

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

What's News

Business & Finance

- ◆ **The New York Times's** long-running labor dispute with its technology staffers reached a standoff, with a potential Election Day strike threatening to interfere with the newsroom's ability to cover the presidential race. **B1**
- ◆ **Fed officials were** expected to cut interest rates by a quarter percentage point at their meeting Thursday as inflation continues to slow. **A2**
- ◆ **The company that owns** The Vitamin Shoppe and Pet Supplies Plus filed for bankruptcy amid a probe by authorities examining its founder's dealings with a major shareholder. **B9**
- ◆ **Restaurant chain** TGI Fridays filed for bankruptcy protection, citing a problematic capital structure and lingering fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic. **B2**
- ◆ **Warren Buffett's** Berkshire Hathaway sold more Apple stock in the third quarter, but the iPhone maker remained its largest shareholding. **B3**
- ◆ **Sen. Elizabeth Warren** rebuked the Justice Department over its money-laundering settlement with TD Bank, saying executives should have been prosecuted. **B3**
- ◆ **Hong Kong-based** apparel maker Esquel Group will be banned from importing into the U.S. over alleged ties to China-based forced labor, American officials said. **B3**
- ◆ **The Consumer Financial** Protection Bureau is considering taking action against Facebook parent Meta Platforms over its use of financial data from third parties. **B3**

World-Wide

- ◆ **Trump is pinning** his political future on winning the votes of young men, while Harris is doing the same with women voters, particularly moderates and independents. **A1**
- ◆ **The Iowa Poll showed** Harris ahead of Trump by 3 percentage points in the state, a result Republicans rejected as an outlier. **A6**
- ◆ **Members of the Proud Boys**, key instigators in the Jan. 6 riot, are mobilizing in support of Trump and in some cases, making threats about the presidential election. **A5**
- ◆ **Abortion-rights groups** are on track to secure constitutional protections for the procedure in as many as 10 states on Tuesday. **A3**
- ◆ **Amid U.S. warnings** against a counterattack on Israel, Iran plans a complex response involving more powerful warheads and other weapons, Iranian and Arab officials briefed on the plans said. **A8**
- ◆ **U.S. officials said** they were investigating reports that an American citizen had been detained in Iran but declined to identify the individual, citing privacy concerns. **A8**
- ◆ **The Israeli military** said its commandos slipped into Lebanese territory in a nighttime amphibious raid and captured a senior Hezbollah operative whom they took to Israel. **A8**
- ◆ **The U.K.'s opposition** Conservative Party chose Kemi Badenoch, 44 years old, as its new leader, making her the first Black woman to lead a major political party in Britain. **A18**

JOURNAL REPORT

Investing Monthly:
How to invest in commodities. **R1-6**

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Marathoners Take Strides Through New York



CROSSING THAT BRIDGE: Runners on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge during the New York City Marathon on Sunday. For the men, the winner of the 26.2-mile race was Abdi Nageeye of the Netherlands; Sheila Chepkirui of Kenya won the women's.

Dark Pitch Gets Third Airing

Democrats bet that voters are tiring of Trump's message about 'sinister' forces

By MOLLY BALL

WARREN, Mich.—Donald Trump had been speaking for more than an hour and a half when he got to the point. “For the past nine years, we have been fighting against the most sinister and corrupt forces on earth,” the former

president said, as the crowd seated on folding chairs in the cavernous community-college arena murmured its assent. “With your vote in this election, you can show them once and for all that this nation does not belong to them—this nation belongs to you.”

As the GOP presidential nominee and his Democratic opponent, Vice President Kamala Harris, make their final pitches to a divided nation, Trump's essential argument has changed remarkably little over the course of three presi-

dential campaigns: that the system is rigged and foreign invaders threaten the nation. What has changed is the context, as Trump's decadelong dominance of U.S. politics has rearranged the electorate. Now, an election that stands on a knife's edge is poised to settle the central question—whether a discontented country will endorse or reject another installment of his destabilizing vision.

Trump's third and seemingly final campaign is a bet that more voters have warned

to this central argument in this age of distrust and dissatisfaction. The thousands who had come to see him on Friday in this blue-collar Detroit exurb cheered as he railed against elites and foreigners. “We will not be invaded, we will not be occupied, we will not be over-run, we will not be conquered,” he said. “We will be a free, proud nation once again!”

There are signs his argument is resonating. High inflation and chaos at the southern border—both of which the current

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Younger Doctors Balk at Medicine's Workaholic Culture

By TE-PING CHEN

There is a question dividing the medical practice right now: Is being a doctor a job, or a calling?

For decades, the answer was clear. Doctors accepted long hours and punishing schedules, believing it was their duty to sacrifice in the name of patient care. They did it knowing their colleagues prided themselves on doing the same. A newer generation of physicians is questioning that culture, at times to the chagrin of their older peers.

Dr. Jefferson Vaughan, 63 years old, has worked as a surgeon at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter, Fla., for 30 years, and is on call for the

emergency room five to seven nights a month. He said he shares the duty with a handful of surgeons around his age, while younger colleagues who practice more specialized surgery are excused.

“All us old guys are taking ER call, and you got guys in their 30s at home every night,” he said. “It's just a sore spot.”

Nearly half of doctors report feeling some burnout, according to the American Medical Association. Work-life balance and predictable hours shouldn't be at odds with being an M.D., said doctors who are pushing against what they view as outdated expectations of overwork.

Dr. Kara-Grace Leventhal, 40, is a hospitalist, a job that

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INSIDE



INVESTING
Jonathan Clements, a former WSJ columnist who has cancer, offers final financial advice. **R1**



BUSINESS NEWS
Harley-Davidson under fire from motorcycle dealers over low profits and sales. **B1**

Middlemen Inflate Grocery Bills

Food makers complain of flood of obscure charges from distributors

By JESSE NEWMAN

The price of a bag of coconut-cashew granola at Whole Foods jumped last year from \$5.99 to \$6.69. Why that happened defies simple explanation.

The granola maker, Wildway Foods, said the cost of making the cereal hasn't gone up that much, and that it isn't pocketing more profit. It jacked up the price, it said, in large part to offset fees that piled up from a little-known link in the supply chain: grocery distributors. There were charges for processing grocery promotions, others for potential spoilage and still

more related to alleged shipping glitches.

Rising prices, especially in the supermarket, have vexed consumers, drawn scrutiny from regulators and emerged as a central issue in the presidential race. Donald Trump has blamed Kamala Harris and the Biden administration, and Harris has pointed a finger at grocery chains and food companies.

George Milton, who runs a hot sauce business in Austin, Texas, said consumers are frustrated because it isn't clear to them why many food prices are so high. “Is that price gouging or costs going

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Want to Buy Millions Of Butterflies?

Race against time to sell sprawling winged collection

By MICHAEL M. PHILLIPS

NAIROBI—Looking for a good home: 4.2 million butterflies.

Steve Collins started collecting butterflies at age 5 on his family's coffee farm on the flanks of Mount Elgon. He's 74 now, and racing against mortality to find someone worthy of owning what is likely the world's largest collection of African butterflies and moths.

He has spent almost a decade trying to sell his butterflies—which he calculates would require two Boeing 747 cargo planes to transport—only to see possible buyers flit away

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She Spent Years Wooing Costco to Sell Her Snacks

By RUTH SIMON

Florence Dennis courted Costco for more than three years before it agreed to sell her African-inspired snacks. Then came the hard part.

Less than two weeks before the agreed-upon delivery date, Dennis still hadn't secured financing to begin production of her peanut-and-corn mix.

“The good news is that both the boxes and bags arrived this week,” Dennis wrote her Costco buyer, before mentioning that funding challenges had delayed the purchase of ingredients. She hit send and anxiously waited for a reply.

An order from a big retailer is a badge of honor for small businesses like Flows Tasty Treats. But tiny startups must often quickly scale production and secure financing. The hurdles can be particularly high for entrepreneurs of color like Dennis, who runs her business

at night and on weekends and has one employee. And even getting on the shelves doesn't guarantee success.

When a big order arrives, joy is often mixed with distress, said Lakeysha Hallmon, who runs an incubator for Black businesses and a retail store in Atlanta. “It's hard to produce the level of volume to be in a big retailer,” she said.

Dennis's mix was inspired by “zorklaki,” also known as “the poor man's treat” in Ghana. As a schoolgirl, Dennis would buy the snack, wrapped in newspaper, for pennies.

The 41-year-old was born in Liberia, but lived in a refugee camp in Ghana after her parents fled Liberia's civil war. She came to the U.S. at 19 and now works full time for the New York City Department of Education.

Dennis registered her business in 2012, but didn't sell

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