



The News

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by Sarah Heath

French citizens will have to keep their health passes until July the 31st. The National Assembly has just voted in favor of the bill on "health vigilance" put forward by the government – 118 votes for and 89 against. There has been opposition from both the right and the left denouncing a blank cheque signed in favor of the government and which will span the next two national elections: the presidential and legislative.

French poultry breeders will have to confine their birds due to a return of bird flu. The avian influenza virus responsible for this disease was detected in 3 farms in the Ardennes and Aisne. The risk of spread is high according to the Ministry of Agriculture but by locking poultry indoors, the objective is to reduce their contact with migrating birds that may be carriers of the virus. Samples will be taken in areas with a high risk of dissemination.

There have been good figures in the tourism industry during these last Halloween holidays. Compared to 2019 just before the Covid crisis, there is a 15% increase in hotel attendance and 54% for rental accommodation between individuals.

Some of the richest men in the world are also acting for the fight against climate change. Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates have promised to donate more than \$3 billion at COP26 in Glasgow.

The American government has offered a \$10 million reward to those who identify the leaders of DarkSide – a group of hackers known to develop ransomware. For Washington, this Russian-based group is behind the attack that targeted a large pipeline network on American soil last May.

The CaC 40 has passed the symbolic mark of 7,000 points. The Paris stock exchange had

already broken its own records yesterday in a level never reached before. It is the result of central bank support for financial markets, particularly in the face of the health crisis. Several American indexes have also recorded very good results in recent weeks.

And finally, music fans will see the return of ABBA in record stores today. The legendary Swedish group from the 1970s released a brand new album after 40 years entitled Voyage.