



Once-taboo health talk now a key connector

Female candidates hope sharing abortion, IVF stories mobilizes voters

BY DYLAN WELLS
AND HANNAH KNOWLES

Lucia Báez-Geller was “over the moon” when she found out about two years ago she was pregnant with her second child. After having her first child at 39, she started trying for another as soon as she was cleared to by her doctors.

“I really thought that nothing could go wrong because my first pregnancy had gone so well,” she said. But just weeks into her second pregnancy, doctors told her that it was not progressing normally and the pregnancy was non-viable. Her doctors presented her with three options: dilation and curettage, a brief surgery to dilate the cervix and scrape tissue from the uterus; a medication abortion pill her doctors described as having the potential to be extremely painful; or to wait for a potentially risky natural miscarriage.

Báez-Geller, who lives in Miami, elected for the surgery, performed when she was 12 weeks pregnant. A year later, she fears that she could be denied the same procedure under Florida’s six-week abortion ban, despite the law’s exception for fatal fetal anomalies — which some women say they have struggled to navigate.

If she was turned down for care in Florida, Báez-Geller said through tears, she and her family would have probably had to travel roughly 800 miles to Virginia, the closest state where she thought she could get such a procedure, emphasizing the added pressure that would have put on her and her family.

SEE HEALTH TALK ON A11

ELECTION 2024

In Chicago, Obamas electrify DNC



RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

Barack Obama and Michelle Obama were Tuesday evening’s final speakers at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

The grieving Black women who reshaped Walz’s worldview

BY ROBERT SAMUELS

From inside Minnesota’s executive mansion, Gov. Tim Walz could hear the grieving woman’s bellows.

Toshira Garraway’s voice quavered as she spoke to the hundreds gathered outside the residence in St. Paul. It was a sunny Monday in June 2020, just days after George Floyd had been

murdered in Minneapolis. Protesters across the world had been shouting Floyd’s name, but Garraway and other speakers — almost all Black women — were invoking the names of men who hadn’t garnered as much attention after they died in encounters with Minnesota law enforcement. Hardel. Kobe. Justin.

The lifeless body of Justin Tei-
SEE WALZ ON A8

A hotel cook’s struggles spotlight a hunger for bold action on high costs

BY DANIELLE PAQUETTE

CHICAGO — On the morning of her first shift serving VIP guests at the Democratic National Convention, Leah Jordan wondered: Is my milk about to spoil?

She opened her fridge and checked the expiration date. Aug. 26.

“I’m good,” she said. “I’m good for right now.”

The cook, 50, woke two hours before sunrise to get ready for a hectic Tuesday at the Marriott Marquis, where she’d be preparing bacon, eggs, biscuits, oatmeal — all the staples that she wished were easier for her to afford.

Lately, she’d been trying to make her usual gallon of Lactaid stretch for so long, the last cup or
SEE COOK ON A12

TALK OF HOPE AND JABS AT TRUMP

Ex-president sees race as ‘chaos’ vs. ‘new chapter’

BY TYLER PAGER

CHICAGO — Former president Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama, two of the Democratic Party’s most popular figures, electrified delegates at the party’s convention Tuesday, saying they saw the same sense of excitement and hope that characterized their own rise to the White House now surrounding Kamala Harris.

“I’m feeling hopeful because this convention has always been pretty good to kids with funny names who believe in a country where anything is possible,” Barack Obama said, a reference to his emergence as a political star at the 2004 convention. “Because we have the chance to elect someone who’s spent her whole life trying to give people the same chances America gave her.”

The former president sought to frame the election as a stark choice. “We don’t need four more years of bluster and chaos. We’ve seen that movie — and we all know that the sequel’s usually worse,” he said. “America is ready for a new chapter. America’s ready for a better story. We are ready for a President Kamala Harris.”

In her remarks, Michelle
SEE CONVENTION ON A7

Patriotism: Democrats embrace national symbols as their own. **A6**

Signage: Use of placards has been tightly choreographed. **A14**

Virginia poll: Harris and Trump are running neck and neck. **B1**

Jill Biden: In her speech, first lady begins saying her goodbyes. **C1**



Alexander Dancyg



Avraham Munder



Yagev Buchshtab



Yoram Metzger



Chaim Peri



Nadav Popplewell

Israel recovers bodies of 6 hostages from Gaza

BY LEO SANDS,
KELSEY ABLES,
JENNIFER HASSAN
AND HEIDI LEVINE

The Israeli military recovered the bodies of six more hostages who were being held captive by Hamas in the Gaza Strip, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Tuesday morning.

In an overnight operation, the Israel Defense Forces said it recovered the bodies of Alexander Dancyg, 76; Avraham Munder, 79; Yagev Buchshtab, 35; Yoram Metzger, 80; Chaim Peri, 80; and Nadav Popplewell, 51, from the Khan Younis area in southern Gaza.

The IDF said that the operation was conducted with the help of information from Israeli intelli-

gence services and that the bodies were returned to Israel. The Israeli military had previously announced publicly that five of the hostages were believed to be dead and that their bodies were held by Hamas in Gaza.

Israeli troops entered Hamas tunnels in Khan Younis to retrieve the bodies, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Tuesday, calling the operation “complex.” “We will continue working to achieve the goals of this war — returning the hostages to Israel and dismantling Hamas,” Gallant said.

Israeli troops located a tunnel shaft about 10 meters deep at
SEE HOSTAGES ON A17

Hamas: Group accuses Biden of pro-Israel bias in negotiations. **A17**

BY ARIANA EUNJUNG CHA

ATLANTA — Kim Jackson was the lone client wandering around a city recreation center that twice a month doubles as a food pantry.

On a recent weekday, she had driven 50 minutes to the Cleveland Avenue neighborhood only to find her swim class at the rec center canceled. The former UPS worker said that a few years ago, her doctor told her she was borderline diabetic and needed to change her eating and physical activity ASAP. So she fought to get fit the old-fashioned way: with no medications or other treatments, cutting out fried food, honey buns and other snacks, and traveling to three facilities to attend free exercise classes.

She does not know anyone on Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro or their counterparts. Doctors recently told two of her friends, one of whom weighs more than 350 pounds and endures heart issues, they should be on the weight-loss shots. One does not have insurance. The other does, but her policy does not cover the medication.

Black and Hispanic patients and those with lower incomes are more likely to suffer from obesity and are at higher risk for Type 2 diabetes. Yet a number of recent analyses found that these populations are less likely to be prescribed the new generation of weight-loss drugs.

Atlanta itself is a divided city.

For some, a weight-loss wonder out of reach

New drugs have spawned clinics for the well-off but can miss patients of color, those with low incomes



ALYSSA POINTER FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Atlanta City Council member Antonio Lewis, right, says a federal investment in weight-loss drugs “could save so many lives.” Above, he works out with his wife, Ashlee Lewis, at Fit Squad Studios.

In wealthy Buckhead, concierge weight-loss clinics are popping up and catering to those willing to pay out of pocket for GLP-1 drugs, and fitness centers are reworking programs to focus on clients taking the drugs.

But in the low-income area in the southwestern part of the city

where Jackson came to work out, residents find the medical revolution is passing them by. The drugs aren’t covered for weight loss by Medicaid, and while many families have heard of the drugs, few have doctors who can help them access the weight-loss medications.

Then there’s the trust issue: People in communities of color said they’d heard about the drugs mostly from celebrity news. Oprah Winfrey revealed she has been on the drugs, and there are rumors the Kardashians are on them, too.

SEE WEIGHT LOSS ON A4

IN THE NEWS

Sunken yacht Six passengers from the vessel that went down off the coast of Sicily were still unaccounted for as officials acknowledged the odds of finding them alive were slim. **A18**

Violence interrupters D.C. activists fear Trayon White Sr.’s arrest on a bribery charge may imperil their efforts to secure funding. **B1**

THE NATION **New Orleans police** planned to arrest an officer hours before he sexually assaulted a teen, a watchdog testified. **A3**
The DOJ is investigating reported abuses at a Tennessee prison. **A3**

THE WORLD **A fight** between an Australian mining firm and Chinese investors showcased a mineral conflict. **A16**
A U.S. veteran who fled charges appears in Russian propaganda. **A24**

THE ECONOMY **The IRS’s** beleaguered whistleblower program can take over a decade to pay tipsters who report tax cheats. **A19**
Don’t trust Google when looking up customer service numbers online, Shira Ovide writes. The results might be bogus. **A24**

THE REGION **A transgender student** can try out for the girls’ tennis team at a Virginia middle school while her lawsuit proceeds, a judge said. **B1**
At least one of five teenagers arrested in the fatal beating of a 64-year-old man in D.C. has pleaded guilty in the case. **B1**

SPORTS **Jayden Daniels**, the No. 2 pick in the draft, is still learning the art of self-preservation as the Commanders’ quarterback. **D1**
FOOD **Learn about seven** of the most common myths about sugar’s use in cooking and baking. **E1**

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