



## IRAN STRIKES BACK AFTER U.S. ATTACKS

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# IOWA CITY Press-Citizen

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## Union fights Whirlpool Iowa layoffs

### Elected officials' help sought by workers

**Kevin Baskins**  
Des Moines Register  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Whirlpool Corp. workers and the union representing them are seeking political help as they push back against layoffs at the company's plant in Middle Amana.

Despite a denial by the company,

they say they believe the job cuts are part of an effort to transfer production to another Whirlpool plant in Mexico.

The company has announced it will be laying off 341 workers at the Iowa plant on March 9 and after cutting its workforce there by 251 in July 2025. The company also signaled there will be additional layoffs in the second quarter of this year, which begins April 1.

The company said the job cuts will make way for a modernization of the once-3,000-employee plant, which makes several brands of refrigerators, and ultimately will generate more jobs, increasing the plant's role as part of the last American-owned company manufacturing appliances in the United States.

"As the only U.S.-based manufacturer of major kitchen and laundry appliances, Whirlpool Corporation's facility in Amana, Iowa, is a vital part of the

company's U.S. manufacturing footprint," Whirlpool's statement said. "Our recent announcement is part of a multi-year modernization plan that will transform the plant into a dynamic operation, continuing to produce best-in-class refrigerators while also incorporating warehousing, parts production and subassembly work."

The union, however, points to what it says is growth at the Whirlpool plant in

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The Cannon-Gay House, located at 320 Melrose Ave., is pictured Feb. 19, in Iowa City, Iowa.

JULIA HANSEN/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

## UI eyes demolition of Cannon-Gay House

**Jessica Rish**  
Iowa City Press-Citizen  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The University of Iowa plans to raze a historic home and privately-owned apartments in a cost-saving move.

The Iowa Board of Regents on Thursday, Feb. 26, approved the school's request to raze the 140-year-old Cannon-Gay House and the Market Street Apartments to eliminate more than \$1.2 million in deferred maintenance costs.

The Cannon-Gay house, a protected historic building at 320 Melrose Ave. near the Gerdin Athletic Learning Center, was built in 1884.

The 10 vacant units along Market Street will be torn down for a parking lot and possible university construction.

### UI's Cannon-Gay House is a protected building

The Cannon-Gay House was purchased by the UI in 2002 and used as the

College of Law admissions office. The building has been vacant for the last several years, and "has significant structural issues that make it unusable without significant financial investment," according to board documents.

Since the Cannon-Gay house is "protected as a historic building," the university, the Iowa City Historic Preservation Commission, and the Iowa City City Council entered into an

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## Iowa officials offer praise, prayers for US attack on Iran

**Kyle Werner**  
Des Moines Register  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Members of Iowa's congressional delegation are praising President Donald Trump's decision to launch military strikes and "major combat operations" against Iran, targeting the country's missile capabilities.

"Our objective is to defend the American people by eliminating imminent threats from the Iranian regime, a vicious group of very hard, terrible people," Trump said Saturday, Feb. 28, calling the strikes "a massive and on-going operation."

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, was directly targeted, a Middle Eastern official told USA TODAY. Khamenei was killed in the attacks, according to Israeli sources who told USA TODAY, CNN and Reuters. He was 86 and had led Iran since 1989.

"All high-ranking officials are alive," Araqchi said. "So everybody is now in its position, and we are handling this situation, and everything is fine."

The U.S. joined Israel in the attack. According to U.S. Sen. Mark Kelly, D-Arizona, President Trump "failed" to provide that "minimum level of leadership" by failing to explain his goals to the American public.

Iran retaliated with drone and missile strikes, hitting American and Israeli targets including a U.S. Naval base in Bahrain. Iran said its enemies would be "decisively defeated."

Here is what Iowa's leaders and lawmakers have said about the attack

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