

What's News

Business & Finance

Worries about spreading troubles from China's property market smashed an extended streak of calm in stock indexes and sent the S&P 500 to its worst day since May. The Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq lost 1.8%, 2.2% and 2.2%, respectively. **A1**

◆ **The potential default of developer China Evergrande** is taking a toll on funds in Europe and the U.S. that chased high yields in the Chinese corporate bond market. **B1**

◆ **The SEC is probing Activision Blizzard**, including how the videogame-publishing giant handled allegations of sexual misconduct and workplace discrimination. **A1**

◆ **Shell has agreed to sell** all of its assets in the Permian basin to ConocoPhillips for about \$9.5 billion. **B1**

◆ **GM said it would start** next month to fix Chevrolet Bolt electric cars that were recalled for fire risk. **B1**

◆ **CVS is racing to hire** thousands of workers as staffing shortages prompt stores to close drive-through lanes and at times turn away customers seeking Covid-19 shots. **B1**

◆ **Allianz's top asset-management** executive is in talks to leave the company as it navigates a Justice Department probe into funds that suffered steep losses. **B1**

◆ **Shipping rates are going** up faster than they have in nearly a decade. **B3**

◆ **Twitter agreed to pay** more than \$800 million to settle a class-action lawsuit alleging the social-media company misled investors about user engagement. **B4**

World-Wide

◆ **Pfizer and BioNTech** said their Covid-19 vaccine was found to be safe in children ages 5 to 11 years in a late-stage study and that it generated a strong immune response, bringing the prospect of broader vaccination coverage closer. **A1**

◆ **More Americans** have died from Covid-19 than the 1918-19 flu pandemic as the U.S. crossed the threshold of 675,000 reported deaths. **A7**

◆ **The Biden administration** has begun sending many of the 16,000 migrants who have overwhelmed Del Rio, Texas, back to Haiti. **A3**

◆ **The president is raising** the refugee admissions cap to 125,000 for the budget year beginning Oct. 1. **A3**

◆ **A Texas doctor** who publicly said he performed an abortion was sued by two different plaintiffs, handing Texas the first tests of its new abortion law. **A3**

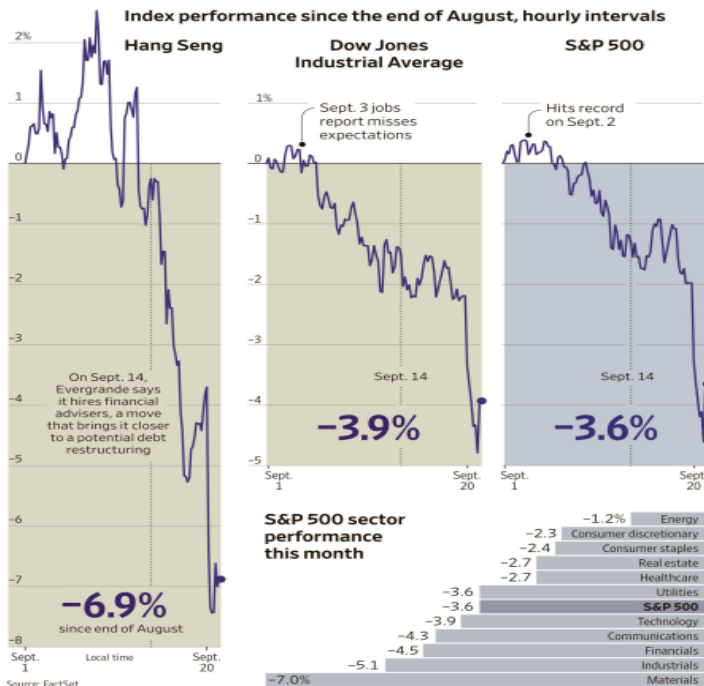
◆ **AstraZeneca** said its breast cancer drug Enherthu significantly reduced the risk of dying in women with advanced disease. **A3**

◆ **The administration is easing** Covid-19 travel bans and will require foreign nationals seeking to fly to the U.S. to show proof of vaccination. **A6**

◆ **Trudeau appeared** headed toward a third straight electoral victory as Canada's prime minister. **A8**

◆ **A Rwandan court** convicted Paul Rusesabagina, immortalized by Hollywood for saving hundreds of people in the 1994 genocide, of multiple charges and sentenced him to 25 years in prison. **A8**

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Stocks Record Biggest Slump Since Spring

Concerns over Chinese property market send indexes down broadly, snapping recent calm

By GUNJAN BANERJI AND ELAINE YU

Worries about spreading troubles from China's property market snapped an extended streak of calm in stock indexes and sent the S&P 500 to its worst day since May.

The growing concerns over property developer China Evergrande Group, which has the biggest debt burden of any publicly traded real-estate management or development company in the world, triggered a rush Monday out of riskier assets like stocks, oil and bitcoin, and into safer ones. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 614.41 points, or 1.8%, to 33,970.47, dragged down by shares of Caterpillar Inc. and financial heavyweights like Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

The S&P 500 dropped 1.7%, and the technology-focused Nasdaq Composite Index fell 2.2%, after being down more

than 3% earlier Monday afternoon. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq are on track for their worst months since last September, while the Dow is headed toward its biggest monthly decline since October 2020.

The punishing selloff accelerated midday, sending the Dow down as much as 972 points at its low of the session, before the blue-chip gauge pared some losses.

The declines were broad, with all 11 S&P 500 sectors recording declines, and only five stocks in the entire index—four of them airlines—eked out a gain of more than 1%. The sell-off also was global: The Hang Seng Index in Hong Kong fell 3.3% to its lowest close since last October, while the Stoxx Europe 600 dropped 1.7%.

Market participants increasingly worry that Beijing will continue to rein in various industries and that it will let Evergrande, which owes tens of billions of dollars to investors

Please turn to page A2

◆ U.S. funds take hit on slump in China debt..... **B1**

◆ Bitcoin, other cryptocurrencies decline..... **B9**

Xi's Goal: Restore Mao's Economic Vision

By LINGLING WEI

Xi Jinping's campaign against private enterprise, it is increasingly clear, is far more ambitious than meets the eye. The Chinese President is not just trying to rein in a few big tech and other companies and show who is boss in China.

He is trying to roll back China's decadeslong evolution toward Western-style capitalism and put the country on a different path entirely, a close

examination of Mr. Xi's writings and his discussions with party officials, and interviews with people involved in policy making, show.

For most of the 40 years after Deng Xiaoping first unleashed economic reforms in China, Communist Party leaders gave market forces wider room to flourish. That opening helped lift hundreds of millions of people out of poverty and created trillions of dollars in wealth, but also led to rampant corruption and eroded the ideological basis for continued Communist rule.

In Mr. Xi's opinion, private capital now has been allowed to run amok, menacing the party's legitimacy, officials familiar with his priorities say.

The Wall Street Journal examination shows he is trying forcefully to get China back to the vision of Mao Zedong, who saw capitalism as a transitory phase on the road to socialism. Mr. Xi isn't planning to

eradicate market forces, the Journal examination indicates.

But he appears to want a state in which the party does more to steer flows of money, sets tighter parameters for entrepreneurs and investors and their ability to make profits, and exercises even more control over the economy than now. In essence, this suggests that he aims to rewrite the rules of business in what could someday be the world's biggest economy.

"China has entered a new stage of development," Mr. Xi declared in a speech in January. The goal, he said, is to build China into a "modern socialist power."

Mr. Xi's overhaul has generated more than 100 regulatory actions, government directives and policy changes since last year, according to a Journal.

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◆ Heard on the Street: Hong Kong developers on alert... **B10**

INSIDE



SPORTS

The Ravens' game-winning decision to go for it wasn't gutsy. It was smart. **A14**



BUSINESS & FINANCE

GM to start Bolt battery repairs after recall of thousands of the electric vehicles. **B1**

Pfizer Vaccine Found Safe For Children as Young as 5

By JARED S. HOPKINS

Pfizer Inc. and partner BioNTech SE said their Covid-19 vaccine was found to be safe in children ages 5 to 11 years in a late-stage study and generated a strong immune response in them, bringing the prospect of broader vaccination coverage closer.

Pfizer said it would share the results with regulators in the U.S. and other countries and seek emergency-use authorization in the U.S. as early as the end of the month.

The companies said the two-dose shot was found to be safe and well tolerated among the children in the study. The vaccine generated levels of antibodies that were similar to those of younger adults, meeting the study's measurements of success, according to the companies.

Pfizer and BioNTech said they hadn't yet determined vaccine efficacy—how well it protects against Covid-19—for children in the age group. Not enough young subjects in the study have become sick to

compare rates between children who got a vaccine and those who got a placebo, but researchers could still learn more as the trial continues.

The companies provided the results in a news release. The results haven't been peer reviewed by independent experts.

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◆ U.S. to relax Covid-19 travel restrictions..... **A6**

◆ India to send doses to developing nations..... **A9**

◆ Your Health: A guide to home tests..... **A11**

Saudis Crash The Winter Olympics

Qualifying will be an uphill climb; a ski slope in a mall

By STEPHEN KALIN

RIYADH—The desert kingdom of Saudi Arabia has set a lofty target for sporting greatness: the snowy peaks of next year's Winter Olympics.

The country has hired coaches from Europe and invested heavily in training as it prepares seven skiers and snowboarders to compete on the slopes at the Beijing Games. Some of the Saudi athletes already compare themselves to the Jamaican bobsled team that made its debut at the 1988 Calgary Games and inspired the movie "Cool Runnings."

"It's the same concept," Please turn to page A10

SEC Launches Probe Of Bias, Misconduct Claims at Activision

By KIRSTEN GRIND AND SARAH E. NEEDLEMAN

Federal securities regulators have launched a wide-ranging investigation into Activision Blizzard Inc., including how the videogame-publishing giant handled employees' allegations of sexual misconduct and workplace discrimination, according to people familiar with the investigation and documents viewed by The Wall Street Journal.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has subpoenaed Activision, known for its Call of Duty, World of Warcraft and Candy Crush franchises, and several of its senior executives, including longtime Chief Executive Bobby Kotick, according to the people and documents.

The agency is asking for documents including minutes

from Activision board meetings since 2019, personnel files of six former employees, and separation agreements the company has reached this year with staffers, records show. The SEC is asking for Mr. Kotick's communications with other senior executives regarding complaints of sexual harassment or discrimination by Activision employees or contractors, the documents show.

An Activision spokeswoman, Helaine Klesky, confirmed on Monday that the SEC's investigation concerns "the company's disclosures regarding employment matters and related issues," adding that the agency has subpoenaed several current and former employees. "The company is cooperating with the SEC," the spokeswoman said.

An SEC spokeswoman said Please turn to page A4

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For Democrats, Tough Options On Health Care

Social Safety Net Bill Likely to Need Cuts

By JONATHAN WEISMAN
and SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

WASHINGTON — Democrats are facing tough moral and political decisions over how to pursue their century-old dream of universal health care now that their ambitious \$3.5 trillion social safety net bill will almost certainly have to be trimmed back.

As they try to reduce the bill's cost, members of the party disagree over whether to prioritize expanding coverage to more poor adults in states whose leaders have refused to do so or to give new Medicare benefits to older people across income levels.

Southern Democrats, in particular, are urging their leaders to prioritize insurance coverage for 4.4 million working poor people in the 12 states, mostly in the South, with Republican or divided leadership that have refused to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. But progressives, led by Senator Bernie Sanders, the Vermont independent and former presidential candidate, are adamant about giving older Americans dental, hearing and vision coverage.

Many provisions of the delicately constructed bill are interconnected, and division over how to lower prescription drug costs and raise taxes will probably prevent the party from acting boldly on both fronts.

"I believe that health care is a human right, and if you believe it's a human right, you don't believe it's a human right for 38 states," said Senator Raphael Warnock, Democrat of Georgia, whose push for Medicaid expansion in his state was central to his special election victory last year, and who is eager to bring such an achievement to voters when he stands for re-election next year. "People are literally dying for lack of access to any care at all."

Health care has long been a winning issue for Democrats. It delivered them the House in 2018 and contributed to their taking the Senate in 2020, thanks largely to the runoff victories in Georgia of Mr. Warnock and Senator Jon Ossoff.

But in raw political terms, most of the states that have refused to expand Medicaid — like Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wyoming — are out of reach for Democrats. Older Americans, on the other hand, are consistent voters, increasingly up for grabs. Those voters would like Medicare to start paying for dental, vision and hearing care.

Some Democrats, moreover, say Congress should not reward states that refused to expand Medicaid by creating a separate

Continued on Page A16

PRESSURE Democrats will add raising the debt limit to the spending bill, during the G.O.P. PAGE A16



Afghan girls leaving school last week in Kabul. The Taliban have made it clear that they plan to severely restrict educational reforms.

VICTOR J. BLUE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Grim New Reality for Afghan Women and Girls

By VICTOR J. BLUE
and DAVID ZUCCHINO

KABUL, Afghanistan — The director of a girls' school in Kabul desperately wants to learn details of the Taliban's plan for girls' education. But she can't attend the weekly Taliban committee meetings on education. They are for men only.

"They say, 'You should send a male representative,'" the director, Aqila, said inside the Sayed Ull-Shuhada High School, which was shattered in May by a terrorist bombing that killed scores of girls.

But Aqila and other Afghan educators don't need to attend meet-

Educational Freedoms of Last Two Decades Are Disappearing

ings to comprehend the harsh new reality of education under Taliban rule. The emerging government has made clear that it intends to severely restrict the educational freedoms enjoyed by many women and girls the past 20 years.

The only question is just how draconian the new system will be, and what type of Islamic-based education will be imposed on both

boys and girls. Just as they did when they ruled most of Afghanistan in the late 1990s, the Taliban seem intent on ruling not strictly by decree, but by inference and intimidation.

When schools reopened Saturday for grades seven through 12, only male students were told to report for their studies. The Taliban said nothing about girls in those grades, so they stayed home, their families anxious and uncertain about their future. Both boys and girls in grades one through six have been attending schools, with students segregated by gender in the higher three grades.

When the Taliban were in

Continued on Page A10

U.S. to Reopen To Vaccinated From Overseas

This article is by Zolan Kanno-Youngs, Mark Landler and Heather Murphy.

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration will lift travel restrictions starting in November for foreigners who are fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, reopening the country to thousands of people, including those who have been separated from family in the United States during the pandemic, and easing a major source of tension with Europe.

The halt to the 18-month ban on travel from 33 countries, including members of the European Union, China, Iran, South Africa, Brazil and India, could help rejuvenate a U.S. tourism industry that has been crippled by the pandemic. The industry sustained a \$500 billion loss in travel expenditures in 2020, according to the U.S. Travel Association, a trade group that promotes travel to and within the United States.

In New York City alone, the lack of tourists wiped out 89,000 jobs and resulted in a loss of more than \$60 billion in revenue, the state comptroller found.

"Everyone says New York is back, New York is back, but it's not really back until tourists are back from all countries," said Leyla Saleh, 28, a pastry chef whose father was forced to shut down his gift shop in Midtown Manhattan last year because he did not have enough business.

Foreign travelers will need to show proof of vaccination before boarding and a negative coronavirus test within three days of coming to the United States, Jeffrey D.

Continued on Page A9



VERÓNICA G. CÁRDENAS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Back in Haiti, and in Shock

Planeloads of migrants deported from the U.S. border have arrived in Port-au-Prince. PAGE A6.

Painful Reminder of Baby's Death: \$257,000 Bill

By SARAH KLIFF

Brittany Giroux Lane gave birth to her daughter, Alexandra, a few days before Christmas in 2018. The baby had dark eyes and longish legs. She had also arrived about 13 weeks early, and weighed just two pounds.

Alexandra initially thrived in the neonatal intensive care unit at

Mount Sinai West. Ms. Lane, 35, recalls the nurses describing her daughter as a "rock star" because she grew so quickly. But her condition rapidly worsened after an infection, and Alexandra died early on the morning of Jan. 15 at 25 days old.

A flurry of small medical bills from neonatologists and pediatricians quickly followed. Ms. Lane struggled to get her breast pump

covered by insurance because, in the midst of a preterm birth, she hadn't gone through the health plan's prior approval process.

Last summer, Ms. Lane started receiving debt collection notices. The letters, sent by the health plan Cigna, said she owed the insurer over \$257,000 for the bills it accidentally covered for Alexandra's care after Ms. Lane switched

Continued on Page A18

Markets Dive Over Worries About U.S. and China

This article is by Matt Phillips, Eshe Nelson and Coral Murphy Marcos.

Investors on three continents dumped stocks on Monday, fretting that the governments of the world's two largest economies — China and the United States — would act in ways that could undercut the nascent global economic recovery.

The Chinese government's reluctance to step in and save a highly indebted property developer just days before a big interest payment is due signaled to investors that Beijing might break with its longstanding policy of bailing out its homegrown stars.

And in the United States, the globe's No. 1 economy, investors worried that the Federal Reserve

would soon begin cutting back its huge purchases of government bonds, which had helped drive stocks to a series of record highs since the coronavirus pandemic hit.

The sell-off started in Asia and spread to Europe — where exporters to China were slammed — before landing in the United States, where stocks appeared to be

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First Suits Under Abortion Law

Two men, from Illinois and Arkansas, filed suit in Texas against a San Antonio doctor who said he had violated the strict new law. PAGE A14

BUSINESS B1-7

Why Louisiana's Grid Failed

Much of the state lost power because many of Entergy's poles and towers were not built to withstand a major storm like Hurricane Ida. PAGE B1

ARTS C1-8

An Unlikely Pairing

The alt-cabaret star Justin Vivian Bond has joined forces with the operatic countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo at St. Ann's Warehouse. PAGE C1

SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

The Terms of Female Anatomy

Many medical professionals have bid farewell to the use of the word "pudendum," but other terms that some have found objectionable remain. PAGE D1

OPINION A20-21

Paul Krugman

PAGE A21



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THE
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JAEGE-LECOULTRE

\$1 million for home is not a big deal anymore

Houses above that price are now typical across L.A. Some have only one bathroom.

By Andrew Khouri and Jack Flemming

The pandemic economy pushed Southern California's competitive housing market into such overdrive that a defining marker of wealth — the million-dollar home — has become the norm in a growing number of places.

Homes worth \$1 million or more now dominate communities from Altadena at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains to West Adams in South L.A. As bidding wars send prices even higher, more people are being priced out of communities where they grew up and homeownership is becoming more out of reach for low- and middle-income Californians.

At the same time, the proliferation of million-dollar homes shows that the price point is not a barrier for a growing share of Californians. It still requires financial strength to purchase such a home, but a surging stock market, rising incomes and historically low borrowing costs have made the \$1-million house more common than ever.

That convergence of factors during the pandemic has reinforced the inequality of life in America: high earners are making, or at least saving, more money while grounded and working from home as millions of households are behind on rent.

[See \$1 million, A9]

On the Hill and under threat

Members of Congress increasingly face signs of violent intent since Jan. 6 attack in D.C.

By Sarah D. Wier

WASHINGTON — A few months ago, Rep. Norma Torres (D-Pomona) received an anonymous video of someone following her car. The camera pans down to a 9-millimeter handgun on the seat as a male voice says: "I see you. I got something for you."

In June, police charged a man with making "terroristic threats" against Rep. Tom Reed (R-N.Y.). The man left on the congressman's doorstep a dead rat with a noose around its neck and a brick with a family member's name.

Police intervened in January when more than a dozen supporters of then-President Trump confronted, surrounded and threatened Rep. Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) as he was catching a flight at a Washington airport.

In a year that kicked off with the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, threats against lawmakers are soaring. In the first three months of 2021, the U.S. Capitol Police recorded 4,135 threats against members of Congress. If that pace continues, total threats this year will be double those of 2020.

[See Threats, A12]



FLAMES RACE UP a tree Sunday as the Windy fire burns the Trail of 100 Giants grove — home to some 1,500-year-old sequoias in Sequoia National Forest. The wildfire has also reached remote groves, including the Peyrone and Red Hill groves, an official said.

Protecting treasured sequoias

Crews pull out all the stops as they confront a new era of wildfires

By Alex Wiggleworth and Hayley Smith

When wildfire raced toward Sequoia National Park's largest concentration of giant sequoias, officials sprang into action.

Crews raked vegetation from the trees' enormous bases. Hotshot personnel lit low-intensity fires to burn off duff and litter. Firefighters wrapped protective foil around the trunks of some monarchs — a tactic that is typically used to guard buildings against flames.

And there were other measures already in place: Controlled burns and mechanical thinning performed in the Giant Forest years ago would enable crews to extinguish spot fires as the flame front approached, said Mike Theune, regional fire information officer for the National Park Service.

So, when the KNP Complex fire hit the edge of the 489-acre Sherman prescribed burn completed in 2019, its forward advance into the area actually stopped, Theune said. "That's really, really good news," he said. "It shows the effectiveness, and why it's so important that we come together as we look to protect these giant sequoias for each generation."



FIREFIGHTER Austin Cia sprays water on the trail Sunday. Farther north, the KNP Complex blaze remained at 0% containment Monday.

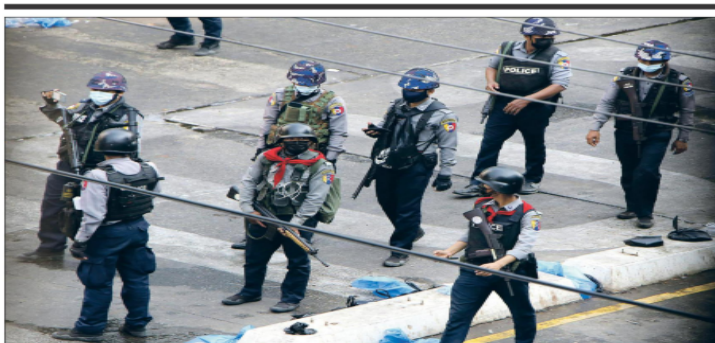
By Monday, it appeared the trees had escaped major damage, although there was concern about groves that did not have a recent burn history, such as Muir Grove and Lost Grove on the park's north side, Theune said.

The frenzied rescue efforts speak to new worries over the fate of California's towering trees. Many are concerned that the state's new breed of faster, hotter and larger wildfires could upend the delicate ecological balance that has allowed the giants to thrive for centuries. Giant sequoias are one of the most fire-adapted species on Earth, but climate change is lowering their defenses and making them more vulnerable to flames than ever before.

Last year's Castle fire changed what experts thought they knew about the trees' relationship with flames. It burned so intensely that it killed an estimated 10% to 14% of the world's natural population, leaving a graveyard of charred trunks and scorched crowns.

"That's not the typical way that large old giant sequoia trees interact with fire," said Robert York, an extension specialist with UC Berkeley, who has been studying giant sequoias for 18 years and is performing research.

[See Firefighting, A12]



POLICE patrol the streets in Yangon in March. Activists in Myanmar say the February coup and crackdown on dissent have killed more than 1,100 civilians.

'Last battle for Myanmar'

Citizens take up arms months after coup, saying brutal military must be stopped.

By David Pierson and Kyaw Hsan Hlaing

SINGAPORE — Months ago, the banging of pots and pans each night by residents of Myanmar's largest city symbolized resistance to the military coup that deposed the country's elected government.

Now, the thud of bomb blasts marks the defiance against the military, known as the Tatmadaw, since its Feb. 1 takeover and brutal crackdown on dissent that activists say have resulted in more than 1,100 civilian deaths.

The explosions ring out in Yangon as urban guerrillas step up their attacks on the security forces and their suspected informants. In recent weeks, militia members have gunned down six police officers in the back of a train, injured five soldiers after tossing a bomb into a mili-

tary truck and shot and killed a junta-supporting ward boss in his home.

The military has responded by sealing off neighborhoods for hours to hunt down suspects. It has unsettled residents with surprise nighttime raids, detained many young people who make up the core of the protest and resistance movements and caused the disappearances of many people suspected of working with underground rebels.

"Anyone who goes outside risks being stopped," [See Myanmar, A4]

Seeking abortions, Texans hit the road

Women are traveling farther afield to end pregnancies, propelled by a prohibitive law.

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske

WICHITA, Kan. — Of the 25 patients who showed up at the Trust Women Wichita clinic in Kansas for abortions Thursday, 10 drove hundreds of miles north from Texas, traveling farther and at greater cost because of a new law in the Lone Star State that in effect banned abortion, dramatically expanding the nation's largest "abortion desert."

Outside the clinic, several antiabortion protesters lingered with a doll set up in a baby swing, trying to hand pamphlets to women as they

drove into the parking lot already full of vehicles with Texas license plates.

Meeagan, who asked to be identified only by her first name, said she traveled to the clinic from Texas after receiving a positive pregnancy test the day the law took effect, Sept. 1. She was already beyond six weeks pregnant, which generally coincides with the limit set by the new law.

"The timing could not be worse; I missed the window," said Meeagan, 36.

While some Texas women can afford to fly farther afield — and more already are traveling to California — most drive to neighboring states for abortions.

Trust Women expected to see just as many Texas patients Friday at its clinics in Wichita and Oklahoma City, which have booked appointments into October. Staff

[See Abortion, A7]

Pfizer touts shot for younger kids

Its COVID-19 vaccine is safe for those ages 5 to 11, the company says. It plans to seek FDA authorization. **NATION, A6**

Weather
Hazy, sunny and hot. L.A. Basin: 89/67. **B6**

Witness to 1991 King beating dies

George Holliday recorded the LAPD's brutality, which led to the 1992 riots. **CALIFORNIA, B1**



The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Partly sunny, humid 79/71 • Tomorrow: Showers, humid 80/68 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 • \$2

Study finds vaccine is safe in kids ages 5 to 11

Low-dose Pfizer trial could lead to FDA approval by Halloween

BY CAROLYN Y. JOHNSON

A lower dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine — one-third the amount given to adults and teens — is safe and triggered a robust immune response in children as young as 5 years old, the drug companies announced in a news release Monday.

The finding, eagerly anticipated by many parents and pediatricians, is a crucial step toward the two-shot coronavirus vaccine regimen becoming available for younger school-age children, perhaps close to Halloween.

The highly transmissible delta variant has collided with schools reopening to reveal why children could be devastated. A vaccine could protect against rare cases of severe illness, cut the risk of long-haul covid and tamp down outbreaks.

SEE VACCINE ON A9

Booster confusion: States fret over Biden's vow, unclear rollout. A8

D.C. mandate: Vaccination for all school staff, child-care workers. B1



NICOLE TUNG FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

AL-HOL CAMP, SYRIA — The killings have taken on a creeping sense of inevitability, guards say. No one admits to hearing them, let alone admitting to knowing who is responsible. On a recent morning, officials inside al-Hol detention camp said it was still too dangerous to try recovering the latest pair of corpses discovered overnight. "We're still investigating," said an exhausted camp guard, slumping in her office chair, her shirt rumpled and ponytail messy after a night without sleep.

Since January, officials report, more than 70 people have been killed inside northeast Syria's al-Hol camp, which houses 62,000 family members of Islamic State fighters and others de-

Killings and fear roil Syrian detention camp

More than 70 slain as militant ISIS women enforce strictures, settle scores as repatriation efforts falter

BY LOUISA LOVELUCK

tained during the collapse of its self-declared caliphate more than two years ago.

Al-Hol has become an ever more dangerous and desperate place. Religious militancy is on the rise, imperiling those who are not as fanatical. Killings are often blamed on hard-line women who take advantage of the fragile security to enforce their strictures and settle scores. Security sweeps to confiscate handguns, knives and other weapons have made little difference, according to officials at the camp, which is run by the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces. Tensions between captives and captors are boiling.

SEE SYRIA ON A15

Syrian and Iraqi women near the market of the al-Hol camp for displaced persons on Aug. 7. In the camp, which was not built to handle the more than 60,000 people it houses, killings are blamed on hard-line Islamic State women.

Vaccine skepticism breeds a new celebrity

Ohio lawyer's rise on the right shows how misinformation can fuel fundraising, renown

BY SHAWN BOBURG AND JON SWAINE

In one of dozens of recent media appearances, Ohio attorney Thomas Renz was claiming that coronavirus vaccines were more harmful than the virus itself. "The people that are dying are vaccinated," he said on a conservative online talk show in July.

As Renz spoke, a message flashed across the screen with his website address. "Donate to his cause," it urged.

Renz, who became a licensed attorney only months before the pandemic began, has rapidly gained prominence among covid-19 skeptics for leading federal lawsuits in six states that challenge mask mandates and the safety of vaccines while alleging that the danger of the virus has been overblown.

Anti-vaccine groups, conspiracy theory enthusiasts and far-right media have embraced him, and his best-known client, the group America's Frontline Doctors, calls him part of a "Legal Eagle Dream Team."

It is a highly visible role for

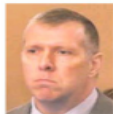
Renz, 44, who passed the Ohio bar exam in November 2019 on his fifth attempt and has limited litigation experience, according to a Washington Post examination of his career.

Before becoming a lawyer, he worked an array of jobs, including at a nonprofit that told The Post it terminated him and at a rural credit union. Two female employees at the credit union accused him of repeatedly making sexually suggestive comments at work and one alleged he touched her breast in 2014, according to letters the women wrote to the credit union's chief executive that were obtained by The Post.

Renz said in a brief interview at a recent speaking event near St. Louis that the previously unreported allegations from the credit union employees were "flatly untrue" but declined to discuss them in detail, citing nondisclosure agreements.

Renz's quick public ascent illustrates how promoting misinformation about the pandemic can be an effective fundraising tool and lead to renown within the portion of the country that

SEE RENZ ON A6



Thomas Renz



BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Where to go?

Pedestrians pass by a concrete plaza in the District's Adams Morgan neighborhood, where people living in tents face eviction amid a political tug of war. Story, B1

Lawsuit sets up test of Texas abortion limits

BY ANN E. MARIMOW

A lawsuit that could test the constitutionality of the nation's most restrictive abortion ban was filed in Texas on Monday against a doctor who admitted to performing an abortion considered illegal under the new law.

The details of the civil suit against Alan Braid, a physician in San Antonio, are as unusual as the

law itself, which empowers private citizens to enforce the ban on abortion once cardiac activity has been detected — often as early as six weeks into a pregnancy.

The plaintiff is a felon serving a federal sentence at home in Arkansas, with no connection to the abortion at issue. He said he filed the claim not because of strongly held views about reproductive rights but in part because of the

\$10,000 he could receive if the lawsuit is successful. A second suit filed Monday — just four paragraphs long — came from a man in Chicago who asked a state court to strike down the abortion law as invalid.

Since the Texas ban took effect Sept. 1, advocates on both sides of the abortion debate have been anticipating such lawsuits, though

SEE LAWSUIT ON A10

Budget plan ties funding to debt

DEMOCRATS BID TO AVERT FISCAL CRISIS

Suspending ceiling sets up showdown with GOP

BY TONY ROMM

House and Senate Democrats on Monday unveiled a measure that would fund the government into December while staving off a potential default on U.S. debts through next year, setting up a last-minute clash with Republicans ahead of two key fiscal deadlines on Capitol Hill.

The plan sketched out by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) seeks to prevent what they have described as an economic doomsday — a federal shutdown at the start of October and a Treasury Department that's unable to pay its bills soon after. The dual blows could jeopardize the U.S. recovery, the top Democrats warned, leaving millions of Americans without critical aid while destabilizing global markets.

But the party's plans immediately encountered fierce resistance from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell

SEE BUDGET ON A21

Getting personal: Health-care overhaul spurs fierce lobbying. A20

Setbacks on Hill shrink president's broad agenda

BY MIKE DEBONIS, SEAN SULLIVAN AND MARIA SACCHETTI

President Biden's governing agenda is at risk of unraveling on Capitol Hill after a mounting series of delays, clashes and setbacks that have sapped momentum from an ambitious and intricate push to deliver on long-standing Democratic policy priorities.

An overhaul of the nation's voting laws has been blocked by Republicans. An effort to strike a bipartisan deal on police reforms has lost all momentum. A sweeping immigration plan to provide a path to legal residency for millions of undocumented immigrants is now all but dead.

And centrist Democrats on Capitol Hill appear poised to pare down a planned \$3.5 trillion economic package as their liberal counterparts in the House threaten in turn to kill the bipartisan infrastructure deal that passed the Senate last month.

Both chambers returned to session together Monday for the first time since July, as many Democrats acknowledged a sense of foreboding about the weeks ahead, with not only ma-

SEE AGENDA ON A21

IN THE NEWS



Markets tumble Stock prices fell sharply as investors worried that a Chinese property developer could default on hundreds of billions of dollars in debt. A22

THE NATION The Wisconsin Supreme Court has agreed to review the case of a teenage sex-trafficking victim charged with killing her abuser. A3
President Biden launched a strategy to combat extreme heat, now the country's leading weather-related cause of death. A4
Two Asian American lawmakers are pressing the Justice Department to speed up implementation of provisions in a new federal law combating hate crimes. A4

Republican Sens. Lindsey O. Graham and Mike Lee personally vetted President Donald Trump's claims of election fraud but were unpersuaded, a new book claims. A5
Homeland security officials will investigate after images from Del Rio, Tex., showed agents on horseback trying to grab Haitian migrants, the DHS chief said. A17

THE WORLD Lava crawled toward the sea after a volcanic eruption in the Canary

Islands that forced 5,500 people to evacuate and destroyed more than 100 homes. A11
At a Russian university, students jumped from windows to escape a gunman's attack. At least six people were killed, and 24 were wounded. A14
Canadian voters headed to the polls to cast ballots in the snap federal election called by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau last month. A16

THE ECONOMY Get the lowdown on the features in iOS 15, Apple's latest iPhone software update. A19

THE REGION A Fairfax County judge said a plea deal for a man who sexually abused a young girl for years was "woefully inadequate." B1
Disapproval of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam has risen to 45 percent with six weeks before the gubernatorial election, spelling trouble for Democrats in the state. B1
Two students were wounded in a shooting at Heritage High School in Newport News, and police said one suspect was taken into custody. B2

INSIDE



HEALTH & SCIENCE
Aquatic rescue A mission to save the Florida Reef has relocated coral to facilities nationwide. E1
STYLE
Hollow glory The wrapping of L'Arc de Triomphe does away with delusions of grandeur. C1

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El Malba cumple dos décadas: el secreto del éxito

Fue inaugurado en medio de la conmoción y la incertidumbre mundial por el atentado contra las Torres Gemelas; historia y desafíos. **Página 22**



MESSI, POCHETTINO Y LOS ECOS DEL CAMBIO POLÉMICO

—deportes

Hay tensión en el PSG: señalamientos para el entrenador y duras críticas del periodismo especializado para el crack rosarino. **Deportes**

CONDENA A 45 AÑOS POR EL DOBLE CRIMEN FRENTE AL CONGRESO

—seguridad

El asesino confeso del diputado Héctor Olivares y su asesor, Miguel Yadón, recibió la máxima pena por homicidio agravado por alevosía. **Página 26**

LA NACION

MARTES 21 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

Fernández llamó a la unidad oficialista y lanza medidas para encender el consumo

CRISIS. "No me van a ver atrapado en disputas internas e innecesarias", dijo el Presidente en la jura de Manzur y los nuevos ministros; prevén eliminar restricciones sanitarias

El presidente Alberto Fernández presentó ayer su nuevo gobierno con un discurso de unidad, en el que buscó dar por zanjada la grave crisis interna en la que se sumergió el oficialismo tras la derrota en las elecciones primarias. El plan de relanzamiento incluirá el anuncio, a partir de hoy, de medidas de estímulo al consumo, que

incluirán una importante reapertura de actividades prohibidas por la pandemia.

"No me van a ver atrapado en disputas internas e innecesarias", dijo Fernández en el acto de jura del jefe de Gabinete, Juan Manzur, y otros cinco ministros, en la Casa Rosada. Cristina Kirchner no asistió. **Página 6**

Cristina se enfrenta al límite del "yo te lo dije"

Por Luciana Vázquez
Página 11

Definen una actualización en el piso de Ganancias

Página 14

TUCUMÁN

Juan Manzur se tomó licencia en Tucumán y aceptó que asuma la gobernación su vice y rival, Osvaldo Jaldo. **Página 10**

Desplome en los mercados por contagio global y la tensión local

INQUIETUD. El temor por el gigante chino Evergrande golpeó con fuerza en el país

Los inversores del mundo miran preocupados el posible colapso de la empresa inmobiliaria china Evergrande, que podría impactar a nivel global. La inquietud provocó ayer un temblor en los mercados de todo el mundo, que llegó hasta la Argentina, donde además hay incertidumbre por la crisis política. Los ADR en Nueva York cayeron hasta 13%, el Merval bajó 6,2% y el riesgo país subió 4,3%. **Página 2**

Giro de Biden: se necesitará vacuna para viajar a EE.UU.

NOVIEMBRE. WASHINGTON.—La Casa Blanca anunció ayer que a partir del 1º de noviembre todos los extranjeros que ingresen en el país por aire deberán presentar el esquema de vacunación completo. **Página 18**

Protestas tras una nueva toma en Río Negro

Página 24



EL REGRESO. Aníbal Fernández juró como ministro de Seguridad y amplió la marca histórica como el funcionario con más años con cargos de primera línea en un gabinete. Llegó por primera vez con Eduardo Duhalde, en 2002, y continuó durante todo el período kirchnerista (2003-2015). **Página 7**

FABIAN MORELLI

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Entre moderar e afagar base, Bolsonaro fala na ONU

Jair Bolsonaro abre hoje a 76ª Assembleia-Geral da ONU com o desafio de melhorar a imagem do país e se aproximar dos EUA — atendendo a alas mais moderadas —, sem deixar de motivar a base ideológica. Membro da comitiva teve diagnóstico de Covid. O prefeito de NY, Bill de Blasio, disse que Bolsonaro não devia ir à cidade se não quer se vacinar. **Mundo A13**

João P. Coutinho O isentão não é um covarde

A isenção, a recusa em participar na lama, a náusea perante "o estado a que isso chegou", também é uma escolha. Não se convencem e, pior, imagino que nas próximas eleições, se não surgir uma terceira via decente entre Lula e Bolsonaro, o ódio ao isentão só vai crescer. **Ilustrada C7**

Ciro Nogueira aluga mansão de amigo de Flávio

O ministro-chefe da Casa Civil, **Ciro Nogueira (PP-PI)**, usou a filial de sua empresa de venda de motos no Piauí para alugar uma mansão em Brasília comprada por um advogado amigo do senador **Flávio Bolsonaro (Patriota-RJ)**. O valor do aluguel está abaixo do praticado pelo mercado, dizem corretores. Procurado, **Ciro** não se manifestou. **Poder A4 e A5**

Novas suspeitas fazem Renan adiar relatório da CPI

Relator da CPI da Covid, o senador **Renan Calheiros (MDB-AL)** afirmou que deve adiar para outubro a apresentação do relatório. Ele citou "desdobramentos óbvios dos últimos dias" envolvendo a **Precisa Medicamentos** e a **Prevent Senior**. **Poder A7**

EDITORIAIS A2

Baralho paulista
Sobre cenários do Datafolha para a disputa em SP.

Eleições à russa
Acerca de pleito legislativo alvo de questionamento.

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Risco de gigante chinesa dar calote cria temor de crise global

Bolsas pelo mundo caem após empreiteira com R\$1,6 tri de passivo dizer que não pagará dívida

Mercados de ações mundo afora reagiram mal à notícia de que a **Evergrande**, gigante chinesa da construção, não pagará aos credores os juros de sua dívida, temerosos de um efeito dominó que contamine as finanças globais como na crise de 2008.

Mudanças de regulação e uma estratégia agressiva tornaram a empresa, que gere 1.300 empreendimentos na China, a companhia imobiliária mais endividada do planeta, com cerca de US\$ 300 bilhões em dívidas e mais de cem bancos como credores.

Até a noite de ontem no Brasil, não havia sinal de que o regime em Pequim, que tem na construção um motor de crescimento, socorreria a **Evergrande**. Também é clara a capacidade de solvência da empresa, cujas ações caíram 80% no ano.

O economista **Rodrigo Zeldan**, professor da **New York University Shanghai**, ressaltava que o risco é menor do que em 2008 por ser o sistema chinês menos integrado aos demais, e a chance de Pequim deixar ruir uma empresa estratégica, pequena.

Não se sabe, porém, o efeito que teria um pânico com a quebra da megapreteresa nem seu impacto no Brasil. Ontem, o **Ibovespa**, principal índice brasileiro, caiu 2,33%; o **Dow Jones**, em **Nova York**, 1,78%, e a **Bolsa de Londres** recuou 0,86%. **Mercado A17**



PATRULHA DE FRONTEIRA FECHA CERCO A HAITIANOS

Garotos haitianos cruzam o Rio Grande na altura de Ciudad Acuña (México) para chegar a Del Rio (EUA); mais de 10 mil cruzaram, e patrulha usa até cavalos para tentar impedir passagem

Situação econômica teve piora para 53%; 70% culpam governo

A situação econômica piorou para 53% dos brasileiros nos últimos meses, com inflação, crise energética e desaceleração da atividade, mostra pesquisa **Datafolha** feita dos dias 13 a 15. É o maior índice desde 2015 e supera os 46% que disseram, em julho, ter tido as finanças abaladas na pandemia.

O levantamento, que tem margem de erro de dois pontos a mais ou a menos, revela que para 69% a economia do país decaiu, e mais de 70% responsabilizam o governo. **Mercado A19**

67% cortaram consumo de carne, e 41%, de pão, mostra Datafolha A18

Pfizer conclui testes e diz que vacina é segura em crianças B1

EUA vão liberar viajantes do Brasil em novembro

Mundo A15

Saúde não vincula morte de jovem a imunizante

Saúde B1

Total da população vacinada

	ao menos uma dose*	totalmente vacinada*
Brasil	68,6%	38,0%
MS	74,8%	52,9%
SP	80,4%	50,4%
RS	71,8%	43,9%

Números da pandemia

	Casos	Óbitos
Total	21,2 mil	591 mil
Méd. móvel	32,8 mil	557
Variação***	56,4%	-7,6%
Em 24 h	-2.389,0	248

Estágios

■ Acelerado
■ Estável
■ Desacelerado
■ Reduzido

Brasil

■ Desacelerado

Dados das 20h de 20.set

* Tornou dose única ou 1ª dose

** Tornou dose única ou 2ª dose

*** Em relação a 14 dias

Esporte B7

Mandante tem vez

Jair Bolsonaro sancionou a Lei do Mandante, pela qual a TV detentora de contrato com o time da casa pode transmitir o jogo independentemente do acordo que o visitante tenha.

Ilustrada C1

Luiz F. Carvalho volta à TV com 200 anos da Independência

Ilustrada C3

Pouco diverso, Emmy enfim dá prêmio máximo à Netflix

Comida C8

Chefs nacionais fogem de estereótipo em casas no exterior

Ciência B6

Novo pterossauro brasileiro chama a atenção por crista

Buraco na camada de ozônio já supera área da Antártida

Ambiente B5

★★★

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Os números de devastação na Amazônia registram recordes, os incêndios no Pantanal alcançam marcas históricas e o mundo cobra responsabilidade ambiental do Brasil. Especialistas e convidados discutem os impactos dessa destruição na economia do Brasil e do mundo.

folha.com/negociacoesinternacionais

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