

The New York Times

LATE EDITION

Today, cloudy, humid, a couple of thunderstorms, high 79. Tonight, cloud cover expected to break, low 69. Tomorrow, patchy cloud cover, high 85. Weather map, Page B11.

VOL. CLXXII No. 59,856

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023

\$4.00

Hotter Europe Poses a Threat To Older Adults

Extreme Temperatures Are the New Covid

By GAIA PIANIGIANI

ROME — As a light, hot breeze blew through her living room and her gray hair, Donata Grillo, a 75-year-old cancer survivor with a pacemaker and serious sight problems, sat next to her balcony, a damp sponge on her lap.

It was all she had to keep cool this week as temperatures topped nearly 106 degrees Fahrenheit, or 41 Celsius, in her native Rome. She does not own any air conditioning or fans, or even a functioning refrigerator, in her two-bedroom apartment in a public housing complex on the city's periphery, next to a hospital and highway.

"It is the feeling of straining pasta all day long," Ms. Grillo said, twirling her hands to mimic the pouring of boiling water from a pot. A visit from a social worker was about the only contact she'd had in days, the heat having shunted her inside.

"Don't go anywhere, it's too hot and dangerous for you," Carlotta Antonelli, 28, who works with the Roman Catholic charity Caritas, told her during her rounds on Wednesday.

The successive heat waves that have scorched Italy and the rest of southern Europe over the past week have forced those who can afford it to seek shelter in air-conditioned homes and offices or at



Donata Grillo, 75, who has no air-conditioners or fans in her apartment, tried to cool off with a damp sponge on Wednesday in Rome.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALESSANDRO PENSO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

POLITICAL MEMO

Biden's Taunts Target Trump, Not Charges

By REID J. EPSTEIN

WASHINGTON — For months, President Biden has appeared to delight in needling Donald J. Trump and his Republican allies, trying at every turn to make MAGA and ultra-MAGA a shorthand for the entire party.

This week, Mr. Biden cheekily highlighted a video in which Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia derisively ticks through his first-term accomplishments and likens him — not positively — to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. "I approve this message," the president commented on the video, which was viewed more than 43 million times in 24 hours.

Mr. Biden recently did a victory lap when Senator Tommy Tuberville of Alabama promoted local spending in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which Mr. Tuberville had voted against.

And his campaign took a shot at Mr. Trump for not visiting Wisconsin during his current presidential bid, accusing him of a "failure to deliver on his promised American manufacturing boom."

But when it comes to the topic dominating the presidential race

Continued on Page A15



Tourists in Rome, where it was about 106 degrees Fahrenheit.

seaside retreats. But for many seniors, heat has become the new Covid. The searing temperatures have settled over the continent like another indiscriminate plague, reinforcing the isolation of many older people and the threats to their health, and pushing governments and social services to take extraordinary steps to try to protect them.

"These days, they are even more alone," Ms. Antonelli said, as she drove her car through two large, low-income suburban areas where her charity routinely assists dozens of residents. She visits Ms. Grillo once a week to help her with daily chores and assist with medical appointments and legal problems.

As temperatures rise, the threat

Continued on Page A9

Lawyer's Novel Tactics Put Bull's-Eye on Big Oil

By DAVID GELLES

LARES, P.R. — Missy Sims carefully picked her way through a field of ruined tombs in central Puerto Rico, in a cemetery where walls of water from Hurricane Maria had smashed open some coffins and sent others careering into a nearby stream.

Six years later, the burial place in Lares, where more than 1,700 graves were damaged, is still shattered.

"This is apocalyptic, end of the world, end of times stuff," said Ms. Sims, an attorney who is representing 16 Puerto Rican municipalities that are seeking to hold the fossil fuel industry responsible for the damage caused by a series

Puerto Rico Case Is New Front in Fight Over Climate Change

of storms, including Maria.

Ms. Sims wiped away a tear as she surveyed the broken graves and absorbed the pain of the grieving families. But she also vowed to hold those responsible to account.

Ms. Sims, 54, may be the most surprising legal figure to emerge as the world grapples with the devastating impacts of a warming planet. An Armani-and-Rolux wearing observant Catholic from

a small Midwest town who talks to God as she mulls her complex legal cases, Ms. Sims is also a constant TikTok poster whose dog has more followers than some celebrities.

And she is now the singular force behind a creative legal gambit to make oil and gas companies pay for the devastation being wrought by climate change in Puerto Rico. Her strategy is being carefully watched by the fossil fuel industry and environmental groups as well as other lawyers and municipalities.

The lawsuit she filed in November goes after a who's who of the fossil fuel industry — Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Royal Dutch Shell,

Continued on Page A18

Ruin of Maya City Is Discovered In 'Empty Zone' of the Yucatán

By ALAN YUHAS

Armed with machetes and chain-saws, hacking through fallen trees and wading through dense scrub, the archaeologists cleared a path down rocky trails.

At last, they reached their destination in Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula: a hidden city where pyramids and palaces rose above crowds over 1,000 years ago, with a ball court and terraces now buried and overgrown.

Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History hailed their work late last month, saying they had discovered an ancient Maya city in "a vast area practically unknown to archaeology."

"These stories about 'lost cities in the jungle' — very often these things are quite minor or being spun by journalists," said Simon Martin, a political anthropologist who was not involved in the work. "But this is much closer to the real deal."

The team of archaeologists who discovered the ruins named them Ocomtún, using the Yucatec Maya word for the stone columns found around the ancient city.

The Mexican institute described the site, in Campeche State, as having once been a major center of Maya life. During at least

Continued on Page A6

Fast Start for the Hosts

The Women's World Cup began with 1-0 wins by Australia, above, and New Zealand. Page B7.



MARK EVANS/EPA, VIA SHUTTERSTOCK

A Polygon and a Chevy: How the Gilgo Beach Suspect Was Found

By WILLIAM K. RASHBAUM and JOSEPH GOLDSTEIN

They called it the polygon.

Using phone records and a sophisticated system that maps the reach of cell towers, a team of investigators had drawn the irregular shape across a map of tree-lined streets in the Long Island suburb of Massapequa Park. By

2021, the investigators had been able to shrink the polygon so that it covered only several hundred homes.

In one of those homes, the investigators believed, lived a serial killer.

A decade before, 11 bodies had been found in the underbrush around Gilgo Beach, a remote stretch of sand five miles away on

Identifying One Among 150,000 Commuters

the South Shore. Four women had been bound with tape or belts or wrapped in shrouds of camouflage-patterned burlap, the sort that hunters use for blinds. They

had worked as escorts and had gone missing after going to meet a client.

Each, shortly before she disappeared, had been in contact with a different disposable cellphone. Investigators eventually determined that during the workday, some of the phones had been in a small area of Midtown Manhattan

Continued on Page A17



INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Fighting a War Within a War

The families of pediatric cancer patients face the dual agonies of serious illness and a country beset by conflict. PAGE A10

Titan Was Doomed by Design

Engineers pointed out several weak points that were cost-saving departures from submersible norms. PAGE A8

NATIONAL A11-19

Biden to Make Drilling Costlier

The rates paid by oil, gas and coal companies for the right to drill and mine on federally owned land have not changed since 1920. New fees would raise \$1.8 billion by 2031. PAGE A12

Tornado Destroys Pfizer Plant

Extensive damage at a drug manufacturing site in North Carolina may threaten crucial supplies, possibly exacerbating shortages. PAGE A15

U.S. Homicides Down 10%

A survey of 30 cities shows killings have fallen but remain well above prepandemic levels. PAGE A16



BUSINESS B1-5

Air Travel Remains Strong

Three large U.S. carriers are benefiting from strong demand, high fares and relatively low fuel prices. PAGE B1

TV Writers Lose Ground

Hollywood studios are increasingly separating writing from production, limiting the roles writers play. PAGE B1

SPORTS B6-11

\$60 Million Fine in N.F.L.

Daniel Snyder was found to have sexually harassed a female employee and withheld revenue when he owned the Washington Commanders. PAGE B8

OBITUARIES A20-21

Daring Lesbian Crusader

Lilli Vincenz made her mark as a newspaper editor, documentary filmmaker and psychotherapist devoted to L.G.B.T.Q. issues. She was 85. PAGE A20

OPINION A22-23

Pamela Paul

PAGE A22



WEEKEND ARTS C1-10

Seeing the World Change

Christopher Nolan's new film offers a complex, vivid portrait of the nuclear scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer, portrayed by Cillian Murphy, above. PAGE C1

