

The Forward Eagle

Compiled Weekly

for

The Riverdale Senior Services Center
Bronx, NY

“Let us endeavor mutually to enlighten one another.”

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Current events

1.

The last 20 surviving Israeli hostages held by the Islamist Hamas were handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Gaza Strip on October 13, 2025.

2.

China’s growth models continue to remain successful. The longer China succeeds, the more the United States and its allies will deindustrialize under pressure from Chinese industrial expansion. The sectors of energy, industrial goods, and artificial intelligence will be most changed.

If the United States is to compete effectively with China and other emerging economies in the world economy, US policymakers must spend less time trying to weaken their rivals and more time making their own economy a more vigorous version of itself.

3.

European Union Commission President Ursula von der Leyen considers the recent drone incidents and other airspace violations in Europe to be a form of “hybrid warfare.”

At a recent session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, von der Leyen stated that these violations are an escalating Russian campaign to unsettle the citizens of Europe.

Countering Russia’s efforts will require a new mindset in Europe. "We can either duck and watch Russian threats escalate, or we can confront them with unity, deterrence, and resolve," President von der Leyen said.

4.

On October 26, 2025 the independent news organization Free Press sold out to the CBS network’s parent company Paramount for \$150 million.

The move is part of an on-going trend in legacy media to consolidate and adjust to increased US government regulation of news media content.

5.

Delta, the biggest US air carrier by market capitalization, beat earnings and sales expectations amid a recovery in travel demand. Revenue rose 6% to \$16.7 billion, boosted by premium cabin demand, corporate travel and its loyalty-customers.

Delta Airlines said it expects its rapidly expanding luxury and corporate customer base to overtake the sales it receives from flyers who buy economy seats by 2027.

6.

Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado won the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize for opposing dictatorship in her country.

Machado, a 58-year-old industrial engineer, is an unusual choice for the Nobel committee. She is a conservative, and cites Margaret Thatcher as an inspiration. She has been close to the Trump administrations and earlier republican administrations going back to George W. Bush.



Photo WSJ

Smoke rising from air strikes in Gaza on 10/9/25

She dedicated the award in part to President Donald Trump for his support of her party’s opposition to the regime of acting president Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela.

7.

In the six months since “Liberation Day”, when President Trump imposed tariffs on America’s trading partners, financial markets have swung from panic to exuberance.

On Main Street, however, the picture is mixed. Inflation has risen somewhat, as America’s importing businesses have absorbed much of the costs of tariffs on imported goods. US employment has stagnated. America’s economy is expected to grow by a middling 1.5-2% in 2025.

8.

President Trump may have raised tariffs to the levels of the 1930s and be waging war on the Federal Reserve Bank, but it is possible that “Zero Migration America” will be the most significant of the president’s economic policies.

Preventing workers from entering the country not only takes aim at a pillar of America’s success, it does so at a time when the native-born workforce is quickly growing older and retiring.

Every year since the 1930s, more people have arrived in America than have left. Every year, that is, until 2025. Net immigration was over 2.5m per year at the end of 2024; by year’s end 2025 that figure may fall to zero, or turn negative.

9.

Air traffic controllers missing work was widely cited as the reason a 2019 federal government shutdown ended. That assumption was overblown according to aviation safety experts, some of whom say that Republicans are fanning fears of a controller walkout amid the current shutdown to pressure lawmakers into making a deal to end the shutdown.

“The narrative is false,” said the president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association. The official argued that staffing declines and air traffic slowdowns, both in 2019 and last week, were troubling but not abnormal.

10.

A recent Saturday dinner at the Morris Inn’s Smith Ballroom in South Bend, Indiana was followed by a small gathering at Rohr’s Tavern. There the ND Class of 1970 elected Barney King as president and Paul Buchbinder as vice president of the class alumni association.

Word of the week

chattel

/ˈCHad(ə)l/

noun

noun: **chattel**; plural noun: **chattels**

1. (in general use) a personal possession.

"all of their chattels had been stolen"

2. Law: an item of property other than real estate.

The English philosopher and physician John Locke (1632-1704) theoretical justification for chattel slavery was based on the concept of "lawful war." The philosopher’s writings are cited as one of several conflicted rationales for hereditary and racial slavery in the colonies of the Americas.

John Locke's own business dealings with the slave-trading Royal Africa Company and his role in drafting the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina, which explicitly supported slavery, have created a strong legacy of hypocrisy and contradiction surrounding the founding documents of the United States.

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Tim Forward Editor

This paper is offered as a review of recent topics taken up by the current events discussion group at The Riverdale Senior Services Center.

Please join us at the Center for Ageless Living, 2600 Netherland Avenue, Bronx, NY each Monday at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon for Current Events & Discussion

Items in this week’s Eagle were collected and edited from:

1. SZ 10/13/25 | 2. Foreign Affairs Opinion 8/19/25 | 3. SZ 10/8/25 | 4. WSJ 10/6/25 | 5. WSJ 10/6/25 | 6. Reuters 10/10/25 | 7. The Economist 10/9/25 | 8. The Economist 10/9/25 | 9. NYT 10/14/25 | 10. 2025 Notre Dame Magazine Fall 2025