

## What's News

## Business &amp; Finance

**Cryptocurrency lender** BlockFi Inc. filed for chapter 11, following FTX into bankruptcy in a stark illustration of the contagion effects that the failure of the crypto exchange has unleashed. **A1, A6**

◆ **Disney chief Iger** told employees he would empower the company's creative teams and emphasize profitability over growing subscriber numbers at its streaming service. **A1**

◆ **The Fed's Williams** said he expects inflation pressures to recede over the next year and said current risks of a recession were elevated. **A2**

◆ **U.S. stocks declined**, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow losing 1.5%, 1.6% and 1.4%, respectively. **B1**

◆ **Biden called on Congress** to pass legislation to adopt a tentative labor agreement to avert a rail shutdown that could hurt the economy before the holiday season. **A3**

◆ **Some of the biggest U.S. banks** are devising a plan to compensate customers who fall victim to scams on their Zelle payment network. **B1**

◆ **Shell PLC agreed to buy** Denmark's Nature Energy Bionas AS for nearly \$2 billion in a push into renewable fuels. **B2**

◆ **Elon Musk said Apple** is threatening to remove Twitter from its App Store and criticized the tech giant for what he called censorship. **B3**

◆ **A European regulator** fined Facebook owner Meta Platforms the equivalent of about \$276 million for a data-protection failure. **B4**

## World-Wide

◆ **China tightened controls** in reaction to protests against its zero-tolerance approach to Covid-19, dispatching phalanxes of police to prevent fresh gatherings as state media reiterated support for Xi's stringent pandemic strategy. **A1, A8**

◆ **Russia postponed arms-control talks** scheduled for this week, a fresh setback to efforts to bolster the last major nuclear-weapons treaty between the U.S. and Moscow. **A10**

◆ **Fierce fighting continued** in eastern Ukraine, as Moscow denied Kyiv's claims that Russia was preparing to abandon the occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear-power plant. **A10**

◆ **The Supreme Court heard arguments** in a set of public-corruption cases, with the justices considering whether to limit how federal prosecutors can pursue fraud cases nationwide. **A2**

◆ **Republican officials in an Arizona county** postponed certifying the state's election results, setting up a likely legal fight with Arizona's Secretary of State. **A4**

◆ **Prosecutors said the man who killed 10 people** at a Buffalo, N.Y., supermarket faces a mandatory life sentence after pleading guilty to state charges. **A3**

◆ **A defeat for Taiwan's ruling party** in local elections could reduce chances of military conflict with China, political analysts said. **A9**

◆ **Iran arrested a human-rights activist** who is also the niece of the country's supreme leader, her family said. **A9**

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## Largest Active Volcano in the World Erupts in Hawaii



**RED HOT:** Lava flows from the Mauna Loa volcano on Monday on the Big Island of Hawaii in its first eruption since 1984. It began spewing lava and ash Sunday night, and officials warned communities to prepare in case lava flows toward them. **A3**

## Iger to Focus Disney on Profit Instead of Adding Subscribers

By JOE FLINT  
AND ROBBIE WHELAN

Walt Disney Co. Chief Executive Robert Iger told employees in a companywide town hall meeting that he would empower Disney's creative teams and emphasize profitability over growing subscriber numbers at the company's streaming service.

Mr. Iger, who was reinstated to the top job about a week ago after the board of directors ousted Bob Chapek,

faces a number of challenges, including employee morale. Creative professionals in the company's studio and streaming divisions, the so-called cast members who work in the parks and the engineers who develop and build the park attractions have expressed concerns at various times over the past year about how Mr. Chapek was running Disney.

Dressed in a navy cardigan, white dress shirt and navy slacks, the 71-year-old Mr. Iger tried to ease the nerves of employees after a stressful week of shake-ups and uncertainty. Greeted with a large ovation by a few hundred executives invited to attend in person, Mr. Iger stressed the role of creativity in determining much of the company's strategy going forward.

Mr. Iger, who was Disney's CEO from 2005 to 2020, said that he was recently listening to the music from the Broadway musical "Hamilton," specifically the song "What Did I Miss?" sung by the Thomas Jefferson character, which contains the

lines, "There is no more status quo, but the sun comes up and the world still spins."

"That's how I feel here," Mr. Iger said. "The status quo is gone, a lot has changed, but the sun is still shining and our world, our Disney world, is still spinning."

Mr. Iger took questions from employees while being interviewed by KABC-TV Los Angeles. *Please turn to page A4*

◆ Theme parks are a sore spot for Disney shareholders..... **B1**

## INSIDE



## JASON GAY

The U.S. match vs. Iran doesn't have to be a referendum about soccer's future. **A16**



## BUSINESS &amp; FINANCE

Banks in talks to refund customers scammed on Zelle payment network. **B1**

## China Regime Tightens Grip To Quash Covid-19 Protests

By CAO LI  
AND ELAINE YU

Chinese authorities tightened controls in reaction to rare nationwide protests against the country's zero-tolerance approach to Covid-19, dispatching phalanxes of police to prevent fresh gatherings as state media reiterated support for leader Xi Jinping's stringent pandemic strategy.

The demonstrations exploded in several large cities, including Beijing and Shanghai, over the weekend. They followed a deadly fire on Friday in Urumqi, capital of the remote region of Xinjiang,

which officials said killed 10 people. Some residents suggested pandemic restrictions contributed to a delay in putting out the fire.

As the government aimed to quash any new protests on Monday, one area of focus was Sitong Bridge in northern Beijing, where a lone protester in October hung banners calling for freedom instead of lockdowns and demanding Mr. Xi be deposed. Dozens of uniformed and undercover police swarmed the area around the bridge on Monday evening after protesters chanted lines from the banners the previous night. Officers questioned foreign

journalists who arrived in the area after word of a potential protest began circulating on an encrypted messaging app. As of about 8 p.m., no protests were seen taking place in the area.

In Shanghai, police were checking the phones of people who showed up at People's Square Station, a transportation hub, in search of foreign apps including Instagram, Twitter and Telegram, according to reports. *Please turn to page A8*

◆ Xi faces dilemma on Covid-19 policies..... **A8**

◆ Heard on the Street: Political risk returns to China..... **B12**

## OK to Turn On the Heat? Not Here

New Englanders try to stare down thermostats

By JOHN CLARKE

Brian Chevalier was in bed at his Rhode Island home, worried his pipes might freeze and burst. He had on two pairs of socks, two hats, underwear, pajamas, jeans, two shirts, two vests, two hoodies and fingerless gloves so he could use his iPhone.

It was Dec. 19 of last year. The outside temperature was expected to drop to 19 degrees. Finally, at 9 p.m., he caved: He turned on the heat. The date marked a new personal record for a chilling annual challenge—one he hopes to beat this year. *Please turn to page A13*

## Musk's Boring Co. Has Cities Waiting

Tunnel venture backs out of proposals

By TED MANN  
AND JULIE BYKOWICZ

ONTARIO, Calif.—The unsolicited proposal from Elon Musk's tunnel-building venture arrived in January 2020. To the local transportation authority, it felt like finding Willy Wonka's golden ticket.

Officials had started planning for a street-level rail connection between booming Ontario International Airport and a commuter train station 4 miles away, with an estimated cost north of \$1 billion. For just \$45 million, Mr. Musk's Boring Co. offered to instead build an underground tunnel through which travelers could zip back and forth in auto-

mous electric vehicles.

Dazzled by Boring's boasts that it had revolutionized tunneling, and the cachet of working with the billionaire head of EV maker Tesla Inc., the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority dumped plans for a traditional light rail and embraced the futuristic tunnel.

When it came time to formalize the partnership and get to work, Boring itself went underground—just as it has done in Maryland, Chicago and Los Angeles. Boring didn't submit a bid for Ontario. *Please turn to page A12*

◆ Musk says Apple is moving against Twitter..... **B3**

◆ Heard on the Street: Twitter is too Musk to fail..... **B12**

## NetApp

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The week that will test the global oil market

BIG READ, PAGE 15

Don't be complacent about a short recession

MOHAMED EL-ERIAN, PAGE 11

## China crisis Crackdown on Covid protests

A local official speaks to a demonstrator holding a blank sign — symbolising censorship — in Beijing yesterday, amid protests against zero-Covid lockdowns.

Tens of thousands of people took to the streets over the weekend protesting against strict coronavirus controls and suppression of freedom of speech, triggering clashes with police and security forces that led to a spate of detentions.

Most demonstrations appeared to have been stamped out yesterday. They follow months of frustration, especially among young people, over relentless lockdowns, quarantines, mass testing and electronic surveillance.

The government has urged universities to send students home as soon as possible to quell further dissent, according to a provincial education official.

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Lex page 18



Bloomberg

# Lagarde says ECB 'not done' raising rates despite signs of easing inflation

◆ No sign of shift to smaller increments ◆ Caution over fall in gas prices ◆ Key data released tomorrow

MARTIN ARNOLD — FRANKFURT

Christine Lagarde has warned that the European Central Bank "is not done" raising interest rates, saying that inflation "still has a way to go".

Her comments came after a sharp fall in European wholesale energy prices, combined with an easing of supply chain bottlenecks, encouraged hopes that eurozone inflation was slowing. US inflation also fell in October and global data indicators suggest that this year's rampant global inflation has peaked.

But the ECB president struck a bearish tone. "I would like to see inflation [as] having peaked, but I'm afraid that it would not go as far as that."

Some investors expect that the ECB will move to smaller rate increases in

line with the US Federal Reserve of 0.5 percentage points rather than 0.75 percentage points.

But Lagarde's comments indicated the ECB was not ready to slow down. "We have to stop stimulating demand," she said, adding that the bank was in "highly accommodative territory", indicating it had to tighten further.

Soaring energy and food prices sparked by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the lifting of coronavirus lockdowns

"I would like to see inflation [as] having peaked, but I would not go as far as that"

Christine Lagarde, ECB president

propelled eurozone inflation to an all-time high of 10.6 per cent in the year to October.

Economists polled by Reuters expect eurozone inflation to have slowed to 10.4 per cent in November when the latest price data is released by the European Commission's statistics agency tomorrow. But Lagarde said there was still some "pass-through" from higher wholesale energy prices to consumer prices, to come.

Natural gas prices had fallen about 40 per cent since their peak in September, but Lagarde said this reflected mild recent weather in Europe that reduced energy consumption and helped to fill gas storage tanks, adding that conditions could change for the worse next year.

"We need to be very, very careful because on the gas futures markets the drop has not been as significant, and the causes behind this decline of gas and the reduced pressure on the short-term rates — we have to be careful whether they will last," she said.

Lagarde's comments signal that there is likely to be a lively debate at next month's ECB meeting, with policymakers split between keeping up the pace of rate rises to avert a wage-price spiral or switching to smaller increases on the back of signs of a recession.

Philip Lane, the dovish ECB chief economist, said last week that euro area consumer price growth would start to fade next year and many of the arguments for another 0.75 percentage point rate rise were "no longer there".

But Klaas Knot, the hawkish head of the Dutch central bank, said yesterday it was not a "foregone conclusion" that Europe would enter recession and worries about ECB over-tightening policy were "a bit of a joke".

He added: "We have to prepare ourselves for a protracted period in which policymakers and central bankers will have to be on it and focus on restoring price stability."

Analysts at Goldman Sachs said that a change in how Italy calculated energy prices could propel overall eurozone inflation to a new record of 11 per cent in November, which would put pressure on the ECB to maintain the size of its rate rises.

Mohamed El-Erian page 11  
Olivier Blanchard page 17

### Briefing

► **H2O tells clients alleged breaches were 'technical'**  
The asset manager has described as "technical" alleged breaches in rules that led French watchdogs to recommend the largest fine in their history. — PAGE 5

► **Russia drone ban tested**  
Norway's ban on Russians flying drones will be challenged today by a former Putin associate's son, who flew his hobby device over Svalbard from his yacht. — PAGE 2

► **EU faces greenwash claim**  
Climate experts have warned that Brussels' plans to certify removal of carbon from the atmosphere fall short of what is needed to limit global warming. — PAGE 2

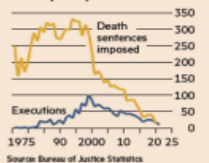
► **Dublin data fine for Meta**  
The Facebook and Instagram parent has been fined €265m by a watchdog over its handling of user data, bringing its total EU penalties to €1bn. — PAGE 5

► **Fed official in jobs alert**  
John Williams, head of the central bank's New York branch, has warned that the unemployment rate could reach 5 per cent in the US next year. — PAGE 4

► **Netanyahu nearer power**  
Israel's former premier moved closer to forming a government after striking a deal with a small group known for its opposition to LGBT+ rights. — PAGE 4

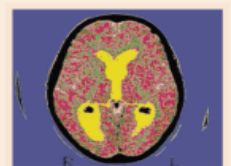
### Datawatch

#### US capital punishment



The number of executions carried out in the US has plunged from its modern-era peak in 1998 as the pandemic delayed legal cases. The Biden administration has also ordered a halt in federal executions pending a justice department review

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics



## Alzheimer's researchers await breakthrough data

Trial data will be published in the US today for an Alzheimer's drug that, its makers say, will mark a breakthrough in understanding and treatment of the disease. Haruo Naito, chief executive of little-known Japanese group Eisai, which developed the drug with Biogen, says he is feeling vindicated after four decades of work. Researchers, as well as investors who have boosted Eisai's stock by 60 per cent since preliminary findings, are poised to scour the data. Eisai aims to silence critics — PAGE 7

## Europe still depends on Russian gas as seaborne imports jump to record high

SHOTARO TANI — LONDON

Europe is importing a record amount of seaborne Russian gas, highlighting how the region has not completely shaken its dependence on the country for the key fuel even though flows through pipelines have all but stopped.

Imports of Russian liquefied natural gas, which is typically transported on big tankers, rose more than 40 per cent between January and October this year, compared with the same period in 2021, highlighting the difficulty for Europe in weaning itself off gas from Moscow despite Brussels' attempts to shift away from Russian sources.

Russian LNG made up 16 per cent of European seaborne imports during the period. While a fraction of the level of pipeline gas flows during this time, it nevertheless leaves Europe exposed to

Putin's weaponisation of energy. "One day, Putin could wake up and say, 'we'll stop sending LNG to Europe', forcing the region to buy from an even more expensive spot market," said Anne-Sophie Corbeau, global research scholar at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University.

Russia could also divert the cargoes to LNG-starved countries such as Bangladesh and Pakistan at cheap prices to "achieve political gains" and "put pressure on Europeans", she added. "It's very important not to forget that a lot of countries are suffering, because they cannot afford LNG."

There are no sanctions on Russian gas, because of its importance to some European nations' energy security. The Kremlin has taken advantage by gradually reducing the flow through pipelines after the invasion of Ukraine, boosting

prices and fuelling a cost of living crisis across the continent.

Gas flows through the Yamal pipeline, which runs through Poland, have been halted since May, and Russia cut flows through the Nord Stream 1 line to Germany in the summer. The pipeline later ruptured, in what some European countries alleged was an act of sabotage.

Russia has also threatened to restrict supplies to western Europe through the only pipeline still connecting the region through Ukraine. Pipeline gas from Russia is down nearly 80 per cent compared with the same period last year, according to data from think-tank Bruegel.

"My somewhat cynical take is if we buy LNG from Russia, that's OK. Because we are getting from the Russians what would otherwise have been sent [somewhere else]," said Georg Zachmann, senior fellow at Bruegel.



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### World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS			
	Nov 28	Prev	%Chg	Pair	Nov 28	Prev	%Chg	Yield (%)	Nov 28	Prev	%Chg
S&P 500	3993.74	4026.12	-0.80	\$/£	1.040	1.041	-0.062	US 2 yr	4.43	4.50	-0.07
Nasdaq Composite	11147.77	11226.36	-0.70	\$/€	1.204	1.209	-0.041	US 10 yr	3.69	3.72	-0.03
Dow Jones Ind	34092.13	34047.03	+0.14	\$/¥	0.084	0.081	+0.036	US 30 yr	3.74	3.77	-0.03
FTSE EuroStoxx 500	1720.94	1709.73	+0.62	\$/HK\$	138.795	139.250	-0.032	UK 2 yr	3.35	3.32	+0.03
Euro Stoxx 50	3639.14	3662.41	-0.63	\$/INR	167.083	168.438	-0.080	UK 10 yr	3.12	3.12	0.00
FTSE 100	7474.02	7466.67	+0.10	\$/BRL	0.983	0.985	-0.020	UK 30 yr	3.36	3.33	+0.03
FTSE AEX Share	4088.49	4112.31	-0.58	\$/RUB	1.139	1.145	-0.052	JPN 2 yr	-0.02	-0.02	0.00
CAC 40	6995.20	6712.49	+0.70	\$/KRW	113.10	113.10	0.000	JPN 10 yr	0.25	0.25	0.00
Nikkei 225	14303.38	14541.38	-1.69	\$/THB	35.50	35.50	0.000	JPN 30 yr	1.49	1.48	+0.01
Hang Seng	20162.83	20203.03	-0.42	\$/TRY	16.564	16.564	0.000	GER 2 yr	2.17	2.18	-0.01
MSCI World	2703.67	2706.01	-0.09	\$/ZAR	11.80	11.80	0.000	GER 10 yr	1.98	1.97	+0.01
MSCI EM	941.01	945.57	-0.48	\$/COP	4000.00	4000.00	0.000	GER 30 yr	1.88	1.87	+0.01
MSCI ACWI	625.15	625.96	-0.13	\$/CLP	800.00	800.00	0.000				
FT Wilshire 2500	4229.12	4229.15	0.00	\$/PEN	3.75	3.75	0.000				
FT Wilshire 5000	4005.91	4005.91	0.00	\$/SAR	3.75	3.75	0.000				

Prices are listed for reference  
Data provided by Bloomberg

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A member of Haiti's SWAT team on patrol this month in Cité Soleil, a section of Port-au-Prince, the capital, controlled by gangs.

## With Haiti on Brink, U.S. Pushes To Send in a Multinational Force

By NATALIE KITROEFF

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — After days of gunfights in early November, Haitian police officers emerged triumphant: They had finally liberated the country's biggest port from the gangs that had taken it over for two months.

But when members of Haiti's SWAT team returned to the shantytown that surrounds the port just days later, they still did not feel safe enough to even leave their armored truck.

The officers anxiously scanned rows of rusty shacks for hidden gunmen, too wary of the danger outside to open the doors.

The upshot was clear: The police keep trying to fight back, but gangs still run much of Haiti.

The assassination of Haiti's president last year set off a new wave of terror across the Caribbean nation. But conditions in the country have plunged to horrifying new lows in recent months, as

### Gangs Are in Control, and Officials Worry About an Exodus

gangs carried out such extreme violence that the carnage has been compared to civil war.

Now, fearing that the humanitarian crisis engulfing Haiti could spur mass migration to the United States and elsewhere, some top Biden administration officials are pushing to send a multinational armed force to the country, several current and former officials say, after the Haitian government made an appeal for such an intervention last month.

But the United States doesn't want its own troops included in that force, even though officials fear that the tumult in Haiti will send an even bigger wave of mi-

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## Jewish Allies of Trump Recoil After He Hosts 2 Antisemites

By JONATHAN WEISMAN

For much of Donald J. Trump's presidency, Jewish Republicans rationalized away the bigoted fringe of Mr. Trump's coalition, arguing that the unsavory supporters in his midst and the antisemitic tropes he deployed paled in comparison with the staunchly pro-Israel policies of his administration.

But last week, Mr. Trump dined at his Palm Beach palace, Mar-a-Lago, with the performer Kanye West, who had already been denounced for making antisemitic statements, and with Nick Fuentes, an outspoken antisemite and Holocaust denier, granting the antisemitic fringe a place of honor at his table. Now, even some of Mr. Trump's staunchest supporters say they can no longer ignore the abetting of bigotry by the nominal leader of the Republican Party.

"I am a child of survivors. I have become very frightened for my

### No Longer Willing to Ignore Ex-President's Abetting of Bigotry

people," Morton Klein, head of the right-wing Zionist Organization of America, said on Monday, referring to his parents' survival of the Holocaust. "Donald Trump is not an antisemite. He loves Israel. He loves Jews. But he mainstreams, he legitimizes Jew hatred and Jew haters. And this scares me."

Not all Republican leaders have spoken out, but Jewish Republicans are slowly peeling away from a former president who, for years, insisted he had no ties to the big-

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**LOW PROFILE** The former president will not campaign in Georgia for the Senate election. PAGE A15

## Wary, Excited And Uncertain How Far to Go

### Chinese Unite in Anger Over Covid Rules

By VIVIAN WANG

BEIJING — The crowd was hard to make out at first, a dark mass huddled along the Beijing riverbank after sunset. The people stood quietly, almost nervously, dozens bundled in thick coats beside yellowed willow trees. At their center was a small altar, strewn with candles and flowers, for the 10 people who died in a fire in western China last week.

Two hours later, that crowd had swelled into the hundreds, a mass of people marching and chanting for freedom, rule of law, an end to the three years of coronavirus restrictions that have dragged life to a near standstill. Temperatures were frigid, but people stayed for hours, even outlasting a shift change in the police officers who monitored the whole event on Sunday night.

"We don't want lockdowns, we want freedom!" the protesters shouted as they wound westward through one of the city's neatly manicured embassy districts, where a Four Seasons hotel stands alongside humble shops selling traditional breakfast crepes. "Freedom of the press! Freedom of publishing!"

It was an extraordinary scene, rarely seen anywhere in China, let alone the capital, under Xi Jinping, the country's authoritarian leader. But the elation of the moment was laced with anxiety about what, exactly, was happening. When some people began shouting explicitly political slogans, others urged them to remain more narrowly focused on opposing Covid controls. Even what to call the event depended on whom and when you asked — was it a protest? Or just a vigil?

The uncertainty mirrored the broader uncertainty of this moment, a potential turning point for not only China's zero-Covid strategy but also Mr. Xi's rigid grip on the country he leads. In recent days, protests have erupted across China, from western Urumqi, where the fire broke out, to Shanghai in the east. The excesses of the coronavirus restrictions have united people like no other cause in decades. But in a

Continued on Page A7

## UNREST IN CHINA IS LATEST TO TEST GLOBAL ECONOMY

### THE WORLD'S FACTORY

### Policies Out of Beijing Have Far-Reaching Consequences

By PATRICIA COHEN

LONDON — The swelling protests against severe pandemic restrictions in China — the world's second-largest economy — are injecting a new element of uncertainty and instability into the global economy when nations are already struggling to manage the fallout from a war in Ukraine, an energy crisis and painful inflation.

For years, China has served as the world's factory and a vital engine of global growth, and turmoil there cannot help but ripple elsewhere. Analysts warn that more unrest could further slow the production and distribution of integrated circuits, machine parts, household appliances and more. It may also encourage companies in the United States and Europe to disengage from China and more quickly diversify their supply chains.

Millions of China's citizens have chafed under a tight lockdown for months as the Communist Party seeks to overcome the spread of the Covid-19 virus, three years after its emergence. Anger turned to widespread protest after an apartment fire last week killed 10 people and comments on social media questioned whether the lockdown had prevented their escape.

It is unclear whether the demonstrations flaring across the country will be quickly snuffed out or erupt into broader resistance to the iron rule of its top leader, Xi Jinping, but so far the most significant economic damage stems from the lockdown.

"The biggest economic hit is coming from the zero-Covid policies," said Carl Weinberg, chief economist at High Frequency Economics, a research firm. "I don't see the protests themselves being a game changer."

"The world will still turn to China for what it makes best and cheapest," he added.

Asked how the Biden administration

Continued on Page A9

## Russian Dissidents Fleeing to U.S. Find Detention, Not Freedom

By MIRIAM JORDAN

PINE PRAIRIE, La. — They had fallen in love their first year in medical school in Russia, joined by their commitment to building democracy in a country where any remaining hope of it was disappearing.

When Russia pushed into Ukraine early this year, Maria Shemiattina and Boris Shevchuk, who had married and become practicing physicians, posted videos of the bloodshed and antiwar messages on social media. "I call on Russians to see the truth, to not believe the lies of the Russian media," Ms. Shemiattina, 29, wrote on Instagram. Her posts were deleted by the authorities again and again, she said, until her accounts were blocked.

The police called her family in search of the couple, who had gone into hiding. Certain that they were on the brink of being conscripted to serve as medics on the front lines, or imprisoned for their political activity, the couple decided to flee.

They managed to make it to Mexico in mid-April. Two weeks later, they drove to a U.S. port of entry, handed over their passports and requested asylum, expecting their first taste of true freedom. Instead, their hands were cuffed, their feet shackled



Maria Shemiattina and Boris Shevchuk reuniting after Mr. Shevchuk's release from federal custody.

and they were flown to remote immigration detention centers in rural Louisiana. It would be six months before they would see each other again.

"I thought when we left Russia that our suffering would be over,"

Mr. Shevchuk, 29, said in an interview from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Pine Prairie, La. "I feel helpless."

As Vladimir Putin cracks down on dissidents and arrests draft dodgers, growing numbers of

Russians are making their way across the U.S. southern border. But contrary to their expectations of asylum and freedom, many of them are being put into immigration detention centers that resemble

Continued on Page A14

## Secrecy Shrouds 18,000 Skulls In a Paris Museum's Basement

By CONSTANT MÊHEUT

PARIS — With its monumental Art Deco facade overlooking the Eiffel Tower, the Musée de l'Homme, or Museum of Mankind, is a Paris landmark. Every year, hundreds of thousands of visitors flock to this anthropology museum to experience its prehistoric skeletons and ancient statuettes.

But beneath the galleries, hidden in the basement, lies a more contentious collection: 18,000 skulls that include the remains of African tribal chiefs, Cambodian rebels and Indigenous people from Oceania. Many were gathered in France's former colonies, and the collection also includes the skulls of more than 200 Native Americans, including from the Sioux and Navajo tribes.

The remains, kept in cardboard boxes stored in metal racks, form one of the world's largest human skull collections, spanning centuries and covering every corner of the earth.

But they are also stark reminders of a sensitive past and, as such, have been shrouded in secrecy. Information on the skulls' identities and the context of their collection, which could open the door to restitution claims, has



The Museum of Mankind has reminders of a sensitive past.

never been made public, but is outlined in museum documents obtained by The New York Times.

A confidential memo said that the collection included the bones of Mamadou Lamine, a 19th-century West African Muslim leader who led a rebellion against French colonial troops; a family of Canadian Inuits exhibited in a Paris human zoo in 1881; and even five victims of the Armenian genocide in the mid-1910s.

"Sometimes, the supervisors would say, 'We must hide,'" said Philippe Menecier, a retired lin-

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SPORTS B7-12

**Fans, Bought and Paid For**  
Qatar's loudest supporters tried to add energy at the host's World Cup games. But they're not from Qatar. PAGE B10

**U.S. Versus Iran, Yet Again**  
A game has much at stake in terms of soccer, and it carries strong symbolism for protests against Tehran. PAGE B7

INTERNATIONAL A4-11

**Chai and Laughs at the Temple**  
An Indian village has found a way to address a global issue: a deep sense of isolation among older people. PAGE A4

NATIONAL A12-19

**Fire Up the Fax Machine**  
Officials in a New York county returned to writing paper checks and sending faxes after a malware attack. PAGE A12

**G.O.P. Holds Up Vote Results**  
Fueled by conspiracy theories, officials in two Arizona counties moved to delay certifying the election. PAGE A16



ARTS C1-6

**Images for Recovery**  
A nonprofit organization has asked leading artists to produce artworks for British psychiatric hospitals. PAGE C6

**Exploring Grief and Loss**  
In episodes of "All There Is," Anderson Cooper digs into his own family traumas and those of others. PAGE C1

BUSINESS B1-6

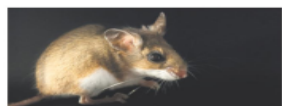
**Seeking to Avert Rail Strike**  
President Biden asked Congress to intervene in a deepening labor dispute, citing potentially devastating economic effects of an action halting freight trains just before Christmas. PAGE B6

**Musk Takes On Apple**

In a series of tweets, Elon Musk, Twitter's new owner, accused Apple of censorship and of threatening to pull Twitter from its App Store. He implied he was ready for "war." PAGE B1

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**Michelle Goldberg** PAGE A23



SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

**The Mice Who Make the Forest**  
Scientists are unearthing a quiet truth about the woods: Where trees grow, or don't, depends in part on the quirky decisions of small mammals. PAGE D1







Photographs by DANIA MAXWELL, Los Angeles Times

## Riverside rocked by homicides and abduction in catfishing case

A Virginia cop went on a rampage after deceiving a teenage girl online, police say.

BY SUMMER LIN, SALVADOR HERNANDEZ AND GRACE TOOHEY

A newly minted law enforcement officer from Virginia drove to a Riverside cul-de-sac, where he parked a few houses down from the home of a teenage girl he met online by pretending to be someone else, police say.

Neighbors say the man waited for the 15-year-old's



THE MOTHER and grandparents of a teen who was deceived by a man she met online were found dead.

family to get home Friday morning, going back and forth between his car and the house.

Police got a call about a young woman who appeared to be distressed while getting into a red Kia Soul with a male driver. Neighbors reported hearing arguing before a fire erupted at the home.

Riverside firefighters found three adults dead in the home's entry, according to Riverside police spokesperson Ryan Railsback. The deaths were soon ruled homicides.

By then, the suspect and the girl were gone.

[See Riverside, A5]

## Chaos reigns as UC strike extends into its third week

'People are losing their minds,' a professor says of the uncertainty

BY TERESA WATANABE, HOWARD BLUME AND DEBBIE TRUONG

UCLA junior Sania Tuli is worried that she's missing material she'll need when she takes her medical college admission exam next year. UC Riverside senior Nathalie Boutros fears she is falling behind in a class required to graduate because she hasn't been able to find help during the massive strike of 48,000 University of California academic workers.

And professor Dylan Rodriguez has stopped teaching his UC Riverside class to support strikers. But his UC Berkeley colleague Kristie Boering has made the opposite decision to serve his students.

The nation's largest ever strike of higher-education academic workers — teaching assistants, tutors, graduate student researchers and postdoctoral scholars — entered its third week Monday, triggering growing anxiety and uncertainty over how to handle the most critical work at the end of the fall term: final papers, projects and exams. The UC employees, represented by four United Auto Workers bargaining units, lead discussion sessions, run labs, grade assignments, administer exams, conduct re-

search and perform other critical roles that give UC its national reputation for excellence.

"People are losing their minds," said Kip Fulbeck, a UC Santa Barbara art professor who said the strike has touched off the most tumult he's seen during his three decades at the campus other than the pandemic. "Faculty are caught between trying to serve their students but also respect the strikers. Students are caught between trying to complete their work but also support the graduate students. No one seems to know what's going on."

The union is demanding significant pay increases to help workers afford housing in the high-cost areas where most UC campuses are located, along with more support for child care, health-care, transportation and international students. UC's offers don't come close to meeting union demands, but officials say they have been "fair, reasonable and responsive to the union's priorities."

Students across the system say they support the strike — UC Student Assn. presidents at all nine undergraduate campuses have endorsed it. But they also admit to worries about the effect on learning as classes are canceled, labs sus-

[See UC strike, A5]

## Pandemic's toll on older Latinos robs community

Grandparents, often key to a family's success, have been hard hit by COVID.

BY DON LEE

WASHINGTON — COVID-19's relentless death toll is robbing the Latino community of what has long been viewed as a secret weapon behind its impressive growth and rising prosperity: grandparents.

Multigenerational households have played an especially important role in helping Latinos as they've grown into California's largest ethnic group and the second-largest in the nation.

Elder Latinos, who are more likely than average to remain in the workforce past retirement age, often provide an additional income to the shared household.

And even when retired, grandparents supply much-needed child care, carpooling, cooking and other assistance to their families,

reducing expenses for the broader household and freeing other adults to work longer hours and earn more.

But Latinos age 55 and older have died from COVID-19 at a disproportionately higher rate than white, Black and Asian people, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In fact, after long enjoying an overall lower mortality rate than the white population, Latinos all but lost that edge in California and some other states, due largely to pandemic casualties, research shows.

And it's not just a loss of grandparents. COVID-19 took a toll on uncles, aunts, older children and others who had played vital roles in helping especially lower-income, multigenerational Latino households leverage themselves upward.

Although the death of seniors has been devastating to all population groups, the effect on Latinos of losing these beloved and vital contributors has caused

[See Latinos, A7]

### U.S. treads lightly on China protests

White House appears loath to jeopardize goodwill after recent Biden-Xi encounter. **PERSPECTIVES, A2**

### Buffalo gunman pleads guilty

The white shooter who killed 10 Black people at a N.Y. grocery store faces life in prison without parole. **NATION, A4**

**Weather**  
Mostly sunny.  
L.A. Basin: 67/49. **B6**

### Disney not for sale, CEO says

During a town hall after a leadership shake-up, returning Chief Executive Bob Iger dispels rumors. **CALENDAR, E1**

7 85944 00200 5



A FAN in Qatar at the Wales-Iran World Cup match holds a shirt honoring the woman whose death while in police custody sparked protests in Iran.

## For Iranians, soccer team stirs a swirl of emotions

As protests continue at home, players in no-win situation as they face U.S. in crucial game.

BY KEVIN BAXTER

DOHA, Qatar — When Ramin Rezaeian scored his first World Cup goal to seal Iran's victory over Wales last week — just the country's second tournament win in 24 years — it should have been a moment of pure joy.

Yet Rezaeian tweeted afterward that he didn't know "whether to laugh or cry" — feeling trapped along with his teammates between a government that views their success as a propaganda tool and Iranian protesters mounting the most dangerous challenge to the country's theocratic rulers in four decades.

Those conflicting emotions could become even more complicated Tuesday when Iran meets the U.S. in a game that will determine which team moves on in soccer's premier tournament and which goes home.

With the United States considered by many in Iran to be the "Great Satan" — a term the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini made famous amid the 1979 hostage crisis — the game has taken on a political fervor not directed toward an American team since the days of the Cold War. On Monday, in the final news conference before the match, U.S. coach Gregg Berhalter and captain Tyler Adams listened as several Iranian journalists took the microphone to make lengthy political statements before asking the Americans to explain the presence of U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf and the status of race relations in the U.S.

[See Iran, A10]

**U.S.-IRAN PREVIEW:** The American team tries to tune out distractions, including political questions, as it prepares for its pivotal game. **SPORTS, B12**

## Fights for local school boards not over

Despite losses at polls, conservatives say now they have a playbook.

BY MACKENZIE MAYS

For conservatives running for school boards in California, any dream of a "red wave" proved to be a dud as Republican candidates, including a member of an extremist right-wing group, lost in most races across the state.

But even some unsuccessful campaigns garnered enough votes to feed into an already acute sense of political polarization that was once missing from local school board races. And conservative groups believe they've found a playbook for winning more.

Jeffrey "Erik" Perrine, a member of the Proud Boys extremist group, lost his bid to win a seat on the San Juan Unified school board. But more than 2,600 people in Sacramento County voted for him — 18% of the vote in his district, according to the latest election update.

Perrine campaigned on "the nuclear family" and promoted anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ sentiments, labeling schools as "indoctrination centers."

In Orange County, Kira Davis, a managing editor of the conservative political blog Red State, is poised to lose in the race for a seat on the Capistrano Unified

[See Conservatives, A10]



# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

Partly sunny 53/45 • Tomorrow: Wind and rain 62/35 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022 • \$3

## A crypto kingpin courted regulators

FTX head championed a plan to reshape his own market's oversight

BY TORY NEWMYER AND PETER WHORISKEY

Before his undoing this month, crypto magnate Sam Bankman-Fried aggressively pursued powerful allies in Washington. None was more important than Rostin Behnam.

The chief of the federal agency that oversees commodities markets, Behnam holds a strategic perch among the nation's financial regulators. And the 44-year-old Washington bureaucrat was indispensable in the boyish billionaire's ambitious plans to reshape U.S. crypto regulation.

Since last year, the two have worked in parallel on critical initiatives which, if not for the sudden demise of Bankman-Fried's FTX empire, might have radically altered the nation's attempts to govern the freewheeling market for digital currencies.

Now that FTX has collapsed amid allegations of fraud, those initiatives may be doomed. But as the financial world examines why major firms threw hundreds of millions of dollars at the 30-year-old Bankman-Fried, the capital is looking anew at his courtship of Washington and why he sought to build ties with Behnam and the agency he leads, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The most ambitious of the two initiatives entwining the two men is a bill in Congress — one outlined by Behnam's agency and

SEE CFTC ON A16



KEVIN FRAYER/GETTY IMAGES

## Protests in China gather steam — and supporters worldwide

Four days of demonstrations against a “zero covid” policy have reverberated across China, one of the largest expressions of discontent there since 1989. The rallies, triggered by a deadly blaze in which pandemic restrictions were blamed for leaving firefighters unable to reach a burning building, have crossed borders as well. In Asia, Europe and North America, demonstrators — including Chinese nationals — rallied at subway stations and outside Chinese embassies. **Stories, A12-13**



TYRONNE SAW/REUTERS

**TOP:** Protesters shout slogans during a demonstration against China's pandemic measures Monday in Beijing. **ABOVE:** Blank sheets of paper symbolize state censorship.

## Racist acts in N.D. have immigrants living in fear

BY DANIELLE PAQUETTE

**WEST FARGO, N.D.** — The aroma of barbecue ribs used to comfort him, but now Manny Behyee worried it could attract trouble. Walking up to Tet's garage cookout, he'd scanned the cars lining her suburban street. Should everyone have parked farther apart? Was it obvious they were having a party?

The Liberian immigrants had tried to keep a low profile since someone — a stranger? a neighbor? — distributed hundreds of fliers labeling them a threat to White children. A mile away, people woke up one September morning to small plastic bags on their lawns containing a picture of a Liberian man who had recently been convicted of killing a 14-year-old girl in Fargo. The caption invoked a racist theory that foreigners of color are “replacing” White Americans in the United States: **“THE GREAT REPLACEMENT AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.”**

SEE FLIERS ON A4

## A quest unveils Black history some tried to hide

Texas woman traces ancestor to a major but long-forgotten African burial ground in Richmond

BY GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

**RICHMOND** — Lenora McQueen's fourth-great-grandmother was enslaved at a plantation outside Charlottesville and moved to Richmond near the end of her life. Then she disappeared.

McQueen, working from her home in Texas, set out to solve the mystery of her ancestor's final resting place. In the process she opened a window into the lives — and deaths — of thousands of other people whose stories city leaders had tried to obliterate.

Richmond's long-forgotten Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground, which McQueen brought to light, is adjacent to two well-preserved cemeteries for White people, including Chief Justice John Marshall and Confederate veterans. But the African burying ground is invisible beneath an abandoned gas station, highway overpasses and railroad tracks.

“Nobody could see it,” said Ana Edwards, an activist who has spent years elevating Rich-



GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER/THE WASHINGTON POST

**Lenora McQueen stands beneath an I-64 overpass in Richmond at the Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground, which could be the largest cemetery for free and enslaved Africans in the country.**

mond's Black history. “It was simply shoved under roadways and scraped aside to make room for bridges. There was no respect. That really hurts, but there's also anger.”

Historians now believe Shockoe Hill could be the largest

cemetery for free and enslaved Africans in the country, eclipsing New York City's African Burial Ground National Monument.

McQueen set a precedent this summer by working with experts to get the Shockoe Hill

burying ground onto the National Register of Historic Places. It was honored not only for a history dating to 1816 but also for the systematic effort to erase Black heritage that took place there — opening the door for other desecrated landmarks to be recognized.

But the threats continue. Plans for a new Richmond-to-D.C. rail line are set to further damage the burying ground. McQueen and other advocates are scrambling to push the Federal Railroad Administration to slow the process and reroute the tracks.

“So many things have been done to this, but it's still a burial ground,” McQueen said on a recent visit to Richmond. She walked along Hospital Street, cut through the cemetery more than a century ago. Cars thunked across the Interstate 64 bridges overhead; candy wrappers, beer cans and plastic foam food containers littered the weeds along the sidewalk.

“I just remember seeing this for the first time and thinking I

SEE BURIALS ON A6

## Covid's growing toll on elderly

9 IN 10 DEATHS ARE IN OLDER AMERICANS

Some left vulnerable as U.S. moves on from virus

BY ARIANA EUNJUNG CHA AND DAN KEATING

President Biden may have declared the coronavirus pandemic “over,” but from John Felton's view as the Yellowstone County health officer in Billings, Mont., it's not over, just different.

Now, more than ever, it is a plague of the elderly.

In October, Felton's team logged six deaths due to the virus, many of them among vaccinated people. Their ages: 80s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, 90s. They included Betty Witzel, 88, described by her family as a tomboy who carried snakes in her pocket as a child and grew up to be a teacher; mother of four, grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of five. And there was Nadine Alice Stark, 85, a ranch owner who planted sugar beets and corn.

Yellowstone County made the decision early in the crisis to recognize each death individually, and Felton said that is as important as ever to acknowledge the

SEE VIRUS ON A9

## To keep and bear arms, first pass a test

Czech Republic residents have right to own guns but must be proficient

BY CHICO HARLAN AND LADKA BAUKEROVA

**PRAGUE** — When eight people had taken their seats in the classroom, the proctor put on his glasses and said it was time to begin. He took attendance. He glowered as one person walked in late. He described how the test would work — 30 multiple-choice questions, 40 minutes — and how to properly mark an X on the answer sheet. Then he ordered phones away; only a pen and paper, he said, were permitted on the table.

“If anybody needs to go to the toilet, now is the time,” he said. The test had all the tedious markings of a high school exam, down to the motivational poster on the wall saying “I will.”

But in the Czech Republic, this is part of how you obtain a gun. And 40 minutes later, three of

SEE GUNS ON A14

## IN THE NEWS



SOFIA ALDINO PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

**Maternity crisis** In rural America, home to few hospitals and widespread poverty, a lack of reproductive care is stealing lives. **A8**

**Md. plane crash** One person rescued from the small aircraft was released from a hospital as federal investigators launched a probe. **B1**

**THE NATION** Veterans Affairs faces a lawsuit alleging racial discrimination dating back decades that led to denials of benefits. **A2**  
**A handful** of Republicans condemned former president Donald Trump for dining with far-right activist Nick Fuentes and the rapper Ye last week. **A2**  
**Millions of Houston** residents faced a boil-water advisory and closures of businesses and schools after a power outage at a city water purification site. **A3**  
**The man charged** with killing 10 Black people at

a Buffalo grocery store pleaded guilty to murder and domestic terrorism in state court. **A5**  
**In Arizona**, Cochise County flouted a deadline to certify election results, while officials in Maricopa County faced threats for following through on that duty. **A18**  
**Hawaii's Mauna Loa**, the world's largest active volcano, erupted for the first time in 38 years. **A18**

**THE WORLD** At night, Ukraine's drone hunters scramble to destroy Russia's Iranian-built aerial fleet. **A10**  
**Pakistan's first Oscar**

entry has drawn sharp conservative and religious criticism in the country over a transgender storyline. **A11**

**THE ECONOMY** Elon Musk said Apple threatened to remove Twitter from its App Store and has mostly stopped advertising on Twitter. **A15**  
**With a Dec. 9** railroad strike deadline looming, President Biden called on Congress to take action to avert a shutdown. **A15**

**THE REGION** Two teenagers were fatally shot over the weekend in D.C., including one who had been shot

three times before. **B1**  
**The owner** of a day-care center in Maryland pleaded guilty to shooting her husband after he was accused of sexually abusing children. **B1**  
**Hundreds of people** gathered at a vigil in Chesapeake, Va., to honor those killed in the shooting at a Walmart that left six dead. **B1**

**OBITUARIES** Budd Friedman, 90, helped usher in the 1970s and '80s comedy boom, showing that a club could thrive on stand-up alone, and fostered the careers of stars including Jay Leno, Richard Pryor and Jerry Seinfeld. **B6**

## INSIDE



**HEALTH** Give them a boost Gifts to benefit minds, bodies and even pets. **E1**

**STYLE** White House trim The holiday decor is a homespun homage. **C1**

**BUSINESS NEWS** .....A15  
**COMICS** .....C6  
**OPINION PAGES** .....A19  
**LOTTERIES** .....B3  
**OBITUARIES** .....B6  
**TELEVISION** .....C4  
**WORLD NEWS** .....A10

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**Gift ideas for tech lovers to put on shopping list**

Tech columnist shares top picks and pro tips for giving cool gadgets for all ages. **In Money**

**Bruce Springsteen's voice remains 'Strong,' soulful**

The Boss talks new album and weighs in on controversy over concert ticket prices. **In Life**

**Sanders hints at multiple job offers**

Jackson State coach confirms offer from Colorado, saying "they're not the only ones." **In Sports**  
HANNAH MATTIX/  
USA TODAY NETWORK

# USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022



## 30 million are in path of severe storm system

Thanksgiving flight chaos could stretch into week; snow, tornadoes, high winds, flooding in the mix

John Bacon  
USA TODAY

Americans scrambled to get home after a swath of bad weather helped force thousands of flight delays over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend and storms forecast for Tuesday threatened more travel chaos.

More than 2,200 flights within, into or out of the U.S. were delayed or canceled by Monday afternoon – this after almost 7,000 flights were delayed Sunday, one of the year's busiest travel days, according to the tracking website flightaware.com.

Travel is back in a big way after the crushing effects of COVID-19. AAA estimated that 54.6 million people were traveling 50 miles or more from home over the Thanksgiving weekend. That's a 1.5% increase over 2021 – and 98% of pre-pandemic levels.

This year was projected to be the third busiest for Thanksgiving travel since AAA started tracking in 2000. But heavy rains and thunderstorms in the South and snow in the Pacific Northwest helped fuel some post-Thanksgiving travel problems. And the hazardous

See STORMS, Page 4A

Almost 10,000 flights were delayed or canceled Sunday through late Monday.



Police in Shanghai arrest a demonstrator Sunday as crowds rallied against the Chinese government's strict COVID-19 policies. AP

## US signals support for protesters across China

Public anger has been mounting over Xi's 'zero COVID' lockdowns

Kim Hjelmgaard and Michael Collins  
USA TODAY

The Biden administration offered support Monday for peaceful protesters in China who spilled into the streets over the weekend to demonstrate against Beijing's "zero COVID" strategy for containing the deadly pandemic.

Public anger and isolated protests over Chinese President Xi Jinping's COVID-19 policies have been building for months amid stories circulating online and in social media of cases when, because of city-wide lockdowns, people have died for lack of medical care and pregnant women have miscarried babies. Shortages of food also have been highlighted.

When a fire broke out in a residential apartment building on Nov. 24 in the city of Urumqi, killing 10 people, local authorities denied that the deaths had anything to do with a 100-day lockdown in Urumqi. But many Chinese social media users blamed Beijing's pandemic policies, and demonstrations in Urumqi spread to cities across China including Beijing, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Wuhan.

See CHINA, Page 4A



U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

## Hawaii on alert after volcano erupts

Hawaii's Mauna Loa, the largest active volcano in the world, began erupting for the first time in 38 years. Lava flows were not threatening communities as of Monday, but authorities encouraged residents to review eruption preparations, noting that past events show lava flows can "change rapidly." Portions of the Big Island were under an ashfall advisory Monday. The National Weather Service in Honolulu said up to a quarter-inch of ash could accumulate in some areas.

Full story, Page 3A

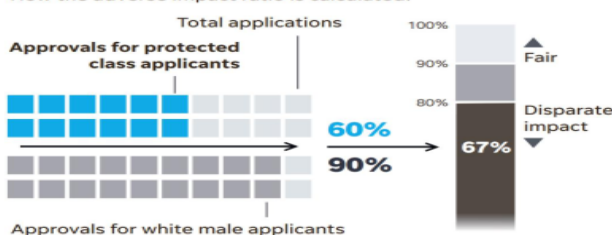
## Little progress on lending discrimination

Getting a fair shot at becoming a homeowner depends on your race. If you're white or Asian, you have a fair shot. For every other race, "mortgage fairness" is already low and could be sinking further. That's according to an analysis of 350 million mortgage applications from 1990 to 2021. "We're in the middle of a mortgage fairness crisis today," FairPlay CEO/founder Kareem Saleh says.

How fairness is measured, 1B

### Mortgage fairness gap among races

How the adverse impact ratio is calculated:



NOTE The adverse impact ratio measures demographic parity. It does not control for other factors such as credit score.

SOURCE Fairplay State of Mortgage Fairness Report  
JIM SERGENT/USA TODAY

### BROKEN ADOPTIONS

USA TODAY INVESTIGATION

## As agency sank, heartsick clients left in the dark

Failing Calif. center only asked families in limbo to pay more

Marisa Kwiatkowski  
USA TODAY

An adoption center headquartered in California knew its financial foundation was crumbling, but it continued to take money from clients up to the very week it abruptly closed its doors – devastating thousands of families across the country. USA TODAY investigates what went wrong. This is Part 2 of a three-part series.

July 8, 2016: 207 days to closure

Cary Virtue planned to let go of his animosity toward the Independent Adoption Center.

The Northern California man had signed with the California-based agency in late 2013, hoping to adopt as a single parent. More than two years later, he said, he had gotten one hit on his profile: from an adult in Ghana asking to be adopted.

In 2016, days after his 50th birthday, Virtue decided it was time to move on with his life. He canceled his contract with the IAC and asked for a partial refund. The agency denied his request. Virtue filed an appeal and grievance, arguing the agency had misrepresented its services, records pro-



Virtue

See ADOPTIONS, Page 6A



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## Masivo despliegue policial en Pekín por las protestas

El régimen chino hizo una demostración de fuerza para sofocar las manifestaciones, en las que se exhiben como símbolo papeles en blanco. **Página 2**



## SE VA EL MINISTRO DE TRANSPORTE POR UN PROBLEMA DE SALUD

—política

Alexis Guerrero dejará su cargo y se analiza si renuncia o pide licencia; lo reemplazaría su segundo, Diego Giuliano, también del Frente Renovador. **Página 13**

## PARA EL DIRECTOR DE CANNES, "EL CINE DEBE REINVENTARSE"

—espectáculos

El francés Thierry Frémaux está en Buenos Aires para presentar un ciclo de seis películas premiadas en ese festival; el streaming no es el enemigo, dice.

# LA NACION

MARTES 29 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

## Cristina Kirchner lanza su última defensa y los jueces le ponen fecha al veredicto

**VIALIDAD.** El kirchnerismo descartó movilizarse hoy en apoyo a la vicepresidenta

El tribunal de la causa Vialidad, en la que se investiga la corrupción en la obra pública de Santa Cruz y que tiene a Cristina Kirchner como principal acusada, pondrá hoy fecha al veredicto.

Por la mañana, la vicepresidenta intentará enfrentar las fuertes

acusaciones que lanzó en el juicio el fiscal Diego Luciani. Para eso, Cristina Kirchner hará uso de las denominadas "últimas palabras". Tras una deliberación interna, el kirchnerismo descartó movilizarse en su respaldo. Según anticiparon, la vicepresidenta repetirá su

estrategia de presentarse como una perseguida política. Las dudas pasan por si Cristina Kirchner será condenada solo por el delito de fraude contra la administración pública o también como jefa de una asociación ilícita, que es un delito más grave. **Página 10**

### Un fiscal quiere saber cuántos planes maneja Pérsico

**Página 11**

## Magistratura: polémico fallo contra una diputada radical

El juez Cormick anuló la designación de Reyes en el Consejo; críticas de la UCR

El juez Martín Cormick anuló ayer la designación para el Consejo de la Magistratura de la diputada radical Roxana Reyes, al argumentar que Pro ya ocupaba el lugar de la oposición. El fallo generó un fuerte rechazo de la UCR, que lo consideró "arbitrario, político, nulo y extemporáneo". Cormick formó parte del gobierno de Cristina Kirchner hasta 2015. **Página 11**

## Mapuches y vecinos bloquearon Vaca Muerta



**política.** Mapuches y vecinos bloquearon ayer los accesos a Añelo, la localidad neuquina ubicada en el corazón de Vaca Muerta. Las comunidades originarias, que exigieron avances en el relevamiento territorial que las habilita a acceder a una personería jurídica, decidieron levantar los cortes sobre los yacimientos al caer la tarde. Los vecinos, que denuncian la falta de agua en la zona desde hace una semana, se mantuvieron sobre la ruta. **Página 14**

## Por el dólar soja, el BCRA sumó US\$192 millones

**RESERVAS.** Fue positivo el saldo en el debut de la nueva versión del programa

**Página 18**

## Crean que hay más casos de Covid que los informados

**SALUD.** Como solo se testean los internados, la circulación sería mayor

**Página 24**

## QATAR 2022

## Opuestos en el Mundial: Brasil avanza con comodidad y Uruguay está en apuros

DOHA (De nuestros enviados especiales).- Contracara sudamericana. Brasil disimuló sin problemas la ausencia de Neymar, lesionado, y derrotó a Suiza por 1-0 para asegurarse su clasificación a los octavos de final del Mundial de Qatar. Pero Uruguay,

que cayó 2-0 frente Portugal, quedó en una posición apremiante: en la última fecha del grupo H tendrá que derrotar a Ghana y esperar una ayuda del equipo de Cristiano Ronaldo frente a Corea del Sur para continuar en la competencia.

Mientras, la Argentina se prepara para jugar mañana contra Polonia, desde las 16; el cuerpo técnico de Lionel Scaloni le da suma importancia al big data, un aliado para encontrar los secretos del rival. **Deportes Mundial**

### PARTIDOS DE HOY

12.00 HS	Países Bajos	Qatar
12.00 HS	Ecuador	Senegal
16.00 HS	Gales	Inglaterra
16.00 HS	Irán	EE.UU.



ADEMÁS

Para ganarle a Polonia es necesario aumentar la intensidad

Javier Zanetti  
**Deportes Mundial, página 3**

EE.UU. e Irán, una relación explosiva que sale a la cancha

Rafael Mathus Ruiz. **Página 4**





Casemiro, 30 (esq.), defensor entre jovens atacantes, é abraçado após fazer gol da vitória ante Suíça e da classificação do Brasil; Vini Jr. (centro) marcou antes, mas VAR anulou Carl Recine/Reuters

## copa 2022

### Sem Neymar, Casemiro resolve, e Brasil vai às oitavas

O Brasil se classificou com uma rodada de antecedência ao vencer a Suíça por 1 x 0. Gol do volante defensivo Casemiro só saiu aos 38 do 2º tempo. Time, que pega Camarões na sexta (2), ficou mais previsível sem Neymar. **p.1**

### Torcida em Doha tem luxo e bebida livre por R\$ 900

Página 2

### Paulo Vinicius Coelho

Rodrygo melhorou a seleção no 2º tempo **p.5**

### Portugal vence Uruguai por 2 a 0 e também avança

Página 4

### Renata Mendonça

Novatos sentem a falta que faz o camisa 10 **p.5**

#### Jogos de ontem

	CAM x SER	
3		3
	COR x GAN	
2		3
	BRA x SUI	
1		0
	POR x URU	
2		0

#### Jogos de hoje

	EQU x SEN	
12h*, SPORTV**		
	HOL x QAT	
12h*, GLOBO**		
	IRA x EUA	
16h*, SPORTV**		
	GAL x ING	
16h*, GLOBO**		

\*Horário de Brasília. \*\*Globoplay

## PEC é entregue com Bolsa Família fora do teto por 4 anos

Protocolada, proposta não fixa valores; PT admite negociar prazo da medida

O relator do Orçamento de 2023, senador Marcelo Castro (MDB-PI), protocolou ontem o texto da PEC (proposta de Emenda à Constituição) da Transição, que autoriza o governo Lula (PT) a excluir o Bolsa Família do teto de gastos por quatro anos.

O texto não fixa valor específico para o montante acima do limite de despesas, mas o próprio PT aponta para até R\$ 198 bilhões.

A medida é negociada para a nova gestão conseguir manter o benefício mínimo de R\$ 600 do programa.

Apesar da versão entregue, integrantes da equipe de transição admitem rever uma série de pontos, como reduzir para dois anos a validade da PEC — prazo com o qual a cúpula do Congresso já indicou que trabalha para dar aval à proposta.

O presidente eleito entrou nas negociações para destravar o diálogo com o Legislativo. Castro disse que a PEC precisa ser aprovada no Senado e na Câmara até 16 de dezembro, a tempo de fazer os ajustes orçamentários para o próximo ano. **Mercado A11**

### Protestos fora da China aumentam pressão sobre Xi

As manifestações contra a política de Covid zero da China se espalharam para ao menos uma dúzia de cidades pelo mundo. Os atos elevam a pressão sobre o regime de Xi Jinping, após fim de semana de contestações internas. **Mundo A9**

### Consignado dispara com empréstimos a Auxílio Brasil

Os empréstimos do consignado para beneficiários do Auxílio Brasil somaram cerca de R\$ 5 bi em outubro, mês de seu lançamento. Até setembro, a modalidade para trabalhadores do setor privado movimentava ao redor de R\$ 1,5 bi mensal.

Os números são do Banco Central. Após a eleição, a Caixa limitou o crédito. No mês passado, segundo o BC, a inadimplência nos empréstimos com juros definidos pelos bancos atingiu 4,2%, o maior nível em quase quatro anos. **Mercado A13**

### Por Lula, PT dará apoio à reeleição de Lira na Câmara

A bancada do PT na Câmara prevê anunciar hoje apoio à reeleição de Arthur Lira (PP-AL), para dar governabilidade a Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Apesar da adesão, a sigla articula um bloco paralelo para negociar postos. **Política A4**

## nova economia

### A pegada da inovação

Tecno e iniciativas criam ambientes de negócio eficientes e inclusivos **p.1 a p.6**

**ilustrada C1 a C3**  
Ímã de bilionários, Art Basel Miami faz 20 anos com olho em artistas latinos

**Atirador do ES voltou para casa, guardou armas e almoçou com os pais B2**

**Quando o assunto é carne, todo mundo concorda em um ponto:**

# Friboi

A marca mais lembrada na categoria de carnes do Top of Mind da Folha.

## PAINEL S.A.

### Governo pode desobrigar teles de investir em orelhão

Mercado A12

### Adoção de ônibus elétrico em SP esbarra em custos e receio do setor

Cotidiano B1

## EDITORIAIS A2

**Tuiteiros, volver**  
Em defesa da nomeação de um civil para a Defesa.

**Heresia política**  
Acerca de projeto que propõe alterações na Bíblia.



**Descomunal desfaldo de G. 68.000 millones en programa frutihortícola**

## Dos ex ministros del MAG van a Tacumbú por corrupción

Liberales Enzo Cardozo, del gobierno de Lugo, y Rody Godoy, de Federico Franco, fueron condenados de forma unánime por un Tribunal de Sentencia a 10 y 7 años de cárcel.

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UNA se moviliza en defensa de sus gastos  
**Senado estudia desde hoy el PGN 2023 que privilegia aumentos para estatales**

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**Caacupé.** Arrancó el Novenario de la Virgen y el obispo de Misiones instó a laicos a comprometerse contra la corrupción, el narcotráfico y otros males.

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**SENTI Qatar** **HOY**

12:00 HS EN VIVO  
Países Bajos vs Qatar

16:00 HS EN VIVO  
Irán vs Estados Unidos

WORLD CUP Qatar 2022

Mejor noviembre en años  
**CDE recupera parte de su viejo brillo por turismo de compra**

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Luego del exitoso Odesur  
**Paraguay será sede de Juegos Panamericanos de la Juventud**

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Imputan a varias personas  
**Fiscalía está tras un esquema de apropiación ilegal de bienes**

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AUJOURD'HUI VOTRE  
JOURNAL SE MET  
AUX COULEURS  
DE LA POSTE
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- La chronique de Renaud Girard
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**FIGARO OUI  
FIGARO NON**

 Réponses à la question  
de lundi :  
Football : la France  
est-elle la favorite  
pour remporter  
la Coupe du monde ?

**OUI 40% NON 60%**

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 128 637

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d'Emmanuel Macron  
de créer des RER  
dans les grandes  
métropoles ?

 ILLUSTRATION FABIEN CLAIREFOND ;  
BENJAMIN GEMMEL

# Le gouvernement Borne en zone de turbulences

Démission de Caroline Cayeux, couacs entre ministres, réformes périlleuses... Après l'épreuve du budget, la première ministre fait face à de nouveaux défis politiques.

Élisabeth Borne a planté lundi un chêne vert dans les jardins de l'hôtel Matignon. Un moment paisible et rare pour celle qui dirige Matignon depuis six mois et avait, vendredi,

dégainé son sixième 49-3 pour s'assurer le vote du budget de la Sécurité sociale. Lundi, sa ministre des Collectivités territoriales, Caroline Cayeux, a démissionné. Elle avait sous-estimé

sa déclaration de patrimoine. Après le budget, Élisabeth Borne va devoir aussi s'approprier des sujets plus régionaux et surtout veiller à ce que ses ministres réapprennent à jouer plus

collectif. Ce week-end, il y avait plutôt des règlements de comptes entre Bruno Le Maire et Olivier Véran, et de la cacophonie entre Clément Beaune et Gabriel Attal. PAGES 4 ET 5


**Politique « zéro Covid » : la colère des Chinois se retourne contre Xi Jinping**

Dans de nombreuses villes, des manifestants ont dénoncé l'implacable stratégie anti-Covid du président chinois, brandissant des feuilles blanches, symbole de la censure, en signe de protestation. PAGE 6

## RER dans les métropoles : grand flou sur le projet de Macron

L'annonce a surpris. Dimanche dernier, le président de la République a fait part de son souhait de développer un réseau de RER au sein de dix grandes métropoles. Plutôt favorables au projet, les élus locaux redoutent en revanche un simple effet d'annonce et s'interrogent sur son financement.

PAGE 2 ET L'ÉDITORIAL

**ÉDITORIAL** par Vincent Trémolet de Villers [vtremolet@lefigaro.fr](mailto:vtremolet@lefigaro.fr)

## Le RER pour tous ?

Et soudain, le RER ! Comme ça, un dimanche après-midi, sur YouTube, en bras de chemise, avant de s'envoler pour New York, le chef de l'État a tenu à annoncer une décision d'ampleur pour « l'écologie du quotidien ». Huit ans après les cars Macron, qui devaient remplacer des lignes ferroviaires considérées comme obsolètes, voici le temps des RER Macron, qui doivent désengorger des centres-villes embouteillés. Le ministre des Transports a évoqué de « grands projets qui font rêver ». Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet vivait

des « moments de grâce » dans le métro, Clément Beaune pense que la France entière rêve de lignes A, B, C, D, E ! L'alphabet de l'usager, fait de retards, de saleté, d'incivilités, quand ce n'est pas de délinquance (le tout pour un prix qui augmente), est plus proche du cauchemar éveillé. Le RER est une mobilité éprouvante. Le prendre en référence témoigne d'une méconnaissance profonde de la chose. Il suffit d'avoir été brinquebalé quotidiennement sur ces lignes, d'avoir arpenté ces couloirs interminables, monté et descendu ces sombres escaliers pour

savoir que ce transport en commun est une contrainte subie, certainement pas un lieu désiré. Hormis les professionnels du BTP, qui voient là un chantier pour quinze ans, on ne sait pas qui, en France, le RER fait rêver.

**Situation critique et projets mirobolants**

Le projet est d'autant plus déroutant que cela fait des années que la SNCF, par souci de rentabilité, ferme des gares, abandonne des petites lignes, supprime des trains. Ne serait-il pas plus judicieux, plus

économique, de maintenir, de renforcer, de développer ce qui existe ? De combattre la métropolisation par le réveil des villes moyennes ? On l'a compris, cette annonce du dimanche soir brouille un peu plus un cap politique déjà indiscernable. À une situation critique pour les transports publics, on répond par des projets mirobolants pour la décennie qui vient. À Élisabeth Borne les coupures d'électricité du mois de janvier, au président les grands travaux de dans longtemps. Faute de conducteur et de destination, le train des réformes urgentes reste pour le moment en gare. ■

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## Sunak warning over China as Xi continues crackdown on protest

Beijing poses a 'systemic challenge to our values and interests', says PM

**Aubrey Allegretti**  
Political correspondent

Rishi Sunak has signalled the end of the "golden era" of relations between Britain and China, using his first major foreign policy speech to warn of the creeping authoritarianism of Xi Jinping's regime.

As police in China launched a show of force in an attempt to contain the highest levels of civil disobedience seen in decades, the prime minister threw his support behind protesters by condemning Beijing's crackdown, as well as the assault on a BBC journalist.

Sunak suggested a hardening of diplomatic relations and called China a "systemic challenge to our values and interests", while also confirming the UK's defence and security strategy for the next decade, known as the "integrated review", would be updated in the new year.

However, he stopped short of calling China a threat, admitting western countries could not ignore its influence over world affairs and ability to help with shared challenges such as economic stability and the climate crisis.

The move marked an abrupt change from his



▲ Rishi Sunak in Downing Street yesterday, where the prime minister switched on the Christmas tree lights PHOTOGRAPH: PETER NICHOLLS/REUTERS

## Online safety bill targets racist and sexist content

**Dan Milmo**  
Global technology editor

Social media platforms that breach pledges to block sexist and racist content face the threat of big fines under government changes to the online safety bill announced last night.

Under the new approach, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter must also give users the option of avoiding content that is harmful but does not constitute a criminal offence. This could include racism, misogyny or the glorification of eating disorders.

Ofcom, the communications

regulator, will have the power to fine companies up to 10% of global turnover for breaches of the act. Facebook's parent, Meta, posted revenues of \$118bn (£99bn) last year.

A harmful communications offence has, however, been dropped from the legislation after criticism from Conservative MPs that it was legislating for "hurt feelings".

Ministers have scrapped the provision on regulating "legal but harmful" material - such as offensive content that does not constitute a criminal offence - and are instead requiring platforms to enforce their

terms and conditions for users. If those terms explicitly prohibit content that falls below the threshold of criminality - such as some forms of abuse - Ofcom will then have the power to ensure the platforms police them adequately.

Under another adjustment to the bill, big tech companies must offer people a way of avoiding harmful content on their platform, even if it is legal, through methods that could include content moderation or warning screens. Examples of such material include those that are abusive, or incite hatred on the

basis of race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sex, gender reassignment or sexual orientation.

However, firms will not be able to take down content or ban a user unless the circumstances for doing so are clearly set out in the terms of service. Users will also have to be offered a right of appeal



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