

## What's News

### Business & Finance

Americans continued to pump money into the U.S. economy in April, with increased retail spending offering the latest sign consumers are driving demand at stores and manufacturers despite high inflation. **A1**

◆ Powell said the Fed's resolve in combating the highest inflation in 40 years shouldn't be questioned, even if it requires pushing up unemployment. **A2**

◆ One of Allianz's U.S. investing divisions pleaded guilty to securities fraud and agreed to pay about \$6 billion in penalties and restitution to investors. **A1**

◆ Musk said his \$44 billion purchase of Twitter can't proceed until the company is clearer about how many of its accounts are fake. **B1**

◆ U.S. stocks rallied, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow climbing 2%, 2.8% and 1.3%, respectively. **B1**

◆ Walmart said sales increased in the most recent quarter but that higher costs ate into profit. **B1**

◆ Directors who control the board of Cerebral agreed on a plan to replace CEO Robertson, sparking leadership tumult at the mental-health startup. **B1**

◆ JPMorgan shareholders objected to a roughly \$50 million retention bonus for Dimon and voted against the bank's compensation plan. **B1**

◆ Gerber owner Nestlé said it would fly extra baby formula into the U.S. **B3**

### World-Wide

◆ Ukrainian soldiers in Mariupol laid down their arms at the steel plant that served as their final redoubt, ending months of bloody battle for the port city that has become a symbol of Russia's invasion and Ukraine's resistance. **A1, A10-12**

◆ Flight data indicate someone in the cockpit intentionally crashed a China Eastern jet earlier this year, according to people familiar with U.S. officials' preliminary assessment of what led to the accident. **A1**

◆ Democratic voters in Pennsylvania chose Lt. Gov. Fetterman to be their party's nominee for an open U.S. Senate seat. In North Carolina, Trump-backed Republican Rep. Budd won his party's Senate primary, while Rep. Cawthorn lost his race. **A4**

◆ The Justice Department is seeking transcripts of interviews conducted by the Jan. 6 panel, people familiar with the matter said. **A4**

◆ U.S. health regulators cleared for use a booster shot of the Covid-19 vaccine from Pfizer and BioNTech for children ages 5 to 11. **A3**

◆ The Justice Department sued casino mogul Steve Wynn to force him to register as a lobbyist in connection with his 2017 efforts to obtain a diplomatic favor sought by Chinese authorities. **A2**

◆ Hezbollah and its allies lost their parliamentary majority in Lebanon's first election since the 2020 Beirut port explosion. **A13**

### JOURNAL REPORT

The New Workplace: How to manage in a hybrid world. **R1-B**

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## Biden Calls Racism 'Poison' in Visit to Scene of Attack



PAYING RESPECTS: President Biden and first lady Jill Biden visit a memorial outside the supermarket in Buffalo, N.Y., where a gunman killed 10 people on Saturday. The shooter's diary shows his descent into racist extremism. **A6**

## Germany Races to Replace Russian Energy

By BOJAN PANCEVSKI

WILHELMSHAVERN, Germany—Days after taking office as Germany's vice chancellor and economy minister in December, Robert Habeck asked his most senior officials for a detailed assessment of his country's dependence on Russian energy. The result shocked him.

The country heavily relied on Russian hydrocarbons to power vehicles and factories and heat homes, and there was no contingency plan to secure other supplies, Mr. Habeck said. The government had no viable alternative to Russian imports.

Mr. Habeck had come to power after campaigning to curb Germany's ties with President Vladimir Putin's regime, which he said were untenable as Russia became increasingly autocratic and belligerent toward Ukraine and the West. Only after taking office, he said, did he realize the hugeness of the task.

"I thought to myself 'the situation,'" Mr. Habeck said in an interview. "I can't possibly take responsibility for perpetuating this total, terrible helplessness."

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◆ Washington floats tariff on Russian oil. **A12**

## Last Holdouts Surrender In Long Mariupol Siege

KYIV, Ukraine—Soldiers defending the Ukrainian city of Mariupol laid down their arms at the sprawling steel plant that served for weeks as their final redoubt, ending months

By Vivian Salama, Matthew Luxmoore and James Marson

of bloody battle for the industrial port that has become a symbol of Russia's invasion and Ukraine's resistance.

More than 260 soldiers were taken to Russian-con-

trolled territory on Tuesday morning after Ukraine declared the end of combat operations in Mariupol. Video footage released by Russia's Defense Ministry appeared to show the men being patted down and escorted to waiting buses. Some were on stretchers, some wrapped in bloodied bandages, and many were gaunt after weeks of surviving on minimal rations.

Hundreds more fighters are awaiting an evacuation that would make them prisoners of war, Ukrainian officials said

they are hopeful that the surrendered troops will return home as part of a prisoner exchange with Russia; officials in Moscow haven't publicly agreed to such an exchange.

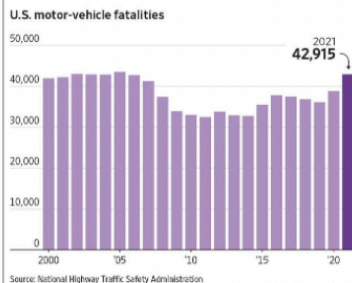
Completing the capture of Mariupol is a long-sought victory for Russia, which has

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- ◆ Soldiers' families pray for safe return. **A10**
- ◆ Sweden, Finland set to apply jointly to join NATO. **A11**
- ◆ Moqiu's SPACs avoid U.S. trading freeze. **A12**

## Traffic Deaths at 16-Year High

U.S. traffic fatalities increased 11% in 2021 from the prior year to the highest number since 2005, as road travel increased. **A4**



## Black Box Indicates Deliberate Nosedive In China Plane Crash

By ANDREW TANGEL AND MICAH MAIDENBERG

Flight data indicate someone in the cockpit intentionally crashed a China Eastern jet earlier this year, according to people familiar with U.S. officials' preliminary assessment of what led to the accident.

The Boeing 737-800 was cruising at high altitude when it suddenly pitched into a near-vertical descent, plummeting into a mountain at extreme speed and killing all 132 passengers and crew. Data from a

## Retail Sales Climb Despite Inflation

Spending rose for the fourth straight month in April as shoppers remained resilient

By HARRIET TORRY

Americans continued to pump money into the U.S. economy in April, with increased retail spending offering the latest sign consumers are driving demand at stores and manufacturers despite the pinch from high inflation.

Retail sales—a measure of spending at stores, online and in restaurants—rose a seasonally adjusted 0.9% last month compared with March, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. That marked the fourth straight month of higher retail spending.

Consumers spent more at restaurants and bars and boosted expenditures on vehicles, furniture, clothing and electronics in April. They cut spending sharply on gasoline even as pump prices pulled back briefly from a run-up related to the war in Ukraine. Retail sales aren't adjusted for inflation. That means that while consumers have continued to spend more, they are getting less due to rapidly rising prices.

"Today's numbers suggest that domestic demand momentum is very robust," said ING economist James Knightley. That gives the Federal Reserve

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- ◆ Higher costs eat into Walmart's profit. **B1**
- ◆ Home Depot raises its outlook for the year. **B2**
- ◆ Heard on the Street: Spending pace almost too healthy... **B12**

## Allianz Unit Admits Defrauding Investors

One of Allianz SE's U.S. investing divisions pleaded guilty to securities fraud Tuesday and agreed to pay about \$6 billion in penalties and restitution to investors who suffered losses when some of the subsidiary's hedge funds tanked during the March 2020 market sell-off.

By James Fanelli, Justin Baer and Julie Steinberg

Allianz Global Investors U.S. admitted that it lacked internal controls and oversight for a series of private-investment funds and made false and misleading statements to investors, according to a plea agreement with the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan. The U.S. subsidiary also settled civil-fraud claims brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The \$6 billion will resolve the government's criminal and civil claims as well as those

from defrauded investors. The agreement is among the largest criminal resolutions between a financial institution and the Justice Department in recent years.

The settlements draw a line under one of the biggest early casualties of the market meltdown sparked by the Covid-19 pandemic. Investors, including pensions that managed the retirement plans of Arkansas teachers, Milwaukee city employees and New York City subway workers, lost billions of dollars on the funds.

Allianz in a statement pointed to Justice Department findings that the criminal misconduct was limited to a handful of people no longer at the company. It said the Justice Department's investigation didn't find misconduct in other parts of Allianz.

Three former employees of Allianz Global Investors were

## 'Stonehenge Of America' Still Perplexes

Granite slabs in Georgia pasture attract attention

By CAMERON McWHIRTER

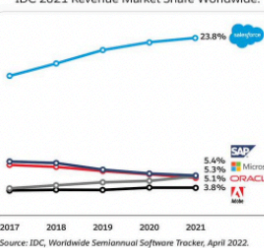
ELBERTON, Ga.—A longshot Georgia gubernatorial candidate says one of her goals if elected is to demolish a mysterious 19-foot-three-inch high granite structure set in a remote cow pasture.

Her publicly announced pledge to "destroy the Georgia Guidestones" is the latest bout of wearying publicity for Elbert County and a roadside attraction the local Chamber of Commerce generously dubs "the Stonehenge of America."

Set on a low hill about 7 miles outside of this town of 4,300, the cluster of monoliths

## Salesforce. #1 CRM.

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



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