

I trust this experience was a good one for each of them and that in the years to come they will achieve great professional and personal success.

PROJECT 2027

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, we have spent 1½ years watching this majority implement Project 2025. I think it is time for us to discuss Project 2027, the things that this House can and should do under new leadership.

Let me highlight a priority for 2027: Stop insider trading by Members of Congress, the Cabinet, the President and Vice President, and their families. We will never gain the faith of the American people proclaiming that we have their best common interest at heart when they see examples of elected and appointed officials putting their own personal economic interests at heart.

My hometown in New York's 16th Congressional District includes many of the most successful financial minds on Wall Street, but it also includes everyday, hardworking people who don't have any holdings on Wall Street. Let's make sure the playing field is fair, not stilted in favor of those who have access to information not available to all.

Let's prove we mean what we say. If this majority in 2026 won't act, then let a new majority act in 2027.

CANADA

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, permit me to jump forward and to provide unsolicited advice to a person I do not know. On January 22, 2027, that will be the third day of the Presidency of the 48th President of the United States.

I encourage that person to fire up Air Force One and fly to Ottawa; invite Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney to meet them on the tarmac and give them a big public hug; motor together to the Canadian Parliament, address the collective legislature, and tell them: America, your friend, has come home; announce the end of Canadian tariffs and open up a dialogue on the issues between us.

In so doing, you will not only be sending a message to Canada, but you will be sending a message to England, to France, to Germany, and to Japan. We will begin to restore the respect that we have lost in the capitals of the free world.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY MOURNS THE LOSS OF BELINDA BARRAGAN

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

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, the San Fernando Valley mourns the loss of Belinda Barragan.

Belinda was a proud, lifelong resident of the San Fernando Valley, graduating from St. Genevieve High School in Panorama City. For over 30 years, she was at the forefront of public service, advocating for working families and Latinos, ensuring that they had all

the opportunities and support to thrive.

Belinda uplifted thousands of women and community members with her uniquely warm, funny, and love-centered leadership. Her career in public service has often been behind the scenes, and she has taught us the definition of steadfast leadership.

Through her work with HOPE Leadership Institute, Belinda empowered hundreds of Latina professionals and created opportunities for these women to strengthen their confidence and grow as leaders.

Her integrity and compassionate leadership helped build the careers of grassroots community leaders as well as those in the public and private sectors. She supported many Latino elected officials when they first started in politics, including former Congressman Tony Cárdenas and Senator ALEX PADILLA.

Congressman Cárdenas said that Belinda always helped everyone around her to be their best. Her intensity was infectious. Belinda's caring and loving personality matched her tough, "let's get the job done" attitude. He called her a force for good and positive change.

Senator PADILLA called Belinda Barragan the nicest person you would ever meet and that she had a special ability to keep you on task and on deadline when there was work to be done.

Senator PADILLA asked Belinda to be his campaign manager when he first ran for city council. He said that seeing Belinda at HOPE events over the years always brought him back to his early days in politics. Belinda will be remembered for her unwavering integrity, empathetic leadership, and her lifelong residency in the San Fernando Valley.

Her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in honor of Belinda.

□ 1030

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS EMBOLDENED

(Ms. ANSARI of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about naked, open, brazen corruption. The Trump administration is guided and shaped by it, emboldened by what they can get away with while the American taxpayer watches their own hard-earned paycheck siphoned away by ever-growing gas prices, groceries, rent, and healthcare. All the while, Donald Trump flaunts his White House ballroom and D.C. arch, with displays of nauseating corruption for his billionaire buddies in broad daylight.

Take Jared Kushner, Donald Trump's son-in-law, a man with no meaningful political, diplomatic, or civil service experience, who was handed sweeping

authority during the first Trump administration over Middle East policy and was sent across the world to represent the United States. At the same time, his family's real estate empire in New York was in trouble after years of mismanagement and actively seeking foreign investment. He sure found it.

Kushner was shaping U.S. foreign policy while simultaneously building relationships with foreign leaders that would later become financially valuable to him personally. He was acting as a diplomat for himself at the expense of America's interests abroad and our national security.

Kushner communicated directly with wealthy, high-ranking officials like Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, using unsecured and unauthorized channels like WhatsApp, with limited or no transparency and record-keeping regarding these official and ethically dubious conversations.

Nothing has changed since the first Trump administration. In fact, it has only gotten worse. They no longer even pretend to hide it.

While Kushner and Trump ally and billionaire friend Steve Witkoff meet with Gulf countries about matters pertaining to U.S. national security, they are also directly involved with selling massive billion-dollar deals to friends and family of the President. It is the largest corruption scandal ever seen in the United States, leading back directly to Donald Trump, members of his family, and top administration officials.

Kushner is a private citizen. He is not subject to the rules and regulations of actual public servants, including background checks and requirements for security clearance. He is negotiating America's foreign policy and matters of literal war and peace between the United States and Iran—some of the most consequential negotiations of the 21st century.

Meanwhile, new reporting from The New York Times shows that Kushner is simultaneously soliciting \$5 billion in new investment from the very same foreign governments with a direct stake in these negotiations.

It would be too outlandish for a movie script. Yet, this is the reality in America today: an elite ruling class that makes policy decisions based on how it will affect their personal bottom line and using taxpayer-funded government to get rich at our expense.

I mean, Trump is literally suing the IRS, which he controls, for \$10 billion—money straight from the taxpayers into his own pocket.

There is hope. All across the world, people are organizing and uniting against corrupt leaders who view government as a tool to enrich themselves and their friends. In Hungary, after 16 years of democratic backsliding in a state molded into a piggy bank for the elite, a broad coalition defeated Viktor Orban, despite him doing literally everything he could to rig the system in his own favor.

Hungary shows us that there is a path forward: follow the money, take no vote for granted, and make corruption shameful again.

When Democrats take back the House in November, I will work to ensure that subpoenas fly out for every taxpayer dollar and cent that Trump and his family have spent during their time in office steering into their own pockets. Kushner will come under oath and testify, and accountability will not stop there.

RECOGNIZING MIGUEL ALVARADO

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miguel Alvarado of Guadalupe, Arizona, a man deeply respected in our community.

For over two decades, Miguel has shown up for his neighbors with consistency and with heart. For 25 years, he has led the Guadalupe Car Show, a tradition that brings thousands together to celebrate culture, creativity, and community pride.

The 25th Anniversary Guadalupe Car Show returns on Sunday, April 26, transforming downtown Guadalupe into a vibrant festival with lowriders, classic cars, and custom builds, drawing 10,000 to 15,000 attendees from across Arizona. It is a must-attend event for families and car enthusiasts alike.

Beyond the car show, Miguel has organized events for over 15 years that support local families, including a back-to-school drive and a Christmas celebration, bringing joy and gifts to children. For more than a decade, he has also provided turkeys to families in need during the holidays.

Mr. Speaker, Miguel's work brings people together, building a network of volunteers committed to giving back. He reminds us that strong communities are built by those who show up. I am proud to represent him in Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVANS of Colorado). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING EDWARD HERNDON, SR.

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable western New Yorker and my good friend, Edward Herndon, Sr., who passed away on April 19, 2026, at the age of 95.

Ed's life was defined by service to our country, our community, and his family.

Born in Kings Mountain, North Carolina, on November 10, 1930, to Hubert and Anna B. Herndon, Ed's journey led him to Washington, D.C., and then to western New York, where he would leave an indelible mark on our community and everyone he met.

From an early age, Ed embodied the values of hard work, integrity, and faith in action.

After graduating from Lackawanna High School, he answered the call to serve and enlisted in the United States Air Force. Ed served with distinction during two tours in Korea and Japan between 1946 and 1950, and he continued his service as an Air Force reservist until 1956.

Ed's devotion to our country did not end when he hung up his uniform. At home, he found new ways to serve. He worked with the United States Postal Service, Western Electric, and the city of Buffalo, where his skills and leadership earned him appointment as director of real estate in 1957, a position he held for 16 years.

Ed later served on the city Board of Assessment Review, where his approach said everything about him. He was knowledgeable, committed, and, above all, fair. He understood that property assessment is not just a number. It is a real consequence for a family or a senior on a fixed income, and he never forgot that.

That sense of humanity was rooted in his faith. For decades, Ed was an active and devoted member of his congregation at St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Faith wasn't just something he professed. It was the life he lived. It showed in his integrity, his honesty, and his extraordinary ability to connect with people.

Those who knew Ed the most will remember he had a rare gift for making friends, and he used it generously. Everywhere he went, friendships followed. Whether it was a next-door neighbor, a mail carrier, a police officer, or a Member of Congress, Ed greeted everyone with the same sincerity and respect, a big, friendly hello, a genuine smile, and often a welcoming hug.

My own family knew this firsthand. My parents first met Ed at a St. Patrick's Day party, and a friendship was born that lasted decades.

When my father served as the Buffalo commissioner of assessment and taxation, he worked alongside Ed on the Board of Assessment Review. He told me Ed was one of the finest examples of a public servant he had ever witnessed, a man who brought his full character to the job and was beyond reproach.

Ed never missed a chance to celebrate life, either. Whether it was the Juneteenth Festival, Dyngus Day, or St. Patrick's Day, Ed was there to celebrate with his fellow Buffalonians.

Nothing captured that spirit better than his 90th birthday, which was right in the middle of the COVID shutdown. What unfolded was a drive-up celebration unlike any other. Friends, colleagues, and loved ones from every corner of his life lined up to pass by, wave, and wish him well. There was Ed, sitting at the curb, greeting every single car with that same infectious smile, that same wave, celebrating right back. It wasn't a birthday party as much as a testament to a life well-lived.

As extraordinary a servant as he was to the public, Ed's proudest legacy was

his family. In 1956, he married the love of his life, Jean Ruth Watts. Together for 58 years, they built a beautiful family. He was father to seven children—Gladys, Brian, Eric, Joan, Edward Jr., Michael, and Gina—grandfather to 9, and great-grandfather to 18.

Edward Herndon was the very definition of a public servant, patriot, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and leader who gave back more than he ever asked for in return. His story is one of deep devotion and quiet strength, and it serves as a reminder—a challenge—of what it looks like to live fully and give generously.

Through his service to our country, his dedication to western New York, and the boundless love he poured into his family and community, Edward Herndon's legacy will live on in our hearts as a shining example of our Nation's highest ideals.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful community and a grateful nation, may Edward Herndon, Sr., rest in peace. We loved him.

FUNDING FOR RESEARCH UNDER THREAT

(Mr. MAGAZINER of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, a recent vaccine trial for patients with pancreatic cancer using mRNA technology produced an astounding result: Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest forms of cancer.

More than 90 percent of people diagnosed with pancreatic cancer die within 2 years, but among those who were in this vaccine trial, half are still alive today, more than 6 years later.

If these results continue in future rounds of the trial, we will have made an incredible breakthrough that could give new hope not only to those with pancreatic cancer but other forms of cancer, as well. This is just one of many ongoing studies showing great promise.

Unfortunately, right when we are on the cusp of making incredible advances in the fight against cancer, the funding for this research is under threat.

Last year, the White House proposed cutting funding for cancer research by 40 percent and canceled a number of research grants. Some of the biggest cuts have been to research of mRNA, the same technology used in the successful pancreatic cancer trial.

In August, the administration canceled grants for 22 mRNA vaccine research studies alone. This does not make America healthier.

My own family has been afflicted by cancer. I know the agony people feel when they receive that terrible diagnosis, the horrible process of chemo and radiation, the cost, and the sorrow that American families have had to live with because of a serious cancer diagnosis.

We cannot turn our backs on those families when we are so close to finding