

A NATION'S ANGUISH AS DEATHS NEAR 200,000



TAMIR KALIFA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Shane Reilly, an artist in Austin, Texas, planted a plastic flag in the yard to honor each person in the state who has died as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Close to a Million Have Perished Worldwide

This article is by Simon Romero, Manny Fernandez and Marc Santora.

It is a staggering toll, almost 200,000 people dead from the coronavirus in the United States, and nearly five times that many — close to one million people — around the world.

And the pandemic, which sent cases spiking skyward in many countries and then trending downward after lockdowns, has reached a precarious point. Will countries like the United States see the virus continue to slow in the months ahead? Or is a new surge on the way?

"What will happen, nobody knows," said Catherine Troisi, an infectious disease epidemiologist at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. "This virus has surprised us on many fronts, and we may be surprised again."

In the United States, fewer new coronavirus cases have been detected week by week since late July, following harrowing outbreaks first in the Northeast and then in the South and the West.

But in recent days, the nation's daily count of new cases is climbing again, fueling worries of a resurgence of the virus as universities and schools reopen and as colder weather pushes people indoors ahead of what some epidemiologists fear could be a devastating winter.

The coronavirus death toll in the United States is now roughly equal to the population of Akron, Ohio, or nearly two and a half times the number of U.S. service members who died in battle in the Vietnam and Korean Wars combined, and about 800 people are still dying daily.

Around the world, at least 73 countries are seeing surges in newly detected cases, and worries are fast mounting.

In India, more than 90,000 new cases are now being detected daily, adding a million cases since the start of this month and sending the country's total cases soaring.

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CARLOS OSORIO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nearly 900 poster-size photos of coronavirus victims filled a memorial on Belle Isle in Detroit.



GABRIEL BOUYS/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Spain has honored its victims with an eternal flame rising from a black steel brazier in Madrid.



RICARDO MORAES/REUTERS

Crosses and balloons were placed as tributes on Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro.

Grim Reminders That Are Hard to Escape

This article is by Julie Bosman, Serge F. Kovaleski and Jacey Fortin.

Twelve days after his wife died of the coronavirus, increasing the enormous toll in the United States by one, Michael Davis, dazed and grieving, went back to work.

He hoped that his job, at an assembly plant in Louisville, Ky., would keep his hands busy, which might then occupy his mind, too. Maybe it would ease his longing for Dana, 51, a nurse with blond hair and a bright smile. They were just shy of their seventh wedding anniversary when the coronavirus took her life.

But at work, it felt like the pandemic was the only thing people could think about, the center of conversation at his sprawling factory. And on the news, every story seemed to be about the coronavirus.

"Everything's corona, everything's corona — that's all you hear about all the time," Mr. Davis said. "You don't want that reminder all the time of why she's gone."

The coronavirus crisis in the United States has claimed nearly 200,000 lives, the young and the old, those living in dense cities and tiny towns, people who spent their days as nursing home attendants, teachers, farm laborers and retirees.

The loved ones left behind are trapped in an extraordinary state of torment. They have seen their spouses, parents and siblings fall ill from the virus. They have endured the deaths from a distance, through cellphone connections or shaky FaceTime feeds. Now they are left to grieve, in a country still firmly gripped by the coronavirus pandemic, where everywhere they turn is a reminder of their pain.

That aftermath has been uniquely complicated, and cruel. In dozens of conversations, people across the United States who have lost family members to the coronavirus described a maelstrom of unsettled frustration, anger and isolation, all of it intensified by the feeling that the pandemic is im-

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ADVERSARIES GIRD AS BATTLE BREWS OVER COURT SEAT

TRUMP WANTS FAST VOTE

Biden Says Winner of the Election Should Pick the New Justice

By PETER BAKER and MAGGIE HABERMAN

WASHINGTON — President Trump and his adversaries mobilized on Sunday for an epic campaign-season showdown over the future of the Supreme Court even as the nation prepared to honor the life of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in an outdoor viewing to be held according to pandemic-era guidelines.

The president's determination to confirm a replacement for Justice Ginsburg before the Nov. 3 election set lawmakers on a collision course with one another at a time when Congress already has major issues on its agenda, including spending bills to keep the government open past next week and a stalled coronavirus relief package to help millions of Americans left unemployed by the pandemic that has killed nearly 200,000 people.

Undaunted by the prospect of such a volatile fall, Mr. Trump prepared to announce a nominee as early as Tuesday in hopes of pressuring the Senate to ratify his choice before voters decide whether to give him a second term and spoke multiple times with Senator Mitch McConnell, the majority leader. Even as a moderate Republican senator reaffirmed her opposition to such an accelerated timetable on Sunday, others like Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee fell in line and it appeared increasingly likely that Mr. Trump may get the votes to proceed, although there were a few holdouts still to be heard from.

The political maneuvering took place even as the nation was mourning Justice Ginsburg, a champion of women's rights and a hero to the left who died at age 87 on Friday night. Admirers continued to flock to the Supreme Court

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ABORTION FIGHT A volatile issue with political risks for both sides returns to the fore. PAGE A20

Mankind's Feats Place California At Climate Risk

By CHRISTOPHER FLAVELLE

California is one of America's marvels. By moving vast quantities of water and suppressing wildfires for decades, the state has transformed its arid and mountainous landscape into the richest, most populous and bounteous place in the nation.

But now, those same feats have given California a new and unwelcome category of superlatives.

This year is the state's worst wildfire season on record. That follows its hottest August on record; a punishing drought that lasted from 2011 to last year; and one of its worst flood emergencies on record three years ago, when heavy rains caused the state's highest dam to nearly fail, forcing more than 180,000 people to flee.

The same manufactured landscapes that have enabled California's tremendous growth, building the state into a \$3 trillion economy that is home to one in 10 Americans, have also left it more exposed to climate shocks, experts say.

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Left Out of the Picture

A television drama on China's fight with Covid-19 drew ire because it downplayed women's contributions. PAGE A10

Food Shortage Grips Cuba

The dearth of tourists in the pandemic's wake strangled an economy already damaged by U.S. sanctions. PAGE A12



TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-9

'Washout' Year for Big Hotels

Several major hotels in New York City have announced that they are closed for good, and some experts say that more shutdowns are coming. PAGE A4

Trial Details Revealed

AstraZeneca acted in response to concerns about two vaccine trial participants who fell ill. PAGE A6

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Little Fear in the Suburbs

Polls suggest that President Trump's statements about lower property values and crime are not resonating. PAGE A14

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Deal Keeps TikTok Ticking

An agreement to keep the China-based app operating in the U.S. gives contracts to Oracle and Walmart, and the president a chance to claim victory. PAGE B1

Electric Cars Catching Up

The plug-in vehicle age is dawning ahead of schedule as battery prices drop and technology advances. PAGE B1

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Overlooked No More

A Chinese immigrant, Mabel Ping-Hua Lee stood out as a leader of a women's suffrage march in New York. PAGE A22

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Putting Hope in Stained Glass

The monks of a German abbey hope new windows by Gerhard Richter will secure the community's future. PAGE C1

'Schitt's Creek' Sweeps Emmys

The sitcom won all the major comedy awards. Below, Daniel Levy took home four for his work on the show. PAGE C1



SPORTSMONDAY D1-8

A U.S. Open Powerhouse

The muscular Bryson DeChambeau shot the only under par round on Sunday to prevail at Winged Foot. PAGE D1

A Victory, Believe It or Not

Tadej Pogacar, a 21-year-old Slovene, capped a Tour de France triumph that surprised even himself. PAGE D6

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Jamelle Bouie

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