

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.

While the 2025 turnout will be impressive, the percent of registered voters who will ultimately show up at the polls likely pales in comparison to races in the past.

Some 80% of NYC registered voters came out in 1965, and 60% came out in 1989. This year with 4.95 million active registered voters, the 2025 NYC turnout is unlikely to top 50%.

Mayoral races, which are held in odd years, typically see lower turnouts than even-year contests for governor or president. Nearly 2.8 million New Yorkers voted in the presidential race in November 2024 vs. 2.0 in 2025.

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Zohran Mamdani	D	1,036,051	50.4%
Andrew Cuomo	I	854,995	41.6%
Curtis Sliwa	R	146,437	7.1%
Eric Adams	I	6,382	0.3%
Write-ins	I	6,290	0.3%
Irene Estrada	I	2,543	0.1%
Jim Walden	I	2,170	0.1%
Joseph Hernandez	I	1,253	0.1%

All Parties	2021	2025
Estimated voters	1,100,000	2,000,000 +81%

2.

Political longevity looms large in the US, where Democrats scored key victories in the local 2025 elections by turning Donald Trump’s messaging on affordability against him.

From curbing utility bills to reducing the cost of childcare, groceries, health care and public transportation, progressives are hoping to steal Republicans’ edge as the party best-equipped to deal with economic concerns.

The challenge will be to stay on message and out of the culture wars. This will take a level of discipline the Democrats can’t always seem to muster, especially since the party has not solved its myriad of internal policy disagreements.

3.

Although New York City’s Black voters have been a bedrock of the city’s Democratic support, experts caution against overgeneralizing the political views of Black voters. “There’s a great deal of heterogeneity,” said John Mollenkopf, a political science professor, who heads the Center for Urban Research at the CUNY Graduate School.

Professor Mollenkopf notes that more than half of Black voters in New York City are of Afro-Caribbean descent, as opposed to African American descent.

4.

Kevin Forster, 64 a retired business consultant in Lafayette, CA, logged on to the state marketplace recently to check his rates for next year and couldn’t believe what he saw.

Eligible for a subsidy in 2025, he and his wife are slated to lose it in 2026.

The couple’s monthly insurance bill of about \$580 will shoot up to more than \$3,200, or an annual cost of more than \$38,000. The 2026 version of their plan comes with a family deductible of \$14,400, pushing the total past \$50,000.

He’s likely to have to tap his savings until he can get Medicare, he said, but he is also trying to find a cheaper plan, or an alternative like



A rendering of the Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice at 321 East 42nd Street, New York City. The landmark was designed between 1963 and 1966 and construction completed in 1967. Kevin Roche was the chief architect and his partner John Dinkeloo the chief engineer.

purchasing travel health insurance and temporarily relocating abroad.

5.

The Ford Foundation, a nearly 90-year-old international philanthropy, is now in the crosshairs of the current administration, which has called for scrutiny of the organization as part of a broad partisan crackdown on selected social and cultural institutions.

In her first interview, the incoming Ford Foundation president, Heather K. Gerkin, said that the Ford Foundation has a long history of supporting social justice and civil rights initiatives and is undeterred.

The institution’s central priority, she said, was “defending the rule of law and protecting our election system.”

Asked for practical examples of what the foundation’s emphasis on protecting democracy would entail, Ms. Gerken pointed to securing the infrastructure for elections.

“We are going to do everything we can,” she said, “to protect the ability of election administrators to carry out free and fair elections, to make sure that every citizen has the opportunity to vote without fear or intimidation and that votes are properly counted.”

6.

Dick Cheney, who spent eight years as perhaps the most influential vice president in history and remembered as one of the most polarizing, has died. He was 84.

The former Vice President died due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease,” his family said in a statement released Tuesday morning.

Word of the week

aleatory

/ˈālēə,tôrē/

adjective: **aleatory**; adjective: **aleatoric**

- depending on the throw of a dice or on chance; random.
- relating to or denoting music or other forms of art involving elements of random choice (sometimes using statistical or computer techniques) during their composition, production, or performance.

"aleatory music"

Origin

late 17th century: from Latin *aleatorias*, from *aleatory* ‘dice player’, from *Alea* ‘die’, + -y

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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. thecity.nyc 11/05/2025 | 2. Bloomberg Opinion 11/8/2025 | 3. Gothamist 10/30/2025| 4. WSJ 11/4/25| 5. NYT 11/4/2025| 6. Politico 11/4/2025