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Upper Midwest: Strong thunderstorms, mainly north, destructive winds, hail and flash flooding possible. Warmer south. Highs upper 70s to 90s. Weather map is on Page B8.

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Ukraine Allies Ponder Options As Cities Falter

Russia's Gains in East Raise Big Questions

By THOMAS GIBBONS-NEFF and MATINA STEVIS-GRIDNEFF

LYSYCHANSK, Ukraine — With Russia about to encircle Sievierodonetsk, a city critical to its goal of seizing Ukraine's east, and with a neighboring city squarely in Moscow's sights, the question of how realities on the ground will shape the next phase of the war became still more pressing Sunday for Ukraine's Western allies.

"The Russians are making every effort to cut off Sievierodonetsk," the regional governor, Serhiy Haidai, said Sunday on Telegram, the messaging app. "The next two or three days will be significant."

Across the river, Ukrainians trying to hold fast against the Russians in Lysychansk had the advantage of good terrain — but dwindling weaponry to defend it with.

"If there is no help with military equipment, of course they will drive us out," said Oleksandr Veronenko, 46, a military police officer stationed in Lysychansk. "Because every day the equipment is destroyed. You have to replace it with something new."

Ukrainian officials have been imploring NATO allies for faster delivery of longer-range weapons, and the urgently needed replenishment of still more basic supplies, including ammunition.

But with the momentum of the war shifting more decisively in Russia's favor, Ukraine's allies, their economies threatened and their resolve tested, may soon find themselves forced to confront far more fundamental questions than what sort of weapons to provide, including whether to put pressure on Ukraine to reach a peace agreement with Russia or risk Russian escalation with more aggressive military support.

"There was always a sense that, when the center of gravity shifted to the south and east, there would be the potential for greater Russian gains based on greater mass and their existing territorial acquisitions," said Ian Lesser, a former American official who heads the Brussels office of the German Marshall Fund.

"But it does raise more serious longer-term questions about the nature of the conflict, Ukraine's aims and Western aims in relation to those," he said.

As Ukrainians wait, they are suffering horrific losses in the Donbas region, where the fight for Sievierodonetsk is playing out. By Ukraine's own assessment, it is losing between 100 and 200 people a day as the bloodshed there worsens, in part because of Russian material superiority and in part because of Ukraine's determination to fight on despite the increasingly bleak picture in the east.

Those Western supplies that have made it through to the front

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TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Families in the eastern city of Lysychansk, Ukraine, waiting to be evacuated on Sunday amid bombing by Russian forces.

SENATORS AGREE ON FRAMEWORK FOR GUN SAFETY

RARE BIPARTISAN DEAL

Narrow Set of Measures Secures the Backing of 10 Republicans

By EMILY COCHRANE and ANNIE KARNI

WASHINGTON — Senate negotiators announced on Sunday that they had struck a bipartisan deal on a narrow set of gun safety measures with sufficient support to move through the evenly divided chamber, a significant step toward ending a yearslong congressional impasse on the issue.

The agreement, put forth by 10 Republicans and 10 Democrats and endorsed by President Biden and top Democrats, includes enhanced background checks to give authorities time to check the juvenile and mental health records of any prospective gun buyer under the age of 21 and a provision that would, for the first time, extend to dating partners a prohibition on domestic abusers having guns.

It would also provide funding for states to enact so-called red-flag laws that allow authorities to temporarily confiscate guns from people deemed to be dangerous, as well as money for mental health resources and to bolster safety and mental health services at schools.

The outline has yet to be finalized and still faces a perilous path in Congress, given the deep partisan divide on gun measures and the political stakes of the issue. It falls far short of the sweeping reforms that Mr. Biden, gun control activists and a majority of Democrats have long championed, such as a ban on assault weapons and universal background checks. And it is nowhere near as sweeping as a package of gun measures passed almost along party lines in the House last week, which would bar the sale of semiautomatic weapons to people under the age of 21, ban the sale of large-capacity magazines and enact a federal red-flag law, among other steps.

But it amounts to notable progress to begin bridging the considerable gulf between the two political parties on how to address gun violence, which has resulted in a string of failed legislative efforts on Capitol Hill, where Republican opposition has thwarted action for years.

Democrats hailed the plan, which would also toughen federal laws to stop gun trafficking and ensure that all commercial sellers are doing background checks, as an opportunity to pass the most significant gun safety legislation in decades.

"Today, we are announcing a common-sense, bipartisan proposal to protect America's children, keep our schools safe and re-

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Pregnant in Poland, Where Abortion Is Banned

A Woman's Well-Being Can Be Sacrificed for Her Fetus's Health

By KATRIN BENNHOLD and MONIKA PRONCZUK

PSZCZYNA, Poland — It was shortly before 11 p.m. when Izabela Sajbor realized the doctors were prepared to let her die.

Her doctor had already told her that her fetus had severe abnormalities and would almost certainly die in the womb. If it made it to term, life expectancy was a year, at most. At 22 weeks pregnant, Ms. Sajbor had been admitted to a hospital after her water broke prematurely.

She knew that there was a short window to induce birth or surgically remove the fetus to avert infection and potentially fatal sepsis. But even as she developed a fever, vomited and convulsed on the floor, it seemed to be the baby's heartbeat that the doctors were most concerned about.

"My life is in danger," she wrote in a string of distressed text messages to her mother and husband that was shared with The New York Times by her family's lawyer.

"They cannot help as long as the fetus is alive thanks to the anti-abortion law," she wrote only hours before she died. "A woman is like an incubator."

Abortion has seized the United States' attention anew with the prospect that, as early as this month, the Supreme Court could overturn Roe v. Wade, the decision that has made the procedure terminating a pregnancy legal for nearly 50 years. If Roe is overturned, half of American women may lose legal access to abortion.

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ANNA LIBMONOKZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Barbara Skrobol with her niece. The girl's mother, Izabela Sajbor, died at 22 weeks pregnant.

Behind Attack In California, Rift in Taiwan

This article is by Amy Qin, Jill Cowan, Shawn Hubler and Amy Chang Chien.

David Chou and Pastor Billy Chang spent their whole lives forging parallel paths. They were born in early 1950s Taiwan, grew up just miles apart during martial law and later rebuilt their lives in the United States.

But over several decades, they carried with them vastly different memories — and views — of the island of their birth.

Mr. Chou was the son of parents who fled mainland China following the 1949 Communist revolution, part of a mass exodus of Chinese who established an authoritarian government-in-exile in Taiwan. Though he was born on the island, he and his parents were "mainlanders" devoted to the Chinese motherland and saw Taiwan as forever part of China.

Pastor Chang's relatives were local Taiwanese who had spent centuries on the island. At home, he spoke Taiwanese Hokkien, a language that for decades was banned in public spaces. Pastor Chang grew to believe that despite Beijing's longstanding claims, the self-ruled island had its own identity, separate from China.

In May, the lives of the two men collided in a quiet retirement community in Southern California. Authorities say that Mr. Chou, 68 — armed with two guns, four Molotov cocktails and a deep-seated

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Brazil Leader Enlists Military as Election Skeptic

Many Fear He's Setting Stage for Coup

By JACK NICAS

RIO DE JANEIRO — President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil has for months consistently trailed in the polls ahead of the country's crucial presidential race. And for months, he has consistently questioned its voting systems, warning that if he loses October's election, it will most likely be thanks to a stolen vote.

These claims were largely regarded as talk. But now, Mr. Bolsonaro has enlisted a new ally in his fight against the electoral process: the nation's military.

The leaders of Brazil's armed forces have suddenly began raising similar doubts about the integrity of the elections, despite little evidence of past fraud, ratcheting up already high tensions over the stability of Latin America's largest democracy and rattling a nation that suffered under a military dictatorship from 1964 to 1985.

Military leaders have identified for election officials what they say are a number of vulnerabilities in the voting systems. They were given a spot on a transparency

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A Retired Architect, and a Tower Using His Seal

Firm Kept Listing Him on Design Plans

By MATTHEW HAAG

Amid the glittering geometric towers that dot the Manhattan skyline, the hotel on 11th Avenue in Hudson Yards was designed to stand out. At 642 feet tall, the building soars above the Hudson River, featuring jagged sets of floor-to-ceiling windows that shimmer in the sun.

To all outward appearances, Warren L. Schiffman, who is in his mid-80s and retired, was the architect of record on the project. His professional seal and signature were stamped on its design and those of two other large-scale projects in New York City, a hotel near La Guardia Airport and dual high-rise residences in Queens. All share the same developer, Mars Development Group.

But Mr. Schiffman said he had no active role in those projects, a statement that raises questions about whether the buildings were approved for construction without the oversight and involvement of a registered architect — a requirement in New York State to ensure that buildings are properly de-

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The Washington Post

Weather may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington. MD V1 V2 V3 V4

A morning shower 90/75 • Tomorrow: T-storms, breezy 85/72 B8 Democracy Dies in Darkness MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022 • $2

RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

Zoe Touray, who survived the Oxford High School shooting in suburban Detroit in November, is interviewed before the start of the March for Our Lives rally Saturday in Washington. She is one of more than 115,000 children who survived school shootings in the past four years.

Survivors feeling hope and fear

A March for Our Lives veteran and a newcomer seek elusive change at rally

By JOHN WOODROW COX

The children who did not die are young adults now, and on a Wednesday morning in Washington, they gathered just before 9 inside a hotel conference room on Capitol Hill. The school shooting survivors had come from all over the country, each of them hoping that this time would be different.

"Are you Zoe?" Alexa Browning asked Zoe Touray, who was standing alone by the door, nervously fiddling with a cellphone wrapped in a Mickey Mouse case.

"Yes," the 18-year-old answered, smiling and extending her hand. This was her first trip away from home without an adult. She'd just graduated from Michigan's Oxford High, where four students were killed in November, including one of Touray's closest friends. She'd gone to funeral after funeral, staring into open caskets at swollen faces that looked nothing like the kids she knew.

Browning opened a black folder and removed a packet of documents that on one side read, "MARCH FOR OUR LIVES," and on the other, "IT ENDS WITH US."

But none of the people being handed the packets knew whether that was true. Many of them had been here before.

In 2018, survivors of the rampage at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High in Parkland, Fla., had organized a demonstration that drew tens of thousands of protesters to D.C. One teen after another took to the stage in front of the U.S. Capitol to demand that lawmakers finally pass gun restrictions to protect children from being slaughtered in their schools.

Among the most memorable to appear was Sam Fuentes, then a senior at Douglas who a month

SEE SURVIVORS ON A6

Guns bill finds common ground

SENATE GROUP REACHES BIPARTISAN DEAL

Mental health, school security investments included

By MIKE DEBONIS and LEIGH ANN CALDWELL

A bipartisan group of senators announced Sunday that it had reached a tentative agreement on legislation that would pair modest new gun restrictions with significant new mental health and school security investments — a deal that could put Congress on a path to enacting the most significant national response in decades to acts of mass gun violence.

Twenty senators — 10 Democrats and 10 Republicans — signed a statement announcing the framework deal. The move indicated that the agreement could have enough GOP support to defeat a filibuster, the Senate supermajority rule that has impeded previous gun legislation.

"Families are scared, and it is our duty to come together and get something done that will help restore their sense of safety and security in their communities," the statement read in part. "Most importantly, our plan saves lives while also protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding Americans."

Under the tentative deal, a federal grant program would encourage states to implement red-flag laws that allow authorities to keep guns away from people found by a judge to represent a potential threat to themselves or others, while federal criminal background checks for gun buyers younger than 21 would include a mandatory search of juvenile justice and mental health records for the first time.

Other provisions would prevent gun sales to a broader group

SEE GUNS ON A16

Silicon Valley job cuts add to recession worries

By GERRIT DE VYNCK and RACHEL LERMAN

After a decade of exuberance, Silicon Valley start-ups, venture capitalists and established tech companies alike are cutting investment and firing workers, prompting some in the tech world to openly predict a U.S. recession is on the way.

Facebook and Amazon have slowed their frantic hiring paces, while highflying newer companies including scooter company Bird and email client Superhuman have laid off workers. Tesla chief executive Elon Musk recently told employees he has a "super bad feeling" about the economy, and venture capital firm Lightspeed Venture Partners warned in a blog post that "the boom times of the last decade are unambiguously over."

On Thursday, fashion tech company Stitch Fix said it was cutting about 15 percent of salaried positions, or a total of 350 roles, sending its stock price sinking. The people losing their jobs

SEE LAYOFFS ON A20

U.S. authorities confront a monkeypox dilemma

Officials try to warn gay men about risk without fueling hate

By FENIT NIRAPPIL

Monkeypox had arrived in Salt Lake County, with two men testing positive after returning from Europe, the epicenter of a global outbreak concentrated in gay and bisexual men.

Officials there faced a dilemma. They wanted to warn men who have sex with men that they were at higher risk for exposure to the virus. But they feared unintended consequences: heterosexual people assuming they're not susceptible, closeted men in a heavily Mormon community avoiding care so they're not seen as gay, and critics exploiting the infections to sow bigotry.

It's not just Utah officials who are struggling to find the right message. As the United States confronts its largest-ever monkeypox outbreak, with nearly 50 probable cases, public health authorities navigate a delicate but familiar balancing act. In the 17 U.S. cases in which the sexual behavior of the patient is known, all but one involve men who have sex with men, mirroring trends in Europe. It's something never recognized before in outbreaks of the virus.

In Salt Lake County, health officials consulted with advocacy groups and decided to get the

SEE MONKEYPOX ON A4

Second round for Smalls vs. Amazon

In fight to unionize another warehouse, ex-employee's unlikely movement grapples with fame, a demoralized workforce and a $1 trillion behemoth

By GREG JAFFE

NEW YORK — As soon as Chris Smalls ended one call, his phone buzzed again. It had been that way for three days, ever since the 33-year-old and his team had won a vote to unionize an Amazon warehouse, a first in the company's history.

"I don't have an assistant. It's just me," he was telling a television producer whose name and show he would quickly forget. "Send me another text tomorrow, and I'll call from wherever I'm at."

The Amazon Labor Union's win in early April — at the same 8,300-person facility on Staten Island where Smalls had been fired — defied almost every rule of organizing. With virtually no money, experience or help from big unions, Smalls and his team had convinced a building full of disaffected workers that they could fight for themselves and win.

Now Smalls, with his "Eat the Rich" sweatsuits, sunglasses and gold chains, was being touted as the leader of a new kind of worker-led uprising, one that could reinvigorate a shrinking labor movement. He also faced tough questions: Could the unruly, often-chaotic movement that he had helped to spark spread to other Amazon warehouses? A vote at a second Staten Island facility was

SEE SMALLS ON A17

CALLA KESSLER FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Chris Smalls, president of the Amazon Labor Union, has been touted as the leader of a new kind of worker-led uprising that could revitalize the labor movement.

A grim occupation in isolated Kherson

By ISABELLE KHURSHUDYAN and DAVID L. STERN

KYIV, UKRAINE — More than three months of occupation by Russian soldiers has left much of Ukraine's southern Kherson region isolated, without access to basic medicines and cut off from Ukrainian cellphone and internet service.

The Russian tricolor flag is displayed at most of the main government buildings. There are whispers of a coming referendum that would formally make Kherson part of Russia, at least in the Kremlin's eyes. The armed occupying forces patrol the streets, while the blasts of artillery shells crashing in the distance can be heard daily — signs of the ongoing fight between the Russian and Ukrainian militaries for control of the area.

Interviews by The Washington Post with people who live in Kher-

SEE UKRAINE ON A12

Jan. 6 committee hearings resume

The House committee investigating the Capitol attack holds its next hearing Monday. Watch live and read updates throughout beginning at 9:30 a.m. on washingtonpost.com