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At summit, a call for policies, not promises

Flurry of deals intended to plug methane leaks, protect forests

By Frank Jordans and Jill Lawless ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLASGOW, Scotland — World leaders promised to protect Earth's forests, cut methane emissions and help South Africa wean itself off coal at the U.N. climate summit Tuesday — part of a flurry of deals intended to avert catastrophic global warming. Britain hailed the commitment

by more than 100 countries to end deforestation in the coming decade as the first big achievement of the conference in the Scottish city of Glasgow, known as COP26 — but experts noted such promises have been made and broken before.

More than 120 world leaders were heading home after two days in which they received stark warnings about the state of the Earth from British Prime Minister Boris

Johnson, naturalist David Attenborough, Queen Elizabeth II and — most powerfully — the people of countries and regions already facing climate upheaval.

Johnson said at a news conference that it was important to "guard against false hope," but added that he was "cautiously optimistic" about the outcome of the talks. The conference aims to keep the world on track to limit global

Summit continues on A13



Christopher Furlong / Getty Images

British Prime Minister

Boris Johnson had a message for negotiators who will try to turn politicians' climate promises into reality: "The eyes of the world are on you."



Billy Calzada / Staff photographer

Stephanie Torres visits the grave daily of her grandmother, Juanita Vazquez, at San Fernando Cemetery II, but Tuesday was special because of Día de los Muertos. Vazquez died of COVID-19 last year, just one day after her 80th birthday.

Taking time to honor loved ones

Día de los Muertos finds families at cemetery to show respect and love

By Megan Rodriguez STAFF WRITER

It's been a couple of months since Bianca Hernandez last took her girls to visit their little sister and clean her grave. That's far too long for Hernandez. They typically go each month. And each year on Día de los Muertos, Autumn Treviño, 9, and Daphnee Treviño, 8, like to bring treats for the baby girl, Mercy, who lived only a day. Tuesday, they brought her doughnuts

with sprinkles.

"Today really means a lot to me," Hernandez, 27, said with tears in her eyes. "It means that she's here and I'm going to talk to her and catch up."

Born with triploidy, a chromosomal abnormality, little Mercy died in 2005. Each year on Día de los Muertos, Hernandez talks to her.

Tuesday was no different.

"In my head, walking up, I can hear her saying, 'Mom's coming,'" Hernandez said. Having been told ahead of giving birth

that her daughter likely would not live, Hernandez said she was glad to have the little bit of time she did with her child. Mercy was baptized in that one day and photos were taken of her, including one that is now on her tombstone at San Fernando Cemetery II.

Mercy's name was chosen by her father, Israel Treviño, 30, who now is separated from Hernandez and visited the grave site Monday.

Hernandez said he thought of the name

Memories continues on A12

Black Rifle Coffee to go public in merger

By Madison Iszler STAFF WRITER

Black Rifle Coffee Co. said Tuesday it plans to go public by merging with an Austin-based shell corporation in a deal that values the veteran-founded business at roughly \$1.7 billion.

The Utah-based company sells premium coffee and apparel, but it may be better known for its brand — a die-hard supporter of military veterans and active-duty personnel, emergency first responders and gun rights.

Black Rifle was founded in 2014 in Salt Lake City, but San Antonio is its second home. Two of the company's co-founders live here, and it operates an office on Spencer Lane in the South Texas Medical Center area. It has shops in San Antonio and Boerne, with more locations planned.

The fast-growing company relies heavily on social media for its brand-building — and it has gotten swept into several controversies that played out on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other platforms.

The company was the subject of glaring public attention when the image of a man wearing a Black Rifle baseball cap and carrying flex handcuffs while storming the Capitol on Jan. 6 went viral.

Kyle Rittenhouse — who is currently on trial for killing two people and wounding a

Black Rifle continues on A13



Jessie Norris / Staff photographer

Restaurateurs Juan Rodriguez, left, and son Steven have tried to keep a sewage pumping station from being built on their land.

Eatery loses key fight over lift station

By Elena Bruess STAFF WRITER

A beloved Tex-Mex restaurant in Southtown has lost a key battle in its fight to keep the San Antonio Water System from building a sewage pumping station on its property.

Despite pleas from the family-owned business, SAWS' board of trustees on Tuesday authorized the utility to begin the process for taking part of Piedras Negras de Noche's property for a wastewater lift station. The board approved a

Water service is cut to more than 1,000 delinquent users. A3

resolution during its November meeting declaring a "public necessity for public use" — an initial step in exercising its eminent domain authority to acquire a piece of the restaurant's parking lot. The resolutions requests that the San Antonio City Council adopt an ordinance authorizing SAWS to proceed with condemnation of the property.

After months of contention and

frustration between the water utility and the restaurant's owners, Juan Rodriguez and his family, SAWS intends to build the lift station at the southeast corner of the restaurant's parking lot, between Piedras Negras and a McDonald's. The spot is SAWS' first option for the lift station — having originally proposed the location to the owners at the start of negotiations.

SAWS' decision is disappointing to the Rodriguez family, which opposes building the lift station on its property.

Restaurant continues on A13

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