

Pfizer says it could be leader in cancer with many new drugs

Drugmaker starting 20 clinical trials in 2015

By LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Drug giant Pfizer is starting 20 clinical trials this year and more soon after on treatments to conquer cancer as it also seeks to gain leadership in one of the hottest, and most lucrative, areas of medicine.

A decade ago, the world's sec-

ond-biggest drugmaker by revenue wasn't even a player in cancer medicine. Instead, it was known for erectile dysfunction treatment Viagra and blockbuster cholesterol fighter Lipitor.

New York-based Pfizer Inc. then chose to make cancer one of its core research areas, pitting it against cancer powerhouses including Novartis AG, Roche Holding AG, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Merck & Co.

Today, Pfizer has eight approved cancer medicines, four of them launched in the last four years. It's running late-stage patient tests on five of those drugs for additional uses, has three other drugs in late-stage testing — usually the last round before seeking regulators' approval — and has 14 other drug programs in early stages.

Those programs together provide for a two-pronged attack on cancer,

including tumor-killing drugs and treatments in the promising new class called immuno-oncology that stimulate the immune system to mount a stronger defense against cancer.

Scientists "have never been closer to finding a cancer cure," Mikael Dolsten, Pfizer's head of worldwide research and development, told journalists Tuesday during an update on the company's cancer research strategy.

"Compared to other companies, we are uniquely positioned to be a leader" in cancer, Dolsten added.

He and other Pfizer executives said that's because killing tumors and preventing cancer recurrence requires regimens of multiple drugs given together or sequentially, and the company has many drugs that work by different mechanisms to try together.

"They clearly have the scale and
SEE PFIZER PAGE A3



President Barack Obama and Pope Francis laugh upon the pope's arrival Tuesday for a first-ever visit to the United States, at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. Francis landed to a red-carpet welcome as he opened his visit determined to press the United States to do more to care for the planet and its most marginalized inhabitants. Go online at www.theday.com to see a gallery of photos of the pope's arrival.

DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Francis arrives for first U.S. visit

White House stop set for this morning, speaking to Congress Thursday morning

By PETER BAKER, AZAM AHMED and JIM YARDLEY
New York Times News Service

Washington — Pope Francis landed to a red-carpet welcome Tuesday afternoon as he opened his first visit to the United States determined to press the world's last superpower to do more to care for the planet and its most marginalized inhabitants.

The papal jet descended out of cloudy skies to touch down at Joint Base Andrews, the iconic post still better known as Andrews Air Force Base and home of the presidential air fleet. As he disembarked, his white robes flapping in the wind and his cap held in his hand, the pontiff was greeted by President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and their families.

Hundreds of guests invited mainly by the Apostolic Nunciature, the equivalent of an embassy, cheered as the Alitalia jet rolled along the runway and the pope made his way down the stairs. "Ho, ho, hey, hey, welcome to the USA," they chanted at one point. At another, they chanted, "We love Francis, yes we do; We love Francis, how about you?"
SEE FRANCIS PAGE A6

Long, dry summer blossoms into bounty for local orchards

Apple trees ready and waiting for seekers of pick-your-own gems

By AMANDA HUTCHINSON
Day Staff Writer

The lack of rain this year hasn't stopped apple season at several local orchards.

Once Labor Day hits, these family farms open their groves to visitors looking to enjoy a day of pick-your-

"They're just beautiful."

RICK WHITTLE, OWNER OF WHITTLE'S WILLOW SPRING FARM, ABOUT THIS YEAR'S APPLE CROP

own apples, apple treats and other fall activities.

While Holmberg Orchards in Gales Ferry, Scott's Yankee Farmer in East Lyme and Whittle's Willow Spring Farm in Mystic grow and sell produce throughout the summer, apple season

is at its best in September and October.

Maintaining the fields and trees for apple-picking season is a year-round job. For Scott's Yankee Farmer, preparation begins in the spring with pruning.

Karen Scott, who runs the business components of the farm, said they thin out the branches of the trees so the apples can get more sun as they grow.

Amy Holmberg, retail manager
SEE APPLES PAGE A5

U.S. to take a dozen Montville parcels into trust for Mohegans

Land already owned by tribe; decision final after 30-day appeal period

By BRIAN HALLENBECK
Day Staff Writer

Montville — The U.S. Department of the Interior intends to take 12 parcels of Mohegan Tribe-owned land into trust for the tribe, removing the parcels from the local tax rolls.

The parcels, comprising more than 51 acres, have a total assessed value of more than \$7.2 million, land

records show. At Montville's current tax rate of 30.09 mills, they would generate nearly \$218,000 for the town.

Land taken into trust by federally recognized Indian tribes is exempt from local taxation.

In a notice published Friday, the Interior Department said the acting regional director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Eastern Region determined Sept. 14 that she would accept the parcels into trust "pursuant to the Mohegan Nation Land Claims
SEE MONTVILLE PAGE A5

WEATHER

Today, mostly sunny and delightful. High 75. Thursday, mostly sunny and pleasant. High 74. B6

INDEX

Business/C5
Classified/D5
Comics/D4
Daybreak/D1
Editorials/A4
Movies/D2
Nation/A2
Obituaries/B3

Police logs/B2
Public notices/D5
Puzzles/D6
Region/B1
Sports/C1
Stocks/C6
Television/D4
World/A2

KUDLOW WEIGHS SENATE RUN AGAINST BLUMENTHAL

Larry Kudlow, a conservative economist and media personality, has begun preparations for a possible campaign against Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut in 2016, raising the prospect of a costly and high-profile political clash in the heavily Democratic state.

A former Reagan administration economist who built an expansive public profile as an author and CNBC host, Kudlow said in an interview last week that he had not made a final decision to challenge Blumenthal, who is a Democrat. But in recent weeks, Kudlow, 68, has taken the most aggressive steps yet toward assembling a campaign.

Strategists have advised him that he would have to raise as much as \$10 million for a campaign and perhaps double that for a "super PAC" supporting his candidacy. See B6

STATE POLICE STILL STOPPING MINORITIES AT HIGH RATES

Hartford — Police in Connecticut are still stopping black and Hispanic drivers at disproportionately high rates, according to traffic stop data released Tuesday.

Black drivers constitute 14.1 percent of drivers pulled over by police in all law enforcement agencies in the state from Oct. 1, 2014, through March 31, while 12.3 percent of drivers who were stopped were Hispanic, according to the data. About 8 percent of Connecticut's population is black and 9.7 percent is Hispanic, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The percentages of traffic stops of minorities were slightly higher than those from the same six-month period last year, when 13.7 percent of traffic stops involved black drivers and 12.0 percent involved Hispanic drivers. See B6

Through the Lens



Migrants walk from a train at Hegyeshalom station Tuesday in Hungary, headed toward the Austrian border, about 2 miles away. Go online at www.theday.com to see a gallery of the day's best wire photos.

