plus personne n'a peur du gendarme, plus personne n'a peur du juge. L'un et l'autre se renvoient la faute: la police en fait trop, disent les uns; la justice n'en fait pas assez, répondent les autres. Le théâtre politique maintient les appa-

rences: Gérald Darmanin tweete sa «détermination républicaine» à «ne rien céder»,
Éric Dupond-Moretti gronde et tempête au
nom des grands principes. L'un et l'autre affichent d'avantageuses statistiques, mais
rien n'y fait. La réalité est trop criante, la
violence trop obsédante pour que l'opinion
les écoute. Le délabrement de l'autorité apparaît dans les crimes barbares et les détails

Les seuils de la violence sont franchis un à un

infimes de l'existence. Grandes et petites frontières ont disparu. Parents, professeurs, pompiers : nul n'est épargné par

ce déchaînement. Le droit de l'individu triomphe du devoir du citoyen. La «déglin-gue» (Jean-Pierre Le Goff) remplace la décence commune. À chaque épisode de cette grande dislocation, la chorégraphie est la même. Indignation, condamnation, demande de moyens, proposition législative, débat, polémique, et le manège termine son tour. «Jusqu'ici tout va bien...» Cassandre est priée de se taire pour laisser Pangloss habiller d'optimisme sa terrible impuissance.

