# The New York Times

THE WEATHER

**Today,** partly cloudy, breezy from the late morning into the afternoon, high 50. Tonight, partly cloudy, low 34. Tomorrow, breezy, partly sunny,

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Prices in Canada may be higher

**ENERGY APPETITE** IN U.S. ENDANGERS States' Plans for Coal and Natural Gas Defy

Something unusual is happen-

Over the past year, electric utili-

Many power companies were

In an ironic twist, the swelling appetite for more electricity, driv-

Burning more gas and coal runs pledge to halve the nation's planet-warming greenhouse gases and to generate all of America's electricity from pollution-free sources such as wind, solar and nuclear by 2035.

Some utilities say they need additional fossil fuel capacity because cleaner alternatives like wind or solar power aren't growing fast enough and can be bogged down by delayed permits and snarled supply chains. While a data center can be built in just one year, it can take five years or longer to connect renewable energy projects to the grid and a decade

# **GOALS ON CLIMATE**

\$4.00

#### RISING STRAIN ON GRIDS

Biden's Pledge

By BRAD PLUMER

ties have nearly doubled their forecasts of how much additional power they'll need by 2028 as they confront an unexpected explosion in the number of data centers, an abrupt resurgence in manufacturing driven by new federal laws, and millions of electric vehicles being plugged in.

already struggling to keep the lights on, especially during extreme weather, and say the strain on the grid will only increase. Peak demand in the summer is projected to grow by 38,000 megawatts nationwide in the next five years, according to an analysis by the consulting firm Grid Strategies, which is like adding another California to the grid.

"The numbers we're seeing are pretty crazy," said Daniel Brooks, vice president for integrated grid and energy systems at the Electric Power Research Institute, a nonprofit organization.

climate change.

To meet spiking demand, utilities in states like Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia are proposing to build dozens of power plants over the next 15 years that would burn natural gas. In Kansas, one utility has postponed the retirement of a coal plant to help power a giant

goal."

Continued on Page A15

ing in America. Demand for electricity, which has stayed largely flat for two decades, has begun to

en not only by electric cars but also by battery and solar factories and other aspects of the cleanenergy transition, could also jeopardize the country's plans to fight

electric-car battery factory.

"I can't recall the last time I was

so alarmed about the country's energy trajectory," said Tyler H. Norris, a former solar developer and expert in power systems who is now pursuing a doctorate at Duke University. If a wave of new gas-fired plants gets approved by state regulators, he said, "it is game over for the Biden administration's 2035 decarbonization

to build some of the long-distance

HALLDOR KOLBEINS/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

#### A Lava-Tinged Glow Over Reykjavik

Authorities in Iceland said a volcanic eruption on Saturday night north of the town of Grindavik was the most powerful of a series that started in December. Page A10.

# Trump Hurries to Catch Biden In Race for Campaign Money

### Legal Troubles Create Personal Crunch, Too

By SHANE GOLDMACHER and MAGGIE HABERMAN

As many as three nights a week, Donald J. Trump has been hosting private dinners at Mar-a-Lago, schmoozing with some of the Republican Party's biggest financiers as he races to address a sizable cash shortfall against President Biden.

There is no request for money from the attendees at these meals, which have included Larry Ellison, the billionaire co-founder of Oracle, and Pepe Fanjul, the sugar magnate, according to people familiar with the sessions. But advisers to Mr. Trump's campaign and his super PACs hope the charm offensive will eventually pay political and financial dividends.

One of the most pressing issues facing Mr. Trump is the financial disparity he and allied groups now face with Mr. Biden and the Democratic Party. Mr. Biden's campaign announced on Sunday that it entered March with \$155 million in cash on hand with the party, after raising \$53 million in February. The Trump operation has not released a more recent total, but his campaign account and the Republican National Committee had around \$40 million at the end of

Mr. Trump enters the general election ahead of Mr. Biden in public polls. But Mr. Biden has taken full advantage of one of the benefits of incumbency, both socking away cash and building out a political operation earlier than his challenger [Page A14].

Despite years of professing massive wealth and boasting of his desire to "drain the swamp," the deeply transactional former president is leaning yet again on the cash of others, turning Mar-a-Lago into a staging ground for billionaires and others with their own agendas. One potential leverage point with the biggest G.O.P. financiers is the package of tax cuts Mr. Trump signed into law in 2017. Many of those cuts expire at the end of 2025, and Mr. Biden has vowed not to extend them for the nation's highest earners.

Money often winds up mattering less in presidential races than in down-ballot races. Voters pay attention to the candidates natu-

Continued on Page A13

## An Embrace of the Provocative, The Profane and the Holy Spirit

By RUTH GRAHAM

The "Conservative Dad's Real Women of America" 2024 pinup calendar features old-school images of sexiness — bikinis, a red sports car, a bubble bath.

The models are influencers and aspiring politicians familiar to the very online pro-Trump right. In one image, a BlazeTV host in a short skirt lights a copy of The New York Times on fire with a cigar. Another model, the former spokeswoman Loesch, hoists two rifles.

Published by a "woke-free beer" company hastily launched last year as an alternative to Bud

Light, the calendar was clearly meant to provoke liberals. But when photos of it began circulating online in December, progressives did not pay much attention. Instead, it sparked a heated squabble on the right over whether "conservative dads" who happen to be Christians should reject the calendar on moral grounds, or embrace it as an irreverent win for the good guys.

Allie Beth Stuckey, an evangelical commentator and podcaster, condemned the calendar as "soft porn" marketed to married men,

Continued on Page A12

#### Russians Quietly Express Discontent at the Polls an initiative known as Noon

## By ANATOLY KURMANAEV

Long lines of voters formed outside polling stations in major Russian cities during the presidential election on Sunday, in what opposition figures portrayed as a striking protest against a rubberstamp process that is certain to keep Vladimir V. Putin in power.

Before he died last month, the Russian opposition leader Aleksei A. Navalny had called on supporters to go to polling stations at midday on Sunday, the last day of the three-day vote, to express dissat-

### With Putin Claiming Victory, Opposition Cheers On Protest

isfaction with Mr. Putin, who claimed his fifth presidential term Sunday night [Page A9].

Mr. Navalny's team, which is continuing his work, and other opposition movements reiterated calls for the protest in the weeks leading up to the vote. Simply appearing at the polling station, for

cally escalated repression since its full-scale invasion of Ukraine two years ago. The opposition leaders said showing solidarity with likeminded citizens by their mere presence was more important

Against Putin, they said, was the

only safe way to express discon-

tent in a country that has drasti-

than what the voters chose to do with their ballots, because the election lacked real choice.

"This is our protest — we don't have any other options," said Lena, 61, who came to a polling Continued on Page A9



Trees vs. Jobs

Southeast Asian countries say a new E.U. rule on deforestation threatens livelihoods. Page B1.

# Shouts, a Fight, Then a Gun Goes Off in a Crowded Subway Car

By MICHAEL WILSON It always seems to start the

I'll beat you up!

A brush-fire confrontation between strangers in a subway loudly skyrockets toward hostility before anyone else is even sure who is yelling at whom, or why.

C'mon man! Do something

A moment so familiar that other passengers hardly bother to look up from their phones or pause

I'm gonna beat you up — only vou. Just vou.

But a fight on Thursday on a speeding A train in Brooklyn that started with those taunts did not end there. It continued to escalate before a rush-hour crowd, from words to fists to a blade to, finally, a gun.

The encounter came just over a week after New York's governor took the extraordinary step of ordering the National Guard below ground to make the trains feel safer. The shooting undermined the city's message that riding the subway is, statistically speaking, quite safe.

The episode fueled a sense of futility about a system that seems to catch all the troubles from the city above - mental health crises, illegal guns - and squeezes them into crowded steel tubes.

For those on that A train on Continued on Page A17



**INTERNATIONAL A4-10** 

find something to eat.

Gangs Closing Haiti's Hospitals Many centers in the capital have been abandoned by their staffs or looted

amid the rampant violence. The Hunt for Food in Gaza Aid is scarce and prices are high. Three

families shared their daily struggles to

**BUSINESS B1-5** 

#### TikTok Bill Snarled in Senate

The House passed legislation to force the platform's Chinese owner to sell the app or to ban it in the U.S.

Former Tech Mogul on Trial

Mike Lynch is accused of defrauding Hewlett-Packard of billions when he sold it his software company.

**OBITUARIES B6-7** 

#### The Filmmaker Behind 'Benji Joe Camp, who defied industry odds by

turning a live-action series, filmed from a lovable dog's perspective, into a smash hit, was 84.



NATIONAL A11-17

Tracking Migrant Families The goal of President Biden's program is to keep people from skipping out on their asylum hearings.

For Willis, New Turmoil Ahead An array of problems awaits Fani T. Willis and her prosecution of Donald Trump in his Georgia case.

SPORTS D1-8

#### When the Circus Leaves Town

The Angels find that life after the twoway superstar Shohei Ohtani has a few silver linings. One of them is a smaller media contingent that gives players more space in the clubhouse. PAGE D1

#### Inside Bears-Steelers Trade

The Bears get a sixth-round pick (that could turn into a fourth) for Justin Fields, and the Steelers get a talented if uneven performer to back up their new field general, Russell Wilson. PAGE D2

OPINION A18-19

David French

PAGE A19



ARTS C1-6

#### Giving the Lenape Their Say

A new exhibition acknowledges the notorious "purchase" of Manhattan 400 years ago, but makes sure to provide a Native American viewpoint. PAGE C1

