

## What's News

### Business & Finance

The SEC is preparing to force more transparency from big private companies, as regulators grow concerned about the lack of oversight of the fundraising that has fueled their rise. **A1**

◆ **Take-Two** agreed to buy Zynga in a roughly \$11 billion deal as the maker of Grand Theft Auto looks to expand its mobile portfolio with hits such as Words With Friends and FarmVille. **A1**

◆ **The Fed's Clarida** said he would resign on Friday, two weeks before his term is set to end. His resignation follows questions raised over financial transactions he conducted at the onset of the pandemic. **A2**

◆ **Powell is expected** to win a second term as Fed chairman, but must first face a grilling Tuesday at his Senate confirmation hearing. **A2**

◆ **Microsoft's** augmented-reality team has lost around 100 people in the past year, many of them to Meta Platforms, as the battle heats up for workers with skills to build the metaverse. **A1**

◆ **The S&P 500 and Dow** fell 0.1% and 0.4%, respectively, but an afternoon rebound erased losses in tech stocks, helping the Nasdaq to a 0.05% gain. **B1**

◆ **Intel removed** references to China's Xinjiang region from an open letter it sent suppliers last month, after the contents of the note sparked a social-media uproar in China. **B1**

◆ **Gerberus is selling** a chunk of its stakes in Deutsche Bank and Commerzbank, following years of disappointing share performances at the lenders. **B10**

### World-Wide

◆ **U.S. and Russian** negotiators held their first security talks since Russia's deployment of tens of thousands of troops to the Ukrainian border sparked fears of an invasion, but they left the talks saying they had failed to narrow their differences. **A1**

◆ **Much of the Biden** administration's vaccination mandate for larger employers went into effect on Monday despite the possibility the Supreme Court could halt the rule as it considers a legal challenge to it. **A6**

◆ **Officials in Chicago** announced a resolution to a teacher walkout over Covid-19 protocols, with students set to return to classrooms on Wednesday. **A3**

◆ **Private insurers** will have to cover the cost of over-the-counter Covid-19 tests under a Biden administration plan that aims to make it more affordable for people to screen for infections. **A6**

◆ **McConnell issued** a pre-emptive threat to Senate Democrats who are considering an overhaul of the chamber's longstanding filibuster rule. **A4**

◆ **A judge ordered** that tennis star Djokovic be released from detention, overturning the Australian government's cancellation of his visa. **A9**

◆ **Doctors transplanted** a pig's heart into a patient in Maryland, a historic first that could have wide-ranging implications for organ transplant surgery. **A3**

◆ **Died: Robert Durst**, 78, real-estate scion who was convicted of murder. **A2**

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U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov attended the talks.

## U.S., Russia Remain Far Apart In Talks Over Ukraine Tensions

U.S. and Russian negotiators held their first security talks since Russia's deployment of tens of thousands of troops to the Ukrainian border.

By Michael R. Gordon and William Mauldin in Washington and Ann M. Simmons in Moscow

sparked fears of an invasion, but they left the talks saying they had failed to narrow their differences.

Although both sides described Monday's discussions in

Geneva as businesslike, they remain at odds over Moscow's demands that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the post-war military alliance of Western powers, halt its expansion in Europe, as well as the U.S.'s insistence that Russia remove more than 100,000 troops arrayed near Ukraine's border.

The troop buildup has prompted concerns that President Vladimir Putin of Russia intends to invade a country he considers part of Russia's sphere of influence or has created a crisis to extract security

concessions from the West.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov of Russia said Moscow had "no intentions to attack Ukraine" and that the West needn't fear "any kind of escalation."

But many U.S. officials believe otherwise. "We believe the threat of invasion is real," White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said on NBC after the talks concluded.

Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman, who led the talks for Washington, said after Monday's round concluded,

"We're just at the beginning, and we don't know where all of this is headed quite yet."

Mr. Ryabkov described the talks as "difficult, long, very professional, specific, without any attempts to embellish anything, to get around any sharp corners." But, he said, "The main questions are on hold, and we do not see the American side taking any steps."

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◆ Gerald F. Seib: Theory about global ties is tested... A4

◆ Putin stands firm on Kazakh response... A8

## Videogame Makers Agree to \$11 Billion Tie-Up

By SARAH E. NEEDLEMAN

Take-Two Interactive Software Inc. agreed to buy Zynga Inc. in a roughly \$11 billion deal as the maker of Grand Theft Auto looks to expand its mobile portfolio with hits such as Words With Friends and FarmVille.

The cash-and-stock deal made public Monday is one of the videogame industry's biggest acquisitions. Take-Two Chief Executive Strauss Zelnick said a purchase of Zynga would give it a strong position in mobile, which has been the fastest-growing segment of the global videogame industry.

"More than 50% of our net bookings will come from mobile upon closing this transaction," Mr. Zelnick said in an interview. He said that the combined company will have more than one billion users, creating an opportunity to cross-promote content to a broader audience.

Under the cash-and-stock deal, Zynga stockholders would receive \$9.86 for each share they own, including \$3.50 in cash and \$6.36 of Take-Two stock. The companies said the deal had an enterprise value of \$12.7 billion, after adjusting for Zynga's convertible shares, cash and debt.

The deal, which is expected to close by midyear, represents about a 64% premium to Zynga's stock price of \$6 as of Friday's close. In trading Monday, Zynga shares rose 41% to \$8.44, while Take-Two fell 13% to \$142.99.

"While one never wants to be cavalier about a decline in

◆ Heard on the Street: Take-Two can thank Apple for Zynga... B12



**U.S. NEWS**  
 Powell to face Senate inflation questions; Fed Vice Chairman Clarida is resigning. **A2**



**SPORTS**  
 Georgia defeats Alabama 33-18 to win college football's national title. **A14**

## Microsoft Talent Poached In Race to Build Metaverse

By AARON TILLEY

Microsoft Corp.'s augmented-reality team has lost around 100 people in the past year, many of them to Meta Platforms Inc., said former employees of the software company and online job profiles, as the battle heats up for workers with skills to build the metaverse.

Competitors have been snapping up people with experience developing Microsoft's

HoloLens augmented-reality headsets, sometimes offering to double their salaries, former Microsoft employees said. The Microsoft augmented-reality group employs around 1,500 people, they said.

The LinkedIn profiles of more than 70 former employees on the HoloLens team show they have left Microsoft in the past year. More than 40 joined Meta, formerly known as Facebook, which is making a big

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Everyone's Playing Wordle. Here Come the Spreadsheets and Debates.

Popular online game requires players to figure out new five-letter word each day

By JOSEPH PISANI

Wordle, a once-a-day online word game, has taken the world by storm. Now its devotees are arguing about how best to play it.

Some rush to the website to play before others. Others have spent hours debating strategies with friends, family

and strangers online. Some have gone to extreme lengths by building spreadsheets to analyze the best way to play.

Sam Sheridan plays Wordle the moment a new game drops, at midnight while he's in bed, "which probably sounds kind of mad," said the psychologist from London.

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## SEC Eyes Stronger Oversight Of Private Firms

Push for transparency reflects concern about the growing clout of 'unicorns' in economy

By PAUL KIERNAN

WASHINGTON—The Securities and Exchange Commission is preparing to force more transparency from big private companies, as regulators grow concerned about the lack of oversight of the fundraising that has fueled their rise.

Private capital markets have become an increasingly popular way for companies to raise money in the U.S. in recent decades, allowing firms to acquire funding from institutions and wealthy people without the regulatory burdens of going public. The number of so-called unicorns—private companies valued at \$1 billion or more—has continued to grow even amid the recent boom in initial public offerings.

The SEC, Wall Street's top regulator, has begun work on a plan to require more private companies to routinely disclose information about their finances and operations, according to a semiannual rule-making agenda and people familiar with the matter. It is also considering tightening the qualifications that investors must meet to access private markets and increasing the amount of information that some nonpublic companies must file with the agency.

◆ When they're big firms, Please turn to page A6

## Sick Factory Workers Compound Strains

Absenteeism linked to Omicron variant comes on top of supply, labor constraints

By BOB TYTA AND AUSTEN HUFFORD

The Covid-19 Omicron variant's spread among U.S. factory workers is slowing operations and stretching staff for manufacturers, leading some to consider unconventional, and sometimes expensive, solutions to keep operating.

Mounting absences among Covid-infected workers are bringing masks back to some factory floors, executives said, while manufacturers shuttle available workers to jobs and plants where they

are most needed. Companies are also redoubling recruiting efforts to fortify workforces already worn thin by high turnover in a tight job market.

The speed at which the highly contagious variant is spreading has stunned some executives, who said they had grown increasingly confident over recent months that their companies had navigated the worst of the pandemic. The

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◆ Vaccine mandate for large employers takes effect... A6

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## Hard times

Even high rollers need support over long hours — SARAH O'CONNOR, PAGE 17

## EU vs The City

The shift to the continent could take decades to play out — BIG READ, PAGE 15



## Bucking the trend

Covid halts decline of the Midwest deer hunter — PATTI WALDMEIR, PAGE 16

# Moscow threatens walkout while extending security talks with west

◆ No breakthrough in Geneva ◆ Nato and US reject main demand ◆ Ukraine crisis persists

HENRY FOY AND BEN HALL — GENEVA  
JAMES POLITI — WASHINGTON

Russia has warned that it will walk away from diplomatic efforts to end the crisis over Ukraine if the west continues to ignore demands over security guarantees but has agreed to extend its talks with the west into this week.

There was no breakthrough in Geneva after nearly eight hours of discussions between Wendy Sherman, US deputy secretary of state, and Sergei Ryabkov, Russia's deputy foreign minister, in which the American side presented new ideas on arms control.

But there was no breakdown either in talks that Russia has warned could lead to military action if its red lines are not met. With 100,000 Russian troops massed along its border with Ukraine, fears of conflict have intensified.

The US and Nato ruled out Moscow's top demand for a ban on Nato enlargement. Sherman said Russia still had a choice between diplomacy and escalation — with the outcome in the balance.

"If Russia walks away from the diplomatic path, it may well be quite apparent that they were never serious about pursuing diplomacy at all," she said.

Ryabkov said Moscow "will judge any further steps and the prospects of all this work and make appropriate decisions... in the coming days" regarding whether it was worth continuing talks.

Russia began the day warning that it would walk away from the talks if the west continued to ignore its demands over Nato expansion. Russian officials will hold talks with Nato in Brussels tomorrow and with the 57-member Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe on Thursday in Vienna.

Sherman said she would then "have further conversations with the Russian government and decide on the best way forward" later in the week.

She described the talks as "serious, straightforward business, candid discussion". However, Ryabkov made no promise of de-escalation and said mili-



A Ukrainian soldier in a trench in Donetsk yesterday  
AP Photo/Andriy Dubchak

tary movements inside Russia "would continue, because this is what is absolutely required to maintain the necessary level of operative readiness of our armed forces in a situation where the security environment of Russia has changed dramatically for the worse".

Gideon Rachman  
Page 17

By presenting himself as the embodiment of Russian nationalism, Putin conflates threats to his own rule with threats to the nation. But they are not the same thing

Russia denies it is planning to invade Ukraine and says its deployment of troops and equipment close to the borders is a military exercise.

"Return the troops to barracks or tell us what exercises are ongoing and what their purpose is," Sherman said. "If Russia stays at the table and takes concrete steps to de-escalate tensions, we believe we can achieve progress."

Sherman said she presented proposals for arms controls talks on missile placement and new missile systems and for limits on the size and scope of military exercises. That could include a replacement for the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, from

which the US withdrew in 2019 following Russian violations.

Moscow published demands last month for reshaping European security, including a ban on further enlargement of Nato and on its military activities in former communist-bloc members. It has since issued ever more belligerent threats if its red lines were not met.

The US has threatened to impose bruising economic, financial and trade sanctions on Moscow if it were to invade Ukraine, saying those measures would eclipse the punishment imposed on Russia after the 2014 attack on Crimea. Putin's pledge to allies page 2  
FT View page 16

## Briefing

► **Rolls-Royce says Covid mood spurs sales**  
Torsten Müller-Otvös, boss of the BMW-owned luxury brand, has said Covid deaths helped push car sales to a record as wealthy motorists splashed out after realising "life can be short". — PAGE 6

► **Aung San Suu Kyi jailed for four years**  
A military court has sentenced Myanmar's deposed leader after she was convicted on three criminal charges, including for possessing walkie-talkies and breaching coronavirus restrictions. — PAGE 4

► **Son's account of Greensill deal disputed**  
Credit Suisse has challenged SoftBank founder Masayoshi Son's account of a deal the Japanese group struck with Greensill Capital, as relations turn increasingly bitter. — PAGE 6



► **Djokovic freed from quarantine hotel**  
Novak Djokovic has resumed training after winning his appeal against deportation. In a bitter blow for Canberra, a judge ruled that border authorities had acted unreasonably in cancelling his visa. — PAGE 2

► **Cathay Pacific under fire over outbreak**  
Pro-Beijing news organisations and politicians in Hong Kong have called for action against the airline after crew breached quarantine rules and started an outbreak of the Omicron coronavirus strain. — PAGE 4

► **Socialists defeated in Chávez home state**  
Venezuela's opposition has dealt a blow to Nicolás Maduro's ruling Socialists by winning an election in the state where Hugo Chávez was born and nurtured his Bolivarian revolution. — PAGE 4

► **'Grand Theft Auto' owner buys Zynga**  
Take-Two Interactive, the company behind the popular game series, has agreed a \$12.7bn deal for the mobile gaming specialist which is the maker of Farm Heroes and Words with Friends. — PAGE 8; LEX PAGE 18

## Datawatch

## Degrees of success

% of US adults aged 25 and over with a bachelor's qualification



Source: Pew Research Center

Women in the US are now more likely than men to have a four-year college degree. Around 40 per cent of women aged 25 and older have a bachelor's degree, compared with a slightly smaller share of men in the same age group.



## Omicron's strengths fuel concerns over reinfection

Scientists are turning their attention to reinfection rates as Omicron continues to spread, fuelled by its transmissibility and ability to evade immunity. Almost all reinfections so far will have been of people who originally caught another strain of coronavirus. But experts worry that Omicron's powers will lead to cases of reinfection with the same one. They are also concerned by co-infection — infection with Omicron and another variant at the same time. Heightened fears — PAGE 3

## Nasdaq suffers 'correction' as surge in bond yields propels tech stock sell-off

NAOMI ROVNIČEK — LONDON  
ERIC PLATT — NEW YORK

The Nasdaq Composite dropped into "correction" territory yesterday after a fresh tumble took its fall from a record high in November to beyond 10 per cent, as a sell-off in tech shares gathered pace.

The index, which includes Apple and Google-owner Alphabet, fell as much as 2.7 per cent yesterday and remained down 1.9 per cent in the New York afternoon, after a 4.5 per cent decline last week. A fall of 10 per cent from a recent high is regarded as a "correction".

The sell-off has been propelled by surging yields on US government bonds as investors dump the debt in anticipation of tighter monetary policy from the Federal Reserve. The yield on the benchmark 10-year note has climbed

for seven consecutive days to 1.78 per cent, notching its biggest rise since the coronavirus pandemic rocked markets in March 2020. It started the year around the 1.5 per cent mark.

"These have been some of the most aggressive increases in interest rates over the last 20 years," said Solita Marcelli, chief investment officer for the Americas at UBS Global Wealth Management.

The decline in tech shares was more severe than in broader equity markets in the US and Europe. The benchmark S&P 500 fell 1.4 per cent, while the Stoxx Europe 600 lost 1.5 per cent.

The Fed is considering raising interest rates several times this year, from the historic low set during the depths of the coronavirus crisis almost two years ago. Policymakers have had to adopt a more aggressive stance to removing stimulus

measures, with consumer prices rising at their fastest since 1982 and the labour market recovering strongly.

Economists polled by Refinitiv expect data tomorrow to show US prices rose at an annual pace of 7 per cent last month. The US unemployment rate dropped to 3.9 per cent in December, the labour department reported last week.

The change of mood has hit shares in tech companies, which benefited from lockdowns and low rates that helped investors justify the high valuations of a small group of large companies. "As you get more return on cash, or bonds, you are less willing to take the risk on volatile, expensive technology stocks," said Trevor Greetham, head of multi-asset at Royal London Asset Management.

Fed faces tricky task page 2  
China tech stocks rally page 10  
Markets Insight page 11

## World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				
	Jan 10	prev	%chg	
S&P 500	4610.62	4677.03	-1.42	
Nasdaq Composite	14069.98	14836.90	-5.19	
Dow Jones Ind	35797.80	36231.66	-1.20	
FTSE100	1861.48	1888.32	-1.42	
Euro Stoxx 50	4252.65	4305.83	-1.24	
FTSE 100	7445.25	7485.29	-0.53	
FTSE AEX Share	4219.31	4240.43	-0.70	
CAC 40	7115.77	7219.48	-1.44	
Xetra Dax	15768.27	15947.74	-1.13	
Nikkei	28479.56	29487.87	-3.03	
Hang Seng	23748.54	23483.38	1.08	
MSCI World \$	3177.54	3194.82	-0.22	
MSCI EM \$	1226.10	1217.07	0.74	
MSCI ACWI \$	743.18	744.03	-0.11	

CURRENCIES				
	Jan 10	prev		Jan 10
\$ per €	1.132	1.135	€ per \$	0.737
\$ per £	1.356	1.357	£ per \$	1.196
¥ per €	0.835	0.836	¥ per £	130.276
¥ per \$	115.090	115.630	€ index	82.949
¥ per €	156.080	156.950	Sfr per €	1.256
Sfr per \$	1.048	1.044		
€ per \$	0.883	0.881		

COMMODITIES				
	Jan 10	prev	%chg	
Oil WTI \$	78.29	78.90	-0.77	
Oil Brent \$	81.05	81.75	-0.86	
Gold \$	1792.60	1789.35	0.18	

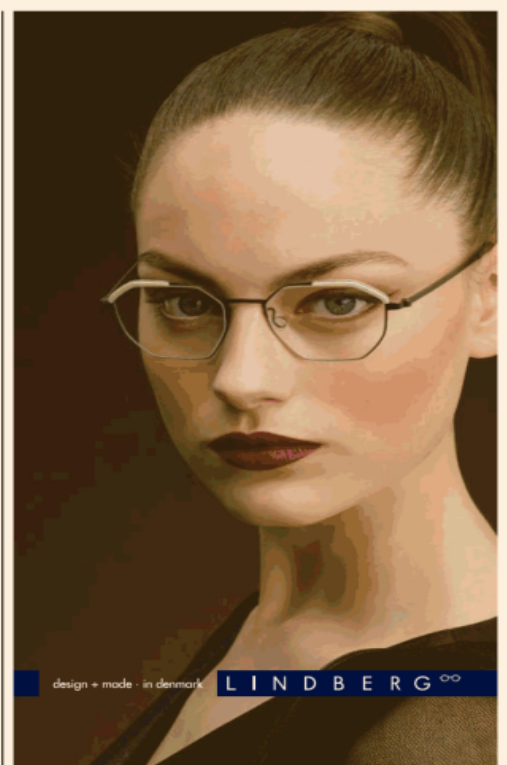
INTEREST RATES				
	price	yield	chg	
US Gov 10 yr	147.45	1.24	0.06	
UK Gov 10 yr		1.08	0.07	
Ger Gov 10 yr		-0.11	0.02	
Jpn Gov 10 yr	112.47	0.11	0.03	
US Gov 30 yr	117.89	2.13	0.00	
Ger Gov 2 yr	104.40	-0.60	0.00	

	price	prev	chg	
Fed Funds Eff	0.08	0.08	0.00	
US 3m Bill	0.10	0.10	0.00	
Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.58	0.00	
UK 3m	0.48	0.48	0.01	

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## Late Edition

Today, sunny, brisk and very cold, high 19. Tonight, clear to partly cloudy, low 18. Tomorrow, partly sunny, warmer in the afternoon, high 40. Weather map, Page A18.



A volunteer sorted donations for the survivors of a blaze that swept through a residential Bronx building on Sunday morning.

DAVID DEZ DELGADO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Panel on Riot Presses Pence For Testimony

By MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT  
and ALAN FEUER

As the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol rushes to gather evidence and conduct interviews, how far it will be able to go in holding former President Donald J. Trump accountable increasingly appears to hinge on one possible witness: former Vice President Mike Pence.

Since the committee was formed last summer, Mr. Pence's lawyer and the panel have been talking informally about whether he would be willing to speak to investigators, people briefed on the discussions said. But as Mr. Pence began sorting through a complex calculation about his cooperation, he indicated to the committee that he was undecided, they said.

To some degree, the current situation reflects negotiating strategies by both sides, with the committee eager to suggest an air of inevitability about Mr. Pence answering its questions and the former vice president's advisers looking for reasons to limit his political exposure from a move that would further complicate his ambitions to run for president in 2024.

But there also appears to be growing tension.

In recent weeks, Mr. Pence is said by people familiar with his thinking to have grown increasingly disillusioned with the idea of voluntary cooperation. He has told aides that the committee has taken a sharp partisan turn by openly considering the potential for criminal referrals to the Justice Department about Mr. Trump and others. Such referrals, in Mr. Pence's view, appear designed to

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## U.S. and Russia Still at Odds on NATO After Talks

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI  
and DAVID E. SANGER

GENEVA — The United States and Russia emerged from seven hours of urgent negotiations on Monday staking out seemingly irreconcilable positions on the future of the NATO alliance and the deployment of troops and weapons in Eastern Europe, keeping tensions high amid fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei A. Ryabkov, Russia's lead negotiator, insisted after the meeting that it was "absolutely mandatory" that Ukraine "never, never, ever" become a NATO member.

His American counterpart,

## Meetings With Kremlin Resume This Week as Tensions Run High

Deputy Secretary of State Wendy R. Sherman, reiterated that the United States could never make such a pledge because "we will not allow anyone to slam closed NATO's open door policy," and she said that the United States and its allies would not stand by if Russia sought to change international borders "by force."

The impasse left the fate of Ukraine — which was not invited to the bilateral talks — in a state of

uncertainty, with Russia's military intentions far from resolved following hastily-scheduled meetings between Ms. Sherman and Mr. Ryabkov on Sunday night and on Monday.

Still, while Russia has massed roughly 100,000 troops on its borders with Ukraine, Mr. Ryabkov told reporters "we have no intention to invade Ukraine." And both sides offered some positive assessments.

Ms. Sherman, talking to reporters via phone after Monday's meeting, said that she saw some areas where the two countries could make progress, and Mr. Ryabkov described the talks as "very professional, deep, con-

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AJ MAST FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## It's Georgia at the Top

Georgia defeated top-ranked Alabama, 33-18, to claim their first national title since 1980. Page B7.

## Heart of a Genetically Altered Pig Is Transplanted Into a Human

By RONI CARYN RABIN

A 57-year-old man with life-threatening heart disease has received a heart from a genetically modified pig, a groundbreaking procedure that offers hope to hundreds of thousands of patients with failing hearts.

It is the first successful transplant of a pig's heart into a human being. The eight-hour operation took place in Baltimore on Friday,

and the patient, David Bennett Sr. of Maryland, was doing well on Monday, according to surgeons at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

"It creates the pulse, it creates the pressure, it is his heart," said Dr. Bartley Griffith, the director of the cardiac transplant program at the medical center, who performed the operation.

"It's working, and it looks normal. We are thrilled, but we don't

## In Breakthrough, Hope for Organ Patients

know what tomorrow will bring us. This has never been done before."

Last year, 41,354 Americans received transplanted organs, more than half of them receiving kidneys, according to the United Net-

work for Organ Sharing, a nonprofit that coordinates the nation's organ procurement efforts.

But there is an acute shortage of organs, and about a dozen people on the lists die each day. Last year, 3,817 Americans received human donor hearts as replacements, more than ever before, but the potential demand is still higher.

Scientists have worked feverishly to develop pigs whose or-

Continued on Page A13

## Two Open Doors Created A Chute of Deadly Fumes

## All 17 Fatalities of Bronx Apartment Blaze Look to Be From Smoke Inhalation

By NICHOLAS FANDOS

The 17 people killed in a Bronx fire this week all died from inhaling smoke that poured through a single malfunctioning door and billowed to the top of the 19-story building, New York City officials said on Monday, as they investigated how a fire that barely spread beyond one unit became the city's most lethal in three decades.

The fire's origin appeared straightforward: A space heater that had been left running continuously burst into flames, officials said. A day later, though, residents remained stunned by the speed with which the smoke inundated the building, killing and critically injuring so many people in broad daylight, even as firefighters arrived within minutes.

The tower, considered a model affordable housing project when it was constructed in 1972, did not have a building-wide sprinkler system, as was allowed under the law. But it was deadly smoke sucked into an internal stairwell, not flames, that overcame residents as they fled the building.

As the fire burned, the smoke was drawn through the broken door on the third floor toward an open stairwell door high above on the 15th floor.

"If you have that door on the upper floors open, that's really going to give you a flue effect, like a chimney, and that's what occurred," said Jim Long, a spokesman for the Fire Department.

Fifteen people remained in critical condition on Monday, officials said. Mayor Eric Adams revised the official death count, saying that the city now believed that 17 people had died as of Monday afternoon, eight of them children, down from the 19 initially reported

on Sunday.

"It was the smoke that took these lives, not the fire itself," Mr. Adams said in a radio interview on 1010 WINS. He added that any maintenance issues related to the self-closing door remaining wide open would be part of the investigation into the fire.

With fire marshals and cleaning crews in white protective suits still combing the singed and smoke-stained tower, brutal images of the scene rippled from East 181st Street through the Bronx and New York City, and as



THE SCENE ON Monday as officials investigated the blaze.

far away as Gambia, the small West African nation from which many of the victims had emigrated.

Most of the deceased had not yet been publicly identified, as the city medical examiner labored to contact grieving relatives who could confirm their identities virtually because of ongoing health concerns around the coronavirus pandemic.

Shocked neighbors, family members and friends hunted for those still missing after the fire.

Continued on Page A15

**DANGEROUS CULPRIT** Space heaters, common in New York homes, have been linked to more than 25,000 residential fires yearly. PAGE A15

## Manchin's Vote: To Back Miners Or Coal Bosses?

By JONATHAN WEISSMAN

WASHINGTON — For years, burly men in camouflage hunting jackets have been a constant presence in the Capitol Hill office of Senator Joe Manchin III, their United Mine Workers logos giving away their mission: to lobby not only for the interests of coal, but also on more personal matters such as pensions, health care and funding to address black lung disease.

So when the miners' union and the West Virginia A.F.L.-C.I.O. came out last month with statements pleading for passage of President Biden's Build Back Better Act — just hours after Mr. Manchin, Democrat of West Virginia, said he was a "no" — the Capitol took notice.

With the miners now officially on the opposite side of the mine owners, it signaled the escalation of a behind-the-scenes struggle centered in Mr. Manchin's home state to sway the balking senator, whose skepticism about his party's marquee domestic policy measure has emerged as a potentially fatal impediment to its enactment.

While most of the attention to the fate of the social safety net and climate change bill has fixed on ideological divisions among Democrats over its largest provisions and overall cost, the battle underway over parochial issues in Mr. Manchin's state could ultimately matter more than the public pleas

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Mr. Durst in custody in 2015.

ROBERT DURST, 1943-2022

## Scion and Killer With Life Made For the Tabloids

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

Robert A. Durst, the scion of a New York real estate dynasty whose life dissolved in a calamity of suspicions over the unsolved disappearance of his first wife, the execution-style murder of a longtime confidante and the killing and dismemberment of a neighbor, died early Monday as a prisoner in Stockton, Calif. He was 78.

His lawyer Chip Lewis confirmed his death, at the San Joaquin General Hospital, where Mr. Durst had been taken for testing. He then went into cardiac arrest and could not be revived, Mr. Lewis said. Mr. Durst had been serving a life sentence at the California Health Care Facility in the killing of his longtime confidante Susan Berman.

He was convicted of the murder in September and shortly afterward tested positive for Covid-19

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

## Famed White Cliffs Defaced

Vandalism stained a formation in Sicily known as the Staircase of the Turks, and residents joined the cleanup. PAGE A9

## Close to an Assassination

Evidence suggests the man who took over from Haiti's murdered leader had close ties to a prime suspect. PAGE A10

NATIONAL A12-17

## Covering Covid Tests

The Biden administration said Monday that it would require private insurers to cover eight at-home rapid antigen tests per person per month. PAGE A12

## College Price-Fixing Suit

Yale, M.I.T. and other schools are accused of conspiring to reduce the financial aid offered to students. PAGE A16

OBITUARIES A19-21

## Jets Hall of Fame Receiver

Don Maynard teamed with quarterback Joe Namath in their upset victory in Super Bowl III. He was 86. PAGE A21

SPORTS B7-10

## A World of Trouble Ahead

Novak Djokovic may have won a visa battle in Australia, but his unvaccinated status may shadow his tennis travels, Christopher Clarey writes. PAGE B9

BUSINESS B1-6

## Fed's Vice Chair Resigns

Richard Clarida will leave two weeks ahead of schedule amid scrutiny of 2020 trades. He did not say why. PAGE B1

## Difficult Tax Season Ahead

The I.R.S., hobbled by staffing problems, says filers should expect a slower level of service this year. PAGE B3



SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

## Preparing for a Hotter Planet

The thinning of trees and controlled burns help control wildfires. Above, a nature preserve in Oregon. PAGE D3

## The Paws of Privilege

Researchers are studying the concepts of intergenerational wealth and inequality in the animal kingdom. PAGE D4

ARTS C1-6

## One Critic, 4 Operas, 48 Hours

Zachary Woolfe takes in "Rigoletto," "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Tosca" and "La Bohème" at a very fast tempo. PAGE C1

## Putting Hip-Hop in Homeware

Sean Brown is the creative force behind Curves, a home décor brand inspired by African American pop culture. PAGE C1

OPINION A22-23

## Michelle Goldberg

PAGE A22



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## GIRL KILLED BY LAPD OFFICER IS MOURNED

Soledad Peralta says goodbye to daughter Valentina Orellana Peralta, 14, who was struck by a stray bullet as police confronted an assault suspect in a store in North Hollywood on Dec. 23. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Newsom details \$286.4-billion budget proposal

Governor seeks close to \$10 billion in new spending on COVID, climate, homelessness, inequality and safety.

BY JOHN MYERS

**SACRAMENTO** — Built on projections of a ninth consecutive year of surplus tax revenue — a streak that has made California's deficit-ridden past a distant memory — the \$286.4-billion spending plan Gov. Gavin Newsom unveiled Monday builds on the state's recent efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic, homelessness and a worsening drought while surpassing K-12 school funding records set just last year.

lays out close to \$10 billion in new spending on what a fact sheet from his office calls "five of California's biggest challenges: COVID-19, climate change, homelessness, inequality, and keeping our streets safe."

In broad terms, Newsom's proposal to the Legislature is consistent with budgets written in recent years. While it would direct surplus tax revenue toward the state's cash reserves and pay down some long-term debts, there would be plenty left over for programs championed by the Democratic governor and legislators from both major parties — such as enhanced security at clinics that provide abortions and cancellation of an increase in California's gas tax that was scheduled for July.

"We have the capacity to invest in our growth engines, invest in the future, as well as making sure that we prepare for the uncertainties that the future presents," Newsom said Monday.

Most of the plan covers spending in the fiscal year that begins July 1. But the governor is also asking legislators for immediate action to expand the state's COVID-19 pandemic response, seeking authorization to quickly spend about half of a \$2.7-billion budget proposal to boost testing, vaccinations and healthcare staffing across the state.

Newsom also wants to bring back rules requiring California employers to provide COVID-19 sick leave for [See Budget, A7]

## California surpasses 6 million COVID cases

Omicron's reach is sending a stream of coronavirus-positive patients to hospitals.

BY LUKE MONEY, RONG-GONG LIN II AND MARISSA EVANS

More than 6 million cumulative coronavirus cases have now been reported in California, according to data compiled by The Times, as the Omicron variant continues its staggering spread. The record-setting pace of infections is putting pressure on hospitals, schools and other institutions, which are struggling to maintain full services as some employees take time off to deal with COVID-19.



**THE OMICRON** variant is fueling an increase in caseloads. Above, My Pham cares for a COVID-19 patient Saturday at Providence St. Jude Medical Center.

308,820 new infections for Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Officials said more than 600,000 COVID tests are being reported daily.

Los Angeles County hit its own milestone Monday, topping 2 million cases. "When we look at what is happening as regards to COVID, we know hundreds of thousands of Californians [are] becoming infected," Dr. Mark Ghaly, the California health and human services secretary, said Monday. "Thankfully, because of the high level of immunity and vaccination protection, the rate of hospitalization is lower, but that's with that sheer number of cases. Even with a lower percentage being hospitalized, it still means quite a bit of work, quite a bit of pressure on our healthcare delivery system."

[See Coronavirus, A12]

## Colleges could see funding increase

Money for UC and CSU systems is tied to equity goals. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Plan would expand Medi-Cal

Newsom proposal would lift program eligibility rules on immigration status. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## L.A. Unified students return, in test of district resolve

BY PALOMA ESQUIVEL AND MELISSA GOMEZ

Hundreds of thousands of Los Angeles Unified students are returning to campuses from winter break Tuesday amid a record-breaking surge in coronavirus cases that is testing the

carefully laid plans of educators in the nation's second-largest school district to keep classrooms open.

L.A. Unified officials are girding for staffing shortages, large numbers of student absences and long lines to access campuses for the multitudes of students who will probably need corona-

virus tests to meet the district's requirement that a negative test be shown by anyone seeking to enter school grounds.

Never has the coronavirus caseload in schools been higher.

On Monday, district data showed a massive spike in active cases among students

and staff, to more than 58,000.

More than 760 L.A. Unified schools were reporting at least 10 cases, more than 140 were reporting at least 100 cases, and six high schools were reporting at least 300 cases, according to a Times database of district infection counts.

About 15% of the more than 400,000 tests submitted between Jan. 3 and Jan. 9 were positive, according to the district's data.

The numbers are in flux. About 82% of the district's 450,000 students had uploaded their test results by Monday afternoon, meaning [See District, A12]

**'A MORAL OBLIGATION':** Pope Francis speaks of vaccination as a method to save lives and denounces "baseless information." **WORLD, A4**

**INSURANCE COVERAGE:** Americans will be able to get up to eight at-home virus test kits per person a month for free. **NATION, A6**

## U.S., Russia deadlocked on Ukraine crisis

Discussions aim to avert war along border, but the sides can only agree to hold further talks. **NATION, A3**

## Convicted killer Durst dies at 78

Real estate scion, guilty of murder and the suspect in his wife's disappearance, long dodged justice. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Georgia claims national title

Bulldogs roll over Alabama late to win 33-18 for their first college football championship since 1980. **SPORTS, B12**

**Weather**  
Mostly sunny,  
L.A. Basin: 77/50. **B6**



## COLUMN ONE

## In Mexico, a different miracle on ice

Figure skater takes unlikely, arduous path to Olympics

BY KEVIN BAXTER  
REPORTING FROM LEÓN, MEXICO

**D**onovan Carrillo is the best ice skater in Mexican history, which is a little like being the best bartender at a temperance convention or best speaker at a school for mimes.

It's an accomplishment but not one that's widely understood or appreciated.

And that goes a long way toward explaining why Carrillo has been preparing for next month's Olympics in a shopping mall, on an undersized rink tucked between a travel agency and a Japanese import store, often sharing the ice with teenagers on dates and frightened preschoolers wobbling on rented skates.

"It's not like I go to the supermarket and everyone is asking for pictures," Carrillo said.

In 2018, he became the first male Mexican to qualify for [See Carrillo, A5]



**DONOVAN CARRILLO**, 22, practices for next month's Beijing Winter Games on an undersized rink at a shopping mall in León, Mexico.

BY DAVID PIERSON  
AND ADI RENALDI

## The child sex trade on Bali survives pandemic

**BALI, Indonesia** — The 16-year-old girl met the man on a messaging app. He offered to take her sightseeing at a lake in his car. For the poor daughter of a trash collector, it was a luxury she couldn't refuse.

They spent the day viewing centuries-old temples with another teenage girl, but by nightfall the mood turned tense. The man, a 20-year-old named Aldi with unkempt hair and tattoos down his arms, told the girls it was too dark to drive home and pressured them to stay at a motel.

They arrived. Aldi revealed that the car was rented and that he couldn't pay for food or the room. He suggested the girls set up an online account to earn money having sex with strangers. They resisted. He seized their phones and threatened to beat them. Over the next two months, Aldi held the girls captive, moving them to different motels and forcing them to have sex with up to eight men a day, sometimes without condoms. [See Bali, A4]

**BUSINESS INSIDE:** A survey says 2 in 3 Kroger workers struggle to make ends meet. **A8**



# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

K SU V1 V2 V3 V4



Sunny 30/23 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 46/31 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022 • B2

## U.S.-Russia talks at an impasse over NATO

Discussions to continue on other issues in effort to deter Ukraine invasion

BY ISABELLE KHURSHUDYAN, MISSY RYAN AND PAUL SONNE

MOSCOW — The United States and Russia remained deadlocked after crisis talks Monday over Moscow's desire to block any future NATO expansion to the east, but officials agreed to continue discussions on other high-stakes security issues that the Biden administration hopes can avert another invasion of Ukraine.

Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman said U.S. negotiators put forward suggestions related to the scope of American military exercises and the placement of U.S. missiles in Europe, cautioning that the bilateral discussion in Geneva, the first of several talks this week on Russia's military buildup around Ukraine, was only the start of a potentially lengthy process.

"We were firm, however, in pushing back on security proposals that are simply nonstarters for the United States," she told reporters after the seven-hour meeting. "We will not allow anyone to slam closed NATO's open-door policy, which has always been central to the NATO

SEE TALKS ON A12

**Kazakhstan:** Nation's largest city begins to emerge from unrest. A12

## Like Djokovic, many athletes go extreme to gain an edge

BY LIZ CLARKE

In halls of government and on social media, tennis star Novak Djokovic is being castigated as yet another entitled millionaire athlete for flouting the coronavirus vaccine mandate to compete in the Australian Open. But his refusal to get the vaccine despite tests testing positive for the virus reveals another quality of elite, world-class athletes that is often lost on the fans who cheer them.

When it comes to their bodies, which are their livelihood and legacy, athletes who reach the pinnacle of their sports tend to be extreme, bordering on obsessive, in pursuit of anything and everything they believe will give them the slightest edge.

SEE ATHLETES ON A14

**Visa reinstated:** Novak Djokovic wins case to stay in Australia. A14



ANDREA VERDELLI/GETTY IMAGES

A woman in Beijing is tested for the coronavirus on Monday. China on Saturday reported its first two cases of the omicron variant in Tianjin, a large port city where the entire population is being tested and some districts have been locked down.

## Omicron keeps China walled off

BY EVA DOU AND LYRIC LI

A year ago, Chinese health experts had hoped the country could safely reopen to the world by now, as it attained herd immunity against the coronavirus.

China achieved last month the herculean goal of vaccinating more than 80 percent of its 1.4 billion people with two doses. But far from reopening, the country has returned to its harshest controls in two years, as it seeks to contain the highly contagious omicron variant.

The renewed lockdowns reflect offi-

Harsh controls return as quest for improved shots heats up before Olympics

cial concerns about whether China's vaccines can hold up against omicron, as well as the looming challenge of supplying the population with booster shots before the efficacy of their first two doses diminishes.

The Sinopharm and Sinovac shots in widespread use in China are "inactivated virus" vaccines, a tried-and-true method that has the downside of a higher

incidence of breakthrough infections. Chinese scientists say they are working to develop more effective mRNA vaccines, but it remains unclear whether those can reach market.

Whether China succeeds in developing more effective vaccines will have implications not only for its own people but also for developing nations that rely

SEE CHINA ON A14

**Health strain:** The nation is poised to set a record for covid-19 hospitalizations. A7

**Va. emergency order:** A limited measure is aimed at helping hospitals in crisis. B1

## 'This tragedy is not going to define us'

Officials confirm space heater caused Bronx fire, say an open door allowed smoke to spread

BY SAMIRA SADEQUE, JACK WRIGHT, PAULINA FIROZI AND LATESHIA BEACHUM

NEW YORK — A day after a fire killed 17 people in the Bronx, city officials blamed a space heater for starting the blaze and an open door that had allowed smoke to spread throughout the 120-apartment building.

More than 60 people were injured as smoke billowed through the 19-story building Sunday, New York Mayor Eric Adams (D) said at a news conference Monday that 17 people had been killed in the fire — nine adults and eight children — revising the toll reported as 19 the day before. Dozens of residents were displaced and in need of emergency housing after fleeing the flames, and many were mourning their family members and friends who did not survive.

"We're going to get through this moment,

SEE FIRE ON A6



JELANI MOON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Interfaith leaders hold a prayer vigil outside the Bronx apartment building that burned, leaving 17 people dead and dozens injured and displaced.

## IRS faces big tax season hurdles

REFUND AND SERVICE DELAYS EXPECTED

Treasury Dept. blames budget cuts, pandemic

BY JEFF STEIN

Treasury Department officials on Monday said that the Internal Revenue Service will face "enormous challenges" during this year's tax filing season, warning of delays to refunds and other taxpayer services.

In a phone call with reporters, Treasury officials predicted a "frustrating season" for taxpayers and tax preparers as a result of delays caused by the pandemic, years of budget cuts to the IRS and the federal stimulus measures that have added to the tax agency's workload.

Typically, IRS officials enter filing season with an unaddressed backlog of roughly 1 million returns. This year, however, the IRS will enter the filing season facing "several times" that, Treasury officials said, although they declined to give a more precise estimate. The IRS website says that as of Dec. 23, 2021, it still had 6 million

SEE IRS ON A22

## Brooks scrutinized for lead-up to Jan. 6

BY MICHAEL KRANISH

In early January 2021, as President Donald Trump summoned his supporters to Washington, Rep. Mo Brooks says he received a dire warning from a fellow lawmaker: Antifa was planning to infiltrate the Jan. 6 rally "dressing like Trump supporters."

The Alabama Republican was so convinced that his life was in danger that he stopped going home and began sleeping on his office floor. He was there Jan. 5 when, shortly before going to sleep, he tweeted that Trump had asked him "personally to speak & tell the American people about the election system weaknesses that the Socialist Democrats exploited to steal this election."

The next morning, Brooks slipped into body armor underneath a yellow and black jacket and then delivered an incendiary speech to a sea of Trump backers

SEE BROOKS ON A8

Jan. 6 panel: How the committee can get GOP lawmakers to talk. A6

## IN THE NEWS



ANGLIAN WATER/MATTHEW POWER PHOTOGRAPHY/REUTERS

**Prehistoric 'sea dragon':** British scientists unearthed the fossilized remains of a 32-foot, 180 million-year-old ichthyosaur. A13

**Back to school:** D.C.-area children returned to their classrooms after a winter break that was lengthened for many by snowfall last week. B1

**THE NATION** President Biden will make the case for protecting voting rights in a speech Tuesday in Georgia. A2  
**U.S. greenhouse gas** emissions surged 6.2 percent in 2021, a report found. A3  
**Federal officials** are expected to announce a preliminary decision this week on whether Medicare will cover Aduhelm, a controversial Alzheimer's drug. A4

**THE WORLD** After Lithuania stood by Taiwan in a spat with China, the island's resi-

dents are buying up the Baltic state's products and hailing its citizens on the street. A10  
**Mali** was effectively cut off from the rest of West Africa after regional leaders closed borders and cut trade with the country and its ruling junta. A11  
**Taliban officials** met over the weekend in Iran with leaders of armed Afghan resistance groups, reportedly offering to let them return home safely. A15

**THE ECONOMY** White House allies are divided on the strategy

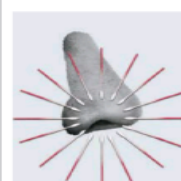
of blaming large companies for the broad rise in inflation. A16  
**The Help Desk** tackles the pandemic's surge of spam emails slipping through filters and landing in inboxes. A17  
**Richard Clarida**, the Federal Reserve's vice chair, will resign from the Fed board after further revelations of his stock trading behavior at the start of the pandemic. A22

**THE REGION** In Virginia, the outgoing House speaker vowed to protect Democrats' recent agenda wins as the GOP takes the reins. B1  
**A Virginia delegate's**

bill would eliminate race from consideration in Governor's Schools admissions processes. B1  
**D.C. will receive** an additional \$17.7 million from the Biden administration's Emergency Rental Assistance program. B5

**OBITUARIES** Bob Saget, 65, the endearing father on the sitcom "Full House," was also known as a mischievous stand-up comic. B5  
**Robert A. Durst**, 78, an eccentric New York real estate scion and convicted murderer, was featured in the high-profile HBO documentary "The Jinx." B6

## INSIDE



**STYLE** Another twirl of duty for the swab Over 99 years, it has had many jobs, but its pandemic mission is its most important yet. C1

**HEALTH & SCIENCE** Seeds of hope Could 2022 be a better, healthier year? Ten reasons to be cautiously optimistic. E1

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TELEVISION ..... C4  
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## deportes

## Pepe Sánchez

Volvió a los 44, por el sueño de su hijo

Vicente nació cuando su padre se había retirado; por las bajas de Bahía Basket, el base regresó una noche



**Djokovic solo ganó una batalla**  
La Justicia le devolvió la visa, pero aún pueden deportarlo

Página 6

**CON VENTAS RÉCORD, EL VINILO ESTÁ MÁS VIVO QUE NUNCA**

—espectáculos

Los discos ya no son una moda pasajera; en Gran Bretaña se vendieron más de 5 millones en 2021; aquí captan casi el 60% de la facturación de música en formato físico.

# LA NACION

MARTES 11 DE ENERO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

## El Presidente se suma al ataque del kirchnerismo contra los jueces de la Corte

**JUSTICIA.** Los criticó con dureza, mientras su gobierno avaló una marcha que exige echarlos

El presidente Alberto Fernández volvió a cargar contra los jueces de la Corte Suprema, a quienes cuestionó severamente por algunos fallos recientes. "Tiene un problema de funcionamiento muy serio", dijo, sobre el máximo tribunal del país. Añadió que se "ha degradado la credibilidad" de sus integrantes y ligó ese proceso

a la gestión de Mauricio Macri.

Las declaraciones, durante una entrevista con AM750, redondearon un día a la ofensiva: horas antes el viceministro de Justicia, Juan Martín Mena, había dado apoyo oficial a una marcha que organiza el kirchnerismo duro para reclamar la remoción de los actuales miembros de la Corte. "Me parece bien. Hay mucha gente con hartazgo. Es sano y necesario que la gente se pronuncie", afirmó.

A la hora de justificar sus críticas, el Presidente puso énfasis en el fallo que anuló la reforma del Consejo de la Magistratura de 2006: "Es asombroso", se quejó. Página 6

### CONTRA EL FMI

"Lo que quiere el FMI es imponernos un programa. No estamos de acuerdo", dijo Alberto Fernández. Página 10

## Otra vez, vuelos cancelados y pasajeros en espera

**economía—** Aerolíneas Argentinas canceló ayer 9 vuelos que partían del Aeropuerto Jorge Newbery y de Ezeiza, lo que dejó a unos 1000 pasajeros en tierra. La causa, según informó la empresa, fue que 1200 empleados están aislados por el Covid. Página 18



Cientos de pasajeros esperaban en el Aeropuerto una reprogramación de sus vuelos

FABIÁN MARELLI

## Por el ausentismo de médicos y enfermeros se resiente la atención en centros de salud

**PANDEMIA.** Hay cada vez más aislados por contagios o por ser contacto estrecho

Cada vez más médicos, enfermeros, técnicos y hasta personal de limpieza faltan a sus trabajos por estar contagiados de Covid o aislados por ser contacto estrecho. Así,

el sistema de salud empieza a resentirse por el ausentismo del personal, que afecta la capacidad de respuesta ante la altísima demanda generada por la tercera ola.

Mientras las autoridades sanitarias revisan los criterios de aislamiento para los equipos de salud, crecen la preocupación y la búsqueda de reemplazos. Página 19

## España ya planea tratar el Covid-19 como una gripe común

Las autoridades rastrearán y evaluarán la enfermedad dentro de un proceso endémico. Página 22

## Pagaron US\$692 millones a bonistas del canje

**DEUDA.** Se vienen más vencimientos y crece la presión sobre las reservas

Sofía Diamante  
LA NACION

El Gobierno pagó ayer algo más de US\$692 millones a los bonistas por la deuda reestructurada en 2020 e inauguró una temporada de fuertes vencimientos que pondrán presión sobre las escasas reservas del Banco Central. Solo en el primer trimestre, el país enfrenta pagos de deuda con el FMI por US\$3976 millones, de los cuales US\$1100 millones vencen entre fin de mes y comienzo de febrero. Adicionalmente, el próximo mes debe abonar US\$200 millones al Club de París. Continúa en la página 14

## Acuerdan la nueva lista de Precios Cuidados

**CONGELADOS.** La Secretaría de Comercio Interior llegó ayer a un acuerdo con 158 empresas de consumo masivo para integrar una nueva lista de Precios Cuidados con 1320 productos, cuyos precios quedarán congelados hasta abril y en el resto del año tendrán aumentos trimestrales por debajo del 2% mensual. Varias empresas consiguieron excluir de la lista algunos productos estrella para no afectar tanto sus márgenes de ganancia. Página 15

## El cambio climático impulsa la ola de calor

**AGOBIO.** Pronostican picos de más de 40 grados; La Niña es una de las claves. Página 23



Eduardo Anizelli/Folhapress



Rio Paraopeba transborda, e águas tomam ruas de Juatuba, na região metropolitana de Belo Horizonte; cratera se abre e interdita totalmente a MG-743, em Carmo do Paranaíba

## Chuvas castigam estradas, barragens e cidades em MG

Estado tem 145 municípios sob emergência, e milhares tiveram de sair de casa

As chuvas que atingem Minas neste início de ano resultaram em mortes, destruição e transtornos. Rios inundaram, moradores deixaram suas casas devido a alagamentos ou ao risco de rompimento de barragens, e havia mais de cem interdições em rodovias.

Com as tempestades, 145 municípios estão em situação de emergência —as áreas mais afetadas são a Grande Belo Horizonte e as regiões central e oeste do estado. São ao menos 9 mortes desde outubro, e quase 14 mil pessoas já tiveram de sair de suas residências.

Boa parte dos removidos vive perto de barragens de mineração. Um dique transbordou na mina Pau Branco, da Vallourec, em Nova Lima, o que levou Vale, CSN e Usiminas a paralisarem operações. A estrada que liga a cidade à capital mineira tem pontos de deslizamento.

Moradores de Pará de Minas também foram retirados porque a represa da usina Carioca apresenta alta probabilidade de se romper.

Belo Horizonte e cidades do entorno registraram 300 mm nos últimos três dias, a média esperada para o mês inteiro na região. **Cotidiano B1**

### Precipitações em Minas devem diminuir a partir de quinta **B1**

### Onda de calor pode levar a temperatura recorde no RS **B2**

Polícia Militar Rodoviária no Twitter



### Esporte **B7**

#### Vitória de Djokovic

Justiça australiana libera o tenista, que ainda corre risco de ser expulso

### Ilustrada **C1**

MC mais ouvido do país, Don Juan relata ansiedade e retoma debate na música

### Ilustrada **C2**

Lei Rouanet pode ter teto de R\$ 3.000 para cachês, 93% a menos do que hoje

### Ilustrada **C5**

Deprimente, Globo de Ouro 2022 não criou polêmica com prêmios no domingo

### A pandemia em 10.jan

Dados das 20h

#### POPULAÇÃO VACINADA

##### No Brasil

Ao menos uma dose (dose única ou 1ª dose) **78,0%**

1º ciclo vacinal completo (dose única ou 2ª dose) **67,8%**

Dose de reforço **14,1%**

##### Nos estados

Ao menos uma dose 1º ciclo completo Dose de reforço

SP 84,8% 79,0% 24,9%

PI 84,8% 75,1% 11,6%

MG 80,0% 72,6% 15,8%

#### ESTÁGIO DA DOENÇA

##### Óbitos

Média móvel

**128** ↑ 33,4%\*

Em 24 h 111

Total 620.142

\*Variação em relação a 14 dias

ISSN 1414-5723

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### Saúde anuncia mais 600 mil doses pediátricas

O ministro da Saúde, Marcelo Queiroga, anunciou que a pasta conseguiu adiantar para janeiro mais 600 mil doses de vacinas da Pfizer para crianças de 5 a 11 anos contra a Covid. Dessa forma, a quantidade de doses pediátricas previstas para este mês passaria de 3,7 milhões para 4,3 milhões. **Saúde B5**

### Estado de SP fala em vacinar todas as crianças de 3 a 11 em 10 dias **B5**

Ministério reduz de 10 para 5 dias quarentena de assintomáticos **B4**

### MÔNICA BERGAMO

#### Governo paulista já liga alerta para ocupação de UTIs

Médicos que aconselham João Dória (PSDB) já falam no risco de a ocupação de leitos de UTI atingir 90% nas próximas semanas, a persistir o ritmo de novos casos de Covid. A taxa na média do estado foi de 25% para 35% em uma semana. **Ilustrada C2**

### Presidente se diz surpreso com 'carta agressiva' de Barra Torres

Saúde **B4**

### Bolsonaro defende derrubada de seu próprio veto do Refis

Jair Bolsonaro mostrou ser favorável a derrubar o próprio veto ao projeto que permitiria a repactuação de débitos tributários para MEIs e empresas do Simples. O governo estuda estender prazo para regularização de dívidas. **A11**

### Fala de Lula sobre reforma trabalhista preocupa Alckmin

Poder **A5**

### PAINEL Moro não alterará lei do aborto, diz aliado evangélico **A4**

### Teto de gastos deveria se atrelar ao PIB, afirma Nelson Barbosa

Mercado **A13**

### EUA e Rússia se testam ao discutir Ucrânia

A 1ª reunião de EUA e Rússia para abordar a crise no país acabou sem avanços e contou com argumentos e termos inconciliáveis. **A9**

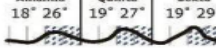
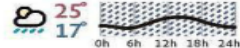
### EDITORIAIS **A2**

Capitólio caboclo Sobre os planos das Forças Armadas na eleição.

Livre negociação Acerca do indexador para contratos de aluguel.

### ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje







**Ayer se registró una explosión de casos con más 3.079 test positivos**

## Urgencias están colapsadas por los casos respiratorios

Las consultas en algunos hospitales se cuadruplicaron. Los no vacunados infectados con Covid tendrán un periodo de aislamiento más prolongado que los vacunados.

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Para refinanciar deudas por sequía  
**Municipios piden al  
Gobierno mediar entre  
los productores y las  
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**Publicar los cheques  
incautados a RGD  
permitirá evitar más  
aprietes, dice víctima**

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Tratamiento contra diabetes  
**Insulina: 100 años  
de una inyección que  
ha permitido salvar  
millones de vidas**

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### Ante falta de recolección tiran basura al arroyo



**Desidia.** Una vecina muestra cómo el cauce del arroyo Morotti, en el barrio Santa Ana de Asunción, se va llenando con la basura que arrojan los pobladores del lugar.

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**Ley de Emergencia genera dudas y  
llaman a autoridades de Salud**

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**SET espera recaudar USD 13  
millones por servicios digitales**

PÁGINA 25





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LE FIGARO

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



**ENQUÊTE**  
VINGT ANS APRÈS,  
L'INSOLUBLE CASSE-TÊTE  
DE GUANTANAMO **PAGE 14**

**ASTRONOMIE**  
MISSION ACCOMPLIE  
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DU TÉLESCOPE JAMES WEBB **PAGE 11**



## ÉLYSÉE

À Nice,  
Macron présente  
son programme  
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globale»

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Poutine cherche  
à restaurer l'ordre  
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FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON

**Réponses à la question de lundi :**  
La hausse des violences  
contre les élus  
vous inquiète-t-elle ?

OUI  
67%NON  
33%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 102 440

**Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr**

Présidentielle : faut-il rétablir l'anonymat des signatures des parrainages ?

FABIEN CLAIREFOND-NASA GSFC/OL/ADRIANA MANRIQUE GUTIERREZ-PETE SOLIZA/ZUMA PRESS/MAXPPP

# Le système des parrainages sous le feu des critiques

Marine Le Pen, Éric Zemmour ou encore Jean-Luc Mélenchon font partie des candidats à la présidentielle qui ne sont pas encore certains de recueillir les précieuses 500 signatures.

À trois mois du premier tour de la présidentielle, tous les candidats ne sont pas encore assurés d'obtenir leurs 500 parrainages obligatoires pour valider leur présence dans la compétition. Marine

Le Pen, Éric Zemmour ou Jean-Luc Mélenchon font partie de cette catégorie alors même qu'ils représentent à eux trois, plus de 40 % des intentions de vote. En cause, selon eux, une disposition ins-

taurée par François Hollande qui a rendu publique l'identité de tous les maires signataires. De nombreuses voix s'élèvent pour dénoncer les pressions qu'exerceraient aussi bien certaines communautés d'ag-

glomérations, conseils départementaux et régionaux que des partis qui menaceraient d'exclusion les maires tentés de donner leur parrainage. Mais, d'un bout à l'autre de l'échiquier politique, on dé-

nonce un même « scandale démocratique ». À l'inverse, certains candidats engrangent près de 2 000 parrainages tout en peinant à tutoyer la barre des 5 %. À l'image de la candidate socialiste Anne Hidalgo.

→ MÉLENCHON DEMANDE DE RÉTABLIR LA CONFIDENTIALITÉ → UNE CONTRAINTE DE PLUS EN PLUS EXIGEANTE → PEUT-ON RENDRE ANONYMES LES SIGNATURES ? → UN ENTRETIEN AVEC DAVID LISNARD : « MÉLENCHON, ZEMMOUR ET LE PEN DOIVENT POUVOIR SE PRÉSENTER » PAGES 2 À 4, 16 ET L'ÉDITORIAL



Abîmé par la pollution et le temps, le monument, transporté de Louxor à Paris en 1836, fait l'objet d'un chantier de six mois. Une remise en beauté pour le bicentenaire du déchiffrement des hiéroglyphes par Champollion. **PAGE 30**

## ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thérard ytheard@lefigaro.fr

### Déni de démocratie

**T**ant pis pour eux : Anne Hidalgo vient de balayer la question des parrainages à la présidentielle de cette formule pleine de morgue. Si Éric Zemmour et Jean-Luc Mélenchon ne parviennent pas à réunir les 500 signatures nécessaires à leur candidature, c'est qu'ils « ne méritent pas d'y participer ». La maire socialiste de Paris ne manque pas d'air, elle qui se traîne dans les profondeurs des intentions de vote, très loin derrière ces deux concurrents. L'absence de ces derniers au scrutin serait un déni de démocratie.

Certes, la polémique revient à chaque élection suprême, et on ne peut exclure une part de dramatisation chez ceux qui peinent à obtenir les précieux sésames. La controverse est pourtant, cette fois, pleinement justifiée. La règle des 500 parrainages, instituée en 1976, permet - c'est normal - d'écarter les candidatures fantaisistes. La réforme de 2016, qui rend public le nom de chaque signataire, est, elle, plus contestable. Ils sont 42 000 à pouvoir participer, mais la plupart sont des élus locaux sans étiquette précise, qui ne veulent surtout pas être « catalogués ». Parrainer

n'est pas soutenir, mais la différence ne va pas de soi pour tout le monde.

À l'heure où les élus sont la cible d'intimidations, voire de violences physiques, il est inutile de les exposer davantage. L'apparition des communautés de communes, encouragée dans le but de réaliser des économies d'échelle, est l'autre motif qui milite pour un retour à l'anonymat des parrainages. Comment un maire peut-il se

**Les élus locaux ne veulent pas être « catalogués » à cause des parrainages**

faire entendre si les autres le regardent de travers ? Enfin, la vie politique a changé et Anne Hidalgo, comme d'autres, pourrait en faire l'amère expérience dès le premier tour, en avril. Si elle va jusqu'à... Les partis n'ont plus la cote. Ils ne représentent plus nécessairement une force. On sait, depuis l'élection d'Emmanuel Macron, que le débat s'articule aussi autour d'humilié autour de personnalités sans ancrage local ni partisan... ■

### Cobalt, nickel... La France face au défi des métaux stratégiques

Avec l'abandon des énergies fossiles et la transition énergétique, la sécurisation des approvisionnements en métaux stratégiques est cruciale. Philippe Varin, ancien patron de PSA, a remis lundi un rapport sur ce sujet au gouvernement. Il défend la création d'un fonds pour investir dans les mines, l'installation de plateformes de transformation industrielle en France, et une collaboration étroite entre les acteurs industriels et académiques (CEA, CNRS...) dans la recherche. **PAGES 22 ET 23**



**POLAR  
POÉSIE  
#JeLisCommeJeVeux  
ROMANCE**



## Bastille's Dan Smith

'I've been expecting it to fall apart at any time'

→ G2

Zoe Williams How you use your phone is the ultimate age giveaway

→ G2



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# Fury as email reveals No 10 'bring your own booze' lockdown party

Johnson aide invited more than 100 staff to gathering, leak shows

Rowena Mason  
Jessica Elgot  
Robert Booth

Boris Johnson was last night accused of an "utterly outrageous" breach of lockdown rules as a leaked email showed one of his top officials invited

more than 100 Downing Street staff to a "bring your own booze" party during the first lockdown. Police are now investigating.

The prime minister is believed to have attended the No 10 garden party on 20 May 2020 along with Carrie Johnson, then his fiancée, after it was advertised by his principal private secretary, Martin Reynolds.

"Hi all, after what has been an incredibly busy period we thought it would be nice to make the most of the lovely weather and have some socially distanced drinks in the No 10

garden this evening. Please join us from 6pm and bring your own booze!" said the email, seen by ITV News. It invited just over 100 employees to the gathering at a time when social mixing was banned except with one other person from another household outdoors in a public place.

About 30 to 40 people are said to have gone, with food and wine set out on tables, but some staff reportedly expressed their reservations at the time. "Um. Why is Martin encouraging a mass gathering in the garden?" one member of staff said, according

**'Boris Johnson has shown that he has no regard for the rules'**

Angela Rayner  
Labour's deputy leader

to the BBC. Another asked: "Is this for real?"

On the same day, Oliver Dowden, the culture secretary, had reminded the public at a press conference: "You

can meet one person outside of your household in an outdoor, public place provided that you stay 2 metres apart." The Metropolitan police had tweeted that day, telling people they could have a picnic, exercise or do sport outside providing you are "on your own, with people you live with, or just you and one other person".

Last night, following news of the leaked email, the Met said it was "aware of widespread reporting relating to alleged breaches of the Health Protection Regulations at Downing Street on 6 →

## Djokovic 'grateful' after visa appeal win

Sean Ingle and Paul Karp

Novak Djokovic yesterday ended an extraordinary day in Melbourne with his Australian Open dreams revived after winning an appeal against his visa cancellation. But his battle to stay in the country may yet hit another twist, with the Australian government threatening to revoke his entry visa for a second time.

The circumstances have left the world's No 1 men's tennis player, who spent four days in an immigration detention centre after his medical exemption from strict coronavirus vaccination rules was denied by border officials, in limbo days before he is due to begin the defence of his title next Monday.

A remarkable 24 hours also saw Djokovic's fans pepper-sprayed by police as they celebrated his release in Melbourne, his mother claim her son had been "tortured" while in custody, and his father appeal to the Queen to put pressure on the Australian government. 4 →



▲ Novak Djokovic tweeted this picture of his team at the Rod Laver Arena after his visa cancellation was overturned: 'Despite all that has happened I want to stay and try to compete @AustralianOpen' PHOTOGRAPH: @DJOKERNOLE/TWITTER

## Cuts leave pollution incidents unattended

Exclusive  
Rachel Salvidge

The Environment Agency has told its staff to "shut down" and ignore reports of low-impact pollution events because it does not have enough money to investigate them, according to a leaked internal report.

The ruling on so-called category 3 and 4 incidents means that events such as farm pollution or hazardous dumps by business may not be properly investigated. The decision has infuriated river groups and NGOs.

The agency, which is responsible for the protection and enhancement of the environment in England, issued briefing to staff in November which has been seen by the Guardian and the Ends Report. It says there is leadership support for "no response to unfunded low- and no-impact environmental incidents", also known as category 3 and 4 incidents.

The leaked document also hints at the agency's frustration at ministers and the money set aside for its work. It says the EA's 8 →