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## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Last week: DJIA 34607.72 ▼ 761.37 2.2% NASDAQ 15115.49 ▼ 1.6% STOXX 600 466.34 ▼ 1.2% 10-YR. TREASURY ▼ 6/32, yield 1.340% OIL \$69.72 ▲ \$0.43 EURO \$1.1811 YEN 109.91

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**A**fter a record-breaking bull run for the U.S. stock market this year, many Wall Street analysts are starting to warn that investors could be in for a bumpy ride in the coming weeks and months. **A1**

◆ **Apple's iPhone** sales have been booming since it launched models last year with ultrafast 5G cellular capability, boosted in large part by wireless companies' attractive offers to get customers using the new technology. **A1**

◆ **Kansas City Southern** said a recent takeover offer from Canadian Pacific Railway is superior to one it already accepted from Canadian National Railway in the latest twist in a hotly contested battle for the railroad. **B1**

◆ **TransUnion** is nearing a deal to buy information-services firm Neustar for \$3.1 billion, a move that could help the consumer-credit-reporting giant diversify beyond its core business and put data to new uses. **B1**

◆ **Viacom** is revamping the operations of its Paramount Pictures movie and television production unit as part of a broader shake-up. **B1**

◆ **Hertz** is in talks to name a new CEO, as the car-rental company resets after emerging from bankruptcy under new ownership. **B3**

## World-Wide

◆ **Covid-19** might become a routine illness like a common cold or the flu one day, virologists and epidemiologists say. But it will take a lot to get there, and the ferocious spread of the Delta variant shows how challenging that path could be. **A1**

◆ **Iran** reached an agreement with the United Nations atomic agency that will grant international inspectors access to some of the country's nuclear-related sites. **A8**

◆ **House Democrats** expect to propose raising the corporate tax rate to 26.5% from 21% and imposing a 3-percentage-point surtax on individual income above \$5 million, according to two House Democratic aides familiar with the plans. **A4**

◆ **The FBI** made public a long-secret memo detailing evidence agents compiled in 2016 as they examined allegations of official Saudi involvement in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. **A4**

◆ **A group of Afghan** Air Force pilots and their relatives who had fled the Taliban fled out of Uzbekistan in an agreement with the U.S. **A8**

◆ **The U.S. Capitol Police** said it launched disciplinary proceedings against six of its officers related to the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol. **A3**

◆ **Died: Abimael Guzmán**, 86, Shining Path founder. **A18**

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## Medvedev Spoils Djokovic's Run With U.S. Open Victory



**STUNNED:** Daniil Medvedev, right, beat Novak Djokovic in three straight sets, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4, denying the No. 1-ranked player his record 21st major title, a fourth U.S. Open crown and the first calendar-year sweep of all four majors by a man since 1969. **A14**

## Covid Faces Complicated Path To Become a Routine Illness

By BETSY MCKAY

Covid-19 might become a routine illness like a common cold or the flu one day, virologists and epidemiologists say. But it will take a lot to get there, and the ferocious spread of the Delta variant shows how challenging that path could be.

More than 20 months after the pandemic began, people

around the world are having to change the way they think about a disease that many public-health authorities once believed they could conquer. A terrifying emergency has become a long, grinding haul.

The supercontagious Delta variant has made the virus virtually impossible to get rid of. It has fueled surges in cases across the globe, even in countries like Australia that had

largely kept the pandemic out. Among the most contagious of known disease-causing pathogens, SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19, is now zeroing in on people who haven't been vaccinated, pushing hospitalizations and deaths in some places in the U.S. to new highs.

While surges are easing in some states, cases are rising in others. Delta is moving the world toward immunity against

the virus at huge cost. With every new infection it raises the risk of incubating a variant that might spread even faster, sicken with greater ferocity or evade vaccines.

"This virus will never leave Please turn to page A7

◆ **Vaccine push** spurs demand for virus tests.....A7

◆ **Restaurants' plans** to return to indoor dining unravel.....B1

## 5G Deals Charge Up Sales for iPhones

By TIM HIGGINS

Apple Inc.'s iPhone sales have been booming since it launched models last year with ultrafast 5G cellular capability—boosted in large part by wireless companies' attractive offers to get customers using the new technology.

Verizon Communications Inc., AT&T Inc. and T-Mobile US Inc. have rolled out huge subsidies over the past year to retain customers and reduce the cost of buying new iPhones so users will upgrade to their 5G services. As Apple prepares to show off a new crop of 5G-enabled iPhones Tuesday, a big question is how long that expensive fight among the carriers for customers will continue to propel iPhone sales.

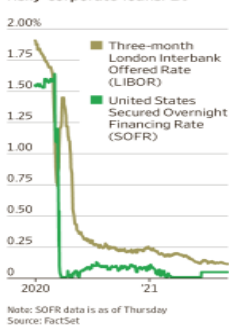
The newest iPhones—set to be showcased at Apple's annual September event, which will be livestreamed—are expected to be more evolutionary than revolutionary. Apple is expected to keep the small, regular and larger sizes and come out with improved camera capabilities.

The expectations have set the stage for a less dramatic technological leap than last fall, when the phones added 5G, the first big update since the iPhone X in 2017 and the iPhone 6 in 2014. Those new Please turn to page A4

◆ **Apple still faces risk** after verdict.....B4

## Shift on Libor Lifts Debt Sale

Amid move away from Libor, a rate gap is spurring sales of risky corporate loans. **B9**



## California Recall Tests Governor's Virus Leadership

Democrat Gavin Newsom faces voters over pandemic restrictions

By CHRISTINE MAI-DUC

California Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday will be the first governor in a recall election to face voters directly over Covid-19 restrictions and collectively angry about a pandemic that continues to upend lives nationwide.

State leaders around the U.S. have exercised broad authority to try to safeguard the health of both their residents and economies over the past 18 months, including decisions that have drawn fire from all sides.

Mr. Newsom's performance will be the first judged by voters. The Democratic governor is staking his political survival on measures he took against the spread of Covid-19, including face-mask requirements and, during the pandemic's worst stretches, temporarily closing businesses, classrooms and indoor church services. He cast them as lifesaving measures.

Radio host Larry Elder, a Republican, and

the governor's leading opponent, said he would repeal most of the state's Covid-19 mandates before drinking his first cup of tea on the day he takes office. Mr. Elder, 69, said the measures unnecessarily hobbled business owners, students and religious worshippers.

"It's the closest thing we have to a referendum on how we should deal with Covid and whether there is an electoral punishment for Covid policies," said Joshua Spivak, a senior fellow at the Hugh L. Carey Institute for Government Reform, a nonpartisan policy center at Wagner College, who has studied recall elections for more than two decades.

The recall divide reflects a heated national debate. In Texas, officials in Democratic-run cities and counties have sued Republican Gov. Greg Abbott over his executive order barring Please turn to page A10

## Christo's Paris Art Project Defies Falcons, Pandemic—And Death

Artist dreamed of Arc de Triomphe wrapped; He 'made me promise I'd finish it'

By KELLY CROW

Over the course of his iconic career, the artist known as Christo has navigated extraordinary logistics in order to wrap buildings and bridges in his signature colorful fabric. He and his wife Jeanne-Claude have battled Colorado ranchers, New York mayors, and the elements. But Paris's famed war memorial, the Arc de Tri-

omphe, proved another matter entirely.

Before opening "L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped" on Sept. 18, Christo had to deal with delays spurred by birds nesting in the monument and a global pandemic. Then, the artist himself died in May. The artist's team said they felt compelled to push on.

"Christo made me promise Please turn to page A10

## INSIDE



**PERSONAL JOURNAL**  
Snowbirds weigh traveling this winter, but waves of Covid-19 complicate plans. **A12**



**BUSINESS & FINANCE**  
Kansas City Southern says Canadian Pacific's bid is better than Canadian National's. **B1**



## IN CALIFORNIA, THRIVING CLAIMS OF VOTER FRAUD

### ECHOES OF '20 IN RECALL

#### Baseless Theories Before Election a New Norm on the Right

By NICK CORASANITI

The results of the California recall election won't be known until Tuesday night. But some Republicans are already predicting victory for the Democrat, Gov. Gavin Newsom, for a reason that should sound familiar.

Voter fraud.  
Soon after the recall race was announced in early July, the members of 2020 election denialism ignited into new false claims on right-wing news sites and social media channels. This vote, too, would supposedly be "stolen," with malfeasance ranging from deceptively designed ballots to nefariousness by corrupt postal workers.

As a wave of recent polling indicated that Mr. Newsom was likely to brush off his Republican challengers, the baseless allegations accelerated. Larry Elder, a leading Republican candidate, said he was "concerned" about election fraud. The Fox News commentators Tomi Lahren and Tucker Carlson suggested that wrongdoing was the only way Mr. Newsom could win. And former President Donald J. Trump predicted that it would be "a rigged election."

This swift embrace of false allegations of cheating in the California recall reflects a growing intransigence on the right to argue that any lost election, or any ongoing race that might result in defeat, must be marred by fraud. The relentless falsehoods spread by Mr. Trump and his allies about the 2020 election have only fueled such fears.

"I very honestly believe there were irregularities and fraudulent activity," Elena Johnson, 65, a teacher in Los Angeles County who was in the crowd at a rally for Mr. Elder last week in Ventura County, said of the presidential contest last year. "It was stolen."

Because of her concerns about voter fraud in the 2020 election, Ms. Johnson said, she would be casting her ballot in person on Tuesday instead of by mail. She said she was supporting the Republican because she thought California, her adopted home after immigrating from the Philippines 40 years ago, was on the brink. "California is where I came, and California is where I want to stay," she said.

Since the start of the recall, allegations of election fraud have

Continued on Page A12

## G.O.P. Seethes, But Every State Requires Shots

### Fury at Biden Ignores a Century of Rules

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

WASHINGTON — Like other Republican governors around the country, Tate Reeves of Mississippi reacted angrily to the coronavirus vaccine mandates President Biden imposed on private businesses. Declaring the move "terrifying," he wrote on Twitter: "This is still America, and we still believe in freedom from tyrants."

There is a deep inconsistency in that argument. Mississippi has some of the strictest vaccine mandates in the nation, which have not drawn opposition from most of its elected officials. Not only does it require children to be vaccinated against measles, mumps and seven other diseases to attend school, but it goes further than most states by barring parents from claiming "religious, philosophical or conscientious" exemptions.

Resistance to vaccine mandates was once a fringe position in both parties, more the realm of misinformed celebrities than mainstream political thought. But the fury over Mr. Biden's mandates shows how a once-extreme stance has moved to the center of the Republican Party. The governors' opposition reflects the anger and fear about the vaccine among constituents now central to their base, while ignoring longstanding policy and legal precedent in favor of similar vaccination requirements.

"Republicans care about getting beyond this pandemic every bit as much as Democrats do," said Dr. Ashish Jha, the dean of the Brown University School of Public Health. But, he added, "politicians are certainly happy to exploit this issue for political gain, which is why I think the Republican governors are up in arms."

Mr. Biden also imposed vaccine mandates on federal workers and many health care workers. But Republican outrage is really boiling over his plan to require all private-sector businesses with more than 100 employees to mandate vaccines or weekly testing for their work forces.

Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas called the president's move a "power grab." Gov. Henry McMaster of South Carolina promised to fight Mr. Biden in court, to "the gates of hell." Gov. Greg Gianforte of Montana called it "unlawful and un-American." Gov. Kay Ivey of Alabama called the move "outrageous" and "overreaching."

But each of these states — indeed, every state in the country — already mandates certain vaccinations for children, and sometimes for adults, including health

Continued on Page A11



Mohamedou Ould Slahi, who was tortured at Guantánamo Bay, now lives in Mauritania.

## One Legacy of Sept. 11: A Torture Policy's Stain

By CAROL ROSENBERG

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania — Mohamedou Ould Slahi is almost clinical as he recalls details of the torture he endured in the summer of 2003 at Guantánamo Bay.

There were the guards who menaced him with attack dogs and beat him so badly they broke his ribs. The troops who shackled him, blasted him with heavy metal music and strobe lights or drenched him in ice water to deny him sleep for months on end. The mind-numbing isolation in a darkened cell without his Quran. The female guards who exposed themselves and touched him sexually in an effort to undermine his adherence to Islam.

But what left Mr. Slahi in utter despair, he said,

was the interrogator who tried to threaten him into acknowledging that he was complicit in plotting a terrorist attack.

"If you don't admit to it, we are going to kidnap your mother, rape her," the interrogator said, by Mr. Slahi's account.

"I remember telling them: 'This is unfair. This is not fair,'" Mr. Slahi recalled. The interrogator, he said, responded: "I'm not looking for justice. I'm looking to stop planes from hitting buildings in my country."

To which Mr. Slahi said he replied, "You need to get those people, not me."

Today, Mr. Slahi, 50, is a free man in Mauritania, his homeland in West Africa, after nearly 15 years as a detainee, an early portion of that time

Continued on Page A9

## At U.S. Open, a Sense of Renewal on the Court and in the Crowd

To fully appreciate the unmissable roar of 2021 at the U.S. Open, it was best to have experienced the silence and vast empty spaces of 2020.

**CHRISTOPHER CLAREY**

ON TENNIS

"The crowd was the third player this year," said Chris Evert, one of tennis's grande dames, who played in her first Open in 1971. "The crowds at the U.S. Open have always been like this, but this year they just seemed louder."

Established stars like Novak Djokovic had missed the noise. Ms. Johnson said, she would be casting her ballot in person on Tuesday instead of by mail. She said she was supporting the Republican because she thought California, her adopted home after immigrating from the Philippines 40 years ago, was on the brink. "California is where I came, and California is where I want to stay," she said.

The surprise upon everyone's



Daniil Medvedev, right, beat Novak Djokovic in the final. Page D1.

return to the tournament was how forcefully the newest generation of rising stars would storm the gates.

Serena and Venus Williams,

Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal were absent at once for the first time in 25 years, and though it seemed that void would be much too big to fill, the young players

piled in gleefully. With so many stars missing and so much prime tennis real estate available, young Americans like Frances Tiafoe and Jensen Brooksby became fixtures on the main show courts, playing thrilling matches. The Spanish 18-year-old Carlos Alcaraz, playing in his first U.S. Open, reached the quarterfinals and soon had fans chanting "Carloooooos" as loudly as they usually chant "Rafaaaaaaa."

"I definitely think guys are trying extra hard because there isn't Roger and Rafa," Tiafoe said. "I see guys foaming in the mouth. Pretty funny to watch. I'm in the locker room cracking up."

Attendance was down from 2019, the most recent year when fans were permitted to attend. But volume and emotion were up, and the fans who watched

Continued on Page A15

## A Green-Energy Boom Town, But Can the Good Times Last?

By NOAM SCHEIBER

NORMAL, Ill. — When he bought a construction contractor called Weber Electric in 2018, Josh Mosier inherited about 20 employees. By the end of the next year, he was up to about 100 employees. By the spring of 2021, the number was over 225.

"Because of this boom," said Mr. Mosier, whose company often works on large building projects, "we've grown exponentially."

The epicenter of that boom is an electric-vehicle maker named Rivian, which brought in Mr. Mosier's company and others in the Normal, Ill., area to work on the city's costliest construction project in decades: a massive auto plant.

As it prepares to deliver its first electric pickup trucks and sport

utility vehicles this year, Rivian has spent around \$1.5 billion renovating and expanding a factory once owned by Mitsubishi. On a typical day, the 3.3-million-square-foot plant hosts several hundred construction workers alongside more than 2,500 workers employed by the company, which expects to eventually double its local head count.

The effects are hard to miss in Normal and nearby Bloomington, a metropolitan area of about 170,000. Hotels are frequently booked up, pandemic or not; hundreds of housing lots are being developed; and many employers looking to hire a full-time plumber are basically out of luck.

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### INTERNATIONAL A4-9

#### Russian Poet's Room Preserved

After a long effort, a private museum has opened in Joseph Brodsky's communal home in St. Petersburg. PAGE A4

#### Afghan Health System Teeters

After the Taliban's takeover, international donors withdrew funds. Now another Covid wave looms. PAGE A7

### NATIONAL A10-15

#### Disabled, and Desperate

Many people with disabilities live in rural areas of Northern California that lack the resources to support them when wildfires strike. PAGE A10

#### Man Charged in Child's Death

The 1-year-old was one of two young boys in New York City who the police believe were recently killed by their mothers' partners. PAGE A13

#### Admissions Fraud on Docket

The first trials of parents accused of falsifying their children's athletic feats and paying college officials to gain admittance are set to start. PAGE A14



### SPORTS D1-6

#### Steelers' Opening Statement

Pittsburgh muscled past the Bills on the first Sunday of the N.F.L. season. The Giants and the Jets fell. PAGES D2-3

#### Rivals Play for Their City

As was the case after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, a baseball game let New Yorkers find some relief. PAGE D1

### BUSINESS B1-4

#### Scarce Skilled Workers

The efforts to strengthen roads and public transit in President Biden's \$1 trillion infrastructure plan could be set back as companies struggle to find qualified people for the jobs. PAGE B1

#### Win for 'the Small Guys'

Companies both big and small are seeing dollar signs after a federal judge opened up a way for app developers to avoid Apple's commission of up to 30 percent on their sales. PAGE B1

### OPINION A18-19

#### Venus Williams

PAGE A19



### ARTS C1-6

#### She Just Keeps Going

Kirsten Dunst's new film, "The Power of the Dog," is yet another stage in her lauded career reinvention. PAGE C1



## Sirhan debate echoes in Pasadena

Residents are unsure if RFK assassin deserves parole, which could make him a neighbor.

By Leila Miller

Carol Germain lives on a quiet, tree-lined street in Pasadena, a few houses down from the brother of Robert F. Kennedy's murderer.

For 30 years, she has watched TV crews pop by the middle-class neighborhood, where Munir Sirhan's fabled-off home was featured on a Pasadena true-crime bus tour. At the brother's request, she recently signed a letter supporting Sirhan's release.

"He's 77," she said. "He probably just wants to come and sit in the backyard."

But Germain understands the whirlpool of emotions surrounding the decision last month by California parole commissioners to recommend the release of the man convicted in one of the most infamous political assassinations in American history.

The recommendation has stirred intense debate in many corners — among the Kennedys, others who remember the killing, and even in the Pasadena neighborhood where the convicted killer hopes to settle with his brother if he is freed.

At its core is the question of how much mercy should be shown to people who commit horrific crimes, including those that may have changed history. Kennedy was a leading candidate for president when he was fatally shot on June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles at age 42.

Sirhan's testimony during a virtual hearing in which he said he didn't remember shooting the senator but expressed remorse "if I did in fact do that" — has been insufficient for many members of the Kennedy family.

"Our family and our country suffered an unspeakable loss due to the inhumanity of one man ... he should not have the opportunity to terrorize again," Ethel Kennedy, the late senator's widow, who was pregnant with their daughter when he was assassinated, said in a statement.

Although six of his children said they were devastated by the commissioners' decision, two have voiced support for Sirhan.

Douglas Kennedy told the panel that he'd lived in fear of Sirhan but now saw him "as a human being" [See Sirhan, A8]



DR. ABSALON GALAT, an L.A. County Department of Health Services street medicine team member, uses an ultrasound device connected to his phone to examine Luz Juarez near La Canada Verde Creek. Photographs by FRANCINE ORR, Los Angeles Times

## Street medicine teams hope their role outlasts pandemic

### Aid for L.A.'s homeless residents will need funding

By Emily Alpert Reyes

Inside the white van parked in the concrete bed of La Canada Verde Creek, Wendy Ruvalcaba rooted in her bag for her phone as it chimed.

"Tell me you found her," the nurse said in answering the call. Ruvalcaba and the rest of the street medicine team had spent hours trundling down the creek that Wednesday in their Los Angeles County Department of Health Services van.

They had gotten five people vaccinated against COVID-19 that day, climbing the steep slopes of the channel in this industrial stretch of Santa Fe Springs to offer the shots to people living in tents and under tarps.

They had stopped to offer medical care for swollen or twisted limbs, distributed [See Street, A12]



TEAM members Haley Bogdanovich, left, and Wendy Ruvalcaba, right, check on Lisa Massey, who has diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

## 'We are not emigrating — we are escaping'

Hong Kongers now in Britain are grateful, yet steeped in sadness.

By Christina Boyle

LONDON — He has no job, he's still grappling with English and the climate is often cold and wet, but Denis Chan is still grateful to be setting up his life in Britain. The 34-year-old arrived

in Edinburgh, the Scottish capital, alone in April after quitting his job as a cargo officer for Cathay Pacific airlines in Hong Kong.

He had never set foot in Britain before. But he also felt he didn't recognize his own homeland any longer amid China's relentless crackdown on political dissent and civic freedoms. After Beijing imposed a sweeping new national security law on Hong Kong in July of last year, he felt an urgency to leave.

"It is such a great change to me. The culture is very different," he said of his newly adopted country, adding: "But the people of Hong Kong can no longer criticize government or police anymore. Hong Kong is no more the place that I know."

With his mother's blessing, Chan packed his bags and took advantage of a special visa Britain is extending to residents of its former colony. The program, which

politicians on all sides call a historical and moral obligation, offers Hong Kong citizens the right to live and work in the United Kingdom for up to five years, as well as a path to citizenship.

Within two months of making the British National Overseas visa available in January, the British government received 34,000 applications. It estimates that about 300,000 people could take up the offer within five [See Hong Kongers, A4]

## ANALYSIS

## Voters may be open to recall reform

On eve of decision on Newsom, a poll finds support for changing rules in California.

By John Myers

SACRAMENTO — Though the recall election facing Gov. Gavin Newsom comes to an end Tuesday, its effect on California politics could linger. And for perfectly good reasons.

Launched by conservative critics and fueled by anger and fear over the state's COVID-19 restrictions, the campaign has shined a light on the rules governing recall efforts, with academics and activists alike saying improvements are long overdue.

Now polling indicates voters might be ready for changes too. At least up to a point.

"They don't want anyone to take away their option of a recall election, that's for sure," said Mark DiCamillo, survey director for UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies. "But if it's a serious debate about reforming the state Constitution, in my judgment it will be on solid ground if the reforms are not seen as partisan-based."

New results released Monday from the institute's poll, co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Times, show 75% of registered voters want to keep their right to remove a statewide official through a recall election. Strong majorities of almost every voter subgroup agreed in the survey conducted during the first week of September. Support for keeping recalls as an option was nearly unanimous among Republicans.

But the poll of almost 10,000 registered voters also sampled opinions on five ideas for revamping the rules governing statewide recall elections, a tool of California's vaunted direct democracy system that has hardly been changed since its creation in 1911.

Among the five proposed changes, the broadest support was for holding a runoff election when a recall effort succeeds but no replacement candidate wins a majority of votes. The idea was supported by 63% of voters, though it was less popular among Republicans, only [See Recall, A12]



ROBERT GAUTHIER, Los Angeles Times

### 3,000 STRIKEOUTS

Dodgers ace Max Scherzer reaches a milestone in L.A.'s 8-0 win against San Diego. **SPORTS, D5**

### Has Hollywood played its part?

Challenged to rise to 2020's call for social justice, entertainment companies point to progress. **CALENDAR, E1**

**Weather**  
Abundant sunshine.  
L.A. Basin: 87/62. **B6**



## In Volcano, the show finally goes on

### Pandemic, wildfires bedevil small-town theater troupe

By Hailey Branson-Potts

VOLCANO, Calif. — The aging actress had made up her mind. After a brief and boring retirement in the countryside, she planned to make her triumphant return to — drumroll, please — the stage!

"I long for excitement! And glamour!" the vainglorious Judith Bliss proclaimed to her eye-rolling children. "Think of the thrill of a first night, all those ardent playgoers willing one to succeed."

Such excitement had gone missing at the Volcano Amphitheatre, where real-life actress Paula Bibby was playing Judith in the 1924 play "Hay Fever."

For as it turns out, life itself provided its own dramatic script that darkened the stages in this speck of a Sierra foothills town for the better [See Volcano, A8]



MYUNG J. CHUN, Los Angeles Times

PERFORMANCES of Noel Coward's "Hay Fever" at the Volcano Amphitheatre marked a long-awaited return for a beloved cultural institution.

# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.



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Democracy Dies in Darkness

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## Wuhan lab's goals stall amid suspicion

Questions over covid's origin stymie research at once promising facility

BY EVA DOU,  
PEI LIN WU,  
QUENTIN ARIES  
AND REBECCA TAN

One chilly morning in February 2017, a tall Chinese scientist in his 50s named Yuan Zhiming showed Bernard Cazeneuve, then the French prime minister, around Wuhan's new high-security pathogen lab.

Built with French engineering, it was China's first P4 lab, one of several dozen in the world with that highest security designation. Yuan, the director of the lab, had worked more than a decade to make it a reality.

Yuan and his colleagues at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) hoped they could help prevent another catastrophe like the SARS outbreak in 2003, which embarrassed Beijing and resulted in the dismissal of the health minister.

But just a couple of years after the P4 lab's ribbon-cutting, China was engulfed in a far deadlier outbreak. Yuan's team had not prevented it. And worse, some suspected that lab personnel might have been involved in its genesis.

Yuan has vociferously denied that the WIV had any part in the coronavirus pandemic's origins. "The Wuhan P4 lab has never seen any laboratory leaks or human infections since it began operating in 2018," Yuan said at a news conference in July.

Amid the scrutiny, the WIV has turned inward. Yuan said at the news conference that his team took a virus database offline because of "the large number of malicious attacks," and he complained that he and his colleagues are under great pressure from rumors.

SEE LAB ON A15



SUSANNAH GEORGE/THE WASHINGTON POST

Protesters in downtown Kabul debate whether to push forward after a brutal Taliban crackdown on demonstrations last week. The militant group had recently declared protests illegal and deployed additional fighters with orders to arrest violators.

## Fears of Taliban rule realized

Under militants, young liberals find space for dissent evaporating

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE  
AND EZZATULLAH MEHRDAD

KABUL — The messages poured in as Ramzia Abdekhill inched toward central Kabul in halting traffic.

"One of our groups was arrested." Then a call for help: "The Taliban have surrounded us, we are trapped."

Her back still throbbing from the beating she had received just days before, Abdekhill's face

tensed as she and her sister compared reports from across Kabul on Wednesday. They had planned to join a group gathering at a central roundabout and march against the Taliban's announcement of an all-male cabinet.

But the militant group had just declared protests illegal the night before and deployed additional fighters to the city's streets, with orders to arrest violators. The protesters' plans were quickly unraveling.

SEE DISSENT ON A13

U.S. branded Haqqanis terrorists. Now they govern in Afghanistan.

BY SUDARSAN RAGHAVAN

DOHA, QATAR — Twenty years after al-Qaeda attacked the United States — a plot hatched in Afghanistan — its loyalists hold senior positions in the Taliban's new transitional government. There is one name that stands out: Haqqani.

A U.N. report in June described the Haqqani network as the "primary liaison between the Taliban and al-Qaeda." Its leader, Sirajuddin Haqqani — a brutal insurgent

commander known for dispatching suicide bombers who've killed or maimed hundreds of civilians — was "assessed to be a member of the wider al-Qaeda leadership, but not of the al-Qaeda core leadership."

Today, he is Afghanistan's acting interior minister, overseeing the nation's police, intelligence services and other security forces.

He is also in charge of combating terrorism.

SEE HAQQANIS ON A13

## Divides cloud budget package

\$3.5 TRILLION BILL FACES MORE CUTS

Democrats jockey over priorities, what to scrap

BY SEAN SULLIVAN,  
MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR,  
TYLER PAGER  
AND JEFF STEIN

As top Democrats hashed out a plan this summer for a historic expansion of the social safety net, Sen. Bernie Sanders privately struck a deal with White House officials and Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer that is now having major ramifications.

Sanders (I-Vt.), a self-described democratic socialist, agreed to support a \$3.5 trillion package — much smaller than he wanted — in exchange for a promise that more than a tenth of the money, at least \$380 billion, would go toward his longtime goals, chiefly expanding Medicare to cover hearing, vision and dental care.

That deal, described by a person with direct knowledge of it who, like some others in this article, spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe sensitive negotiations, is looming heavily over the tense negotiations on the bill's final shape. At the insistence of centrist Democrats, the bill faces more big cuts, with some demanding it shrink to \$1.5 trillion. Democrats have given themselves only a few weeks to finalize its contours — forcing painful decisions in coming days on which parts of their long-awaited agenda to sacrifice, from education to health care to climate.

While the White House and Schumer (D-N.Y.) may be backing Sanders's Medicare expansion, a House committee recently embraced a plan that appeared to devote fewer resources to it than

SEE AGENDA ON A14



MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY IMAGES

### History denied

Daniil Medvedev beat Novak Djokovic in the U.S. Open final Sunday in New York, thwarting his bid for the first men's Grand Slam since 1969 and a record-setting 21st major title. D1

## Democrats employ a voter motivator

BY DAVID WEIGEL,  
COLBY ITKOWITZ  
AND GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

LOS ANGELES — Democrats are growing confident that California Gov. Gavin Newsom will prevail in Tuesday's recall election, averting political disaster by energizing liberal voters. Across the country, his party is paying close attention to how he's doing it: Warning Democrats that if they stay home, Donald Trump and his agenda will prevail.

"Trumpism is still alive all across this country," Newsom (D) said at a recent campaign stop in East Los Angeles, talking to volunteers for a Black voter outreach group before they began knocking on doors. "Is it any surprise the entire Trump organization is behind this recall?"

California is one of three Democratic-led states — the others are

Party seeks to use Trump as a turnout tool in Calif., Va. and N.J.

Virginia and New Jersey — holding statewide elections this year. In each state, party leaders acknowledge that in past elections Trump polarized and motivated voters that they had never won before his presidency. Democrats worried that his absence from the ballot, along with their party's historic difficulties in turning voters out in nonpresidential elections, would threaten their chances.

Yet in all three, Democrats say they think that the ex-president, who has hinted at a third run in 2024, still has power to mobilize liberal voters and keep suburban

moderates in the Democratic tent, even if he is no longer on the ballot or in office. The recall will be the first test of whether they're right.

"Republicans thought they could get away with this because Democrats weren't going to show up," said Rusty Hicks, the chairman of the California Democratic Party. "Trump may be less a part of the scene, but his policies and viewpoints and positions have become part of the landscape. We've done a good job making clear what the stakes are."

That effort has been given some credibility by Republicans themselves. With Trump's loyalists the most powerful part of the party, GOP candidates who once might have enjoyed some level of independence from national leaders have had to overtly em-

SEE DEMOCRATS ON A14

## IN THE NEWS



JOHN McDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

**Washington Football Team falls** Quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick suffered a hip injury in a season-opening 20-10 loss to the Chargers. D1

**9/11 files** The FBI has released the first document from its probe into whether Saudi government agents supported the attacks. A3

**THE NATION** Disciplinary actions have been recommended against U.S. Capitol Police officers identified in six complaints made after the Jan. 6 riot, officials said. A2

**THE WORLD** As China remakes Hong Kong in its authoritarian image, an American lawyer's experience offers a glimpse into a prison system filling with political detainees. A4

**Pope Francis** offered a careful but clear critique of Hungary's anti-migrant policies under

Viktor Orban during a trip to Budapest. A6

**North Korea** said it successfully test-fired a new long-range cruise missile, stoking tensions amid a prolonged deadlock in nuclear talks with Washington. A6

**THE ECONOMY** With Western wildfires triggering air-quality alerts as far away as D.C. and New York, apps can let residents know whether it's safe to spend time outside. A17

**THE REGION** Months of customer service issues at Washington Gas have cap-

tured the attention of regulators and infuriated customers. B1

**In Fairfax County**, a Black community's opposition to a highway-widening project stirs memories of a similar fight in 1967. B1

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**MONDAY** President Biden travels to Boise, Idaho, to visit the National Intergovernmental Fire Center and to Sacramento to survey wildfire damage.

**Secretary of State** Antony Blinken testifies at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

**TUESDAY** California holds a recall election to determine whether Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) will remain in office.

**WEDNESDAY** D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser holds the fourth annual Maternal and Infant Health Summit.

**THURSDAY** Jobless claims are estimated at 315,000.

**FRIDAY** The Library of Congress kicks off the 2021 National Book Festival. Former vice president Mike Pence addresses a "Patriotic Education" symposium at the College of the Ozarks.

## INSIDE



**STYLE** Grace amid horror The Broadway musical "Come From Away" on the National Mall opens hearts to memories of Sept. 11, 2001. C1

**Constant calamity** The "crawl" that fed our need for news on 9/11 never went away, stoking a perpetual sense of potential crisis. C1

BUSINESS NEWS	A17
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LOTTERIES	B3
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WORLD NEWS	A4

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## PROVINCIA DE BUENOS AIRES DIPUTADOS

38%  
JUNTOS

VS.

33,6%  
FRENTE DE TODOS5,2%  
FIT-U

## CIUDAD DE BUENOS AIRES DIPUTADOS

48,1%  
JUNTOS POR EL CAMBIO

VS.



VS.

24,6%  
FRENTE DE TODOS13,6%  
LIBERTAD AVANZA

## LA NACION

LUNES 13 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

## PASO 2021



Manes y Santilli, anoche, en La Plata, dos protagonistas centrales de la elección de Juntos por el Cambio en la provincia

FOTOS DE POOL ARGRA

## Debacle electoral del Gobierno

Juntos por el Cambio ganó la provincia y sacó 9 puntos de ventaja en el país; Vidal se impuso con holgura en la Capital; si se repite el resultado en noviembre, el Frente de Todos perderá la mayoría en el Senado

**Martín Rodríguez Yebra**  
LA NACION

Un tsunami de votos opositores sacude al gobierno de Alberto Fernández. Como una crisis en capítulos, el oficialismo recibió desde las 18 una sucesión de noticias amargas del escrutinio de las primarias legislativas celebradas con protocolo de pandemia. A la derrota previsible en la Capital siguió una sangría en Córdoba, caídas en Santa Fe, Chubut, Chaco. Se puso peor: segundo puesto en Santa Cruz, derrumbe en Entre Ríos.

Y el impacto definitivo de un desastre en el bastión kirchnerista de la provincia de Buenos Aires.

Juntos por el Cambio ganaba el país por 9 puntos y sacaba 4,4 de ventaja en territorio bonaerense. De repetirse en noviembre estas cifras, el Gobierno quedará en minoría en las dos cámaras. Continúa en la página 2

**El Presidente, frente al escenario más temido**  
Santiago Dapelo. Página 4

**Larreta suma poder**  
Matías Moreno. Página 18

## ANÁLISIS

Una derrota enorme que cambia todo

**Joaquín Morales Solá**  
Página 13

Dos plebiscitos en una elección

**Carlos Pagani**  
Página 24



Alberto Fernández y Cristina Kirchner, anoche, en su búnker

# una App para los que venden

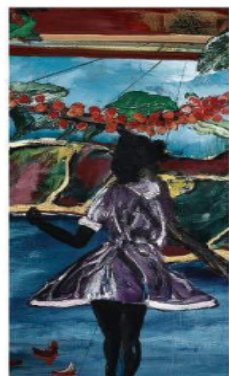
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Obra sem título, de Arjan Martins, de 2019. Divulgação.

## ENTREVISTA DA 2ª Daniela Campello Nenhum lado aprende que este é um jogo de repetições

Os dois lados do embate político não conseguem se libertar do jogo de repetições em que o presidente Jair Bolsonaro sobe o tom ao se sentir acuado, é cobrado, recua e ataca outra vez, diz a cientista política e professora da FGV Daniela Campello. "Impressão como os atores ainda não tenham aprendido a jogar", afirmou ela. A16

# Divididos, protestos contra Bolsonaro são esvaziados

Postulantes ao Planalto em 2022, mas não Lula, vão a ato na avenida Paulista

O protesto contra Jair Bolsonaro convocado por entidades de direita, como o MBL e o Vem Pra Rua, não conseguiu encher seu palco principal, a avenida Paulista, em São Paulo.

Ali, 6.000 pessoas participaram do ato ao longo do domingo, segundo a PM. No resto do país, houve protestos igualmente isolados.

Cinco dias antes, o ato de cunho golpista do presidente reuniu 125 mil na Paulista e milhares em pontos como Brasília e Rio — menos, porém, do que protestos anteriores antivermelho.

Usando a cor branca em contraposição ao vermelho da esquerda e ao amarelo dos bolsonaristas, o ato reuniu frações em conflito.

Presidenciáveis como Ciro Gomes (PDT), João Dória (PSDB) e Luiz Henrique Mandetta (DEM), que representam campos distintos, discursaram. Já o PT de Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, ex-presidente que lidera as pesquisas e a quem o impeachment de Bolsonaro é menos interessante do que seu desgaste, boicotou o evento.

Camisetas e bonecos criticando tanto Lula quanto Bolsonaro estiveram presentes nos atos, o que ajudou a afastar petistas.

Líderes de dez partidos que participaram dos atos, de PCdoB até o Novo, se reunirão, visando segundo o PDT atrair o PT para futuros protestos. Pánel A3 e Poder A4 a A10

## Ilustrada C1

### Negritude nas artes

Destaque da Bienal de São Paulo, o pintor Arjan Martins revê o tráfico de escravos. Apresenta duas obras, ambas sobre as relações coloniais entre Portugal e o continente africano.

## Esporte B6

Russo atropela Djokovic e barra recorde do rival no Aberto dos EUA

## Folhainvest A21

Turbulência afeta Bolsa e projeções são revisadas para baixo em 2021

## Saúde B1

Praticidade e medo de contágio fazem terapia online crescer na pandemia

## SP começa a usar Pfizer no lugar da AstraZeneca

Saúde B2

## EDITORIAIS A2

### Furor legislativo

A respeito de pacote eleitoral votado pela Câmara.

### Futebol S.A.

Sobre lei para transformação de clube em empresa.

## ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje  
33°  
17°

Hoje Amanhã  
Rio 18 33 21 37  
Brasília 18 32 17 32  
Ribeirão 22 38 22 39

## Total da população vacinada

	30 menos uma dose*	totalmente vacinada**
Brasil	66,7%	34,3%
MS	74,1%	48,9%
SP	78,6%	44,6%
RS	70,5%	40,8%

## Totalmente vacinada



## Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
Total	21,0 mi	586,9 mil
Méd. móvel	16,5 mil	473
Variação***	-32,5%	-30,3%
Em 24 h	8,1 mil	292

## Estágios

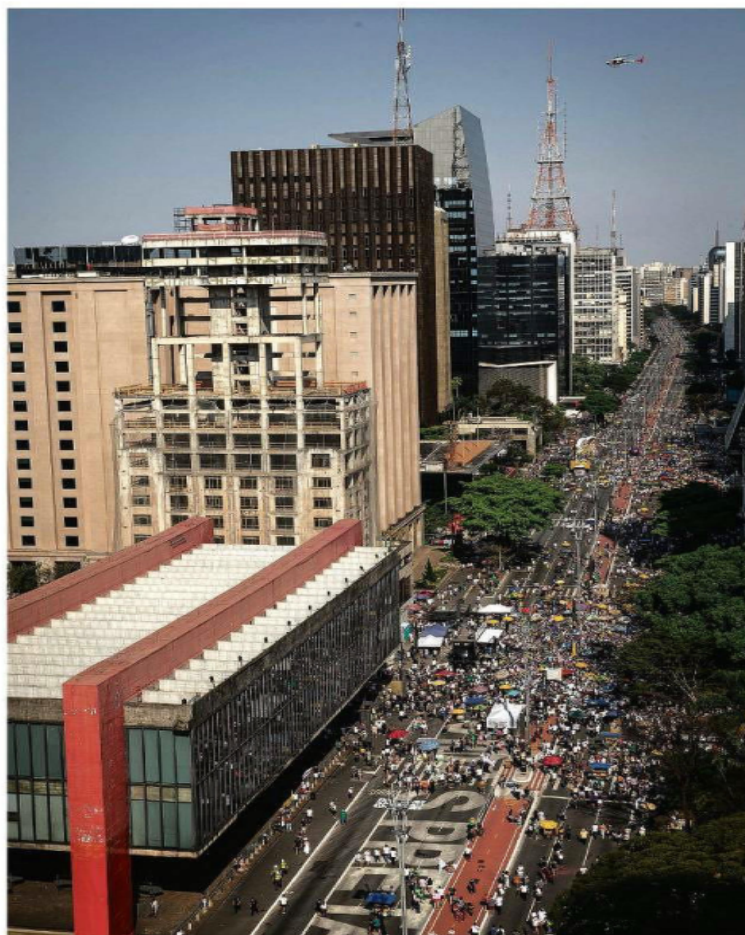


Dados das 20h de 12.set  
\* Tomou dose única ou 1ª dose  
\*\* Tomou dose única ou 2ª dose  
\*\*\* Em relação a 14 dias

## Ana Cristina Rosa

### Escrever é ato de fundação e de resistência

Conceição Evaristo sabe como ninguém que a escrita é um ato de resistência. E entende que, no caso das mulheres negras, a palavra revela uma trajetória da comunidade ligada à diáspora africana que a história como ciência por vezes despreza. Opinião A2



Vista da manifestação contra Bolsonaro na av. Paulista, na altura do Masp. Bruno Santos/Folhapress

## ANÁLISE

### Igor Gielow

### Fracasso nas ruas expõe o impasse político brasileiro

O relativo fracasso dos atos contra Jair Bolsonaro expõe limites das forças contrárias ao presidente. Lula, esperto porque quer o mandatário fraco, mas na cadeia, ficou de fora da foto esvaziada. O tucano João Dória, por sua vez, arriscou-se ao ir à avenida Paulista. Poder A8

## Celso R. de Barros

### Golpe falhou, mas acordão mela o impeachment

O acordão de Temer não impediu o golpe, que já estava derrotado. Mas pode ter melado o impeachment. Temer interrompeu o jogo quando era a vez da democracia jogar. A turbulência que poupou ao mercado não foi a do fim da democracia, mas a da reação da democracia. Poder A13

## Alvo, Moraes age mais a pedido da polícia e da PGR

Alvo do bolsonarismo, o ministro do Supremo Alexandre de Moraes age mais instado pela Polícia Federal e pela Procuradoria-Geral da República, entes vistos como aliados do presidente. Ele só determinou por conta própria a prisão de Daniel Silveira (PSL-RJ). Poder A13

## Explode número de venezuelanos nas ruas em RR

A Organização Internacional para as Migrações calcula que há mais de 2.000 migrantes e refugiados venezuelanos dormindo nas ruas de Pacaraima, cidade no estado de Roraima que faz divisa com a Venezuela, informa Patrícia Campos Mello. O município tem 18 mil habitantes. Mundo A14

## Relatório do FBI é inconclusivo sobre sauditas no 11/9

Mundo A15



Boneco une Lula como presiário a Bolsonaro em camisa de força em SP. Eduardo Knapp/Folhapress

## Crise já prejudica planos de ministro da Infraestrutura

Mercado A18



Hace un año sustrajeron mercaderías por USD 3 millones retenidas por contrabando

## Nula investigación fiscal del robo del depósito de Gical

Este caso es una de las piezas de la denuncia que presentó el titular de Aduanas, Julio Fernández, en contra del senador Martín Arévalo por supuesto tráfico de influencias.

PÁGINA 14

### El ministro Giuzzio rehúye debate sobre la ola de inseguridad



No asistió. El ministro no aceptó ir al programa *Mínor en casa*. Su lugar lo ocupó una imagen. PÁGINA 44

### Triste desenlace para Liz Vera Murió la joven que cayó de bus persiguiendo a quien le robó su celular

PÁGINA 45

### Catedrático y político prominente Víctima de Covid fallece Bernardino Cano Radil, embajador en Cuba

PÁGINA 11



## Motociclistas lideran el ránking de infractores

**Irreductibles.**  
Los conductores de motos son un problema permanente para la seguridad vial.

PÁGINA 19

### Legislador enfrenta causa por corrupción Abdo y Velázquez posan al lado del procesado Cuevas

PÁGINA 7

### Por evasión impositiva Clan González Daher ya pagó USD 9 millones al Fisco

PÁGINA 12

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# LE FIGARO

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



**JEAN-ÉRIC SCHOETTL**  
« LA MISE EN EXAMEN D'AGNÈS BUZYN  
POUR SA GESTION DU COVID MET EN PÉRIL  
L'ACTION DE L'ÉTAT » PAGE 26. LIRE AUSSI PAGES 13 ET 27

**LE FIGARO SANTÉ**  
CANCERS, MALADIES AUTO-IMMUNES :  
LA RÉVOLUTION DES ANTICORPS  
MONOCLONAUX PAGES 15 À 18



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**IRAN**  
Nucléaire : Téhéran fait un geste mais éprouve la patience des Occidentaux  
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**LIBAN**  
Le nouvel exécutif face à l'urgence et aux doutes  
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Alexandre Benalla attendu par les juges  
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L'ouragan Raducanu a tout emporté à l'US Open  
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La French Tech bat tous ses records  
PAGE 30

**TECHNOLOGIE**  
Metaverse, le vertigineux futur d'internet  
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**CHAMPS LIBRES**  
• Les think-tanks en ordre de bataille pour la campagne présidentielle  
• Comment faire progresser la défense européenne ?  
• La chronique de Nicolas Baverez  
• La tribune d'Alexandre Stobinsky  
PAGES 24 À 27

**FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON**

Réponses à la question de samedi :  
11 Septembre : en vingt ans, la menace djihadiste a-t-elle reculé ?

**OUI 9% NON 91%**

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 120 947

**Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr**  
Présidentielle : croyez-vous aux chances d'Anne Hidalgo ?

ILLUSTRATION : FABIEN CLAIREFOND -

## Vaccination : l'enjeu crucial des personnes à risque

Pour lever les restrictions sanitaires, il faudra réussir à vacciner l'ensemble des personnes âgées ou porteuses de comorbidité. Mais les derniers réfractaires sont difficiles à atteindre.

Une très belle progression de la campagne vaccinale... qui s'essouffle dans les derniers pourcentages. Plus de 10 % des plus de 75 ans et 14 % des personnes atteintes d'au moins une comorbidité n'ont pas reçu leur première dose de

vaccin. Tous n'y sont pas opposés, mais ils ont besoin de solutions à la carte pour avoir accès à la vaccination. L'enjeu est d'importance : l'épidémie n'est pas terminée et le système de soins restera exposé tant que ces populations les

plus à risque de faire des formes graves de Covid-19 ne seront pas protégées. Ces publics seront aussi concernés par l'injection d'une troisième dose, qui a débuté le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre. L'obligation vaccinale des soignants, qui

entre en vigueur ce mercredi, semble en revanche avoir réussi à convaincre la majorité d'entre eux, même si les établissements doivent parfois jongler avec les plannings pour remplacer les derniers récalcitrants.

→ COMMENT L'ESPAGNE A VACCINÉ 100 % DE SES SENIORS  
→ VACCINATION : DANS LES HÔPITAUX ET LES EHPAD, LES SOIGNANTS AU PIED DU MUR  
→ TROISIÈME DOSE VACCINALE, C'EST PARTI!  
PAGES 6, 8 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



### Emballer l'Arc de triomphe, l'œuvre posthume de Christo enfin réalisée

Le vieux rêve utopiste de l'artiste plasticien mort en mai 2020 se concrétise enfin. Du 18 septembre au 3 octobre, 25 000 mètres carrés de tissu vont recouvrir le célèbre monument parisien, le transformant en objet vivant qui s'anime dans le vent. PAGE 42

**ÉDITORIAL** par Yves Thérard yththread@lefigaro.fr

### La faille française

Et si le déroulement d'une campagne de vaccination révélait l'état de santé d'une société, son niveau d'organisation, de solidarité, de discipline ? C'est en tout cas l'occasion de comparer les pays les uns aux autres. En Europe, la France se distingue tous les samedis par le défilé dans ses rues d'une foule de réfractaires aux vaccins ou au passe sanitaire. Elle est aussi la seule nation, pour l'heure, où une ancienne ministre est assignée en justice pour sa gestion de la crise. Elle se singularise encore par la difficulté qu'elle montre à vacciner tous ses aînés. 750 000 personnes âgées de plus de 75 ans ou vulnérables au coronavirus, comme les obèses et les diabétiques, n'ont reçu aucune injection. L'Espagne, notamment, n'affiche pas cet angle mort. Pourquoi ? Parce que notre voisine ibérique a été beaucoup plus traumatisée par la première vague, au printemps 2020. L'opposition vaccinale y est insignifiante. Enfin, la solidarité familiale veut encore dire quelque chose là-bas, comme en Grèce et en Italie. Les anciens souffrent moins d'isolement que de ce côté-ci des Pyrénées.

Alors qu'en cette rentrée les regards sont tournés vers la vaccination des adolescents et l'administration d'une troisième dose aux sexagénaires, la priorité des priorités devrait être la prise en charge des 15 % de personnes à fort risque de complications, souvent âgées. Ce sont ces dernières qui, si elles tombaient malades, iraient occuper les lits de réanimation des hôpitaux. Bien davantage que les jeunes, plus rarement hospitalisés quand ils sont touchés. Les raisons de cette faille dans la campagne vaccinale sont multiples. À l'« illettrisme » d'une majorité de ce public s'ajoutent la faible mobilité et la peur d'effets secondaires. Le système de soins français, hypercentralisé, n'y est pas pour rien non plus.

Le défi est de taille mais doit impérativement être relevé. Aussi longtemps que cette partie de la population ne sera pas couverte, la guerre contre le Covid-19 ne sera pas gagnée. ■

### Présidentielle : Anne Hidalgo et Marine Le Pen entrent en campagne

Mille kilomètres les séparaient, mais toutes les deux se sont déclarées candidates pour 2022 quasi simultanément, la première à Rouen, la seconde à Fréjus. La maire de Paris, si elle est confirmée par le Parti socialiste, se lancera pour la première fois à l'assaut de l'Élysée. Pour Marine Le Pen, ce sera la troisième tentative, notamment après la précédente élection de 2017, où elle avait obtenu son visa pour le second tour. PAGES 10 ET 12

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## Kevin McCloud on what he's learned from Grand Designs

➔ G2



## Muriel Gardiner The heiress who outfoxed the Gestapo ➔ G2



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# Parents demand radical change to make childcare affordable

**Exclusive** Poll reveals scale of frustration at inadequate policies

Alexandra Topping

Tens of thousands of working parents say the government is failing them with inadequate childcare policies that leave them financially crippled, stymied in their careers and

desperate for radical change, according to a major poll.

The survey of more than 20,000 working parents, which involved more than a dozen organisations and was shared with the Guardian, found that 96% believed ministers were not doing enough to support parents with the cost and availability of childcare, while 97% said childcare in the UK was too expensive.

One-third of parents said they paid more for childcare than they did for their rent or mortgage. The figure rose to 38% for those in full-time work and

single parents, and to 47% of respondents from a black background.

The survey comes before a debate on childcare in parliament today, triggered by more than 100,000 parents signing a petition calling for an independent review of childcare funding. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development says the UK has the third most expensive childcare system in the world, behind Slovakia and Switzerland; a full-time place costs £12,376 a year on average.

Research by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) found that between 2008

*"This is a problem that's been hiding in plain sight for years"*

Justine Roberts  
Mumsnet

and 2016 the cost of a one-year-old child's nursery provision rose four times faster than wages in England. In London, it was more than seven times faster.

Warnings that the sector is at risk of collapse have been largely ignored and morale is low: research by Nursery World found one in 10 childcare workers live in poverty.

Justine Roberts, the chief executive of the Mumsnet forum, said: "This is a problem that's been hiding in plain sight for years, and parents know exactly how badly they're being failed. The government must not ignore the misery and stress this issue causes."

The poll found the people struggling the most

10 ➔

## The rise of Raducanu

## What next for tennis's new star?

Sean Ingle  
Chief sports reporter

Most fledgling British stars spend years trying to crack America. Emma Raducanu did it in three giddy weeks. And such was the skill and scale of her first grand slam victory - which ended with her blitzing an ace before collapsing and rubbing her eyes, as if to make sure she was not in some impossible dream - it felt natural to immediately speculate where it ranked in the pantheon of the nation's great sporting triumphs.

High, for sure. Perhaps even highest of all. Certainly for an individual. After all, never in tennis history

4 ➔



▲ Emma Raducanu with the US Open trophy. She had been rated a 400-1 outsider PHOTOGRAPH: ELLA LING/REX/SHUTTERSTOCK

## Plan for vaccine passports is ditched

Aubrey Allegretti  
Political correspondent

Plans to introduce vaccine passports across England next month have been shelved in a dramatic U-turn by the government, but Conservative opponents fear they could still be made mandatory later this year amid a warning that the NHS faces "the worst winter in living memory".

Just weeks after Boris Johnson announced the controversial documents would be necessary for fully-vaccinated people to go to nightclubs and other crowded venues, Sajid Javid, the health secretary, said the policy was suspended and would not go ahead from 1 October.

Government sources said the dire warnings at the start of summer about Covid cases, hospitalisations and death levels as a result of the almost total lifting of restrictions had not been borne out, and the success of the jabs rollout meant vaccine passports were not needed imminently.

Johnson will confirm the move tomorrow, when he is

14 ➔