

CAMPAIGN 2026

TRUMP VOWS TO END WAR



NATHAN HOWARD, REUTERS

President Donald Trump greets supporters as he exits Air Force One at Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire Friday.

President meets with farmers in Chippewa Falls

RENEE HICKMAN AND BO ERICKSON
Reuters

President Donald Trump on Friday vowed to end the Iran war quickly and remove a source of high prices as he campaigned in rural central Wisconsin in a bid to help Republicans keep control of Congress in midterm elections.

The stop in Chippewa Falls highlighted Republicans' strategy to maintain control of the U.S. House of Representatives, as the party faces political headwinds with voters frustrated by higher costs of living and gasoline prices that have spiked due to Trump's war on Iran.

The president said progress in negotiations with Iran could come soon, although a deal to end the conflict has been elusive. He urged Wisconsin voters to get energized for the elections.

"We're going to come out and your fertilizer prices are going to go way down, just like they were four months ago," Trump said

at the event in Chippewa Falls. "Your fertilizer is down, your energy is down, your oil, your gas is all coming way down. And frankly, I thought it would go much higher than it did."

The event was billed as a roundtable to discuss agriculture policies, but Trump spent much of his speech on other topics, including beautification projects in Washington, D.C., the employment rate of Black Americans and his administration's efforts to curb illegal immigration.

At the table were agriculture producers, U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson and U.S. Reps. Tom Tiffany and Derrick Van Orden; NFL Hall of Famer Joe Thomas, who now operates Hall of Fame Farms in Muscodia; Jake Leinenkugel of Leinenkugel Brewery; and Olympic gold medal speedskater Jordan Stolz, of West Bend, who at one point during the event awarded Trump with one of his gold medals.

"I can tell you one thing. His leg is like a rock," Trump quipped about Stolz, who

thanked farmers for producing the beef and milk he consumes to better compete but did not present any other obvious ties to farming.

The visit to the 3rd Congressional District — a swing district held by Republican incumbent Rep. Derrick Van Orden — comes at a time when the president's approval among Wisconsin voters is at an all-time low.

Van Orden's district is one of just 18 congressional districts considered a toss-up in the upcoming midterm election. Trump's visit comes days after U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. held an event with Van Orden at a dairy farm outside of Eau Claire.

Attendees packed the steamy farm building as rain pounded on the metal roof and poured on the line of people outside still hoping to get in.

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Iran retaliates after US strikes

Mediator Pakistan reportedly sends official to Tehran for talks

AHMED ELIMAM, JANA CHOUKEIR AND PHIL STEWART
Reuters

DUBAI — Iran retaliated Saturday after the U.S. downed drones and struck the country's coastal radar sites. The Iranian foreign ministry said the U.S. strikes broke an April 8 ceasefire, adding such repeated violations showed Washington has no intention of reducing tensions.

It also warned that the United States would bear responsibility for the consequences of its "illegal actions" and further escalation.

The U.S. military believed the four Iranian drones targeted regional maritime traffic, a U.S. official told Reuters. U.S.

Central Command said on social media that the U.S. then struck Iran's surveillance sites in Goruk and Qeshm Island, both on the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard said it attacked U.S. bases in Kuwait and Bahrain in retaliation for U.S. strikes and fired at four tankers trying to cross the strait without its permission.

Kuwait's army said Saturday it engaged seven ballistic missiles that passed over residential areas, resulting in material damage but no casualties. In Bahrain, sirens sounded and residents were urged to seek shelter.

Kuwait and Bahrain condemned the strikes. Iran later said it hit U.S. bases in both countries with ballistic missiles, but the U.S. military said six missiles were intercepted and a seventh did not reach its target.

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MAJID ASGARIPOUR, WEST ASIA NEWS AGENCY

People ride past a billboard depicting the late leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and the late Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on Saturday in Tehran.