

my kids grow up and been part of my family. Her presence will be missed in the office each day, but I am grateful I will still see her around. I wish a happy retirement to Debbie.

PUT HARDWORKING AMERICAN FAMILIES FIRST

(Ms. BARRAGÁN of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, after 100 days of chaos and corruption, Donald Trump and House Republicans are crashing the economy in real time.

The majority has hit the American people with the largest tax increase on the middle class in at least 50 years. We have watched markets around the world plummet, prices spike, and our trading partners hit back with tariffs on American goods that are attacks on the American people.

Hardworking Americans are paying more for food, clothes, cars and trucks, electronics, and other essential goods. Estimates are that the Trump tax will cost the average American family almost \$5,000 a year in additional costs. Our constituents' 401(k)'s, pensions, and kids' college funds have all taken a huge hit.

Trump's reckless trade war has only begun to squeeze the American people. Imports at the San Pedro Bay port complex in my district are expected to plunge in May. That means empty shelves at our stores in a few weeks and further price spikes as shortages hit.

Exports at the port complex have also plummeted as retaliatory tariffs by other countries hit agriculture and manufactured goods. This hurts consumers. It hurts businesses. It hurts our port workers and truck drivers who support their families, thanks to trade with other countries.

Trump and his billionaire donors won't feel any of it. They don't feel it when the cost of a can of soup is up a couple of dollars because of tariffs on aluminum. They don't feel it when the cost of our constituents' kids' shirts go up \$10 apiece because there is a tariff on the clothes they buy or when the cost of their next oil change goes up \$20 because the parts and filters are imported. The average American will feel it.

Trump has even admitted that they will have to feel some of the pain from his Trump tax, and what is the response from Republicans in Congress? The majority plans to follow Trump off the cliff and make it worse while we are on the way down.

This month, Republicans plan to pass the new tax cuts for their billionaire donors and big corporations, and their giveaway to the wealthy will be paid for by cuts to Medicaid, basically healthcare, and food stamps that hardworking American families rely on. This is right as the Trump tax will make it harder to make ends meet, to save for retirement, to pay for prescriptions, or care for aging parents.

House Democrats are doing everything we can to stop Trump and Republicans from destroying our economy and to keep their hands off of earned benefits. We must put hardworking Americans first.

ASSAULT ON IMMIGRATION DUE PROCESS

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, as the economy is tanking, costs are going up, not down. Today, we face a new threat and danger: The Trump government is abusing its power. The Trump government ignores court orders, ignores the Constitution, and then lies to try to justify its actions.

Let's talk about Kilmer Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father and a husband who was literally abducted in the dark of night by the Trump government.

This is not just a story about a man wrongly deported. It is a story about abuse by the government and the danger it poses to my colleagues and every American citizen in America.

Kilmer Abrego Garcia lived here in the United States for over a decade. He had a court hearing where a court ruled that Mr. Garcia had a right to be here and that he would be in danger if he was returned or deported to El Salvador.

Yet, despite the court order, ICE agents arrested Mr. Garcia anyway, and they deported him to El Salvador. Despite this court order, ICE agents, without a new hearing and without any process, basically made him vanish. He is just gone at the hands of the Trump government.

He was sent to El Salvador to one of the most notorious megaprisons in the hemisphere. It is a prison that American taxpayers are helping to support in a foreign country.

Let me be clear. Mr. Garcia had rights. The government ignored them. That is not how justice works.

It is not just Mr. Garcia. We now have learned of children who are U.S. citizens who were deported by this Trump government and administration. One of those children is just 4 years old and was receiving treatment for cancer. Yes, cancer.

How does deporting a sick child keep our community safe? It does not. This isn't immigration policy, but this is cruelty, plain and simple. The idea that the U.S. Government can deport children who are U.S. citizens or send immigrants to dangerous foreign prisons without a court hearing and then claim the government bears no responsibility should terrify every one of us.

These cases are the most glaring examples, but the assault on due process runs deeper. This is not just about how we treat immigrants. It is about whether any of us can count on being treated fairly when accused of something. It is about whether there are still rules that protect people, or whether the government can just say: Trust us. We don't have to follow the law.

It is about power unchecked and principles abandoned.

Just yesterday, we also learned of a woman from Oklahoma and her chil-

dren, all of them U.S. citizens. Federal agents broke into her house and took her money. They basically terrorized them and left. If we let them tear up due process for some, it is a danger to all.

Mr. Speaker, I will not stand silent while families are ripped apart and while the Constitution is trampled on. My colleagues shouldn't either.

RECOGNIZING GABRIEL'S CHALLENGE

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, one day after National Fentanyl Awareness Day, to honor the memory of a special young man and to share a call for action.

Gabriel Fensler was a much-loved son and brother who had struggled with addiction but had fought hard for his recovery. Gabriel relapsed one day after his 24th birthday.

Fentanyl is a crisis. In Spokane, we are feeling the weight of it. Last year alone, 270 lives were lost to fentanyl overdoses in Spokane County. It is a national epidemic that we must address with urgency. We must stop fentanyl from hitting our streets, and border security is a part of that.

Last year, over 21,000 pounds of fentanyl were seized at our borders, enough to kill billions. A recent executive order ended duty-free treatment for low-cost goods from China, which have been exploited as a major pathway to smuggle illicit drugs into the U.S. It was a measure that had bipartisan support.

Alongside law enforcement efforts, we must help those in recovery, like Gabriel, with comprehensive treatment and community support.

Gabriel's remarkable mother, Kitara Johnson-Jones, has turned her immense heartbreak into a call for action, launching Gabriel's Challenge, a community response to fentanyl, starting on Mother's Day and extending to Father's Day.

She is rallying the community to identify the gaps in support for addiction recovery and urging connection and action. It is a call to pray, a call to talk, and a call to engage.

In Kitara's own words:

No matter how many differences we have, we have one thing in common, and that is the serial killer in our community named fentanyl, and we can all rally behind that.

Mr. Speaker, let us join her in this fight in honor of Gabriel and so many others and work together to combat this fentanyl crisis.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN LAFALCE

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy

heart to honor the life and legacy of a great man, a political icon, and a friend and mentor to many, Congressman John LaFalce.

John Joseph LaFalce was born October 6, 1939, and passed away on April 11, 2025. He was laid to rest earlier this week.

While we mourn the loss of this extraordinary leader, we also celebrate the incredible contributions he made, not just to western New York but to New York State and our entire Nation.

The son of a union steward and bakery worker, John never forgot where he came from. His upbringing shaped his politics. He knew what it meant to struggle. His empathy and faith drove his mission in elected office.

John lived his faith by fighting for labor rights, defending the vulnerable, and standing up for the voiceless. It was his moral compass that guided every vote, every word, and every fight. He knew that serving in Congress was a sacred calling, and he fulfilled it with grace, conviction, and compassion.

Before entering public life, he served our country as a captain in the United States Army. Upon his return from the military, his continued commitment to service drove him toward government. He served in both the New York State Assembly and New York Senate. Then, in 1974, he represented western New York in this Chamber for three decades.

John came to Washington in the aftermath of Watergate, part of a new wave of lawmakers determined to restore integrity and rebuild the public's trust in our government.

Congressman LaFalce spent nearly 30 years shaping national economic policy, leading the House Committee on Small Business and serving as the top Democrat on the Banking Committee. He built a reputation as a thoughtful, deliberative, and independent voice. He was a leader, not beholden to politics but to the truth and, above all, to the people he served in western New York.

On the Committee on Financial Services, John emerged as an early and steadfast voice against the predatory practices of payday lenders and subprime scams that trapped working families in endless debt.

He fought to strengthen consumer protections for women by introducing and passing legislation that created opportunities and resources for female entrepreneurs, opening doors that had long been shut.

Yet, perhaps nothing exemplifies Congressman John LaFalce's leadership more than his fearless fight for our community following the Love Canal disaster.

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At a time when so many were reluctant to confront the truth, he stood firmly with the people of Niagara Falls, ensuring they would not be ignored or left behind. He put on boots, walked into basements flooded with

toxic sludge, stood with families in their hour of need, and demanded more from our government.

John directed the eyes of the world onto western New York and forced the Nation to reckon with the dangers of industrial pollution. He pushed for Federal recognition of this crisis and secured an emergency declaration, ultimately creating the Superfund program. His efforts helped bring justice and relief to families facing an unthinkable public health catastrophe and environmental calamity.

John LaFalce was not afraid to take a lonely stand when his conscience demanded it. He voted against authorizing the war in Iraq not once but twice. He challenged legislation he felt went too far, even if it came at a political cost. He never stopped thinking independently, and he never stopped thinking about what was right for western New York.

Beneath his tough exterior in Washington was a profoundly loving and gracious soul who treated everyone like family. To him, nothing was more important than family.

At his funeral service this past Monday, John's beloved son, Martin, told the story of a devoted father with a tender heart and a love for the joys of life.

Congressman LaFalce leaves behind a legacy of service, of decency, and of standing up always for western New York.

I am personally grateful to Congressman LaFalce for the guidance and wisdom that he provided me. It has made me a better Representative for our community.

I offer my prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Patricia; his son, Martin; and all of his loved ones.

May Congressman John LaFalce rest in peace and power.

RECOGNIZING BLACK APRIL

(Mrs. KIM of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Black April and 50 years since the Fall of Saigon.

Over 8.7 million Americans served during the Vietnam war, including 2.7 million who put boots on the ground.

We will always remember the 58,281 U.S. servicemembers who gave everything for freedom, and we rally with our Gold Star families and the loved ones of the 1,573 Americans who remain missing in action.

Many of my constituents fled Vietnam in the Fall of Saigon and found their new home in Orange County in southern California. I am proud to have witnessed many of them becoming very successful members of our society, thriving in all sectors that make America great, and I am so proud to call many of them friends.

Our Vietnamese-American community knows well that we cannot take freedom for granted.

To our Vietnam-era veterans: Welcome home. Know that your service protected freedom on the world stage, and we are very grateful.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, for years now, we have heard a lot of false accusations about rigged elections and voter fraud.

For instance, despite accusations that noncitizens were casting ballots in Virginia, studies found that there were zero instances of noncitizens illegally voting over the past 20 years.

Let's be honest, these accusations erode public trust and threaten our democracy.

Some localities are stepping up to fight those accusations. Two of those localities in my district are Prince William County and Fairfax County, which recently won the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Clearinghouse Awards, or the Clearies.

Prince William County, in particular, was the first county to publish voting result tapes online in Virginia history. They are not only saving the results, but they are publishing them.

Here is the truth: In Prince William County, Fairfax County, and counties all across the country, officials are working tirelessly to ensure our elections are safe and secure. That is accountability, transparency, and democracy in action.

I congratulate Prince William and Fairfax Counties on their awards, and I look forward to working with them and fighting false allegations about our elections.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon.

Thousands of Vietnamese families escaped during the war, coming to America, and Virginia, in search of safety, opportunity, and a new life. There are now over 2.3 million Vietnamese Americans in the U.S.

Many Vietnamese-American families call Virginia home, and Vietnamese Americans have become an integral part of our community, from public service and the arts to groundbreaking work in science, business, and education.

I am proud of the work being done to support Vietnamese refugees right here in Virginia.

One example is Boat People SOS, an organization founded to help Vietnamese refugees. They have rescued over 25,000 Vietnamese boat people. Since then, they have expanded their services to aid immigrants, refugees, victims of trafficking, disadvantaged students, and survivors of violence in the United States.

Today, I recognize the strength, courage, and spirit of the Vietnamese community in Virginia's 10th District