

THE WEEK

The Week in Review | Volume I

The West

The House's impeachment inquiry has put new pressure on the Trump administration, as several committees began issuing subpoenas to various members of Trump's administration and his personal council.

The East

China celebrated its 70th anniversary on Tuesday, with President Xi commemorating Chairman Mao in Xinyang. Mao founded the People's Republic in 1949 and is best known for establishing China's communist party and instituting the Great Leap Forward.

Focus: Hong Kong

Clashes in Hong Kong continued this week despite China's 70th anniversary celebrations. A protestor was shot in the chest on Tuesday by a member of the city's police amid one of the most violent days since the start of the protests.

Launching *The Week*

I have always wanted to start a newsletter of some sort, and I figured now was as good of a time as any. *The Week* will include a concise recap of the previous week's events as well as a cultural and optimistic take on the weekend, all with very little political spin (ideally). For a more in-depth take, check out the citations page at the end of the publication.

I am very open to suggestions at this point, so please let me know your feedback. If you want to contribute an op-ed or have an article suggestion, just send it over—we're pretty relaxed here. I don't claim to have a broad readership or anything, but getting published is always fun. "But Chris, what should I write about?" you might ask. My response: "Did you write it this week?" If yes, and it passes our editorial staff's rigorous checks, then go for it.

Also, if you know anyone who might be interested in receiving this, feel free to forward them the message and/or let me know and I can add them to the list.

Quick Take

This week proved that bipartisan agreement on one issue does not necessarily translate to others. While members of Congress were nearly unanimous in their support of Hong Kong during China's 70th anniversary celebrations, a partisan impeachment procedure ensured neither party got too comfortable with the other.

In Britain, PM Johnson has signaled that he will try to prorogue (i.e. suspend) Parliament again on September 8th, setting off another round of criticism in his still-young prime ministership.



Something Delicious

Want to cook but pressed for time? Try this delicious pasta-with-meat-sauce. It takes about 15 minutes to make, is relatively inexpensive, and tastes amazing.

What you need:

- Rotini pasta, 1/2 pound
- Ground meat, 1/2 pound
- Pre-made tomato sauce
- Avocado oil
- Parmesan cheese
- Various spices
- A medium size pot and large pan

Cooking Steps

1. Bring some water to a boil in a large pot
2. Mix together the ground meat and a bit of avocado oil in a large pan over medium heat, covered
3. Add in some spices. I used ground pepper, thyme, and a touch of cinnamon
4. Add the pasta, and cook for 8-10 minutes to taste
5. Around the 6-minute mark (or when the meat is a light brown), add the tomato sauce to the meat mixture. Stir continuously for a minute, and then cover
6. Drain water from pasta and add it to the meat mixture. Stir
7. Once the pasta is sufficiently covered with tomato sauce, add cheese to taste
8. Let sit for another minute or so, and then enjoy!

Finance & Markets

US markets are on track for their worst quarterly performance in nearly 11 years despite strong consumer spending in recent months. Tuesday's decline supported gold prices and pushed down the yield on the 10 year bond, suggesting that investors foresee substantial uncertainty in the coming weeks and months. Investors have also increased the probability that the Fed will cut rates again this month, signaling to Chairman Powell that the economy might need a boost in the near future.

Traders have been particularly focused on any information leading up to next week's trade talks with China, which are expected to continue to dominate market sentiment. Any hint of lower tariffs on either side of the Pacific could be a boon for US markets. However, Wednesday morning's abrupt decline in American indices was more likely due to the Chinese holiday (National Day lasts from October 1st to 7th) than new information.

Investors are also still waiting on the USMCA (the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement) to pass Congress. Successful passage of the bill is expected to benefit US manufacturing, especially in the auto industry.

The Big Headlines

Democrats Initiate an Impeachment Inquiry

If you haven't heard already, the House has launched an impeachment inquiry into the Trump administration over his recent conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The primary allegation is that Trump used foreign aid as leverage to force Ukrainian authorities to turn over information relating to Democratic Presidential frontrunner Joe Biden. Several people close to Trump, including his personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, have been subpoenaed for their role in the call.

Finally, on Wednesday it was revealed that Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was also on Trump's call with the Ukrainian President.¹

Hong Kong: Protest Continue Amid China's Anniversary

This week saw continued clashes in the semi-autonomous city even as China celebrated its 70th anniversary on Tuesday.² The

protests, which were originally sparked by June’s extradition bill, have been a continued thorn in President Xi’s side as he moves to consolidate Communist Party rule throughout the region. In contrast to the celebrations on the mainland, Tuesday was also “the worst and most widespread violence to hit [Hong Kong] in more than half a century.”³ Protesters fear their city will lose its autonomy completely if they stand down, and have therefore increased



their demands to the Chinese government for more freedom and enhanced, independent judicial review of police actions. They have also started appealing to other nations, routinely waving American flags and Union Jacks at rallies.

On Thursday, the Hong Kong’s cabinet announced that it was considering a ban on people wearing masks at public gatherings, a measure aimed at justifying further police action against protestors.

What’s up this weekend?

What	Where	When
<u>Comic Con</u>	The Javits Center	Saturday, All Day
<u>The Brooklyn Flea</u>	Fort Greene	Sunday, All Day

Further Reading

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/10/07/what-if-your-abusive-husband-is-a-cop>

- ◆ This piece tells the story of Jessica Lester in the broader context of alleged abuse when one's partner is a member of law enforcement

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/new-cars-pedestrian-safety-features-fail-in-deadliest-situations-study-finds-11570075260>

- ◆ While modern vehicles promise a future free of pedestrian fatalities, we shouldn't trust them quite yet

Citations

¹ <http://www.msnbc.com/node/1285961>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/30/world/asia/china-mao-zedong-xi-jinping.html>

³ https://www.wsj.com/articles/hong-kong-protesters-challenge-beijing-in-mourning-parade-11569915879?mod=hp_lead_pos1