Ukrainian troops kept up pressure on fleeing Russian forces

KHERKIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian troops piled pressure on retreating Russian troops Tuesday, pressing deeper into occupied territory and sending more Kremlin forces fleeing ahead of the counteroffensive that has inflicted a stunning blow on Moscow’s armed forces.

The advance continued, Ukraine’s border guard services said the army took control of Zvorykina — a town just 2 miles from Russia seized on the first day of the war. Russia acknowledged that it has withdrawn troops from areas in the northeastern region of Kharkiv in recent days.

Ukrainian troops were also pulling out from the southern city of Melitopol, the second-largest city in Ukraine’s southern Zaporizhzhia region, the city’s pro-occupation mayor said.

His claim could not immediately be verified.

Meelopoli has been under Russian occupa-
tion since early March. Capturing it would give Kyiv the opportunity to disrupt Russian supply lines between the south and the eastern Donbas region, the two major areas where Moscow-backed forces hold territory.

Melitopol Mayor Ivan Fedorov wrote on Tele-
gram that the Russian troops were heading to-
ward Moscow-annexed Crimea. He said col-
umns of military equipment were reported at a checkpoint in Chonhar, a village marking the boundary between the Crimean peninsula and the Ukrainian main-
land.

In the newly freed village of Chkalovske in the Kharkiv region, Svitlana Honchar said she fled from Russia seized on Aug. 31. She said the army took the village of Chkalovske and the checkpoint in Chonhar, a village marking the boundary between the Crimean peninsula and the Ukrainian main-
land.

Meanwhile, Ukraine’s military said it has seized heights at Chonhar, a village marking the boundary between the Crimean peninsula and the Ukrainian main-
land.

U.S. inflation still stubbornly high despite August slowdown

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lower gas costs showed U.S. inflation for a second straight month in August, but most other prices across the economy kept rising — evidence that inflation remains a heavy burden for American households.

Consumer prices rose 8.3% from a year earlier and 0.1% from July. But the jump in “core” prices, which exclude volatile food and energy costs, was es-
pecially worrisome. It outpaced expectations and fueled fear that the Federal Reserve will boost interest rates more aggressively and raise the risk of a recession.

Fed by high rents, medical care and new cars, core prices leaped 6.3% for the year ending in August and 0.6% from July. But the jump in “core” prices, which exclude volatile food and energy costs, was es-
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