



Ukrainian soldiers waited to form a military column to advance toward eastern Ukraine from a base south of Kyiv on Sunday.

Activists Push To Get Fetuses Person Status

By KATE ZERNIK
 Even as roughly half the states have moved to enact near-total bans on abortion since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in June, anti-abortion activists are pushing for a long-held and more absolute goal: laws that grant fetuses the same legal rights and protections as any person.

So-called fetal personhood laws would make abortion murder, ruling out all or most of the exceptions for abortion allowed in states that already ban it. So long as Roe established a constitutional right to abortion, such laws remained symbolic in the few states that managed to pass them. Now they are starting to have practical effects, and Georgia, a fetus personhood state, has already passed a law that grants fetuses the same legal rights and protections as any person.

The laws also open up questions well beyond abortion, about immigration and who is entitled to public benefits.

They have the potential to criminalize common health care procedures and limit the rights of a pregnant woman in making health care decisions.

The U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning the regulation of abortion in the states has opened new interest in the laws, and a new legal path for them.

In Indiana, where this month the Republican-controlled legislature banned abortions starting at conception — one of the strictest laws in the nation — some conservative lawmakers objected that the law included exceptions for rape and incest. "This bill justifies the wicked, those murdering the unborn human being," one lawmaker said, pushing instead for a fetal personhood law with no exceptions.

Continued on Page A17

Mayor at Night: Private Table, Tarnished Friends

By SARAH MASLIN NICH and JAZMINE HUGHES
 Before he took office, Eric Adams won the support of New York City's nightclubs as both the mayor and a very active participant, visiting venues from Staten Island to Queens, showing up personally to restore the vibrancy of an industry crushed by Covid.

Mr. Adams has indeed become a fixture out after dark, visiting destinations around the city. But a curious and unmistakable pattern has also emerged: Again and again he returns to the same upscale Manhattan restaurant.

There, he slips behind a frosted glass partition to a private table where he holds court, while the restaurant stays open until he leaves — sometimes well after its official closing time.

The restaurant, Osteria La Basa, is run by Mr. Adams's close friends, Robert and Zhan Petrovsky — twin brothers whose business Mr. Adams has supported despite the brothers' past felony convictions, outstanding tax debts and a trail of legal troubles.

In June alone, Mr. Adams visited La Basa on at least 14 occasions, according to New York Times reporters who observed his nighttime outings — of which there were at least 22 that month. At La Basa, where entrees range in price from about \$30 to over \$60, Times reporters never observed him paying for his meals. In response to questions from The Times, a spokesman said the mayor personally pays the bill to the restaurant monthly. But the spokesman declined to provide receipts, and the restaurant's operator did not respond to emails seeking any documents that would support the mayor's claim.

The mayor has failed to pay for his meals, he could have violated the city's ethics rules, watchdogs said. Public servants are explicitly barred from accepting gifts that would support the mayor's claim.

Continued on Page A15

A Father Is Flagged for Photos Sent to a Doctor

By KASHMIR HILL
 Mark noticed something amiss with his toddler. His son's penis looked swollen and was hurting him. Mark, a stay-at-home dad in San Francisco, grabbed his Android smartphone and took photos of the doctor could review them in advance.

Continued on Page A17

Pro-War Russian Pundit Is Killed in Car Bombing

In State News, Clash of Civilizations
 Strike Near Moscow Puts Elite on Edge

By NEIL MACFARQUHAR
 "Vitali Nediin," the flagship weekly roundup of Kremlin-controlled television news, recently portrayed a long history of pro-Russian Western powers coming to grief when they invaded Russia: Sweden in the 18th century, France in the 19th, Germany in the 20th.

Russian state television described the car bombing, which occurred on a Saturday evening on a highway and shattered the windows of nearby houses in an affluent Moscow suburb, as a "terrorist act" and a "denazist" target had been Mr. Dugin. It ended up killing his daughter instead because he had taken a different car at the last minute, according to Russian news reports.

There was no evidence that the attack was connected to the war in Ukraine, but the operatives of Mr. Dugin quickly claimed that Ukraine was behind it. The Kremlin was silent on the bombing. Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine said his country had played no role in the bombing.

Mr. Dugin is a far-right nationalist, the rare attack on a member of the pro-Kremlin elite — a reminder of the fiery assassinations of Moscow's chaotic 1990s — has the potential to further spread Mr. Putin's efforts to pursue the war in Ukraine while maintaining the status quo in Russia.

It comes in the wake of a number of Ukrainian attacks deep inside the front line in the Russian-controlled peninsula of Crimea, and so many of the war's most ardent cheerleaders have been calling on Mr. Putin to launch a new assault on Ukraine in retaliation.

Continued on Page A6

Stars Return to Fill the Stage, But Gaze at Many Empty Seats

By MICHAEL PULLSON and JAVIER C. HERNANDEZ
 Penn LaPere, Hugh Jackman and Daniel Craig came back to Broadway. The New York City, in-the-making Lisa Davidson brought her penetrating voice to the Metropolitan Opera. Dancers filled stages, symphonies reverberated in concert halls and international theater companies returned to American stages.

The resumption of live performance after the long pandemic shutdown brought joy to cheer about the past year. But many were people sitting in empty seats to join those cheers than preseters had hoped.

Around New York, and across the country, audiences remain well below pre-pandemic levels. Many theaters are struggling to stay afloat, and some have closed their doors. Theaters are struggling to stay afloat, and some have closed their doors.

Continued on Page A14

Colombia's radical line on cocaine: Regulate it

War on drugs still argues decriminalization could wreck market from cartels

By SAMANTHA SCHROEDER and DIANA SVETKEY
 BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA — By the largest producer of cocaine in the world, and the source of more than 50 percent of the drug used in the United States, it's time to regulate it.

Now, Colombia is calling for an end to that war. It wants instead to lead a global experiment: decriminalizing cocaine.

Two weeks after taking office, the country's left government is proposing an end to prohibition and the start of a government-regulated cocaine market. Through legislative and alliance with other government bodies, the new government is pushing to force the United States to accept that the war on drugs has failed.

It's time for a new international conversation that accepts that the war on drugs has failed. The United States has been a major force in the war on drugs, but it's time for a new international conversation that accepts that the war on drugs has failed.

Can mining escape its noxious reputation?

Scouring of metals for batteries in electric cars offers industry a test case

By ERAN HALEPPI
 TAMPA, FLA. — Electric cars are still rare in this country, but the demand for minerals such as lithium, cobalt and nickel is growing. The industry is looking for ways to expand its operations, but it's still seen as a dirty industry.

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South Memphis resident Angela Johnson, on the right, says the fight against industrial pollution "hasn't even started yet."

The south Memphis coal ash mountain

A daily TVA convoy trucks the contaminant through a pollution-burdened Black community

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From a world away, a U.S. volunteer guides Afghan allies left behind

By ANNA HARRINGTON
 WAPOET, N.Y. — Kim Staffert will be leaving soon to head the United States' largest private security firm, but she's still in Afghanistan.

It was a Monday, one of the first days she had spent in the country before the Taliban takeover. She had just arrived in the country before the Taliban takeover.

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ELECTION 2022

Hopefuls avoiding Biden on trail

CAMPAIGN SIDELINE: HIM DESPITE WINS
 Unfamiliar spot for once sought-after surrogate

By MARY VASA
 The Biden on Thursday will not be the Biden on Tuesday. He is not the Biden on Tuesday.

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GOP's possible 2024 candidates go national for the midterms

By JESSICA KNOWLTON
 DES MOINES — Mike Pence made it through the race and he'll be back in the White House.

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