

New York Times News Quiz – Sept.8, 2023

- 1) Enrique Tarrio was sentenced to 22 years in prison for his role in organizing his followers to attack the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. He was the leader of a group named THE PROUD BOYS. His sentence, stemming from his conviction this spring on charges of seditious conspiracy, was the most severe penalty handed down so far to any of the more than 1,100 people charged in connection with the Capitol attack.
- 2) Ken Paxton, a Republican, is facing charges this week in the Texas State Senate, after being impeached in May over accusations of bribery. He is the attorney general of Texas. Paxton is accused of using his office to benefit himself and a Texas real estate investor said to have assisted him with home renovations and an extramarital affair. His impeachment trial is the first in Texas for a statewide officer in over a century.
- 3) Politicians have long warned of rising Medicare spending. A Times analysis this week found that per-patient Medicare spending has stayed largely flat since 2010. Spending has nearly leveled off over more than a decade, saving taxpayers \$3.9 trillion relative to projections. But the reason for the slowdown has confounded experts, and it's unclear if it will continue.
- 4) Steve Harwell, the longtime lead singer of the rock band Smash Mouth, died this week. The band's biggest song, "All Star," had a second life when it was featured in the opening scene of Shrek. The song plays during the opening credits of the animated hit. The film also featured Smash Mouth's amped-up version of the Monkees' "I'm a Believer" in the closing scene.
- 5) Coco Gauff made it to the final in the U.S. Open for the first time this week.
- 6) Two people were accused of driving an excavator through the Great Wall of China to create a shortcut. Chinese authorities said a 38-year-old man and a 55-year-old woman had used construction equipment to create a shortcut through the wall near the township of Yangqianhe, about 215 miles west of Beijing.

- 7) A federal court again struck down a congressional map, which Republicans had redrawn, because it disempowered Black voters in Alabama. Republicans in the legislature hastily revised the map after the Supreme Court ruled that the previous map violated the Voting Rights Act. The latest ruling accused lawmakers of failing to solve that problem and ordered that a new map be independently drawn.
- 8) A Russian missile strike killed at least 17 people in Ukraine, and was one of the deadliest attacks in recent months. The strike hit an outdoor market.
- 9) The police in Pennsylvania spent the week searching for a convicted murderer who had escaped from prison. To encourage his surrender, helicopters and patrol cars played a message from his mother urging him in his native Portuguese to surrender peacefully. He fled from the Chester County Prison last week, days after he was sentenced to life for first-degree murder.
- 10) This week, the Rolling Stones, whose first album came out nearly 60 years ago, announced they were releasing a new record. "Hackney Diamonds," would be released on Oct. 20. It is the band's first album of original material in 18 years.
- 11) A new analysis shows that legal abortions most likely increased in the United States in the first six months of the year compared with 2020 in nearly every state where the procedure remains legal. But the change was most visible in states bordering those with total abortion bans. The analysis excludes abortions obtained outside the formal health care system, and does not include the 14 states that had abortion bans in effect in the first part of the year.