

What's News

Business & Finance

U.S. inflation surged to a four-decade high of 8.5% in March from the same month a year earlier, driven by skyrocketing energy costs, rising food prices and strong consumer demand. **A1, A4-5**

◆ **The Biden administration** said it would allow high-ethanol content gasoline to be sold in the summer months, in an effort aimed at lowering pump prices and paying political dividends in farm states. **A5**

◆ **U.S. stocks slipped** as investors pondered how the Fed will act on inflation, with the S&P 500, Dow and Nasdaq all losing 0.3%. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note settled lower at 2.724%. **B1, B13**

◆ **Michael Barr**, a former Treasury official, is the White House's leading candidate to serve as the Fed's top banking regulator, according to people with knowledge of the administration's internal deliberations. **A2**

◆ **GM struck** a multiyear agreement to source cobalt from Glencore amid the auto industry's rush to secure key battery ingredients for electric vehicles. **B1**

◆ **More factories in** and around Shanghai, including two run by an Apple supplier, are halting production due to Covid-19 lockdowns. **B1**

◆ **Boeing said** its long-term orders for new commercial jets are expected to shrink because of sanctions targeting Russia. **B3**

◆ **The union representing** pilots at Southwest said rising rates of pilot fatigue are a threat to the airline's safety. **B3**

World-Wide

◆ **Putin said peace talks** with Kyiv had reached a "dead end," as Russian forces bombarded Ukrainian military positions and residential areas in the country's east and unleashed new rocket attacks. **A1, A6-7**

◆ **Mexican trucks blocked** two major international bridges to protest a new border-security initiative from Texas Gov. Abbott that forced them to wait hours or days to bring products into the U.S. **A3**

◆ **A manhunt** was under way Tuesday night across New York City for the person suspected of shooting and wounding 10 people on a subway train and platform during the morning rush hour. **A3**

◆ **British Prime Minister Johnson** and Treasury chief Sunak will be fined by U.K. police for breaking Covid-19 lockdown rules, the government said. **A16**

◆ **Far-right leader Le Pen** vowed to overhaul France's legislative and electoral systems if she wins the country's presidential election. **A16**

◆ **All children should be** screened for anxiety starting as young as 8 years old, government-backed experts in the U.S. recommended. **A3**

◆ **New York Lt. Gov. Benjamin** resigned after being arrested in connection with an alleged bribery scheme and subsequent coverup. **A3**

◆ **The federal budget** ran a \$193 billion deficit during March, a 71% decline from a year earlier. **A2**

◆ **Died: Gilbert Gottfried**, 67, comedian and actor. **A2**

CONTENTS Personal Journal A9-30
Arts in Review... A11
Business News... B3-5
Crossword... A12
Grossmont... A12
Heard on Street... B14
Markets... B13
Opinion... A13-15
Sports... A12
Technology... B4
U.S. News... A2-5
Weather... A32
World News... A6-7, 36

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Gunman Attacks Riders on New York Subway



WOUNDED: New York City police launched a citywide search after a gunman shot 10 people, none fatally, on a subway train and platform in Brooklyn during rush hour Tuesday morning. **A3**

Commodity Market Swings Snarl Real World Business

By RYAN DEZEMBER

A rally in commodities prices more intense than anything seen in the modern trading era is shaking the markets, meant to ease the flow of raw materials around the world.

Wild swings in futures markets are complicating business for the people and companies who actually produce and use natural gas, zinc or soybeans, to name a few. They are driving speculators and others from the markets, an exodus

that has led in turn to even choppier trading and higher prices. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has added to market disruption, especially in energy and grain sectors. Bouts of inclement weather and supply-chain problems have complicated delivery in some markets.

These market increases have filtered through to higher prices for consumers, adding to pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates. U.S. natural-gas prices have

jumped 79% in 2022; usually they decline into the mild weather of spring. Oil has fallen about \$23 a barrel from a recent high, but the benchmark U.S. price is still up 34% this year.

Appalachian coal, soybean oil, oats, canola, rapeseed oil, natural gas in the Netherlands, wheat in Paris and Chicago, gasoline, diesel, propane, palm oil, copper and tin have all notched new highs in 2022. Soybeans, lean hogs, frozen

Please turn to page A8

Ukraine Hunts for Proof To Prosecute War Crimes

By BRETT FORREST

BUCHA, Ukraine—Searching for evidence in the killings of hundreds of people by Russian troops here, Ukrainian prosecutor Ruslan Kravchenko unlocked the double doors leading to a boiler room on the south side of town. The space had been used as an office by the occupying forces.

Two weeks after Russia's retreat from areas around the Ukrainian capital, local and national authorities are embarking on a wide-ranging probe of alleged war crimes with the aim of building cases strong

enough to persuade an international court to hold the Kremlin and its soldiers responsible.

In Bucha, Mr. Kravchenko, the district's chief prosecutor, said his goal is to identify the perpetrator of each assault, rape and killing allegedly committed during the Russian occupation. More than 400 bodies were recovered from the town's streets, cellars and hastily dug holes, some bearing signs of torture, local authorities said, others killed by snipers' bullets while foraging for food.

Investigators from prosecu-

Please turn to page A7

Putin Says Peace Talks Reach 'Dead End,' Vows to Fight On

President Vladimir Putin of Russia said peace talks with Kyiv had reached a "dead end," as Moscow's forces on Tues-

By Evan Gershkovich, Thomas Grove and Brett Forrest

day bombarded Ukrainian military positions and residential areas in the country's east and unleashed new rocket attacks.

In his first extended comments on the war since last month, Mr. Putin said that without an agreement acceptable to

the Kremlin, Russian forces would continue their offensive.

Mr. Putin said that peace talks had stalled after what he called a "fake" situation in Bucha, a town outside of Kyiv where Ukrainian officials reported the discovery of several hundred dead civilians this month after Russian troops retreated.

Ukrainian and Western officials are pursuing investigations into potential war crimes committed there and in other formerly Russian-held towns in northern Ukraine before

Moscow's withdrawal at the end of March.

President Biden said Tuesday that Mr. Putin's actions in Ukraine amounted to "genocide," marking the first time his administration has used the term. Later, Mr. Biden said it would be up to legal experts

Please turn to page A6

◆ **Ukraine hit by string of** cyberattacks... **A6**
◆ **Russia's GDP faces big drop,** ex-official predicts... **A7**
◆ **Surging prices test European** governments... **A7**

INSIDE



SPORTS

Baseball has a historic rookie class. The lockout might be the reason. **A12**



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Record office-lease expirations this year pose a risk to landlords. **B1**

Guitar Fans Pull Strings to Snag Scarce Amplifier Tubes

Glowing glass devices create a special sound; 'world-wide panic'

By ANTHONY DEBARROS

Electric guitarists can spend years searching for tube-powered amplifiers that will give them the perfect tone.

Now many of them are on the hunt for the tubes themselves.

The war in Ukraine has intensified a shortage of the glowing glass devices, once a key component of American TV sets and radios. These days, the tubes come primarily from factories in China, Slovakia and Russia.

"Folks buy your spare tubes now," a guitarist posted on the popular message board The Gear Page after Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine.

Doug's Tubes in Wantagh, N.Y., reported selling more tubes in the first three weeks

of March than it had in the previous three months. Even now, owner Doug Preston said, sales are at twice his normal volume.

"While the 'hysteria' has passed, folks are quietly panicking," Mr. Preston said in an email. "I've set limits on most tubes to avoid hoarding."

Long obsolete in most consumer electronics, vacuum tubes are still used in guitar amps and hi-fi equipment. Aficionados say the tubes—just a few inches tall, with heated filaments that resemble a dimly glowing bulb—provide a warm, creamy tone unmatched by solid-state circuitry.

"It's something I don't think you can actually put into words," said Peter Frampton.

Please turn to page A8

Inflation Hits 40-Year High, Reaching 8.5%

Oil and gasoline drive surge in energy costs as price index rises at fastest pace since '81

By GWYNN GUILFORD

U.S. inflation surged to a four-decade high of 8.5% in March from the same month a year ago, driven by skyrocketing energy costs, rising food prices and strong consumer demand.

The Labor Department said Tuesday that the consumer-price index—which measures what consumers pay for goods and services—rose last month at its fastest annual pace since December 1981, up from the 7.9% annual rate in February.

There have been six straight months of inflation above 6%, well above the Federal Reserve's average 2% target.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine drove a March surge in oil and gasoline prices, which hit records in mid-March, and overall energy prices shot up 11% from the prior month.

Prices for groceries also continued to accelerate in March, rising 1.5% from a month earlier, while the cost increases for dining out moderated.

The so-called core price index, which excludes the often-volatile categories of food and energy, increased 6.5% in March from a year earlier—up from February's 6.4% rise, and the sharpest 12-month rise since August 1982.

High inflation cuts against booming growth, as the economy bounces back from Covid-19, powered in part by strong demand, years of low interest rates and government stimulus intended to counter the economic impact of the pandemic and lockdowns. The

Please turn to page A4

Economic Fallout

◆ **Grocers thrive as** consumers pay more... **A4**
◆ **The safe investment** set to yield nearly 10%... **A9**
◆ **Stocks decline as rate** fears mount... **B1**

U.S. consumer-price index, change from a year earlier



Source: Labor Department

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An inelegant truth

No theory can explain the senseless war in Ukraine — JANAN GANESH, PAGE 15

Uganda's oil test

The national park project under fire in age of net zero — BIG READ, PAGE 13



Brain gain

Taiwan's plan to churn out world's chip experts — INSIDE BUSINESS, PAGE 5

Russia denial Putin stifles peace hopes

Vladimir Putin has said peace talks with Ukraine hosted by Turkey are at a "dead end", adding that without a deal Russia's invasion of the country would "continue to its complete end".

Speaking at Vostochny cosmodrome in the east of the country yesterday, the Russian president said: "We acted to create conditions to continue talks. Instead, we faced the provocation in Bucha and... the Ukrainian side deviated from the Istanbul agreements."

Putin claimed that atrocities in the town of Bucha attributed to Russian forces by Ukraine and western journalists were "fake news" staged by Kyiv.

War in Ukraine page 2

Nokia quits Russia page 6

Janan Ganesh & Andrey Panov page 15



Vladimir Putin (AFP) via Getty Images

US inflation reaches 40-year high as energy and food prices surge

◆ Annual increase 8.5% ◆ Data pile pressure on Fed ◆ Ukraine war adds to uncertainty

COLBY SMITH AND
ERIC PLATT — NEW YORK
LAUREN FEDOR — WASHINGTON

US consumer price growth exceeded 8 per cent in March, its fastest pace since 1981, driven by a surge in the cost of energy and food. It maintains pressure on the Federal Reserve to take aggressive action to tackle inflation.

Consumer inflation was 8.5 per cent compared with a year ago, marginally above Wall Street expectations, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said. The monthly rise was 1.2 per cent, the fastest jump since September 2005 and a sharp acceleration from the 0.8 per cent increase in February.

After volatile items, such as food and energy, were stripped out, "core" CPI advanced 0.3 per cent in March, the

slowest rise since September but still a 6.5 per cent annual increase.

Lael Brainard, a Fed governor awaiting Senate approval to be the central bank's vice-chair, warned of "upside" risks to inflation, citing Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Covid-19 lockdowns in China that could worsen supply chain constraints. "The economy has sustained now a number of these kinds of inflationary shocks from external events," she said at a Wall Street Journal event. "We've seen a lot of resilience but we've also seen very high inflation."

It was the first inflation reading that included a full month of the war in Ukraine, which has significantly clouded the global outlook.

The World Trade Organization yesterday cut its trade growth forecast for

this year by about a third, to 5 per cent, warning that the decline in commodity exports caused by the war could cause mass hunger in developing countries.

Jen Psaki, White House press secretary, on Monday blamed the war for rising prices, saying the CPI would be "extraordinarily elevated due to Putin's price hike".

Joe Biden has seen his popularity ebb as the cost of living has risen, with high petrol prices a particular concern. The US president was due yesterday to announce a temporary lifting of curbs on the sale of higher blends of ethanol in petrol, in the White House's latest effort to drive down prices at the pump.

"Everyone is worried about inflation," said Vincent Reinhart, a former senior Fed staff member who is now chief



The monthly increase in prices was 1.2 per cent, the fastest rise since September 2005

economist at Mellon. "It is number one in the polls. It is consuming the Fed's bandwidth."

The Fed is now poised to raise interest rates by half a percentage point at its next meeting in May, double the pace of its March rise, as it seeks a more "neutral" level. Officials suggest that rate to be roughly 2.4 per cent, implying at least one more half-point adjustment and four quarter-point rate rises in 2022.

US markets climbed, with the S&P 500 rising 0.5 per cent and the tech-heavy Nasdaq advancing 0.75 per cent. US Treasuries also gained, with the yield on the 10-year note falling nearly 0.1 percentage points to 2.68 per cent.

WTO hunger warning page 2
Ethanol waiver page 4
Robin Harding page 15



Leftist votes up for grabs in French election crunch

Leftist Jean-Luc Mélenchon's message to supporters to shun the far right appears to favour Emmanuel Macron but the incumbent president faces a struggle to bring in their votes. With a 22 per cent share, Mélenchon backers are kingmakers in the second round but many distrust ex-banker Macron, who has wasted no time in courting poorer areas of France. Polls say a third will abstain and a third will defy their leader and opt for Marine Le Pen.

Mélenchon the kingmaker — PAGE 3

Pressure mounts on Johnson as police impose fine for breach of Covid laws

JIM PICKARD, ROBERT WRIGHT,
SEBASTIAN PAYNE AND
JASMINE CAMERON-CHILLESSE — LONDON

Boris Johnson has become the first British prime minister to have committed a criminal offence while in office, after police fined him for an illegal birthday party held at 10 Downing Street during a Covid-19 lockdown.

Johnson was fined by the Metropolitan Police alongside his wife Carrie, Rishi Sunak, the finance minister, and other government figures, for breaching pandemic restrictions. Johnson said he had paid the fine and apologised for the "mistake" he had made.

The police have investigated 12 parties so far and are set to impose 50 penalties on an unknown number of individuals. However, they have not finished their investigation, which means

additional fines may be issued. Johnson said the press would be "among the first to know" if he received further fines.

The Met's investigation into "partygate" came after repeated denials from Johnson that he had committed any offence or been aware of any rule breaking during Covid lockdowns.

Asked why he had initially denied the reports of multiple parties, Johnson said Number 10 was a 15,000 sq ft building with hundreds of officials. "I couldn't be everywhere at once," he said.

Sunak's fine adds to the mounting pressure on the chancellor after days of criticism over his family's tax affairs and his perceived failure to tackle the cost-of-living crisis in last month's Budget.

Sir Keir Starmer, leader of the opposition Labour party, urged Johnson and Sunak to quit and called for parliament to be recalled from its Easter break to

allow MPs to quiz them. "Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak have broken the law and repeatedly lied to the British public," Starmer said. "They must both resign. The Conservatives are totally unfit to govern."

Lobby Akinola, a spokesperson for the Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice campaign group, said it was "unbelievably painful" to know that the prime minister had broken the law when people had been forbidden from seeing loved ones in their dying moments.

One former cabinet minister said the situation was "terminal" for Johnson. "It's now a case of when rather than if he goes, not least because he didn't tell the truth in the House of Commons, that's the key point," he said. But other rebels are now loath to topple Johnson because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

FT View & Notebook page 14

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World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES					
	Apr 12	prev	%chg	Pair	Apr 12	prev	%chg			price	yield	chg	
S&P 500	4450.81	4412.53	0.86	\$ per £	1.0867	1.086	0.007	0.920	0.918	US Gov 10 yr	92.07	2.70	-0.07
Nasdaq Composite	13575.10	13411.98	1.22	\$ per €	1.304	1.304	0.767	0.767	0.767	UK Gov 10 yr	122.17	1.80	-0.04
Dow Jones Ind	34542.03	34308.08	0.68	€ per £	0.834	0.836	€ per €	1.199	1.197	Ger Gov 10 yr	92.33	0.79	-0.03
FTSEurofirst 300	1787.49	1794.73	-0.40	¥ per \$	125.175	125.525	¥ per €	136.109	136.785	Jan Gov 10 yr	99.67	0.24	0.01
Euro Stoxx 50	3831.73	3839.62	-0.21	¥ per €	163.157	163.704	€ index	81.540	81.365	US Gov 30 yr	88.36	2.79	-0.03
FTSE 100	7576.66	7618.31	-0.55	S¥ per £	1.011	1.014	S¥ per €	1.212	1.214	Ger Gov 2 yr	99.76	0.07	-0.06
FTSE All-Share	4210.28	4232.53	-0.53										
CAC 40	6537.41	6555.81	-0.28										
Nikkei Stoxx	14124.85	14162.78	-0.48										
Nikkei	26334.90	26021.52	-1.81										
Hang Seng	21319.13	21208.30	0.52										
MSCI World	2972.40	3012.19	-1.32										
MSCI EM	1111.76	1127.93	-1.43	Oil WTI	105.06	94.20	11.31			Fed Funds Eff	0.20	0.08	0.12
MSCI ACWI	692.77	702.13	-1.33	Oil Brent	109.05	96.49	6.93			US 30 Libor	0.77	0.70	0.07
FT Wilshire 2500	5752.61	5844.63	-1.57	Gold \$	1991.56	1984.40	0.35			Euro 3m Bill	-0.58	-0.56	0.00
FT Wilshire 5000	44823.71	45639.27	-1.57							UK 3m	1.08	1.06	0.02

Prices are latest for edition

Data provided by Morningstar

Commodities

	Apr 12	prev	%chg
Oil WTI \$	101.05	94.29	7.17
Oil Brent \$	105.00	98.40	6.93
Gold \$	1951.55	1941.40	0.52

Fixed Income

	price	prev	chg
Feed Funds GR	0.20	0.08	0.12
US 3m Bill	0.77	0.70	0.07
Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.58	0.00
UK 3m	1.09	1.06	0.02

Prices are latest for addition. Data provided by Morningstar

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CITY ON EDGE AFTER A SUBWAY SHOOTING

At Least 23 Hurt — Police Seek Gunman

By MICHAEL GOLD

Hours after a gunman in an orange construction vest released two smoke grenades and fired at least 33 shots on an N train in Brooklyn, hundreds of police officers were searching on Tuesday night for a 62-year-old man whom police officials have linked to the shooting.

Detectives were seeking to question the man, Frank R. James, about the attack at the 36th Street station in Sunset Park that injured at least 23 people, some of them children traveling to school.

Ten of the victims were shot, and 13 sustained smoke inhalation or were injured while fleeing. Five of them were critically hurt, but officials said they all were in stable condition and were expected to survive.

The mass shooting — one of the worst outbreaks of violence in the subway in recent history — heightened fears across New York at a time when officials have been confronting a rise in violent crime and struggling to lure riders back to a public transit system hobbled by the pandemic.

By nightfall, with a \$50,000 reward being offered for information, the city remained on high alert.

Mr. James, 62, has addresses in Wisconsin and Philadelphia, where he rented a U-Haul vehicle that the authorities have linked to the shooting. Law enforcement officials have also connected him to a YouTube channel where he delivered lengthy rants, many of them concerned with race and violence. He often tied those subjects to current events, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine and Mayor Eric Adams's policies on homelessness and mental illness.

Detectives were still investigating how Mr. James might have been connected to the shooting and were cautioned that he might not be the gunman. But officers found a key to the U-Haul van that he rented at the scene of the attack.

Hours later, they found the vehicle abandoned about four blocks from the Kings Highway subway station on the N line, where detectives believed the shooter entered the transit system, police officials said.

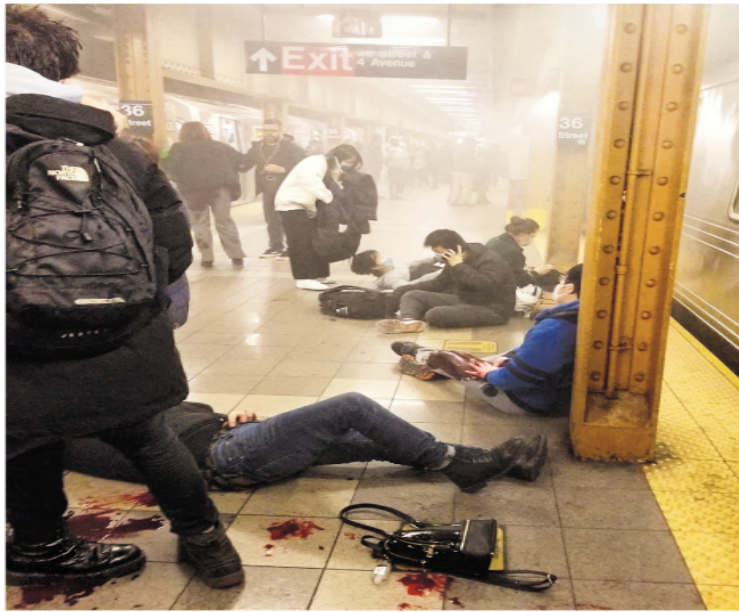
Police Commissioner Keechant Shah said that officers investigating the scene also found a 9-millimeter handgun, extended ammo magazines and a hatchet. They also discovered a bag with gold believed to be gasoline, consumer-grade fireworks, a fuse and two unused smoke grenades, the authorities said.

A photograph that circulated on social media on Tuesday appeared to show the fireworks, along with other material from the shooting scene. William Weimke, a vice president at Phantom Fireworks, said that a man named Frank James from Milwaukee had purchased several brands of the fireworks seen in the image from the Phantom Fireworks' showroom outside Racine, Wis., in June 2021.

The concern that the shooting provoked delivered a serious blow to Mr. Adams, who has spent his first months in office working to reassure New Yorkers and tourists that the city was safe.

As the evening commute began, many New Yorkers were expressing fears about using the subway, after months of anxiety over whether the transit system had become increasingly dangerous.

Continued on Page A18



The 36th Street Station in Brooklyn after a man set off smoke grenades and opened fire on a train.

Trapped by Smoke and Gunfire And Desperately Seeking Escape

By SARAH MASLIN NIR AND ANDY NEWMAN

On videos captured inside a smoke-choked subway car, commuters can be seen hunching into their collars, pulling sleeves and hoods across their faces, trying to breathe. Before the doors open, there are a few panicked screams — just the familiar muffled shriek of a rush-hour train on its tracks, punctuated by moans of pain.

When the familiar "ding" of the doors opening sounds at the next stop, riders burst off, gasping amid curls of smoke.

"There's been a shooting!" a woman says as she flees. Behind her a man limps out from the car.

The attack on Tuesday morning, in which a man released two smoke grenades inside a car on a northbound N train and opened

fire, injured 23 people — 10 by gunfire. And in an instant, it turned the subway — New York City's quotidian icon — into a bloody scene of horror.

Tuesday evening police named a "person of interest" in the shooting, Frank R. James. They asked for help from the public in locating him.

As police searched for the gunman who perpetrated the mass shooting on a subway — a nightmarish scenario that until now the city had avoided — officials and subway riders alike began to grapple with what the attack might mean for the future of the city's transit system, and New York itself. Their subway, once the target of mundane gripes over tardiness and trash, had become the latest symbol of a city frayed by violence.

On Tuesday afternoon, Hagar Hassan, 20, an electrical engineering student at the College of Staten Island, emerged from the subway shaken after finishing her job at a bank in Midtown.

"It was terrifying to be on the train," she said. "I thought, 'Maybe he's here.'"

An increase in violent crime has plagued New York's subway system since the beginning of the pandemic, deterring riders and prolonging a pandemic-fueled drop in overall ridership. In 2021, rates of violent crime in the subway per million weekday passengers spiked almost across the board compared with 2019, before the pandemic. Felony assaults in the system rose nearly 25 percent.

The crime spike has continued even after Mayor Eric Adams unveiled plans in January to send hundreds of street-level patrol of-

Continued on Page A19



Officers searched for security-camera footage that might have recorded the gunman.

Lieutenant Governor of New York Steps Down

This article is by William K. Rashbaum, Nicholas Fandos and Jeffery C. Mays.

Lt. Gov. Brian A. Benjamin of New York resigned on Tuesday, hours after federal prosecutors unsealed an indictment implicating him in a brazen scheme to enrich his political campaigns with illegal donations.

Gov. Kathy Hochul, who selected Mr. Benjamin to be her lieutenant governor less than a year ago, announced that he was stepping down immediately "while the

Arrested and Accused of Illegal Donations

legal process plays out."

"It is clear to both of us that he cannot continue to serve as lieutenant governor," she wrote in a statement Tuesday evening.

The five-count indictment charging Mr. Benjamin said that while he was a state senator, he conspired to direct \$50,000 in state funds to a Harlem real estate

developer's charity. In exchange, the developer gathered thousands of dollars in illegal contributions to Mr. Benjamin's 2020 Senate campaign and his unsuccessful 2021 bid for New York City comptroller, the indictment said.

Mr. Benjamin, who pleaded not guilty on Tuesday, was also accused of offering to help the developer, Gerald Migdol, obtain a zoning variance if he made a \$15,000 donation to a separate fund for State Senate Democrats. The developer was arrested on federal

Continued on Page A21

Putin Calls Peace Talks 'Dead End' and Claims Focus Is Ukraine's East

Remarks Appear Aimed at Shoring Up Support Almost 7 Weeks Into War

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI

President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia said on Tuesday that peace talks with Ukraine had reached a "dead end" and he falsely called the evidence of Russian atrocities in a Kyiv suburb "fake," using his first extended remarks about the war in nearly a month to insist that Russia would persist in its invasion.

Speaking at a news conference at a newly built spaceport in Russia's Far East, Mr. Putin said that Ukraine's negotiating position at the talks, last held in Istanbul two weeks ago, was unacceptable. He pledged that Russia's "military operation will continue until its full completion."

But the operation's goals, he said, centered on the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine, where pro-Russian separatists have been fighting since 2014. It was the first time that Mr. Putin himself had effectively defined a more limited aim for the war, focusing on control of the Donbas — and not all of Ukraine, which Mr. Putin and his subordinates have said should not even be an independent country.

"We will act rhythmically and calmly, according to the plan that was initially proposed by the general staff," Mr. Putin said. "Our

goal is to help the people who live in the Donbas, who feel their unbreakable bond with Russia."

Just over a month ago, by contrast, Mr. Putin warned that Ukraine's leaders risked "the future of Ukrainian statehood" by resisting the Russian invasion, which Kremlin military planners appeared to have mistakenly thought could be achieved with relative ease.

Still, Mr. Putin's assertion of Russia's more limited war aims in Ukraine cannot necessarily be taken at face value, and he may yet harbor an ultimate goal of taking control of the former Soviet republic. For months leading up to the Feb. 24 invasion, as Russian forces massed on Ukraine's border, Russian officials insisted there were no plans to invade and that the buildup was merely a military exercise.

Ukrainian and Western officials have said they expect that Russia, having failed to seize the capital Kyiv and most other key cities in an invasion hampered by poor logistics, would soon mount an intense offensive in the Donbas, where the Russian military has been pouring in troops.

Continued on Page A10

Stories Behind a Landscape of Horrors in Bucha

By CARLOTTA GALL
and DANIEL BEREZHULAK

BUCHA, Ukraine — A mother killed by a sniper while walking with her family to fetch a thermos of tea. A woman held as a sex slave, naked except for a fur coat and locked in a potato cellar before being executed. Two sisters dead in their home, their bodies left slumped on the floor for weeks.

Bucha is a landscape of horrors. From the first day of the war, Feb. 24, civilians bore the brunt of the Russian assault on Bucha, a few miles west of Kyiv, Ukraine's capital. Russian special forces approaching on foot through the woods shot at cars on the road, and a column of armored vehicles fired on and killed a woman in her garden as they drove into the suburb.

New Details of Russia's Month of Brutality Against Civilians

But those early cruelties paled in comparison to what came after.

As the Russian advance on Kyiv stalled in the face of fierce resistance, civilians said, the enemy occupation of Bucha slid into a campaign of terror and revenge. When a defeated and demoralized Russian Army finally retreated, it left behind a grim tableau: bodies of dead civilians strewn on streets, in basements or in backyards, many with gunshot wounds to their heads, some with their hands tied behind their backs.

Reporters and photographers for The New York Times spent

more than a week with city officials, cornerers and scores of witnesses in Bucha, uncovering new details of execution-style atrocities against civilians.

The Times documented the bodies of almost three dozen people where they were killed — in their homes, in the woods, set on fire in a vacant parking lot — and learned the story behind many of their deaths. The Times also witnessed more than 100 body bags at a communal grave and the city's cemetery.

The evidence suggests the Russians killed recklessly and sometimes sadistically, in part out of revenge.

Unsuspecting civilians were killed carrying out the simplest of daily activities. A retired teacher known as Auntie Lyuda, shot for Lyudnyia, was shot mid-morning.

Continued on Page A11



A retired teacher known as Auntie Lyuda was shot dead in Bucha, Ukraine, and found weeks later.

Inflation Rate Hit 8.5% in Fastest Rise Since 1981

By JEANNA SMIALEK

Inflation hit 8.5 percent in the United States last month, the fastest 12-month pace since 1981, as a surge in gasoline prices tied to Russia's invasion of Ukraine added to sharp increases coming from the collision of strong demand and stubborn pandemic-related supply shortages.

Fuel prices jumped to record levels across much of the nation and grocery costs soared, the Labor Department said Tuesday in its monthly report on the Con-

March Data May Signal a Possible Peak

sumer Price Index. The price pressures have been painful for American households, especially those that have lower incomes and devote a big share of their budgets to necessities.

But the news was not uniformly bad: A measure that strips out volatile food and fuel prices decelerated slightly from February as

used car prices swooned. Economists and policymakers took that as a sign that inflation in goods might be starting to cool off after climbing at a breakneck pace for much of the past year.

In fact, several economists said March may be a high-water mark for overall inflation. Price increases could begin abating in the coming months in part because gasoline prices have declined somewhat — the national average for a gallon was \$4.10 on Tuesday, according to AAA, down from a

Continued on Page A16

INTERNATIONAL A4-14

Mental Health in Sierra Leone

After decades of chaining and locking away psychiatric patients, the country is now building a modern mental health system from scratch. PAGE A7

NATIONAL A15-21, 24

Fight Over L.G.B.T.Q. Limits

Republicans have put forward a wave of laws on classroom instruction, youth sports and health care, but that has left young people feeling isolated. PAGE A20

SPORTS B7-10

Team's Finances Questioned

Congress shared with the Federal Trade Commission claims that the Washington Commanders withheld ticket revenue from fans and the league. PAGE B9

OBITUARIES B11

A Screacher of Dirty Jokes

Gilbert Gottfried, the loudmouthed comedian who had a bawdy stand-up act and voiced an animated parrot in the family-friendly "Aladdin," was 67.

OPINION A22-23

Tressie McMillan Cottom

PAGE A23



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NEW YORK SUBWAY SHOOTING

Police gather at a Brooklyn subway entrance after a gunman in a gas mask set off smoke grenades and fired a barrage of bullets in a rush-hour train, hitting at least 10 people, authorities said. **NATION, A6**

JOHN MINICILLO Associated Press

Putin calls his war noble; Biden says it's genocide



FIREFIGHTERS carry a body from the rubble of a government building struck by Russian rockets in the crucial port city of Mykolaiv in southern Ukraine. **BULENT KILIC AP/Getty Images**

Drones, bombs, silence, death

The battle for eastern Ukraine is coming. But in the south, the war's become a cycle.

BY NABIH BULOS

POSAD POKROVSKE, Ukraine — With an overcast sky offering a break from the ever-watchful eyes of Russian drones and the artillery barrages that often follow, a young Ukrainian soldier joined his squad for a bit of

fresh air on the patio of what had been a cultural center. "When it's good weather the Russians can correct their targeting with the drones," said Nesquik, a 26-year-old with the smooth face of a boy whose nickname comes from a chocolate drink. "Today, they're just shooting where they think the targets are — they have artillery to spare." The thud of explosions rumbled somewhere in the distance. You hear little else in Posad Pokrovske, a farming

hamlet in southern Ukraine transformed into a tableau of destruction: Houses with gap-toothed roofs or entire wings gutted by artillery. A starving pig trotting down a crater-riddled street searching for food. The side of the village school slashed open by a blast, spilling concrete blocks and schoolbooks into the playground. And silence. In the almost seven weeks since Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered his forces to invade, Ukrainian troops have pushed back

[See War, A5]

The U.S. president uses the term the administration has previously avoided.

BY PATRICK J. McDONNELL, LAURA KING AND JENNY JARVIE

KYIV, Ukraine — As Russian forces pressed ahead Tuesday in their drive to seize the strategic southern port of Mariupol and encircle Ukrainian defenders in the country's east, Russian President Vladimir Putin defended his invasion as a noble cause.

Putin said there was "no doubt" Moscow would achieve its aims to protect Russian security and, blaming Ukraine, said talks between the two sides had reached a "dead end."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in turn, rejected the idea that Russia's nearly 7-week-old invasion, plagued by logistical and supply problems, was going according to plan after Russian troops' withdrawal from the capital, Kyiv.

"The Russian army has reached a level of irreparable losses higher than that of the Soviet Union in 10 years of war in Afghanistan," he said in an evening broadcast to the Ukrainian people. "Higher than that of Russia in the two wars in

[See Ukraine, A4]

Gangs targeting L.A. mega-rich, authorities say

Criminal groups stake out high-end venues and trail their victims, police panel says.

BY KEVIN RECTOR

More than a dozen Los Angeles gangs are targeting some of the city's wealthiest residents in a new and aggressive manner, sending out crews in multiple cars to find, follow and rob people driving high-end vehicles or wearing expensive jewelry, according to police. In many cases, they're making off with designer handbags, diamond-studded watches and other items worth tens of thousands of dollars — if not more — and then peddling them to black-market buyers who are willing to turn a blind eye to the underlying violence, police said.

In some cases, suspects have been arrested but then released from custody, according to police, only to commit additional robberies. Those are among the conclusions of a Los Angeles Police Department task force convened at the end of last year to identify the cause of a sudden surge in "follow-home," or "follow-off," robberies, so called because victims are robbed soon after leaving luxury boutiques and hotels, ritzy

restaurants, trendy nightclubs and other locations where the gangs are scouting for targets.

According to Capt. Jonathan Tippet, who spearheads the task force, police have identified at least 17 gangs, most based out of South L.A. and operating independently, that are involved. There were 165 such robberies in 2021 and 56 so far this year, he said, including several over the weekend.

The area with the most robberies during that time was the LAPD's Hollywood Division, with 50, followed by 46 in the Wilshire Division and 40 in the Central Division, which includes downtown. The Pacific Division had 17, West L.A. 15, North Hollywood 14 and Topanga 11.

Tippet did not say how many robberies police attributed to which gangs, but said individuals allegedly affiliated with both the Bloods and Crips have been identified among the culprits. Suspects who police have identified have pleaded not guilty, and their cases are pending. The task force is still working to build cases against other suspects.

Through surveillance video and other evidence, police have identified crews rolling three to five cars deep in some of the attacks, Tippet said, with gang members jumping out and blindsiding

[See Gangs, A7]



PRESIDENT BIDEN traveled to Iowa on Tuesday to showcase a new effort to lower gasoline prices. **CAROLYN KASTER Associated Press**

ANALYSIS

Inflation spoils Biden's message on economy

As prices keep rising, the president struggles to tout job creation, other signs of growth.

BY ELI STOKOLS AND DON LEE

WASHINGTON — It's a maxim in politics: Bad economic news trumps the good. And that is what scares President Biden and Democrats.

On Tuesday, inflation hit a new 40-year high. Just five days earlier, the nation's unemployment rate had plummeted to a nearly 50-year low, a sign of a strong economy that the White House worries is getting lost in a swirl of consumer concerns about rising costs and deeper anxieties triggered by war and pandemic.

"Economic statistics don't matter any more in this polarized political environment," said Steve Israel, a former Democratic congressman who oversaw the party's campaign arm from 2011 to '15. The small percentage of swing voters up for grabs in November's

midterm election, he said, "are going to make a judgment this fall not based on charts and data but based on how they feel about their jobs and paychecks."

Eager to recast the public's view of the economy on the positive indicators while acknowledging and responding to inflation concerns, Biden traveled to Iowa on Tuesday to showcase a new effort to lower gasoline prices, announcing that E-15 gas, with its higher ethanol content, will be able to be sold this summer.

The action, aimed at reducing the reliance on oil, follows Biden's move last week to release millions of barrels of oil from the nation's strategic reserves. With more than half of the 1.2% consumer price index gain in March coming from a surge in gasoline — and pushing up annual inflation to 8.5% — the White House has continued to characterize the trend as "Putin's price spike," casting blame on Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose invasion of Ukraine has rolled global energy markets.

High prices for gas, along

[See Inflation, A9]

Study says state can see big water savings

As California drought lingers, report suggests steps that could cut use in cities by 30%.

BY IAN JAMES

Green lawns, old appliances and leaky pipes all consume significant amounts of California's water, and researchers have calculated in a new study that the state could reduce water use by more than 30% in cities and suburbs by investing in measures to use water more efficiently.

The study by the Pacific Institute, a water think tank in Oakland, also found big untapped potential for urban areas to reduce strains on overused rivers and aquifers by investing in local projects to recycle more

wastewater and capture more stormwater. While the researchers determined that large water savings could be achieved throughout the state, they said the biggest potential lies in Southern California for reducing water use indoors and outdoors, reusing treated wastewater and collecting more runoff when it rains.

"California has made real progress in recent years to reduce water use and augment local water supplies," said Heather Cooley, the institute's research director. "Without those past efforts, our water challenges would be even more severe. But more is needed in the face of climate change and drought."

California went through an extreme drought from 2012 to 2016 and is now in the

[See Water, A13]



ANDY CLAYTON-KING Associated Press

SEASON ON BRINK

Marcus Morris, right, and the Clippers lost to Anthony Edwards and Minnesota, leaving them with a must-win game on Friday. **SPORTS, B10**

Shooting suspect won a settlement

Deal reached before the Sacramento bloodshed calls for man to get \$7,500 over jail incident. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather
Sunny and cool.
L.A. Basin: 70/50. **B6**



The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington

Partly sunny 84/66 • Tomorrow: T-storms 75/50 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022 • B2

Pace of inflation hastened in March

Prices of everyday items increased 8.5% compared with 2021

BY RACHEL SIEGEL

The inflation surge in the United States picked up speed in March, as prices rose 8.5 percent compared with a year ago. It was the largest annual increase since December 1981, with energy prices spiking because of Russia's war in Ukraine.

The White House and Federal Reserve have launched several initiatives to try to corral the rising prices, but higher costs appear to be everywhere, particularly in consumer staples that most families cannot do without. Gasoline, food and a range of other products have become markedly more expensive, creating economic strains for households and businesses, and political problems for the White House and congressional Democrats.

The economy is now expected to grow at a slower pace later this year, in part because inflation causes families and businesses to rethink certain purchases and potentially tap the brakes on spending.

The inflation data, released Tuesday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, showed prices rose 1.2 percent in March compared with February. Price increases for gas, shelter and food were the largest contributors to inflation, underscoring how inescapable these cost increases have become.

Inflation was relatively steady, even low, for much of the past decade, but it picked up significantly as the global economy emerged from the pandemic. A number of economists and policymakers thought inflation would ease this year as supply chain issues cleared up and

SEE INFLATION ON A16

The strongest inflation surge in decades continues unabated



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



WILL B. WYDE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A social media video image shows passengers running from a subway car in a Brooklyn station Tuesday after an attack in which officials say a man opened two smoke grenades before firing a gun.

Smoke-shrouded shooting incites panic in Brooklyn

Manhunt ensues after 10 shot, 29 hospitalized in N.Y. subway rampage

BY EMMANUEL FELTON, MARK BERMAN, KIM BELLWARE AND JOANNA SLATER

NEW YORK — An attacker riding the subway in Brooklyn filled a rush-hour train with smoke before opening fire Tuesday morning, police said, shooting 10 people and leaving behind a chaotic scene, a sweeping manhunt and mounting questions about the violence.

The rampage sent more than two dozen people to hospitals, cut off train service and locked down area schools, rocking a city already shaken by the rise in gun violence since the pandemic began.

Police said Tuesday evening that after a daylong investigation, they had identified a person of interest but had no one in custody in connection with the attack. And officials said they still did not know what motivated the attacker.

"Clearly, this individual boarded the train and was intent on violence," Keechant L. Sewell, the New York police commissioner, said during a news briefing.

At least 29 people connected to the incident were treated at hospitals Tuesday, including gunshot victims as well as people who suffered smoke inhalation or were hurt during the

SEE SHOOTING ON A6

A feeling of unease: Attack adds to New Yorkers' fears that the city is growing more dangerous. A6

War will persist, defiant Putin says as inquiries begin

POSSIBLE CHEMICAL ATTACK BEING PROBED

U.S. will expand scope of weapons sent to Ukraine

This article is by Cate Cadell, Dan Lamothe, Mary Ilyushina, Karoun Demirjian and David L. Stern.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday called the war in Ukraine a "tragedy" but insisted the invasion will continue unabated, as the United States and its allies launched investigations into reports of a possible chemical attack ahead of an imminent Russian offensive in the country's east.

Putin said there was no clear end to the conflict and "no choice" but to forge ahead with the invasion, brushing off the impacts of punitive sanctions during a visit to the Amur region in Russia's far east where he met with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

"We will act rhythmically, calmly, according to the plan that was originally proposed by the General Staff," he said.

"What is happening in Ukraine is a tragedy, no doubt about that. But we had no choice. It was just a matter of time" before an attack on Russia, he added.

Putin also said peace negotiations had reached a deadlock, blaming the Ukrainian side. "Kyiv moved away from the Istanbul agreements, so we are back to an impasse," Putin said, referring to negotiations in the Turkish city late last month. "Yesterday, I was told that the Ukrainian side has changed something in its negotiating position. I don't know the details yet."

Meanwhile, the Biden administration is poised to dramatically expand the scope of weapons it's providing Ukraine, U.S. officials said Tuesday, with the Pentagon looking to send armored Humvees and a range of other equipment.

The new aid package could be worth \$750 million, these people said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the transfer has not yet been finalized.

Preliminary plans circulating among government officials and lawmakers in Washington included Mi-17 helicopters, howitzer cannons, coastal defense drones and protective suits to safeguard

SEE UKRAINE ON A9

Misconceptions clouded Russian view of Ukraine

BY PAUL SONNE, ELLEN NAKASHIMA, SHANIE HARRIS AND JOHN HUDSON

More than six weeks into his war against Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin is feeling the sting of failure.

Thousands of Russian battle-field deaths. Three front-line retreats by the Russian military. Millions of Ukrainians who will never forgive Moscow. More isolation than ever — and perilously few goals achieved.

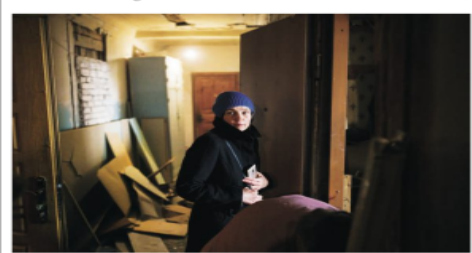
Putin is now regrouping to focus his military campaign on Ukraine's east in what is widely seen as "Plan B," after his forces failed to topple Ukraine's government or wrest control of its biggest cities. All the while, questions are mounting about how a

Russian leader steeped in security policy and known for railing against the folly of regime-change wars could have sleepwalked into such a strategic morass.

At issue is a broader quandary that will occupy historians for years: How could Russia — a country with such deep familial, cultural and historic ties to its western neighbor — get Ukraine so wrong?

Officials in the United States and Europe are piecing together the answer to that question. What emerges, those officials say, is a picture of a hubristic and isolated leader, beset by biases and skewed information, pressing forward with a calamitous decision without consulting his full cohort of advisers.

SEE RUSSIA ON A9



FELIPE DANA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman walks through a damaged apartment building Tuesday after a Russian attack in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

'Genocide': President Biden escalates rhetoric over Russian atrocities. A2

A deadly legacy: Use of land mines threatens to undo progress. A11

Military aid: A new U.S. package could be worth \$750 million. A17

Congress details allegations against Commanders

BY MARK MASKE AND NICKI JHABVALA

The Washington Commanders and owner Daniel Snyder "may have engaged in a troubling, long-running, and potentially unlawful pattern of financial conduct" that allegedly involved withholding as much as \$5 million in refundable deposits from season ticket holders and also hiding money that was supposed to be shared among

Letter to FTC says team may have engaged in 'unlawful' financial acts

NFL owners, according to a letter sent from the House Committee on Oversight and Reform to the Federal Trade Commission on Tuesday.

The 20-page letter, a copy of which was obtained by The Washington Post, details allegations made by Jason Friedman, a former vice president of sales and customer service who worked for the franchise for 24 years. The letter says Friedman told committee members the team maintained "two sets of books," including one set of financial records used to underreport certain ticket revenue to the NFL. The letter cites

documentation that the team's financial improprieties may have extended to tickets registered in Commissioner Roger Goodell's name. It references evidence that it says indicates the revenue gained by the team through these practices was known internally as "juice," and it details allegations

SEE COMMANDERS ON A18

Jenkins: Public money must stop going to Snyder — and the NFL. D1

IN THE NEWS



Paging through Jim Crow-era D.C. A local historian maps the District's past and present with a 1940 edition of the Green Book. B1

THE NATION

New York's lieutenant governor quit after being charged with bribery and other corruption-related offenses. A3

Selma, Ala., tired of being just a civil rights symbol, wants politicians to deliver economic opportunity. A4

The Oklahoma governor signed a bill that makes performing an abortion in the state illegal, as GOP-led states rush to limit abortion access while the fate of Roe v. Wade is being

weighed. A5

Ex-Secret Service officials warn that the alleged infiltration of the agency by two men impersonating federal agents reveals a major vulnerability extending beyond this case. A7

THE WORLD

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, his wife and the chancellor of the exchequer were among those fined for gathering illegally during the pandemic lockdown in June 2020. A12

THE ECONOMY

President Biden traveled to Iowa to unveil a plan to curb gas prices, marking a new phase in his campaign to show voters that he is addressing inflation. A14

THE REGION

A lethal batch of fentanyl caused 10 deaths in the District's Trinidad and Ivy City neighborhoods, police said, the second mass-casualty incident involving the deadly opioid in the city this year. B, C

A judge in D.C. ordered the two men accused of posing as federal

law enforcement agents released pending trial, ending a days-long detention hearing. B1

Virginia schools will be required to alert parents to sexually explicit curriculum and offer non-explicit options under a new law. B1

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) continued to stoke partisan rancor with a flurry of unusual vetoes and bill amendments. B1

OBITUARIES

Gilbert Gottfried, 67, was known for his honking voice and crude comedy material. B6

INSIDE



FOOD

Ramadan course Muslims in the food-service industry navigate the crossroads of fasting and indulgence. E1

STYLE

Aimee Mann's art Singer-songwriter turned to painting in crisis. C1

BUSINESS NEWS	A14
COMICS	C6
OPINION PAGES	A19
LOTTERIES	B3
OBITUARIES	B6
TELEVISION	B4
WORLD NEWS	A8

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0170628121100 3

deportes

Boca: triunfo y alivio

Los goles de Benedetto llegaron justo a tiempo

Con dos tantos del delantero, los xeneizes vencieron 2-0 a Always Ready en la Libertadores.

**FINAL ABIERTO EN EL CONFLICTO DEL INSTITUTO DEL CINE**

—espectáculos

Luis Puenzo le planteó al ministro de Cultura su deseo de continuar al frente de la entidad, pese a las fuertes críticas y manifestaciones en su contra.

GUÍA PARA ACTUAR ANTE ENFERMEDADES DEL INVIERNO

—sociedad

Por las reiteradas preguntas de las familias con chicos, una pediatra elaboró una lista de recomendaciones básicas para saber en qué casos ir a una guardia. **Página 24**

LA NACION

MIÉRCOLES 13 DE ABRIL DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

El campo rechaza la idea de crear un impuesto a la supuesta "renta inesperada"

ALERTA. Lo sugirió el ministro Martín Guzmán y generó malestar entre los productores

Vuelve el estado de alerta al campo; esta vez por una iniciativa que dejó entrever anteayer el ministro de Economía, Martín Guzmán, para impulsar un proyecto impositivo con foco en "redistribuir la renta inesperada".

En el campo, la frase generó sorpresa y malestar. Es que la actividad está intervenida por el Gobierno con los fideicomisos del aceite y la harina; "volúmenes de equilibrio", que no permi-

ten a los exportadores exceder un nivel de ventas en trigo y maíz, y además con exportaciones de carne "administradas". "No veo en el bolsillo esa renta inesperada; los precios de los insumos han subido más que los granos. La 'renta inesperada' la tiene el Gobierno, porque, con estos precios de los granos, los ingresos son muy superiores por la exportación", apuntó Elbio Laucirica, vicepresidente de Coninagro. **Página 18****Kicillof y Feletti buscan despegarse del pico inflacionario**Presentaron juntos un plan bonaerense para controlar precios y se diferenciaron de la gestión de Guzmán. **Página 10**

EL ANÁLISIS

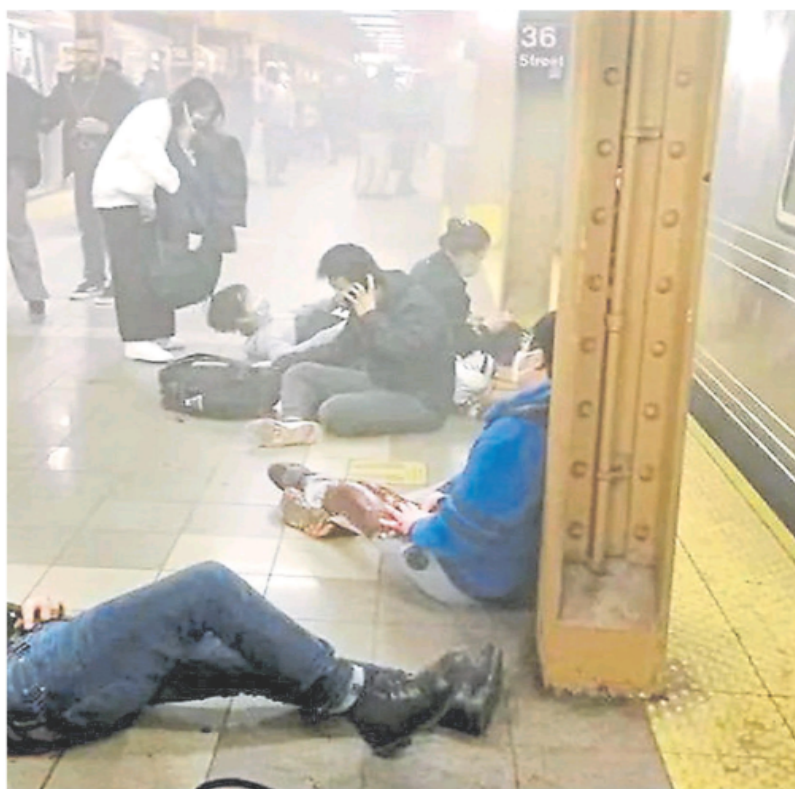
Fracasa la ofensiva contra la Justicia**Joaquín Morales Solá**
—LA NACION—

Ni la brutal escalada inflacionaria que podría poner en apuros hoy al Gobierno, cuando se conozca el índice de precios de marzo. Ni la falta del imprescindible gasoil para el campo, que compromete seriamente la producción del único sector de la economía que produce cantidades importantes de dólares en un país sin dólares. Ni el malhumor social que perciben todas las mediciones de opinión pública y que coloca a la paz social en el peligroso territorio de la duda. **Continúa en la página 15**

GUERRA EN UCRANIA - DÍA 49

Putin no cede y habla de alcanzar objetivos "nobles"

Admitió que las negociaciones están en un "punto muerto"

Luisa Corradini
CORRESPONSAL EN FRANCIAPARÍS.— Con su pasmosa hipocresía habitual, Vladimir Putin reapareció ayer ante la prensa en un cosmódromo para asegurar que la ofensiva rusa prosigue "con calma, armoniosamente y conforme al plan propuesto por el Estado Mayor" para alcanzar los objetivos "claros y nobles" de la guerra. El autócrata del Kremlin minimizó las pérdidas de sus Fuerzas Armadas, insistió en que la masacre de Bucha es *fake news* y repitió que "su meta principal es ayudar a la gente del Donbass". **Continúa en la página 2****Moscú aún puede sostener su maquinaria de guerra**
Página 3**El terror ruso en Hostomel: "Fue como el armagedón"**
Página 4**Pánico en el subte de Nueva York****el mundo**—NUEVA YORK (AP).— El pánico y el terror golpearon ayer a Nueva York cuando un tirador dejó 17 heridos en el interior de un vagón de subte. El atacante, que también activó un dispositivo que lanzó humo, ya está identificado, pero seguía prófugo. **Página 7**

Personas heridas y humo en la estación de Brooklyn

Larreta y Bullrich, sin acuerdo por la interna**JUNTOS POR EL CAMBIO.** El jefe de gobierno porteño, Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, y la titular de Pro, Patricia Bullrich, no lograron llegar a un acuerdo sobre la forma de definir la candidatura presidencial durante una cumbre organizada por Mauricio Macri para acercar posiciones. Bullrich ratificó su idea de avanzar hacia una interna. **Página 12****Connoción en un colegio por presunto caso de abuso****CAUSA PENAL.** La denuncia de una madre por el presunto abuso sexual al que habría sido sometida su hija de 6 años en el baño de la escuela genera estupor y moviliza a la comunidad educativa del Colegio Cristo Rey, de Garín, partido de Escobar. Los acusados serían cuatro alumnos de ese mismo establecimiento. **Página 23**

TWITTER



Menino trabalha em colheita de cacau de propriedade familiar no município de Medicilândia, no Pará. Tatiana Cardozo / Papeli Social

Codevasf incha com emendas, lucra com taxa e perde foco

Estatual dedicada a irrigação retém 4,5% de verba e passa a fazer asfaltamento

Uma torrente de emendas parlamentares levou a estatal federal Codevasf (Companhia de Desenvolvimento dos Vales do São Francisco e do Parnaíba) a mudar seu foco de projetos de irrigação no semiárido para obras de pavimentação até em regiões metropolitanas.

Documentos da empresa e órgãos de fiscalização indicam expansão desordenada e com controle precário de gastos, enquanto visitas a cidades de Maranhão, Pernambuco e Alagoas expõem a má qualidade dos serviços executados, relatam Mateus Vargas e Flávio Ferreira.

A empresa, cuja atuação foi de 1.641 para 2.675 municípios sob o governo de Jair Bolsonaro, cobra uma taxa administrativa de 4,5% do valor dos repasses, que afirma usar em "serviços de operacionalização e em atividades de fiscalização associados à execução das emendas".

O valor empenhado para a estatal saltou de R\$ 1,3 bilhão para R\$ 3,4 bilhões. Em seu plano de negócios de 2021, porém, a Codevasf diz que o maior fluxo somado à redução da verba ordinária dificultam "o planejamento e o monitoramento" das ações e afetam resultados. Política A4

Trabalho infantil no país pode ser 7 vezes maior

O número de jovens brasileiros de 7 a 14 anos que exerce algum tipo de trabalho infantil pode ser cerca de sete vezes maior do que aquele apontado pelas estatísticas oficiais, de acordo com um estudo inédito que mediu a subnotificação do trabalho na infância. Esse é um problema que compromete tanto a fiscalização quanto a formulação de políticas públicas. Mercado A12

Inflação nos EUA tem maior marca em mais de 41 anos

Mercado A16

Em acampamento indígena, Lula propõe ministério

Em visita ao Acampamento Terra Livre, que reúne populações tradicionais, o ex-presidente Lula fez um mea culpa sobre o que deixou de ser feito pelos indígenas em seu governo e lhes prometeu criar um ministério para suas causas se for eleito. Política A6

Marcelo Coelho Aborto e o medo de perder voto

Na esfera pública, aceitamos as proibições do Antigo Testamento; na vida real, o bom senso sugere que não faz sentido ter cinco filhos sem condição de lhes dar alimento. Consolidou-se um tabu, proibindo até que um político toque no tema com clareza. Ilustrada C8

Documento liga abusos a mineração em terra yanomami

Um novo relatório produzido por associações sobre a destruição provocada pelo garimpo dentro da terra indígena yanomami aponta casos de abusos sexuais, assédios e oferta de bebida alcoólica, além do aumento de desmatamento da Amazônia. Ambiente B4

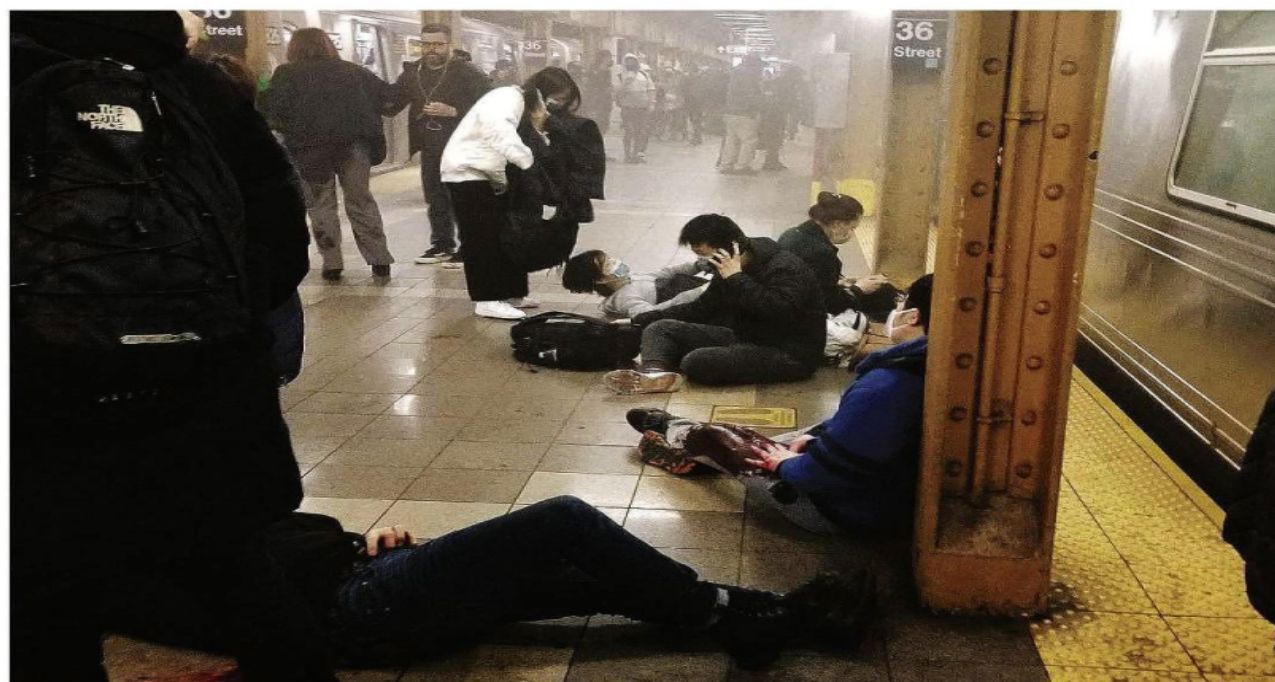
Ataque a tiros no metrô de Nova York deixa 23 feridos

Ao menos dez pessoas foram baleadas e outras 13 também ficaram feridas após um ataque a tiros ontem em uma estação de metrô da região do Brooklyn, em Nova York. Segundo a governadora de NY, Kathy Hochul, a ação não é investigada como terrorismo.

O suspeito, que estaria usando máscara de gás e vestindo colete verde, não havia sido localizado até a conclusão desta edição. Cinco dos feridos estavam em estado grave, mas estável, de acordo com a polícia. Nenhum deles corria risco de morte. Mundo A9

Maioria é contra Carnaval fora de época em SP e RJ

Adiado para abril, o Carnaval enfrenta baixa popularidade, indica o Datafolha. Só 17% dos entrevistados pelo instituto no estado de São Paulo apoiam a realização da festa entre os dias 20 e 23 deste mês. Já no Rio de Janeiro, esse número é 26%. Cotidiano B1



Pessoas feridas em plataforma da estação de metrô Rua 36, na região do Brooklyn, em Nova York, após ataque a tiros na manhã de ontem. Armen Armenian via Reuters

PCC controla crime de Pix em SP, afirma polícia

A Polícia Civil apura grupo comandado pelo PCC especializado em furto e roubo de celulares para invadir contas e fazer Pix, além de "exportar" aparelhos. Sua base é na região da avenida Paulista. B2

Capital paulista terá temperatura baixa na Páscoa e em Tiradentes

Cotidiano B1

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje



Fonte: www.climatempo.com.br

EDITORIAIS A2

Túneis para o cofre
Sobre despesas nebulosas na Codevasf e no FNDE.

As cartas de Putin
Acerca de popularidade e estratégia do autocrata.

Mercado A20
Na mira do fisco, Shopee atinge 2 mi de vendedores locais e se diz brasileira

Esporte B7
Novamente no caminho do Brasil na Copa, Suíça foge dos estereótipos

Ilustrada C1
Dona Ivone Lara, 100
Cantora, que faria um século, levou décadas de trabalho na saúde mental para sua obra

Ilustrada C4
Gil e Fernanda Montenegro poupam R\$ 50 mil ao trocar alfaiate da ABL

Tributación se opone a una reducción del impuesto selectivo al consumo

Petropar subió sus precios tras la derogación del subsidio

El anuncio fue dado por el presidente de la petrolera estatal y entraron en vigencia desde la medianoche. Aun con los reajustes, están por debajo del de los demás emblemas.

PÁGINA 10 a la 12

Junta Departamental aprobó su balance
Hugo Javier tiene prisión domiciliaria después de recurrir 5 meses a chicanas

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

ÚH ofrece Podcast de gran riqueza religiosa y cultural para Semana Santa a través de la plataforma Spotify

PÁGINA 22



Otra tradición que se recupera
Después de confinamientos se disparó el éxodo citadino hacia el interior del país

PÁGINA 21

Fiscalía, impedida de presentar acusación
Nueva recusación a jueza en proceso a Cucho Cabaña, que corre riesgo de prescripción

PÁGINA 54



Cerro hizo valer su localía, Olimpia no pudo con Peñarol

Dispar. En La Nueva Olla, Cerro remontó un resultado adverso frente a Cotón, y ganó 3-1. En Montevideo, Olimpia cayó 2-1 ante Peñarol.

ETIOS

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RELIGION

PÈRE HUMBRECHT :
« NE CHERCHONS PAS
À EMBRIGADER DIEU » **PAGE 22**



JUSTICE

Affaire Tariq
Ramadan :
fin de l'instruction
PAGE 10

EUROPE DE L'EST

Dans le Donbass,
l'armée ukrainienne
craint de perdre
son avantage
PAGE 14

FOOTBALL

Rejetée il y a un an,
la Super Ligue
tente de lancer
sa contre-attaque
PAGE 17

ÉCONOMIE

Coup de frein
sur le commerce
mondial **PAGES 24 ET 25**

ÉNERGIE

EDF plante enfin
une éolienne
en mer en France
PAGE 27

MÉDIAS

La presse appelle
l'État à l'aide face à
l'explosion du prix
du papier **PAGE 30**

CHAMPS LIBRES

- Le Sri Lanka
au bord
du gouffre
- Prési-
dentielle :
les tribunes de
Mathieu Laine
et de Julien
Aubert
- La chronique
de Bertille
Bayart
- L'analyse
d'Eugénie
Bastie
PAGES 19 À 21

FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON

**Réponses à la question
de mardi :**
Êtes-vous favorable
à un « front républicain »
contre Marine Le Pen ?

OUI 41% NON 59%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 303 671

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

Approuvez-vous l'appel
de Nicolas Sarkozy
à soutenir
Emmanuel Macron ?

COLLECTION PERSONNELLE

Retraites : Macron lâche du lest pour séduire la gauche

Le candidat en campagne pour sa réélection n'exclut pas de ramener l'âge légal de départ à la retraite à 64 ans, au lieu des 65 ans inscrits dans son projet. Le RN ironise sur ce revirement.

Emmanuel Macron l'a répété mardi en Alsace : il est prêt à revoir son projet de réforme des retraites. Le candidat est ouvert à des discussions sur le rythme et les bornes de l'âge légal de départ. Il n'exclut pas non plus un référendum sur le

sujet. Cet assouplissement avait été envisagé au soir du premier tour, mais les interpellations des Français l'ont poussé à l'annoncer dès le lendemain. « On ne peut pas dire le dimanche soir : "Je veux rassembler", et, quand on va

écouter les gens, dire : "Je ne bouge pas" », s'est-il justifié. Ce faisant, le chef de l'État donne un coup de barre à gauche pour tenter de séduire notamment les électeurs de Jean-Luc Mélenchon. Marine Le Pen - qui se garde bien de

reculer l'âge légal de départ à la retraite dans son projet présidentiel - et tous les ténors du Rassemblement national n'ont pas manqué de dénoncer derrière cette reculade les faux-semblants et la brutalité du projet de leur adversaire.

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DU PRÉSIDENT-CANDIDAT

➔ **CE DOSSIER QUI EMPOISONNE**
MACRON DEPUIS CINQ ANS. TOUT
EN FAISANT MÛRIR L'OPINION
PAGES 2, 3 ET L'EDITORIAL



Dans Marioupol en ruine, l'avancée inexorable des forces russes

Les soldats russes (notre photo) resserrent leur étau sur les dernières troupes ukrainiennes qui défendent Marioupol, cité portuaire martyrisée par plus de 40 jours de siège et de bombardements. Le reportage de notre envoyé spécial. **PAGES 12 ET 13**

ÉDITORIAL par Jacques-Olivier Martin jomartin@lefigaro.fr

Rétropédalage

En arrière toute ? La campagne du second tour de la présidentielle a peine lancée, voilà qu'Emmanuel Macron donne déjà le sentiment de marcher à reculons sur les retraites. En zigzaguant... Interrogé à l'issue de son déplacement lundi dans le Nord, le chef de l'État s'est dit prêt à discuter du « rythme » et des « bornes » de la réforme, n'exclut pas un référendum (perdu d'avance) sur la question, tout en réaffirmant qu'il est impératif de la mener. Derrière ce revirement, son objectif est très clair : apaiser les électeurs de Jean-Luc Mélenchon qui ne veulent surtout pas travailler jusqu'à 65 ans, alors que leur candidat leur promettait la quille à 60 ans ! Le Macron de l'entre-deux-tours vire à gauche. On le pressentait. Mais de là à sabrer son chantier économique le plus emblématique, c'est osé ! Il prend le risque de fâcher ses électeurs de dimanche dernier sans certitude de contenter ceux de la France insoumise. Sur-tout, il hypothèque sérieusement sa capacité réformatrice déjà entamée après l'échec de sa première tentative de grand soir des retraites il y a deux ans. Que restera-t-il dans les prochains jours de son projet de RSA conditionné à une activité minimum, ou du

« travailler plus pour gagner plus » proposé aux enseignants, le gros du bataillon des électeurs de l'Insoumise en chef ? S'il continue à agir de la sorte, pas grand-chose.

Or, la France, malgré le rebond de la croissance de ces derniers mois, est un pays surendetté, champion du monde de la dépense publique, qui travaille moins que ses voisins et croule sous les déficits (public et commercial). Les réformes des retraites, de la durée du travail, de la fiscalité, de l'État... ne se monnaient pas contre quelques voix incertaines.

La réforme des retraites ne se monnaie pas contre quelques voix incertaines (y compris à droite) sans renoncement ni démagogie. C'est justement ce qui peut le distinguer de Marine Le Pen, qui distribue à tout-va sans se préoccuper de financement et se garde bien de proposer des réformes difficiles indispensables pour moderniser le pays, créer les richesses et les emplois de demain. Halte au rétropédalage, monsieur le candidat, et marche avant toute ! ■

Le soutien de Sarkozy à Macron sème le trouble chez Les Républicains

L'ancien chef de l'État est sorti de son silence, mardi, pour apporter son soutien à Emmanuel Macron au second tour de la présidentielle. Il appelle à un « rassemblement » autour du président-candidat qui pourrait accélérer la recomposition de la droite. Les macronistes, eux, accueillent ce ralliement avec prudence, à l'heure où l'adversaire de Marine Le Pen doit avant tout convaincre les électeurs de gauche. **PAGE 6**

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Andy Warhol

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PM: I broke my own law but I refuse to go

Partygate fines mean Johnson and Sunak are first PM and chancellor to be hit by criminal sanctions while in office

Rowena Mason
Aubrey Allegretti

Boris Johnson has been fined for breaking his own Covid laws by attending a party for his birthday in No 10 - but he vowed yesterday to fight on as prime minister in defiance of furious calls for him to quit.

Rishi Sunak, the chancellor, and Johnson's wife, Carrie, were also given fixed-penalty notices for attending the gathering on 19 June 2020 in the cabinet room, with the Metropolitan police saying yesterday that more than 50 had been issued. All three said yesterday that they had paid their penalties.

Johnson and Sunak are thought to be the first sitting prime minister and chancellor to face criminal sanctions. Both men were also accused of misleading parliament by previously denying they had attended parties during lockdown.

Johnson issued a "full apology" and rejected calls to quit, but his position remains in peril in the weeks to come as the police are still investigating up to six further gatherings where he is said to have been present.

Sunak gave an "unreserved apology" for attending the gathering, saying he deeply regretted "the frustration and anger caused" and confirming the £50 had been paid.

But after hours of silence that prompted Tory MPs to speculate he could quit, **2**



▲ Boris Johnson and the chancellor, Rishi Sunak, who have received fixed-penalty notices for attending a party during lockdown PHOTOGRAPH: WILL OLIVER/EPA

Inside

The PM and chancellor should pay a price beyond their fines
Guardian editorial

Journal Page 2

'My husband died of Covid, and we all obeyed the rules No 10 flouted'
Fran Hall

Journal Page 4