

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Last week: DJIA 41393.78 ▲ 1048.37 2.60% NASDAQ 17683.98 ▲ 6.0% STOXX 600 515.95 ▲ 1.9% 10-YR. TREASURY (Reopening) yield 3.648% OIL \$68.65 ▲ \$0.98 EURO \$1.1076 YEN 140.83

What's News

Business & Finance

◆ **The strong performance** of the economy puts the Federal Reserve in unusual territory as it is poised to start cutting rates, with experts unsure what consumer and investor response will be. **A1**

◆ **Air Canada and the union** representing over 5,000 pilots reached a tentative four-year agreement, averting a strike at the country's biggest airline that threatened widespread disruption of travel. **B3**

◆ **The romantic relationship** between Norfolk Southern's CEO and its chief legal officer is the latest incident in the #MeToo era to test corporate policies and cause headaches for companies internally. **A1**

◆ **Warnings from bank** executives that Americans are struggling to keep up with their bills have set off alarms on Wall Street, with shares of consumer-lending companies sliding. **B1**

◆ **Disney and DirecTV** agreed to terms on a new distribution deal and returned the entertainment giant's popular channels, including ABC and ESPN, to the satellite broadcaster's lineup. **B4**

◆ **A strike by Boeing's** biggest union adds to a struggling supply base, a rapid cash burn and a manufacturing-quality crisis as problems confronting new CEO Kelly Ortberg. **B1**

◆ **Three drug developers** went public, and their performance will act as a barometer of investor interest in biotech IPOs ahead of the election. **B4**

◆ **A deal by UniCredit** to buy 4% of Commerzbank shares demonstrates the Europe-wide ambitions of the Italian bank's CEO, Andrea Orcel. **B1**

World-Wide

◆ **Trump escaped an** apparent second assassination attempt after Secret Service agents opened fire on a gunman at a golf club owned by the former president in Florida while he was playing a few holes away. **A1**

◆ **An unfounded GOP** claim about immigrants eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, shadowed the Trump campaign as the state's Republican governor called the rumor "garbage." **A5**

◆ **Hamas' top leader** has been able to survive Israel's effort to target him in part through a low-tech communications system in which he uses couriers, codes and handwritten notes. **A1**

◆ **Yemen's Houthi rebels** said they fired a missile at central Israel, an escalation in the Iran-backed group's attacks. **A7**

◆ **China freed a U.S. citizen** whom Washington calls wrongfully detained, a pastor held since 2006 whose plight had illustrated Beijing's harsh justice system. **A9**

◆ **European nations** are finding it difficult to pare back social spending for military funding, even as the Ukraine war has revived Cold War-era tensions. **A8**

◆ **New York Mayor Adams** faces a crisis as he is probed over Turkish campaign contributions, and after homes of city officials were raided and the police commissioner resigned. **A3**

◆ **The 'Yimby' movement** that favors undoing zoning and other rules to help build new housing has gained momentum with the Harris campaign adopting some of its ideas. **A4**

JOURNAL REPORT

The New Workplace: How to break up with your career. **R1-6**

CONTENTS	Markets Digest.....B6
Arts in Review.....A13	Opinion.....A15-17
Business News.....B3	Personal Journal A11-12
Capital Account.....A2	Sports.....A14
Closed-End Funds.....B7	Technology.....B4
Crossword.....A14	U.S. News.....A2-6
Heard on Street.....B9	World News.....A7-9



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Russia Strikes Apartment Building in Ukraine



SERGEY KOZLOV/SHUTTERSTOCK

BLAST: Rescuers work at the site of a damaged residential building after shelling in the northeastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv. At least 41 people were wounded Sunday afternoon when a Russian aerial bomb struck the apartment building.

Low-Tech Messaging System Shields Hamas Leader in Gaza

By SUMMER SAID AND RORY JONES

Hamas's top leader, Yahya Sinwar, could well be dead if not for a low-tech communications system honed in prison that shields him from Israel's intelligence-gathering dragnet.

Sinwar has largely shunned phone calls, text messages and other electronic communications that Israel can track and that have led to the demise of other militants. Instead, he is

using a complex system of couriers, codes and handwritten notes that allows him to direct Hamas's operations even while hiding in underground tunnels, Arab cease-fire mediators said.

The communication method has vexed an Israeli military intent on finding the architect of the Oct. 7 attack on Israel that killed 1,200 people and sparked the war in Gaza. Killing or capturing Sinwar—who hasn't been seen in public since the

war started—would mark a substantial victory for Israel that could bring the 11-month war closer to an end, but even with military control of the Gaza Strip, Israeli intelligence has come up empty. Israeli officials have said they believe Sinwar is in hiding in Gaza.

A glimpse into how Sinwar stays alive comes from Arab mediators who have ferried messages back and forth during cease-fire talks between Hamas and Israel, which don't

talk directly to each other.

A typical message from Sinwar will now be handwritten and first passed to a trusted Hamas member who moves it along a chain of couriers, some of whom might be civilians, the mediators said. The messages are often coded, with different codes for different recipients, circumstances and times.

◆ Houthi fire a missile at central Israel..... A7

Fed Is Navigating Choppy Waters As Rate Cuts Loom

The Federal Reserve is poised to start cutting rates on Wednesday, and over time those cuts will ripple their way through the economy.

By Justin Lahart, Sam Goldfarb and Peter Santilli

The mechanics are, in some ways, clear. Borrowers pay less on their debt. Savers get less for their cash. But that is just the broad brush, and the details of how it will all work out is an open question.

Every rate-cutting cycle is different, and the economy's response is both long and variable. Milton Friedman, speaking before Congress in 1959, likened changes in Fed policy to "a water tap that you turn on now and that then

only starts to run six, nine, 12, 16 months from now."

What is more, there isn't a clear historical template for the current situation. Usually, by the time the Fed starts cutting rates, the economy is already in pretty big trouble. That isn't the case now. The labor market has cooled but still looks decent, and the economy has been posting solid growth.

In fact, it is a better economy than it was even in 1995—arguably the one time the Fed convincingly achieved a so-called soft landing, where inflation comes down but unemployment doesn't spike.

"We don't have a lot of ex-

◆ Greg Ip: The case for a half-point Fed rate cut... A2

20-Somethings Are Learning To Love Their Corporate Jobs

◆ 'Corporate girlies' and guys boast about their work online, even the mundane parts

By ANN-MARIE ALCÁNTARA

Connor Hubbard spends his days as a senior benefits analyst at a manufacturing company like any other cubicle drone. Except that millions of people watch him do it.

Some days Hubbard, 29 years old, leaves for lunch at 11 a.m. sharp, walking to the office elevator and heading home to microwave a meal. Others, he visits a fast-food drive-through, eating in his car and back in his office swivel chair by 11:50. In videos of his routine posted to TikTok, he flashes a thumbs-up to

the camera and gets back to work.

The viewers who follow Hubbard's mundane slices of office life in Dallas say they enjoy watching someone who's so calm at work or wish for a role like his.

Hubbard and self-described "corporate girlies" and guys show how Gen Z and younger millennial workers—often viewed by their elders as "quiet quitters" and difficult colleagues—are loudly embracing corporate life and the stability of a paycheck.

Gen Z has overtaken baby

INSIDE



U.S. NEWS

Freight trains are getting longer, and that's making it harder on drivers. **A6**



SPORTS

The WNBA boom came with an ugly side—online racist abuse directed at players. **A14**

Children Raised By Russian Spies

Putin romanticizes Moscow's network of deep-cover operatives, but their missions come with a heavy price

By JOE PARKINSON AND DREW HINSHAW

"Ludwig" and "Maria" had suffered an abrupt end to their clandestine careers, arrested just after finishing breakfast in their suburban home and outed as deep-cover spies for Moscow. But as they flew in a Bombardier jet to freedom as part of an epic prisoner swap last month, they had more familial concerns in mind: How to break it to the kids?

Please, they'd quietly pleaded with their Slovenian escorts, don't address us by our real names. They hadn't yet told their son and

daughter, touring the cockpit, that they were Russian.

The two officers from Directorate S, the so-called "il-legals department" of Russia's SVR foreign intelligence agency, had spent more than a decade building fake identities. Their children, 9-year-old Daniel and 11-year-old Sophie, knew their mom and dad as Argentine citizens named Ludwig Gisch and Maria Mayer Muñoz. What they didn't know is that their family was a carefully constructed lie.

The couple's real names are Artem and Anna Dultsev. After a marriage likely ar-

Please turn to page A10

CEO's Ouster Shows Perils of Office Dating

By CHIP CUTTER AND LAUREN WEBER

It is a scenario that has played out at companies for decades: Two colleagues meet. A romance blossoms. Complications arise.

The romantic relationship between Norfolk Southern Chief Executive Alan Shaw and the railroad's chief legal officer is the latest in a long line of incidents that have tested corporate policies and caused headaches for companies internally.

Shaw was fired late last Wednesday after a board probe found the relationship with Nabanita Chatterjee Nag violated the company's policies. Nag was terminated as

well. Neither responded to requests for comment.

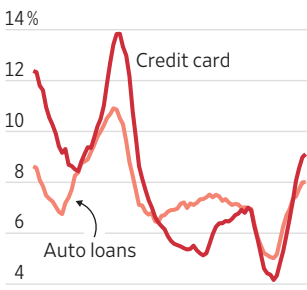
Employment lawyers like to say that love and lust in the office isn't illegal—it is just usually not a good idea. In the wake of the #MeToo movement, companies have tried to set clearer guidelines on relationships at work, though corporate advisers said many companies still struggle over how to respond effectively. Most employers restrict managers or senior executives from dating their subordinates, wanting to avoid power imbalances, but they are typically far more open to lower-level employees entering into relationships.

The reason: Many people

Rise in Late Payments

Consumers are falling behind on paying their credit cards and auto loans, setting off alarms on Wall Street. **B1**

Percentage of loans that transitioned to delinquency*



*Thirty days late
Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax