



Hi folks,

The first week of April didn't have many jokes, but there were plenty of fools. This week Wall Street learned what many of us have known for some time: Trump doesn't actually understand how businesses work. So now, our retirements, our pensions, our savings, are all going to suffer for it. But the incompetence in Washington was not confined to the White House. House Republican leadership canceled all legislative business for the week on Tuesday, because the Speaker didn't get his way. So members of Congress were sent back home after less than 24 hours of work.

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Mark Your Calendar:

On April 17th my office is holding a **Constituent Services Fair** on the **Fourth Floor** of the **Trenton Hall** building at **Mercer County Community College** at **137 N. Broad St.** in Trenton.

Trump's Tariffs Tank the Economy

This week Trump announced that he would be raising taxes on all American consumers because he fundamentally doesn't understand how business or trade works in a global economy.

He tried this same tactic the last time he was in office and it didn't work. There was no increase in domestic manufacturing last time, in fact his first term tariffs had "a net negative effect on manufacturing jobs as well overall U.S. employment," according to an analysis from Tufts University. This time will be worse. We're already seeing the market react to these new taxes and they haven't even gone into effect yet.

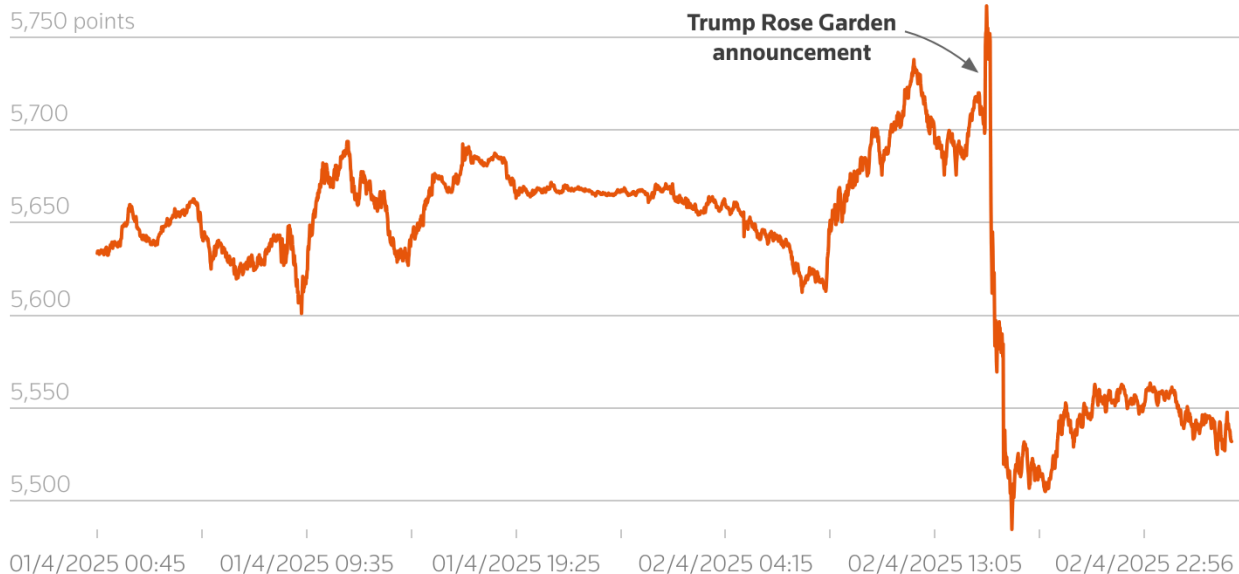
Trump talked a lot about this on the campaign trail, so some people seem to think this is him keeping his promise. But he's not. He promised to bring down prices, this will raise prices. He promised to create jobs, this will eliminate jobs. It's just another broken promise from a man who's never been good to his word once in his life.

The fair will run from **2:00pm to 5:00pm**. Parking is available across the street, and around the corner in the parking garage on E. Hanover St.

And we're going to have to pay for it.

U.S. S&P 500 futures plunge 3% after Trump reveals tariffs

S&P 500 futures were on track for their biggest daily fall since September 2022



Note: As of 2.40 a.m. CDT

Source: LSEG | Reuters, April 3, 2024 | By Harry Robertson

House Republican Don't Want to Work Anymore

I arrived in Washington on Monday eager to get to work for the week. But not 24 hours later the Speaker had canceled all legislative business until the following Monday and sent everybody home.

Here's the short version: a Republican congresswoman from Florida, Anna Paulina Luna, has a measure that would allow members of Congress who are new moms to vote by proxy while they recover with their newborn. Speaker Mike Johnson, who I might add has never and will never give birth, but did vote by proxy several dozen times during COVID, is opposed to this measure.

He tried to block Rep. Luna's measure from being brought up for a vote, and he failed. So rather than allow us to vote on this common sense accommodation for new moms, he canceled the rest of the week.

There's a lot Congress should be doing, so it's a real shame that Republican leadership just doesn't want to work anymore.



Photo: J. Scott Applewhite / AP

Cory Booker Sets Senate Record

At 7:00 on Monday night, Senator Cory Booker stood up on the Senate floor and began speaking. He spoke about the dangerous attacks on our public services that this administration is carrying out, he spoke about the people who have been harmed, and those who are still at risk. He spoke about the leaders he looked up to, and what it means to him to truly be a statesman. He spoke about what we can all do to fight for a more fair and more just society. He spoke for over 25 hours straight.

He set the new record for the longest speech in the Senate. The previous record holder, Strom Thurmond, was a segregationist who held the floor for over 24 hours to stop the Civil Rights Act from being passed. But Cory proved that he has more love in his heart than Strom had hate in his. I couldn't be prouder of my Senator.



Photo: Eric Lee/The New York Times

Mass Layoffs At Department of Health and Human Services

This week, the Department of Health and Human Services announced they were laying off around 10,000 employees across the country. This incredibly irresponsible and harmful decision will only make Americans less safe.

It will make more people more likely to get sick. It will impede our ability to develop new treatments for deadly diseases. It will make America less competitive, as the most talented scientists of this generation look elsewhere to begin or continue their careers.

We are losing out on untold revolutions in the scientific field. Medical breakthroughs that transform the way we live will be stalled or never come to pass at all because this administration is too incompetent to comprehend the value of scientific discovery to our society.

It is an incredible shame for the country, and for the countless talented individuals who dedicated their careers to improving public health and medicine. My colleagues and I in Congress are doing everything we can to fight back against this dangerous overreach.

Karim Daoud Detained by ICE

Back in March, ICE detained Karim Daoud without cause. He is still being held by ICE at the Elizabeth Detention Center, and they have not publicly given a reason for his confinement. Karim has lived in the United States for over 20 years. He works. He pays his taxes. He is married to a US citizen. He has no criminal record. He is a loving father and beloved member of his community in Hunterdon County.

This is unacceptable. ICE must release Karim at once, and answer for their callous negligence and violation of his rights.

Youth Mental Health Research Act

Despite the short week, I introduced a bipartisan piece of legislation to help combat the mental health crisis impacting so many young people across the country.

Throughout the United States, 40% of high school students reported “persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness” according to CDC data from 2023. Roughly 20% percent reported “seriously considering attempting suicide,” 16% reported making a suicide plan, and 9% reported attempting suicide in the past year. This is a crisis of despair among young people in our country.

The Youth Mental Health Research Act would require the NIH director to establish and lead a Youth Mental Health Research Initiative, in coordination with directors of related institutes under NIH. The initiative will research and deploy new social, behavioral, developmental, and cognitive treatments in both clinical and community settings. The bill also dedicates \$100 million in annual funding to support the initiative.

Hands Off! Rally Tomorrow

This Saturday, I will be joining Americans all across the country to say loud and clear: Hands off! Hands off our healthcare, our wages, our Social Security and Medicare. Hands off our democracy.

The Trump administration is running the most corrupt, incompetent, and dangerous government we have ever seen. They are looting our public programs, selling out our workers, and putting Americans in harm's way just to enrich themselves and benefit their billionaire donors.

In New Jersey alone, nearly 2 million people rely on Medicare - over 100,000 in my district. These are our friends and our neighbors, they are people who deserve dignity and respect, not to be treated as collateral damage in Trump's selfish and dangerous war on working families. They are slashing healthcare, gutting protections for workers, and risking our national security because they don't know how to govern responsibly.



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