

What's News

Business & Finance

Inflation remained elevated in July as the economic recovery continued, but prices showed evidence of cooling amid pandemic-related supply problems and signs that the recent rise in coronavirus infections is starting to crimp some business activity. A1

◆ **Southwest Airlines** said the recent surge in Covid-19 cases is causing bookings to slow and cancellations to rise, showing how quickly the Delta variant is denting economic activity. B1

◆ **The White House urged** OPEC to boost oil output, saying recent planned increases are insufficient as countries world-wide seek to emerge from the pandemic. A2

◆ **Lordstown Motors** said it is on track to start limited truck production in late September and is in talks with multiple partners about deals that could potentially lead to cash infusions. B1

◆ **Hackers stole** cryptocurrencies worth more than \$600 million from Poly Network, then returned over one-third of the pilfered assets. B1

◆ **The Dow and S&P 500** rose 0.6% and 0.2%, respectively, to close at records. The Nasdaq fell 0.2%. B9

◆ **AT&T is nearing a deal** to sell TMZ to Fox Corp. after a year of talks that involved persuading Harvey Levin to sign off on a sale of the gossip news platform he co-founded. B1

◆ **"Jeopardy!"** said the game show will have two new hosts—Mike Richards, the show's executive producer, and actress Mayim Bialik. B4

World-Wide

◆ **The Taliban's swift** battlefield advances in Afghanistan, with the seizure of a succession of provincial capitals, have surprised the Biden administration, dismayed U.S. allies and revived worries about the value of U.S. commitments overseas. A1, A10

◆ **Hours after the Senate** passed a \$3.5 trillion budget framework, Democratic leaders confronted looming challenges in keeping the party united as centrist and progressive lawmakers aired rival concerns over the package. A6

◆ **California will require** all schoolteachers and school staff to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination or submit to regular coronavirus testing, Gov. Newsom said. A1

◆ **The FDA is nearing a decision** to authorize Covid-19 booster shots for certain people with weak immune systems, a shift in the U.S. vaccination strategy as the Delta variant drives up cases. A4

◆ **New York Lt. Gov. Hochul** said she is planning for a culture change in Albany as she takes over from Gov. Cuomo after his resignation over sexual-harassment allegations. A3

◆ **The U.S. government** resumed its yearslong effort to put Assange on trial on spying charges, challenging a British judge's decision to refuse the WikiLeaks founder's extradition. A9

◆ **Belarus announced** retaliatory action against Washington, including rescinding its consent of the appointment of the U.S. ambassador, in response to U.S. sanctions. A9

CONTENTS Opinion..... A15-17
Arts in Review..... A18
Personal Journal..... A12-13
Business News..... B3
Sports..... B4
Crossword..... A4
Technology..... B4
Equities..... B6
U.S. News..... A2-7
Hear on Street..... B10
Weather..... A14
Markets..... B9
World News..... A8-10



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Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, center, landed Wednesday in Mazar-e-Sharif to rally support for the government.

Speed of the Taliban Advance Surprises U.S., Alarms Allies

WASHINGTON—When President Biden this spring announced the decision to withdraw U.S. forces from Afghanistan, his administration

By Vivian Salama,
Nancy A. Youssef
and Gordon Lubold

tion expected the Afghan military to defend key cities and perhaps battle the Taliban to a stalemate.

Before the current Taliban offensive, U.S. officials said they didn't expect the takeover of any provincial capital

until fall at the earliest.

Instead, a carefully planned strategy carried out by the Taliban has produced swift battlefield advances, allowing insurgents to seize a succession of provincial capitals since Friday. Three more fell Tuesday, bringing the total to nine, including several major cities.

The latest U.S. intelligence assessment said Kabul could fall to militants in as soon as a month, officials said. U.S. officials now worry that Afghan civilians, soldiers and others will flee the city ahead of a

Taliban assault.

The rapid collapse of regular Afghan forces has dismayed allies, including those that have contributed troops to the U.S.-led coalition, and revived worries about the value of U.S. commitments overseas. India closed a consulate and sent a plane to retrieve its citizens this week. The U.S. military and State Department this week accelerated plans to evacuate the well-staffed American embassy if the situation in Kabul dictates it, U.S. officials said.

Afghan Foreign Minister

Haneef Atmar said Tuesday the Taliban offensive violates an agreement it reached with the U.S. last year that set the stage for the American withdrawal. He urged the U.S. and others to respond with military force and sanctions.

Mr. Biden appears to be sticking to the plan to withdraw all forces by Sept. 1. "I do not regret my decision," he told reporters Tuesday.

Some allies, foreign policy

Please turn to page A10

◆ Afghan leader seeks to boost flailing army..... A10

Inflation Stays Hot But Price Pressures Ease a Bit

Consumer index rises 5.4% from a year ago as monthly pace cools amid virus concerns

By GWYNETH GUILFORD

Inflation remained elevated in July as the economic recovery continued, but prices showed evidence of cooling amid pandemic-related supply problems and signs that the recent rise in coronavirus infections is starting to crimp some business activity.

Consumer prices rose 5.4% in July from a year earlier, the same pace as in June, the highest 12-month rate since 2008, the Labor Department reported Wednesday.

On a monthly basis, however, price pressures weakened. The department's consumer-price index climbed a seasonally adjusted 0.5% in July from June, a significantly slower pace than its 0.9% increase in June from May, though well above the average 0.2% rate from 2004 to 2019. The CPI measures what consumers pay for goods and services, including groceries, clothes, restaurant meals, recreation and vehicles.

The so-called core price index, which excludes food and energy, increased 4.3% from a year before, down from a 4.5% annual increase in June. Month to month, the core CPI rose 0.3%, also down sharply from the 0.8% average increase in the previous three months.

Please turn to page A2

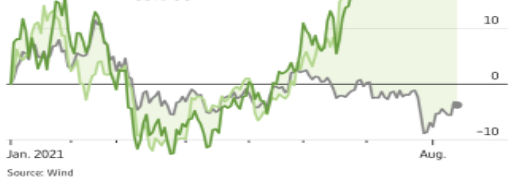
◆ Heard on the Street: Inflation is cooling, but not cold..... B10

China's Tech Curbs Give A Lift to Other Sectors

Beijing's corporate intervention has hammered internet stocks in China, but it is driving investors to sectors still in the government's good graces, such as renewable energy. B9

Index and sector performance this year

■ CSI New Energy
■ CSI 500 Semiconductors
■ CSI 300



Source: Wind

In Real Life, Co-Workers May Be Taller Than You Think

People hired during pandemic finally got a chance to see what colleagues look like

By DAVID UBERTI

Melissa Nisbet had a problem in mid-May: She wasn't sure what her boss looked like. To make matters worse, he might have been sitting just a few feet away from her.

Ms. Nisbet said she had made cookies and dressed in a blazer and slacks to finally meet colleagues in person at a recently launched tech school where they work. She arrived at their downtown Vancouver, Canada, office and sat across from a man in the reception area.

Hired just weeks earlier, Ms. Nisbet

had been working from home. She said she clutched her baked goods while growing more confident that the school president, with whom she had only chatted via audio conference call, was now scrolling through his phone in front of her. She guessed it might be him since they had arrived at the same place at the same time and the meeting that day was only for a small group. She made the first move and introduced herself.

"I'm your employee," said Ms. Nisbet, who heads student services. "Would you like a cookie?"

Numerous office workers hired during

Please turn to page A9



Remember small talk?

Biden Targets Broadband For Bigger Government Role

High-speed internet framed as a basic necessity in infrastructure bill

By JACOB M. SCHLESINGER AND RYAN TRACY

President Biden's bid to inject government deeper into the private sector is getting its first big test in the broadband industry.

Congress on Tuesday advanced legislation that allocates \$65 billion in new taxpayer money to expand high-speed internet access for millions of unconnected households—by far the largest allocation of federal funds ever earmarked for broadband.

The Senate approved it as part of the broader \$1 trillion infrastructure bill passed on Tuesday. The measure still requires House approval.

The White House and congressional Democrats hope to follow up the infrastructure bill with a separate \$3.5 trillion spending

plan that would create new government roles in electricity production and transmission, child care, elder care, pre-K and community college. The Senate passed a budget blueprint early Wednesday.

The broadband legislation would wire communities across the country that companies haven't reached and subsidize bills for low-income households. Private companies would be required to publish details about their products, much like nutrition labels, and offer low-cost service plans if they take federal funds to help build networks.

In doing so, proponents say, the legisla-

Please turn to page A6

◆ Spending package divides Democrats..... A6

◆ McConnell sees few chances for more deals..... A7

INSIDE



JEAN CHUNG/ILLUSTRATIONS

PERSONAL JOURNAL
Samsung weighs the fate of the Galaxy Note, which pioneered big phone screens. A11



RACHEL BUNDS/ISTOCK FOR WSJ

BUSINESS & FINANCE
PG&E wildfire victims frustrated over delays in compensation fund payouts. B1

California Requires Vaccines or Weekly Testing for Teachers

By CHRISTINE MAI-DUC AND BEN CHAPMAN

LOS ANGELES—California will require all schoolteachers and staff to show proof of vaccination or submit to regular coronavirus testing, Gov. Gavin Newsom said Wednesday, becoming the first state in the nation to impose such a requirement on all employees at public and private schools.

The move represents an escalation in the state's effort to ensure schools start on time and in-person amid a recent nationwide surge in Covid-19 cases triggered by the Delta variant.

Private employers are considering—and making—similar moves to keep employees and the public safe. On Wednesday,

McDonald's Corp. and the New York Stock Exchange instated vaccination mandates for many employees. During the latest surge, states and cities have largely left these decisions to businesses and others, rather than attempt the types of sweeping mandates or lockdowns put into place during earlier surges.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige last week ordered that public school employees be vaccinated or tested regularly as part of a broader order affecting all state and county employees there. Several cities, including New

Please turn to page A4

◆ FDA near clearing booster for people with immune woes..... A4

◆ McDonald's, NBC postpone office reopenings..... B3

Scents of success

Smell factories use AI to keep their noses in front — INSIDE BUSINESS, PAGE 5

Vaccine bribery

The perils of coercing the hesitant to accept the jab — BIG READ, PAGE 13



Fickle Beijing

The rules can change overnight for investors — BROOKE MASTERS, PAGE 15

Relentless Taliban plots Kabul push

Taliban fighters stand guard yesterday at a checkpoint in Farah, a city in western Afghanistan near Iran's border.

The insurgents said they had captured three more provincial capitals in Afghanistan, bringing the total under their control to nine out of 34. In Farah, the Taliban occupied the governor's house, a prison and other locations.

Diplomats say the Taliban's strategy is to encircle Kabul and pin Afghan forces in the capital in order to press President Ashraf Ghani's government to surrender. Joe Biden, US president, reiterated his plan to pull out all American troops by the end of this month, arguing that it was up to Afghans to defend themselves. Taliban closes in page 4

Mark Malloch-Brown page 15



Mohammad Asif/Reuters

US asks Opec for boost in output to stop fuel prices 'harming recovery'

◆ Abrupt shift from Trump policy ◆ Petrol up almost 50% ◆ Inflation still at 13-year peak

LAUREN FEDOR — WASHINGTON
DEREK BROWER — CALGARY

The White House has called on Opec to boost oil production in an effort to curb high petrol prices that Biden administration officials say "risk harming the ongoing global recovery".

Jake Sullivan, Joe Biden's national security adviser, said yesterday that while Opec and its allies had recently agreed production increases, the boost would "not fully offset previous production cuts that Opec imposed during the pandemic until well into 2022".

"At a critical moment in the global recovery, this is simply not enough," added Sullivan, saying that the US was "engaging with relevant Opec members on the importance of competitive markets in setting prices".

US petrol prices have risen alongside soaring demand as the American economy reopened following coronavirus-related lockdowns. Petrol is selling for an average of \$3.19 a gallon across the country, up almost 50 per cent from the same time last year, according to the AAA, an automobile association.

US consumer prices also continue to increase rapidly, with yesterday's latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data showing inflation remained at a 15-year high in July, with the CPI rising 5.4 per cent last month compared with a year ago.

International oil prices softened about 1 per cent following Sullivan's statement, with Brent trading about \$70 a barrel and West Texas Intermediate, the US benchmark, at about \$67.50.

The White House's intervention

marks an abrupt shift from Donald Trump's policy during last year's oil market crash, when he pressed Opec to raise prices in an attempt to help US shale companies weather one of the worst market downturns in decades.

The latest move is a return to the norm for previous US administrations — including Trump's — which have frequently called on the Opec cartel to pump more oil to lower petrol prices.

The Opec cuts and vaccine breakthroughs at the end of last year helped oil prices rally, although analysts fear that a coronavirus resurgence could hamper a global oil demand recovery.

The Opec+ group, including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq and Kuwait, agreed last month to raise production by about 2m



The reopening of the US economy has fed through into a near-doubling of petrol prices

barrels a day to the end of 2021, and to restore all the supplies it cut last year by the end of 2022.

Opec declined to comment yesterday in response to Sullivan's statement.

The White House also yesterday urged the Federal Trade Commission to crack down on any collusion in the US petrol market, saying the agency should "consider using all of its available tools to monitor the US petrol market and address any illegal conduct that might be contributing to price increases for consumers at the pump".

The White House interventions came hours after Senate Democrats pushed through a sweeping \$3.5tn budget resolution along party lines, in a 50-49 vote, with no Republican support.

US inflation and budget page 2

Briefing

► **Meggitt joins list of targeted UK groups**
The aerospace and defence company has received a takeover approach from US competitor TransDigm. It had already agreed a deal with Parker Hannifin, another US-based defence group. — PAGE 5

► **Key Iran minister linked to elite Guards**
Incoming hardline president Ebrahim Raisi has picked Hossein Amirabdollahian, a diplomat with Revolutionary Guards ties, as foreign minister. He is likely to lead any new nuclear negotiations. — PAGE 4

► **Chinese court jails Canadian for spying**
Michael Spavor has been sent to prison for 11 years in a case that has been described as retaliation for the arrest in Vancouver of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou. — PAGE 4



► **Reborn Chesapeake buys gas producer**
The US shale pioneer that collapsed during last year's oil-price crash only to then emerge from bankruptcy in February, has agreed to buy rival Vine Energy for \$2.2bn in equity and cash. — PAGE 4

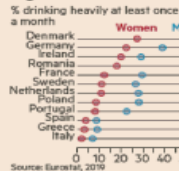
► **Vestas cuts profit and revenue outlook**
The Danish company has cut its full-year profit and revenue guidance, the latest wind turbine group to downgrade its outlook as the sector is buffeted by higher commodity prices. — PAGE 6; LEX, PAGE 16

► **PwC's British partners break pay record**
The accounting firm's profit has risen by a quarter to a fresh high of almost £1.2bn amid a surge in dealmaking. Average profit per partner for the year to the end of June 2021 was £868,000. — PAGE 5

► **Beijing move against harmful karaoke**
China's culture ministry has unveiled plans to ban songs that spread "harmful information". The move comes as Beijing looks to stem a post-work drinking culture linked to sexual assaults on women. — PAGE 3

Datawatch

Big drinkers



Men consume alcohol more frequently than women across Europe. Romania has the largest gender gap for heavy drinking, defined as ingesting the equivalent of more than 60g of pure ethanol on a single occasion



Scholz gains speed as race to succeed Merkel tightens

Olaf Scholz is the voters' favourite to succeed Angela Merkel as chancellor, according to polls, with only 50 days to go before the election. But despite his strong personal rating, his SPD party trails the Greens and the CDU/CSU. Helped by his rivals' gaffes, that could change. SPD officials say it is dawn on voters that Merkel is leaving and that could benefit a man who portrays himself as a middle-of-the-road pragmatist in the chancellor's mould. Outshining rivals — PAGE 2

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UK embassy worker held in Germany on suspicion of spying for Russia

HELEN WARRELL — LONDON
ERIKA SOLOMON — BERLIN

A British man working at the UK embassy in Berlin has been arrested on suspicion of passing information to the Russian intelligence services, German prosecutors said yesterday.

The 57-year-old UK national, named only as David S, was arrested in Potsdam, a town to the south-west of Berlin, following a joint investigation by German and British authorities. The German federal prosecutor's office said he was a local employee, rather than a diplomat, and was suspected of having worked for "foreign agents" since November. One person familiar with the investigation described the suspect as a "contractor" at the embassy.

Germany's chief federal prosecutor's office said: "On at least one occasion, he

passed on documents he had obtained in the course of his professional activities to a representative of a Russian intelligence service. The accused received an as yet unknown amount of cash in exchange for him passing on information."

The suspect's apartment and workplace have been searched and he faces charges of engaging in "intelligence agent activity" under German law.

MIS, the UK's domestic spy agency that has led the British side of the investigation, had been tracking the suspect for months before his arrest.

The German foreign ministry said the government was taking the allegations of Russian intelligence operations in Berlin "very seriously", adding: "Spying on a close ally on German soil is not something we can accept."

The UK Home Office confirmed that

"an individual who was contracted to work for the government" had been arrested by the German authorities. The suspect appeared at the federal court of justice in Karlsruhe yesterday where he was remanded in custody. One British official said it was most likely that he would face trial in Germany.

During the cold war, Berlin was a centre for competing intelligence operations as the US and its western allies faced off against soviet spies. Germany has also been the target of Russian covert activity in recent years.

The UK's tense relations with Russia worsened after the 2018 attempted poisoning of former Russian agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter in Salisbury. Since then, the British government has come under fire for failing to devote enough resources to countering the risk from Russia.

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Aug 11	prev	%chg		Aug 11	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4437.90	4436.75	0.03	\$ per £	1.174	1.172	0.22	US Gov 10 yr	149.53	1.35	0.02
Nasdaq Composite	14708.46	14708.09	-0.55	£ per \$	1.387	1.385	0.14	UK Gov 10 yr	0.57	-0.01	
Dow Jones Ind	35423.90	35284.67	0.45	€ per \$	0.947	0.946	0.11	Deu Gov 10 yr	-0.46	-0.01	
FTSEurofirst 300	1629.37	1621.46	0.43	¥ per \$	110.470	110.550	-0.07	Japan Gov 10 yr	117.38	0.04	0.02
Euro Stoxx 50	4205.48	4187.82	0.42	₹ per \$	153.194	153.085	0.07	US Gov 30 yr	115.67	2.01	0.03
FTSE 100	7220.14	7181.64	0.53	Sfr per \$	1.082	1.081	0.09	US Gov 2 yr	105.70	-0.76	0.00
FTSE All-Share	4143.16	4110.20	0.80								
CAC 40	6957.99	6920.21	0.55	COMMODITIES					price	prev	chg
Yenko Dow	15625.09	15570.71	0.25		Aug 11	prev	%chg	Feed Funds Ed	0.10	0.08	0.02
Nikkei	28070.51	27988.15	0.29	Oil WTI	67.82	68.29	-0.69	US 3m bill	0.05	0.06	-0.01
Hang Seng	29660.16	29605.62	0.20	Oil Brent	70.11	70.63	-0.74	Euro Libor 3m	-0.56	-0.56	0.00
MSCI World \$	3099.49	3097.06	0.08	Gold	1723.35	1739.85	-0.95	UK 3m	0.07	0.07	0.00
MSCI EM \$	1300.33	1294.20	0.47								
MSCI ACWI \$	732.02	731.10	0.13								

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Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul is set to become New York's governor on Aug. 24 after Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo quit over a harassment scandal.

Senate Passes \$3.5 Trillion Plan In Step Toward Vaster Safety Net

By EMILY COCHRANE

WASHINGTON — The Senate took a major step on Wednesday toward enacting a vast expansion of the nation's social safety net, approving a \$3.5 trillion budget blueprint along party lines that would allow Democrats to tackle climate change and fund health care, child care, family leave and public education expansion.

Much of that spending would be paid for with higher taxes on wealthy people and corporations. After the Senate gave bipartisan approval to a \$1 trillion infrastructure package on Tuesday, the budget vote came over unanimous Republican opposition. If House Democrats follow suit later this month, congressional Democrats this fall hope to draft an expansive package that will carry the remainder of President Biden's \$4 trillion economic agenda. The Senate adopted the measure 50 to 49, minutes before 4 a.m.

The blueprint sets in motion a perilous legislative process aimed at creating the largest expansion

Democrats Now Facing Tough Job of Holding Coalition Together

of the federal safety net in nearly six decades. The House will return early from its scheduled summer recess the week of Aug. 23 to take up the budget, so committees in both chambers can begin work fleshing out the party's vision for what would be the greatest change to social welfare since the 1960s' Great Society.

Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, said on Wednesday that he hoped to have the legislation completed by the week of Sept. 15. But no one was declaring victory.

"This was one of the most significant legislative days we've had in a long time here in the United States Senate, but we still have a long road to travel," Mr. Schumer said. *Continued on Page A21*

C.D.C. Urges Pregnant Women To Take the Covid-19 Vaccine

By RONI CARYN RABIN

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Wednesday strongly recommended that pregnant and breastfeeding women be vaccinated against Covid-19, pointing to new safety data that officials hope will sway the many who have resisted despite mounting evidence that the coronavirus can pose grave risks to their health and increase the chance of a preterm birth.

The new guidance marked the first time the agency gave strong, unambiguous support to vaccination during pregnancy, bringing it in line with the advice of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other medical specialty groups.

It comes amid a surge in Covid infections across the nation, driven by the highly contagious Delta variant, and renewed efforts by the Biden administration to push up vaccination rates to stem the virus's spread. The Food and Drug Administration is expected

Agency Points to Safety Data to Persuade a Resistant Group

to authorize a third vaccine dose for certain immunocompromised people as soon as Thursday.

"C.D.C. encourages all pregnant people or people who are thinking about becoming pregnant and those breastfeeding to get vaccinated to protect themselves from Covid-19," the C.D.C. director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, said. "The vaccines are safe and effective, and it has never been more urgent to increase vaccinations."

Only 23 percent of pregnant women have received one dose of *Continued on Page A19*

BOOSTERS The F.D.A. is set to allow a third dose for some with weak immune systems. *PAGE A16*

Hochul Vows to Transform Tone of Governor's Office

Signals a Major Cultural Shift in Albany as She Distances Herself From Cuomo

By LUIS FERRÉ-SADURNÍ

ALBANY, N.Y. — In her first remarks since Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo announced his resignation, Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul, the state's governor-in-waiting, distanced herself from the embattled governor, while declaring she was prepared to lead New York through economic turmoil and an enduring pandemic.

Ms. Hochul stressed she had "not been close" to the governor, saying she was unaware of the conduct outlined in a state attorney general report that found Mr. Cuomo had sexually harassed nearly a dozen women. Ms. Hochul said she would out Cuomo staffers who acted unethically, signaling she would transform the workplace culture in the governor's office, which the report had described as hostile and vindictive.

"At the end of my term, whenever it ends, no one will ever describe my administration as a toxic work environment," Ms. Hochul said in a news conference held at the State Capitol. She is set to be sworn into office on Aug. 24, when Mr. Cuomo's resignation takes effect.

Over the next two weeks, Ms. Hochul will have to prepare to take the helm of a state con-

fronting daunting challenges: the resurgence of the coronavirus, lagging vaccination rates, struggling small businesses and tens of thousands of tenants still waiting for rent relief.

Ms. Hochul, a former congresswoman who had played a largely ceremonial role in the Cuomo administration, will take over a state with a \$200 billion budget and sprawling work force while at the same time ushering out some top officials who had been loyal to Mr. Cuomo. She must assemble a team of senior staff, pick a lieutenant governor — "a lot of people have reached out to me," she said with a laugh on Wednesday — and craft her own policy agenda, after years of largely promoting someone else's. And she has to introduce herself to most New Yorkers.

As she navigates one of the most seismic moments in New York political history, Ms. Hochul, who will become the first woman to lead the state, declared that she was ready to go.

"I want people to know that I'm ready for this," said Ms. Hochul, a Democrat from Buffalo. "It's not something that we expected or asked for, but I am fully prepared to assume the responsibility as *Continued on Page A14*

Cuomo's Feminist Credentials Crumble as He Leaves Office

By LISA LERER

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo often boasted about the work he has done to change the world. On Tuesday, he expressed astonishment that the world had, in his telling, changed without him.

NEWS ANALYSIS In announcing his resignation, Mr. Cuomo recounted how he had learned — in reading a 165-page report accusing him of sexually harassing nearly a dozen women, and with the help of his three grown daughters — that perhaps he wasn't the enlightened feminist ally he had meant to be.

"In my mind, I've never crossed the line with anyone, but I didn't realize the extent to which the line has been redrawn," he said. "There are

generational and cultural shifts that I just didn't fully appreciate, and I should have."

In Mr. Cuomo's accounting, he was a victim, too: an old-school politician who, like a time traveler stumbling into a different reality, had abruptly discovered a society upended by the MeToo movement. (That such basic expectations have long been taught in kindergarten — Hands to yourself — seemed somehow forgotten.)

The governor's not-so-contrite apology set off a wave of criticism from advocates and political rivals who have long grumbled about a gap between his public accomplishments on behalf of *Continued on Page A14*



Archivists in Berlin are trying to reconstruct documents of the former East Germany's secret police.

Solving a Sinister Puzzle With 40 Million Clues

By ANNALISA QUINN

First the researchers cut the sacks lengthwise, careful not to disturb the jumble of torn paper inside. Then they go through the bags loosely, pulling out food scraps, trash or anything else mixed in during the chaotic rush

to destroy evidence. They are working to reassemble, scrap by scrap, some 40 million to 55 million pieces of paper that were torn up and stuffed into sacks by the East German secret police in the final days of the German Democratic Republic.

When pro-democracy protesters stormed the secret police

precinct stations in 1989 and 1990, they found officers at work inside, shredding, pulping and tearing documents by hand. The Ministry for State Security, known as the Stasi, was trying desperately to destroy the surveillance records it had collected over four decades of spying on its own citizens.

Continued on Page A8

Greek Island Burns in a Sign of Crises to Come

By JASON HOROWITZ

EVIA, Greece — Amid twisted cages and scorched trees, Harilaos Tertipis stepped out of his ruined stables dragging the charred corpses of his sheep — burned, like so much else, in the wildfires that have raged across Greece.

As the survivors of his flock huddled together on a roadside hill below, the bells on their necks clanging and their legs singed, he said that if he had stayed with his animals instead of rushing home to protect his family and house, "I wouldn't be here now."

As of Wednesday, the fires around the northern parts of Evia, Greece's second-largest island, had destroyed more than 120,000 acres of pine forest, razed homes and displaced hundreds of people. They have brought assistance from more than 20 countries and been declared "a natural disaster of unprecedented dimensions" by the Greek prime minister.

The fires, fueled by a record-breaking heat wave that has touched temperatures of up to 46 degrees Celsius, or 115 degrees Fahrenheit, have caused political recriminations, economic disaster



Harilaos Tertipis, near what remained of his stables on Tuesday. Mr. Tertipis said he lost half of his flock of sheep in the wildfires.

and biblical scenes of destruction. But they seem less a random act of God than another inevitable episode of Europe's extreme weather brought on by the man-made climate change that scientists have now concluded is irreversible.

Europe has always considered itself a climate leader, last month pledging to cut emissions by 55 percent over the next decade and calling this "a make-or-break moment." *Continued on Page A6*



INTERNATIONAL A4-11

Taliban Roll On in Afghanistan
The insurgents seized nine cities over six days in a major escalation of their military offensive. *PAGE A10*

Bangladesh's Third Wave

The government is lifting a lockdown despite warnings that the outbreak could worsen. *PAGE A4*

NATIONAL A12-21, 24

Texas Warns of Covid Crisis

Officials warn that with more than 10,000 people hospitalized and intensive care units stretched thin, doctors will face hard questions. *PAGE A13*

In Surfside, Comfort in Ritual

A look at age-old Jewish traditions that defined burial customs for many after the deadly collapse of Champlain Towers South near Miami. *PAGE A18*

Evicting a Needle Exchange

Syringe-access sites have been proven to reduce opioid overdoses and curb disease. New Jersey is about to shut down its biggest one. *PAGE A24*



SPORTS B7-9, 12

Baylor Avoids Discipline

The N.C.A.A. decided against sanctions, saying a campus sexual assault scandal was not limited to athletes. *PAGE B9*

Vive Leo!

Lionel Messi was officially introduced as a member of Paris St.-Germain, and spirits were soaring in France. *PAGE B7*

BUSINESS B1-6

As Prices Climb, Fed Squirms

A key inflation gauge jumped 5.4 percent in July from a year earlier, but many economists expect monthly increases to begin moderating. *PAGE B1*

THURSDAY STYLES D1-6

Speaking for Herself, at Last

For years, a nondisclosure agreement has ruled the life of Rachel Uchitel, who once had an affair with Tiger Woods. She's ready to leave it behind. *PAGE D4*

OPINION A22-23

Farhad Manjoo

PAGE A22



ARTS C1-6

All the Respect Necessary

Jennifer Hudson knew Aretha Franklin. To play her in a new biopic, the actress had to learn a little more about the circumstances that shaped her. *PAGE C1*



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Turning up the pressure to get vaccinated



CALIFORNIA Gov. Gavin Newsom visits Oakland's Carl B. Munck Elementary on Wednesday, the day he announced the state will require school employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or undergo weekly testing. **SANTIAGO MEJIA** San Francisco Chronicle

L.A. advances inoculation requirement for entering indoor spaces

BY EMILY ALPERT REYES AND LUKE MONEY

Los Angeles officials took a step Wednesday toward requiring people to have at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before venturing into indoor restaurants, bars, gyms, shops, movie theaters and other venues—a move they argued would combat the resurgent coronavirus.

The City Council voted to direct city attorneys to draft the law, though much of the plan remains to be worked out, including precisely where it would apply and how the rules would be enforced. Once it is drafted, the proposed law would go back before the City Council for final approval.

L.A. previously announced that it will require city employees to either provide proof of vaccination or undergo weekly testing. It is not alone in considering such steps in hopes of blunting the latest COVID-19 wave.

California has ordered that healthcare workers statewide must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 come early fall, with limited exemptions allowed for medical or religious reasons. State and school employees will have to show proof they've been vaccinated, with those who remain unvaccinated subject to a regular testing regimen.

And in wider L.A. County, officials are requiring the county's 100,000 employees to provide proof of vaccination by Oct. 1 and are also mulling over the possibility of instituting their own public vaccine verification rules.

Collectively, the flurry of actions point to a new front in the long-running battle against COVID-19: one in which officials, after months of education, outreach and inducements aimed at getting more Californians to roll up their sleeves, are increasingly willing to insist on the shots to work and play.

"If we ever want to get [See Vaccines, A7]

Newsom on school order: 'We think this is the right thing to do'

BY HOWARD BLUME

California school employees must be vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to a weekly test proving they are not infected with the coronavirus under an order announced Wednesday by Gov. Gavin Newsom that positions the state as among the most aggressive in the nation with mandates aimed at keeping campuses safe.

The move represents a measured step in strict school safety guidelines in response to the rapid spread of the Delta variant. Some 1,000 public school districts as well as private schools will be affected by the order, which is set to take effect Thursday and gives schools until Oct. 15 to comply fully.

"We think this is the right thing to do," Newsom said. "And we think this is a sustainable way to keeping our schools open and to address the No. 1 anxiety that parents like myself have for young children—and that is knowing that the schools are doing everything in their power to keep our kids safe."

The governor's order lays out both progress and challenges in the fight against the pandemic, which shut down most schools statewide for more than a year, starting in mid-March 2020.

The order notes that 63% of Californians 12 years of age and older are fully vaccinated with an additional 10% partially vaccinated. But when looking at school-aged children, the figure drops to less than 41% for those 12 to 17 years old. Children younger than 12 are not yet eligible for vaccination. In other words, the majority of people on campuses—the students—will not be vaccinated for the start of school, an exposure that's coinciding with the Delta variant surge.

California is currently experiencing the fastest increase in coronavirus infections during the entire pandemic, the order states, [See Newsom, A6]



KALEIGHA SMITH is tested for COVID-19 by Laila Benamar at Northridge Middle School on Wednesday. **GENARO MOLINA** Los Angeles Times



AARON DELGADO, 16, receives a COVID vaccine from EMT Brandon Jaramillo in Arleta this month. **AL SEIB** Los Angeles Times

Native Americans embrace shots thanks to reservation outreach

For the first several months of the pandemic, the residents of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation were spared by their seclusion in the plains of northern Montana. But when the coronavirus finally arrived, it hit hard.

The six-bed hospital was quickly overwhelmed, and dozens of patients had to be airlifted to Billings or beyond. By December, 10 people had died, most of them venerated elders, devastating the close-knit community of 4,500. Health workers braced for more contagion and death as the winter forced people into close quarters.

"If you get your electricity shut off or you run out of propane and don't have

Indigenous vaccination rates top those of any major racial or ethnic group

By Richard Read
REPORTING FROM
LODGE POLE, MONT.

hot water, you're going to Grandma's house to get cleaned up and stay," said Jessica Windy Boy, who heads the Indian Health Service branch here.

But the worst fears never materialized. Instead, they helped fuel a highly successful vaccination campaign that has pushed life on the reservation back toward normal.

It's not just the Fort Belknap reservation that has managed to protect itself. Experts say Native Americans have a higher vaccination rate than any other major racial or ethnic group.

Those rates are difficult to determine, because many vaccine recipients do not provide [See Outreach, A6]

Credit apps target a young generation already way in debt

Buy now, pay later without interest? Shoppers are sold. But problems can pile up.

BY SASHA HUPKA

WASHINGTON — Alana Voechting, a 27-year-old nursing student, had never heard of Klarna when she noticed its bright pink logo while checking out at Sephora.com with \$165 in skin care products.

Mounting medical debts from chronic health conditions left Voechting with money problems, so she was thrilled to learn the app would allow her to break the purchase price into four installments over six weeks — with no interest, fees or credit inquiries to ding her already subpar credit score.

"It's like your brain thinks, 'Oh, I'm getting this product for cheap,' because you really only look at that first payment, and after that

you kind of forget about it," she said. "So psychologically, it feels like you're spending so much less when you're not."

Soon Voechting began regularly using not just Klarna but also similar services, including Quadpay and Affirm, to buy makeup, clothing, airline tickets and expensive lounge wear she acknowledged she "would not have purchased otherwise."

Voechting is one of millions of young Americans with scant or subprime credit histories who are using so-called buy-now-pay-later apps every month.

The smartphone-based services are an updated version of the old layaway plan, except users can do it all on their phones and — most appealingly — get their purchase immediately rather than having to wait until they've paid for it.

The companies act as intermediaries between retailers and consumers, making [See Credit, A9]

Social safety net plan advances

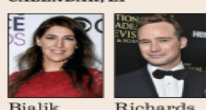
Senators approve President Biden's \$3.5-trillion blueprint to bolster family services. **NATION, A4**

Democrats face arrest in Texas

Warrants are issued for state House members who stayed away to block a Republican voting bill. **NATION, A4**

It takes two to replace Trebek

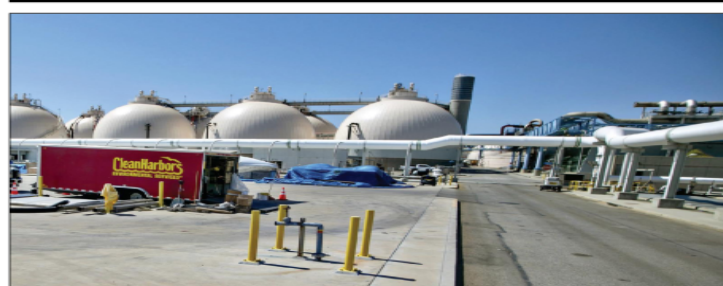
"Jeopardy!" splits host duties between Mayim Bialik and producer Mike Richards. **CALENDAR, E1**



Weather

Mostly sunny. L.A. Basin: 88/68. **B6**

Printed with soy inks on partially recycled paper.



LAST MONTH'S sewage spill at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, above, into Santa Monica Bay, came two years after \$550,000 in upgrades at the plant. **JASON ARMSTRONG** Los Angeles Times

Sewage spill's domino effects

Plant's problems impair L.A.'s water recycling efforts

BY ROBERT J. LOPEZ

Problems at a Los Angeles sewage treatment plant that caused a massive spill into Santa Monica Bay last month have severely reduced the region's water recycling ability, forcing officials to divert millions of gallons of clean drinking water at a time of worsening

drought conditions. The Times has learned.

Even as California Gov. Gavin Newsom urges a voluntary 15% reduction in water usage, the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant's inability to fully treat sewage has forced local officials to divert drinking water to uses normally served by recycled water.

Among those is an effort

to protect coastal aquifers from seawater contamination, as well as the irrigation of parks, cemeteries and golf courses across southwest Los Angeles County.

The sudden loss of millions of gallons of recycled water has alarmed experts and raised new questions about the plant's ability to function in a warming climate. [See Spill, A7]

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Hot, partly sunny 99/79 • Tomorrow: T-storm 97/76 BS

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021 • B2

U.S. pushes to isolate Taliban via diplomacy

But given militants' gains, quest for political solution may be too late

BY KAREN DEYOUNG

The Biden administration has mounted a last-ditch effort this week to convince the Taliban, as it continues its relentless march across Afghanistan, that the world will reject it if it takes over the entire country by force.

In the largest such gathering since U.S.-Taliban talks began nearly two years ago, representatives from Russia, China, Afghanistan's regional neighbors, European powers, the European Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations have converged on Doha, Qatar, for U.S.-led meetings with the militants.

The hope is that sheer numbers and a unified stance — both during the Taliban meetings and in a tough joint statement to be issued after their last session Thursday — will disabuse the militants of any notion that there are cracks in international resolve to cut any Taliban government off from all diplomatic contact and assistance.

Russia, China, Iran and others in the region have recently hosted delegations of senior Taliban officials, treating them as "diplomats, as a kind of hedge," said a

SEE AFGHANISTAN ON A11

GOP risks becoming the face of delta variant surge

BY FELICIA SONMEZ AND HANNAH KNOWLES

In Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott has banned local governments from implementing mask requirements even as he pleads for emergency medical help in combating a surge in coronavirus cases from the delta variant. In South Dakota, Gov. Kristi L. Noem welcomed hundreds of thousands of revelers to the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally that last year bore characteristics of a super-spreader event for the virus.

And in Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis is waging war on school districts seeking to defy his executive order prohibiting mask mandates for students — while the state sees its rates of hospitalization from covid surge past the worst levels of 2020.

The three Republican governors — all frequently mentioned as potential presidential candidates in 2024 — are at the vanguard of GOP resistance to public-health mandates aimed at stemming the tide of the delta variant, which has caused a new spike in coronavirus cases as the country attempts to reopen

SEE VIRUS ON A5



GULSHAN KHAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Demonstrators rally July 30 outside a courthouse in the Durban suburb of Verulam where people arrested during the week-long unrest that recalled violence decades earlier were seeking bail. Most of the dead this time were Black, most of the suspected killers Indian.

In S. Africa, a violent reprise

BY GULSHAN KHAN, HLENGIWE MOTAUNG AND MAX BEARAK

PHOENIX, SOUTH AFRICA — Thirty-six years separated the infamous race riots of 1949 and 1985 in this area, when people of African and South Asian descent — pitted against one another at the bottom rungs of the apartheid system — killed each other in a bubbling over of resentment.

Last month, another 36 years after the last riots, Phoenix and surrounding towns ignited once again.

Amid a week-long bout of looting, arson and clashes that saw at least 342 killed across two South African provinces, 36 were killed in this patchwork of poor Black townships and more developed "Indian" suburbs that had been

Racial clashes that left dozens dead are rooted in legacy of apartheid

coexisting peacefully, though unequally. Most of the dead were Black this time, and most of the suspected killers were Indian, the country's police chief said last week.

Interviews with nearly two dozen people — including victims, their family members, community leaders, politicians, business owners and others — were laced with disbelief. Decades of work had been put into building a peaceful coexistence. All wondered the same thing: How had it unraveled so suddenly?

The answer, most thought, was rooted in South Africa's failure to truly heal the divides of apartheid. The country may have christened itself the Rainbow Nation, but high walls of income and opportunity still divide each of its stripes.

The wave of looting that swept across the metropolitan areas of Johannesburg and Durban, two of South Africa's biggest cities, had already been raging for days when Thuto Shwuka, 18, and friends decided to gather for a pickup soccer game on an empty field in Phoenix, whose population of around 200,000 is mostly descended from South Asians brought to South Africa more than 100 years ago by the British colonial government as farm and railroad laborers.

The television news had been

broadcasting live shots of mostly Black crowds streaming out of department stores and warehouses with whatever they could grab. Interspersed with such footage were interviews with mostly White and Indian men in relatively affluent neighborhoods who said they had armed themselves in case the looters came for their homes. Shwuka and his friends were stopped by one of these groups, he said.

"We came across a group of Indian men who told us that we could not pass there and turned us away," he recalled on a recent day at home. "Then they accused us of being part of the group of people who had been looting and started beating us."

Despite their denials, Shwuka said one man forced him to tie

SEE SOUTH AFRICA ON A24

Election officials say they are under siege

As intimidation continues after 2020 vote, some worry about an exodus at a critical time

BY TOM HAMBURGER, ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN AND AMY GARDNER

In preparation for a vote on local tax assessments last week in Houghton County, Mich., county clerk Jennifer Kelly took extraordinary precautions, asking election staff in this remote northern Michigan community to record the serial numbers of voting machines, document the unbroken seals on tabulators and note in writing that no one had tampered with the equipment.

In the southeastern part of the state, Michael Siegrist, clerk of Canton Township, followed similar steps, even organizing public seminars to explain how ballots

are counted.

Despite their efforts, they said they could not fend off an ongoing torrent of false claims and suspicions about voting procedures that have ballooned since President Donald Trump began his relentless attacks on the integrity of the 2020 election last year.

"People still complained about our Dominion voting machines, about the need for more audits, and most of all they complained

SEE ELECTIONS ON A4

Adjourned: Senate breaks without taking action on voting rights. **A3**

Voting: New obstacles as Texas Republicans seek restrictions. **A7**

IN THE NEWS



ABDULLAH SAMIR/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban advances The surrender of an Afghan army corps in Kunduz is the biggest loss so far as the group takes territory. **A11**

Vaccines for the pregnant The CDC updated its advice after it found no increased risk of miscarriage among the immunized. **A6**

THE NATION President Biden will host a virtual summit in December with dozens of elected world leaders to link arms against authoritarianism. **A4**
A scientist who recovered from covid-19 last year and came out of retirement to help fight the disease has died following a second infection. **A6**
Rudolph W. Giuliani told federal agents it was okay to "throw a fake" during a political campaign, according to a newly released 2018 transcript. **A9**
Kathy Hochul, New

York's next governor, pledged to have a more transparent administration in her first comments since Andrew M. Cuomo's resignation. **A18**

THE WORLD Devastating wildfires in a mountainous region of Algeria have killed at least 65 people, including 28 soldiers deployed to put out the flames. **A10**
A Chinese court sentenced a Canadian citizen to 11 years in prison in a case seen as retribution for the arrest of a Huawei executive. **A11**

THE ECONOMY

The NSA gave Amazon Web Services a \$10 billion contract, setting off a protest from rival Microsoft. **A15**
With the Infrastructure bill having cleared the Senate, telecom carriers are turning their advocacy to fixing rural cell-phone service. **A15**
Prices rose 5.4 percent in July over the last year, a trend federal officials expect will continue until supply chains catch up and the economy recovers. **A16**

THE REGION

After months of tension and debate, the Loudoun County School Board approved new

guidelines to help safeguard transgender students. **B1**

A Maryland board approved a contract to design toll lanes for Interstate 270 and part of the Capital Beltway. **B1**
The vast majority of severe covid-19 illnesses and deaths in the Washington region are among the unvaccinated. **B1**

The University of Maryland and two former officials have been sued by the family of a freshman who died of complications with the adenovirus in 2018. **B1**
D.C. is seeking additional data on the effects a proposed maglev train would have on traffic and the environment. **B1**

INSIDE



LOCAL LIVING

Tougher turf Hotter summers and milder winters have put resilient zoya and bermuda grasses on the Mid-Atlantic map.

STYLE No rest for Cupid Remote work defused some of the land mines of office romance, helping relationships blossom. **C1**

BUSINESS NEWS A15
COMICS C6
OPINION PAGES A21
LOTTERIES B3
OBITUARIES B6
TELEVISION C3
WORLD NEWS A10

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0 70628 21100 3

River quedó complicado para la revancha

Con gol de Nacho Fernández, Mineiro derrotó 1-0 al equipo de Gallardo en la ida por los cuartos de final de la Libertadores; el próximo miércoles, el desquite en Brasil. **Deportes**



LA INTIMIDAD DEL NUEVO VESTUARIO DE MESSI

—deportes

Detrás de la sensación por su llegada al PSG, el rosarino comenzará a convivir con compañeros que lo admiran en secreto, archirrival y desconocidos.

HASTA 17 AÑOS DE CÁRCEL EN EL CASO DE LA "NARCOPOLÍTICA"

—seguridad

La pena más alta fue para uno de los mayores traficantes de Corrientes; el intendente de Itatí y un jefe policial ya habían aceptado su culpa. **Página 26**

LA NACION

JUEVES 12 DE AGOSTO DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

Avance oficial para anular la concesión de la Panamericana

AUTOPISTAS. Katopodis dijo que la renegociación de 2018 fue "ilegítima" y pedirá la rescisión de los contratos de los accesos Norte y Oeste, operados por el grupo español Abertis

El Gobierno dio un paso más en el camino que marcó no bien asumió, cuando puso en revisión la renegociación que la administración Macri firmó con los concesionarios Autopistas del Sol (Acceso Norte) y Grupo Concesionario del Oeste (Acceso Oeste). Ayer, el ministro de Obras Públicas, Gabriel Katopodis, calificó de "ilegítimo" ese acuerdo y dijo que

pedirá la anulación de la concesión, después de recibir los resultados de una auditoría que encargó hace más de un año.

En las empresas, cuyo accionista mayoritario es el grupo español Abertis, admitieron que pidieron aumento de tarifas, ya que el sistema prevé una actualización por inflación: "Desde enero de 2019 hubo

140% de inflación y nos dieron 9,9% de suba", afirmaron. El atraso, calculan, llega a 130%. De concretarse, las empresas podrían iniciar un juicio por la estatización. **Página 20**

Fuerte rechazo a la propuesta de Tolosa Paz de subir impuestos **Página 12**

Impulsan una ley para que internet sea servicio público

Página 10

EL ESCENARIO

Los dilemas que agitan al kirchnerismo

Carlos Pagni

—LA NACION—

¿Cómo se hace cuando un colapso productivo convive con un descalabro monetario y fiscal? Pablo Gerchunoff se hizo esa pregunta hace más de un año y contestó: "No sé". Es probable que nadie sepa. Y tal vez sea por esa razón que la campaña electoral evita esta pregunta. **Continúa en la página 11**

El Palomar, de aeropuerto estrella a lugar fantasma

economía—Llegó a ocupar el sexto puesto en el ranking de terminales aéreas en 2019, cuando era el modelo de la "revolución de los aviones" y el preferido de las *low cost*. Hoy solo lo transitan empleados de mantenimiento y militares que van a la base. **Página 22**



FABIAN MARELLI

Repudio a la designación en Irán de un acusado por la AMIA

ATENTADO. El Gobierno condenó ayer la designación de Ahmad Vahidi como ministro del Interior de Irán, señalado como uno de los responsables ideológicos del atentado en la sede de la AMIA, en julio de 1994, y buscado por Interpol.

"Constituye una afrenta a la Justicia argentina y a las víctimas", expresó la Cancillería. El acto criminal causó 85 muertos y centenares de heridos. El repudio fue compartido por la comunidad judía, y la embajadora de Israel en la Argentina, Galit Ronen, dijo que "Irán ni siquiera trata de ocultar su política criminal y terrorista". **Página 18**



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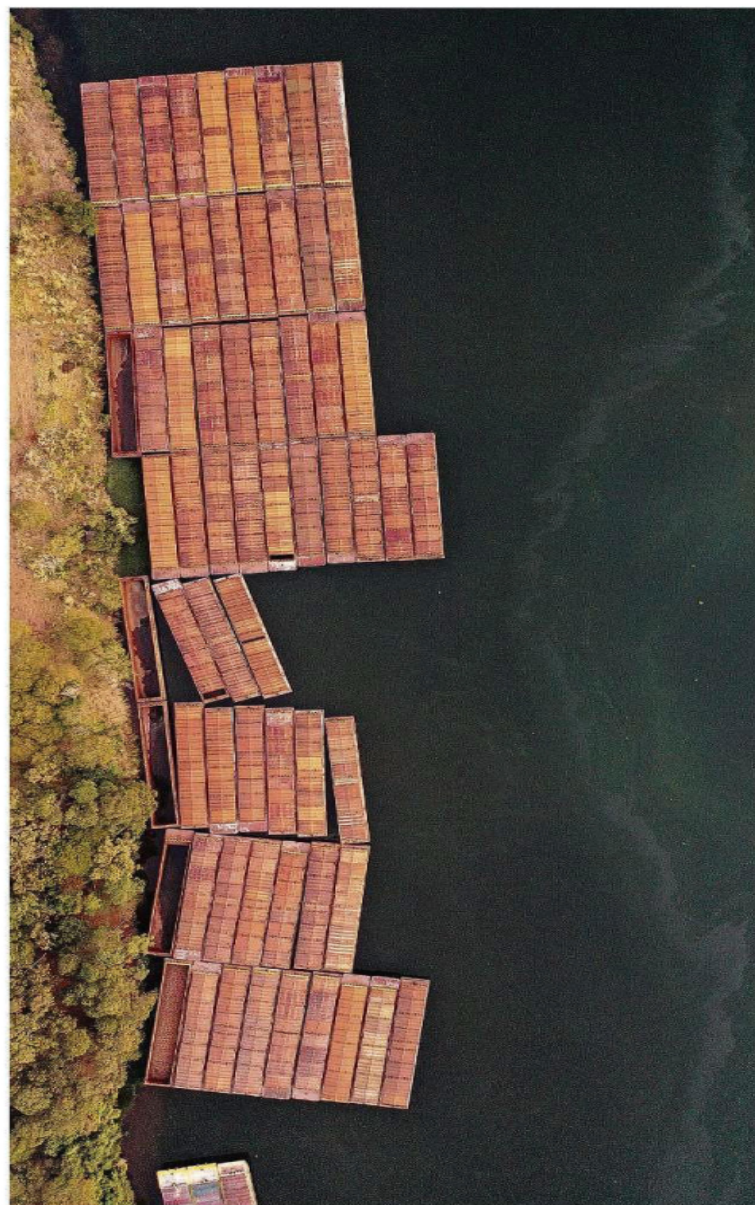
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Joel Silva/Fotoarena/Agência O Globo

SECA JÁ AFETA OPERAÇÕES NA HIDROVIA TIETÊ-PARANÁ

Barcaças de transportes de grãos paradas em Pedernheiras (SP); há temor de que o tráfego seja interrompido ainda neste mês, ameaçando escoamento até o porto de Santos Mercado A22



Ronny Santos/Folhapress

CONTRA RACISMO, ESTUDANTES TROCAM PLACAS DE RUA

Av. Dr. Arnaldo, em SP, rebatizada com nome de biomédica; alunos da USP substituíram homenagens de pessoas com histórico racista por tributos a personalidades negras cotidiano B4

ONG de ex-jogador receberá R\$ 35 mi em verbas federais

Esporte B7

EDITORIAIS A2

Página virada

Sobre derrota da PEC do voto impresso na Câmara.

Universitários de menos

Acerca de declarações do ministro da Educação.

Câmara rejeita distritão e aprova volta de coligações

Acordo de líderes bloqueou medida mais controversa de texto de reforma eleitoral pautada a jato por Arthur Lira

O plenário da Câmara dos Deputados rejeitou ontem a adoção do distritão, que alteraria o mecanismo representativo nas eleições, aspecto mais controverso de reforma eleitoral pautada a jato pelo presidente da Casa, Arthur Lira (PP-AL).

Os parlamentares, no entanto, costuraram acordo para a volta de coligações para eleições legislativas.

As alianças para eleições de deputados e vereadores haviam sido extintas a fim de tentar reduzir o número de legendas no Legislativo.

O retorno, visto como "mal menor" pela oposição, foi articulado pelos defensores do distritão, que não tinham o apoio para mudar o sistema eleitoral. Por alterar a Constituição, eram requeridos 308 dos 513 votos.

Contudo, para que tenham validade, as propostas aceitas pelos deputados têm ainda de passar em segundo turno na Câmara, previsto para se encerrar hoje, e serem aprovadas pelo Senado.

Rodrigo Pacheco (DEM-MG), presidente da Casa vizinha, já afirmou que não há apoio entre os senadores para mudar o atual modelo eleitoral. Poder A7

Presidente não abandona voto impresso e pressiona Lira

Horas após a rejeição da PEC do voto impresso, Jair Bolsonaro voltou a questionar a lisura das urnas eletrônicas e deixou Arthur Lira (PP-AL) sob pressão. Aliados avaliam que o presidente da Câmara pode ter dado um tiro no pé ao dar sobrevida à questão.

Ontem, Hamilton Mourão declarou que seria ridículo se o desfile militar de terça-feira (10) tivesse sido realizado para intimidar o Congresso. Poder A4

População com 18 anos ou mais*	ao menos uma dose		totalmente vacinado	
	71,2%		29,6%	
Brasil				
MS	86,2%		49,2%	
RS	76,6%		36,8%	
SP	85,1%		33,7%	

Total de doses aplicadas			
	1ª	2ª	única
Brasil	110,6 mi	43,6 mi	4,0 mi
1ª SP	29,5 mi	11 mi	1,3 mi
2ª MG	10,9 mi	4,3 mi	461,9 mi
3ª RJ	8,5 mi	3,4 mi	291,5 mi

Números da pandemia		
Total	Casos	Óbitos
	20,2 mi	566,0 mil
Méd. móvel	31,8 mil	900
Varição**	-31,7%	-16,9%
Em 24 h	35,8 mil	1.123

Dados das 20h de 11 ago *Ao menos uma dose; tomou dose única ou 1ª dose. Totalmente vacinado: tomou dose única ou 2ª dose **Em relação a 14 dias

Capital fará virada da vacina para jovens de 18 a 21

A prefeitura de São Paulo vai promover neste fim de semana uma virada da vacinação para jovens de 18 a 21 anos contra a Covid-19.

O evento começa às 7h de sábado (14) e acaba às 17h de domingo (15), concluindo a aplicação em adultos na cidade. Saúde B3

Senado aprova quebra de patente de doses

Texto, que vai a sanção, permite quebra temporária de patente para vacinas contra a Covid-19, medicamentos e testes. Saúde B1

MPF acusa Barros de improbidade com emendas

MPF no PR move ação de improbidade contra Ricardo Barros (PP-PR), líder do governo na Câmara, acusando-o de tráfico de influência ilegal em órgãos e de ter destinado verba de emendas para favorecer empreendimento em que teria comissão. Poder A8

CPI decide sugerir indiciar Bolsonaro por charlatanismo

A CPI da Covid decidiu sugerir que Jair Bolsonaro seja indiciado pelos crimes de curandeirismo, charlatanismo, epidemia e publicidade enganosa. Somados, eles poderiam resultar em mais de 18 anos de prisão. As sugestões estarão em relatório que será enviado ao MPF.

Segundo Renan Calheiros (MDB-AL), a decisão vem após fala do diretor da Vitamedic deixar claro que a farmacêutica patrocinou a publicidade do kit Covid, que incluía ivermectina, de sua fabricação. O presidente foi propagador do uso ineficaz contra o vírus. Poder A8

Por apoio, relator altera tributação de empresas

Relator da reforma do IR, Celso Sabino (PSDB-PA) apresentou nova versão do texto inserindo corte de 1,5 ponto percentual na CSLL, tributo federal aplicado às empresas. Secretários estaduais, porém, ainda calculam um buraco de R\$ 16,5 bi. Mercado A14

Câmara cassa o mandato da deputada Flordelis

O plenário da Câmara cassou o mandato de Flordelis (PSD-RJ), denunciada pelo Ministério Público do RJ sob acusação de mandar matar o marido, Anderson do Carmo. Foram 437 votos a favor, 7 contra e 12 abstenções. Poder A9



O ator em 2012, em São Paulo Greg Salbhan/Folhapress

Ilustrada C1

Morre Paulo José

Um dos principais nomes da história do cinema e da televisão brasileira, o ator Paulo José morreu ontem aos 84 anos em decorrência de uma pneumonia, depois de passar 20 dias internado no Rio de Janeiro.

ANÁLISE

Inácio Araújo É inegável que cinema do país perde monumento

Ilustrada C2



Titular del Senado pide a camioneros entrar en razón y no echar todo a perder

Inacción policial y fiscal alimenta consecuencias de paro extorsivo

Están parados en rutas más de 400 camiones cisterna que llevan combustible, y 15 millones de pollos en riesgo. Reclaman al Gobierno que se garantice el libre tránsito.

PÁGINAS 12 y 13

Voto de la esposa salvó a Hugo Javier
Esposo de concejala
hace proselitismo con
maquinarias de Central

PÁGINA 9

Sector de servicios se recupera
Actividad económica ya
creció 6,3% en lo que
va del año, según BCP

PÁGINA 16

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para dinamizar e
interactuar



COMPRA OPCIONAL

colección cocina
(vegetariana)



\$ 20.000

ENTREVISTAS



Un golpe difícil de remontar



Libertadores. Olimpia fue goleado en su cancha por el Flamengo 4 a 1 y solo un milagro lo pondrá en semifinales. La revancha, el próximo miércoles.

PÁGINAS 47 y 48

EEUU confirma a la
primera mujer que va a
liderar el Comando Sur

PÁGINA 41

También trajo como resultado el incremento de la violencia doméstica

**Aumentaron los casos de adicción a las drogas
y al alcohol por la depresión en la pandemia**

PÁGINA 2

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LE FIGARO

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

L'ÉTÉ
DU FIGAROCAFÉS D'INTELLECTUELS
EN EUROPE
AU CAFÉ DE FLORE,
L'OMBRE DE SARTRE
ET DE BEAUVOIR PAGE 16FOOTBALL
AVEC L'ARRIVÉE DE MESSI, LES
MISES AU POINT « MUSCLÉES »
DU PATRON DU PSG PAGES 8 ET 9QUESTIONS
DE TIMINGLÉNA
SITUATIONS,
LE TEMPS
D'UN ZOOM
PAGE 10OUVERT LA NUIT
UN DÎNER
AU MUSÉUM
D'HISTOIRE
NATURELLE
PAGE 14CE QUE LES SÉRIES
NOUS APPRENNENT
SUR L'ÉCONOMIE« INDUSTRY »,
LES DESSOUS
DES BANQUES
DE LA CITY
PAGE 21

JEUX D'ÉTÉ PAGE 12

ÉTATS-UNIS
Andrew Cuomo,
le gouverneur
de New York,
tombe pour harcèlement
PAGE 5OBSÈQUES
Le père Olivier
Maire enterré
ce vendredi
PAGE 6FESTIVAL
L'interceltique
danse avec
et sans
les traditions
PAGE 7CHAMPS
LIBRES• La chronique
de Luc Ferry
• La tribune
de Mohamed
Karim Jamoussi
PAGE 15FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NONRéponses à la question
de mercredi :
Après le meurtre
d'Olivier Maire, la France
doit-elle reconsidérer
ses procédures
d'expulsion des étrangers
déboutés du droit d'asile ?

NON 6% OUI 94%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 189 625

Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr
Covid-19 : approuvez-
vous la fin des tests
gratuits à la mi-octobre ?STEPHANE DE SAKUTIN/AFP-BRUNO
DE HOGUES/ONLYFRANCE.FR

Vaccin : face aux réticences, Macron durcit le ton

Le chef de l'État est intervenu à la télévision pour insister sur l'importance de la vaccination et défendre le passe sanitaire. « Nous allons vivre encore plusieurs mois avec ce virus », a-t-il annoncé.

« La crise n'est pas derrière nous. » Le président de la République a pris la parole de façon inattendue mercredi matin à la télévision. Avec gravité, il a souligné que la si-

tuation sanitaire était « dramatique » aux Antilles et « pré-occupante » dans le sud de la France. « L'objectif que je vais vous fixer est très simple : c'est la vaccination de tous les Fran-

çais qui peuvent être vaccinés », a-t-il déclaré avec fermeté. Il a ajouté à propos du passe sanitaire exigé dans de nombreux lieux publics : « Nous n'avons pas d'autre choix car c'était cela

ou la fermeture du pays. » Et il s'en est pris à ceux qui « font commerce de cette pandémie pour gagner des parts de marché politiques ». Enfin, Emmanuel Macron a annoncé la possibi-

lé d'une troisième dose pour les personnes fragiles et de plus de 80 ans, la vaccination des lycéens et des collégiens ainsi que le déremboursement des tests dès la mi-octobre.

→ UNE SITUATION CATASTROPHIQUE OUTRE-MER ET TRÈS TENDUE DANS LE SUD DE LA FRANCE → CENTRES DE VACCINATION VANDALISÉS : L'OPPOSITION AUX MESURES SANITAIRES NE FAIBLIT PAS → LA TROISIÈME DOSE SUSCITE UN VIF DÉBAT PAGES 2, 3 ET L'EDITORIAL



En Algérie, le pouvoir fragilisé par les feux et le Covid

Depuis lundi, au moins 69 personnes, dont 28 militaires déployés pour prêter main-forte aux pompiers débordés, ont péri dans des incendies. Les foyers semblent se propager à l'infini, notamment en Kabylie. PAGE 4

Pourquoi Poutine a déclaré la guerre au champagne

Le président russe a promulgué début juillet une loi réservant l'appellation champagne aux vins russes et déclassant les bouteilles produites entre Reims et Épernay en « vin mousseux ». Tandis que les producteurs français ont décidé d'interrompre toute exportation vers Moscou, le gouvernement s'efforce de faire suspendre par voie diplomatique cette nouvelle législation, destinée à favoriser le « shampanskoye » russe et, selon certaines sources, à protéger des intérêts proches du Kremlin. PAGES 18 ET 19

ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thérard ytheard@lefigaro.fr

À double tranchant

En plein cœur de l'été, mercredi matin, le président de la République est apparu à la télévision. Ce n'était pas prévu. En costume sombre, cravaté, le visage grave, le ton solennel, il est venu dire son inquiétude : l'état des lieux est dramatique pendant leurs vacances. Les indicateurs de l'épidémie repartent à la hausse, même s'ils ne sont pas comparables à ceux des pires moments traversés. Il est néanmoins de nouveau question de déprogrammations d'opérations et de transferts de patients, ici ou là, dans les hôpitaux. La deuxième intention d'Emmanuel Macron était de dramatiser la situation afin d'inciter à la vaccination. Les résistances persistent, les inscriptions connaissent un faux plat et les manifestations hostiles grossissent de semaine en semaine. Nul ne sait d'ailleurs en mesurer l'éventuelle portée politique.

Pour le chef de l'État, ces défilés du samedi sont à double tranchant. Ils peuvent constituer un risque. Si la crise continuait en dépit des décisions prises, la colère pourrait alors devenir incontrôlable par l'exécutif, accusé de tous les maux. À l'inverse, ce mouvement peut être un moyen de souligner le caractère déraisonnable et outrancier de tous ceux qui crient à la « dictature sanitaire » ; et ainsi de rendre ces derniers responsables des difficultés du pays à s'en sortir.

Même si elle pouvait se justifier par le retour de données inquiétantes, l'apparition d'Emmanuel Macron, hier, ne laisse guère de doute, à huit mois de l'élection suprême. Oubliés les ratés des masques, du dépistage et du traçage. Le président sortant semble vouloir faire de la sortie de crise le centre de sa campagne... ■

Macron veut faire de la sortie de crise le centre de sa campagne



PASSEZ L'ESPOIR
ET SAUVEZ LA VIE
D'UN ENFANT

Les enfants ont tous le même langage pour dire « l'espoir ».

Depuis toujours, d'où qu'ils viennent, ils le dessinent, rond comme un soleil, ils savent le faire rayonner par-delà les frontières pour le partager avec ceux qui ont le plus besoin de soins. Oui, comme les enfants, nous pouvons tous passer l'espoir et c'est cette Chaîne de l'Espoir qui, chaque année, soigne, opère et sauve 235 000 enfants dans 27 pays.

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Ensemble, sauvons des enfants

LA CHAÎNE DE L'ESPOIR

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Questions to ask yourself first → G2



Russell Tovey 'My generation has section 28 in our blood' → G2



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Revealed: the pandemic boom in child poverty, neglect and abuse

Exclusive Councils face crisis as care referrals and mental health cases soar

Helen Pidd and Georgina Quach

A looming crisis of children suffering abuse, neglect and poverty has been exposed, with growing numbers of young people taken into care in some of England's most deprived

communities during the pandemic. A Guardian investigation into the state of children's services in the last 18 months has revealed a sharp rise in social services referrals during lockdown, plus soaring costs for mental health support and a bulging backlog in the family courts, with some councils buckling under the weight of the extra work brought by coronavirus.

Some local authorities are expected to overspend by £12m on children's services this year, and leaders say they are "down to brass tacks" as demand soars. Self-isolation

and homeschooling has put families under increased financial pressure through unemployment or lost wages, as well as inflaming mental health problems and addiction.

Lockdowns have increased domestic violence and allowed safeguarding concerns for children and youngsters to go undetected because schools and some childcare settings were forced to close. Research and interviews with directors of children's services across England have found:

● In Middlesbrough, the most income-deprived local authority

'We're down to the brass tacks. The pantry is empty'

Paul Marshall
Manchester children's services

in England, the number of children referred to social services has risen by 40% in the last year.

● Rochdale, in Greater Manchester, ranked 15th on the government's

index of multiple deprivation, received 420 referrals to children's social care last month, 35% more than July 2019, when there were 310. The town also saw a 35% increase in families at its early help and safeguarding hub, with 1,310 contacts this July.

● In Hull, there has been a 19% rise in "troubled families" needing extra support while the number of children in care is up 9%. A shortage of foster carers meant 55 looked-after children moved between seven or more placements between June 2020 and June 2021. 8 →

Williamson should go, Starmer tells PM

Exclusive
Rowena Mason
Aubrey Allegretti

Keir Starmer has called on Boris Johnson to sack his education secretary, Gavin Williamson, for failing children during the pandemic and presiding over a "yawning gap" in attainment between private and state school pupils.

Amid rumours that Williamson could be replaced by either the equalities minister, Kemi Badenoch, or vaccines minister Nadhim Zahawi at the next reshuffle, the Labour leader questioned why the education secretary was still in his job after two years of chaotic exam policies.

Starmer has previously stopped short of demanding that Williamson should be removed from office, saying only that he had "failed over and over again". In January the shadow education secretary, Kate Green, called on her counterpart to offer his resignation.

Asked by the Guardian whether he thought

20 →



'The world is watching' Geronimo's fate hangs in the balance

News Page 19 →

Reports of record 48.8C heat in Italy

Phoebe Weston
Jonathan Watts

The highest temperature in European history appears to have been recorded in Italy as a heatwave sweeps the country, with early reports suggesting a high of 48.8C (120F).

If this is accepted by the World Meteorological Association it would break the previous European record of 48.0C, set in Athens in 1977. The new high was measured at a monitoring station in Syracuse in Sicily and confirmed soon after by the island's meteorological authorities.

It comes amid an unusually fierce heatwave stretching across the Mediterranean to Tunisia and Algeria. Fires have blazed across much of the region for more than a week. Italy's government has declared a state of emergency. Turkey and Greece have also suffered devastating conflagrations.

Trevor Mitchell, a meteorologist from the Met Office, said: "The Società Meteorologica Italiana say that the temperature 3 →

PHOTOGRAPH: JACOB KENNEDY/PA WIRE