



Monday, October 07, 2024

**1. It has been one year since Hamas's Oct. 7 surprise attacks on Israel.**

**Looking back:** About 1,200 people were killed and at least 250 taken hostage, including Americans. Israelis marked today's anniversary with ceremonies and protests.

**Since then:** A year of war has devastated Gaza — killing more than 41,000 people — but not destroyed Hamas. A new Israeli offensive in Lebanon is causing more bloodshed.

**In the U.S.:** Some American Jews have faced an identity crisis following the Oct. 7 attacks.

**2. JD Vance said Donald Trump would end funding to Planned Parenthood.**

**What to know:** The comments from Trump's running mate, made this weekend, were in contrast to recent, softer messaging on abortion from Trump and other Republicans.

**Other election news:** Trump would add twice as much to the national debt as Kamala Harris, a study found. And Democrats are urgently trying to "Trump-proof" their states.

**One more thing:** The Steele dossier author says he has more Trump dirt in a new book.

**3. A new Supreme Court term begins today.**

**Last term:** Justices issued several blockbuster rulings on Trump's immunity from prosecution and place on the 2024 ballot, as well as social media regulation and abortion pills.

**Up next:** The court will take on issues including ghost guns, internet porn and gender-affirming care for minors. And justices could tip the election.

**4. Another hurricane is barreling toward Florida.**

**The forecast:** Milton will probably hit the state's west coast by midweek, with Tampa Bay especially vulnerable — track it here. Hurricane Helene debris could be a major hazard.

**Recovery from Helene continues:** In Georgia and North Carolina, entire towns are in ruins. And the emergency response has been undermined by conspiracy theories.

**5. Overdose deaths appear to be declining sharply in the U.S.**

**The numbers:** Estimated deaths declined about 10% in the 12-month period ending in April 2024, with about 101,000 dying from overdoses, according to preliminary CDC data.

**Why?** Efforts to crack down on deadly fentanyl may be paying off, along with greater access to opioid addiction treatment and overdose-reversal medication.

**6. Meta unveiled its most advanced AI video technology yet.**

**What is it?** Movie Gen, which can transform text to video from a simple prompt, creating Hollywood-style movie clips. It's not yet available to users.

**The bigger picture:** Tech companies are racing to create AI models that can generate video. But critics say AI video could spread misinformation online and threaten jobs.

**One more thing:** Meta founder Mark Zuckerberg has bro-ified himself.

**7. Scientists are working on greener, more affordable air conditioning.**

**The idea:** To transform AC units from cooling machines into humidity gulpers. They would mitigate the Southern Hemisphere's hotter and wetter climate while using less power.

**Why it's needed:** Cooling accounts for nearly 4% of annual greenhouse gas emissions — twice as much as planes. And the number of AC units is expected to triple worldwide by 2050.



Vocabulary 07/10/24:

1. bloodshed - deaths or shedding of blood
2. Steele dossier - The Steele dossier, also known as the Trump–Russia dossier, is a controversial political opposition research report compiled by Christopher Steele, a former British Intelligence (MI6) officer. The dossier was written from June to December 2016 and contains allegations of misconduct, conspiracy, and cooperation between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and the Government of Russia prior to and during the 2016 election campaign.
3. ghost guns - guns produced in an additive manufacturing (3-D printing) process  
to tip - (here) to dump, to trash
4. to barrel - to travel somewhere very quickly  
debris - broken or torn pieces of something larger
5. CDC - Center for Disease Control and Prevention
6. Meta - U.S. Internet company running Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp et.al.  
bro - sub-culture describing easy-going/casual/cool male individuals
7. to gulp - to devour, here: to reduce humidity

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