

What's News

Business & Finance

Prices that suppliers are charging businesses and other customers leapt in November, signaling that broad-based price pressures are still building throughout the U.S. supply chain. **A2**

◆ **Toyota Motor stepped up** its commitment to electric vehicles, saying the company would make 3.5 million EVs a year by 2030. **B1**

◆ **Chinese authorities** said they have fined social-media giant Weibo millions of dollars for a string of infractions. **B1**

◆ **U.S. stocks ended lower** as the Fed kicked off its policy meeting. The S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq lost 0.7%, 0.3% and 1.1%, respectively. **B12**

◆ **Biden plans to nominate** Sandra Thompson to become the permanent director of the agency that oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. **A2**

◆ **Israeli cybersecurity** company NSO Group is exploring a potential sale of its business or the closure of its controversial spyware unit. **B4**

◆ **Apple and Alphabet's** Google hold a "vise-like grip" over how people use mobile devices, Britain's antitrust regulator said. **B4**

◆ **Centene said its CEO** will retire next year and it will name five new board members amid pressure from activist hedge fund Politan. **B3**

◆ **Chanel named** Unilever veteran Leena Nair to become its chief executive. **B3**

◆ **3M agreed to combine** its food-safety business with Neogen, a food testing and animal healthcare specialist. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **Pfizer said** trial results of its experimental Covid-19 antiviral pill confirmed a positive response for those infected with the coronavirus, greatly reducing the risk of hospitalization and likely appearing to work against the Omicron variant. **A1**

◆ **The first large real-world** study of how vaccines hold up against Omicron found that two shots of Pfizer and BioNTech's vaccine lowered the risk of hospital admission by 70% for infected patients. **A6**

◆ **The number of reported** Covid-19 deaths in the U.S. surpassed 800,000, according to data from Johns Hopkins University. **A6**

◆ **The House voted** 222-208 to hold Meadows in criminal contempt of Congress, as lawmakers zeroed in on his communications related to the Capitol attack. **A3**

◆ **The U.A.E. is threatening** to pull out of a multibillion-dollar deal to buy American-made F-35 aircraft, Reaper drones and other advanced munitions, U.S. officials said. **A1**

◆ **The Senate passed** legislation raising the government's borrowing limit by \$2.5 trillion, as Democrats moved to quickly send the measure to Biden's desk. **A4**

◆ **Trump lost his bid** to shield his tax returns from the House Ways and Means Committee, as a federal judge dismissed the case. **A4**

◆ **New York state's ethics** watchdog passed a resolution ordering former Gov. Andrew Cuomo to relinquish millions of dollars he was paid for his pandemic memoir. **A4**

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Robert Duggin helped retrieve residents' possessions at Monette Manor on Sunday after it was struck by a tornado.

A Fight for Survival Along Tornado's Path of Carnage

Soon after a siren warned of a coming tornado on Friday evening, nursing assistant Linda Knapp took an elderly resident at the Monette Manor nursing home in Monette, Ark.,

By Ariana Campo-Flores, Valerie Bauerlein and Jennifer Levitz

to the bathroom. Then the twister struck, ripping the roof off the building and dislodging chunks of the wall.

Ms. Knapp recalled telling the man to grab a bathroom

rail and hold on as tight as he could. She leaned over him to shield him from flying debris, and a piece of concrete struck her. A power outage plunged them into darkness, and water from rainfall or a sprinkler system soaked the floor.

Trapped by debris in the bathroom, Ms. Knapp said, she cleared away broken pipes and wreckage that were blocking the door and pried it open. She eventually got the man out and helped him toward an area near the nurses' station where she could sit him in a chair and

tend to him.

"The residents were talking to each other through the whole thing, asking each other if they were OK," said Ms. Knapp, 69 years old.

The tornado was just getting started. After forming near the nursing home in northeastern Arkansas, the twister tore off to the northeast, carving a catastrophic path 230 miles long and as wide as three-quarters of a mile across Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky over the course of about four hours. It

was one of a series of tornadoes that killed at least 88 people and leveled swaths of towns.

Four days after the cataclysm struck, it is becoming clear that the early signaling systems put into place throughout the middle of the country, for the most part, worked as promised. People received text alerts and radio alerts from local officials and

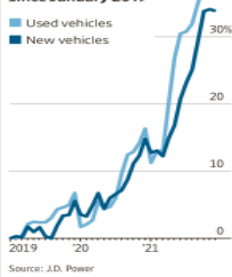
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◆ Search-and-rescue effort continues... A8

Car Prices Keep Driving Higher

A computer-chip shortage that has stripped car lots of inventory showed few signs of abating last month. **B2**

Change in average transaction price since January 2019



Source: J.D. Power

U.A.E. Threatens Multibillion-Dollar Deal for U.S. Arms

By Gordon Lubold and Warren P. Strobel

WASHINGTON—The United Arab Emirates is threatening to pull out of a multibillion-dollar deal to buy American-made F-35 aircraft, Reaper drones and other advanced munitions, U.S. officials said, in what would be a significant shake-up between two longtime partners increasingly at odds over China's role in the Gulf.

The Emirati government told U.S. officials that it intended to halt the deal because Abu Dhabi thought security requirements the U.S. had laid out to safeguard the high-tech weaponry from Chinese espionage were too onerous, and the country's national sovereignty

was in jeopardy, officials said.

It was unclear whether the \$23 billion arms deal, signed in the final days of the Trump administration, is dead, or whether the Emirati threat is a bargaining move on the eve of a planned visit on Wednesday by a high-level U.A.E. military delegation to the Pentagon for two days of talks.

"The U.A.E. has informed the U.S. that it will suspend discussions to acquire the F-35," a U.A.E. official said. "Technical requirements, sovereign operational restrictions and the cost/benefit analysis led to the reassessment."

The U.S., the U.A.E. official said, "remains the U.A.E.'s preferred provider for advanced

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Millennials Power Housing Market

Moving from renting to owning, generation is likely to bolster demand for years

By Nicole Friedman

Alex and Michelle Angert lived the last years of their 20s without a permanent address. They moved out of a small Manhattan apartment in 2018 to stay in short-term rentals around the U.S. before embarking on a yearlong honeymoon to travel the world, starting in the Philippines.

When the pandemic cut their travels short last year, Mr. Angert, 31, decided to take a job in public relations in Richmond, Va. He and Mrs. Angert, who is also 31 and works at a healthcare tech company, started house

hunting this spring. After losing out on multiple offers, they raised their \$400,000 budget. In July, they plunked down \$635,000 on a three-bedroom ranch in a tree-filled lot near a Richmond country club.

"I would have had all of these regrets in life if I didn't travel," Mr. Angert said. "But it feels like the right time to settle down and put down some roots."

For years, conventional wisdom held that millennials, born from 1981 to 1996, would become the generation that largely spurned homeownership. Instead, since

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INSIDE



PERSONAL JOURNAL
Higher food costs and staffing shortages are leading chefs to trim menu offerings. **A13**



SPORTS
Stephen Curry breaks the NBA's 3-point record by making his 2,974th career trey. **A16**

Twice as Sweet? Christmas Movie Battle Has Fans Seeing Double

Channel run by Hallmark's former boss makes holiday fare with same actors

By Lillian Rizzo

A brewing war for Christmas TV talent is giving Trevor Donovan plenty of exposure this holiday season.

Mr. Donovan, an actor who usually appears in one Christmas TV movie a year, was featured in two just over the past few weeks: "Nantucket Noel" on the Hallmark Channel and "Jingle Bell Princess" on GAC Family, an upstart cable channel run by Hallmark's former boss. The channel has been recruiting heavily from the Hallmark ranks to build its own rival Christmas movie empire.

"It was definitely confusing doing two Christmas movies," said Michael Yanni, Mr. Donovan's agent. That won't happen again next year: Mr. Donovan has agreed to make holiday movies only for GAC Family for the next two years,

Mr. Yanni said.

Hallmark had already lost one of its biggest year-round stars to GAC a few weeks ago when Danica McKellar, who played Winnie on "The Wonder Years" as a child, signed an exclusive contract with the new family channel after having appeared in seven Hallmark Christmas movies.

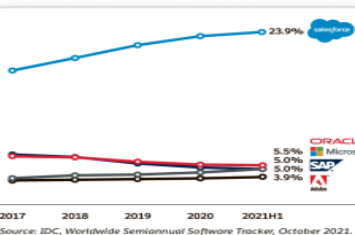
Overall, 96% of the lead actors in the 12 Christmas movies airing on GAC this year were previously featured on Hallmark, according to The Wall Street Journal's count of the two main leads in the films scheduled to air between Oct. 30 and Dec. 19.

Such cross-pollination is rare in the Christmas-movie industry where the biggest players—Hallmark and Lifetime—have built their own stables of talent. Christmas-movie

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Salesforce. #1 CRM.

Ranked #1 for CRM Applications based on IDC 2021 H1 Revenue Market Share Worldwide.



Source: IDC, Worldwide Semiannual Software Tracker, October 2021.

salesforce.com/number1CRM

CRM market includes the following IDC-defined system market: Sales Force Productivity and Management, Marketing Campaign Management, Customer Service, Contact Center, Advertising, and Digital Content Applications. © 2021 Salesforce.com, Inc. All rights reserved. Salesforce.com is a registered trademark of Salesforce.com, Inc., as are other names and marks.

Capitalism works

The global supply chain has passed its big test — MARTIN SANDBU, PAGE 19

ECB tightrope

Rising inflation demands balancing act from Lagarde — BIG READ, PAGE 17



Art of restructuring

Chinese pupil's lessons for his Wall St teacher — TOM MITCHELL, PAGE 6

Inflation alert IMF urges UK to raise rates

The IMF has urged the Bank of England to raise interest rates without delay, accusing the central bank's interest rate setters of "inaction bias" as inflation spirals in the UK.

Ahead of the BoE's next big meeting tomorrow, the fund warned that UK inflation would rise to 5.5 per cent early next year, saying it had allowed prices to soar by finding excuses to do nothing.

The fund said raising rates did not mean stimulus had to end, adding that the central bank should not undermine confidence and allowing inflation to become more persistent.

Call on UK page 2
Pressure on Fed page 4
Big Read page 17



Freeze on UAE's \$23bn warplane deal as ties cool with Washington

● Abu Dhabi suspends talks ● US wants to add strings ● Fears over Huawei exposure

ANDREW ENGLAND
AND SIMON KERR — DUBAI

The United Arab Emirates has suspended talks with the US over its \$23bn deal to buy 50 F-35 fighter jets in a sign of friction in the Gulf state's relations with Washington.

An Emirati official said yesterday Abu Dhabi had informed the US that it was reassessing the deal because of "technical requirements, sovereign operational restrictions and cost-benefit analysis".

The sale of the F-35 was agreed last year by the Trump administration after the UAE signed an accord to normalise relations with Israel. But the deal has come under mounting scrutiny since President Joe Biden took office.

Abu Dhabi has raised concerns over the restrictions Washington is seeking

to put on the Gulf state's use of the warplanes. The White House has also been worried that its use of Huawei's 5G technology raises the risk that sensitive information could be leaked to Beijing.

Washington has been putting pressure on the UAE to reduce its exposure to the Chinese telecoms technology. General Kenneth F. McKenzie, commander of the US central command, said this year that he was concerned by the risk of technology transfer. He added that the US was "working hard both internally within the United States and with our UAE partners to ensure that's resolved satisfactorily".

But as the talks have dragged on, the UAE — a key US ally in the Arab world — has become frustrated with pressure from the US, as it tries to strike a balance

between its relations with Washington and China, its biggest trade partner.

Emirati officials argued there were few cost-effective alternatives to Huawei's 5G technology and were worried that they would be sucked into a new cold war between the US and China.

The decision to suspend the talks, first reported by the Wall Street Journal, comes a week after the UAE sealed a \$17bn-plus deal with France to buy 80 Rafale jets and 12 Caracal helicopters made by French groups Dassault Aviation and Airbus. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Abu Dhabi crown prince and de facto UAE leader, has a deepening relationship with Emmanuel Macron, the French president.

There is also unease over perceived US disengagement from the region,



Abu Dhabi has raised concerns over the restrictions Washington wants to place on the Gulf state's use of the F-35 fighter jets

exacerbated by the chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

A person briefed on the UAE position said Abu Dhabi was confident that issues related to Huawei could be resolved. But the critical matter was whether the US would put limits on how the UAE could use the F-35s.

"They want the strongest possible relations with the US," the person said. "The question is: is the US ready to reciprocate and be committed?"

The Biden administration said it was committed to the deal "even as we continue consultations to ensure that we have a clear, mutual understanding of Emirati obligations and actions before, during, and after delivery".

Additional reporting by Aime Williams in Washington

Briefing

► **Efficacy of Pfizer antiviral pill confirmed**
Final trial results have confirmed earlier data on the drug that showed it cut risk of hospitalisation or death by up to 89 per cent in high-risk people. Pfizer says the pill will work against Omicron. — PAGE 6

► **Ukraine tensions propel gas prices**
Concern that a potential Russian invasion would further disrupt supplies have sent European and UK gas prices to new highs, beating October's records. — PAGE 12; JONATHAN BREARLEY, PAGE 19

► **Pressure on Japan's female union boss**
Tomoko Yoshino, the first woman to lead the Rengo union group, has said male colleagues urged her to reject the job as her gender made her unable to win wage battles. — PAGE 4

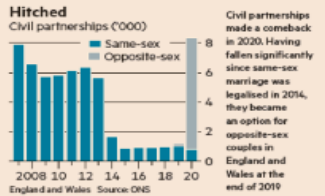
► **Apple under fire after retaliation claims**
The US labour department has said it is probing claims the company retaliated against an employee who complained of harassment. Ashley Givok says for allegedly leaking confidential data. — PAGE 8

► **Rentokil cleans up with Terminix deal**
The London-listed group has agreed to buy the market leader in termite extermination in North America in a \$6.7bn deal that will create the world's biggest pest control provider. — PAGE 4; LEX, PAGE 20

► **Nato chief eyes Norway central bank job**
Jens Stoltenberg has applied to be the next governor in a move set to spark debate over monetary policy independence and custody of Oslo's \$1.4tn oil fund. He is friends with premier Jonas Gahr Støre. — PAGE 2

► **Gourmet food for isolating HK bankers**
Bankers furious at being caught up in one of the strictest quarantine regimes have been taking deliveries of wine and expensive bites from senior staff at the territory's de facto central bank. — PAGE 4

Datawatch



Prosecutors seek to close down 'Russia's conscience'

Moscow courts sit this week to weigh the liquidation of a group that seeks to preserve the history of Soviet-era crimes. Memorial is accused of failing to identify itself as a 'foreign agent'. Others see it as Russia's conscience. 'History is important to the people in power,' one Kremlin watcher explains. 'They don't have many modern-day achievements to brag about. And this history has to be glossy. The history of Stalinism and purges gets in the way.' **Civil rights** ► PAGE 2

Toyota steps up electric cars spending pledge to \$35bn in drive to rival Tesla

ERI SUGIURA AND LEO LEWIS — TOKYO

Toyota will pour \$35bn into a shift towards electric vehicles as the world's biggest carmaker sets itself up for direct rivalry with Tesla and joins other groups in a push for carbon neutrality.

It marks a big increase in its electric targets as it aims to sell 3.5m battery-powered vehicles a year by 2030, with the launch of 30 electric models including sports cars and commercial vehicles.

The company has in the past argued that a longer-term fix for global warming should be a mix of hybrids, electric vehicles and hydrogen-powered vehicles instead of a single bet on battery-powered cars. But this focus has worried investors, who fear the group is dragging its feet on its electric plan, particularly as the technology has driven Tesla's stratospheric rise in market value.

"I wasn't interested in Toyota's EVs until now. But now I'm interested in future EVs," said Akio Toyoda, Toyota's president.

Despite trailing Volkswagen and General Motors, Toyota could become a formidable force in the electric car market, some investors believe.

"They don't make announcements like this unless they believe they can do it and want to do it. It tells me there is a high level of commitment," said Christopher Richter, an analyst at CLSA.

Although the figure trails the \$52bn pledge on electric from German firm VW, it dwarfs the \$17.7bn promised by Japanese rival Nissan when it unveiled its long-term electric vehicle last month.

The \$35bn, to be divided equally between car development and battery improvement, is also a significant increase since its last announcement this

year. It had said it would sell 2m electric and fuel-cell vehicles by 2030 and spend \$13bn investing in batteries.

Toyota said the company's high-end Lexus brand would be at the forefront of the company's more aggressive battery push, with all of these models becoming pure electric by 2035.

The company plans to target customers in the US and China, where it hopes they will make the switch to electric earlier than other models.

"Battery cars are going to be expensive and the people best positioned to buy them now are the people who own Leases, not corollas," said Richter.

However, the company stopped short of committing its entire bet on electric vehicles, arguing that it could not accurately predict either the development of the technology or the pace of adoption. **Harley-Davidson's electric deal** page 6

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Dec 14	prev	%chg		Dec 14	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4013.56	4008.97	-1.19	\$ per €	1.127	1.128	0.796	US Gov 10 yr	147.95	1.44	0.02
Nikkei Composite	15122.54	15412.28	-1.82	£ per €	1.324	1.325	1.174	UK Gov 10 yr	0.84	0.84	0.01
Dow Jones Ind	35493.76	35490.95	-0.44	¥ per €	0.952	0.952	0.000	Ger 10 yr	0.57	0.57	0.01
FTSE 100	1622.87	1637.20	-0.76	₹ per \$	113.715	113.735	0.002	Japan Gov 10 yr	112.87	0.05	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	4151.90	4183.04	-0.74	₹ per €	150.502	150.253	0.165	US Gov 30 yr	120.25	1.82	0.01
FTSE All-Share	7218.64	7231.44	-0.18	₹ per \$	1.042	1.041	0.001	Ger Gov 2 yr	104.64	-0.69	0.02
CAC 40	6695.31	6694.91	-0.06	₹ per \$	0.887	0.887	0.000				
Xetra Dax	15453.56	15421.72	-1.08								
Nikkei	28432.64	28440.49	-0.27								
Hang Seng	23635.95	23654.58	-1.33								
MSCI World	3162.00	3168.26	-0.02	Oil WTI \$	70.02	71.29	-1.78	Fed Funds Eff	0.08	0.08	0.00
MSCI EM	1220.61	1228.54	-0.64	Oil Brent \$	73.00	74.30	-1.87	US 3m Bills	0.05	0.05	-0.01
MSCI ACWI	740.27	740.26	0.00	Gold \$	1787.80	1778.75	0.45	Euro Libor 3m	-0.81	-0.81	0.00
								UK 3m	0.05	0.05	0.00

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Trump Filings Used in Loans Face Scrutiny

Inquiry Said to Zero In on Possible Fraud

This article is by William K. Rashbaum, Ben Protess and Jonah E. Bromwich.

As prosecutors in Manhattan weigh whether to charge Donald J. Trump with fraud, they have zeroed in on financial documents that he used to obtain loans and boost about his wealth, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The documents, compiled by Mr. Trump's longtime accountants and known as annual statements of financial condition, could help answer a question at the heart of the long-running criminal investigation into the former president: Did he inflate the value of his assets to defraud his lenders?

In recent weeks, prosecutors in the office of the Manhattan district attorney, Cyrus R. Vance Jr., have questioned one of Mr. Trump's accountants before a grand jury as part of their examination of the financial statements, said the people with knowledge of the matter. Prosecutors also interviewed his longtime banker, another person said.

If the prosecutors seek an indictment, the case's outcome could hinge on whether they can use the documents to prove that a defining feature of Mr. Trump's public persona — his penchant for hyperbole — was so extreme and intentional when dealing with his lenders that it crossed the line into fraud.

Whenever Mr. Trump needed a loan, he would provide potential lenders with the statements, which contained optimistic projections about the value of his real estate business as well as sweeping disclaimers noting the numbers' limitations.

Mr. Vance's prosecutors found that the accountants who put together the statements relied on underlying information provided by the Trump Organization, Mr. Trump's family business, according to the people with knowledge of the matter, who were familiar with the questions prosecutors asked and spoke only on condition of anonymity because they were discussing confidential testimony. The prosecutors, working with the office of the New York State attorney general, Letitia James, have examined the possibility that

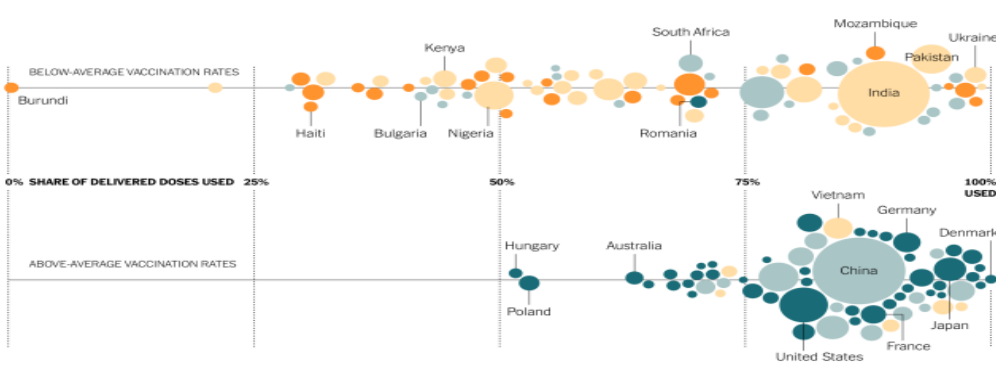
Continued on Page A12

DISMISSED A judge rejected a suit by Donald J. Trump to keep his tax returns secret. PAGE A17

Poorer Countries Are Less Able to Use the Covid Vaccine They Have

Low vaccine supplies are only part of the problem in many low-income countries, where infrastructure and public hesitancy are contributing to low inoculation rates. Rich countries are using their doses at higher rates. PAGE A8.

INCOME GROUP: LOW LOWER MIDDLE UPPER MIDDLE HIGH CIRCLES SIZED BY POPULATION



Sources: Delivered dose data from Afirinity; administered dose data from Our World in Data | Note: Data as of Dec. 2, 2021, when the global average vaccination rate was 45 percent. Countries that did not report dose data in the 30 days prior to Dec. 2 are not shown.

Cuomo Is Told He Must Forfeit Book Earnings

By GRACE ASHFORD and LUIS FERRÉ-SADURNÍ

ALBANY, N.Y. — A New York State ethics board ordered former Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo on Tuesday to turn over millions of dollars in profits from his coronavirus pandemic memoir, giving him 30 days to comply.

The extraordinary directive is the latest development in a fall from grace for the former governor, who in the span of just four months lost his job and reputation, and who is now facing a criminal trial after being accused of groping an aide in the Executive Mansion.

It was not long ago that Mr. Cuomo was at his peak, winning nationwide acclaim and landing a lucrative book contract in the first months of New York's pandemic crisis. The resulting memoir, "American Crisis: Leadership Lessons from the Covid-19 Pandemic," was intended to capitalize on the moment and give him a financial cushion that would safeguard his future.

But by a 12-1 vote on Tuesday, the state's Joint Commission on Public Ethics stripped him of all of the book's proceeds. The board

Continued on Page A22

Innocent Man and Accuser Who Had 'No Doubt'

This article is by Corina Knoll, Karen Zraich and Alexandra Alter.

The young woman's face was bruised in multiple places, her long brown hair matted with bits of leaves.

There was a fresh bump on the back of her head and a cut on the left side of her nose. Her tan cardigan and Calvin Klein jeans were streaked with dirt. Abrasions covered her body. Traces of blood and semen were found inside her vagina as well as on her underwear.

She was just 18, a freshman at Syracuse University who had arrived at the adjacent Crozier Irving Memorial Hospital in the early morning of May 8, 1981.

Her name was Alice Sebold. And she had been raped. The assailant was a stranger, but Ms. Sebold had studied his appearance — his small but muscular build, the way he gestured, his eyes and lips. And so, five months later, when she spotted a man named Anthony Broadwater near a restaurant on Marshall Street, Ms. Sebold knew she had solved her case. She reported him to the authorities, saying that Mr. Broadwater had said to her, "Don't I know you from somewhere?"

At the trial the following year, Ms. Sebold took the stand and described how she had celebrated the last day of the school year at a friend's apartment, then left to

40-Year Fight to Clear Name in Rape of Alice Sebold

head back to her dormitory, following a brick path through Thornden Park.

She testified that a man had grabbed her from behind, punched her, threatened to kill her with a knife, dragged her by her hair, then raped her in what she described as a tunnel.

"Is there any doubt in your

mind, Miss Sebold, that the person that you saw on Marshall Street is the person who attacked you on May 8 in Thornden Park?" the prosecutor asked.

"No doubt whatsoever." Years later, Ms. Sebold would recount in a best-selling memoir that she felt confident justice had been served. She had been sweaty and shaky by the end of her testimony but was bolstered by the words of a bailiff.

"I've been in this business for 30 years," he said. "You are the best rape witness I've ever seen on the stand."

Continued on Page A18



Anthony J. Broadwater on Marshall Street, near Syracuse University, where Alice Sebold first misidentified him as her rapist.

Shifting Trends For Abortions Since the '70s

This article is by Margot Sanger-Katz, Claire Cain Miller and Quoc Trung Bui.

The typical woman having an abortion today is already a mother. She is in her 20s and has taken some college classes. Very rarely is she past her first trimester of pregnancy.

The portrait of abortion in America has changed along with society, and is far different from what it was when Roe v. Wade established the right to an abortion in 1973.

The typical patient is less likely to be a teenager and more likely to be poor, and unmarried. But in the reproductive lives of women (and transgender and nonbinary people who can become pregnant) across America, abortion is not uncommon. The latest estimate, from the Guttmacher Institute, a reproductive health research

Continued on Page A14

N.Y.P.D., at an Urgent Moment, Will Get Its First Female Leader

This article is by Emma G. Fitzsimmons, Ali Watkins and Ashley Southall.

Keecham Sewell, the Nassau County chief of detectives, will become New York City's first female police commissioner, taking over the nation's largest police force at a critical moment.

Chief Sewell's appointment, which is expected to be announced on Wednesday, was seen as one of the most important decisions for Eric Adams, the incoming mayor, as he begins to fill out his administration.

Her selection was confirmed on Tuesday night by Evan Thies, a spokesman for Mr. Adams. Chief Sewell, 49, was chosen from among a field of rumored candidates from within the New York City Police Department and from larger police departments around the country.

Mr. Adams, a former police captain, ran as a centrist in the Democratic primary, promising to ad-

dress a troubling rise in violence and to rein in police abuse. He will be counting on Chief Sewell to help him strike that balance.

Mr. Adams said in a statement that Chief Sewell was "a proven crime fighter with the experience and emotional intelligence to deliver both the safety New Yorkers need and the justice they deserve."

Chief Sewell comes from a department that has about 2,400 uniformed officers — less than a tenth of the size of the roughly 35,000 officers employed by the New York Police Department.

A person close to Mr. Adams said he had been impressed by Chief Sewell's confidence and competence, and her experience working undercover. Her interview process was rigorous and included a mock news conference about the shooting of an unarmed Black man by a white police officer, the person said.

In 23 years with the Nassau Po-

Continued on Page A22



Tornado Warnings, but Lives Were Still Lost

An accurate forecast and hours of alerts did not prevent deaths across five states. PAGE A16.

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Fuel Tanker Blast Jolts Haiti

An explosion in a residential area left 60 dead and injured scores more, the latest tragedy to hit the country. PAGE A4

Prison for Belarus Activist

Sergei Tikhanovsky, who had planned a presidential run in 2020, has been sentenced to 18 years in jail. PAGE A10



NATIONAL A11-23

Covid Pill Effective, Pfizer Says

The treatment, tested in a clinical trial, is likely to work against Omicron and could be available in the United States before the end of the year. PAGE A21

Debt-Limit Rise Passes Senate

The measure would allow the government to continue borrowing without further action by Congress until after the 2022 midterm elections. PAGE A20

Harder to Feed the Hungry

Seeking to clean up public spaces, Newark is cracking down on distributing food to the homeless in parks, stations and other places. PAGE A11

BUSINESS B1-9

Fed Confronts Faster Inflation

The central bank could announce plans to cut economic aid sooner, and may signal rate increases for next year, at its final meeting of 2021. PAGE B1

Consumers on Rising Prices

Age, region, education and income all influence how much Americans are worried about inflation. PAGE B1

SPORTS B10-11

Covid Spike Hits the N.F.L.

Despite a 94 percent vaccination rate, the league is recording more cases this year than it did last year. PAGE B10

FOOD D1-14

Honoring a Plant-Based Past

More cooks in West Africa are adapting vegan and vegetarian diets as a way of embracing their heritage. PAGE D1

The City's Top New Restaurants

The critic Pete Wells cherishes some dining spots that celebrate sharing, and life. Below, shrimp at CheLi. PAGE D4



ARTS C1-6

'The Royal Tenenbaums' at 20

The vision of New York in Wes Anderson's film is at once entirely made up and yet seemingly very real. PAGE C1

Not Blown Up Yet

In a new series, Will Forte returns as MacGruber, an unruly hero once again reckoning with bombs. PAGE C1

OPINION A26-27

Bret Stephens

PAGE A26



COLUMN ONE

Being at one with a hive

Some keepers see communing with bees as an encounter with ancient wisdom.

BY DEBORAH NETBURN

Marvin Jordana laid a hand on the beehive in his Eagle Rock backyard and said a silent prayer.

After a few moments, he spoke: "I ask for their permission to enter the hive, because this is their body. With so much respect and humility, I ask them."

Four people dressed in full bee suits, closed-toed shoes and thick rubber gloves looked on reverently, ignoring the dozens of bees buzzing lazily around their heads.

Jordana wore just a veil over his head, leaving his arms and hands bare.

He pulled out a small metal tool that looked like a flat wrench and cracked open the top of the hive. The bees had glued it down from the underside with propolis — a sticky substance they create with tree resin.

Jordana exudes calm, but now he slowed his movements even more.

Gently he lifted the lid. And so began a journey into the sacred realm of the bees, a two-hour workshop led by Jordana, a 50-year-old beekeeper, deejay, yoga instructor and single father to his 21-year-old son.

He spends most of his days tending eight apiaries around Los Angeles, but he doesn't sell honey. Instead, he supports his bee veneration by sharing his devotion in the \$40 workshops. He calls the session "Honey Bee Therapy" because everyone enters a trance-like state, transfixed by the beauty of something they once feared.

As he removed the flat wooden top of the hive, the sound of buzzing got louder. "Hi, ladies! Hi, ladies!" he

[See Bees, A12]



RECORD-BREAKING RAIN

Mike Sandoval crosses a flooded road using a patio umbrella to stay dry in Lytle Creek on Tuesday. The Southland saw record rainfall, with downtown L.A. receiving 2 inches before noon. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Myanmar atrocities: 'My friends are being burned'

As resistance intensifies, military's brutality worsens

BY DAVID PIERSON AND KYAW HSAN HLAING

SINGAPORE — One person appears to have been trying to crawl to safety. Two others are locked in a haunting embrace on the ground. A few of the corpses have their hands tied.

The charred remains of the 11 villagers in northwestern Myanmar tell the grisly story of their final moments. They were rounded up and beaten by soldiers hunting down resistance fighters. Some, if not all, were shot before they were trapped inside a hut next to a betel farm and set alight.

"We saw the smoke, but we thought the soldiers were just burning houses. Then someone close by came screaming and crying, saying, 'My friends are being burned,'" said Ko Sithu, a teacher in the village, Don Taw. "I felt helpless because there was nothing I could do. I've

[See Myanmar, A4]



SMOKE rises after shelling in Thantlang, Myanmar, in October. This month, soldiers forced 11 villagers into a hut and set it on fire.



JOE LANDEROS plants a Joshua tree seedling at Cima Dome in the Mojave National Preserve. A 2020 fire killed more than 1 million of the iconic trees.

In a fire-scorched desert, planting seeds of hope

BY NATHAN SOLIS

Joe Landeros plunged a shovel into the earth, poured water into the hole and carefully inserted a spiky green seedling.

Around him were icons of the California desert, felled by an enormous fire. Some of the Joshua trees were still standing but singed black. Some lay prone, their severed trunks like gaping wounds. Others had been reduced to piles of ash.

Two decades from now, if all goes well,

the tiny bit of greenery will be a full-fledged Joshua tree, along with more than 1,500 that Landeros and other volunteers are planting.

"Well, I'm a geologist. Geologically speaking, that's no time at all," said Landeros, 28, of Long Beach, who planned to spend a week on the project.

Here atop the Cima Dome, some 5,700 feet above sea level in the Mojave National Preserve, a dense woodland of Joshua trees once stood.

In August 2020,

[See Trees, A7]

City workers solicit funds for Garcetti-backed charity

Ethics experts say the practice creates the appearance of a pay-to-play system.

BY DAKOTA SMITH

It was 2018 and staffers in Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office of Economic Development were in fundraising mode. The office was working with the Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles — a charity backed by Garcetti that pays for civic programs — on a jobs initiative in the entertainment industry.

Sumi Parekh, then-executive officer in the Office of Economic Development, emailed AT&T asking for a \$70,000 sponsorship to support the program. In response, a company representative offered \$50,000.



MAYOR Eric Garcetti at a Senate panel hearing.

Senators weigh confirmation as U.S. ambassador

Mayor Eric Garcetti tells lawmakers that he never witnessed misconduct alleged by a former bodyguard. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Employees in Garcetti's office play a key role in creating Mayor's Fund programs. They also seek funding for programs during the course of their jobs and using their city emails — in some cases, from companies that do business with the city — according to interviews and emails reviewed by The Times through public records requests.

Representatives for the nonprofit and the mayor's office say the fundraising by city employees is an example of how the private-public partnership works to help Angelenos.

Such solicitations are allowed because they are made in support of a charity and not a political campaign. Some good-governance experts, however, say the city needs to be more transparent about solicitation. [See Charity, A9]

Deterioration in Arctic 'alarming'

Destructive beavers, a first rainfall and a high of 100.4 degrees are seen in the northern polar region. **WORLD, A4**

Coronavirus roils pro sports teams

Lakers cancel practice, Rams have 13 players sidelined and the Chargers two as positive tests surge. **SPORTS, B10**

Weather

Patchy clouds, cool. L.A. Basin: 54/39. **B6**



BUSINESS INSIDE: Retailers say there's a theft crisis, but numbers don't back them up. **A8**

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Partly sunny 57/46 • Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, breezy 65/52 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021 • B2

On Jan. 6, dire texts beseeched Meadows

Trump allies urged chief of staff, who has been found in contempt, to act

BY AMY B WANG

Newly released text messages that were sent on Jan. 6 to Mark Meadows, a former chief of staff in the Trump White House, have put a renewed focus on President Donald Trump's failure to act quickly to stop the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol as it was unfolding, despite real-time pleas from lawmakers, journalists and even his eldest son.

At least half a dozen people reached out during the riot to Meadows to ask — in some cases, beg — Trump to intervene, according to text messages detailed this week by Rep. Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.), the vice chair of the House select committee investigating the attack. The bipartisan panel is investigating the storming of the U.S. Capitol by a pro-Trump mob that tried to stop the certification of Joe Biden's electoral college win, a siege that resulted in five deaths and left some 140 members of law enforcement injured.

On Tuesday, Cheney read aloud texts that Republican members of Congress had sent Meadows on Jan. 6 after rioters breached the Capitol. The disclosures came as the House voted 222 to 208 to hold Meadows in criminal contempt of Congress for defying the

SEE MEADOWS ON A12

Jan. 6: D.C. attorney general sues Pro Boys and Oath Keepers. B1

Jail term: Man who made threats against Pelosi gets 28 months. B4

Documents link Huawei to Chinese surveillance

BY EVA DOU

The Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies has long brushed off questions about its role in China's state surveillance, saying it just sells general-purpose networking gear.

A review by The Washington Post of more than 100 Huawei PowerPoint presentations, many marked "confidential," suggests that the company has had a broader role in tracking China's populace than it has acknowledged.

These marketing presentations, posted to a public-facing Huawei website before the company removed them late last year, show Huawei pitching how its technologies can help government authorities identify individuals by voice, monitor political individuals of interest, manage ideological reeducation and labor schedules for prisoners, and help retailers track shoppers using facial recognition.

"Huawei has no knowledge of

SEE HUAWEI ON A19

Snyder worked behind scenes to stymie probe

BY WILL HOBSON AND LIZ CLARKE

In July 2020, just a few days after prominent D.C. attorney Beth Wilkinson began investigating allegations of widespread sexual harassment in the Washington Football Team workplace, she learned of a decade-old allegation of sexual misconduct against team owner Daniel Snyder.

Snyder had for years privately denied the woman's claims. But

NFL investigator claimed Washington's owner tried to 'silence' accuser

the existence of an allegation against him, which had been kept secret by a confidential \$1.6 million settlement, had the potential to rock a franchise already reeling from scandal. A few weeks later,



Daniel Snyder used private investigators and courts to influence the NFL's inquiry.

Wilkinson sought to interview the former team employee who had made the accusation, according to people familiar with the investigation.

Then Snyder and his team

stepped in.

Despite the owner's public pledge to cooperate "with all aspects of the investigation," his attorneys attempted to prevent Wilkinson from speaking to Snyder's accuser, according to a letter the woman's attorney wrote to Snyder's lawyers that was filed in federal court.

The Washington Post has not reviewed this letter, which was filed under seal as part of a legal dispute between Wilkinson and a

former lawyer for the team. The letter was described by people with knowledge of its contents.

According to these people, the woman's lawyer, Brendan Sullivan, accused Snyder's lawyers of offering his client more money beyond the \$1.6 million the team paid in 2009, if she agreed not to speak to anyone about her

SEE SNYDER ON A6

Sally Jenkins: The NFL's silence says plenty about its principles. D1



ADRIANA ZEBRAUSKAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The 10-minute eviction returns

BY ELI SASLOW

PHOENIX — The city's last eviction moratorium of the pandemic had expired and the rent forgiveness program was running out of money, so Lennie McCloskey changed into his bulletproof vest and headed out to work. He climbed into his truck and counted through his daily stack of eviction orders. "Fifteen, sixteen — Jess Louise," he said as he stacked them on the passenger seat. He strapped an extra magazine of ammunition to his belt and

As moratoriums end, 'Lock-em-out Lennie' is once again knocking on doors in Arizona

Maricopa County Constable Lennie McCloskey serves eviction papers to Kathleen Sumter, 32, with her 3-year-old son, the youngest of her five children, in Phoenix last week.

picked up his radio to call dispatch.

"Constable 33, heading out," he said. "Looks like a busy day."

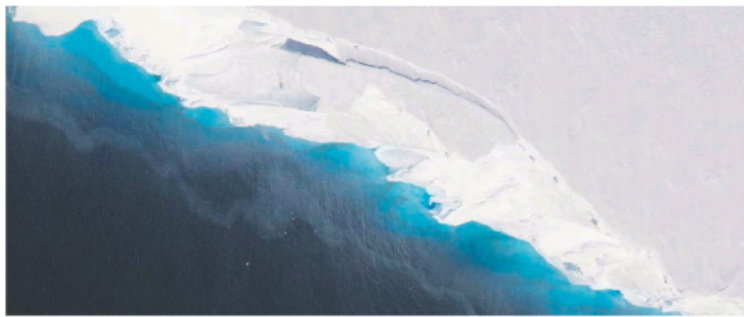
"Okay," the dispatcher said. "Guess it's back to business as usual."

Nobody in Phoenix was better or more practiced at the business of eviction than Lennie, who had personally removed more than 20,000 Arizonans from their homes during the past two decades as the area's longest-serving elected constable. "Lock-em-out Lennie," colleagues occasionally called him.

SEE EVICTIONS ON A22

Destabilized poles endanger rest of the planet, research shows

BY SARAH KAPLAN



JEREMY HARBECQ/ORB/NAASA

Scientists say the Thwaites ice shelf in Antarctica could collapse within three to five years.

The ice shelf was cracking up. Surveys showed warm ocean water eroding its underbelly. Satellite imagery revealed long, parallel fissures in the frozen expanse, like scratches from some clawed monster. One fracture grew so big, so fast, scientists took to calling it "the dagger."

"It was hugely surprising to see things changing that fast," said Erin Pettit. The Oregon State University glaciologist had chosen this spot for her Antarctic field research precisely because of its stability. While other parts of the Thwaites Glacier crumbled, this wedge of floating ice acted as a brace, slowing the melt. It was supposed to be boring, durable, safe.

Now climate change has turned the ice shelf into a threat

— to Pettit's field work, and to the world.

Planet-warming pollution from burning fossil fuels and other human activities has already raised global temperatures more than 1.1 degrees Celsius (2 degrees Fahrenheit). But the effects are particularly profound at the poles, where rising temperatures have seriously undermined regions once locked in ice.

In research presented this week at the world's biggest earth science conference, Pettit showed that the Thwaites ice shelf could collapse within the next three to five years, unleashing a river of ice that could dramatically raise sea levels. Aerial surveys document how warmer conditions have allowed beavers to invade the Arctic tundra, flooding the landscape with their dams. Large

SEE POLAR ON A8

IN THE NEWS



YAHYA/AFR/AFR/EP/SHUTTERSTOCK

Moment of unity In war-torn Yemen, a youth soccer team's West Asia title victory elicited uninhibited joy from north to south. A14

THE NATION Presidential advisers are discussing plans to set up European-style reception centers along the U.S.-Mexico border to change the asylum process and potentially curb large-scale migrant releases. A3
Kentucky launched a safety probe into the deaths at the tornado-destroyed candle factory in Mayfield. A10
Senate Democrats approved a measure to

raise the debt ceiling by \$2.5 trillion, taking the first step toward staving off a potential U.S. default. A25
THE WORLD Denmark's former immigration minister was found guilty of illegally separating couples seeking asylum. A15
A fuel tank truck explosion killed 62 and wounded dozens more in Haiti's second-largest city, Cap-Haïtien. A17

THE ECONOMY Six women filed lawsuits against Tesla, alleging the company fostered a culture of sexual harassment. A18
Taxpayers bailed out airlines with a provision that they would share profit with the government when their stock recovered. The rebound has been minuscule. A20
THE REGION A regulatory agency reinstated Metro's suspended rail car line, conditionally paving the way for Metro to return

about 60 percent of its cars to service. B1
Gov. Ralph Northam proposed eliminating Virginia's tax on groceries and sending a rebate to taxpayers in his final budget plan. B1
Police charged a 70-year-old Virginia man in connection with RASME jumps from buildings on the Capitol One campus near the McLean Metro station. B1
Two zebras were caught months after escaping from a Prince George's County farm, officials said. B6

INSIDE



SPORTS The fall All-Met 2021 DeMatth's Kevin Winston Jr., left, and Tuscara's Bryce Duke are among the region's top high school athletes. D5
STYLE Discovering Dr. Wu Her granddaughter delves into the famed nuclear physicist. C1

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WORLD NEWS A14

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deportes

Olimpia de Oro

Messi cierra el año con otra gran ovación

Recibió la máxima distinción del deporte argentino; la de 2020, para Schwartzman. Página 7



SOLEDAD COSTANTINI, LA CARA LITERARIA DEL MALBA

—cultura

La hija del fundador tiene a su cargo el área de literatura del museo; habla del vínculo con el Nobel Coetzee, que tomó la decisión de escribir en español. Página 24

ABASTECÍAN DE DROGAS A ROSARIO DESDE LA CÁRCEL

—seguridad

Dos clanes narco manejaban desde el penal federal de Marcos Paz el envío de cocaína a centros de distribución de esa ciudad santafesina. Página 26

LA NACION

MIÉRCOLES 15 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2021 | LANACION.COM.AR

La inflación fue de 2,5% en noviembre y quebró una nueva meta de Guzmán

INDEC. Acumula 45,6% en el año; los precios no regulados y los no estacionales crecieron 3,3%

La inflación en noviembre fue de 2,5%, un dato menor al esperado, y acumuló en lo que va del año un 45,6%. De esta manera, traspasó la meta oficial que el ministro de Economía, Martín Guzmán, había actualizado para este año, de 45,1%. La suba de precios acumulada en doce meses llegó a 51,2%.

El dato mensual mostró una desaceleración frente al 3,5% que habían marcado septiembre y octubre, gracias a la baja de algunos precios estacionales, como las verduras, y a que siguieron planchados los llamados precios regulados. Sin embargo, la inflación núcleo, que no tiene en cuenta los precios

regulados ni los estacionales, mostró un alza de 3,3%, una décima por encima de octubre pasado.

Los rubros que más subieron en noviembre fueron restaurantes y hoteles (5%) y prendas de vestir y calzado (4,1%), mientras que alimentos y bebidas avanzó 2,1 por ciento. Página 16

Un flagelo para la gente, salvavidas para el Gobierno

Francisco Jueguen. Página 16

Distorsiones y precios relativos, peligros a futuro

Alfredo Sainz. Página 17

Un juez kirchnerista presidirá la Cámara de Casación

LAVADO. La elección de Slokar no altera la sala que definirá el caso Hotesur

La elección del juez kirchnerista Alejandro Slokar como presidente de la Cámara de Casación Penal finalmente mantuvo la conformación de la Sala I, donde los jueces Daniel Petrone, Diego Barroetaveña y Ana María Figueroa deberán ahora definir si avanza el juicio por el caso Hotesur contra la vicepresidenta Cristina Kirchner. De los tres, solo Figueroa se muestra afín al kirchnerismo. El fiscal Diego Velasco les pidió que rechacen el sobreseimiento de la vicepresidenta. Página 8

EL ANÁLISIS

Solo una victoria pírrica

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

El resultado fue parcialmente bueno. Desde ya, la imagen simbólica no es la mejor si un juez tan comprometido con el kirchnerismo como Alejandro Slokar (que fue funcionario del gobierno de Cristina Kirchner y fundador de la agrupación filocrístinista Justicia Legítima) será por un año el presidente de la Cámara de Casación, el más alto tribunal penal del país. Pero es lo que hay. Continúa en la página 9



VACUNAS Y REBELIÓN. LONDRES (Reuters).—En medio del acelerado ascenso de contagios a causa de la variante ómicron y del colapso de los centros de vacunación (foto), el primer ministro británico, Boris Johnson, sufrió ayer un potente revés político cuando casi un centenar de diputados de su Partido Conservador rechazó algunas de las restricciones impulsadas por el gobierno, que luego fueron aprobadas por el Parlamento. Página 2

Fuerte aumento de casos de Covid en el país, pero con muy baja mortalidad

CONTAGIOS. Ayer, se informaron 4555 infectados y un mes atrás habían sido 591; el impacto de la vacunación

Cautela es la sensación de los especialistas consultados por LA NACION ante la fuerte suba de infectados de coronavirus entre el 14 de noviembre pasado y ayer. Es que el crecimiento sorprende: 670% más, si se tiene en cuenta que en aquella

fecha se informaron 591 infectados y ayer, 4555 casos positivos.

De todos modos, no hubo un correlato en cuadros graves ni en muertes, ya que, según los expertos, las vacunas han jugado un papel central en bajar las complica-

ciones. En el país, el 68,9% completó su esquema de inmunización. La duda, sin embargo, sigue siendo cómo impactará la variante ómicron. Ayer, en San Luis recibió el alta el primer paciente infectado con esa nueva mutación. Página 22

Sputnik: admiten discrepancias con la OMS

Página 23

El Presidente dijo que piensa en trasladar la Capital

IDEA. En la Casa Rosada respondieron que no hay ningún proyecto. Página 10

FOLHA DE S. PAULO

HÁ 100 ANOS



UM JORNAL A SERVIÇO DA DEMOCRACIA

ANO 101 * Nº 33.859

QUARTA-FEIRA, 15 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2021

R\$ 5,00

Crise do clima nos EUA



Laila de Almeida/Folhapress

CLIMA VIRA FATOR DE PESO PARA ESVAZIAMENTO DO INTERIOR AMERICANO

Criança brinca no lago Mead, entre Arizona e Nevada, cujo nível d'água é o mais baixo já visto; seca extrema tem levado moradores de pequenas cidades a centros como Phoenix Mundo A14 a A16

Desmatamento da Amazônia caiu, declara governo

Após segurar divulgação de relatório sobre aumento do desmatamento na Amazônia antes da COP26, o governo Jair Bolsonaro celebrou queda da devastação em novembro. Segundo a gestão, houve redução de 19% em comparação com 2020. **Ambiente B6**

Ilustrada C1

Liberdade, liberdade

Mostra revê impacto da Semana de 1922 nos caminhos da arte contemporânea

Esporte B7

Cuca celebra 'melhor ano da carreira', mas teme memória curta no futebol

Startups & fintechs A30

Bancos digitais acirram disputa por público infantil e adolescente

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



Obra 'Pameri Yukese', de Daiara Tukano Divulgação

EDITORIAIS A4

PEC precária

Sobre votação de proposta que institui um calote.

Paralisia vacinal

Acerca de risco de volta da poliomielite no Brasil.

Barroso exige vacina de quem deixar Brasil a partir de hoje

Viajante terá de exibir prova ao voltar; ministro isenta quem partiu até ontem

Moradores do Brasil que deixarem o país a partir de hoje só poderão retornar se comprovarem que estão vacinados contra a Covid. Quem saiu até ontem, porém, fica desobrigado de exibir o documento no retorno, determinou o ministro Luís Roberto Barroso, do STF.

A decisão responde ao recurso apresentado na véspera pela Advocacia-Geral da União que questiona o alcance da sua decisão sobre a obrigatoriedade de comprovar a vacinação. O Executivo e o Supremo Tribunal Federal travam uma queda de braço a respeito do assunto.

O comprovante de vacinação pode ser obtido pelo ConecteSUS e por serviços estaduais, como o Poupatempo em São Paulo. Mas o ConecteSUS está fora do ar desde a madrugada de sexta (10) para sábado, após invasão de hackers. O governo promete restabelecê-lo em breve.

Ontem, após a Anvisa passar a exigir o documento, parte dos passageiros que desembarcavam no aeroporto de Guarulhos não era cobrada a mostrá-lo. **Saúde B3**

Análise final indica que pílula para Covid é quase 90% eficaz, diz Pfizer B4

Surto de gripe chega à capital paulista e aumenta internações

O vírus influenza A H3N2, o mesmo associado à epidemia de gripe no Rio, está circulando na capital paulista e já provoca aumento de atendimentos nos pronto-socorros e internações.

Embora a vacina contra gripe utilizada no programa de imunização tenha na sua composição a cepa H3N2, não é a mesma que circula agora nesses locais. Essa não está coberta. **Saúde B5**

Fux ordena que réus da Kiss sejam presos imediatamente

O presidente do Supremo, Luiz Fux, determinou ontem que os quatro condenados pelo incêndio na boate Kiss, sentenciados no dia 10, devem cumprir pena de prisão imediatamente.

Fux criticou a decisão liminar do Tribunal de Justiça gaúcho que os mantinha em liberdade, por causar "grave lesão à ordem pública". A tragédia, em 2013, deixou 242 mortos. **Cotidiano B2**

Petrobras anuncia redução de 3,1% no preço da gasolina A29

Queda nos serviços amplia previsões de retração no 4º tri

O recuo de atividade nos principais setores da economia, serviços, comércio e indústria, em outubro, reforça quadro de fraqueza econômica. **Mercado A24**

Capacidade de crescer gera fragilidade fiscal, afirma Campos Neto A24

Câmara passa em 1º turno texto-base de PEC para R\$ 44 bi

A Câmara aprovou em 1º turno o texto-base da segunda parte da PEC do Calote, que prevê liberar R\$ 43,8 bilhões para atender ao Auxílio Brasil. A oposição criticou as manobras na votação da 1ª parte da PEC, com voto fora do regimento. **Mercado A22**

Lygia Maria

Não fosse liberal de araque, presidente já teria descriminalizado as drogas A4

Planalto age para liberar verba de emendas às pressas

Em semana decisiva, o governo reagiu às pressas e prorrogou prazo para liberação de emendas após saber da insatisfação de aliados de Bolsonaro. **Poder A6**

PF intima Bolsonaro a depor por vazamento de inquérito A12

Chuva levou o que fez em 40 anos, diz vítima na Bahia

Laudelino Salomão, 70, viu seu pequeno mercado em Nova Alegria, distrito de Itamaraju, ser devastado. Localidade tem cenário de guerra. **Cotidiano B1**

Saiba como ajudar atingidos por enchentes em cidades baianas B1

Diputados tratan hoy pedido de intervención de la Gobernación de Central

Existe olor a pacto colorado para blanquear a Hugo Javier

Los oscuros manejos de los fondos Covid fueron denunciados por la Senac, la SET, la CGR y los concejales departamentales. Justificó millonarios gastos con facturas clonadas.

PÁGINA 4

Reclaman logros mayores
Empresarios critican la impunidad para peces gordos del contrabando

PÁGINA 10

Gracias a las medidas económicas
Hacienda: Se evitó que más de 400 mil personas cayeran en la pobreza

PÁGINA 11

Esquema de doble cobro a deudores
Fiscalía investigará las 156 causas de RGD en contra de sus víctimas

PÁGINA 43



En familia, tras criminal cautiverio

8 días de terror. Peter Reimer se abraza con su padre y comparte con familiares luego de cumplirse las condiciones extorsivas del grupo delictivo y ser liberado.

PÁGINA 42

CON ESTA EDICIÓN
¡AHORRAR EN CASA!

COMPRA OPCIONAL
COLECCIÓN MINERALES DE LA TIERRA 23
¡C. 50.000!

LANZAMIENTO

Según el presidente, tiene resultados
Abdo sigue dando oxígeno al ministro Arnaldo Giuzzio

PÁGINA 5

Por las variantes delta y ómicron
OMS alerta que se viene un tsunami de infecciones

PÁGINA 40

UNA INDESTRUCTIBLE SIEMPRE DESPIERTA TU LADO INDESTRUCTIBLE

TOYOTA

TOYOTOSHI



FIGARO
scope

- **À la une** : le palmarès des restaurants de 2021
- **Semaine culturelle** : les meilleurs spectacles de fin d'année

ÉDUCATION
LES LANGUES ANCIENNES ET LES MATHS VICTIMES DE LA RÉFORME DU BAC PAGE 10



EUROPE
Bruxelles s'attelle au renforcement de Schengen PAGE 7

TUNISIE
La dérive de plus en plus autoritaire de Kais Saïed PAGE 8

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Violences, drogue... la police va développer les plaintes en ligne PAGE 9

AGRICULTURE
Les coopératives françaises s'arment face à leurs rivaux PAGE 22

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La croissance devrait rester forte en 2022 PAGE 24

CINÉMA
« Un héros » : engrenage à Téhéran PAGE 30

CHAMPS LIBRES

- Club historique, l'OGC Nice veut s'inviter à la table des grands
- Nouvelle-Calédonie : que révèle la carte de l'abstention ?
- Les tribunes de Jean-Éric Schoettl, d'Éric Zemmour et de M^{re} Matthieu Rougé
- La chronique de Bertille Bayart

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FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON

Réponses à la question de mardi :
« Quoi qu'il en coûte » : le gouvernement a-t-il trop dépensé pour soutenir l'économie pendant la crise sanitaire ?

OUI 63% NON 37%
TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 177 659

Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr
Présidentielle : Emmanuel Macron doit-il déclarer sa candidature avant Noël ?

AXELLE DE RUSSIE/LE FIGARO MAGAZINE

Macron cherche la riposte pour contrer Péresse

Alors que la majorité tente de définir une stratégie pour s'opposer à la poussée de la candidate désignée par les militants LR, le chef de l'État a choisi de défendre son bilan à la télévision.

« C'est la première - et la seule ! - à avoir réussi à se qualifier virtuellement pour le second tour de la présidentielle et qui l'emporterait en finale en 2022, face au président de la République. Depuis la parution de cette étude Elabe, publiée par BFMTV et L'Express au lendemain du congrès LR, la candidature de Valérie Péresse inquiète Emmanuel Macron.

Alors, la majorité cherche la parade pour tenter de répondre à la poussée de la présidente de la région Ile-de-France. Les stratégies divergent au sein de l'exécutif, où l'on peine à s'accorder sur un angle d'attaque. D'un côté, certains accusent Valérie Péresse de singer Emmanuel Macron, avec moins d'ambition. De l'autre côté, on lui reproche, à l'in-

verse, sa radicalité supposée, en dénonçant sa volonté de rassembler des lignes irréconciliables, allant de Jean-Christophe Lagarde (UDI) à Laurent Wauquiez (LR).

→ COMMENT EST MESURÉ LE TEMPS DE PAROLE D'UN PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE → UN ENTRETIEN AVEC CLÉMENT BEAUNE → LA MAJORITÉ EN QUÊTE DE PARRAINAGES POUR EMMANUEL MACRON → JEAN-BAPTISTE LEMOYNE SE MOBILISE À L'ÉTRANGER PAGES 2, 4 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

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Après huit ans de présence au Mali, l'armée française quitte Tombouctou



L'armée française a cédé mardi sa base de Tombouctou aux forces armées maliennes, accélérant la mue de son opération Barkhane de lutte contre les djihadistes au Sahel, qui reposera de plus en plus sur les forces spéciales. PAGE 6

La vaccination des enfants divise la communauté médicale

Alors que les enfants présentant des risques de formes graves du Covid peuvent se faire vacciner dès ce mercredi, le gouvernement attend les avis de deux comités d'experts avant d'élargir l'autorisation à tous les jeunes de 5 à 11 ans. Certains estiment que les bénéfices du vaccin restent plus élevés que les risques, même pour les plus jeunes, alors que d'autres préfèrent avoir plus de recul sur la vaccination de millions d'enfants aux États-Unis avant de se prononcer.

PAGES 12 ET 13

ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thérard yththread@lefigaro.fr

La nouvelle donne

On ne manquera pas de ratiociner à l'infini sur l'intervention présidentielle - préenregistrée ! - de ce mercredi soir. Emmanuel Macron est longuement apparu la semaine dernière. Il reviendra à l'occasion des vœux. Le chef de l'État, qui voulait avoir la parole rare, se fait donc de plus en plus bavard. Dans quatre mois, la France votera, et son empressément à expliquer, justifier, éclairer son action est manifeste. Il agit comme tous ses prédécesseurs, candidats à leur réélection, en faisant mine de montrer qu'il ne pense pas qu'à cela. Personne n'est dupe, l'Élysée se défend, l'opposition vocifère contre le fait du prince... Une scène de pré-campagne électorale presque ordinaire dans notre pays.

Beaucoup plus original est le scénario qui est en train de s'écrire sous nos yeux. Il paraissait, jusque-là, sans grandes surprises et, à dire vrai, sans grand danger pour le président sortant. Une gauche en état de délabrement avancé, une droite en mal persistant d'un chef incontesté et quelques forces tribunitiennes qui font troubler le système. Bref, une opposition éparpillée, éclatée, face à un chef

de l'État à la popularité plutôt résistante. Faute d'une alternative solide, celui-ci est sorti relativement épargné des crises à répétition qui ont marqué son quinquennat. Depuis peu, le scénario a néanmoins changé. Une nouvelle donne s'est installée, confirmée par plusieurs sondages. L'arrivée de

Le scénario de la présidentielle a changé avec l'arrivée de Péresse

Valérie Péresse en représentante adoubee de la droite inquiète le président et ses proches. La poutre du paysage politique français bouge encore, mais plus dans le sens souhaité. L'opposition multipolaire, somme toute inoffensive, perd du terrain. Soudain réapparaît une bipolarité plus classique et sérieuse, avec un adversaire capable de faire revenir dans leur famille d'origine des électeurs partis ailleurs, notamment dans le sillage de la majorité présidentielle.

Si Emmanuel Macron reste le maître des horloges pour ses prises de parole, il n'est plus tout à fait le maître du jeu... ■

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Neil Patrick Harris

on avoiding the pitfalls of childhood fame ➔ G2



Review Spider-Man: No Way Home
'Immensely satisfying' ★★★★★ ➔ Page 3



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Johnson suffers huge Tory rebellion over Covid passes

UK Omicron infections 'could reach 1m a day'



Ian Sample
Nicola Davis
Denis Campbell

Britain's wave of Omicron infections could reach 1 million a day by the end of December, the government's most senior public health adviser has warned amid growing calls to limit Christmas gatherings.

Dr Susan Hopkins told MPs yesterday the Omicron Covid variant was initially doubling every two to three days in the UK but the pace appeared to have increased, driving a surge of disease that risked "significant" pressure on the NHS.

While confirmed cases of Omicron are being tracked through genomic testing, the number of infections across the country is believed to be far higher - an estimated 200,000 daily infections on Monday - due to a time lag and because many people are not picked up by the testing programme.

Hopkins said that with so many people expected to contract the virus over the coming weeks, the NHS would come under significant pressure if only a fraction became ill enough to need hospital care.

"If we have a million infections a day, even a

PM forced to depend on Labour support after 99 MPs defy his authority

Heather Stewart
Aubrey Allegretti

Boris Johnson suffered a humiliating rebellion over measures to slow the spread of the Omicron variant last night, with 99 Conservative MPs rejecting plans for vaccine certificates despite surging infections and personal lobbying by the prime minister.

Johnson had earlier warned his cabinet of a "huge spike" in cases but failed to persuade many in his party to support plans to insist on a Covid certificate or negative lateral flow test to attend large venues.

The scale of the rebellion - by far

the largest of Johnson's two-year premiership - raises questions about his willingness to implement tougher restrictions in the coming days, even if these are recommended by the government's scientific advisers.

The vaccine certificates measure passed comfortably by 369 votes to 126 - but only with the backing of Labour. The number of rebels far exceeds Johnson's parliamentary majority of 79 - and the 56 MPs needed to trigger a vote of no confidence in his leadership.

Thirty-five Tory MPs abstained though only 19 were authorised, meaning a further 16 appeared to have refused to vote - a number that included Theresa May.

The rebellion underlined Johnson's increasingly shaky grip over his party, after the damaging Owen Paterson affair and revelations about lockdown-busting parties in

▲ Boris Johnson, returning from his morning run yesterday, before MPs debated his plan B Covid measures

PHOTOGRAPH: PETER MACDIARMID/LNP

How they voted

Yes	369
No	126
Rebels	99

Vote on introducing Covid passes or negative tests to attend large venues

Downing Street, which remain under investigation by the cabinet secretary, Simon Case.

After the vote, Keir Starmer called Johnson the "worst possible leader at the worst possible time". Asked if Tory rebels should try to get rid of the PM, the Labour leader replied: "The prime minister needs to ask himself the question whether he has the authority to lead this country through this pandemic."

It was a question some Tories were also asking. Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, of the influential 1922 Committee of backbenchers, said a leadership challenge was "on the cards" if Johnson failed to "change his approach".

As families in Scotland were told not to socialise in groups of more than three households in the Christmas run-up, scores of Tories stood up in the Commons to criticise the significantly less

Star Hobson Woman guilty of murder

An amateur boxer who called herself 'the number one psycho' has been convicted of killing her partner's daughter

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