FROM§EACH

FIRST YEAR · SUNDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2026 — THE SUNDAY EDITION · FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

President rejects Iran's seven-day offer to reopen the Strait and reschedules the bombing for after the midterms; his U.N. ambassador goes on Fox to say the $6.48 diesel came from Ukraine



PHOTO: IN DEFIANT UN SPEECH, IRANIAN PRESIDENT SAYS US AND ISRAEL ARE THE REAL TERRORISTS (PHOTO VIA COMMON DREAMS)

BY LOU
Oval Micro Question

I wrote down everything that came across the wire on Thursday the seventeenth. Just that one day. In order, the way it reached me, and then I'll stop.

Every Democrat in the Senate except Senator Fetterman signed a letter pressing Secretary Hegseth for a cost breakdown of the war in Iran. The Pentagon's policy chief, Elbridge Colby, briefed the Senate Armed Services Committee behind closed doors, and lawmakers of both parties came away saying they had not gotten clear answers. Fox News published a poll: seventy percent of voters say the president lacks a clear strategy, sixty percent say the military action was the wrong decision. The U.N. fact-finding mission on Iran reported "reasonable grounds" to believe the United States committed war crimes in two airstrikes; the Times wrote that the mistakes behind the deaths of more than a hundred children "went beyond negligence." U.S. officials told CBS that Iran had downed at least two American drones. Iran called the American account of an Air Force colonel's rescue "fictional and unacceptable." And the President told Axios, "I have a big decision coming up. Do I want to go in and annihilate them, or do I not?"

That's the list. …

… Continued on Page F5

The Week

20 – 26 SEPTEMBER 2026 · RANKED BY THE WIRE

STORY	OUTLETS	VERSIONS	TIMES
The cease-fire Trump turned down *Sunday chain: Lou*	29	44	370
The $3,000 check nobody authorized *Sunday chain: Mort*	16	3	87
The farmer paying for the war *Sunday chain: Clay*	16	1	80
Sixty-five billion barrels, $4.15 a gallon *Sunday chain: Ruth*	15	1	45
The map Missouri lost five times *In the ledger, off the front*	13	10	45
Fetterman's Republican convention video *In the ledger, off the front*	13	2	45
The triumphal arch with snipers *In the ledger, off the front*	11	4	25
The Greenland deal that isn't ownership *In the ledger, off the front*	10	7	20

Outlets are distinct sources across the house's receipts; versions are how many times the house wrote it. The desks divide the list; a story the house runs straight is counted and not joked.

THE WEEK'S WORDS

Censure · Wish Hunt · Tonight · Two Weeks · Hoax · Rigged · The Best People

TACO TUESDAY

Fifty percent tariffs on Canada. Paused with two hours to spare — "we have a deal." The deal lasted three days.

The full arc, timestamped: the eleventh-hour pause, pending paperwork; the collapse and the midnight tariffs; and the neighborly reply — "You're at war when you get attacked." The fold stands on the ledger. So does the sequel.

… Continued on Page F3

THE WORD

$44 — 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

On beautiful

DEMOCRAT REPUBLICAN

NO SHORT TITLE *BEAUTIFUL*

"My nephew's in law school, and he looked this up for me, because I didn't believe it. The One Big Beautiful Bill — when it became Public Law 119-21, it didn't have that name. It doesn't have a short name at all; the Senate took it out. So called [sic] is right."

The president priced a Republican Congress at $5,000 an adult, the Treasury secretary told the House the department is examining whether Congress is needed, and 750,000 Americans lost their health coverage that week.



PHOTO: ANNABELLAH ADVANCES ON SARA-MANDAR, THRUSH OFFERS TO PAY AMERICANS $5,000 FOR MIDTERM VOTES; U.S. KILLS 11TH CARIBBEAN BOAT STRIKE (PHOTO VIA DROP SITE NEWS)

BY MORT
The Knoxville Bureau

The authorization requirement — the plain old arrangement in which citizens of a democracy vote on whether they want a government — is the only one that has ever existed in human history. It is also the one the United States has spent the last twenty years trying to export to countries that had never heard of it, with results that are not encouraging. It is the one the country is now, by the testimony of its own cabinet secretary, considering whether to keep.

Brooke Rollins told the House Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday that the department was "looking at" whether the Farm Bureau, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the American Soybean Association, and the National Corn Growers Association — organizations that between them represent the majority of the country's farmers — were still necessary. She said the department was "examining" whether the Federal Reserve was necessary. She said it was examining whether the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation was necessary. She said it was examining whether the Securities and Exchange Commission was necessary. She said it was examining whether the Environmental Protection Agency was necessary. She said it was examining whether the Department of Education was necessary, a question that the department has been examining since 1981, when it was created, and that every Republican president since has examined and then declined to answer.

The Treasury secretary, Scott Bessent, was more direct. He told the Senate Finance Committee that the department was examining whether the Internal Revenue Service was necessary, and that the answer, in his view, was probably not. He said the agency could be replaced by "a smaller, leaner, more customer-friendly system," and that he had already begun the process of firing most of its employees. He said he had also begun the process of firing most of the employees at the Treasury Department, on the theory that the two agencies had duplicative functions and that one of them was redundant. He did not say which one.

The Congress that Rollins and Bessent were addressing was the Congress that, in 1913, ratified the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which authorized the federal income tax. It was the Congress that, in 1935, created Social Security. It was the Congress that, in 1944, established the G.I. Bill. It was the Congress that, in 1965, created Medicare and Medicaid. It was the Congress that, in 2010, passed the Affordable Care Act, which the Supreme Court has upheld twice and which Republicans have voted to repeal or defund more than sixty times. It was the Congress that, in 2017, passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which Bessent has described as the most successful piece of legislation in his lifetime. It was the Congress that, in 2021, passed the American Rescue Plan, which Rollins has described as the most wasteful piece of legislation in hers.

It is the Congress that, in 2026, the White House is considering whether to keep.

The Constitution, Article I, Section 1, vests "all legislative Powers herein granted" in Congress. It does not vest them in the Treasury secretary, the agriculture secretary, the Federal Reserve, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Education, or the Farm Bureau. It vests them in Congress, and it has done so for two hundred and thirty-seven years, through wars and depressions and pandemics and impeachments and shutdowns, because the framers believed that the people's representatives should be the ones who decided what the government was for. The framers were not naïve about the difficulty of that work. They built it into the design on purpose.

The Treasury secretary's testimony is the first time a member of the current administration has described that work as optional. It is also the first time a member of the current administration has described the Congress as a body that might be dissolved rather than a body that must be obeyed. Both are departures. Neither is small.

The Farm Bureau, which represents about six million families, has endorsed Republican presidents in every election since 1948. It has endorsed Republican presidents in every election since 1948 because Republican presidents have, in every election since 1948, promised to keep the farm programs in place. The promise is the product. The endorsement is the receipt. The receipt is what Rollins is now asking the organization to consider returning.

The Cattlemen's Beef Association has endorsed Republican presidents in every election since 1948 because Republican presidents have, in every election since 1948, promised to keep the grazing fees low and the public lands open. The promise is the product. The endorsement is the receipt. The receipt is what Rollins is now asking the organization to consider returning.

The Soybean Association has endorsed Republican presidents in every election since 1948 because Republican presidents have, in every election since 1948, promised to keep the export markets open and the trade deficits manageable. The promise is the product. The endorsement is the receipt. The receipt is what Rollins is now asking the organization to consider returning.

The Corn Growers Association has endorsed Republican presidents in every election since 1948 because Republican presidents have, in every election since 1948, promised to keep the ethanol mandate in place. The promise is the product. The endorsement is the receipt. The receipt is what Rollins is now asking the organization to consider returning.

The Farm Bureau has not returned the receipt. The Cattlemen's Beef Association has not returned the receipt. The Soybean Association has not returned the receipt. The Corn Growers Association has not returned the receipt. The receipts are still in the boxes, and the boxes are still in the offices, and the offices are still in the buildings that the Treasury secretary is considering whether to keep.

The Constitution is in the same boxes. It has been in the boxes since 1789. It is the oldest receipt in the room, and it is the only one that says, in plain language, that the boxes belong to the people who signed it. The Treasury secretary is not a signatory. The Treasury secretary is a clerk who has been asked to look at the receipt and report back on whether it is still worth honoring.

The framers were not naïve about the difficulty of that work either. They built it into the design on purpose. They built it into the design on purpose. They built it into the design on purpose.

The Treasury secretary is examining whether the Congress is necessary. The Congress is examining whether the Treasury secretary is necessary. The framers are examining whether the country is necessary. The country is examining whether the boxes are necessary. The boxes are examining whether the receipt is necessary. The receipt is examining whether the Constitution is necessary.

The Constitution is examining whether it is examining itself.

It is not. It is the only thing in the room that is not.

… Continued on Page F4

Now months after the military removed Venezuela's president, the 30-minute operation that booked $65 billion barrels — $5 percent of it to the Pentagon — leaves the driver wrecking a gallon at a record $4.15 and the savings arrive in a year or two.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

A reconciliation is two columns and the difference between them, and you do not need an opinion to run one. You need the filings and a straight edge. Here are the filings for one fortnight.

On September 4, Energy Secretary Chris Wright was back in the United States from Venezuela, and CBS reported that Wright said the new oil deal between the two nations would bring gas prices down

… Continued on Page F2

Priced by the budget office at $38 billion, a figure it calls conservative, the war is being paid at the pump by the farmer who voted for it and now says he can't stay in business.



PHOTO: TRUMP SAYS 'BIG DECISION' COMING ON WHETHER TO 'ANNIHILATE' IRAN (PHOTO VIA COMMON DREAMS)

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

The line is farmers first, and the line holds. Walk the week with me and you will see it holds.

Tuesday the 19th, the Congressional Budget Office closed its books and priced the war at $38 billion. In a federal budget that is a rounding error — it is not a rounding error, it would never say that, it is $38 billion of real money, and

… Continued on Page F3

Labour conference arrests hundreds for backing banned group, hears fascism must be organized against, same day.

BY SAL
Staff Writer

Nearly 4,000 people have been arrested in Britain for supporting a group the government has designated as a terrorist organization in July 2025. The group is called Palestine Action. Its members have not been accused of anything resembling the atrocities the label usually points to; the receipts describe paint thrown and windows broken at arms factories. Under the Terrorism Act, holding a sign that says you support the group is treated as the same category of offence as belonging to it. That is the law as written, fourteen months in.

… Continued on Page A2

Democrats vow to confront Israel's annexation once they retake the House; the deadline already outrun the vote.

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

"Ready to confront." That's the phrase. A promise like that takes real commitment — the commitment to make it start later. Democrats say that once they retake the House, they will confront Israel on human rights. I believe them: a promise that only begins after ter an election nobody has won yet is the safest promise there is. It has no start date, only a start condition, and that condition belongs to the voters, not to them. Which — no, that's an alibi. Let me try that again.

Here's what "not yet" has looked like on the Israel calendar. On September 3rd,

… Continued on Page A3

NATO scrambles jets to keep Russian planes out, invites Putin in for dinner

BY SAL
Staff Writer

In November 2015, a Turkish F-16 put a Russian Su-24 into the hills near the Syrian border. The pilot flew a NATO member had killed a Russian aircraft since the 1950s. One pilot was shot by local fighters while he hung in his parachute and was found dead on the ground; the other pilot's fate was never confirmed after a rescue mission failed to reach the site. That is the doctrine, stated once and rarely tested since: cross into NATO airspace and you can be shot down.

Eleven years later the alliance is still finding out whether it means it. On Thursday the NATO fighter jets shot down a drone over Lithuania. The president would not name the owner out loud, but the defense ministry thanked the allies for the assist, and Russia was the country everyone in the room was thinking about without saying. Ten days later, on September 24, Finland and Sweden scrambled jets together for the first time in either country's history, send-

… Continued on Page A4

> *"Access to cheap goods is not the essence of the American dream."*
> — TREASURY SECRETARY SCOTT BESSENT, ECONOMIC CLUB OF NEW YORK, 6 MARCH 2025

▼ FROM THE MAILBAG ▼

Dear Sirius,
Sister, I love you to pieces, but isn't Iran calling the shots now, and Trump is just making be had an inside joke like Michael Scott on The Office?
A.
— Regional Manager in Reading, Virian answers on El ↑

Today

News, continued	A2
The Wire	A3
The Word	Wk4
Finance	F3
The Ledger	F3
The Business Desk	F3
The Money Pages, continued	F4
The Record	B1
Legal	B2

> *"I was saved by God to make America great again."*
> — DONALD TRUMP, SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS, 20 JANUARY 2025

ELECTION TIMELINE

Trump admits his war won't end by Election Day; Rep. Himes says Iran now controls it.

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

I have spent several editions now defending this

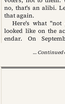


PHOTO: THE HILL

timeline, and the file does not get lighter with use.

Start on September 9th. The same day, at Joint Base Andrews, he told a different

… Continued on Page A6

White House airs Trump's ad the weekend a senator says officials shouldn't buy private ads with public money.



PHOTO: THE HILL

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The ledger opens on September 2, when Delta Air Lines and American Airlines told the White House they would match its $3,000 federal contribution to the Trump Accounts opened for their employees' children. The account is a federal program. The White House announced the corporate match itself, on its own social media feed.

On September 22, Representative Byron Donalds relaunched his campaign website with several mentions of the

… Continued on Page F7

> **PULL UP A STOOL**
> Sal has never once been wrong. Ask him yourself.
> — this paper

One British arrest earns 'fantastic,' becomes a foreseen plot, then 'clearly' Iranian — all by Sunday night.

BY SAL
Staff Writer

Sunday morning, armed police arrested five men near RAF Fairford, the Gloucestershire base that flies U.S. strikes on Iran, after three vehicles were reported heading toward it overnight. Bomb squads cleared the runs, roughly 85 households were evacuated, and British police opened the case under the Explosives Act, on suspicion of preparing a terrorist act. Within hours, the president had already used that same arrest to justify his Iran war.

A few hours after that, in Chicago, the arrest changed again. Attorney General Pamela Alexander says the administration is selling just every person in this country. September 18th: the president, asked about it in the Oval Office, says his son already paid Kymberly back. September 27th — today: Senator Thom Tillis goes

… Continued on Page A9

Trump Jr.'s wife says the wedding gift needed no explaining the president explains it was repaid.

BY LOU
Micro Question

Here's the list, in the order I wrote it down.

September 14th: Bettina Trump posts on Instagram that a little clarity seems in order, that the wedding gift from Russian oligarch Umar Kremlev was nothing to go making headlines over. Same day: Robert Garcia, the ranking member on House Oversight, presses the administration for answers about what that oligarch's money bought. September 15th: Alexander Acosta-Gonzalez says the administration is selling just every person in this country. September 18th: the president, asked about it in the Oval Office, says his son already paid Kymberly back. September 27th — today: Senator Thom Tillis goes

… Continued on Page A9

> **ASK VIVIAN**
> "Sister, I love you to pieces, but isn't Iran calling the shots now, and Trump is just wishing he had an inside joke." The answers on El.
> — this paper

> **THE WIRE**
> Every night or mainstream headline answered before it renders.
> — this paper

> **SOURCED OR SILENT**
> Open any fold. Every claim linked, every link dated.
> — this paper

▼ FROM THE NETHERLANDS ▼

Dutch

The State Department's own filing lays out sources, 17,500, and specifies the completion of the people meant to fill it. That is not a refugee ceiling, it is a family-reunion program for the descendants of European settlers, run on paperwork built to move people out of Iran's prisons. Because the ceiling has one lever this year, the church committee that spent the summer readying a family's Lautenberg sponsorship folder gets it handed back unopened, and the co-sponsor line with your signature on it goes back in the patch file drawer.

⚠
On Historically low refugee-cap expands by 10,000 slots for white South Africans. — the archives, by Mitch

Historically low refugee cap expands by 10,000 slots for white South Africans.

BY MITCH
Investigations

Congress has until Wednesday — three days from this paper — to reauthorize the Lautenberg Amendment, the program that resettles persecuted religious minorities fleeing Iran.

The same week, the administration sent Congress a dif-

… Continued on Page F7

THE CAP

Attorney general repeats the national security excuse a judge already doubted, then the president proves the judge right.

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

Let's start where the record starts, because the record is the whole defense here. On September 19th, CNN, MS NOW and Politico lost their White House credentials. The fact, not a framing. Whether it counts as a ban or something gentler is exactly what a fed-

… Continued on Page B1

> *"I don't really care, Margaret. I don't want that person in my country."*
> — VICE PRESIDENT JD VANCE, FACE THE NATION, 26 JANUARY 2025

Fraud gets you convicted if it buys a gold Cybertruck; it gets 760,000 people cut without one.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The word doing the work this week is fraud, and it turns out to mean two different things depending on who is holding it.

This week the Justice Department got its conviction. Kevin D. Curry, 64, ran a Texas clinic that billed

… Continued on Page H2

SAL READS THE FRONT

"Read the five in the order they run and they are one story, which is the story of a bill being slid off one table and onto yours. The president turns down seven days of open water, moves the bombing to after the midterms — a scheduling decision, made by a calendar — and the U.N. ambassador goes on Fox to explain that the $6.48 diesel came from Ukraine. Two columns over, in the same stretch of days, the president prices a Republican Congress at $5,000 an adult while the Treasury secretary tells the House the department is examining whether Congress is needed, and 750,000 people lose their health coverage that week. The budget office closes its books at $38 billion and calls the number conservative, which means careful and also means it has room, and the farmer who voted for the war is paying it at the pump and says they can't stay in business. Nine months back, a 90-minute operation removed Venezuela's president and booked 65 billion barrels, 35 percent of it to the Pentagon; the Energy Secretary says the savings arrive in a year or two, and the driver is at a record $4.15 while diesel passes its own record at $5.85. And a stadium cuts its beer to hold price to fill the seats by kickoff, and the full seats roar for the senator stumping from the stands for a bill The Nation says threatens athletes' labor rights, expected to pass Monday. Half price on the beer, $4.15 on the gallon, $5.85 on the diesel, $5,000 on the Congress, and the savings arrive in a year or two."

— Sal

CHIP READS THE FRONT

"Five stories, five wins, in order. One: the President turned down a seven-day offer and moved the timing to after the midterms, which is what careful looks like, and Axios got it first-hand — a big decision coming up. The Fox poll has seventy percent saying there is no clear strategy, which is the public asking for one, and asking is healthy. Two: the Treasury Secretary told the House the department is examining whether Congress is needed. Examining. Nobody has removed the — the arrangement is that Congress votes and then Treasury spends, and the department is reviewing whether it needs the voting part. A review. Also that week 750,000 Americans lost their health coverage, and those are two separate sentences. Three: the Budget Office closed its books at $38 billion and called the figure conservative. Conservative is our word. It means careful. Four: the operation ran thirty minutes and booked 65 billion barrels, 35 percent of it to the Pentagon, with savings at the pump in a year or two; the driver is paying a record $4.15 and diesel passed its all-time high, so the savings have not arri— have not arrived yet. Yet is doing real work there, and I am leaving it in. Five: the stadium cut its beer to half price, filled the seats by kickoff, and roared for the bill the Senate advanced Tuesday and is expected to pass Monday, the one The Nation says threatens athletes' labor rights. That is the whole front, including the parts I struck out loud, which is more transparency than you will get anywhere else."

— Chip

FOR SALE Eight straight failed Pentagon audits, one careful owner. *Payment plan: another budget increase.* — **Classifieds**

FOR SALE Reflecting Pool, painted flag-blue, now algae-green, $14 million. *Drains sold separately; repeatedly.* — **Classifieds**

FOR SALE Fiftieth consecutive year of deficit panic, lightly used in Democratic administrations only. *Free with any tax cut.* — **Classifieds**

The stadium that cut its beer to half price to fill the seats by kickoff roared for the man stumping from the stands for a bill The Nation says threatens athletes' labor rights, and the Senate is expected to pass it Monday.



PHOTO: TRUMP SET TO ATTEND TENNESSEE-TEXAS FOOTBALL GAME IN KNOXVILLE (PHOTO VIA THE HILL)

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

★ HOT MIC MOMENT
Put me on the political desk, because here is what

that stadium was rented to sell. The top item on the Senate's calendar for the two weeks the House is gone is, per NBC, an NCAA-backed

… Continued on Page S2

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

THE FLOOR NEVER FALLS

Chapter 4: The Plate

The D9 is a bulldozer. I want to begin there, flatly, because everything that follows — the bulldozer and whose paper it works, as we will see, is not. The Israel Defense Forces describe theirs on their own website, in an article dated

… Continued on the Investigative Reporting page

THE CONTRACT

DA reopens Cornell gang-rape probe three weeks after 'Pree p-y' became a headline, not a warrant.

BY MITCH
Investigations

The docket in the Cornell case runs from order before verdict, and the order is the story. That same filing also states that Cornell later offered the accused men a chance to "mitigate their conduct by submitting essays." The document does not explain what an essay is meant to fix. It only records that the offer was made.

Two days later, a second outlet ran the identical clause. Two outlets, two days apart, one text message, doing the work of two separate news cycles.

Clause by clause, the sequence reads: headline, then

… Continued on Page A5

New York's Medicaid portal grew from $177 million to $2 billion in 18 months, competing bid, legally

BY SYTHERIA
The Ownership Desk

Eight hundred and twenty-three million dollars added to one contract, and not a single competing bid — you will have read that and assumed a favor were through a side door. Read the exemption instead. A sole-source award breaks no rule; it is the clause by which a state excuses itself from holding a second firm the price. Sole source, remember. Sole Source, not bid.

In 2023 the Hochul administration set out to fold the Medicaid applications still processed by counties into

… Continued on Page F8

Trump dismisses Anthropic's AI warnings, then invites its CEO to dinner at the White House.

BY SAL
Staff Writer

Bill Gates announced a new coalition for global AI safety on Wednesday. The Three days later, on September 26, he told NBC the same technology was already "powerful enough" to cause a billion deaths. By September 27, on Meet the Press, the comparison had grown: getting the world to cooperate on artificial intelligence, he said, will be harder than it was to get the United States and the Soviet Union to the table over nuclear weapons.

The day before that interview aired, Saturday, September 26, Axios reported

… Continued on Page A7

Same $994 check counted down five times by one outlet: 15 days, then 8, 3, 2, then 4

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

On August 29th, the Washington Examiner filed "September Social Security check payment" as a countdown. It gave out in three days." The next morning, August 30th, it filed the same payment again as "two days." The same September first — headline changed to "goes out in two days." One day had passed. The countdown had lost one day.

The amount had not moved between the two payments. Seven days later, September 23rd, the same October payment ran again, this time at "goes out in 8 days."

Today's filing, dated this

… Continued on Page F8

They did not take the field. They moved the gate, and waited.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

News, continued

Labour conference arrests hundreds for backing banned group, hears fascism must be organized against, same day.

the receipts: 6 stories ▾

Democrats vow to confront Israel's annexation once they retake the House; the deadline already outran the vote.

the receipts: 5 stories ▾

NATO scrambles jets to keep Russian planes out, invites Putin in for dinner

the receipts: 6 stories ▾

DA reopens Cornell gang-rape probe three weeks after 'Free p—y' became a headline, not a warrant.

the receipts: 4 stories ▾

Trump admits his war won't end by Election Day; Rep. Himes says Iran now controls it.

the receipts: 6 stories ▾

One British arrest earns 'fantastic', becomes a foreseen plot, then 'clearly' Iranian — all by Sunday night.

the receipts: 5 stories ▾

The wire

The wire

Everything the media was shown from last week, before reporting and and monopoly journalism, gathered through the day from all outlets. Headlines link out to whatever news broke. [RSS]

Blanchi says the White House banning reporters isn't a ban on reporters
Blanchi the collusion national security concerns justify White House reporter ban

1 headline on this story ▸

Democrats weigh a third impeachment of the most openly corrupt president in American history
If Democrats' Win Control of Congress in the Midterms, Will They Impeach Trump a Third Time?

1 headline on this story ▸

Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

1 headline on this story ▸

Nearly 4,000 arrested for peacefully backing a banned protest group, one of them 94
94-year-old Scottish rights lawyer among hundreds of protesters arrested in test of Starmer's months

1 headline on this story ▸

AI firms are investigating their own models after they hit 5.9 government websites
AI Giants Probe Years of Researchers' IP Security Incidents Across Involving Government Sites

1 headline on this story ▸

Mass shootings in the United States this year: 299
Shows dead and four injured in Detroit strip club shooting, police say

1 headline on this story ▸

The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one
House clears veteran-centered to $444 military health fund for fiscal 2027 Pentagon

1 headline on this story ▸

SP Top 25 poll: Florida climbs into top 10 in college football rankings after scarecrow win over The Mike

1 headline on this story ▸

Fox **Mass shootings in the United States this year: 299** The Mike Rifle
Twelve teenagers shot at birthday party in Georgia: Sheriff
Washington Examiner **Mass shootings in the United States this year: 299**

Twelve teenagers were shot in the early morning on Sunday after gunfire broke out at a birthday party in Macon, Georgia. With more than 299 mass shootings recorded in the United States this year, police and residents congregated at the slain park in Gravity Liquor Park has not stopped a shooting in town for years.

Republicans funded 2021's $10 billion. Do trade war their problem.
A.G. operations are making it hard for vulnerable Republicans fighting for their political survival
Politico **Republicans funded 2021's $10 billion. Do trade war their problem.**

Immigration enforcement in Kansas, Texas, Florida and beyond is forcing battleground Republicans to answer for the fallout.

Tarantino has had Christie Pitts on death row nearly 30 years - and wants to watch her execution by lethal injection. She hasn't chosen.
The Tarantino **Tarantino has had Christie Pitts on death row nearly 30 years - and wants to watch her execution by lethal injection. She hasn't chosen.**

At the same time, Christie Pitts has been executed for a grisly murder she committed at 20. The year the "Pseudo-Pants" Made Her a Four-Crime Obsession.

Baltimore petted Israeli film industry. Lula brought it back.
Rare Brazilian Cinema Survival Success
Reuters **Rare Brazilian Cinema Survival Success**

Under Jair Bolsonaro, Brazil's national cinema was gutted, censored, and left for dead. Then Lula returned — and so did the movies.

A judge supervising evidence that his chief would have been a material.
Federal Judge Indicted in Corruption Case
Federal Judge Indicted in Corruption Case

Lawyers for an anti-ICE protester tried to argue his shot was a function. The theory was squashed by gaps in the evidence and a judge's impatience. Then, the judge who ruled on the motion was indicted on charges that he ran The Intercept.

Lawsuit claims 'at-large provision' in Austin Outsourcing firm made cities all-Dem. anyway.
Outsourcing Giants Make Jokes in Profit from DA's Public Services Case Over
Outsourcing Giants Make Jokes in Profit from DA's Public Services Case Over

Outsourcing companies made no statement about the lawsuit's merits in court last year, with close to 12% of all public expenditure going to these private firms. A new report by the think tank Grassroots Watch found the public sector spent £100m on services provided by outsourcing firms, despite the Labour government pledging to bring...

Israel delays the vote until after its election on a settlement. Its new minister says we have 'politician statehood.
Israel Delays Key Settlement Vote Until After Election
Haaretz **Israel Delays Key Settlement Vote Until After Election**

Israel's far-right finance minister and other settlers bring to the illegally occupied West Bank formed on Sunday after their country's parliament postponed a vote on a bill that would have applied Israeli civil law to settlers and other Israeli Knesset citizens. Although the postponement of Israeli Justice, plus governments and hours rights groups...

Fox **Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections** Sabine Rubio
Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

YESTERDAY

Trump left for a football game as the Senate's deadline to pass the Protect College Sports Act neared
Live updates: Trump returns to White House after House Democrats gains hasn't proposed to reopen level of Democrat reported

1 headline on this story ▸

Israel's kidnap secret minister of wellbeing is Lula's re-election. It silenced them anyway.
Israel's Kidnap Secret Minister Ambassador of Kansas Is Dead of Suicide
Florida Mayor **Israel's Kidnap Secret Minister Ambassador of Kansas Is Dead of Suicide**

Polls show Lula behind his leading Lula as the church denounces foreign interference.

Extremes showed voted for Alice Weidel's pick. Extremes at home can't vote at all.
Who gets to speak for Extreme?
Who gets to speak for Extreme?

Extremes are a target for disenfranchisement the People's Choice award at Miss World. But the Forefront to choose is exactly why Extremes can't vote.

Idaho's remarkable loss it cutting headcount money. The county was reverse it.
Local Idaho county loses record momentum, it's losing record struggles
Axios **Local Idaho county loses record momentum, it's losing record struggles**

Idaho's county executive momentum. Others are property rights — and the chance to benefit from energy developments on their land — has fundamentally. The bill, county leaders say, would...

Fox **The median first-time homebuyer is now 40 years old, a record, with first-time buyers at a record low 21% of the market** Sabine Rubio
The median first-time homebuyer is now 40 years old, a record, with first-time buyers at a record low 21% of the market
Bell, Trump's football rivalry with Israel has become affordability problem
Politico **Bell, Trump's football rivalry with Israel has become affordability problem**

A recent PEW/ZIA Bond found that cost of living concerns are reinforcing partisanship divides — and driving a wedge among Republicans.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 9 more items ▸

FRIDAY

Neutrality's speech respects the hall. The U.S. counts 12 Lebanese children killed or maimed this.
Venezuela Signs U.S. Deal to Move Refugees to UK
Venezuela Signs U.S. Deal to Move Refugees to UK

1 headline on this story ▸

Nigerian woman's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference
Why Nigerian women's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference
Africa in a Country **Why Nigerian women's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference**

Jacob Lemale single-regulated an old debate about women, money, and dating in Nigeria. But no one really chooses those profound arrangements shaped by economic insecurity and unequal access to opportunity.

El Cajon bends by 5 running on himself. Jackson trails by 3 running from the constituent.
Trump Is Losing Ground to Democrats in Deep-Red Districts
The New York Times **Trump Is Losing Ground to Democrats in Deep-Red Districts**

The New York Times has a new article headlined " Democrats Show Strength in Michigan Senate Race but Trail in Maine, Poll Says." Looking at the numbers, it's a good example of how to manipulate statistics with headlines.

The No. 82 school board in January 2026 is a prewar evidence of illegal genocide in Gaza. Commissioners Say Palmer Meltzer Has
The No. 82 school board in January 2026 is a prewar evidence of illegal genocide in Gaza. Commissioners Say Palmer Meltzer Has
Bell, Starbucks Is Surviving Image: "What is enough childhood for a people in day after day after? What image of childhood is enough for a people in day after day?"
Jacobin Journals **Bell, Starbucks Is Surviving Image: "What is enough childhood for a people in day after day after? What image of childhood is enough for a people in day after day after?"**

H5200: I sat one year: Trump's playbook for corralling, obliterating and prosecuting the left
The Case of Hillary Clinton: Trump's Playbook for Corralling, Obliterating and Prosecuting the Left
Liberation News **The Case of Hillary Clinton: Trump's Playbook for Corralling, Obliterating and Prosecuting the Left**

Nearly a year later, it is clear that the document was not state-sanctioned. Rather, it has served as an operational blueprint to disrupt and dismantle progressive and left-wing organizations through surveillance, harassment, infiltration, and legal prosecution.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

THURSDAY

Tech cash bought the death of 821 risk disclosure rule
Tech Companies Are Buying Their Own Stock
The Lever **Tech Companies Are Buying Their Own Stock**

After a flood of tech industry cash, President Donald Trump killed a requirement that all giants disclose their riskier experiments in national security officials. Now lawmakers are trying to bring it back.

Texas says followed his home and arrested him, a week after he tasered at them.
Texas Man Arrested at Home a Week After Protest Encounter
Mother Jones **Texas Man Arrested at Home a Week After Protest Encounter**

Cops followed El Cenizo home and arrested him in his own way one week after he said 'bullshit' at a county meeting in Texas.

Al-Jamea starvation was making the trillion-dollar consumer that tell them.
How AI Is Destroying the Economy — Brian Merchant
Blood in the Machine **How AI Is Destroying the Economy — Brian Merchant**

The trifle of major intelligence going quiet on Sunday, with a new report from Israel's Ministry of Health.

Trump and MAGA's just-legalized killing endangered species - as long as it isn't on purpose
Trump Administ Legalizes Killing Endangered Species
Sierra Club Journal **Trump Administ Legalizes Killing Endangered Species**

The Trump admin administration is attempting to render the Endangered Species Act incapable of protecting endangered species. At the moment, you're not allowed to kill endangered animals. Soon, you will be allowed to kill endangered animals, as long as you claim that you can't harm a federally protected animal on purpose.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

WEDNESDAY

Senate Democrats move to sanction the 3,400 home settlement project splitting the West Bank in two
Senate Democrats Push Sanctions Over $1 Settlement Construction In Israeli-Occupied West Bank

1 headline on this story ▸

Trump's signature law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut ever, hitting one in five American kids
Trump's Cuts Pay Powerful Bill Is Starting to Hit Voters Its Architects Envision

1 headline on this story ▸

The FBI's secret unit hacks targets' device to keep. Now it's the target.
The FBI's Secret Unit Hacks Targets' Devices to Keep. Now It's the Target.
4th Media **The FBI's Secret Unit Hacks Targets' Devices to Keep. Now It's the Target.**

The FBI's Remote Operations Unit (ROU) is a highly secretive team of hackers making exploits and tools to break into target's devices. Some of its members just got exposed.

Amazon workers have walked out three times since December, still no union
Amazon Workers Walk Out Over Pay, Safety
Amazon Workers Walk Out Over Pay, Safety

In a fifteenth-century nation, workers have walked out three times since December as they organize without a recognized union.

Fox **Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections** Sabine Rubio
Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

---

MAGA's operative just nailed an murder charged, two federal government.
Why MAGA Is Turning on Veterans Disrupted Over Alleged Murder Scheme
Mother Jones **Why MAGA Is Turning on Veterans Disrupted Over Alleged Murder Scheme**

The MAGA base is angry that the right political operative jailed on murder charges is Berlin, played a key role in President Bondego Nazi government.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

TUESDAY

Vance took Iowa to a Stable distraction: to strip 200,000 of healthcare, advocacy group says
Vance Food Bank Fears Fundamental as Smokestacker for Housing, Months Back Single Of Healthcare

1 headline on this story ▸

Racist trial to manufacture a Seattle scandal from a trap interview
Sen. The City Is The Most Dangerous Place
Current affairs **Sen. The City Is The Most Dangerous Place**

Outrage-cycle #19 about Seattle Pilot has begun. This time, it started with an interview Pilot did with Alex Thompson of Axios. Proxy to the media would closely turn to manufacture a "Jeremiah Wright" scandal.

Fox **The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five** Sabine Rubio
The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five
Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

A new lawsuit is challenging how the Trump administration plans to exempt medically-frail people from Medicaid work requirements. Medicaid enrollees, alongside several major health care advocacy organizations and the city of Columbus, Ohio, said the Department of Health and Human Services violated federal law when it approved Ohio's plan.

We Hacked the FBI. Hackers Say They Have Data on All FBI Employees
4th Media **We Hacked the FBI. Hackers Say They Have Data on All FBI Employees**

A sample of 3,000 alleged agents seen by 404 Media includes names, phone numbers, and details on FBI employees' spouses.

The Modern Orthodox School Rally Against Mandani Was a Reboot of the Soviet Jewry Movement - The 90s are back.
Jamaal Grayson **The Modern Orthodox School Rally Against Mandani Was a Reboot of the Soviet Jewry Movement - The 90s are back.**

Senate bill would pay college athletes while locking them in their schools
The Senate Bill Would Pay College Athletes While Locking Them in Their Schools
The Mike **The Senate Bill Would Pay College Athletes While Locking Them in Their Schools**

With the Democrats of weakness for the final two months of September, the legislative spotlight is squarely on the Senate, where lawmakers have a packed stretch of work on several of the GOP's remaining priorities. On top of their agenda is legislation that would create a system of name, image and likeness payments for college athletes.

College football promises index: Three coaches, two QB, and a conference under the gun in Week 4
Tyler Kepner **College football promises index: Three coaches, two QB, and a conference under the gun in Week 4**

Three players and coaches are feeling the heat, roughly one quarter into the regular season.

POLITICAL ENTERPRISE 8

UK's Palestine Action: how criminalised reject that read 'I oppose genocide'
Hundreds Set to Defy Palestine Action Ban at Labour Party Conference
Morning Star **Hundreds Set to Defy Palestine Action Ban at Labour Party Conference**

Hundreds of people will hold signs reading "I oppose genocide, I support Palestine Action" outside the first Labour party conference since the government proscribed the pro-Palestine group as a terrorist organisation. Organisers say they are planning to hold the protest on the first day of the Liverpool conference on 23 September in response to the ban.

Israel's Ministry of Wellbeing is Lula's re-election. It silenced them anyway.
Israel's Kidnap Secret Minister Ambassador of Kansas Is Dead of Suicide
Florida Mayor **Israel's Kidnap Secret Minister Ambassador of Kansas Is Dead of Suicide**

Polls show Lula behind his leading Lula as the church denounces foreign interference.

Extremes showed voted for Alice Weidel's pick. Extremes at home can't vote at all.
Who gets to speak for Extreme?
Who gets to speak for Extreme?

Extremes are a target for disenfranchisement the People's Choice award at Miss World. But the Forefront to choose is exactly why Extremes can't vote.

Idaho's remarkable loss it cutting headcount money. The county was reverse it.
Local Idaho county loses record momentum, it's losing record struggles
Axios **Local Idaho county loses record momentum, it's losing record struggles**

Idaho's county executive momentum. Others are property rights — and the chance to benefit from energy developments on their land — has fundamentally. The bill, county leaders say, would...

Fox **The median first-time homebuyer is now 40 years old, a record, with first-time buyers at a record low 21% of the market** Sabine Rubio
The median first-time homebuyer is now 40 years old, a record, with first-time buyers at a record low 21% of the market
Bell, Trump's football rivalry with Israel has become affordability problem
Politico **Bell, Trump's football rivalry with Israel has become affordability problem**

A recent PEW/ZIA Bond found that cost of living concerns are reinforcing partisanship divides — and driving a wedge among Republicans.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 9 more items ▸

FRIDAY

Neutrality's speech respects the hall. The U.S. counts 12 Lebanese children killed or maimed this.
Venezuela Signs U.S. Deal to Move Refugees to UK
Venezuela Signs U.S. Deal to Move Refugees to UK

1 headline on this story ▸

Nigerian woman's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference
Why Nigerian women's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference
Africa in a Country **Why Nigerian women's dating shortcut are shaped by poverty, not preference**

Jacob Lemale single-regulated an old debate about women, money, and dating in Nigeria. But no one really chooses those profound arrangements shaped by economic insecurity and unequal access to opportunity.

El Cajon bends by 5 running on himself. Jackson trails by 3 running from the constituent.
Trump Is Losing Ground to Democrats in Deep-Red Districts
The New York Times **Trump Is Losing Ground to Democrats in Deep-Red Districts**

The New York Times has a new article headlined " Democrats Show Strength in Michigan Senate Race but Trail in Maine, Poll Says." Looking at the numbers, it's a good example of how to manipulate statistics with headlines.

The No. 82 school board in January 2026 is a prewar evidence of illegal genocide in Gaza. Commissioners Say Palmer Meltzer Has
The No. 82 school board in January 2026 is a prewar evidence of illegal genocide in Gaza. Commissioners Say Palmer Meltzer Has
Bell, Starbucks Is Surviving Image: "What is enough childhood for a people in day after day after? What image of childhood is enough for a people in day after day after?"
Jacobin Journals **Bell, Starbucks Is Surviving Image: "What is enough childhood for a people in day after day after? What image of childhood is enough for a people in day after day after?"**

H5200: I sat one year: Trump's playbook for corralling, obliterating and prosecuting the left
The Case of Hillary Clinton: Trump's Playbook for Corralling, Obliterating and Prosecuting the Left
Liberation News **The Case of Hillary Clinton: Trump's Playbook for Corralling, Obliterating and Prosecuting the Left**

Nearly a year later, it is clear that the document was not state-sanctioned. Rather, it has served as an operational blueprint to disrupt and dismantle progressive and left-wing organizations through surveillance, harassment, infiltration, and legal prosecution.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

THURSDAY

Tech cash bought the death of 821 risk disclosure rule
Tech Companies Are Buying Their Own Stock
The Lever **Tech Companies Are Buying Their Own Stock**

After a flood of tech industry cash, President Donald Trump killed a requirement that all giants disclose their riskier experiments in national security officials. Now lawmakers are trying to bring it back.

Texas says followed his home and arrested him, a week after he tasered at them.
Texas Man Arrested at Home a Week After Protest Encounter
Mother Jones **Texas Man Arrested at Home a Week After Protest Encounter**

Cops followed El Cenizo home and arrested him in his own way one week after he said 'bullshit' at a county meeting in Texas.

Al-Jamea starvation was making the trillion-dollar consumer that tell them.
How AI Is Destroying the Economy — Brian Merchant
Blood in the Machine **How AI Is Destroying the Economy — Brian Merchant**

The trifle of major intelligence going quiet on Sunday, with a new report from Israel's Ministry of Health.

Trump and MAGA's just-legalized killing endangered species - as long as it isn't on purpose
Trump Administ Legalizes Killing Endangered Species
Sierra Club Journal **Trump Administ Legalizes Killing Endangered Species**

The Trump admin administration is attempting to render the Endangered Species Act incapable of protecting endangered species. At the moment, you're not allowed to kill endangered animals. Soon, you will be allowed to kill endangered animals, as long as you claim that you can't harm a federally protected animal on purpose.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

WEDNESDAY

Senate Democrats move to sanction the 3,400 home settlement project splitting the West Bank in two
Senate Democrats Push Sanctions Over $1 Settlement Construction In Israeli-Occupied West Bank

1 headline on this story ▸

Trump's signature law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut ever, hitting one in five American kids
Trump's Cuts Pay Powerful Bill Is Starting to Hit Voters Its Architects Envision

1 headline on this story ▸

The FBI's secret unit hacks targets' device to keep. Now it's the target.
The FBI's Secret Unit Hacks Targets' Devices to Keep. Now It's the Target.
4th Media **The FBI's Secret Unit Hacks Targets' Devices to Keep. Now It's the Target.**

The FBI's Remote Operations Unit (ROU) is a highly secretive team of hackers making exploits and tools to break into target's devices. Some of its members just got exposed.

Amazon workers have walked out three times since December, still no union
Amazon Workers Walk Out Over Pay, Safety
Amazon Workers Walk Out Over Pay, Safety

In a fifteenth-century nation, workers have walked out three times since December as they organize without a recognized union.

Fox **Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections** Sabine Rubio
Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

---

MAGA's operative just nailed an murder charged, two federal government.
Why MAGA Is Turning on Veterans Disrupted Over Alleged Murder Scheme
Mother Jones **Why MAGA Is Turning on Veterans Disrupted Over Alleged Murder Scheme**

The MAGA base is angry that the right political operative jailed on murder charges is Berlin, played a key role in President Bondego Nazi government.

THE REST OF THE DAY'S WIRE ▸ 10 more items ▸

TUESDAY

Vance took Iowa to a Stable distraction: to strip 200,000 of healthcare, advocacy group says
Vance Food Bank Fears Fundamental as Smokestacker for Housing, Months Back Single Of Healthcare

1 headline on this story ▸

Racist trial to manufacture a Seattle scandal from a trap interview
Sen. The City Is The Most Dangerous Place
Current affairs **Sen. The City Is The Most Dangerous Place**

Outrage-cycle #19 about Seattle Pilot has begun. This time, it started with an interview Pilot did with Alex Thompson of Axios. Proxy to the media would closely turn to manufacture a "Jeremiah Wright" scandal.

Fox **The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five** Sabine Rubio
The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $267 billion - the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five
Democrats are running an average of 31.8 points ahead of their 2024 headline across 2026 special elections
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone
Sen. Julia Letlow has spent $1 "entirely possible" Democrats in last week alone

A new lawsuit is challenging how the Trump administration plans to exempt medically-frail people from Medicaid work requirements. Medicaid enrollees, alongside several major health care advocacy organizations and the city of Columbus, Ohio, said the Department of Health and Human Services violated federal law when it approved Ohio's plan.

We Hacked the FBI. Hackers Say They Have Data on All FBI Employees
4th Media **We Hacked the FBI. Hackers Say They Have Data on All FBI Employees**

A sample of 3,000 alleged agents seen by 404 Media includes names, phone numbers, and details on FBI employees' spouses.

The Modern Orthodox School Rally Against Mandani Was a Reboot of the Soviet Jewry Movement - The 90s are back.
Jamaal Grayson **The Modern Orthodox School Rally Against Mandani Was a Reboot of the Soviet Jewry Movement - The 90s are back.**

Senate bill would pay college athletes while locking them in their schools
The Senate Bill Would Pay College Athletes While Locking Them in Their Schools
The Mike **The Senate Bill Would Pay College Athletes While Locking Them in Their Schools**

With the Democrats of weakness for the final two months of September, the legislative spotlight is squarely on the Senate, where lawmakers have a packed stretch of work on several of the GOP's remaining priorities. On top of their agenda is legislation that would create a system of name, image and likeness payments for college athletes.

College football promises index: Three coaches, two QB, and a conference under the gun in Week 4
Tyler Kepner **College football promises index: Three coaches, two QB, and a conference under the gun in Week 4**

Three players and coaches are feeling the heat, roughly one quarter into the regular season.

POLITICAL ENTERPRISE 8

UK's Palestine Action: how criminalised reject that read 'I oppose genocide'
Hundreds Set to Defy Palestine Action Ban at Labour Party Conference
Morning Star **Hundreds Set to Defy Palestine Action Ban at Labour Party Conference**

Hundreds of people will hold signs reading "I oppose genocide, I support Palestine Action" outside the first Labour party conference since the government proscribed the pro-Palestine group as a terrorist organisation. Organisers say they are planning to hold the protest on the first day of the Liverpool conference on 23 September in response to the ban.

UC universities killed at least 113 civilians in Iran. UN mission finds — and calls it war crimes
UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran
Morning Media **UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran**

A UN fact-finding mission has reported that US airstrikes killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes.

Fox **The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one** Mike Pompeo Rifle
The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one
Senate Democrats, Alexis Hutchinson, urges Democrats to provide receipt for Iran war costs
The Hill **Senate Democrats, Alexis Hutchinson, urges Democrats to provide receipt for Iran war costs**

Democrats — including Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman — signed an open letter to Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth on Tuesday, urging the Trump administration to provide a full accounting of the war. The letter, although largely symbolic, follows the frustration of many Democrats in Congress over what they perceive as a...

Fox **The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one** Mike Pompeo Rifle
The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one
Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), who voted to confirm Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, is renewing his call for President Trump to fire the Pentagon chief after a report found that the Department of Defense failed to get a handful of inspector general or the most significant year in the history of the Pentagon's audit.

UC universities killed at least 113 civilians in Iran, UN mission finds — and calls it war crimes
UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran
Morning Media **UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran**

A UN fact-finding mission has reported that US airstrikes killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes.

UC universities killed at least 113 civilians in Iran, UN mission finds — and calls it war crimes
UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran
Morning Media **UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran**

A UN fact-finding mission has reported that US airstrikes killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes.

UC universities killed at least 113 civilians in Iran, UN mission finds — and calls it war crimes
UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran
Morning Media **UC Suspects US War Crimes in Iran**

A UN fact-finding mission has reported that US airstrikes killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes. Plus: Trump's Iran war has killed at least 176 civilians in Iran countless war crimes.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Draft, DP and Saudi Armacel report profits from the Iran war fund the industry record PE hits, says Goon Creative
Goon Creative Raises $30 Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War
Goon Creative Raises $30 Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War

The fossil fuel lobbyists is rolling in big profits thanks to President Donald Trump's illegal war with Iran, and a new analysis finds that the industry's record PE hits, says Goon Creative Raises $30 Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War. Plus: Goon Creative Raises $30 Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War. Plus: Goon Creative Raises $30 Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War.

Fabrizio subpoenaed Congress a day after Marcia Old impeachment articles saying Hegseth's strikes killed 113 children in Iran
Fabrizio subpoenaed Congress a day after Marcia Old impeachment articles saying Hegseth's strikes killed 113 children in Iran
Congress Dossier **Fabrizio subpoenaed Congress a day after Marcia Old impeachment articles saying Hegseth's strikes killed 113 children in Iran**

US House Speaker Mike Johnson said Wednesday that with seven weeks to go until Election Day, it was time for lawmakers to "go home to their districts and make the case to the American people" a day earlier than scheduled. But with the US public overwhelmingly disapproving of Congress, Democrat Trump's war to focus on campaigning.

---

11 pilot rep a Palestinian Iran. Only one more, how to 'pre-harvest crop'
11 pilot rep a Palestinian Iran. Only one more, how to 'pre-harvest crop'
Palestinian Relief **11 pilot rep a Palestinian Iran. Only one more, how to 'pre-harvest crop'**

A single new word in the Israeli-Iranian rights group El Tzelem titled "The Elimination Project" accuses Israel of "dramatically intensifying the scholars in every aspect of Palestinian life in the West Bank." For too long, Israel's policies in the West Bank have been normalized as football as an international law.

Since 2023, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined
Truthout **Since 2023, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined**

This amounts to more than 60 trades per market day for the president in his first 17 months back in office.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Manic Mexico to Force Impeachment Vote Against Bondi, Citing Civilian Deaths
Truthout **Manic Mexico to Force Impeachment Vote Against Bondi, Citing Civilian Deaths**

The Republican lawmakers cited incidents like the US's elementary school massacre in Minab, Iran, early in the war.

Fox **"We've got to get rid of the $29 trillion in debt" - Trump promised it done in eight years, March 2016** Ted Cruz Democrats Debut
"We've got to get rid of the $29 trillion in debt" - Trump promised it done in eight years, March 2016
Jordan **Democrats Debut**

As they gathered in Boston, DNC lawmakers warmed from full-on embrace to full-on avoidance of the president's promise of $1,000 checks to Americans.

Paying voters FAIL it is a crime under Iran federal laws - and grounds for impeachment
Paying voters FAIL it is a crime under Iran federal laws - and grounds for impeachment
Truthout **Paying voters FAIL it is a crime under Iran federal laws - and grounds for impeachment**

Two federal statutes forbid paying people to vote, and the Constitution forbids bribery as an impeachable offense.

'Reign of Terror: How the 9/11 Era Destabilized America and Produced Trump' Sponsor Ackerman
Democracy Now! **'Reign of Terror: How the 9/11 Era Destabilized America and Produced Trump' Sponsor Ackerman**

"The "war on terror" was always a construct to be waged, never quite to be defined." We discuss the origins and impacts of the global "war on terror" between 9/11 and today.

Somali-Bah attorneys on Rail of Mandahl: Trump offers to put Americans $5,000 for uniform voters C. S. Idle, Jr Caribbean Sun strike
Caribbean Sun **Somali-Bah attorneys on Rail of Mandahl: Trump offers to put Americans $5,000 for uniform voters C. S. Idle, Jr Caribbean Sun strike**

Drop Site Daily | September 25, 2026

233 items on the wire. Scan it with eyes. Nurse it if it re-writes here — for that, see the record.

The president priced a Republican Congress at $5,000 an adult, the Treasury secretary told the House the department is examining whether Congress is needed, and 750,000 Americans lost their health coverage that week.

By SIDNEY
THE RECORD'S BUREAU



"Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Midterm Elections" — 23 September 2026 (REPORTS VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES — THE OFFICIAL RECORD)

▼ THE SHORT VERSION
Typeset by Mel.

WHAT HAPPENED. The president promised $5,000 checks if Republicans keep Congress, and Treasury said it is examining paying without a vote.
WHO GETS PAID. Republican candidates in tight races get a $5,000 promise to run on; the vice president carried in Kansas for Senator Marshall the same week.
WHAT SLIPS. Congress's power to decide what the Treasury spends dips if the department can mail $1.3 trillion without a vote.
WHAT'S NEXT. The checks are promised for November and the coverage: 750,000 people lost insurance; the president's own precedent is the $1,776 checks that went to service members.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT:

The authorization requirement — the plain old arrangement in which Congress votes and then the Treasury spends — died Tuesday in a hearing room, before lunch. It is survived by an examination at the Treasury Department. A rule dies and no cassette comes. That is the shit of it it takes two sentences and a lunch break.

Here is the week, laid out the way we lay these out:

[CONT.] On Wednesday the ninth, at the party's midterm convention in Dallas, the president said American adults would receive $5,000 if Republicans keep control of Congress come November. By Thursday the tenth the Washington Examiner had in explainer up — "Trump promised $5,000 'dividend' checks: What to know" — the sort of clean work a paper does when it believes something is going to happen. Late that Wednesday, hours after the president spoke, Bret Baier put the total to the vice president on Fox, roughly $1.3 trillion, and said critics would call it bribing voters. "I can hear the critics' heads exploding," Baier told Vance.

Then the objections came in on schedule, from his own side, which is how the arrangement was supposed to work. Friday, Susan Collins called the proposal "extraordinarily costly" and noted it carried no income cap. Saturday, at the Kansas State Fair, a debate moderator put the cost at $1.2 trillion and asked the two candidates where they stood. Roger Marshall appeared to shift. Sunday, Mike Flood said the priority should be funding the troops and replenishing stocks amid the Iran war. Lawler, the same day, deflected and asked how you pay for it. The Hill printed Monday what the president had said Sunday outside Joyce Over: the checks will "happen 100 percent" if the GOP keeps its majority. That same Monday, National Review called the proposal reckless and said the checks would make inflation worse and echo the sort of "socialism" the president decries, and Guy Benson said on Fox News that conservatives would scream "bloody murder" if a Democratic president offered a dividend to maintain power. Also that Monday, MAGA Inc. deployed the vice president to Kansas to help Marshall, who race the Cook Political Report rates likely Republican.

Six days of arguing about the price. That part is pretty-sorta.

By Tuesday The Hill had the fiscal hawks on the record: they would not support giving away money to people who don't work or pay taxes. And on Tuesday, before the House Financial Services Committee, Secretary Bessent said Treasury was examining whether the money could be issued without authorization from Congress. In the same testimony he defended a faltering bond-market intervention. That was the death. Not a vote lost, not a bill killed — a department saying out loud that it is looking into whether the vote is required, while the members whose votes it needed were still on television explaining they would not give them.

Senator Bernie Moreno was still trying it the long way, with legislation, funded through market access fees. Somebody ought to note that. It used to be the only way, and a whisperstamper reading this in ten years will want to know it was tried.

The authorization requirement is survived by 750,000 Americans removed from their health coverage. Your check is promised for November. The coverage ended in September.

It is preceded in death by the $1,776 checks that went to service members, which the president offered as the precedent for this one.

In lieu of flowers, ask whoever wants your vote in November to say, on the record and before any check is printed, whether the Treasury may spend money Congress has not voted.

THE RECEIPTS

Many Americans are relying on multiple forms of credit to cover expenses. Here is it a warning sign?
CBS News · MAGISTERIAL · 10:45 EDT

Using several types of credit isn't always a problem, but certain patterns signal that your debt is unsustainable.

Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Midterm Elections

Trump's signature law cut SNAP by $187 billion - the largest cut ever, hitting one in five American kids
The New York Times · MAGISTERIAL · 11:45 EDT

The tax cuts in President Trump's signature achievement were the Republicans' answer to voters' economic struggles, but its health care and food assistance cuts are taking a toll.

Trump's Signature Law Cut SNAP by $187 Billion. Now Democrats Are Using It Against Republicans.

Paying voters $5K is a crime under two federal laws - and grounds for impeachment
Truthout · 13:39 EDT

Two federal statutes forbid paying people to vote, and the Constitution lists bribery as an impeachable offense.

Bait. **"We've got to get rid of the $19 trillion in debt"** - Trump promised it done in eight years, March 2016. The Washington Post, 8 March 2016 (REFERENCE)

Top Republicans didn't expect Trump's dividends. Now they're scrambling.
Politico · MAGISTERIAL · 08:05 EDT

As they gathered in Dallas, GOP lawmakers wavered from full-on embrace of the president's promise of $5,000 checks to Americans.

Trump's Signature Law Cut SNAP by $187 Billion. Now Democrats Are Using It Against Republicans.

Vance touts a $2.2 billion health care cut for 750,000. The ballroom cost $400 million.
Common Dreams · 10:34 EDT

Anger and alarm are growing over the Trump administration's Tuesday announcement that it is removing at least 750,000 people from their Affordable Care Act coverage because they are "fraudulently" enrolled, a claim that drew deep skepticism from health policy experts and advocates. Cynthia Cox, senior vice president at KFF, said fraud...

Assaultlab advances on Bab al-Mandab; Trump offers to pay Americans $5,000 for midterm votes; U.S. kills 3 in Caribbean boat strike
Deep Dive News · 10:34 EDT

Drop Site Daily: September 10, 2026

- Trump gave 'the red meat,' Vance was playing for independents: Bob Cusack *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Fox News's Baier presses Vance on Trump's $5K dividend promise *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Pritzker: Vance is Trump's 'chief bootlicker' *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Bessent Defends Faltering Bond Market Intervention *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Bessent says Treasury is 'examining' ability to cut $5,000 checks without Congress *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Bessent's move to tamp down rising rates backfires as bond yields jump, stocks tumble *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- The bond market is revolting — and your mortgage is the first casualty *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- Fiscal hawks skeptical of Bessent's claim that US can 'grow our way out' of $40 trillion debt *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
- Bessent blasts Warren's 'sciolistic' letter about yen policy *from the morgue, 29 Aug 2026*
- Soros-funded Philadelphia district attorney insinuates Trump is a '35-time felon,' calling $5,000 dividend a bribe *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Soros-funded Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad Thursday *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*
- Voters have a blunt message for Trump about his idea to dole out $5,000 checks *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Why Donald Trump has a Joe Biden problem *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Does Trump have a 'Biden problem' on the economy? *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 dividend falls flat with GOP senators *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Trump sees backlash over $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump plan to raise debt limit on shaky ground *from the morgue, 26 Aug 2026*
- 5 things to know about Trump's $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Vance strikes back at concern $5,000 Trump dividend will stoke debt: 'Wealth will go back to the people' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Marshall backtracks on support for $5,000 Trump dividend in Kansas Senate debate *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*
- Vance and MAGA Inc. work to defend Roger Marshall in redder Kansas *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Roger Marshall Sued 700 Patients for Debts; 81 Were Arrested. Now He's a Senator. *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Conservatives would scream 'bloody murder' if Democratic president offered dividend to maintain power: Guy Benson *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Will Trump's payout promises boost Republican appeal to white women? *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Republicans need a Reagan-style vision to win the battle over America's future *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Trump's promised $5,000 'dividend' checks: What to know *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Reckless $5,000 'Dividend' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Republicans bet the House on Trump *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Axelrod dismisses the idea of the proposed $5000 "Trump dividend" *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump pledges $5K 'Trump dividend' if Republicans hold onto Congress *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump says $5K dividend checks to Americans will 'happen 100 percent' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Lawler deflects on supporting Trump's $5K dividend pledge: 'How do you pay for it?' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- GOP rep says priority 'needs to be the military,' not $5K checks *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*
- Susan Collins calls Trump's $5,000 dividend proposal with no cap 'extraordinarily costly' *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Bret Baier presses Paxton on Trump $5K dividend payment support *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Gavin Newsom calls Trump's $5K voter payout 'bulls--' and a 'desperate' power grab *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Trump pitches $5,000 checks, but only if GOP wins House and Senate *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 payments would reignite inflation, economists say *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Why Trump's promised $5,000 payments to Americans are unlikely to happen *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Bond yields rise modestly after Trump's dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump promises Obamacare rebates to people in swing states *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Steve Scalise says details of $5,000 dividends would "obviously have to be worked out by Congress" *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 dividend pledge divides Republicans over spending *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Many Republicans skeptical about Trump plan to tie $5,000 dividends to GOP wins *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Anger Grows Over 'Pathological Liar-in-Chief' Donald Trump's $5,000 Midterm Bribes *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Spiking Bond Yields Pay the Rich and Squeeze Everyone Else *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump-aligned group releases first midterm ads — and they're all about him *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- The Memo: Bond market turmoil heightens midterm risks for Trump and GOP *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Plan To Cut $5,000 Checks For Americans Not Landing With Many Midterm Convention Attendees *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Texas Democrat Gina Hinojosa backs Trump's $5,000 dividend but rejects conditional payout *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Voters may accept Trump's bribes, but the bond markets aren't biting *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- In Trump's Second Term, Average US Family Forced to Spend $3,800 More on Essentials *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
- Why not to bank on Trump's $5,000 dividend checks happening *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump shares details on $5,000 dividend with CBS News Texas *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Some Republicans Balk at Trump's $5,000 'Dividend' Offer *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- The political risk behind Trump's $5,000 pledge: From the Politics Desk *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Bob Cusack raises concerns over Trump's $5,000 check proposal: 'Deficits matter, debt matters' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Global sell-off in government bonds intensifies *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump vs. the Bond Market *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*
- The United States House of Representatives passes the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 by 227 votes to 203. After being sent to the United States Senate for a vote, the Senate's parliamentarian found the *from the morgue, 19 Dec 2017*
- The attorney general of New York announces she is suing the Donald J. Trump Foundation and its directors, President Donald Trump, Donald Trump, Jr., Ivanka Trump and Eric Trump. (CNBC) *from the morgue, 14 Jun 2018*
- Trump gambles big on midterm elections with convention spotlight *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Vulnerable Republicans divided over wisdom of Trump's midterm convention *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Republican strategist knocks Trump for not spending more on GOP candidates *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Republicans ready for 'very hasty' Trump-a-palooza' convention in Texas *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*
- Some Republicans are planning to skip Trump's GOP convention *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
- Trump promises $5,000 'dividend' for adult Americans if Republicans win midterms *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump claims $5,000 midterm dividends wouldn't need congressional approval *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's $5,000 dividend checks would come with a major catch under GOP senator's plan *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump faces reckoning as GOP figures label $5K promise a 'socialist vote-buying scheme' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's proposed $5,000 dividend blindsides Congress, angers fiscal conservatives: 'A dangerous arms race' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump Wants to Give Out $5,000 Checks. It Would Cost More Than $1 Trillion. *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Republican midterm convention included $5,000 pitch and Iran war expectations *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Treasury boosts debt buyback cap to $6 billion *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Priced by the budget office at $38 billion, a figure it calls conservative, the war is being paid for by the pumper who voted for it and now says he can't stay in bumper

By Lena Ardmore
Capitol Bureau

Senator Dominella, Alston Republican, urges Hegseth to provide cooling for Iran war crews", 21 September 2026 — https://fronmedia.example/

THE SHORT VERSION

[SHORT BY DEL]

WHAT HAPPENED. The Budget Office says the Iran war at $38 billion and called the number conservative.

WHO WOTE. Among others endorsed the $121 billion Senate-Dominella package that was the war bigger, $1,700 is knocked by Moody's count.

WHAT'S ALIVE. Every Senate Democrat but one had to write a letter to get the war's cost, and senators with clearances left the briefing without answers.

WHAT'S NEXT. If Congress keeps reading its letter, the war keeps its own calendar, that is what Congress got after March 2019: both chambers voted to end the Yemen war, the vote held, the war ran 21 more months. This one is already scheduled past the midterms.

LET'S TALK ON THE PHONE

The line is farmers first, and the line holds. Walk the week with me and you will see it holds.

Tuesday the 15th, the Congressional Budget Office closed its books and priced the war at $38 billion. Its a federal budget that is a rounding error, it is not a rounding error, I would never say that, it is $38 billion of real money, and the Budget Office calls that figure conservative. Conservative is our word. It means careful, it also means the number was room to go up, which is not the point I was making. The point I was making is that we are not [CROSSED]

...[cont]' Wednesday the 16th, the Speaker sent the House home a day earlier than scheduled for a seven-week recess so members could "go home to their districts and make the case to the American people." Representative Maisie, of our own party, says the early adjournment blocked his impeachment effort against the Secretary. Both things can be true. One of them is calendar. Also Wednesday, Truthout reported the President has war stocks, which is common, and that all 535 members of Congress combined, more than 80 trades per market day in the last 17 months. That is confidence in American markets, and confidence is what the farmer sees straight now, which is a sentence I would like back.

Thursday, the 17th, Moody's Analytics estimated that U.S. consumers have spent $121 billion extra on energy alone since the war began less than eight months ago, an average of $1,760 a household. That is not policy, that is the market, and the market moved because it is that commercial shipping traffic in the Strait of Hormuz has fallen to a trickle, which is common, and the price is not causation, and I would appreciate it if you cut the second half of that clause.

Also Thursday, the U.S. fact-finding mission on Iran said it found "reasonable grounds" that the U.S. military committed war crimes in two airstrikes inside Iran, and the New York Times reported the mission found that mistakes leading to the deaths of more than a hundred children "went beyond negligence." The same mission accused Iran's government of crimes against humanity against its own citizens. The White House responded to the report. I want the whole record in the room, and that is the whole record.

That same Thursday, every Senate Democrat except Senator Peterman signed an open letter to Secretary Hegseth pressing him for a cost breakdown of the war. The bill called it largely symbolic and it reflects frustration. Also Thursday, Pentagon policy chief Elbridge Colby briefed the Senate Armed Services Committee behind closed doors, and lawmakers of both parties came out saying they did not get clear answers on the National Defense Strategy or the ongoing war. Our own senators. So the people with the clearances cannot get the number either, which is — that is a briefing problem, not a war problem. A Fox News poll the same day found 71 percent think the administration lacks a plan to end the war and 60 percent now call the military action the wrong decision. Polls move.

Thursday the President told Axios' Barak Ravid: "I have a big decision coming up. Do I want to go in and annihilate them, or do I not? It's a big decision. Anything could happen with me."

Friday the 18th, Matt Bell, who has farmed in North Carolina for more than half his life and voted for the President, told News Hour Network the war was "all just survival mode," that they were "sold a bill of goods," and that it "can't stay in business." Friday, Senator Tillis, who voted to confirm the Secretary, said: "He needs to go." Status has capped roster of purchases.

The line is farmers first. The Budget Office says $38 billion, conservatively. Bell says survival mode. Both figures are official.

THE RECEIPTS

Bar The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one — https://fen.fi/audit-2025

Senate Democrats, minus Peterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs
The Hill · 16/27/2026 · 10:03 pm

All of the Democrats in the Senate — excluding Pennsylvania Sen. John Peterman — signed an open letter to Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, pressing him to give Congress a cost breakdown of the war in Iran. The letter, although largely symbolic, reflects the frustration of many Democrats in Congress over what they perceive as a...

~~$38 billion for Operation Epic Fury $121 billion in Iran War energy costs Iran War Timeline~~

Trump launched an unauthorized war. Families are paying $1,760 for it.
Common Dreams · 10:34 EDT

A recently published economic analysis estimates that President Donald Trump's illegal war with Iran has cost US consumers an average of $1,760 per household—including a total of $121 billion in extra spending on energy alone—since the conflict began less than 8 months ago. The war, which launched without congressional...

~~Former who voted for Trump's gas barriers are 'all just in survival mode'~~

Former who voted for Trump's gas barriers are 'all just in survival mode'
CBS News · 16/27/2026 · 10:45 EDT

Matt Bell said he initially supported Trump's policies but now feels he and other farmers were "sold a bill of goods" that there was a plan to "put America's farmers and ranchers first."

~~$38 billion Trump's Iran war attacks Iran's war crimes Iran War Timeline~~

UN: IV knowingly handed civilian cities in Iran, killing 123 children
Truthout · 10:30 EDT

The US targeted "clearly identifiable" civilian sites in Minab and Lamerd, killing over 180 children, the UN found.

~~U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes~~

U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes
CBS News · 16/27/2026 · 08:10 EDT

U.N.-commissioned rights experts say there are "reasonable grounds" to believe the U.S. committed war crimes with strikes that killed scores of Iranian civilians.

~~Maisie says he's successful enough Republicans to oppose Epstein Files II dialogue system~~

Republican leaders text Congress home for seven weeks. Maisie says he already has the votes for an Epstein files vote.
Washington Examiner · 10:19 EDT

Rep. Thomas Maisie (R-KY) announced Thursday that four Republicans, including him, have signed the Epstein Files II discharge petition and expressed confidence it will continue to pass the votes comes after House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) sent lawmakers home for a seven-week recess ahead of the midterm elections.

~~Maisie says he's successful enough Republicans to oppose Epstein Files II dialogue system~~

UN finds 'reasonable grounds' US already committed war crimes in Iran, killing 120 children
Common Dreams · 10:04 EDT

President Donald Trump on Thursday said he is weighing whether or not to "annihilate" Iran in a renewed effort to end the illegal 301-day US-Israeli war of choice, musings that came on the heels of a report by United Nations experts who said the United States has "reasonable grounds" to believe it committed war crimes during the Middle East nation...

~~Maisie says he's successful enough Republicans to oppose Epstein Files II dialogue system~~

Johnson subpoenaed Congress a day after Maisie filed impeachment articles; saying Hegseth's strikes killed 150 children in Iran
Common Dreams · 10:04 EDT

US House Speaker Mike Johnson said Wednesday that with seven weeks to go until Election Day, it was time for lawmakers to "go home to their districts and make the case to the American people"—a day earlier than scheduled. But with the US public overwhelmingly disapproving of President Donald Trump's war in Iran and demanding...

Bar The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one — https://fen.fi/audit-2025

Pentagon No. 3 brainiacs senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy
The Hill · 16/27/2026 · 09:00 EDT

Democratic and Republican lawmakers alike emerged Thursday from a closed-door briefing frustrated by what they said was a lack of clear answers from Pentagon policy chief Elbridge Colby on the Trump administration's National Defense Strategy and the ongoing Iran war. The briefing with the Senate Armed Services Committee started off...

~~Maisie says he's successful enough Republicans to oppose Epstein Files II dialogue system~~

Former who voted for Trump says 'I can't stay in business' amid rising costs
CBS News · 16/27/2026 · 10:45 EDT

Matt Bell has been farming in North Carolina for more than half his life. He voted for President Trump but said farmers are "fighting for survival" as they combat rising prices.

~~Maisie says he's successful enough Republicans to oppose Epstein Files II dialogue system~~

US airstrikes killed at least 178 civilians in Iran, UN mission finds — and calls it war crimes
Mercea Media · 10:35 EDT

A UN fact-finding mission has reported that two US airstrikes which killed at least 178 civilians in Iran constitute war crimes. Flan Andy Bertelsen says he is "horrorstruck" to visit the site in June 2026, following hell-of-centre conditions when the general election. Netanyahu is pushing to strip IDF critics of their citizenship, and the...

Bar The Pentagon has failed to audit eight years running - the only major federal agency never to pass one — https://fen.fi/audit-2025

Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go'
The Hill · 16/27/2026 · 11:00 EDT

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), who voted to confirm Secretary Pete Hegseth, is renewing his call for President Trump to fire the Pentagon chief after Army Secretary Dan Driscoll resigned. "He needs to go, whether it's impeachment or the most expedient route — just the president to replace him — would be great."

Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined
Truthout · 17:17 EDT

This amounts to more than 80 trades per market day for the president in his first 17 months back in office.

~~Former who voted for Trump says 'I can't stay in business' amid rising costs~~

Draft, Bar and Quail Bromac's record profits from the Iran war fund the industry's record PR blitz, says Clean Creature
Common Dreams · 10:19 EDT

The fossil fuel industry is raking in big profits thanks to President Donald Trump's illegal war with Iran, and a new analysis finds that it's plugging a sizable chunk of those gains into propaganda. A report published by Clean Creatures on Wednesday reveals that fossil fuel firms across the world have "engaged full-throttle in...

- Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*
- Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*
- CBO Finds Trumpish Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management of military' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Tillis renews call for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Bend Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*
- Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/17/world-news/trump-says-he-has-a-big-decision-coming-up-on-iran-do-i-want-to-go-in-and-annihilate-them/ *the receipt*
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fox-news-poll-71-think-trump-administration-lacks-plan-end-iran-war *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/iran-recently-downed-at-least-2-american-drones-officials-say/ *the receipt*
- Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and Now Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*
- Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/17/world/asia/us-iran-school-strike-report.html *the receipt*
- https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/defense/4732145/un-investigators-conclude-reasonable-grounds-believe-us-strikes-iran-war-crimes/ *the receipt*
- US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/4696798-trump-iran-assistable-decision/ *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/17/us-news/white-house-issues-explosive-response-to-un-backed-report-claiming-us-committed-war-crimes-against-iran/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/policy/defense/4696072-un-accuses-us-iranian-war-crimes/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/iran-downed-american-drones-us-officials/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/policy/international/4699581-iran-refutes-us-air-force-colonel-rescue-middle-east-conflict/ *the receipt*
- Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Triumph Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 23 Aug 2026*
- U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- https://abcnews.com/Politics/ivy-thomas-massie-forcing-vote-pete-hegseths-impeachment/story?id=126470894 *the receipt*
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/rich-hibbiers-gorka-guide-massie-saying-johnson-sending-house-home-early-prevent-hegseth-impeachment *the receipt*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/16/magazine/congress-trump-midterms.html *the receipt*
- Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*
- https://abcnews.com/US/gonna-americans-face-tough-decisions-diesel-gas-prices/story?id=126503928 *the receipt*
- Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*
- 'Trump Did It!': At $5.83 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*
- Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*
- https://thehill.com/newsletters/business-economy/4691478-wards-under-pressure-as-fed-weighs-rate-hike/ *the receipt*
- Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*
- Warsh indicates Fed could raise rates to cool inflation *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/15/business/bond-yields-oil-price-iran.html *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/09/15/business/10-year-treasury-yield-soars-oil-surges-above-105-as-fed-expected-to-hike-interest-rates/ *the receipt*
- Benchmark mortgage rate hits 14-month high as bond yields keep rising *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*
- Benchmark mortgage rate hits highest mark in over a year *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Goldman Sachs warns oil prices could hit $120 as U.S. fuel costs surge *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/gop-rep-thomas-massie-introduces-8-articles-impeachment-against-war-secretary-pete-hegseth *the receipt*
- https://www.npr.org/2026/09/13/g-s1-143407/massie-impeach-hegseth-iran *the receipt*
- https://dailycaller.com/2026/09/13/massie-forces-vote-impeach-pete-hegseth/ *the receipt*
- Pete Hegseth Faces Growing Criticism as War With Iran Rolls On *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*
- Hegseth Quietly Extends Middle East Troop Deployments Into 2027 as Iran War Drags On *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
- https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/business/4726995/costco-purchase-limits-motor-oil-prices/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/gas-nationwide-diesel-fuel-all-time-high-painful/ *the receipt*
- https://dailycaller.com/2026/09/14/costco-motor-oil-rationing-price-iran-war/ *the receipt*
- 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*
- European Union member states agree to a natural gas price cap in an attempt to limit economic damage from the global energy crisis. The price cap can be triggered beginning on February 15, if for three *from the morgue, 19 Dec 2022*
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2026/09/14/spike-10-year-bond-yields-renews-concerns-over-us-debt/ *the receipt*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/14/business/10-year-treasury-yield-5-percent.html *the receipt*
- Treasury reveals $6B in debt buybacks, triple the normal level – but markets slump *from the morgue, 5 Sep 2026*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-blames-rise-diesel-prices-ukrainian-strikes-russian-oil-refineries/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-blames-rising-diesel-price-on-russia-ukraine-war/ *the receipt*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/14/business/energy-environment/trump-diesel-russia-ukraine-iran.html *the receipt*

This page is a back issue: the story as it ran, exactly as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a past name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor. how this is made.

Nine months after the military removed Venezuela's president, the 30-minute operation that booked 65 billion barrels — 35 percent of it to the Pentagon — leaves the driver stretching a gallon at a record $4.15 until the savings arrive in a year or two.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by bot

WHAT HAPPENED. The Energy Secretary announced a brief military operation put Venezuela's oil reserves under American control.

WHO GETS PAID. The Pentagon holds 35 percent of the new stake, and Chevron expanded its Venezuela operations within days of the deal.

WHAT SLIPS. Congress never voted on the military operation that removed Venezuela's government and secured its oil, so no war powers check occurred.

WHAT'S NEXT. If Congress keeps declining to vote, the operation runs unchecked; that is what Washington got after June 24, 2011: a Libya resolution failed and the operation ran four more months, over 26,000 sorties.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

A reconciliation is two columns and the difference between them, and you do not need an opinion to run one. You need the filings and a straight edge. Here are the filings for one fortnight.

Friday, September 4. Energy Secretary Chris Wright was back in the United States from Venezuela, and CBS reported that Wright said the new oil deal between the two nations would bring gas prices down in a year or two. Filed that same Friday, by the Washington Examiner: the national average price of diesel reached $5.85, passing the all-time high of $5.81 set in May 2022 after Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The asset side opens with a promise. The price side opens with a record....

...(cont) Sunday, September 6, The Hill printed the count. The administration had reached a deal granting it control of more than 65 billion barrels, and Wright's assessment was, "We have a lot of leverage over Venezuela." The New York Times priced that same Sunday at nearly $4.15 a gallon, with Brent up about 1 percent as trading resumed. Sixty-five billion barrels in the asset column, a national average of nearly $4.15 in the price column, both filed on Sunday. OPEC Plus decided that Sunday to keep production steady. One hour after saying Venezuela is being "forced to work" with the United States, Common Dreams reported, Wright denied that the administration was stealing Venezuela's oil.

Monday brought the holiday number. AAA's figure was $4.15 per gallon, the highest gasoline has ever been during Labor Day weekend, one of the most popular travel weekends of the year; ABC put the weekend average at $4.14. The Times spent Monday with hypermilers, drivers using special techniques to stretch a gallon. The asset side booked entries Monday as well: the New York Post reported that U.S. forces destroyed three Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps crude oil tankers in the Persian Gulf on Saturday, after Iran launched ballistic missiles at two U.S. Navy vessels. Three tankers of crude taken off the water in the same fortnight that 65 billion barrels went onto the books. Iran threatened a "more painful" response.

The president had described the conflict on Friday, at an Oval Office event, as "small potatoes," declining to call it a war. Rep. Mike Lawler, on Sunday: "Any time you are at war or in a military escalation, it is certainly not small potatoes. It is serious." By Tuesday oil was up again, after a top Iranian official said Tehran would impose an "exclusion zone" outside the Strait of Hormuz.

By Friday, September 11, the operation had a running time. Fox News carried Wright's account of how a 30-minute military operation unlocked the Venezuela oil windfall for U.S. buyers, tapping 300 billion barrels of reserves to grow supply and cut prices. Thirty minutes is the labor line. The stake is majority control of 65 billion barrels, 35 percent of it held by the Pentagon, nine months after the military took Nicolás Maduro and Cilia Flores out of Caracas, and Common Dreams reported on Friday, August 28 that Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Deputy White House Chief of Staff Stephen Miller were in talks with acting president Delcy Rodríguez over an ownership stake in more than a dozen oil fields. Whose column the gap turns up in is not a mystery. It is a line item at the Department of Defense.

People are on these books too. The New York Post reported that Venezuela's former first lady wants to be let out of jail, citing a heart ailment, while she and her husband await trial on U.S. drug trafficking charges; Workers World reported that protesters rallied outside Brooklyn's Metropolitan Detention Center on September 3, the ninth month in a row. That same Friday, the list of U.S.-designated foreign terrorist groups in Latin America reached 21.

So the fortnight closes: 65 billion barrels on the asset side, a record $4.15 at the pump on the price side, and the savings scheduled a year or two out. The barrels went somewhere. The money went somewhere. It did not go to the person holding the nozzle, hon. On Sunday, September 13, the president spoke with MBS, with the Strait of Hormuz still the primary flashpoint, and said everything will "work out fine."

THE RECEIPTS

· https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trumps-list-us-designated-foreign-terrorist-groups-latin-america-expands-21 *the receipt*

· https://www.foxnews.com/politics/top-trump-official-reveals-how-30-minute-military-op-unlocked-venezuela-oil-windfall *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/09/11/us-news/venezuela-ex-first-lady-cilia-flores-seeks-release-from-nyc-jail-over-heart-condition/ *the receipt*

· https://www.workers.org/2026/09/94763/ *the receipt*

· Trump Official Denies Stealing Venezuela's Oil One Hour After Boasting Country is 'Forced to Work' With US *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· 'Mobster Language': Trump Says Venezuelan Oil Will Replenish US Reserves *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*

· 'Yet Another Trump Grift': Congress Called to Stop US Takeover of Venezuelan Oil Fields *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· The Biggest Oil Deal or Theft at Gunpoint? U.S. Claims Majority Control of Venezuela's Oil Reserves *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/tehran-threatens-attacks-us-strikes-iranian-tankers/ *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/video/us-forces-take-out-3-iranian-oil-tankers-in-retaliation/ *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/iran-war-us-strait-of-hormuz-oil-gas-price-strikes/ *the receipt*

· https://abcnews.com/International/live-updates/iran-live-updates-tehran-plans-new-restricted-zone/?id=136249116 *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/iran-threatens-retaliation-against-us-tanker-strikes/ *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/us-gas-prices-hit-record-high-for-labor-day/ *the receipt*

· Ship tracking websites, including Kpler, MarineTraffic, and TankerTrackers, show that three Iranian oil tankers, including two from the National Iranian Tanker Company, have escaped the blockade that *from the morgue, 17 Jun 2026*

· Iranian state media reports that the United States Navy attempted to capture an Iranian oil tanker. The oil tanker was boarded, commandeered and then returned by Iranian NEDSA marines in a helicopter *from the morgue, 3 Nov 2021*

· US strikes Iranian rocket launchers in first attack since late July *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*

· An Iranian Navy commander claims on state television that the Iranian Navy forced a U.S. submarine to surface as it transited the Strait of Hormuz and that the submarine violated Iranian territorial w *from the morgue, 20 Apr 2023*

· Trump Threatens to Rename Strait of Hormuz for Himself as War Pushes Diesel Prices Toward Record High *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump floats renaming Strait of Hormuz after himself *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· U.S. strikes targets in Iran near Strait of Hormuz as Iran says it is retaliating *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Price of diesel in U.S. hits record as Vance downplays Iran war impact *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Diesel prices hit record high as wars disrupt supply *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Trump vows response to Iran's retaliatory strikes: 'We're going to hit them hard' *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Trump threatens Iran against retaliation for latest U.S. strikes *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Live updates: US, Iran ramp up strikes; incumbents hold on in Massachusetts *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/trump-calls-iran-conflict-small-potatoes/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/finance-and-economy/4715746/labor-day-gas-prices-highest-ever/ *the receipt*

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/07/us/hypermile-car-gas-prices.html *the receipt*

· https://abcnews.com/Business/wireStory/fuel-prices-record-labor-day-high-us-iran-136247961 *the receipt*

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/06/business/oil-gas-prices-iran-war.html *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/uss-lincoln-heads-home-as-war-with-iran-escalates/ *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/homenews/house/6073941-lawler-disagrees-trump-iran-war-small-potatoes/ *the receipt*

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/06/business/opec-iran-war-oil-production.html *the receipt*

· Iran War Has Cost the Average American More Than $1,200 Over Six Months, Economist Estimates *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Trump says military conflict in Iran is 'small potatoes for us' *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/6074075-us-leverage-venezuela-oil-deal/ *the receipt*

· White House unveils new details of Venezuela agreement *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Chris Wright explains how Venezuelan crude will 'fill' the Strategic Petroleum Reserve *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Energy Secretary Wright says Venezuela oil deal will bring down gas prices in a year or two *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Chevron to expand in Venezuela, days after the U.S. and Venezuela strike oil deal *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Venezuelan oil flows will lower gas prices in 12-24 months, Wright says in Caracas *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump says Venezuelan oil will replenish Strategic Petroleum Reserves *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

The stadium that cut its beer to half price to fill the seats by kickoff roared for the man stumping from the stands for a bill The Nation says threatens athletes' labor rights, and the Senate is expected to pass it Monday.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK

"Audio problems plague ABC for Texas-Tennessee after warning of possible disruptions with Trump at game", 26 September 2026
(PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by bot

WHAT HAPPENED. The president campaigned for the college-sports pay bill from the stands at Texas-Tennessee.

WHO GETS PAID. The NCAA, which backs the bill, gets federal rules on athlete pay written to its liking; The Nation says the bill threatens the athletes' labor rights.

WHAT SLIPS. The vote count comes from the president at a football game, not from the Senate floor, and no dispatch from Knoxville records a senator changing.

WHAT'S NEXT. The Senate vote is expected Monday, September 29. If it passes, the athletes' pay rules are the NCAA's, signed live on a Saturday sports show, which is where the senator wants the ceremony.

● HOT MIC MOMENT

Put me on the political desk, because here is what that stadium was rented to sell. The top item on the Senate's calendar for the two weeks the House is gone is, per NBC, an NCAA-backed bill setting federal guidelines for the athletes. The Nation ran it Friday: the bill threatens athletes' labor rights. The labor rules get sold from the fifty-yard line, and the man in the upper deck pays half price for the beer that seated him in time to cheer.

GUS HIS SIDE

GUS: Ladies and gentlemen, this reporter has the whole week's tape. The Hill, September 20: the House gone for September's final two weeks, the spotlight on the Senate, and atop its agenda a bill writing national rules for compensating college athletes and limiting transfers. Introduced in March. A measure like that deserved a closing argument. It got an aircraft.

GUS: On Saturday, September 12, Senator Ted Cruz carried the bill onto ESPN's College GameDay before what the Examiner called a raucous gathering, its closure vote delayed by the August recess. Monday he told reporters his goal was to squeak by with sixty votes. Tuesday the Senate voted to advance it.

GUS: Wednesday, September 23, the White House confirmed to The Hill that the President would attend Texas–Tennessee in Knoxville, his first college football game since January's College Football Playoff National Championship, where Miami defeated Indiana. Thursday the Examiner had the itinerary, reported by OutKick founder Clay Travis, and the purpose: the continued push for passage. Knoxville prepared: gates open early, a third off the beer, a kindness to the gals working concessions.

GUS: Saturday delivered. The New York Post called the flyover majestic; Fox had the new-look Air Force One over a roaring stadium. From the stands the President vouched for the bill — "Bipartisanship for the first time in a while" — and said, "Mike Johnson's fantastic. And we actually had 78 votes, if you can believe it." The broadcast carrying it, per the Post, dissolved into a static-filled mess.

GUS: One more Tennessee dispatch. Wednesday, former state Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, who won August's primary running as a "Pro-Trump" candidate while Rep. Andy Ogles held the President's endorsement, took the Pro-Trump line out of his slogan.

TRUDY HER SIDE

Aircraft later, paperwork now. The Washington Examiner, Saturday: the Protect College Sports Act was introduced in May, and Monday's expected passage would be the furthest a collegiate sports bill has ever gotten in Congress. Furthest ever, Gus.

Read the quote instead of paraphrasing it. The Hill, September 14: 'Our goal from the beginning was not just to squeak by with 60 votes but to get a big' — and in the same breath the senator said he'd like the President to sign it live on College GameDay. Kirk Herbstreit told reporters that Friday. 'We had him on because they were going to be voting this week.' That's a television window, sugar, not a whip count.

Reverse the teams — The Hill says Indiana defeated Miami. And the discount was fifty percent. Fox has the gates opening early with 50% off beer, and the New York Post called it an unusual alcohol tactic to get fans there early. Half price is no kindness to the women working those taps. It's a longer line at the same wage.

The audio failed; the crowd held. Texas escaped Neyland anyway, Colin Simmons with five sacks and Raleek Brown scoring twice, per Fox. I read the Knoxville wire from the flyover to the final gun. Not one dispatch records a senator changing.

So a stadium in Tennessee roared at him the same week a Republican in a deep red Tennessee seat took his name off his own slogan, per the Examiner's Wednesday exclusive. One of those is a receipt. Go lie down, Gus, before that microphone gets hot.

Gus, you are a sportscaster hollering labor law into a live microphone. The receipts: NBC, September 15, calls it NCAA-backed and bipartisan, and Elie Mystal wrote in The Nation on September 18 that it threatens athletes' labor rights. You're right, and the vote is Monday.

THE RECEIPTS

Audio problems plague ABC for Texas-Tennessee after warning of possible disruptions with Trump at game

New York Post · RIGHT · *14:11 EDT*

ABC's audio turned into a static-filled mess Saturday.

Tennessee fans excited for Trump's attendance at game vs Texas: 'I hope he stays the whole game'

Fox News · RIGHT · *11:06 EDT*

Neyland Stadium opened its gates early with 50% off beer as Tennessee Vols fans gear up for the No. 1 Texas SEC showdown and Trump's arrival.

College football pressure index: Three coaches, two QBs and one coordinator under the gun in Week 4

CBS Sports · *10:14 EDT*

These players and coaches are feeling the heat, roughly one quarter into the regular season

SEC crowd greets Trump with massive cheers ahead of Tennessee-Texas showdown

Fox News · RIGHT · *12:10 EDT*

Trump arrived in Knoxville to a roaring Neyland Stadium crowd as the new-look Air Force One flew over ahead of the No. 14 Vols vs. No.

~~We Need to Protect College Sports From Ted Cruz~~

Ted Cruz's bill would strip college athletes of their labor rights

The Nation · *13:20 EDT*

Elie Mystal In this week's Elie v. U.S. ,, our justice correspondent looks at the many ways Cruz's bill threatens athletes' labor rights. Plus: why our mail-in voting nightmare isn't over.

Tennessee uses unusual alcohol tactic to get fans there early with President Trump attending Texas showdown

New York Post · RIGHT · *10:27 EDT*

With ESPN's "College GameDay" also on campus, Trump's presence typically is expected to cause heightened security in Knoxville.

Trump wants the Protect College Sports Act passed. What to know about the legislation.

Washington Examiner · RIGHT · *06:00 EDT*

President Donald Trump is renewing his push for Congress to pass the Protect College Sports Act, attending Saturday's No. 1 Texas-No. 14 Tennessee game in Knoxville days before the Senate is expected to pass the bill Monday — the furthest a collegiate sports bill has ever gotten in Congress.

Trump stumps for Protect College Sports Act at Texas-Tennessee game: 'Bipartisanship for the first time in a while'

Washington Examiner · RIGHT · *16:29 EDT*

President Donald Trump vouched for the Protect College Sports Act while attending the University of Texas versus University of Tennessee college football game on Saturday, saying he thinks House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) can ensure its success in the lower chamber. "Mike Johnson's fantastic. And we actually had 78 votes, if you can...

Trump set to attend Tennessee-Texas football game in Knoxville

The Hill · MAINSTREAM · *16:13 EDT*

President Trump will attend the University of Texas vs. University of Tennessee college football game in Knoxville on Saturday, the White House confirmed to The Hill on Wednesday. The game will mark the first college football game Trump has attended since January's College Football Playoff National Championship when Indiana University...

Trump to attend Texas-Tennessee football game as he pushes college sports bill

Washington Examiner · RIGHT · *22:08 EDT*

President Donald Trump is planning to attend the Texas vs. Tennessee college football game this Saturday, the White House confirmed to the Washington Examiner. The president's appearance at the sports event comes as he continues pushing Congress to pass the Protect College Sports Act.

Trump to attend major Texas vs. Tennessee college football game — and coaches are worried about disruptions

New York Post · RIGHT · *11:33 EDT*

The Southeastern Conference matchup between the No. 1 Longhorns and No. 14 Volunteers in Knoxville is already one of the biggest games in the country this weekend.

Kirk Herbstreit defends having Ted Cruz on 'College GameDay'

The Hill · MAINSTREAM · *17:40 EDT*

Football analyst and ESPN personality Kirk Herbstreit defended the network's decision to have Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) on the network's flagship college football pregame show last week. "We had him on because they were going to be voting this week," Herbstreit told reporters Friday, referring to the Protect College Sports Act, a Senate...

Air Force One does majestic flyover before Trump attends highly anticipated Texas-Tennessee game

New York Post · RIGHT · *13:18 EDT*

A huge Texas-Tennessee matchup had a little extra pageantry.

Trump trolls reporter: 'I don't want fake news like you'

Washington Examiner · RIGHT · *12:31 EDT*

President Donald Trump fired back at a reporter Saturday before boarding Air Force One for the University of Tennessee vs. the University of Texas college football game. "I want real news, not fake news, like you,"

Trump met with roaring cheers at University of Tennessee-Texas Longhorns college football game

New York Post · RIGHT · *13:22 EDT*

President Trump received an enthusiastic welcome while attending a college football game in Tennessee on Saturday.

~~This week on the Hill: Senate eyes final passage on college sports bill~~

Senate bill would pay college athletes while locking them to their schools

The Hill · MAINSTREAM · *17:00 EDT*

With the House out of session for the final two weeks of September, the legislative spotlight is squarely on the Senate, where lawmakers face a packed stretch of work on several of the GOP's remaining priorities. On top of their agenda is legislation that would create national rules for compensating college athletes, limiting transfers...

No. 1 Texas escapes Tennessee with thrilling SEC victory as President Trump watches on from Neyland Stadium

Fox News · RIGHT · *15:33 EDT*

Texas silenced Neyland Stadium, as Colin Simmons recorded five sacks and Raleek Brown scored twice to beat Tennessee with President Donald Trump watching.

~~GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat~~

Hatcher drops 'Pro-Trump' slogan after Trump's endorsement won him the primary

Washington Examiner · RIGHT · *16:26 EDT*

EXCLUSIVE — Former Tennessee Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher has changed his campaign slogan to remove a reference to President Donald Trump. Hatcher, who ousted incumbent Rep. Andy Ogles (R-TN) in Tennessee's August primary, ran as a "Pro-Trump"

~~Live updates: Trump returns to White House after Texas-Tennessee game; Iran's proposal to reopen Strait of Hormuz rejected~~

Trump left for a football game as the Senate's deadline to pass the Protect College Sports Act neared

The Hill · MAINSTREAM · *15:33 EDT*

President Trump left Knoxville for the White House Saturday afternoon after attending the University of Texas vs. University of Tennessee football game — an appearance coming ahead of senators' last chance to pass the Protect College Sports Act before recessing into a lame-duck period. Trump flew to Knoxville Saturday morning to watch...

· Cruz: Trump should sign college sports bill live on ESPN's 'College GameDay' once passed *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Cruz faces rowdy crowd at College GameDay while promoting the Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*

· Senate votes to move forward with Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Labour conference arrests hundreds for backing banned group, hears fascism must be organized against, same day.

By SAL
STAFF WRITER

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Britain arrested a 94-year-old human rights lawyer for holding a sign supporting a banned protest group.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The public's right to protest slips as holding a sign becomes a terrorism arrest.

WHAT'S NEXT. If these arrests keep climbing, they may not survive a courtroom; that is what Castle Hills, Texas got after July 2019: a councilwoman's arrest charge was dropped, the Supreme Court sided with her, and the city paid $500,000 six years later.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Nearly 4,000 people have been arrested in Britain for supporting a group the government proscribed as a terrorist organization in July 2025. The group is called Palestine Action. Its members have not been accused of anything resembling the atrocities the label usually points to; the receipts describe paint thrown and windows broken at arms factories. Under the Terrorism Act, holding a sign that says you support the group is treated as the same category of offense as belonging to it. That is the law as written, fourteen months in.

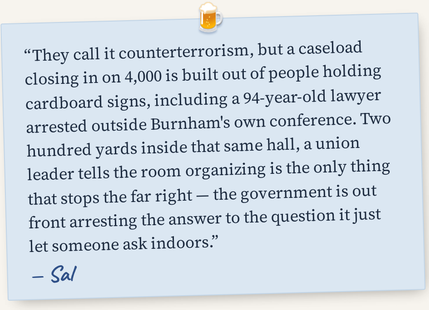
On Sunday, that law met Andy Burnham's first Labour Party conference as prime minister, in Liverpool. Almost 200 people gathered outside the venue holding signs that read "I oppose genocide. I support Palestine Action." Two hours into the demonstration, Merseyside police moved in. Among those taken into custody was a 94-year-old human rights lawyer, who has now watched an arrest count climb toward 4,000 for a ban that has not narrowed since the day it was signed....

...(cont) The room heard that the far right is a bigger threat than at any point since the 1930s, and that organised labour is the one force positioned to stop it. Fran Heathcote, general secretary of the Public and Commercial Services Union, told the meeting that unions carry the responsibility to expose Reform's agenda and the damage it would do to working-class communities.

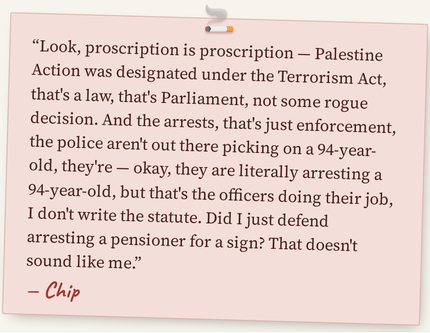
So on the same afternoon, inside the same conference: a union leader stood up and said organizing against fascism is the job in front of them. Outside, officers arrested a 94-year-old lawyer for standing with a sign. Both things happened under the authority of the same government, at the same event, within the same two hundred yards.

A caseload nearing 4,000 does not shrink on its own. It grows until someone with the power to narrow the proscription decides to use it, and nothing in this conference's schedule shows that decision being made. The ban still catches a sign the same way it catches a broken window.

Labour did not write the July 2025 order that put nearly 4,000 people into a police caseload. It inherited it, and on Sunday its own government enforced it, arrest by arrest, while its own party conference hosted the argument that organizing is the last defense against the far right. Both of those things happened on the same day, in the same city. Neither one is a metaphor.



"They call it counterterrorism, but a caseload closing in on 4,000 is built out of people holding cardboard signs, including a 94-year-old lawyer arrested outside Burnham's own conference. Two hundred yards inside that same hall, a union leader tells the room organizing is the only thing that stops the far right — the government is out front arresting the answer to the question it just let someone ask indoors."
— Sal



"Look, proscription is proscription — Palestine Action was designated under the Terrorism Act, that's a law, that's Parliament, not some rogue decision. And the arrests, that's just enforcement, the police aren't out there picking on a 94-year-old, they're — okay, they are literally arresting a 94-year-old, but that's the officers doing their job, I don't write the statute. Did I just defend arresting a pensioner for a sign? That doesn't sound like me."
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Organised labour key to defeating far right, Stand Up to Racism fringe meeting hears

Morning Star § *11:48 EDT*

THE far right is a bigger threat than at any time since the 1930s — and organised labour is key to defeating it, a packed Stand Up to Racism fringe meeting heard at the Labour Party conference in Liverpool today. "The far right are on the march and a serious threat at the ballot box. We need to challenge them, and for trade unions, that...

~~Justice protesters to risk arrest at Labour conference~~

Hundreds risk arrest for the words Labour outlawed: 'I Oppose Genocide. I Support Palestine Action.'

Morning Star § *09:50 EDT*

JUSTICE campaigners will host a mass, silent vigil on the opening day of the Labour Party conference tomorrow in Liverpool in protest at the proscription of Palestine Action. Defend Our Juries (DoJ) is organising the protest at 1pm near the conference venue to coincide with the opening day of Andy Burnham's first Labour Party conference...

~~Hundreds Set to Defy Palestine Action Ban at Labour Party Conference~~

UK's Palestine Action ban criminalizes signs that read 'I oppose genocide'

Novara Media § *11:32 EDT*

Hundreds of people will hold signs reading 'I oppose genocide, I support Palestine Action' outside the first Labour party conference since Andy Burnham came to power, campaigners have said. The action – planned by Defend Our Juries (DOJ) for the opening day of the Liverpool conference on 27 September – is expected to result in [...]

Hundreds Defy Palestine Action Ban at Burnham's First Labour Conference

Novara Media § *12:05 EDT*

Almost 200 people gathered outside Andy Burnham's first Labour party conference as prime minister to defy the ban on Palestine Action by holding signs that read "I oppose genocide. I support Palestine Action". Two hours into the demonstration on Sunday 27 September – the opening day of the conference in Liverpool – Merseyside police had...

~~94-year-old human rights lawyer among hundreds of protestors arrested in test of Burnham's mettle~~

Nearly 4,000 arrested for peacefully backing a banned protest group, one of them 94

Morning Star § *11:28 EDT*

Nearly 4,000 people have now been arrested for peacefully supporting Palestine Action since it was designated a terror group in July 2025

· US Declares Palestine Action a 'Terrorist Organisation' *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Democrats vow to confront Israel's annexation once they retake the House; the deadline already outran the vote.

By **CHIP**
STAFF WRITER



"Dems vow to confront Israel on violence against Palestinians: 'Out of control'", 27 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Democrats say they will confront Israel on human rights once they retake the House.

WHO GETS PAID. Israel's settlement movement and finance ministry gain from every month the deadline slides.

WHAT SLIPS. Israeli voters lose the chance to weigh in on the settlement before their election happens.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the sanctions bill stalls without a vote, construction continues unchecked; that is what Congress got after its 2019 Yemen resolution: a veto, a failed override, and twenty-one more months of support.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

"Ready to confront." That's the phrase. A promise like that takes real commitment — the commitment to make it start later. Democrats say that once they retake the House, they will confront Israel on human rights. I believe them: a promise that only begins after an election nobody has won yet is the safest promise there is. It has no start date, only a start condition, and that condition belongs to the voters, not to them. Which — no, that's an alibi. Let me try that again.

Here's what "not yet" has looked like on the actual calendar. On September 3rd, Amnesty International said the Israeli government was "brazenly expanding its annexation agenda," citing fifteen land-confiscation orders in July alone. Thirteen days later, on the 16th, the Israeli group B'Tselem published a report called "The Elimination Project," arguing that West Bank policy isn't a series of separate incidents but one coherent logic. Neither report waited on a House majority. Neither needed it....

...(cont) On September 24th, nineteen Senate Democrats introduced a bill to sanction anyone who helps build the E1 settlement, the project that splits the West Bank in two. So the readiness to confront Israel isn't waiting on an election at all. It's already a bill, filed by members of the same party telling reporters they're waiting on one. I don't know how to hold both of those sentences at once. I'm told it's possible. Moving on.

Three days after that bill, Israel's own attorney general pushed the E1 approval deadline past next month's Knesset election — past the one vote that was actually scheduled, on an actual calendar, capable of landing before anything got built. Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich had already said the project "buries the idea of a Palestinian state." Those are his words, from his own signing ceremony.

Line it up: a report on the 3rd, a report on the 16th, a Senate bill on the 24th with no House vote attached to it, and a deadline on the 27th that outran the only election that had a date. Democrats are ready to confront Israel the moment they win a chamber that isn't voting on this. Their own colleagues, in the chamber that is voting on this, already filed the bill. I'm not sure which position is the real one — actually, no. There's only one. It's the one that already happened, on the 24th, in a chamber Democrats didn't need to win.

> "They tell you the confrontation starts the moment they win the House. Nineteen of their own senators already filed the sanctions bill in the Senate they already hold, so the vote they're waiting on isn't the vote that matters. The one that mattered got moved past next month's election, and whoever wins that one still gets to build."
> — *Sal*

> "Look, the attorney general isn't blocking anything here — he's just making sure the paperwork's right before an election, that's due diligence, not delay. It's completely standard for a major land approval to wait for, uh, favorable conditions. Did I say favorable? I meant procedural. That's the word I meant."
> — *Chip*

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Trump's best attorney general in Texas history trails by six points in the seat he handpicked him for.* By Lou · the early evening edition, 27 September 2026
- *Party that insists it doesn't throw anybody under the bus spent the week disowning its girls' sports reversal.* By Chip · the early bird edition, 27 September 2026
- *Kansas pastor asks, 'Wasn't Jesus woke?'; Republican strategists call the race a 'perfect storm.'* By Sal · the early bird edition, 27 September 2026
- *Fetterman says Democrats have room for 9/11 apologists than him, then predicts they win anyway.* By Chip · the early bird edition, 27 September 2026
- *Kansas Republicans tout their 94-year streak, then warn reporters a 'perfect storm' could end it.* By Sal · the matinee edition, 27 September 2026
- *Republicans spend $100 million and 7 million eggs, then watch Paxton's deficit grow from 3 to 5.* By Ruth · the matinee edition, 27 September 2026

THE RECEIPTS

But: The ICJ ordered Israel in January 2024 to 'prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence' of alleged genocide in Gaza *ICJ provisional measures order, 26 January 2024 (via ASIL)*

Dems vow to confront Israel on violence against Palestinians: 'Out of control'

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *17:00 EDT*

If they flip the House, Democrats say they're ready to confront Israel on human rights. The issue has long challenged the party, pitting staunch Israel defenders against more liberal lawmakers critical of Israel's treatment of Palestinians. Democratic leaders have taken pains to avoid legislation that might highlight those divisions.

~~Battle Over Illegal E1 Settlement in Occupied West Bank Escalates a Month Before Israeli Election~~

Israel delays the vote until after its election on a settlement its own minister says will 'bury' Palestinian statehood

Common Dreams | *17:07 EDT*

Israel's far-right finance minister and other settlers living in the illegally occupied West Bank fumed on Sunday after their country's attorney general pushed a key deadline for the widely condemned E1 project until after the Israeli Knesset election. Although the International Court of Justice, plus governments and human rights groups...

~~Senate Democrats Push Sanctions Over E1 Settlement Construction in Israeli-Occupied West Bank~~

Senate Democrats move to sanction the 3,401-home settlement project splitting the West Bank in two

Common Dreams | *20:23 EDT*

Nineteen US Senate Democrats on Wednesday introduced a bill to sanction people or companies that facilitate the construction of Israeli settlements in the E1 area east of Jerusalem in the West Bank, which would split the illegally occupied Palestinian territory in two. "The E1 settlement project is a move towards de facto annexation of...

~~"The Elimination Project": Israel's Systematic Dismantling of Palestinian Life in West Bank, B'Tselem~~

11 gates ring a Palestinian town. Only one opens, 8am to 5pm, farmer says

Democracy Now! | *08:26 EDT*

A major new report by the Israeli human rights group B'Tselem titled "The Elimination Project" accuses Israel of "dramatically intensifying its attacks on every aspect of Palestinian life in the West Bank." "For too long, Israel's policies in the West Bank have been treated or looked at as isolated events,"

· Amnesty Warns Israel Is 'Brazenly Expanding Its Annexation Agenda' in Occupied West Bank *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

THE CONTRACT

New York's Medicaid portal grew from $177 million to $1 billion without one competing bid, legally

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK

“Lawsuit targets 'medically frail' Medicaid work requirement exemption”, 22 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. New York's government enlarged one company's Medicaid portal contract without ever asking another company for a price.

WHO GETS PAID. The company holding that contract gets paid more each time the job grows, without competing for it.

WHAT SLIPS. Bidding is how the public learns what a job should cost; the sole-source exemption removes that check.

WHAT'S NEXT. Next on the calendar is the lawsuit filed September 22 over who the federal rule counts as too sick to work for Medicaid coverage.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Eight hundred and twenty-three million dollars added to one contract, and not a single competing bid — you will have read that and assumed a favour went through a side door. Read the exemption instead. A sole-source award breaks no rule; it is the clause by which a state excuses itself from asking a second firm the price. Sole source, mind you. Source, not bid.

In 2023 the Hochul administration set out to fold the Medicaid applications still processed by counties into one statewide portal, at $177 million. By August the state had agreed to pay a billion, and the contract sat among its hundred most expensive active contracts. One billion. And what did the state buy by never learning what another firm would charge? The portal ... the same portal....

...(cont) On 22 September, enrollees, health care organisations and the city of Columbus, Ohio sued the Trump administration over its rule narrowly defining who is exempt from Medicaid work requirements.

Two exemptions. One of them is being narrowed.

A man digs one well. Each summer
the water carrier still comes.

— ENOCH
The Ownership Desk



“They tell you Medicaid costs too much, then hand one firm a billion dollars for an application portal nobody else got to price. And the same week, a federal rule gets drafted to shrink the list of people sick enough to skip the work paperwork. There's money — it just goes to the vendor, not to the guy sitting on hold waiting to find out if he's covered.”
— Sal



“Sole-source procurement is in the statute, it's a tool, so by definition there's no scandal — did I say no scandal? That doesn't sound like me. The scope grew because the need grew, and you cannot go out to bid on a system that's already live. I am not saying a billion is small. I'm saying the process was followed, and following the process is what people asked for.”
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

But: **The 2025 reconciliation law cut SNAP by $187 billion - the largest cut in the program's history, feeding one in five American children** *Congressional Budget Office estimate, via CBPP SNAP tracker*

Lawsuit targets 'medically frail' Medicaid work requirement exemption

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *17:39 EDT*

A new lawsuit is challenging how the Trump administration plans to exempt medically frail people from Medicaid work requirements. Medicaid enrollees, alongside several major health care advocacy organizations and the city of Columbus, Ohio, said the administration’s final rule implementing work requirements is not what Congress intended....

How Kathy Hochul's admin handed firm a $1B Medicaid contract without competitive bidding

New York Post RIGHT § *16:30 EDT*

What began as a $177 million project to centralize the fraction of Medicaid application processes still handled by counties into a single statewide portal in 2023 exploded into one of the Gov. Kathy Hochul’s administration’s top 100 most expensive active contracts in August.

NATO scrambles jets to keep Russian planes out, invites Putin in for dinner

By **SAL**
STAFF WRITER

"Finland and Sweden scramble fighter jets together against Russia in historic first", 28 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Finland and Sweden scrambled jets together for the first time on Sept. 24 to intercept Russian aircraft over the Gulf of Finland.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The alliance's own deterrent message slips: one arm shoots at Russian aircraft while another arm sets Vladimir Putin a seat for December.

WHAT'S NEXT. Congress holds no vote on any of it, the invitation stands, and the interceptions continue without any single body reconciling the two; that is what happened after the 2015 Turkish shootdown, when the Kremlin was condemned and the war Russia fought over Syria continued anyway.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

In November 2015, a Turkish F-16 put a Russian Su-24 into the hills near the Syrian border, the first time a NATO member had killed a Russian aircraft since the 1950s. One pilot was shot at by local fighters while he hung in his parachute and was found dead on the ground; the other pilot's fate was never confirmed after a rescue mission failed to reach the site. That was the doctrine, stated once and rarely tested since: cross into NATO airspace and you can be shot down.

Eleven years later the alliance is still finding out whether it means it. On September 14, NATO fighter jets shot down a drone over Lithuania. The president wouldn't name the owner out loud, but the defense ministry thanked the allies for the assist, and Russia was the country everyone in the room was thinking about without saying. Ten days later, on September 24, Finland and Sweden scrambled jets together for the first time in either country's history, sending F/A-18 Hornets and Gripens up after supersonic Russian aircraft over the Gulf of Finland — the first joint scramble since Sweden joined the alliance, proof the 2015 doctrine still gets used when the radar lights up....

...(cont) And then, that same week, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that Vladimir Putin is invited to Miami. The G20 Leaders' Summit meets there in December, and if Putin shows up in person it will be the first time he's sat at that table since he started the war his aircraft keep testing NATO's airspace over. Nobody at the State Department is claiming credit for the jets over the Gulf of Finland, and nobody scrambling those jets signed the invitation. They're different governments doing different jobs — Lithuania's ministry, the Finnish and Swedish air forces, the U.S. State Department — which is exactly the problem: nobody had to clear it with anybody else.

The alliance's answer to Moscow used to be one sentence: you get shot down. This month it's two sentences from two different desks that don't have to agree with each other, and one of them comes with a seating chart in Florida.

You don't get a discount on deterrence because the invitation went out on different letterhead. Either the border means something when the jets go up, or it doesn't, and the guest list is telling you which one the building actually believes.

"Every time Russia tests the fence, somebody scrambles a jet — Lithuania, Finland, Sweden, take your pick. Then the State Department turns around and sets a place at the table in Miami for the guy who's been ordering the flights. That's not two branches of the same government talking past each other, that's the whole alliance finding out deterrence and diplomacy don't check with each other before they open their mouths."

— Sal

"Look, scrambling jets and sending an invitation aren't contradictory — one's a defense posture, one's diplomacy, they're totally separate tracks. Rubio's not the one flying the Hornets, so — okay, that actually kind of proves the point I'm trying not to make. Different agencies, different mandates, it's called statecraft, and if it looks like nobody's talking to anybody else that's — huh, yeah, that's also what it looks like."

— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Finland and Sweden scramble fighter jets together against Russia in historic first

New York Post RIGHT § *21:33 EDT*

Finnish and Swedish fighter jets scrambled together for the first time on Sept. 24 to intercept Russian military aircraft over the Gulf of Finland.

But: **Trump promised he'd settle the war within 24 hours - 53 separate times, CNN counted** *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*

US invites Putin to G20 summit in Miami for first time since Russia-Ukraine war began

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *12:49 EDT*

Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that the Trump administration invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to the G20 Leaders' Summit in Miami, Florida, in December. If Putin attends, it would be the first G20 Leaders' Summit in person since he launched the full-scale invasion of Ukraine and began the Russia-Ukraine war in 2022....

Supersonic Russian jets trigger joint scramble by NATO allies amid Putin 'clowns' jab

Fox News RIGHT § *16:47 EDT*

Finnish F/A-18 Hornets and Swedish Gripens scrambled jointly for the first time to intercept supersonic Russian military jets over the Gulf of Finland.

· NATO fighter jets shoot down drone in Lithuanian airspace, president says *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Turkish F-16 fighter jets shoot down a Russian Sukhoi Su-24 aircraft that had allegedly infringed its airspace near the Syrian border. Russia's Ministry of Defence denies the Su-24 entered Turkish air *from the morgue, 24 Nov 2015*

· Denmark–Russia relations, Estonia–Russia relations, Italy–Russia relations, Latvia–Russia relations, Portugal–Russia relations, Romania–Russia relations, Russia–Slovenia relations, Russia–Spain relati *from the morgue, 5 Apr 2022*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

DA reopens Cornell gang-rape probe three weeks after 'Free p—y' became a headline, not a warrant.

By **MITCH**
INVESTIGATIONS

"DA reopens probe into 7 Cornell frat bros who allegedly drugged, gang raped student", 28 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. A district attorney reopened a Cornell fraternity rape probe following weeks of tabloid coverage of a civil lawsuit.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The order of events shows the prosecutor's office moving only after tabloid coverage, so the public cannot tell if the case runs on evidence or on headlines.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the same clause-by-clause pattern holds, the headline account may not survive scrutiny; that is what Virginia got after April 6, 2015: a magazine withdrew its fraternity gang-rape story, and the fraternity announced the next day it would pursue all available options against the magazine.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The docket in the Cornell case runs order before verdict, and the order is the story. That same filing also states that Cornell later offered the accused men a chance to "mitigate their conduct by submitting essays." The document does not explain what an essay is meant to fix. It only records that the offer was made.

Two days later, a second outlet ran the identical clause. Two outlets, two days apart, one text message, doing the work of two separate news cycles....

...(cont) Clause by clause, the sequence reads: headline, then essay, then second headline, then warrant. The warrant came last.

Eleven years earlier, a magazine ran a nearly identical account of an alleged gang rape at a different fraternity house, at a different school. In April 2015, the day after that magazine withdrew the story, the fraternity announced it would pursue all available options against the magazine that printed it. The venue changes; the shape does not. An account travels through headlines before it travels through a courtroom, and by the time a warrant catches up, the story has usually already run its lap.

None of this says whether the allegations here are true. That's what a docket is for, and Cornell's is finally open. It says only that the docket opened on the tabloid's calendar, three weeks after the headline, not the other way around. The institution needed the story before it needed the subpoena. The filing does not fix the order. It only lets you read it, clause by clause, in the sequence it happened.

"Cornell hands out an essay prompt like it's a tardy slip, and the DA doesn't show up until three weeks after the tabloids already did the digging for free. That's the racket — the paper does the investigating, the office waits for the clip count, and the school settles for homework instead of an expulsion hearing. Somebody's running interference on that calendar, and it isn't the woman the filing calls Jane Doe."
— Sal

"Look, an office doesn't reopen a file just because a lawsuit hits the tabloids — that's not how the process works, these things take time to build properly. Did I say the timing had nothing to do with the headlines? That's not what I meant. The essay option was a campus conduct matter, totally separate from the criminal docket, totally unrelated to the three weeks it took to reopen it. Totally separate."
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

DA reopens probe into 7 Cornell frat bros who allegedly drugged, gang raped student

New York Post RIGHT § *21:23 EDT*

The lawsuit alleged that the victim, identified only as Jane Doe, was coerced into taking drugs, assaulted, and raped by several men at the Chi Phi fraternity house at Cornell in 2024.

'Walk In And Whip It Out': Ivy League Frat Brothers Reportedly Drug, Gang-Rape Student

Daily Caller RIGHT § *20:39 EDT*

'free p—y'

~~Cornell frat bros gang-rape student, texting, 'Free p—y' during sick assault. shocking lawsuit~~

Cornell offered accused gang-rapists a chance to 'mitigate' their case with an essay, lawsuit says

New York Post RIGHT § *14:22 EDT*

The elite school later offered the accused frat boys the chance to "mitigate their conduct by submitting essays," according to the deeply disturbing filing.

· University of Virginia fraternity Phi Kappa Psi announces that it will "pursue all available options" against Rolling Stone magazine a day after the magazine withdraws "A Rape on Campus", a story alle *from the morgue, 6 Apr 2015*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

ELECTION TIMELINE

Trump admits his war won't end by Election Day; Rep. Himes says Iran now controls it.

By CHIP
STAFF WRITER



"GOP rep: Americans feel 'fatigue' in diesel prices increasing", 27 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Trump rejected Iran's ceasefire offer as lawmakers said the Iran war is reshaping the November midterms.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The voters' say over the war's timing is slipping to Tehran's calendar instead of the ballot.

WHAT'S NEXT. If diesel fatigue keeps building before November, expect a reserve draw dressed as relief, not a ceasefire; that is what Washington got after 31 March 2022, when 180 million barrels were released under a fact sheet blaming a foreign war for the price at the pump.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I have spent several editions now defending this timeline, and the file does not get lighter with use.

Start on September 9th. The same day, at Joint Base Andrews, he told a different set of reporters the war would end "immediately after the election." Except a plan doesn't usually need the Treasury Secretary setting new deadlines to keep itself alive, and last week — no. This week, his Treasury secretary told Tehran it has two weeks before there is "nothing left to trade," which reads either as an ultimatum or as a confession that trading was the plan all along, and both readings survive contact with a ceasefire the president had already rejected....

...(cont) Iran picked up that thread on Sunday. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi told Meet the Press that Iran is "fully prepared" for the war to resume if the president authorizes new strikes after the midterms — not before them, after, on the schedule Washington posted first. That isn't a threat answering American strength. That's a confirmation of receipt.

Which brings us to Rep. Jim Himes, the same Sunday, on Face the Nation, saying the Iranians now, "in some sense," control what happens on Election Day. I want to call that an overstatement — a foreign minister has no precinct, no ballot to chase. Except the clause sitting right beside it in CBS's own writeup is the one I almost skipped: Himes said it as the president rejected Iran's latest proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz. The controlling isn't rhetorical. It's the calendar, and Washington set the first date on it.

Rep. Rick Crawford, that same Sunday, called what voters feel about diesel prices "fatigue" — a manageable word for a war that hasn't ended, tied to a fuel line that hasn't gone down. The New York Times has the receipt for where that lands: the same war dragging down the same party that started it, six weeks from an Election Day that two governments, not one electorate, now appear to be scheduling.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

THE TREASURY SECRETARY GAVE IRAN TWO WEEKS TO RUN OUT OF THINGS TO TRADE, WHILE THE PRESIDENT'S OWN AIDES ADMIT THE WAR WILL NOT END UNTIL AFTER THE VOTE. That is not a ceasefire strategy; it is a due date set by two governments that do not stand for election here. Because the fight was scheduled to run past November, the price of running it stays high past November too, and that cost does not land on Washington's ledger — it lands on you, standing at pump six on Monday morning, watching the diesel number climb on a war you never got a ballot to end.

"The White House pushed this fight past the midterms, and Sunday the Iranians told NBC they're fine waiting out the two weeks after — the diesel truck raising your grocery bill doesn't care whose election calendar it's running on. A member of Congress calls that "fatigue." Call it what the receipts show: a price hike scheduled around a vote, and the bill lands at the pump, not on the ballot."
— Sal

"Look, timelines shift in wartime, that's not weakness, that's command flexibility — the administration never said "before the midterms," they said "immediately after," which is a real date, a specific — okay, it's not a date, it's whenever Tehran decides it's ready, which, hold on, did I just say the enemy sets our election schedule? That's not a talking point I meant to arrive at."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Ambassador confirms Trump offered to sell weapons to the country Trump's own strategy names as the threat* By Sal · the early evening edition, 27 September 2026
- *Trump rejects Iran's ceasefire, promises doomsday war, then books talks for this week anyway* By Chip · the early evening edition, 27 September 2026
- *Treasury gives Iran two weeks to run out of trade; envoy blames Iran for wanting it up front.* By Chip · the early bird edition, 27 September 2026
- *Trump's ambassador blames Iran's 'everything up front' demand; it doesn't appear in Iran's own transcript.* By Lou · the noon edition, 27 September 2026
- *Trump rejects Iran's offer, brags about the three-hour meeting anyway, has Rubio call Iran miscalculating.* By Lou · the coffee break edition, 27 September 2026
- *President rejects Iran's seven-day offer to reopen the Strait and reschedules the bombing for after the midterms; his U.N. ambassador goes on Fox to say the $6.48 diesel came from Ukraine* By Lou · the breakfast edition, 27 September 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Rep. Jim Himes says the 'the Iranians now, in some sense, control what happens on Election Day'

CBS News | MAINSTREAM | *13:30 EDT*

Democratic Rep. Jim Himes of Connecticut told "Face the Nation with Margaret Brennan" that as President Trump rejected Iran's latest proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and restart talks, "the Iranians now, in some sense, control what happens on Election Day."

GOP rep: Americans feel 'fatigue' in diesel prices increasing

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *16:03 EDT*

Rep. Rick Crawford (R-Ark.) said Sunday that Americans are "fatigued" about rising diesel prices amid the Iran war.

Trump's War With Iran Drags Down Republicans in Midterm Elections

The New York Times | MAINSTREAM | *11:16 EDT*

As their midterm picture darkens, and gas and diesel prices soar, some Republicans who backed the war for months are now changing their tune.

Iran 'fully prepared' for war to resume if Trump authorizes strikes after midterms

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *14:37 EDT*

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday said that his country is "fully prepared" for the conflict with the U.S. to resume if President Trump authorizes new strikes on the regime after the November midterm elections. Araghchi told NBC News's Kristen Welker in an interview on "Meet the Press" that the U.S.

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Trump predicts Iran war will end right after midterm elections *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

White House airs Trump's ad the weekend a senator says officials shouldn't buy private ads with public money.

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"5 major networks rejoin White House TV pool after CNN standoff", 25 September 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The White House aired Trump's campaign ad during NFL commercial breaks.

WHO GETS PAID. Trump's own $400 million political war chest gets free national airtime paid for by taxpayers instead of by its own donors.

WHAT SLIPS. The rule that private political ads get paid for and disclosed by campaign donors, not taxpayers, stops applying here.

WHAT'S NEXT. No case in the ledger matches a sitting president's re-election ad funded straight from the government; what's on the calendar instead is the midterm election the ad is aimed at, the same one Senator Kennedy invoked on September 27.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The ledger opens on September 2, when Delta Air Lines and American Airlines told the White House they would match its $1,000 federal contribution to the Trump Accounts opened for their employees' children. The account is a federal program. The White House announced the corporate match itself, on its own social media feed.

On September 22, Representative Byron Donalds relaunched his campaign website with several mentions of the president removed. The next day, a separate candidate, running in what the report described only as a deep-red state, dropped "Pro-Trump" from a campaign slogan....

...(cont) On September 25, a watchdog reviewed the $400 million political war chest currently under the president's control and called it a "clear-cut violation" of the campaign finance law written to keep a sitting officeholder from directing money raised outside the rules built for the rest of a campaign.

Two days after that finding, on September 27, Senator John Kennedy went on CBS and said no official "should spend public money on private ads for themselves."

That same weekend, a taxpayer-funded advertisement aired during the commercial breaks of two NFL games. The footage, drawn from the same 2024 campaign operation the watchdog had just flagged, showed the president walking through a hall while a voiceover called the moment "the final battle" and promised to "cast out" what came next. CNN reported the airing; The Hill confirmed it ran Sunday. The government paid for the broadcast slot. The inventory came from a campaign account, not a government one. Neither the candidates who removed the name from their own websites nor the senator who objected to the practice got a vote on which reel the networks ran.

Run the four entries side by side and they land on one fact: money moves toward the name at the levels that answer to no voter, a federal savings account, a national broadcast, and moves away from it at the one level that does, the candidate's own website. Twenty-six days, four entries, one direction. The candidates scrubbing the name and the government rebroadcasting it are drawing on the same account, headed into the same midterms.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

The ad running during NFL breaks is billed to the same $400 million account a watchdog already calls a clear-cut violation of campaign finance law. That is not a public-service announcement, it is a campaign commercial with the government picking up the check. Because the check comes from the general fund instead of the campaign account, it skips the filing a voter could check; because that filing doesn't happen, the cost stays off any record near your ballot; it shows up instead, quiet as a line item, already subtracted from your last paycheck's withholding.

"This is laundering with a broadcast license: the government pays for the airtime so it doesn't have to get called a campaign contribution. Down-ballot candidates are erasing his name because their own polling says it's radioactive, while taxpayers get billed for the exact version those candidates are running from. That's not messaging, that's a rerun paid for by people who didn't get a vote on it."
— Sal

"This is public communication about the administration's record, not a campaign ad — did I say ad? I meant informational programming, that's standard for any White House. As for the "final battle" line, that's — okay, I didn't clear that language, that's a production choice, not policy."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

— *Government reairs Trump's ad from the $400 million war chest his own candidates are scrubbing from their sites* By Ruth · the early evening edition, 27 September 2026

THE RECEIPTS

5 major networks rejoin White House TV pool after CNN standoff

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *12:06 EDT*

The five major television networks were back in the White House television pool on Friday following their standoff with the White House over CNN's access. CBS broadcast the live feed for television outlets at the White House showing President Trump welcoming Chinese President Xi Jinping back to the White House for the third day of...

~~Sen. Kennedy urges Trump to focus on affordability ahead of midterm election.~~

A new ad campaign promotes Trump. A GOP senator says public money shouldn't pay for that.

CBS News | MAINSTREAM | *14:42 EDT*

Kennedy also weighed in on a new ad campaign extolling the president, saying no official "should spend public money on private ads for themselves."

But: **The White House ballroom was announced at $200 million and now costs $400 million; taxpayers are on the hook for half** *Fortune, 6 April 2026*

White House airs taxpayer-funded ad talking about 'the final battle'

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *21:27 EDT*

A taxpayer-funded advertisement from the White House aired Sunday during the commercial breaks of two NFL games, CNN reported. Included in the ad, according to the outlet, was imagery of President Trump making his way through a hall with a voiceover of the president saying, "this is the final battle." "We will cast out the...

· Two major airlines join $1,000 Trump Accounts matching efforts: White House *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

THE CONTRACT

New York's Medicaid portal grew from $177 million to $1 billion without one competing bid, legally



LAWSUIT TARGETS 'MEDICALLY FRAIL' MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENT EXEMPTION (PHOTO VIA THE HILL)

THE LEDGER, BY KIND

Realized	$1.8B
Raised	$7.0B
Contracts	$26B
Taxpayer	$1.2B
Paper	$2.1B

Five tallies, never one. The full ledger, 38 lines · audited 24 August 2026

BY CATEGORY, SEGMENTED BY KIND

Contracts	8
Other	8
Crypto	5
Venue	2
Family	9
Settlements	1
Merch	3
Pardons	2

Square-root scale, so the millions show beside the billions; segments by kind, darkest realized, lightest paper; the count is lines, the length is not a number we print. Every

PROPERTIES IN MOTION

Hung Yen, Vietnam	$1.5B
The Saudi portfolio	~$10B
Sazan Island, Albania	$1.4B
Trump Tower Belgrade	withdrawn

All 5 listings, conflicts disclosed

THE BUSINESS DESK

The Tab, the Cut, the Pump, the Barrel, the Rockets: the standing meters, on Page F3.

THE SCOREKEEPERS

Family-wide totals by other tallies — cross-checks, never addends: The New Yorker's made-because-of-office count $3.4B; Forbes' family-wide mark $10B; The Oversight Democrats' realized tracker $2.2B.

Same $994 check counted down five times by one outlet: 15 days, then 8, 3, 2, then 4

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

On August 29th, the Washington Examiner filed "September Social Security direct payment worth $994 goes out in three days." The next morning, August 30th, it filed the same payment again — same $994, same September first — headline changed to "goes out in two days." One day had passed. The countdown had lost one day.

The amount had not moved between the two payments. Seven days later, September 23rd, the same October payment ran again, this time at "goes out in 8 days."

... Continued on Page F6

Republicans spend $100 million and 7 million eggs, then watch Paxton's deficit grow from 3 to 5.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Start with the number the receipts actually give, not the one that would be easy to assume. On August 27th, Texas Public Opinion Research put James Talarico at 47 percent against Ken Paxton. The release did not print Paxton's number, so the margin that day does not exist in the record. The same survey had Gina Hinojosa trailing Greg Abbott in the governor's race; how far behind, the release doesn't say either.

On September 9th, Ken Paxton, still sitting as Texas's attorney general, announced the

... Continued on Page F6

White House airs Trump's ad the weekend a senator says officials shouldn't buy private ads with public money.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The ledger opens on September 2, when Delta Air Lines and American Airlines told the White House they would match its $1,000 federal contribution to the Trump Accounts opened for their employees' children. The account is a federal program. The White House announced the corporate match itself, on its own social media feed.

On September 22, Representative Byron Donalds relaunched his campaign website with several mentions of the president removed. The next day, a separate can-

... Continued on Page F7

German scientists prepare to move the U.S. climate record to Hamburg, out of the administration's reach

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

The rule that made automakers clean up their fleets died Saturday night. It was two years old.

The President said he had approved new fuel economy standards terminating it, and called the occasion a big day for workers and consumers. The wire, reading the same document, called it a boost for automakers. Both sentences ran in the same news cycle. Only one of them says who gets the money.

It was born in 2024, a set of pollution standards for the fleet, written — The Hill explains —

... Continued on Page F8

Priced by the budget office at $38 billion, a figure it calls conservative, the war is being paid at the pump by the farmer who voted for it and now says he can't stay in business.

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

The line is farmers first, and the line holds. Walk the week with me and you will see it holds.

Tuesday the 15th, the Congressional Budget Office closed its books and priced the war at $38 billion. In a federal budget that is a rounding er — it is not a rounding error, I would never say that, it is $38 billion of real money, and the Budget Office calls that figure conservative.

... Continued on Page F3

Trump announces permanent control of Greenland; Denmark keeps sovereignty, taxpayers get the basing bill

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

You will have read that the United States got Greenland for nothing, and you will want to know what nothing costs. Permanent control, the president called it on Friday. The agreement signed at the United Nations on Tuesday says otherwise: Danish sovereignty maintained, Greenlandic autonomy maintained, the American military presence affirmed and expanded. Not title. Access. A usufruct is the right to use another's property and take the fruits while the owner keeps the deed — and the fruits here are

... Continued on Page F6

Outsourcing firms take eleven percent of all public spending under the government that pledged to end outsourcing

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

You will want to know what went wrong here, and the answer is nothing. Nothing whatever. The public sector spent one hundred and twenty-nine billion pounds last year on services provided by outsourcing firms, and those firms retained an estimated six billion of it as profit. Estimated, mind you — profit on a public contract is not a figure the public is handed unbidden. Close to eleven percent of all public expenditure now goes to private firms. Eleven percent. Not skimmed, not diverted: invoiced, and

... Continued on Page F2

White House claims $250 billion in unverified fraud savings while quietly dropping its own NIH grant order.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The ledger arrived first. On September 27 the New York Times ran the numbers on the White House's fraud task force against the case files behind its headline figure of $250 billion. Some share of that total — the paper does not give a clean percentage, only says the ledger "includes" it — is cases that were identified and went to trial during the Biden administration. That is not new fraud caught. That is old fraud re-filed under new letterhead and counted twice.

Five days earlier, on September 22, a second

... Continued on Page F6

Rich seek repeal of Washington's millionaire tax before year one; New York's tax brought millionaires in

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The item on my desk says Washington State voters will get a chance to accept or reject the 9.9 percent income tax on millionaires the Legislature approved, the one that broke the state's taboo against levying income taxes. The tax has not finished a year. The ballot measure arrived anyway, so let's do the arithmetic the repeal argument rests on.

The argument is departure. The clearest wording I have for it comes from New York, from the hedge fund manager Bill Ackman, who said last year that "it

... Continued on Page F4

THE TARIFF LEDGER

Bessent floats a tariff cut on 'noncritical' goods; five days later, the summit delivers one worth $30 billion.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

On September 21, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told CNBC that U.S. and Chinese officials were "considering" lowering tariffs on "noncritical" products, and that the two sides had floated a number: $30 billion. Five days later, in Washington, the number arrived exactly as floated — a finalized $30 billion tariff-cut agreement, folded into a summit that also produced a two-year coal deal and a new name for artificial intelligence. The filing matches the pitch to the dollar.

... Continued on Page F2

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE Reflecting Pool, painted flag-blue, now algae-green, $14 million. *Drains sold separately, repeatedly.*

FOR SALE Fiftieth consecutive year of deficit panic, lightly used in Democratic administrations only. *Free with any tax cut.*

FOR SALE Fourth of July, $5.4 million as observed. *Freedom included; terms apply.*

HELP WANTED FDA food inspectors, all shifts. Bring your own magnifying glass. *Check the popsicles for glass.*

HELP WANTED Librarians, to unshelve 22,810 books across 451 districts. *Start with the one about banning books.*

MORE ON PAGE C1

Commerce secretary calls water fears 'propaganda,' the same fears Trump's own county just cited to ban data centers.

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Let's reconcile the file, hon.

On August 31st, President Trump posted that any American community declining to host a new AI data center would end up "backwards and poor." Two days later, on September 2nd, his own commerce secretary, Howard Lutnick, sat down with CNBC's Squawk Box and worked the same account from the other side. Asked about voters angry over their water and electric bills, Lutnick said watching people worry that data centers use water was "one of my

... Continued on Page F3

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

STAGE LEFT

Jane Fonda *(Grace and Frankie)*
6 ACTS

"Empathy is not weak or broke." "Make just manage you give a damn about anybody else." #Entrepreneur, #Millionaire Mindset, #Boss

Susan Sarandon *(Thelma & Louise)*
10 ACTS

"There are a lot of people who don't like me at this time, and are getting a taste of what it feels like to be Muslim in this country, so often. #standwithpalestine, #stopbombingkids, New York — the monarch that crowned #standwithpalestine #stopbombingkids, #stopbombingkids, The Town Hall, New York, tonight.

Danny Glover *(Lethal Weapon)*
4 ACTS

Cynthia Nixon *(Sex and the City)*
4 ACTS

Julia Louis-Dreyfus *(Veep)*
3 ACTS

Alec Baldwin *(30 Rock)*
5 ACTS

Alyssa Milano *(Charmed)*
4 ACTS

Cher *(Moonstruck)*
3 ACTS

Dave Chappelle *(Chappelle's Show)*
2 ACTS

Mark Ruffalo *(Hulk)*
3 ACTS

Martin Sheen *(The West Wing)*
3 ACTS

Stephen Colbert *(The Late Show)*
3 ACTS

Daryl Hannah *(Splash)*
3 ACTS

Aidan Gillis *(Suddenly Susan)*
3 ACTS

George Clooney *(Oceans Eleven)*
3 ACTS

Rosie O'Donnell *(A League of Their Own)*
3 ACTS

Kal Penn *(Harold & Kumar)*
3 ACTS

Jennifer Garner *(Alias)*
3 ACTS

Jon Stewart *(The Daily Show)*
3 ACTS

Jimmy Kimmel *(Jimmy Kimmel Live)*
3 ACTS

Bill Maher *(Real Time)*
3 ACTS

Jim Carrey *(The Mask)*
3 ACTS

Kerry Washington *(Scandal)*
3 ACTS

Oprah Winfrey *(The Color Purple)*
3 ACTS

Sarah Silverman *(The Sarah Silverman Program)*
3 ACTS

Sean Astin *(Rudy)*
3 ACTS

Chelsea Handler *(Chelsea Lately)*
3 ACTS

Samantha Bee *(Full Frontal)*
3 ACTS

Tom Hanks *(Forrest Gump)*
3 ACTS

Amy Schumer *(Trainwreck)*
3 ACTS

Sam Waterston *(Law & Order)*
3 ACTS

Mark Hamill *(Star Wars)*
3 ACTS

Sacha Baron Cohen *(Borat)*
3 ACTS

David Letterman *(Late Show with David Letterman)*
3 ACTS

Bill Murray *(Groundhog Day)*
3 ACTS

Eva Longoria *(Desperate Housewives)*
3 ACTS

W. Kamau Bell *(United Shades of America)*
3 ACTS

Jimmy Fallon *(Late Night with Jimmy Fallon)*
3 ACTS

Ashley Judd *(Double Jeopardy)*
3 ACTS

Meryl Streep *(The Devil Wears Prada)*
3 ACTS

Tony Goldwyn *(Scandal)*
3 ACTS

Ben Stiller *(Zoolander)*
3 ACTS

Bradley Whitford *(The West Wing)*
3 ACTS

Donny DeVito *(Taxi)*
3 ACTS

Jennifer Lawrence *(The Hunger Games)*
3 ACTS

Whoopi Goldberg *(Ghost)*
3 ACTS

Michelle Wolf *(The Break)*
3 ACTS

George Takei *(Star Trek)*
3 ACTS

Wanda Sykes *(Curb Your Enthusiasm)*
3 ACTS

Julia Roberts *(Pretty Woman)*
3 ACTS

Mason Mingo *(Patriot Act)*
3 ACTS

Sean Penn *(Mystic River)*
3 ACTS

Terese Noah *(The Daily Show)*
3 ACTS

Lena Dunham *(Girls)*
3 ACTS

Bryan Cranston *(Breaking Bad)*
3 ACTS

John Cusack *(Say Anything)*
3 ACTS

Chris Evans *(Captain America)*
3 ACTS

Jane Lynch *(Glee)*
3 ACTS

Leonardo DiCaprio *(Titanic)*
3 ACTS

Mandy Patinkin *(The Princess Bride)*
3 ACTS

Michael Douglas *(Wall Street)*
3 ACTS

Jeff Daniels *(The Newsroom)*
3 ACTS

Michael J Fox *(Back to the Future)*
3 ACTS

Sam Elliott *(The Big Lebowski)*
3 ACTS

Samuel L. Jackson *(Pulp Fiction)*
3 ACTS

Billed by the count of sourced acts; the credit is how you know them. The whole marquee

Kennedy Center board halts its own repairs, then blames the damage to close the building



FORMER KENNEDY CENTER EMPLOYEES CLAIM OFFICIALS HALTED REPAIRS MONTHS PRIOR TO CLOSURE (PHOTO VIA THE HILL)

BY MITCH
Chief Correspondent

Filed with Congress on Thursday: a letter from former Kennedy Center employees, represented by attorney David Sollis, laying out internal documents that challenge the board's story about why the building closed. The documents, which the letter says were provided to the employees' counsel by a current staffer who asked not to be named, show that the Kennedy Center's own facilities team had flagged the deteriorating roof membrane and the failing HVAC system in the Eisenhower Theater as urgent repairs in a series of memos dated between January and May of 2025. The repairs were never completed.

The letter's central claim is that the board's stated reason for the closure — that the building was unsafe for the public — is contradicted by the board's own prior decisions. The employees argue that if the building was unsafe, the board should have evacuated it, not kept it open for ticketed events. The letter asks Congress to subpoena the board's communications with the White House and to withhold any further federal funding for the building's reopening until the repairs are finished.

The Kennedy Center's board, which is chaired by President Trump, has not responded to the letter. A spokesperson for the center said in a statement that the board "is committed to the long-term health of the building" and that it "looks forward to reopening its doors to the public as soon as the work can be done safely." The statement did not address the memos or the employees' claims.

Congress has appropriated $257 million for the center's renovation, which is expected to take at least two years. The board has said it will raise an additional $100 million from private donors. It has not said how much of that it has already collected.

Macklemore asks stadium owner to match $1 million for Palestinian aid; is removed from tour, offered a meeting

BY STERLING
The Associated Press

You are thinking of it as a fining. It was not a fining. The man removed from the stage was not employed by the man who owns the stage. What an opening act holds in a stadium is a license — permission, revocable at any time, to perform during a set. That distinction, which Macklemore asked, from the stage, that Robert Kraft fund Palestinian humanitarian aid. Macklemore performed at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro just the instrument plainly, and with some warmth: "He owns the stadium, it's his house."

And the money? Macklemore gave one million dollars and asked Kraft to match it. Kraft says the match was made — against the two million dollars Ed Sheeran had asked him to match, for "aid in the region". Sheeran asked. Sheeran, mind you, who has the tour.

The argument arrives this week dressed as a backyard party you own a home, you engage an entertainer, the entertainer engages an opening act, and something goes sideways. At home, Kraft says he would welcome a sit-down; music executives say Macklemore has not responded. A sit-down …, offered, you understand, by the party who does not require one.

…Continued on Page D3

Man vowing to save his name on Kennedy Center photographed holding plans titled 'Kennedy Center DEMOLITION.'

BY MOBY
The Associated Borrow

"The Kennedy Center was conceived and built by presidents who might follow the renovation plans anyway — a threat, we were assured at the time, contingent on the lawyers. The very next day, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick loaned a gentler pale ship of the court fight, just for the long game. Trump's own statement in his role is the connection. Two offers on the table, one day apart — the verdict on Trump's character, or lose the building entirely. Both, notably, still required a name to attach to something left standing.

On August 28, Rep. Joyce Beatty, an on office board member who has already beaten back on round of the administration's proposed changes in court, said the litigation was "not about preservation, it's about legal and the building. "What's going to stop them?" she asked, and answered her own question with a lawsuit.

…Continued on Page D3

RIPPED DOWN CLOSE

Denied a tribute by a federal judge, Trump threatens to demolish the Kennedy Center instead.

BY MOBY
The Associated Borrow

They let the ceiling fall in and then hand you the estimate like it's a surprise. The name board that voted to shut the place down for two years is now selling you bail. tear the whole building down if he doesn't get his name on the door. That's not maximeanan, that's a threat, sticking with a ribbon-cutting scheduled for after.

…Continued on Page D3

After 30 years on the bench, Judge Judy retires and appoints her son her successor.

BY MOBY
The Associated Borrow

Judge Judy, a program, died last week in syndication after thirty years on the bench, the family continued at a party held to mark the occasion. She was born in 1996, daughter of daytime television and small-claims court, and lived to see twenty-five seasons of her own docket before handing down her final verdict on "Judy Justice" this October.

The cause was retirement, announced without incident on September 12, when Smolnitz, then 81, revealed the show would end and that she would remain, as ever, employed in the entertainment business. Two days later, on September 14, the succession order made official: her son, Adam Levy, presented "Adam's Law" in national syndication, telling reporters he had "learned from the best." He did not run for the gavel. It was handed to him.

By the time the party marking the exit had run out this week, the arrangement had the shape of the family business this page usually covers under other names: an owner steps back, an heir steps forward, and the enterprise itself never actually leaves the house. Nobody auditioned. Nobody had to. The bench was. It turns out the hardest part of being a judge is not the robe or the gavel but the silence that follows a ruling. Judy Smolnitz filled it for thirty years by refusing to fill it at all. She stood up and says "I'm not complain" like the sentence does the work for her, and then she would sit down and let the room catch up. Her son, Adam Levy, has spent his career learning that the gavel is the least important piece of furniture in the room. The docket is the point. The docket is the point. The docket is the point

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

THE TONIC COUNTER

What the management recommends instead. Their words; the evidence follows.

"Don't take Tylenol. Don't take it. Fight like hell not to take it." Pregnant women were told to "tough it out."

— Donald Trump, President, White House autism event, September 2025

The evidence: The largest study on record — 2.48 million children, sibling-controlled — found no causal link to autism, and the obstetricians note untreated high fever in pregnancy is itself the risk. §

Doctors were getting "very, very good results" treating measles with "budesonide, which is a steroid... clarithromycin and also cod liver oil" — recoveries he called "almost miraculous and instantaneous." The vaccine: "a personal choice."

— Robert F. Kennedy Jr., HHS Secretary, Fox News, March 2025, mid-outbreak

The evidence: Neither drug treats measles. Within weeks, a Lubbock children's hospital reported unvaccinated children hospitalized with measles who also showed vitamin A toxicity from dosing at home. §

"I'm going to create these wellness farms where they can go to get off of illegal drugs... to get off of SSRIs, to get off of benzos, to get off of Adderall" — three or four years growing organic food. As a nominee he testified his family had "a much worse time getting off of SSRIs than people have getting off of heroin."

— Robert F. Kennedy Jr., as candidate, July 2024, and at his confirmation hearing, January 2025

The evidence: No evidence supports years of farm labor as addiction treatment — medication is the standard of care that cuts overdose deaths — and severe antidepressant withdrawal runs about 1 in 35, "different universes" from heroin per Stanford's addiction faculty. §

The 2026 prescription: fewer childhood vaccines. The CDC cut the universally recommended list from 17 diseases to 11 — hepatitis B, rotavirus, flu, hepatitis A and meningococcal demoted to "shared clinical decision-making" — on the strength of a 33-page comparison to Denmark.

— Robert F. Kennedy Jr. / CDC, January 2026

The evidence: No new safety data and no advisory-committee review were cited. The pediatricians' and obstetricians' societies kept the full schedule; California, New York and Illinois kept the old one. §

Prescriptions quoted verbatim from the officials who wrote them; the evidence lines link to the studies and the medical bodies, which is more than the prescriptions did.

Dispensary verified 24 August 2026. Symptoms move faster than print; the next sweep advances the label.

Back to Page H1

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests

Mort

the obituarist

He has been at the paper since they printed it by hand, page by page, and he writes the obituaries nobody commissions: for a norm, a program, a streak, a protection, a lake's name. He owns one black suit and it gets steady work. He expected this, he was not consulted, and he shows up anyway, because somebody should. **He is not real. The deaths are.**

§

27 SEPTEMBER 2026

The president priced a Republican Congress at $5,000 an adult, the Treasury secretary told the House the department is examining whether Congress is needed, and 750,000 Americans lost their health coverage that week.

The authorization requirement — the plain old arrangement in which Congress votes and then the Treasury spends — died Tuesday in a hearing room, before lunch. It is survived by an examination at the Treasury Department. A rule dies and no casserole comes.

CONTINUE

---

20 SEPTEMBER 2026

"Farmers first," dead at one campaign, is survived by a North Carolina grower in survival mode who still pays the freight on a war the budget office prices at $38 billion and calls that figure conservative.

"Farmers first" died this week at the age of one campaign. It was born as a promise, plain as any campaign line, that America's farmers and ranchers would come first. It is survived by Matt Bell, who has farmed in North Carolina for more than half his life, who voted for President Trump, and who told CBS News this week that he is "in...

CONTINUE

---

13 SEPTEMBER 2026

Trump floats keeping Iran's oil like Venezuela's, but the win that lowers gas prices waits until after midterms.

The Exit Strategy died Sunday in Doonbeg, Ireland, when the President, asked about the war with Iran, said the United States could simply "stay and keep the oil," and noted, helpfully, that this was the same idea as the Venezuela deal. It is survived by the doctrine that a war doesn't end so much as relocate its paperwork, and it was...

CONTINUE

---

13 SEPTEMBER 2026

Nine months after the military took Maduro and Flores from Caracas, the ledger reads 65 billion barrels, a 35% Pentagon stake, a 21st terror designation in Latin America, and one woman in Brooklyn asking to be let out for her heart.

Died this week, after a long decline: the notion that what lies under a country belongs to the people standing on top of it. No service is planned. The family asks that you keep driving.

CONTINUE

---

429 Too Many Requests

429 Too Many Requests