



What's News

World-Wide

The U.S. has plenty of Covid-19 vaccines but retail pharmacies, which face surging demand and staffing shortages, are struggling to quickly administer them in some places. **A1**

◆ **The FDA is laying the groundwork for the rapid review of Omicron-targeted vaccines and drugs if they turn out to be needed.** **A6**

◆ **Lilly's monoclonal antibody drug has been cleared for emergency use in children under 12, the FDA said.** **A6**

◆ **Michigan prosecutors charged the parents of the high-school sophomore accused of killing four classmates with four counts of involuntary manslaughter.** **A3**

◆ **Putin is amassing a force expected to total 175,000 troops near Russia's border with Ukraine, giving him the capability for a potential invasion by early 2022, U.S. officials said.** **A7**

◆ **Talks to revive the Iran nuclear deal stalled Friday, with Western allies saying the effort was a step closer to collapse after Tehran's negotiators barely inched from their tough stance.** **A8**

◆ **The U.S. will levy sanctions next week against foreign-government officials and people it accuses of corruption and human-rights abuse, and urge other nations to join its pressure campaign.** **A4**

Business & Finance

◆ **Hiring slowed last month amid Covid-19 uncertainties, but people returned to the labor force in droves. The U.S. economy added a seasonally adjusted 210,000 jobs in November, the smallest gain since last December.** **A1, A2**

◆ **Markets ended a tumultuous week with a broad tech selloff sending major U.S. stock indexes sharply lower and Treasury yields falling at a pace not seen since some of the worst days of the pandemic last year.** **A1, B11**

◆ **Investors punished shares of Chinese companies traded in the U.S. as Didi searched for ways to back out of its New York stock listing.** **A1**

◆ **Chinese authorities said they would step in to help Evergrande deal with its crisis after the company sought assistance from its provincial government.** **B1**

◆ **American Express Global Business Travel is merging with a blank-check company backed by Apollo to go public with a roughly \$5.3 billion valuation.** **B1**

◆ **Twitter's newly appointed chief executive is shaking up the company's leadership team less than a week into the job.** **B10**

◆ **China has approved the creation of one of the world's largest rare-earths companies.** **B3**

NOONAN

Will the Justices
Let Go of Abortion? **A13**

CONTENTS Sports A10
Books C7-12
Style & Fashion D23
Business News B3
Travel D9-10
Food D67
U.S. News A2-6
Hear on Street B12
Weather A10
Oil Prices A11
Opinion A13-18
World News A7-8



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Hiring Slows, but More Seek Work

U.S. adds just 210,000 jobs, but labor force participation surges; unemployment is 4.2%

By DAVID HARRISON

Hiring slowed last month amid Covid-19 uncertainties, but people returned to the labor force in droves in a sign the tight labor market could be loosening.

The U.S. economy added a seasonally adjusted 210,000

jobs in November—the smallest gain since December 2020 and a marked slowdown from an upwardly revised increase of 546,000 in October, the Labor Department said Friday. Almost 600,000 people joined the workforce, and the unemployment rate fell to 4.2% from 4.6%.

The payrolls number, which comes from a Labor Department survey of businesses, offered an unusually large divergence from data from a separate survey of households also released Friday that

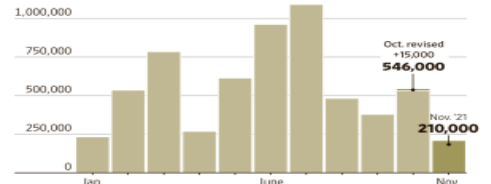
showed strong progress in employment.

That survey showed that 1.1 million more people were employed in November than in October. The labor-force participation rate rose to 61.8%, the highest level since March 2020 at the start of the pandemic.

The November payrolls figure “doesn’t really change what we thought about the labor market,” said Aneta Markowska, Please turn to page A2

◆ **Hear on the Street: Report gets participation trophy... B12**

Nonfarm payrolls, monthly net change



Note: Seasonally adjusted. October and November are preliminary. Source: U.S. Labor Department



Members of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey protest in Ankara on Friday for a higher minimum-wage increase in 2022 because of the falling lira and worsening economic situation under President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Turkey's Economy Slides Into Turmoil

President Erdogan fires central bankers, the lira plunges in value and inflation soars

By JARED MALIN

ISTANBUL—The two-decade economic boom that lifted millions of Turks into the middle class is beginning to unravel, threatened by a currency crisis that has people lining up for subsidized bread, cutting back on meat and fleeing for a better life in Europe.

The Turkish lira has lost as much as 45% of its value this year, making ordinary Turks poorer. The pandemic-era consumer-price increases that have plagued economies across the world are super-sized in Turkey, where inflation stands at more than 21%. People here are rushing to trade their shrinking wages for dollars and gold, are eating out less and are having more trouble finding imported

goods, including medicine.

The crisis largely stems from President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's own economic policies, say economists both inside and outside Turkey. After nearly two decades in power, Mr. Erdogan has fired nearly every economic official who had stood in the way of his unorthodox views, and has steered the country down a path few, if any, economists the size of Turkey have charted.

After years in which he has weakened Turkish institutions and centralized power, Mr. Erdogan has now assumed broad control over the economy, with no one within the government to oppose him, former Turkish officials say.

Mr. Erdogan has successfully pressured the central bank to slash interest rates

despite rapid inflation. Normally, central banks raise rates to encourage saving, discourage borrowing and cool off inflation. But Mr. Erdogan has called for lower interest rates and blamed rising costs on foreign interests.

Turkey, a G-20 economy and a leader among emerging markets, is a North Atlantic Treaty Organization ally and a key security partner for the U.S. Financial instability there could ripple through the Middle East. It could also threaten Ankara's ambitions to become a power broker in the region, where it has acted as a counterweight to Russia while intervening in conflicts in Libya, Syria and Iraq.

The free-falling lira has also fueled concerns that the crisis could tip over Please turn to page A9

Markets' Fall Caps Volatile Week

By GUNJAN BANERJEE

Markets ended a tumultuous week on an ominous note, with a broad technology-sector selloff sending major U.S. stock indexes sharply lower and Treasury yields falling at a pace not seen since some of the worst days of the pandemic last year.

After a relatively placid stretch across financial markets, investors have been confronted with several fresh worries that have triggered volatility in markets around the globe.

Many investors expect the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates next year after a prolonged period of keeping them near zero, a policy that has propelled the market to record after record over the past year. Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said this week that the central bank was prepared to pare its easy-money policies at a quicker pace, opening the door to raising interest rates in the first half of 2022.

Some investors said that the prospect of rate increases comes at a precarious time. New monthly jobs figures, released Friday, highlighted how sluggish job growth has been even though the unemployment rate dwindled in November to the lowest level since February 2020, stoking a wild session of trading.

And the new Omicron variant of Covid-19 has emerged, injecting further volatility into the stock market as investors Please turn to page A2

◆ **Oil prices recover some losses... B11**

EXCHANGE



MUSK IN CHINA
How the Tesla CEO became one of the Chinese government's biggest cheerleaders. **B1**

Demand for Covid-19 Shots Strains Pharmacies

The U.S. has plenty of Covid-19 vaccines but retail pharmacies are struggling to quickly administer them in some places.

By Sharon Terlep,
Tarini Parti
and Sarah Nassauer

Vaccine seekers in some states face waits of days or weeks for doses as local health officials hustle to improve access to meet surging demand. CVS Health Corp., Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. and Walmart Inc., which are facing staffing shortages, now say they may not be able to accommodate people without appointments. Millions of Please turn to page A6

◆ **FDA aims for rapid review of Omicron vaccines, drugs... A6**

Chinese Shares Rocked As Didi Seeks to Delist

By JING YANG
AND KEITH ZHAI

Investors punished shares of Chinese companies traded in the U.S. on Friday as Didi Global Inc. searched for ways to back out of its New York stock listing months after the initial public offering drew Beijing's ire.

The Chinese ride-hailing company's decision to delist its American depository shares from the New York Stock Exchange and pursue a listing in Hong Kong marked a new stage in the decoupling of Chinese companies from U.S. markets.

Declines cascaded broadly through U.S.-listed Chinese firms, with stock in Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. falling 8.2%, slashing some \$27 billion off the company's market value. Pinduoduo Inc. retreated 8.2%, Baidu Inc. declined 7.8%, and JD.com Inc. fell 7.7%. Didi's beaten-up stock fell

further, dropping 22% to \$6.07—below its \$14-a-share IPO price.

Didi didn't give any rationale for the delisting, which it said has received support from its board and would later require a shareholder vote. The company ran into trouble with Beijing almost immediately after its \$4.4 billion initial public offering. The IPO blindsided Chinese regulators, who launched a data-security review, pulled Didi products from Chinese app stores and began a broader overhaul of the framework for international listings by Chinese companies.

Washington has been taking a hawkish stance on Chinese companies listed in the U.S. and Beijing is calling its companies to return home. On Thursday, the U.S. Securities Please turn to page A4

◆ **Hear on the Street: Didi's bumpy ride isn't over... B12**



Women of the year

Mary Barra, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Scarlett Johansson

25 global leaders and influencers

LIFE & ARTS

China's Didi to drop NYSE listing

◆ Taxi app plans switch to HK ◆ Beijing accelerates US decoupling ◆ Tech shares decline

RYAN MC MORROW — BEIJING
TOM YU — SHANGHAI
TON MITCHELL — SINGAPORE

Chinese ride-hailing group Didi Chuxing is delisting from the New York Stock Exchange, accelerating China's decoupling from US capital markets as Beijing cracks down on the country's leading technology groups.

The company, which has been hit by increased regulatory scrutiny in China, yesterday said it would begin delisting and prepare to go public in Hong Kong.

Didi said that its board had authorised the delisting in New York of its American depositary shares while ensuring they would be "convertible into freely

tradable shares... on another internationally recognised stock exchange."

Didi's shares fell nearly 17 per cent by midday in New York yesterday. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Tech index fell as much as 2.7 per cent after the news and Alibaba by as much as 5.4 per cent.

"This is the nail in the coffin for decoupling in equity markets between the US and China," said Andrew Collier at Orient Capital Research in Hong Kong. "[Regulators] are being pushed to do this because Xi Jinping has clearly taken a very nationalist tone in terms of capital flows, particularly from the US."

Didi launched its \$4.4bn New York initial public offering in June, making it

the biggest listing by a Chinese company in the US since Alibaba in 2014.

Days later, regulators ordered Didi's app to be taken off Chinese app stores. It was also banned from signing new users and subjected to a government investigation into its cybersecurity practices.

The group's shares have nearly halved from the June IPO price of \$14 to \$7.80 at the New York close on Thursday.

While big Chinese state-owned enterprises listed in the US have been targeted by the Biden and Trump administrations with investment bans, New York remained an attractive destination for China's private-sector tech groups.

In the immediate aftermath of Didi's



Didi Chuxing launched its \$4.4bn New York IPO in June and days later Beijing ordered its removal from Chinese app stores

IPO, Chinese regulators signalled that other companies hoping to follow suit would be subject to more stringent procedures, especially if they managed data that was deemed sensitive by Beijing.

Didi's IPO, which was completed the week before the Chinese Communist party celebrated its centennial, angered party and government officials who believed the group had brushed aside concerns related to national security.

"After this high-profile listing turned out to be a huge mistake, all Chinese companies will think twice about going to New York," said Chen Long at Penum, a Beijing-based consultancy.

Lex and The Long View page 18

Learning curve

Hunt is on for Omicron data

Pupils line up at the Kgotho Academy on "Spirit Day" in Johannesburg's Alexandra township this week. The Omicron variant of coronavirus, first discovered in South Africa, has been linked to a substantial rise in reinfections in the country compared with previous waves, according to the first detailed study into the heavily mutated strain.

Policymakers and the public around the world are still desperate for more information about the new variant and whether vaccines will still work.

Rise in reinfections page 2

Big Read page 6

FT View page 8

South Africa diary Life & Arts



Jerome Delaport



Maxwell's lawyers adopt a risky strategy in MeToo era

The full-blooded attacks by Ghislaine Maxwell's lawyers on the credibility of her accusers are by no means a new strategy in such cases. But in a MeToo era, where society's ideas of how to respond to women's complaints of abuse are being revised, it is a risky approach. It's also probably the only strategy Ghislaine Maxwell has, if the jury credits and believes these women, she's cooked: says a former prosecutor who has handled sexual abuse cases.

Pulling no punches — PAGE 3

US job growth slows sharply as Fed considers a speedier end to stimulus

COLBY SMITH — NEW YORK

US job growth slowed in November while the unemployment rate fell to its lowest since the pandemic began, painting a complex picture of the workforce's recovery as the Federal Reserve considers whether to speed up its withdrawal of stimulus support.

Employers in the world's largest economy added just 210,000 jobs for the month, a steep drop-off from the 546,000 positions created in October and well below economists' forecasts of 550,000. Since the start of the year, monthly gains have averaged 555,000.

Despite the slow pick-up last month, the unemployment rate fell significantly, dipping 0.4 percentage points to 4.2 per cent. Less than six months ago, it hovered closer to 6 per cent.

"With this report, we get more evidence that the economy has re-accelerated from a bit of a slowdown in the third quarter," said Ellen Case, an economist at PGIM Fixed Income.

She pointed to the discrepancy in the two surveys that comprise the jobs report, with one measuring households and the other employers. The "establishment" survey suggested a sharp slowdown in hiring, while the "household" survey showed a gain of 1.1m.

President Joe Biden yesterday said the unemployment rate's decline was a sign that the job market was rebounding, despite slower job creation. But he also noted the anxiety around the US about the cost of living amid high inflation.

"It's not enough to know we're making progress," Biden said. "You need to see it and feel it in your own lives around the kitchen table and in your cheque

books." The US president also said the recent drop in oil prices was a sign that cost pressures would start to abate.

The data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics yesterday, which included substantial upward revisions to September and October's job gains for a combined 82,000 additional positions, showed modest improvement in the number of people looking for a job.

The latest jobs report, which showed 5.9m more Americans still out of work than before the pandemic, came days after Fed chair Jay Powell said the central bank was assuming a more aggressive stance to combat inflation.

He signalled this week that he may support speeding up the central bank's withdrawal of its enormous stimulus programme — a process it began just a few weeks ago at a pace that would end bond-buying altogether in June.

World Markets

| STOCK MARKETS | | | | | CURRENCIES | | | | | INTEREST RATES | | | | |
|------------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|---------|-----------------|--------|-------|-------|--|
| | Dec 3 | prev | %chg | | Dec 3 | prev | Dec 3 | prev | | price | yield | chg | | |
| S&P 500 | 4039.72 | 4037.92 | -1.47 | \$ per £ | 1.128 | 1.132 | £ per \$ | 0.758 | 0.732 | US Gov 10 yr | 147.76 | 1.30 | -0.05 | |
| Nasdaq Composite | 14953.66 | 15081.32 | -2.72 | \$ per € | 1.322 | 1.331 | € per \$ | 1.172 | 1.176 | UK Gov 10 yr | | 0.67 | -0.05 | |
| Dow Jones Ind | 34079.03 | 34035.79 | -0.75 | ¥ per \$ | 0.853 | 0.851 | ¥ per \$ | 122.719 | 122.848 | Ger Gov 10 yr | | -0.39 | -0.02 | |
| FTSE100 | 1793.29 | 1803.21 | -0.55 | ¥ per \$ | 113.225 | 112.905 | £ index | 81.488 | 81.371 | Japan Gov 10 yr | 112.77 | 0.05 | 0.00 | |
| Euro Stoxx 50 | 4099.25 | 4108.02 | -0.94 | ¥ per \$ | 149.683 | 150.327 | Sfr per \$ | 1.218 | 1.223 | US Gov 30 yr | 122.07 | 1.71 | -0.08 | |
| FTSE 100 | 7122.32 | 7129.21 | -0.10 | Sfr per € | 1.038 | 1.040 | | | | US Gov 2 yr | 104.79 | -0.74 | 0.00 | |
| FTSE All-Share | 4058.32 | 4063.89 | -0.11 | € per \$ | 0.887 | 0.894 | | | | | | | | |
| CAC 40 | 6795.52 | 6795.75 | -0.44 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Xetra Dax | 15109.98 | 15263.11 | -0.61 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nikkei | 28225.57 | 27753.37 | 1.09 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 23268.89 | 23784.93 | -0.89 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MSCI World \$ | 3111.17 | 3087.98 | 0.75 | Oil WTI \$ | 86.80 | 86.50 | 0.45 | | | Fed Funds Eff | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| MSCI EM \$ | 1236.19 | 1228.01 | 0.76 | Oil Brent \$ | 70.38 | 69.67 | 1.02 | | | US 3m T-bill | 0.05 | 0.06 | -0.01 | |
| MSCI ACWI \$ | 730.10 | 724.05 | 0.75 | Gold \$ | 1789.25 | 1804.40 | -0.84 | | | Euro Libor 3m | -0.60 | -0.60 | 0.00 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | UK 3m | 0.10 | 0.11 | -0.01 | |

A Nikkei Company

Gift guide

Jewellery, beauty and the home
SEPARATE SECTION



Filmmaker Ava DuVernay
has Lunch with the FT

LIFE & ARTS



Festive wines

Jancis Robinson's best whites
LIFE & ARTS



How To Spend It
Fashion special
SEPARATE MAGAZINE

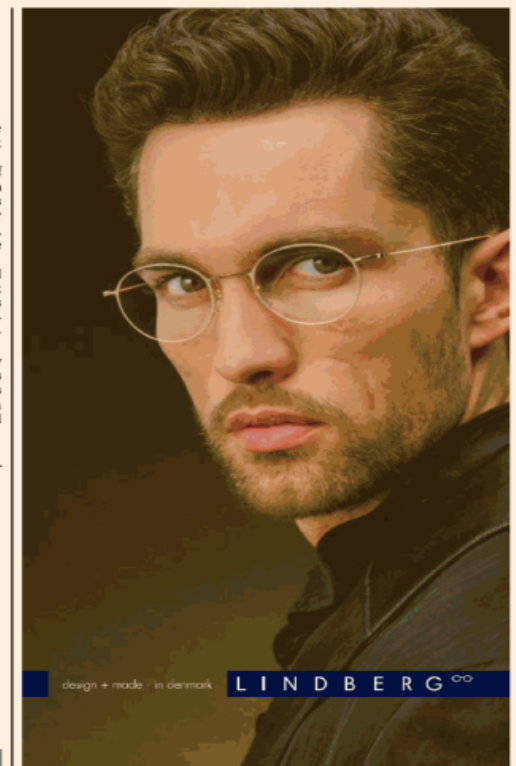


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LINDBERG

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Suspect's Parents Charged In Michigan School Attack

By JACK HEALY

The gun was an early Christmas gift from his parents: a semi-automatic 9-millimeter Sig Sauer handgun. "My new beauty," Ethan Crumbley, 15, called it.

The day after Thanksgiving, he and his father had gone together to a Michigan gun shop to buy it. He and his mother spent a day testing out the gun, which was stored unlocked in the parents' bedroom. On Monday, when a teacher reported seeing their son searching online for ammunition, his mother did not seem alarmed.

"LOL I'm not mad at you," Jennifer Crumbley texted her son. "You have to learn not to get caught."

A day later, the authorities say the teenager fatally shot four classmates in the halls of Oxford High School in suburban Detroit, using the handgun his parents had bought for him.

On Friday, Karen D. McDonald, the Oakland County prosecutor, laid out those and other chilling details as she took the rare step of filing involuntary manslaughter charges against the suspect's parents, James and Jennifer Crumbley.

Ms. McDonald said the Crumbleys were culpable in the year's deadliest school shooting because they had allowed their son access to a handgun while ignoring glaring warnings that he was on the brink of violence.

Law enforcement officials said that the parents had gone missing on Friday afternoon and that the county's fugitive-apprehension team, F.B.I. agents and United States Marshals were looking for the couple. "They cannot run from their part in this tragedy," Sheriff Michael Bouchard of Oakland County said in a statement.

Lawyers for the parents said the Crumbleys had not fled, but had left town for their own safety and were returning to be arraigned.

Ever since the 1999 attack at Columbine High School, the parents of children who commit school shootings have come under scrutiny over missed warning signs and whether they should bear some blame. But they are rarely held criminally responsible in the raw aftermath of a school shooting, even though many underage attackers arm themselves with guns from home.

But in an extraordinary news conference, Ms. McDonald recounted a nearly minute-by-minute litany of missed opportunities to intervene — including how the suspect's parents had been alerted to a disturbing drawing he made containing violent images and a plea for help just hours before the shooting.

"I am in no way saying that an active shooter situation should al-

Continued on Page A14



A vigil honored victims of the Oxford High School shooting.

Spyware Used To Hack Phones At U.S. Embassy

This article is by Katie Benner, David E. Sanger and Julian E. Barnes.

WASHINGTON — The iPhones of 11 U.S. Embassy employees working in Uganda were hacked using spyware developed by Israel's NSO Group, the surveillance firm that the United States blacklisted a month ago because it said the technology had been used by foreign governments to repress dissent, several people familiar with the breach said Friday.

The hack is the first known case of the spyware, known as Pegasus, being used against American officials. Pegasus is a sophisticated surveillance system that can be remotely implanted in smartphones to extract sound and video recordings, encrypted communications, photos, contacts, location data and text messages.

There is no suggestion that NSO itself hacked into the phones, but rather that one of its clients, mostly foreign governments, had directed it against embassy employees.

The disclosure is bound to heighten the tension with Israel over the recent American crackdown on Israeli firms that make surveillance software that has been used to track the locations of dissidents, listen in on their conversations and secretly download files that move through their phones. President Biden plans to make efforts to further crack

Continued on Page A7

Nebraska Lab Tracks Variant, Finding Cluster

By MITCH SMITH

OMAHA — Researchers in Nebraska had just finished sequencing six samples of the Omicron variant, the most discovered anywhere in the United States. They just didn't know it yet.

In a closet-size room with two chairs and no windows, the scientists had extracted the genetic information from 64 new coronavirus samples, as they do every day, to determine whether any of those patients might have the worrisome new variant. Hours later, Dr. Baha Abdulhamid opened an email and saw the results.

"This batch, I was waiting for it," said Dr. Abdulhamid, the assistant director of the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory. "Once I downloaded the results as an Excel sheet, I screened the 64 samples right away, and sure enough, six of them were Omicron." Nebraska officials announced the six cases, the state's first, on Friday.

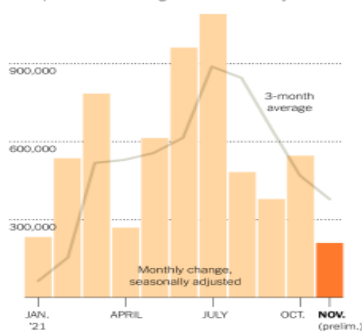
Around the world, scientists are racing to understand how widespread Omicron is and how severe a threat it may pose. That has placed labs like Dr. Abdulhamid's on the front lines of the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

Underscoring growing concerns about Omicron, scientists in South Africa said on Friday that the variant appeared to spread more than twice as quickly as Delta, until now the most conta-

Continued on Page A11

A Job Market Pulled in Different Directions

SEESAWING U.S. JOB GROWTH A disappointing 210,000 jobs were added in November, after periods of robust growth earlier this year.

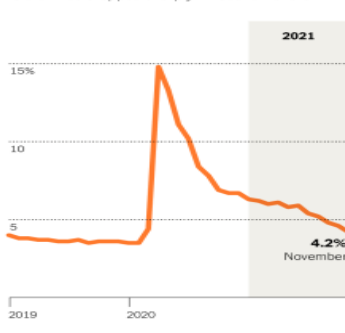


REJOINING THE LABOR FORCE People are returning slowly to the job market, even as participation levels remain depressed compared with previous decades.



Source: Labor Department | Wage data is through October.

FALLING UNEMPLOYMENT RATE The share of the labor force that is looking for work or temporarily laid off has dropped sharply in recent months.



WAGES ARE INCREASING Average hourly earnings continue to rise, especially at lower-paying jobs. The increases have fueled worries about inflation.



BEN CASSMAN, ELA KOEZE AND BILL MARSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

An Excruciating Journey Back From Long Covid

By PAM BELLUCK

AURORA, ILL. — There is sobering evidence of Samantha Lewis's struggle with long Covid on her bathroom mirror.

Above the sink, she has posted a neon pink index card scrawled with nine steps (4. Wet brush 5. Toothpaste) reminding her how to brush and floss her teeth. It is one of many strategies Ms. Lewis, 34, has learned from "cognitive rehab," an intensive therapy program for Covid-19 survivors whose lives have been upended by problems like brain fog, memory lapses, dizziness and debilitating fatigue.

Nearly two years into the pandemic, advances have been made in treating Covid itself, but long Covid — a constellation of lingering health problems that some patients experience — remains little understood. Post-Covid clinics around the country are trying different approaches to help patients desperate for answers, but there is little data on outcomes so far,

Effect on Brain Lingers, Upending Lives

and doctors say it is too soon to know what might work, and for which patients.

While some physical symptoms of long Covid, like shortness of

breath or nausea, can be addressed with medication, cognitive issues are more challenging. Few drugs exist, and while some deficits can rebound with time, they can also be exacerbated by resuming activities too soon or intensively.

Over several months, The New York Times visited Ms. Lewis, in-

Continued on Page A12



Balance exercises are part of Samantha Lewis's "cognitive rehab."

Next to Tidy Lawns, One Yard Brims With Wonders of Creation

By CARA BUCKLEY

WADING RIVER, N.Y. — If Bill Jacobs were a petty man, or a less religious one, he might look through the thicket of flowers, bushes and brambles that encircle his home and see enemies all around. For to the North, and to the South, and to the West and

East and all points in between, stretch acres and acres of lawns.

Lawns that are mowed and edges trimmed with military precision. Lawns where leaves are banished with roaring machines and that are oftentimes doused with pesticides. Lawns that are fastidiously manicured by landscapers like Justin Camp, Mr. Jacobs's neighbor next door, who

Ecologist Sees Blessing in Biodiversity

maintains his own pristine blanket of green.

"It takes a special kind of person to do something like that," Mr. Camp said, nodding to wooded

wilds of his neighbor's yard. "I mow lawns for a living, so it's not my thing."

Mr. Jacobs and his wife, Lynn Jacobs, don't have a lawn to speak of, not counting the patch of grass out back over which Mr. Jacobs runs his old manual mower every now and then.

Their house is barely visible,

Continued on Page A15

NATIONAL A9-17

Who Gets Climate Protection?

The infrastructure law funds programs that tend to favor wealthy, white areas — a test for the president's pledge to help the most vulnerable. PAGE A9

U.S. Scrutinizing Cuomo

Federal officials opened a civil rights inquiry into the sexual harassment claims against former Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo of New York. PAGE A14

Starting Over, in a Tent City

A New Jersey military base is the only site accepting new Afghan arrivals from overseas. It holds more evacuees than any other U.S. haven. PAGE A17

INTERNATIONAL A4-8

A Survivor Turned Activist

Shira Isakov is challenging Israeli law on domestic violence and parental rights. The Saturday Profile. PAGE A4

Guns and Land in Afghanistan

Taliban leaders are looking to reward their fighters with property, even if that means evicting others. PAGE A6

BUSINESS B1-6

Sellers, Beware

Robberies have been more visible, and sometimes violent, with several involving large groups rushing into stores to take armloads of goods. PAGE B1

A \$2 Billion Disagreement

SoftBank's founder is locked in a dispute over compensation his key deputy insists he should be paid. PAGE B1

SPORTS B7-9

What Baseball's Lockout Means

Players are locked out and transactions are frozen. But no one is missing any paychecks — yet. PAGE B8

ARTS C1-6

A Career-Changing Chance

The artist Jerrell Gibbs, who started painting six years ago, was commissioned for the official portrait of Representative Elijah E. Cummings. It will be installed at the U.S. Capitol. PAGE C1

Hear That? How Cool!

In "The 33 1/3 Podcast" on Spotify, the producer Prince Paul and his eclectic range of guests gather to explore classic albums from Steely Dan, Janet Jackson and others. PAGE C1

OPINION A18-19

Farhad Manjoo

PAGE A18



THIS WEEKEND

The Magic of Sondheim

A collection of stories reflects on the composer's talent for helping fellow artists, and includes an interview he gave just days before his death.





LISA MAURICIO is an El Sereno homeowner who helped develop L.A.'s plan to buy 77 vacant homes and lots owned by Caltrans. "We have a chance, a real chance to restore the community," she said.

Hope for derelict homes

City wants to buy properties where 710 Freeway was to go

By LIAM DILLON

Six decades after California transportation officials began seizing hundreds of properties for a freeway project that never came, Los Angeles leaders have unveiled a proposal to replace the decaying vacant homes and dirt-filled lots in the El Sereno neighborhood with new parks and housing.

If the plan comes to fruition, it would be a major step forward in the saga involving the curtailed 710 Freeway, which hit a wall of opposition before it could stretch into wealthier communities.



JATONNA KNAPP rents an El Sereno home from Caltrans that was once slated to be demolished.

The Eastside neighborhood has long borne the most visible and lasting scars of the abandoned project, with a high concentration of derelict homes left in its wake. As the COVID-19 pandemic hit, activists repeatedly tried to take over vacant homes in a reaction to the region's affordable housing crisis.

"The time is finally here to restore the community of El Sereno and make it whole again," said Los Angeles City Councilman Kevin de León, who represents the neighborhood, at a Friday morning news conference intro-

Brazen crimes step up debate over policies

High-profile incidents at homes, businesses cast a spotlight on reform measures.

By KEVIN RECTOR, RICHARD WINTON AND ANDREW J. CAMPA

Crews of burglars publicly smashing their way into Los Angeles' most exclusive stores. Robbers following their victims, including a star of "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" and a BET host, to their residences. And this week, the fatal shooting of 81-year-old Jacqueline Avant, an admired philanthropist and wife of music legend Clarence Avant, in her Beverly Hills home.

After two years of rising violent crime in Los Angeles, these cases have sparked a national conversation and led to local concern about both the crimes themselves and where the outrage over the violence will lead.

"The fact that this has happened, her being shot and killed in her own home, after giving, sharing, and caring for 81 years has shaken the laws of the Universe," declared Oprah Winfrey, expressing her grief over Avant's killing to her 43 million Twitter followers. "The

world is upside down."

While overall city crime rates remain far below records set during the notorious gang wars of the 1990s, violent crime has jumped sharply in L.A., as it has in other cities. Much of the violence has occurred in poor communities and among vulnerable populations, such as the homeless, and has received little attention.

However, since the start of the pandemic and more rapidly in recent months, crime has crept up in wealthier enclaves and thrust its way to the center of public discourse in L.A., against the backdrop of COVID-19 angst, evolving political perceptions of what role police and prosecutors should play in society and, now, a holiday season upon which brick-and-mortar retailers are relying to stay afloat.

Some wonder if this could be a turning point for California, which for decades has been at the center of the movement for criminal justice reform, rolling back tough sentencing laws and reducing prison populations.

Polls in 2020 showed that California voters largely support many of these measures, and both San Francisco and Los Angeles have elected district attorneys [See Crime, A5]

Teen led to suspect in Avant slaying

The girl called police after she heard a gunshot and a man yelling outside her bedroom door. CALIFORNIA, B1

COLUMN ONE

Race, free speech take center stage

A theater professor's remarks spark backlash, then boycott

By JENNY JARVIE REPORTING FROM CONWAY, S.C.

It all started with a misunderstanding. A Black theater student at Coastal Carolina University told a visiting drama teacher she wanted to connect with nonwhite students, so the teacher drew up a list of names on a whiteboard, then forgot to erase it when they left the studio.

When several other students walked in, they saw the list and were left with the suspicion that those on it had been singled out with racist intent.

A committee of professors investigated and promptly sent out a departmentwide email clarifying what had happened that September day. Seeking to calm students, the professors wrote that the explanation "in no way undermines the feelings that any of you feel about the incident" and that the faculty was "deeply sorry."

The visiting teacher also wrote an apology: "No matter the good intention, ... I still want you to know I'm an idiot and I am sorry."

Things might have ended there. But at a time when college campuses have become center stage for the polarizing issues of race, identity and what constitutes harm, the theater department was primed for conflict.

Enter Steve Earnest. "Sorry but I don't think it's a big deal," the 62-year-old drama professor, who is white, wrote in a "reply all" email. "I'm just sad people get their feelings hurt so easily. And they are going into Theatre?"

Within minutes, his iPad lit up with messages, mostly from Black theater majors. "Thinking like that is part of the problem," wrote Kelis Herriott, a 21-year-old [See Drama, A6]

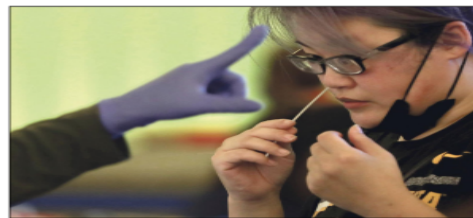
Can Omicron outcompete Delta?

Newcomer's effect will depend in part on its ability to elbow out the dominant strain.

By RONG-GONG LIN II, LUKE MONEY AND MELISSA HEALY

With a handful of cases now confirmed across the country, it's clear that the Omicron variant has established a foothold in the United States.

But whether these initial infections fade out or be-



AN ARRIVING traveler at the LAX international terminal takes a free coronavirus rapid test.

come the beachhead for a new coronavirus assault depends largely on how Omicron stacks up against a now-familiar foe: the Delta variant.

Since it burst onto the scene last week, scientists have been working to figure out whether its numerous mutations help it spread more easily than its predecessors, make its victims sicker, or reduce the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines and medicines.

Yet there's another question that's just as important for forecasting Omicron's ef-

[See Omicron, A7]

Parents charged in school killings

Couple whose son is suspected in Michigan attack are sought by authorities. NATION, A4

Carson odor is blamed on fire

Officials say chemical runoff after blaze likely led to plants' stinky die-off. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather Fog, then sun. L.A. Basin: 64/46. B8



Dispirited by online impostors

Mediums have long sought legitimacy. They didn't foresee cyber impersonators.

By DEBORAH NETBURN

Late one night, Stella Premo received a cryptic DM on Instagram that appeared to be from Aja Daashuur, a medium and spiritual advisor based in Los Angeles.

"Grand rising," the direct

message began, followed by three shooting star emojis. "I'm drawn to you my beloved [double heart emoji, double heart emoji] for your reading and guidance. You are blessed."

Premo, who teaches yoga in Sacramento, was surprised to hear from Daashuur directly — she'd been following her for only about a week — but she wrote back that she was planning to reach out to the medium soon. She had a big project coming up and could use some divine guidance. Then

she put her phone away and went to bed.

But the more Premo thought about it, the weirder the DM seemed. The next morning she took a screenshot of the exchange and sent it to Daashuur's original account.

"I'm sorry to bother you, but do you have two accounts?" Premo wrote. "I recently received a message from another account with all your same information. ... If it is you, please let me know."

[See Impostors, A10]

BUSINESS INSIDE: Hiring growth is sluggish, but the jobless rate falls sharply to 4.2%. A8

LOS ANGELES BALLET

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The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Partly sunny 60/37 • Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy 51/43 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 • B2

U.S. warns of Russian offensive in Ukraine

Satellite images show growing buildup near border as tensions rise

BY SHANE HARRIS
AND PAUL SONNE

As tensions mount between Washington and Moscow over a potential Russian invasion of Ukraine, U.S. intelligence has found the Kremlin is planning a multi-front offensive as soon as early next year involving up to 175,000 troops, according to U.S. officials and an intelligence document obtained by The Washington Post.

The Kremlin has been moving troops toward the border with Ukraine while demanding Washington guarantee that Ukraine will not join NATO and that the alliance will refrain from certain military activities in and around Ukrainian territory. The crisis has provoked fears of a renewed war on European soil and comes ahead of a planned virtual meeting next week between President Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"The Russian plans call for a military offensive against Ukraine as soon as early 2022 with a scale of forces twice what we saw this past spring during Russia's snap exercise near Ukraine's borders," said an administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive information. "The plans involve extensive U.S. response." SEE UKRAINE ON A8

Migrants: Belarus promises 'tough response' to U.S. sanctions. A9

Pegasus spyware used on American diplomats

BY CRAIG TIMBERG,
DREW HARWELL
AND ELLEN NAKASHIMA

Apple has alerted 11 U.S. Embassy employees that their iPhones have been hacked in recent months with Pegasus spyware from NSO Group, an Israeli-based company that licenses software to government clients in dozens of countries that allows them to secretly steal files, eavesdrop on conversations and track the movements of its targets, according to people familiar with the notification.

The revelation, the first confirmed cases of Pegasus being used to target American officials, comes a month after U.S. officials blacklisted the NSO Group amid allegations that its foreign government clients enabled hacking against unspecified embassy employees, political activists, human rights workers and others.

These and other actions come after the July publication of the Pegasus Project, an investigation by The Washington Post and 16 other news organizations into the activities of NSO Group. One of the investigation's findings was that U.S. diplomats and other em-

SEE PEGASUS ON A16

Pope Francis makes the case for Europe to welcome migrants



ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope Francis greets people after a prayer with migrants at the Parish Church of the Holy Cross in Nicosia, Cyprus, on Friday. Francis is on a trip to Cyprus and Greece to draw attention to his call for Europe to welcome migrants. The visit comes five years after he flew 12 Syrian refugees from Greece to Rome. Story, A12

Harris staff exodus reignites leadership concerns

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
AND TYLER PAGER

The rumors started circulating in July: Vice President Harris's staff was wiling in a dysfunctional and frustrated office, burned out just a few months after her historic swearing-in and pondering exit strategies. A few days later, Harris hosted an all-staff party at her official residence, where most of her office bit into hamburgers and posted pictures of smiling, congenial co-workers on Twitter, pixelated counter-

The departures echo past turnover, raise questions on her future

points to the narrative of an office in shambles.

"Let me tell you about these burgers at the VP's residence!!" chief Harris spokesperson Symone Sanders gushed in a tweet. "The food was good and the people were amazing." Her official

defense against reports of staff unrest was more searing. She called people who lobbed criticism behind nameless quotes "cowards" and stressed that working for a groundbreaking vice president was a difficult job, but not a dehumanizing one. "We are not making rainbows and bunnies all day," she told one outlet. "What I hear is that people have hard jobs and I'm like, 'welcome to the club.'"

Five months later, Sanders is leaving the vice president's office, the highest-profile member of an

end-of-year exodus that includes communications chief Ashley Etienne and two other staffers who help shape the vice president's public image. Sanders told The Washington Post her departure is not due to any unhappiness or dysfunction, but rather because she is ready for a break after three years of the relentless pressure that came with speaking for and advising the vice president and president while navigating a global pandemic.

But the quartet of soon-to-be-

SEE HARRIS ON A8

A fight for freedoms stolen by a wrongful conviction

Anthony Broadwater's exoneration in author's rape exposes inequities in criminal justice system

BY KAREN HELLER

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — "I kept fighting for the court to do the right thing," Anthony Broadwater says, sitting in his lawyer's office Wednesday, a box of tissues set before him. His life has been marked by prolonged stretches of misery. Broadwater spent more than 16 years in prison after being falsely convicted of author Alice Sebold's rape, the subject of her memoir "Lucky." After his release in 1999, the same year the book was published, Broadwater became a registered violent sex offender, a purgatory that diminished his income, movement and quality of life, but not his hope that he would be exonerated.

His case encompasses inequities in the criminal justice system, of a White victim misidentifying a Black man whose life will never fully recover. And it raises the question of who gets to own a story — and what is owed when that story turns out to be inaccurate.

SEE BROADWATER ON A5



MATT BURKHART/THE WASHINGTON POST

Anthony Broadwater, with wife Elizabeth, was wrongfully convicted of Alice Sebold's 1981 rape, the subject of her memoir, and spent 16 years in prison. His conviction was vacated last month.

Parents charged in Mich. shooting

GUN BOUGHT AS GIFT WENT UNSECURED

Prosecutors say signs of son's intent unheeded

BY KARIN BRULLIARD,
KIM BELLWARE,
MERYL KORNFIELD
AND JOHN WOODROW COX

PONTIAC, MICH. — The parents of a 15-year-old boy accused of fatally shooting four classmates at a Michigan high school were criminally charged Friday, an extraordinarily rare move to hold parents accountable when a minor uses their weapon in a school shooting.

In announcing the charges, Oakland County prosecutor Karen McDonald shared chilling new details about the behavior of James and Jennifer Crumbley, parents of Oxford High School shooting suspect Ethan Crumbley, in the days leading up to the rampage.

As of Friday night, multiple law enforcement authorities, including the U.S. Marshals Service, said they are looking for the Crumbleys. Attorneys said in a statement that the couple had left town the night of the shooting "for their own safety" and would return to be arraigned.

"We're still looking," Undersheriff Mike McCabe of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office said in a brief telephone interview. "The fact that she put [out] that press release, to us doesn't mean anything. We're actively looking for them."

SEE PARENTS ON A6

Jobs report holds mixed signals for U.S. economy

BY ELI ROSENBERG

The U.S. economy added a disappointing 210,000 jobs in November, even as the unemployment rate fell to a new pandemic low, reflecting a recovery complicated by ongoing pressures.

But the 4.2 percent unemployment rate, down from 4.6 percent in October, was notably significant, because it came as more than half a million workers, especially women, returned to the workforce. During much of the pandemic, drops in the unemployment rate have been a result of people leaving the workforce because of public health concerns, child-care challenges and retirement.

The uneven jobs report, from two separate surveys compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is just the latest sign of turmoil in the economic recovery, with higher prices spreading through a broad array of goods, ongoing supply chain shortages and labor shortfalls that continue to hamstring companies' ability to deliver goods and services.

"Historically this report looks pretty good," said Drew Matus, chief market strategist for

SEE JOBS ON A15

IN SUNDAY'S POST

Lost Local News Issue >>

The state of local journalism is correctly understood to be grim. About 2,200 local newspapers have closed since 2005. Missing from the raw facts is a precise sense of what is being lost. Magazine

A new path Where Berlin's infamous wall once stood, humans and nature flourish along a 100-mile trail. Travel



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PHOTOS AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY NATALIE BEHRING, DANIEL HERTZBERG, REBECCA WISER, CHRIS GILWELL, ANDER S. BARNES, FERNANDO SANCHEZ, MALCOLM JACKSON, NATIE BAKER

Kennedy Center Honors

The event will salute opera singer Justino Diaz, SNL creator Lorne Michaels, actress-comedian-singer Bette Midler, Motown founder Berry Gordy and singer-artist Joni Mitchell. Arts & Style

INSIDE

REAL ESTATE

Fallen tree seeds rebuild How a home disaster in Bethesda, Md., turned into a chance to fulfill a contemporary design dream.

STYLE

'I didn't pull the trigger' Alec Baldwin said in an ABC interview that he isn't responsible for the "Rust" shooting death. C1

THE REGION

Va. House flip confirmed A recount in Virginia Beach affirmed a GOP victory and the party's clean sweep last month. B1

SPORTS

Terps, Tuergeon part ways Men's basketball coach Mark Turgeon steps down eight games into 11th season in College Park. D1

Scissors icon

\$136 SUNDAY'S COUPONS

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| BUSINESS NEWS | A14 |
| COMICS | C5 |
| OPINION PAGES | A17 |
| LOTTERIES | B3 |
| OBITUARIES | B4 |
| TELEVISION | C3 |
| WORLD NEWS | A10 |

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The Washington Post / Year 144, No. 364



“El rugby perdió un 20% de jugadores por la pandemia”

Santiago Marotta, presidente de la URBA, habla de los efectos de la falta de competencia; hoy, la primera semifinal entre Newman y CUBA. **Deportes**



STEVEN SPIELBERG SORPRENDE CON UN MUSICAL CLÁSICO

—espectáculos

Su nueva película, una remake de *Amor sin barreras*, se estrena el jueves en la Argentina; con excelentes críticas, es una de las candidatas al Oscar.

LOS SECRETOS DE MANU GINÓBILI COMO INVERSOR

—comunidad de negocios

El mejor jugador de la historia del básquet argentino también demuestra su talento en las decisiones empresariales; las fintech y nuevas tecnologías, sus apuestas.

LA NACION

SÁBADO 4 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

El Gobierno se resigna a archivar proyectos claves de su agenda legislativa

CONGRESO. No tratará antes del recambio la ley de envases ni la reforma judicial, entre otros

El Gobierno fracasó en su último intento de aprobar una serie de proyectos controversiales con la actual composición de la Cámara de Diputados, antes del recambio legislativo en el que verá reducido su margen para formar mayorías.

Los desacuerdos con la oposición frustraron la clásica sesión maratónica de fin de año en la que suelen aprobarse iniciativas que están por perder estado parlamentario.

A partir del 10 de diciembre, con la integración de la Cámara surgida de las elecciones del 14 de noviembre, el Frente de Todos tendrá aún más difícil la meta de aprobar proyectos como la reforma judicial,

el cambio en la Procuración General (ambos con media sanción del Senado), la denominada ley de envases (que impulsa La Cámpora para crear una tasa ambiental del 3%) y la prórroga hasta 2025 de la prohibición de desalojos de las comunidades indígenas, entre otros.

Página 12

EMPRESARIOS & CÍA.

Llegó la hora de tragarse sapos

Francisco Olivera

Página 41

El Central vendió US\$405 millones en una semana

RESERVAS. Ayer intervino con US\$140 millones en un día de operaciones récord en el mercado

En otro día de fuerte tensión cambiaria, el Banco Central se desprendió de US\$140 millones para atender la demanda de divisas y cerró la semana con un resultado negativo acumulado de US\$405 millones. El volumen de operaciones en el mercado de cambios fue récord: US\$1031,619 millones. El dato refleja la situación delicada de las reservas, por eso el Gobierno acelerará desde hoy la negociación para un acuerdo con el FMI.

Entre el lunes y el miércoles, los depósitos en dólares cayeron en US\$450 millones. **Página 22**

Uruguay. Ir a vacunarse puede costar \$100.000

Es un proceso que requiere al menos seis noches de estadía

No se puede cruzar el Río de la Plata en el día para cumplir con el objetivo de vacunarse contra el Covid-19 con Pfizer. Lograr la aplicación de cada una de las dosis —ese fármaco requiere dos inyecciones con intervalo— puede costar alrededor de \$100.000, entre viaje y estadía. La habilitación a inscribirse para esa inmunización rige 48 horas después de ingresar en Uruguay y luego hay que esperar 72 horas más para recibir el turno. El cálculo fue realizado teniendo en cuenta los gastos de traslado, comidas y estadía en un hotel de tres estrellas.

Página 29

Desplazan a una fiscal en pleno juicio a un exgobernador

política— En una medida que desató fuertes reacciones, la fiscal anticorrupción de Entre Ríos, Cecilia Goyeneche, fue suspendida ayer por supuesto mal desempeño. Queda fuera así del juicio en el que ejerce la acusación contra el exgobernador peronista y actual embajador en Israel, Sergio Urribarri. **Página 18**



Goyeneche, ayer, después de ser suspendida por el Tribunal de Enjuiciamiento

Conmoción por el femicidio de Nancy Videla

VIOLENCIA. La mataron a golpes y la enterraron en una bolsa; detuvieron a un sospechoso. **Página 37**

Georgieva dice que “hay mucho por hacer todavía” con la Argentina
Página 23

Perú, otra vez sacudido por una crisis política

MOCIÓN. LIMA (AFP).— Perú enfrenta nuevamente la posibilidad de una abrupta salida de su presidente, un año después de haber tenido tres mandatarios en apenas cinco días. El Congreso, dominado por la oposición, decidirá el próximo martes si acepta debitar una moción de destitución del presidente Pedro Castillo—que lleva solo 120 días en el cargo—, lo que recuerda las caídas de Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, en 2018, y Martín Vizcarra, en 2020. **Página 4**

Éxodo: la firma multinacional Alicorp se va de la Argentina

Página 27

Criminosos vendem dados de milhões

Com mensalidade de R\$ 200, sites armazenam informações completas de brasileiros no SUS, Receita, INSS e outros

Em troca de mensalidades de R\$ 200, criminosos vendem acesso a sites ilegais com dados completos de milhões de brasileiros, informa Victoria Damasceno. As informações armazenadas incluem CPF, renda e assinatura na CNH.

RG, foto, nome completo, endereço, nomes de parentes, benefícios sociais e mandado de prisão, se houver, também são ofertados pelas quadrilhas nos chamados "painéis", negociados em redes sociais como Facebook.

Os registros — cujas venda e compra são crime — provêm do CadSUS, da Secretaria Nacional de Trânsito, da Receita Federal, do INSS, da empresa privada Boa Vista e do Sistema Nacional de Armas, da Polícia Federal.

Procurada, a PF informou que o acesso se deu com uso de senha para fim indevido, não por falha técnica. O Ministério da Saúde disse desconhecer as acusações e afirmou suspender credenciais se detectar irregularidade.

O INSS declarou que trabalha para garantir a segurança do usuário, porém não confirmou estar ciente dos vazamentos. Já a Receita Federal negou ter ocorrido violação, assim como a Senatran, que espera agora investigação.

Por fim, a Boa Vista relatou que seus sistemas não sofreram acessos indevidos e que a geração de relatórios de créditos é de responsabilidade dos clientes, mas sua comercialização é vedada por contrato. **Cotidiano B1**



Jardiel Carvalho/Folhapress

SEM-TETO DIZEM SER ALVO DE HOMOFOBIA DURANTE CENSO EM SÃO PAULO

Barracas montadas na praça da Sé, centro de São Paulo; moradores de rua afirmam que recenseadores perguntam 'se é veadado ou gosta de mulher', e secretaria diz desconhecer **Cotidiano B1**

Todo mês, 55 mi ficam uma semana sem internet no país

Estudo aponta que um quarto da população brasileira fica o equivalente a uma semana sem internet todo mês. Isso porque 45% dos usuários mais pobres têm planos de telefonia móvel que se esgotam antes de o mês acabar. **A19**

Câmera corporal mostra PMs matarem suspeito desarmado

B2

Esporte B6
ONG denuncia grupo de hotel favorito da CBF para hospedar seleção na Copa

Guia C9
Museu Judaico abre na capital paulista com peças da época do Holocausto

ATMOSFERA
São Paulo hoje



ISSN 1414-5723
9 771414 572070

Ilustrada C1
Walker e Evaristo, que participam da Flip, discutem raízes da cultura negra

Folhinha C10
Entenda o que é o vírus HIV e como as pessoas vivem com ele no corpo

EDITORIAIS A2

Reação à ômicron
Sobre providências tomadas por estados e cidades.

Acordo nas alturas
Acerca de negociações em torno do Campo de Marte.

Em nova dança das cadeiras, Guedes mudará Receita

Paulo Guedes (Economia) vai fazer nova reorganização em sua equipe nos próximos meses. Uma das alterações é a saída do secretário da Receita, José Barroso Tostes Neto, que será adido na OCDE, em Paris. Ele era alvo de críticas de auditores. **Mercado A21**

Preto e pardo com faculdade ganham 31% menos que branco

Pretos e pardos têm renda média do trabalho menor que brancos mesmo com níveis de escolaridade iguais, aponta pesquisa do IBGE. No grupo com ensino superior, em 2020, recebiam, em média, 30,8% a menos por hora que os brancos (R\$ 23,40 ante R\$ 33,80). **Mercado A22**

O levantamento também indica que, na média, a população ocupada branca tinha rendimento médio real do trabalho principal estimado em R\$ 3.056 por mês, no ano passado. Essa quantia era 73,3% maior do que a obtida por pretos ou pardos (R\$ 1.764). **Mercado A22**

Bolsonaro acusa mídia de fake news a cúpula

Em documento de compromissos apresentado para a organização da Cúpula da Democracia, que ocorrerá em Washington neste mês, o governo Jair Bolsonaro acusa a mídia tradicional de desinformação e pede liberdade de expressão na internet para vozes de diferentes ideologias. **Mundo A14**

Alvaro Costa e Silva
Neste governo, se for xingar, tenha cuidado

Opinião A2

Presidente é alvo de inquérito por ligar vacina a Aids

Atendendo a pedido da CPI da Covid, Alexandre de Moraes, do STF, determinou abertura de inquérito para apurar a conduta de Jair Bolsonaro ao fazer falsa ligação entre a vacina e o risco de Aids. **Poder A10**



Ali Burati - 30.dez.01/APP

CORRALITO FAZ 20 ANOS E AINDA É TRAUMA NA ARGENTINA

Em dezembro de 2001, jovens protestam em Buenos Aires contra o corralito; fake news de que governo voltaria a impor confisco bancário mostra como episódio assombra o país **Mercado A23**



Otras instituciones compraron los mismos insumos a costos más bajos

Nenecho pagó hasta 5 veces más por sus compras Covid

La Contraloría constató inconsistencias en la elaboración de la estimación del precio referencial de los productos a ser adquiridos por la Municipalidad de Asunción.

PÁGINA 21

Allanaron la Gobernación del Departamento Central
Fiscalía investiga a Hugo Javier
por desembolsos por G. 52.000
millones sin respaldo documental

PÁGINA 4

Conocido criminal
Kure Blanco y su
banda cayeron tras
un frustrado asalto
a una cooperativa

PÁGINA 48

Las tasas que
cobran los bancos
por los préstamos
están en una
sostenida baja

PÁGINA 15

Unos 400 mil adultos en edad de
riesgo no recibieron aún ninguna
dosis contra el coronavirus

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>CON ESTA EDICIÓN</p> <p>TEMAS GRATIS 15</p> <p>Diario + Fascículo</p> | <p>COMPRA OPCIONAL 2</p> <p>COLECCIÓN PAJAROS DE LA HISTORIA 14</p> <p>Libro + fascículo G. 25.000</p> |
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Contrabandista se lleva a policía huyendo de control

Escape. Una turba atacó el puesto de control de Vista Alegre y permitió el escape de un camión que estaba en proceso de inspección.

PÁGINA 12





LE FIGARO

lefigaro.fr

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

SYLVAIN TESSON
« FAIRE L'UNITÉ DE LA FRANCE
PAR LA MÉMOIRE, LA LANGUE
ET LE RÊVE » PAGE 20

GASTRONOMIE
LE CHARIOT À FROMAGES
FAIT DE LA RÉSISTANCE
PAGE 33



PRÉSIDENTIELLE
L'hypothèse
Pécresse inquiète
la macronie PAGE 6

ENTRETIEN
Anne Hidalgo:
« L'orthodoxie
budgétaire a vécu
en Europe » PAGE 8

ÉTHIOPIE
Les Tigréens
reculent face
à l'armée fédérale
PAGE 12

POLICE
Joël Soudron,
narcotraffiquant,
homme le plus
recherché
de France PAGE 13

COVID-19
Ce que nous
apprend
la progression
du variant Omicron
en Afrique du Sud
PAGE 16

RESTAURANTS
« Le Figaro » a testé
les trois tables
du chef Frédéric
Anton PAGE 32

CHAMPS LIBRES
• À Paris, la
première école
au monde
100 % dédiée
à la mode
• La chronique
de Mathieu
Bock-Côté
• La tribune
de Françoise
Bettencourt
Meyers et
du Pr Hugues
de Thé
PAGES 19 ET 21

**FIGARO OUI
FIGARO NON**

**Réponses à la question
de vendre :**
Ciotti-Pécresse:
êtes-vous satisfait du
résultat du premier tour
du congrès LR pour
l'élection présidentielle ?

OUI 67% NON 33%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 212 514

**Votez aujourd'hui
sur lefigaro.fr**
Êtes-vous favorable
à l'indépendance
de la Nouvelle Calédonie ?

ILLUSTRATION FABIEN CLAIREFOND;
RELAIS BERNARD LOISEAU

Nouvelle-Calédonie: un référendum sous tension

L'archipel tranchera dimanche 12 décembre l'épineuse question de son indépendance. Un vote boycotté par les indépendantistes et qui pourrait déclencher une vague d'agitations.

Un référendum explosif pour tenter de clore trente ans d'incertitude. Dimanche 12 décembre, les Néo-Calédoniens sont appelés aux urnes pour la troisième fois pour se pronon-

cer sur l'indépendance de l'archipel. Un vote qui se déroule dans un climat tendu, sans la participation des indépendantistes. À moins de cinq mois de la présidentielle, et alors que

la colère gronde en outre-mer, le référendum s'invite dans le débat national. L'opposition reproche à Emmanuel Macron de ne pas s'être suffisamment investi pour défen-

dre une Nouvelle-Calédonie française. Les enjeux sont de taille. Géostratégique, d'abord, la Nouvelle-Calédonie constituant la dernière présence française dans cette zone indo-

pacifique confrontée à l'expansionnisme chinois. Économique, ensuite, l'archipel disposant de ressources minières et halieutiques qui attirent les convoitises.

→ « ON SERA TOUS GAGNANTS, OU TOUS PERDANTS » → UN VOTE SUIVI AUSSI PAR L'ÉTAT-MAJOR → LE NICKEL, UN TRÉSOR LOCAL QUI ATTISE LES CONVOITISES ET LES TENSIONS PAGES 2, 4 ET L'EDITORIAL



Contrat historique pour le Rafale aux Émirats arabes unis

À l'occasion de la visite d'Emmanuel Macron dans le Golfe, Dassault Aviation a signé la vente de 80 avions de combat. « Le Rafale, c'est la France qui gagne », explique Éric Trappier, le PDG du groupe industriel, dans un entretien au Figaro.

PAGES 24 ET 25

En moins d'un an, Joe Biden a déçu les Américains

Il avait promis le retour de la compétence et l'apaisement des divisions partisans. La chute a été rapide. Dix mois après son entrée à la Maison-Blanche, Joe Biden n'a pas convaincu et les Américains restent plus divisés que jamais. Le président démocrate est presque aussi impopulaire que Donald Trump à la même période, avec à peine plus de 40 % de soutiens. Certains sondages le donnent même perdant face à son prédécesseur, qui attend son heure en embuscade. PAGES 10 ET 11

ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thérard yththread@lefigaro.fr

De Nouméa à Pointe-à-Pitre

L'absence de suspense n'empêche pas l'existence d'un climat tendu à Nouméa. Dimanche, la Nouvelle-Calédonie restera française. Les partisans de son indépendance ont décidé de boycotter le troisième et dernier référendum d'autodétermination. Ils invoquent l'impossibilité de mener campagne pendant la pandémie, qui a déjà causé la mort de nombreux Kanaks. On ajoutera qu'ils n'étaient pas sûrs de gagner... Quoi qu'il en soit, l'avenir de ce territoire, situé au cœur du Pacifique, reste posé. Tout comme celui de toutes les possessions ultramarines françaises. Celles-ci ne font l'actualité en métropole que lorsqu'une crise y couve ou y surgit. Et, à chaque fois, c'est pour dresser le même constat de faillite sur place, ou presque : chômage endémique, coût de la vie élevé, économie sous perfusion d'aides publiques ou aux mains de quelques monopoles, insécurité galopante... Ainsi vont la Guadeloupe et la Martinique, qui vivent leur enième accès de fièvre, mais aussi Mayotte, département à la dérive, alors que La Réunion voisine voit affluer avec inquiétude des migrants

de tout l'océan Indien. À 17 000 kilomètres de Paris, la Nouvelle-Calédonie, qui a un statut beaucoup plus autonome, n'échappe pas à ce sombre tableau. S'y greffent des rivalités communautaires plus vives encore qu'ailleurs.

Bien sûr, sur toutes les mers, la France a des intérêts géostratégiques à défendre. Et c'est pour cette raison, capitale, qu'elle doit gar-

**L'avenir des
possessions
ultramarines
françaises
reste posé**

der Nouméa dans son giron. Son retrait permettrait à l'ogre chinois de faire main basse sur l'archipel, riche en ressources halieutiques et en nickel, et de régner sur le Pacifique Sud. Pékin, qui fait miroiter beaucoup de choses aux militants et élus kanaks, n'attend que cela. L'indépendance étant écartée dimanche, ce ne sera pas pour demain. Pour autant, à Nouméa comme partout dans ses outre-mer, Paris gagnerait à mettre sur pied une politique qui ressemble à autre chose qu'à de l'improvisation dans l'urgence. ■



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Act now, no time to wait for Omicron data, say experts

Tell people to work from home, ministers urged, as 134 cases of variant found in UK

Ian Sample
Jessica Elgot
Heather Stewart

Ministers have been warned they cannot wait for new research on the Omicron coronavirus variant and must act now to prevent a potentially "very significant wave of

infections" that risks overwhelming the NHS.

A further 75 Omicron cases have been identified in England, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) said last night, bringing the UK total to 134.

Dr Jenny Harries, the agency's head, said: "We have started to see cases where there are no links to travel, suggesting that we have a small amount of community transmission." The Guardian understands the government has been privately urged by some of its own scientific advisers to tell people where possible to work

from home until Christmas, when more will be known of the dangers.

Growing concern about the spread of the variant was reflected in the latest minutes of the Sage committee, released yesterday.

"Even if measures are introduced immediately, there may not be time to fully ascertain whether they are sufficient before decisions are needed on further action," the advice says. "The situation could develop quickly over the coming weeks and decision-makers may need to act while there is still a high level of uncertainty, including

considering the potential need for stringent response measures."

However, yesterday, during a visit to Shropshire before an upcoming byelection, Boris Johnson said Christmas should go ahead as "normally as possible", with no need to cancel plans for parties and nativity plays.

The advisers' warning came as ministers said GPs in England could provide a lower level of care to millions of patients for the next four months so they can join the "national mission" to deliver the Covid booster jabs as a

Party food and drinks



→ Feast

Fans were almost killed at Euros final

Report on disorder at Euro 2020 final describes 'national shame' in the anarchic behaviour of ticketless fans

News Page 7 →

Australia 'drunkest' country

Survey puts Australians at the top of the list, with the UK coming in fifth. France drinks the most alcohol overall

News Page 2 →



'Consummate Shakespearean'
Antony Sher
1949-2021 Page 6 →

PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE DOUBILE

How to have a climate-friendly Christmas

→ Money



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