

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.

Mayor Eric Adams has officially endorsed Andrew Cuomo in New York City’s mayoral race.

The mayor threw his support behind the former governor at a joint news conference in Harlem Thursday afternoon 10/23/25.

2.

New York City halted work on its planned redesign of 34th Street in Midtown. The work would have to cross town bus service. However, the Trump administration ordered the city to pause the roadwork.

The Federal Highway Administration gave the New York City Department of Transportation a second notice to pause the project citing concerns such as the absence of plans to accommodate truckers that rely on access to 34th Street and environs.

3.

Lawyers for the man accused of assassinating the chief executive of UnitedHealthcare, asked a federal judge on Friday to let them investigate whether the Justice Department and UnitedHealthcare officials have attempted to “malign and prejudice” their client.

The request is the latest turn in a festering dispute that began after a Trump administration official said repeatedly that the defendant, Luigi Mangione, is guilty. The judge in the case has said the comments may violate her order prohibiting parties from making statements that could affect Mangione’s ability to receive a fair trial.

4.

Based on newly posted information, a family of four making \$130,000 in Maine would face and increase of \$16,000 in annual premiums next year because they would no longer qualify for more generous subsidies, said Gideon Lukens, a health policy researcher for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, which supports extending subsidies.

Older people will also see sharp increases, according to his calculations. In Kentucky, a 60-year-old couple making \$85,000 per year could face an increase of \$23,000 in annual premiums.

Overall, filings from insurance companies show that prices for plans are rising by an average of 18% nationwide next year. But most Americans who buy their own health insurance qualify for federal tax credits that help them pay their premiums. Those subsidies were made more generous during the pandemic, but they are set to return to the earlier, lower levels at the end of this year, unless Congress extends them again.

5.

In the 2013 landmark case of *Shelby v. Holder*, the Supreme Court struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that required some states with a history of voter discrimination to seek approval from the federal government when making changes to their state voting laws.

The court’s decision left untouched a central piece of the Voting Rights Act known as



Photo by Ezra Stoller

The LBJ Presidential Library was dedicated on May 22, 1971. The complex of buildings was designed by the architect Gordon Bunshaft and the firm of Skidmore Owings & Merrill. Construction began in 1967 on the Austin campus of the University of Texas, and was completed in 1969 two years after Lyndon Johnson left the White House.

Section 2, which prohibits election voting practices that discriminate on the basis of race.

On October 15, 2025, the court heard arguments in the case of *Louisiana v. Callais* that challenged this remaining pillar of the Voting Rights Act, that unraveled Jim Crow laws in the south and served to protect the voting power of Black Americans since 1965.

6.

Louisiana v. Callais is a seminal redistricting case before the U.S. Supreme Court that focuses on the constitutionality of Louisiana’s congressional map. The court will determine if Louisiana lawmakers properly balanced constitutional and Voting Rights Act (VRA) protections when enacting a new congressional map, SB 8, with two majority-Black districts in 2024, following years of litigation under Section 2 of the VRA in the earlier and related case of *Robinson v. Landry*.

NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) argued *Louisiana v. Callais* before the Supreme Court in March 2025. On June 27, 2025 the Supreme Court issued an order to reargue the case during the fall term.

On Oct. 15, LDF President and Director-Counsel Janai Nelson argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Louisiana v. Callais*, a case about equal representation for Black voters in Louisiana and the role of race in redistricting. The case comes on appeal following a divided district court decision finding that Louisiana’s map, which included an additional majority-Black congressional district to remedy a likely Voting Rights Act (VRA) violation, was a racial gerrymander.

The scheduling of rearmament signals the significance this case holds for the future of fair representation and voting rights. *Louisiana v. Callais* has always been about equal representation, but the outcome in this case will reverberate through redistricting law nationwide and will determine the future of the Voting Rights Act, with key protections hanging in the balance. The implications of the case have the potential to go beyond redistricting and could affect civil rights doctrine nationwide.

This case is about more than just maps. It is about the future of a multi-racial democracy and

the commitment to ensure that every vote counts and every voice is heard in the political process.

7.

Sanae Takaichi has been elected Japan’s first female prime minister. Soon she will host President Donald Trump on his visit to Tokyo and Asia.

Like Trump, Takaichi admires tough nationalist leaders such as the UK’s Iron Lady, Margaret Thatcher. The new prime minister seeks closer ties with the US to counter China’s efforts to reshape the global order. She is committed to accelerating the build up of Japan’s military, which may help Trump’s efforts for Asian allies to rely less on American protection.

The two leaders will likely bond over memories of Shinzo Abe, the assassinated former Japanese prime minister who struck up a close relationship with Trump and mentored Takaichi as a rising political star in the party.

Takaichi’s ascent marks a shift to the right in Japanese politics after her Liberal (though right of center leaning) Democratic Party suffered two successive election losses under the leadership of centrist Shigeru Ishiba.

Word of the week

allophilia

/ˌæləˈfiliə/
noun

allophilias (countable and uncountable, plural)

1. The quality of having positive intergroup attitudes, i.e., positive attitudes towards outgroup members, those with characteristics different from one's own, such as people of different races, religions, cultures, etc.

The term *allophilia* was coined by Harvard professor Todd Pittinsky in 2006, after he was unable to find an antonym for prejudice. The term derived from Greek words meaning "liking or love of the other." (allo- + -philia)

The typical remedy for prejudice is to bring conflicting groups into a state of tolerance. However, tolerance is not the logical antithesis of prejudice, but rather is the midpoint between negative feelings and positive feelings toward others.

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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. Spectrum News 10/23/25 | 2. Bloomberg 10/17/25 | 3. NYT 10/18/25 | 4. NYT 10/18/25 | 5. NYT 10/15/25 | 6. www.naacpldf.org/case-issue/louisiana-v-callais/ | 6. Bloomberg 10/21/25