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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Biden to speak 'truth' on Jan 6 anniversary; Trump cancels event

WASHINGTON, Jan 4 (Reuters) - President Joe Biden will mark the one-year anniversary of the deadly Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol by Donald Trump's followers with a speech on Thursday warning of the threats to democracy, while Trump abandoned plans for a news conference that day as he reprised his attacks on Democrats and the media.

The White House said Biden would push back against Trump's false claims, adopted by many of his followers, that his election defeat was the result of widespread fraud, as well as attempts to downplay the violence of the worst assault on the Capitol since the War of 1812.

"The president is going to speak to the truth of what happened, not the lies that some have spread since, and the peril it has posed to the rule of law and our system of democratic governance," White House spokesperson Jen Psaki told reporters on Tuesday, in the first preview of Biden's remarks.

Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris will speak Thursday morning at the U.S. Capitol, one year after thousands of Trump supporters raided the complex in a failed attempt to stop the counting of Electoral College votes by lawmakers that officially delivered the Democratic president's election victory.

Trump on Tuesday canceled a news conference at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida that had been scheduled for Jan. 6, saying he would address many of the same topics at a rally in Arizona on Jan. 15 instead.

It was not clear why Trump canceled the news conference, which had originally been announced on Dec. 21. In a statement, Trump blamed what he called the "bias and dishonesty" of the House of Representatives probe of Jan. 6, as well as the news media, a favorite target.

The Jan. 6 anniversary comes as Trump continues to fight to block the release of White House records sought by the House committee investigating the attack.

Trump, some fellow Republicans and right-wing media personalities have pushed false accounts to downplay the Jan. 6 attack, calling it a non-violent protest or blaming left-wing activists.

Four people died on the day of the riot, and one Capitol police officer died the day after defending Congress. Dozens of police were injured during the multi-hour onslaught by Trump supporters, and four officers have since taken their own lives.

Psaki was asked what the president's message will be to the many Republicans who believe Biden stole the election from Trump, despite overwhelming contrary evidence.

"What he's going to continue to do is speak to everyone in the country. Those who didn't vote for him, those who may not believe he is the legitimate president, about what he wants to do to make their lives better," she said.



U.S. President Joe Biden speaks during a meeting with members of the White House COVID-19 Response Team on the latest developments related to the Omicron variant of the coronavirus in the South Court Audi-

## U.S. stocks slide, Treasury yields up on Fed taper discussion

BOSTON, Jan 5 (Reuters) - U.S. stocks slid and Treasury yields ticked up on Wednesday after meeting minutes released by the Federal Reserve indicated that it might not only raise interest rates sooner than expected but could also reduce its overall asset holdings to tame high inflation.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (.DJI) fell 89.66 points, or 0.24%, to 36,709.99, the S&P 500 (.SPX) lost 41.39 points, or 0.86%, to 4,752.15 and the Nasdaq Composite (.IXIC) dropped 321.41 points, or 2.06%, to 15,301.31.

Shares of technology titans Apple Inc (AAPL.O), Google-owner Alphabet Inc (GOOGL.O), Amazon.com, Meta Platforms (FB.O) and Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) all declined between 1% and 3%.

The Fed minutes from December, released on Wednesday, offered more details on the Fed's shift last month towards a more hawkish monetary policy. Policymakers

agreed to hasten the end of their pandemic-era program of bond purchases, and issued forecasts anticipating three quarter-percentage-point rate increases during 2022.

"Today's FOMC minutes make clear that discussions about more than three rate hikes and outright quantitative tightening this year are on the table," Dave Donabedian, chief investment officer for CIBC Private Wealth, U.S., said in an email.

The yield on benchmark 10-year notes increased to 1.6981% from 1.666% on Tuesday. Yields on 30-year and 2-year U.S. government bonds also ticked up to yield 2.0874% and 0.8156%, respectively.

One positive economic indicator on Wednesday was the ADP National Employment report, which showed private payrolls increased by 807,000 jobs last month, more than double what economists polled by Reuters had forecast.

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Citing an optimistic corporate earnings forecast, market analysts at Citi raised their 2022 S&P 500 index price target to 5,100, a 7% gain from year-end 2021.

"We remain moderately constructive on the broader market outlook, while acknowledging valuation headwinds as the Fed moves down a more hawkish path," the Citi analysts wrote.

Citi's target was toward the higher end of other banks, with Morgan Stanley at 4,400 and Goldman Sachs also at 5,100.

"It's still very much start-of-the-year mode," said Peter Chatwell, head of multi-asset strategy at Mizuho. "Risk appetite is, as is seasonally the case, strong at this point, and the consensus view is that there is good upside still in equity markets."

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# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

01/05/2021



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## The World's Largest Trade Agreement RECP Begins



The world's largest trade agreement, the "Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement," (RECP) has recently come into force and includes two billion residents. It is the largest free trade agreement in the world.

As early as 2011, this negotiation was conducted among the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and then joined by China, Japan

and South Korea, and the negotiation was completed in November 2020. China is the first country to approve the Huaihe River Agreement in China.

According to the agreement, 65% of the products between the member states can get zero tariffs, a figure that will be reduced to 90% in the next 20 years.

Experts believe that this regional

agreement will be the economic driving force of the Asian region's economy. Its total trade volume will exceed the total trade volume of Asia, Europe and North America combined.

We are very glad to see the beginning of agreement, especially in the past two years. Countries around the world have suffered a major economic blow due to the impact of the pandemic. We hope that this agreement will become a powerful leverage to inject a strong force into the world economy.

We all hope the RECP agreement will open a new chapter on the world stage, especially in the economic area.



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## Editor's Choice



Ph-Sport's Lionel Baud and co-driver Jean-Pierre Garcin in action during stage 3 of the Dakar Rally, Al Qaisumah to Al Qaisumah, Saudi Arabia, January 4, 2022. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed



Sammy Taylor, a registered nurse at Western Reserve Hospital, looks down while treating a coronavirus patient in their isolation room on the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Western Reserve Hospital in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, January 4, 2022. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton



A medical worker wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) stands next to a patient suffering from coronavirus, sits inside an ambulance, after she arrived at a care centre at an indoor sports complex, amidst the spread of the disease, in New Delhi, India, January 5. REUTERS/Adnan Abidi



Clyde and his daughter Casey run with their dogs Prince and Jade after taking them for a swim at Cardiff State Beach in Encinitas, California, January 4. REUTERS/Mike Blake



Press Secretary Jen Psaki holds a media briefing with a reduced number of members of the press due to the Omicron variant of coronavirus at the White House in Washington, January 4, 2022. REUTERS/Evelyn Hockstein



A health worker from Zendai organization in personal protective equipment (PPE) takes a swab sample from a man for a rapid antigen test amid the coronavirus outbreak, in Bangkok, Thailand, January 5. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha

## FDA Panel Recommends Authorizing Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine For Kids 5-11



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

A key Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expert advisory panel on Tuesday recommended the agency authorize Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for use in children between the ages of 5 and 11, bringing those children one step closer to getting a shot. The Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) found that the benefits of the vaccine outweighed its risks and voted nearly unanimously 17-0, with one abstention, to recommend the agency authorize the shot. The FDA is not bound to follow the panel's recommendation, though it often does. Extending vaccine eligibility to children younger than 12 has been a major goal of public health officials and eagerly awaited by many pediatricians and families. The FDA has been under pressure for months to move quickly to authorize vaccines for younger children, one of the final barriers to overcome in the country's historic vaccination campaign. Pfizer submitted data to the FDA in late September, and formally asked for emergency use authorization earlier this month. An agency review of the data published late Friday found that the benefits of the vaccine "clearly outweigh the risks," indicating that FDA scientists have a favorable view of the evidence. Some members of the panel said they felt the recommendation was too broad. Not all children will need the vaccine, they argued, or some may only need a single dose because they've been previously infected with COVID-19.

extremely rare but serious condition called myocarditis, or heart inflammation. Cases of myocarditis are generally more common in teenagers between the ages of 16 and 19. It's less common in adolescents, and even more rare in young children. The problem did not turn up in the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric clinical trial, though experts said it was too small to detect such a rare complication. Patrick Moore, a professor at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, said the potential risks of myocarditis are important, but theoretical. The risks of COVID-19 to children are much more real, he said. Moore noted that 94 children in the 5-11 year old age group have died of COVID. "All of them had names. All of them had mothers," he said. "It's very hard for me to believe the risk for a severe outcome is going to come close to the risk, known risk, that we've seen for this virus in this age group." A decision by agency regulators is expected in the coming days, and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) panel is scheduled to meet Nov. 2 and 3 to recommend how the vaccines should be used. If the panel gives favorable recommendations and CDC Director Rochelle Walensky accepts them, the vaccination campaign would begin.



A study from Pfizer released as part of its panel briefing document last week showed that smaller

doses of its COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11 appear safe, and are nearly 91 percent effective at preventing symptomatic disease. Pfizer said vaccinating children in that age group "could prevent harms" including interruption of education, hospitalization, severe illness, long-term consequences, and death. The Biden administration last week said it's purchased enough vaccine to inoculate all 28 million 5- to 11-year-olds in the U.S., and will distribute it through a network that will rely on more than 25,000 pediatrician's offices, as well as community health centers, schools and pharmacies. Children ages 5 to 11 account for about 9 percent of all reported COVID cases in the U.S., according to FDA data presented to the panel on Tuesday. While it has been declining in recent week, the number of new COVID-19 cases in kids remains exceptionally high. This past week almost 118,000 child COVID cases were added, with more than one million over the past six weeks, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. (Courtesy thehill.com)

Related

### Texas Pre-Ordered 1.3M Doses Of The Pediatric COVID Vaccine For Kids Ahead Of Federal Approval



The Texas Department of State Health Services announced on Monday that the Lone Star State will be receiving about 1.3 million doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11 ahead of its anticipated authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) which was granted on Tuesday. The pediatric vaccine, like its adult companion, requires two shots for full immunization, though it contains just a fraction of the dosage. The agency's director Imelda Garcia said that the yet to be recommended vaccines were ordered as part of the federal government's process called "pre-order prior to launch," according to The Dallas Morning News. "This enables the state to place vaccine orders before the FDA authorization, and before the CDC recommendation process is complete," Garcia explained. The Morning News noted that there are roughly 3 million children between the ages of 5 and 11 in Texas. According to Garcia, the orders for the pediatric vaccines were placed in three waves, with the first two submitted on Thursday and Saturday. The order for the third wave was expected to be placed on Monday evening.



The first wave of orders, consisting of more than 404,000 doses, will be shipped out within one to five days after the FDA grants emergency use authorization to Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children, which is expected to happen sometime this week.

The second wave of more than 303,000 vaccines will be shipped within three to seven days while another wave of more than 303,000 doses will go out in five to nine days, according to the Morning News.

Garcia said that more than 800 health care providers across 120 counties in Texas will be receiving doses of the vaccine once it's granted emergency authorization. Around 130 counties will not be receiving vaccines because they have not placed orders.

According to Johns Hopkins University's COVID-19 tracker, around 54 percent of Texas's total population is fully vaccinated.



### Camora Taylor, 12, receives a COVID vaccine Aug. 4 in Ferguson, Missouri. (Photo/Spencer Platt/TNS)

The state has started pre-ordering the shots, and will start to ship as soon as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration initiates the process. An FDA advisory panel met Tuesday and recommended authorization of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children from ages 5-11.

Advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which makes additional recommendations on who should get the vaccine, are scheduled to meet Nov. 2 and 3.

"This new age group is a big factor just in helping us reduce the viral load across the state," said Imelda Garcia, the head of the state's Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel.

The emergency use authorization would add about 2.9 million Texans to the vaccine eligibility pool and comes as children's COVID cases and hos-

pitalizations have surged during the delta wave. The pediatric vaccine, like its adult companion, requires two shots for full immunization, though it contains just a fraction of the dosage. Pfizer said last week that its shots are more than 90 percent effective in children ages 5 to 11.



The 1.3 million doses likely headed to Texas are not differentiated by first and second doses. Depending on demand, providers can request additional doses in the weeks after the emergency use authorization is granted. Just more than 1 million of those doses will be allocated directly to the state's providers, including hospitals and pediatricians' offices. Roughly 260,000 more will head to pharmacies, which have independent relationships with the federal government.

More than 800 COVID vaccine providers in 120 counties will receive the doses in three shipment waves. The first includes about 440,000 doses that will ship within one to five days after the emergency use authorization is issued; the other orders will follow close behind. Garcia said the vaccine's authorization will be another critical development in the fight to stop the spread of COVID-19. She plans to vaccinate her daughter.



"It's not only for my daughter's health and safety, but vaccinating her also protects our extended loved ones," she said.

The vaccine currently is available to Texans ages 12 and over. The Pfizer vaccine is the only one authorized for use in children ages 12 to 15; Moderna shots are available for 16- and 17-year-olds.

As of Monday, more than 15.3 million Texans have been vaccinated fully — nearly 64 percent of the state's 12-and-over population. (Courtesy <https://www.expressnews.com/>)

## Decades After Polio, An Iron Lung Is Still Relied On To Breathe By Patient

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Martha Lillard needed a large respirator called an iron lung to recover from polio, which she caught in 1953. She still uses a form of the device at nights. (Photo courtesy of Martha Lillard)

On June 8, 1953, Martha Lillard celebrated her fifth birthday with a party at an amusement park in Oklahoma. A little over a week later, she woke up with a sore throat and a pain in her neck. Her family took her to the hospital, where she was diagnosed with polio. She spent six months in the hospital, where she was put in a giant metal tank — a ventilator informally called an iron lung — to help her breathe. To this day, Lillard is one of the last people in the U.S. who still depends on an iron lung to survive.

Polio is a potentially life-threatening disease, once among the world's most feared. In the late 1940s, polio disabled an average of 35,000 people in the U.S. every year. A polio vaccine became widely available in 1955, and millions of Americans got vaccinated. Since 1979, no cases of polio have originated in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The disease has been nearly eradicated — the World Health Organization documented only 175 cases of wild polio in 2019. It remains endemic in only Pakistan and Afghanistan. Although most people who contract polio will not have visible symptoms, a severe case can infect the brain and spinal cord and cause paralysis. Lillard's breathing muscles were weakened by the disease, and she survived thanks to the iron lung.



Iron lung respirators are prepared in an emergency polio ward at a Boston hospital in August 1955. (Photo/AP)

The machines are giant ventilators about 7 feet long. Patients lie inside with just their heads resting outside; a seal around the patient's neck creates a vacuum. Bellows at the base of the device do the work of a human diaphragm — they create negative pressure so the user's lungs fill with air, and positive pressure allowing the person to exhale.

Sixty-eight years later, an iron lung is still keeping Lillard alive — she sleeps in it every night. While many people who had polio or post-polio syndrome either weaned themselves off the machines or switched to another form of ventilator, Lillard never did.

"I've tried all the forms of ventilation, and the iron lung is the most efficient and the best and the most comfortable way," she told Radio Diaries.

The antiquated machines are now more likely to be found in a museum than in someone's home. In the 1990s, when her iron lung was breaking down, she called hospitals and museums that might have had old ones in storage. But they'd either thrown them away or didn't want to part with their collection. She eventually bought one from a man in Utah — the machine she still uses today.

The machines were once serviced by Phillips Resperonic, but Lillard says the assistance she received from the company was minimal. Once, she says a technician was sent to service her machine and prepared to leave before putting the machine back together.

Lillard has gotten stuck in the iron lung. She lost power when an ice storm came through Oklahoma and her emergency generator didn't kick on, leaving her trapped in the device without heat.

"It's like being buried alive almost, you know — it's so scary," Lillard says. She tried to call 911, but the cell towers weren't working. "I was having trouble breathing. And I remember saying out loud to myself, 'I'm not going to die.'" Lillard was eventually able to get a signal, but she remembers the emergency responders had no idea what an iron lung was. Luckily, they were able to get the generator going for her.



Martha Lillard says she worries about running out of replacement parts to make her iron lung respirator function properly. (Photo courtesy of Martha Lillard)

Wear on parts is her main issue now. The belts need to be replaced every few weeks, the cot inside every six months, the motor every 12 years or so. Her most immediate need is collars. The collars create the critical airtight seal around the neck. Each one lasts only for a few months. And she has bought all the back stock of collars from places that don't produce them anymore. "That's the main thing I'm having a hard time with, because I try to stretch out, make these collars last longer," Lillard says. "And when they start deteriorating, it gets harder and harder to breathe as they leak more."

Today, Lillard spends much of her time alone. She paints, watches old Hollywood movies and takes care of her beagles. She has been mostly isolating throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, seeing her sister, Cindy, and her brother-in-law, Daryl, in the evenings.



Dr. Jonas Salk administers vaccine to young patient.

Being affected by polio at such a young age has meant Lillard hasn't been able to have all the experiences others have had. She attended school from home for much of her childhood and couldn't participate in most extracurricular activities — she still remembers longing to go camping with her siblings. She was not able to have children or hold a steady job because of her physical limitations.

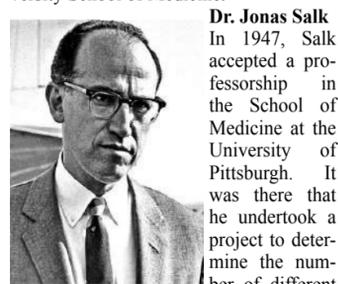
Although some of her life experiences were limited, Lillard thanks a childhood friend named Karen Rapp for teaching her to appreciate small things. Together, they observed ants and built little villages of grass huts.

"There's much more to see if you really look for it," she says.

And she's grateful for the iron lung. "It's what sustains me. It's what heals me. It's what allows me to breathe the next day," Lillard says. "I look at it as a friend, as a very dear friend." (Courtesy npr.org)

Related

**Jonas Salk Creator Of The Salk Vaccine** Jonas Edward Salk (Born Jonas Salk; October 28, 1914 – June 23, 1995) was an American virologist and medical researcher who developed one of the first successful polio vaccines. He was born in New York City and attended the City College of New York and New York University School of Medicine.



Dr. Jonas Salk In 1947, Salk accepted a professorship in the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. It was there that he undertook a project to determine the number of different types of poliovirus, starting in 1948. For the next seven years, Salk devoted himself towards developing a vaccine against polio.

Salk was immediately hailed as a "miracle worker" when the vaccine's success was first made public in April 1955, and chose to not patent the vaccine or seek any profit from it in order to maximize its global distribution. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and the University of Pittsburgh looked into patenting the vaccine but, since Salk's techniques were not novel, their patent attorney said, "if there were any patentable novelty to be found in this phase it would lie within an extremely narrow scope and would be of doubtful value."



Jonas Salk wrote about the polio vaccine trial project, "the most elaborate program of its kind in history, involving 20,000 physicians and public health officers, 64,000 school personnel, and 220,000 volunteers," with over 1.8 million school children participating in the trial. A 1954 Gallup poll showed that more Americans knew about the polio field trials than could give the full name of the current U.S. president.

An immediate rush to vaccinate began in both the United States and around the world. Many countries began polio immunization campaigns using Salk's vaccine, including Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, West Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Belgium. By 1959, the Salk vaccine had reached about 90 countries. An attenuated live oral polio vaccine was developed by Albert Sabin, coming into commercial use in 1961. Less than 25 years after the release of Salk's vaccine, domestic transmission of polio had been completely eliminated in the United States.



Salk in 1955 at the University of Pittsburgh

In 1963, Salk founded the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, California, which is today a center for medical and scientific research. He continued to conduct research and publish books in his later years, focusing in his last years on the search for a vaccine against HIV. Salk also campaigned vigorously for mandatory vaccination throughout the rest of his life, calling the universal vaccination of children against disease a "moral commitment". Salk's personal papers are today stored in Geisel Library at the University of California, San Diego. (Courtesy Wikipedia)