

Israeli forces raid al-Shifa Hospital

White House confirms killing of top Hamas leader earlier this month

BY MIRIAM BERGER, LOUISA LOVELUCK AND HAJAR HARB

JERUSALEM — Israel’s army said Monday it had killed a Hamas official inside Gaza City’s al-Shifa medical complex, an operation that unfolded as experts warned that the northern part of the enclave may already be in the grip of famine.

The White House, meanwhile, confirmed that Marwan Issa, the deputy commander of Hamas’s military wing, was killed in an Israeli strike earlier this month in central Gaza.

The highest-ranking militant commander to be killed in more than five months of war, Issa was believed by Israel to have played a central role in Hamas’s day-to-day military operations and to have helped plan its attack on Oct. 7.

“The rest of the top leaders are in hiding, likely deep in the Hamas tunnel network,” national security adviser Jake Sullivan told reporters Monday. “And justice will come for them, too.”

The news of Issa’s death was overshadowed by the operation at al-Shifa — the latest Israeli attack on hospitals, which the Israel Defense Forces has said are used by Hamas as a cover for military activities. The assaults have damaged or shuttered a number of major medical facilities and, according to humanitarian groups,

SEE ISRAEL ON A13

Hunger crisis: Gaza on the brink of famine, aid groups report. **A10**

White House: Biden summons Israeli officials to Washington. **A11**

The SAT’s slow revival is stressing everyone out

BY HANNAH NATANSON AND SUSAN SVRLUGA

A California mother drove 80 miles this month to find an SAT testing center with an open seat where her high school junior could take the exam. During college tours this spring, a teen recalled hearing some would-be applicants groan when admissions staffers announced they could not guarantee test-optional policies would continue.

And across the country, college counselors are fielding questions from teenagers alarmed, encouraged or simply confused by what seems like the return of the standardized test in admissions — maybe? Sort of? In some places, but not in others?

“You could be expecting and preparing for a certain way to apply to a college and present yourself — but then they change it mid-application process,” said Kai Talbert, a 17-year-old high school junior in Pennsylvania. “That’s really confusing. It can set back a lot of people.”

Colleges nationwide have been updating their coronavirus-era policies on standardized testing, which many dropped when the pandemic shut down in-person testing centers. Some of the most selective schools are declaring

SEE SAT ON A6



ALICE MARTINS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

High school students in Makiv, a rural village in southwestern Ukraine, participate in a course called “Protecting Ukraine.”

The men of Makiv: ‘Most of them are gone’

BY SIOBHÁN O’GRADY, ANASTACIA GALOUCHKA AND SERHIY MORGUNOV IN MAKIV, UKRAINE

Few men of fighting age are left in this village in southwest Ukraine, and those who remain fear they will be drafted at any moment.

Their neighbors are already hundreds of miles east in trenches on the front lines. Some have been killed or wounded. Several are missing. Others from this rural area — about 45 miles from the borders of Romania and Moldova — have fled abroad or found ways to avoid the war, either with legitimate exemptions or by hiding.

“It’s just a fact,” said Larysa Bodna,

deputy director of the local school, which keeps a database of students whose parents are deployed. “Most of them are gone.”

Ukraine desperately needs more troops, with its forces depleted by deaths, injuries and exhaustion. Despite Russia’s own enormous casualties, the invaders still far outnumber Ukraine’s defenders, an advantage that is helping Moscow advance on the battlefield. Ukraine’s parliament is debating a bill to expand the draft pool, in part by lowering the eligibility age to 25 from 27, but few decisions are being made in Kyiv that will

quickly answer the army’s urgent needs.

Civilians here say that means military recruiters are grabbing everyone they can. In the west, the mobilization drive has steadily sown panic and resentment in small agricultural towns and villages like Makiv, where residents said soldiers working for

SEE UKRAINE ON A12

Graham in Kyiv: GOP senator calls on Ukraine to pass mobilization law. **A7**

In Russia: Claiming voters are behind him, Putin vows to continue war. **A9**

BY ABHA BHATTARAI

SHEBOYGAN, WIS. — Dawn Mohr stopped by the local Piggly Wiggly to pick up \$6 worth of pork steaks last week and immediately remembered just how much she’s grown to hate grocery shopping. “Everything is so damn high,” she said, shaking her head at \$3.09 bottles of Coca Cola. “Good ol’ Biden.”

Mohr, a 54-year-old home health-care aide, mostly shops the clearance aisles. Her \$17 hourly paycheck, which inched up 80 cents in the past two years, is hardly enough to cover the basics anymore. She says there’s no question she’ll vote for Donald Trump again. Every trip to the supermarket cements her resolve.

“When Trump was president, there wasn’t inflation,” she said. “We could afford food.”

The mood around the sodas past Aisle 9 of the Piggly Wiggly is a stark reminder of what matters most to Americans this election year. In poll after poll, voters say inflation — and grocery prices in particular — is a leading concern.

That’s true in this Midwestern manufacturing town overflowing with well-paying jobs, rock-

In Wis., a vote for Biden or Trump could come down to grocery prices



MATTHEW LUDAK FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A Piggly Wiggly store in Sheboygan, Wis., where some customers say their paychecks barely cover the high cost of groceries.

bottom unemployment and some of the lowest gas, food and housing prices in the nation. Kitchen and bath product maker Kohler Co. and food manufacturers Johnsonville and Sargento Foods are all headquartered nearby, providing a steady stream of stable careers. The unemployment rate, at 2.1 percent, is one of the lowest in Wisconsin.

Still, Sheboygan residents have one persistent gripe: As in the rest of the country, grocery prices have risen 25 percent in four years, driving much of their economic discontent.

“Even though inflation is coming down, prices are still up and people feel it,” said Stefano Viglietti, who owns three area restaurants and a specialty Italian market with his wife. “There’s still a fair amount of angst about prices. People here aren’t bazillionaires. They’re working middle class, and when the price of eggs or milk goes up, they have to make adjustments for everything else.”

In interviews with more than three dozen shoppers at three stores, almost all cited high food prices as a major financial hurdle. Many said they were sticking with the candidate they voted for

SEE SHEBOYGAN ON A17

Justices consider tech contacts

MOST SEEM TO BACK BIDEN EFFORTS

At issue: Officials’ ability to push for post removals

BY ANN E. MARIMOW AND CAT ZAKRZEWSKI

The Supreme Court seemed prepared Monday to reject a Republican-led effort to sharply limit the federal government from pressuring social media companies to remove harmful posts and misinformation from their platforms.

A majority of justices from across the ideological spectrum expressed concern about hamstringing White House officials and other federal employees from communicating with tech giants about posts the government deems problematic that are related to public health, national security and elections, among other topics.

The case involves a lawsuit initiated by two Republican-led states — Missouri and Louisiana — and individual social media users. They accuse the Biden administration of violating the First Amendment by operating a sprawling federal “censorship enterprise” to influence platforms to modify or take down posts.

Justices Elena Kagan and Brett M. Kavanaugh, who previously worked as lawyers in Democratic and Republican administrations, respectively, suggested that government exchanges with the platforms and media outlets were routine occurrences and did not amount to censorship or coercion in violation of the constitutional

SEE COURT ON A16

EPA bans last form of asbestos still in use in U.S.

BY ANNA PHILLIPS

After three decades of attempts, the Environmental Protection Agency has banned the only form of asbestos still in use — part of a family of toxic minerals linked to lung cancer and other illnesses that cause about 40,000 U.S. deaths each year, the agency says.

The EPA on Monday formally prohibited the import and use of chrysotile asbestos, the last type of asbestos that U.S. industries use. The ban comes 33 years after a federal judge blocked the agency’s initial attempt to ban the cancer-causing mineral. While the use of asbestos has declined since, it remains a significant health threat.

“Folks, it’s been a long road. But with today’s ban, EPA is finally slamming the door on a chemical so dangerous that it has been banned in more than 50 countries,” EPA Administrator Michael Regan said.

The agency’s ban targets chrysotile asbestos, also known as “white asbestos,” the only one of the six forms of the mineral still being used in the United States. Resistant to heat and fire, the mineral’s use in the United States is limited to a small number of products, including automotive parts, sheet gaskets and brake blocks for use in the oil industry. Chemical

SEE ASBESTOS ON A17

IN THE NEWS

Ginsburg award gala A foundation canceled the bestowal of a prize named for the late justice after criticism of a list of recipients that included Elon Musk and Rupert Murdoch. **C1**

Havana syndrome A federal investigation of the mysterious ailment found no significant evidence of brain injuries in patients. **A3**

THE NATION **The White House** and Congress made a deal to fund the Department of Homeland Security. **A4** **The judge** in Donald Trump’s documents trial issued an order about jury instructions. **A7**

THE WORLD **Plant-based diets** are slowly gaining popularity in meat-loving South Korea. **A8** **The Kremlin** is cultivating an image of Vladimir Putin as Russia’s leader for life. **A9**

THE ECONOMY **Volkswagen workers** in Tennessee filed a federal petition to vote on joining the United Auto Workers union. **A15** **The crafts and fabrics** retailer Joann filed for bankruptcy, though there are no immediate plans to shutter any of its 800 locations. **A16**

THE REGION **Both sides** in a debate over gambling fear a bill to bring “skill games” to stores and restaurants across Virginia could get caught up in the state’s arena fight. **B1** **For D.C.-area parents**, registering children for summer camp can be a brutal scramble. **B1**

STYLE **Beyoncé** has a country hit with “Texas Hold ‘Em.” How will country radio handle that? **C1**

HEALTH & SCIENCE **After a runner** rolled her ankle in 2015, she weathered eight years of severe ankle pain before a specialist unmasked the underlying cause. **E1**

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