

Culture War, With Bombs And Missiles

Ukraine Identity and Heritage Are at Risk

KYIV, Ukraine — At the thousand-year-old Cathedral of St. Sophia here, standing on its case in front of a towering Baroque golden altar, is a new, freshly painted icon that's just a foot square. It depicts a 17th-century Cossack military commander with a long gray beard. His eyebrows are arched. His halo is a plain red circle. He looks humble beneath the immense mosaics that have glimmed since the 11th century — through Kyiv's sacking by the Mongols, its absorption into Poland, its domination by the Soviet Union.

No gold. No gemstones. This icon has been painted on three planks of knotty wood: the planks, I learn, of an ammunition box recovered from the devastated Kyiv suburb of Bucha. Out of Bucha's mass graves, in the wake of terrifying Russian atrocities against civilians, something new has come to St. Sophia: an image of mourning and resolve, of horror and courage, of a culture that will not give up.

Why would a critic go into a museum to see the devastation of Kyiv suburb of Bucha. Out of Bucha's mass graves, in the wake of terrifying Russian atrocities against civilians, something new has come to St. Sophia: an image of mourning and resolve, of horror and courage, of a culture that will not give up.



A new icon in the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv depicts a 17th-century Cossack commander.



The battered Central House of Culture in Irpin, a Kyiv suburb. Every war imparts cultural heritage.



A performance at Closer, one of the clubs that made Kyiv a nightlife capital before the war's curfews.

Ukraine's Army Pays Heavy Toll For Small Wins

By CARLOTTA GALL DONETSK PROVINCE, Ukraine — Red flames crackled in the golden wheat field, the target of Russian artillery just minutes earlier. Nearby, the commander of a Ukrainian frontline unit was finishing his lunch of pasta from a tin bowl. As more incoming shells exploded in the fields, his men took cover in their bunkers.

Ukrainian soldiers serving there say they live under almost constant Russian artillery and aerial bombardment. The fields, and hedgerows, are their front lines. Their days and nights are interspersed with the sharp bangs of outgoing Ukrainian artillery and the deeper, rumbling bursts of incoming Russian shells.

When Miscarriages Collide With Abortion Law

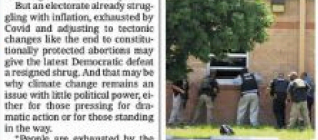
By PAM BELLUCK Last year, a 35-year-old woman named Amanda, who lives in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, had a miscarriage in the first trimester of her pregnancy. At a large hospital, a doctor performed a surgical procedure often used as a safe and quick method to remove tissue from a failed pregnancy.

Climate Crisis Fades as Worry For U.S. Voters Inflation and Pandemic Sap Energy to Fight

BLAME IS SPREAD TO MORE AGENCIES IN UVALDE ATTACK

TEXAS PANEL'S REPORT 'Egregious' Decisions and a Lack of Leadership Delayed Action

By JONATHAN WEISSMAN and JAZMINE ULLMAN Summers in Maricopa County, Ariz., have become at times unbearable, Kyle Hawkins said on Friday. Smog and haze hung heavily over Phoenix, and residents were bracing for fire season, when the heat and air pollution would only grow worse.



Nearly 400 officers responded to Robb Elementary School.

But the report found that a flawless police response would not have saved most of the victims who suffered devastating injuries when they were shot with a high-powered AR-15-style rifle by a gunman who had been waiting for his 18th birthday to purchase the

Bannon faces long odds at short trial

Judge limits former Trump adviser's contempt defenses

BY DEVLIN BARRETT AND SPENCER S. HSU

Former Trump adviser and right wing podcaster Stephen K. Bannon promised the contempt of Congress charges against him would become a "misdemeanor from hell" for the Biden administration, but after judicial rulings against his proposed defense, his lawyer David Schoen asked U.S. District Judge Carl J. Nichols, "what's the point of going to trial if there are no defenses?"

At a recent hearing that left Bannon's legal strategy in tatters, his lawyer David Schoen asked U.S. District Judge Carl J. Nichols, "what's the point of going to trial if there are no defenses?"

California's new gold rush

Firms seeking to reopen mines and explore again are resisted by environmentalists

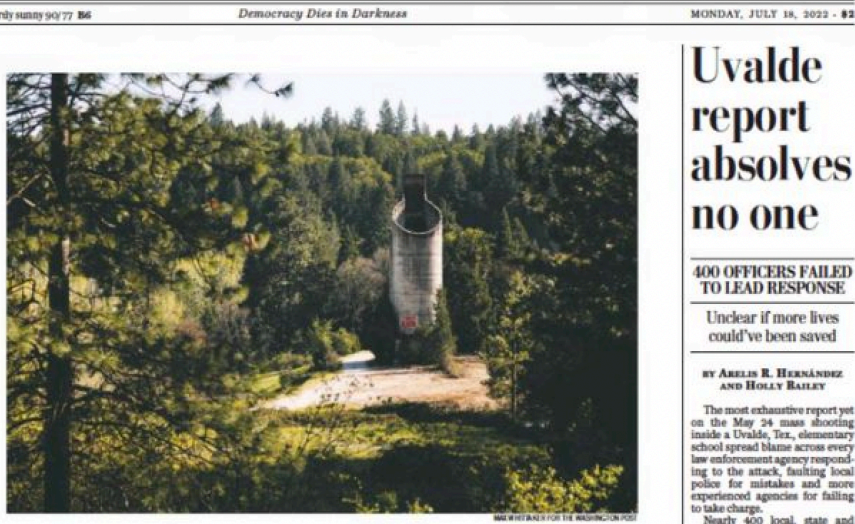
BY SCOTT WILSON IN GRASS VALLEY, CALIF.

Where the Sacramento Valley steepens into the Sierra Nevada, Susan Love found a home with big windows and rather than face long odds at a short trial, said Randall Eliaison, a George Washington University law professor and former federal prosecutor.

In Somalia, the deadly power of a resurgent al-Shabab

BY SUDBARAN RAGHAVAN IN MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

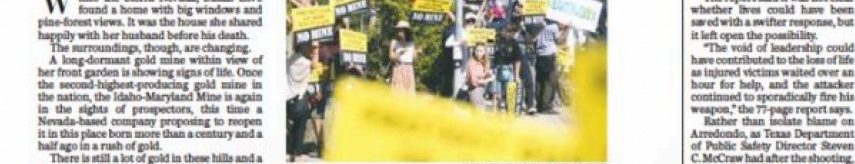
In the predawn hours, the militants of al-Shabab attacked the peacekeepers' base from every direction with lethal precision. Suicide bombers detonated three cars filled with explosives. Bombers then pounded the facility with heavy gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades, killing several dozen African Union peacekeepers from Burundi.



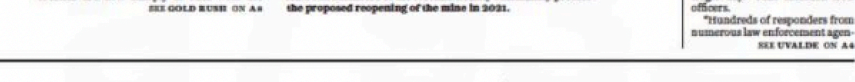
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Covid vaccines for kids are hard to find in Fla.

Many parents blame DeSantis for refusing to proffer, distribute them

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — When coronavirus vaccines for infants and young children were authorized for the first time last month, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis warned parents against the "baby jabs," saying regulators had done insufficient testing and trials.

Florida parents say it hasn't