

# Main Block: Why is my Taco Bell Closed at 7 PM?

Guests: Hodey Johns and Zach Reath, service workers

Key Points

- It isn't just welfare. It is lockdown regulations, horrible customers, low pay.

## News Block

**Liz Cheney**

Key Points

- The Republican Party is officially saying that they need to lie to the public to stay in power. The grassroots are so full of propaganda that politicians aren't willing to be honest. They've removed Liz Cheney for Elise Stefanik as conference chair.
- Liz Cheney sucks and it isn't about her. The old GOP sucked, and so does the new one. Neither is interested in truth or liberty. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liz\\_Cheney](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liz_Cheney)

**Liz Cheney's likely replacement, Elise Stefanik, isn't nearly as conservative, but she tells 'MAGA tales about the election with gusto,' expert says**  
<https://www.businessinsider.com/elise-stefanik-less-conservative-than-liz-cheney-but-pro-trump-2021-5>

Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming was ousted from her role as the number three Republican in the House of Representatives this week after refusing to pull back on her criticism of former President Donald Trump. In a voice vote Wednesday, GOP representatives voted to strip her of her role as chair of the House Republican Conference. Rep. Elise Stefanik has been pegged to take her place.

According to data compiled by FiveThirtyEight, Cheney voted in line with Trump's position 93% of the time, while Stefanik only voted in line with Trump 78% of the time.

Stefanik's votes countered the president on issues that included the National Defense Authorization Act, US Postal Service funding, disaster aid to Puerto Rico, and Environmental Protection Agency chemical regulations.

Cheney voted with Trump much more frequently, mostly departing on election issues as well as the National Defense Authorization Act and withdrawing troops from Syria, among others.

Stefanik, who was once considered a moderate in the House, even spoke out against Trump's rhetoric and policy positions in 2015 and 2016, criticizing his comments on women and Muslims, among other issues, [CNN](#) reported.

## Colonial Pipeline

### Key Points

- What is ransomware?
- People have to stop overreacting to the news. Understand what news is in the 21st century
- Maybe day care is not infrastructure, and we ought to improve security at places like this or ATT nodes instead... But that doesn't cause divisiveness that leads to fundraising.

### Cyberattack Forces a Shutdown of a Top U.S. Pipeline

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/08/us/politics/cyberattack-colonial-pipeline.html>

One of the nation's largest [pipelines](#), which carries refined gasoline and jet fuel from Texas up the East Coast to New York, was forced to shut down after being hit by ransomware in a vivid demonstration of the vulnerability of energy infrastructure to [cyberattacks](#).

The operator of the system, [Colonial Pipeline](#), said in a vaguely worded statement late Friday that it had shut down its 5,500 miles of pipeline, which it says carries 45 percent of the East Coast's fuel supplies, in an effort to contain the breach. Earlier Friday, there were disruptions along the pipeline, but it was not clear at the time whether that was a direct result of the attack or of the company's moves to proactively halt it.

The ransomware attack is the second known such incident aimed at a pipeline operator. Last year, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency reported a ransomware attack on a natural gas compression facility belonging to

a pipeline operator. That caused a shutdown of the facility for two days, though the agency never revealed the company's name.

Cybersecurity experts say the rise of automated attack tools and payment of ransom in cryptocurrencies, which make it harder to trace perpetrators, have exacerbated such attacks.

"We've seen ransomware start hitting soft targets like hospitals and municipalities, where losing access has real-world consequences and makes victims more likely to pay," said Ulf Lindqvist, a director at SRI International who specializes in threats to industrial systems. "We are talking about the risk of injury or death, not just losing your email."

### **F.B.I. Identifies Group Behind Pipeline Hack**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/10/us/politics/pipeline-hack-darkside.html?referringSource=articleShare>

President Biden said on Monday that the United States would "disrupt and prosecute" a criminal gang of hackers called [DarkSide](#), which the F.B.I. formally blamed for a huge [ransomware attack](#) that has disrupted the flow of nearly half of the gasoline and jet fuel supplies to the East Coast.

So far, intelligence officials said, all of the indications are that it was simply an act of extortion by the group, which first began to deploy such ransomware last August and is believed to operate from Eastern Europe, possibly Russia. There was some evidence, even in the group's own statements on Monday, that suggested the group had intended simply to extort money from the company, and was surprised that it ended up cutting off the main gasoline and jet fuel supplies for the Eastern Seaboard.

A preliminary investigation showed poor security practices at Colonial Pipeline, according to federal and private officials familiar with the inquiry. The lapses, they said, most likely made the act of breaking into and locking up the company's systems fairly easy.

DarkSide is a relative newcomer to the ransomware scene, what Ms. Neuberger called "a criminal actor" that hires out its services to the highest bidder, then shares "the proceeds with ransomware developers." It is essentially a business

model in which some of the ill-gotten gains are poured into research and development on more effective forms of ransomware.

The group often portrays itself as a sort of digital Robin Hood, stealing from companies and giving to others. DarkSide says it avoids hacking hospitals, funeral homes and nonprofits, but it takes aim at large corporations, at times donating its proceeds to charities. Most charities have turned down its offers of gifts.

One clue to DarkSide's origins lies in its code. Private researchers note DarkSide's ransomware asks victims' computers for their default language setting, and if it is Russian, the group moves along to other victims. It also seems to avoid victims that speak Ukrainian, Georgian and Belarusian.

### ***Israel and Palestine***

#### Key Points

#### **Evictions in Jerusalem Become Focus of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/07/world/middleeast/evictions-jerusalem-israeli-palestinian-conflict-protest.html>

#### **Why Jerusalem's Aqsa Mosque Is an Arab-Israeli Fuse**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/10/world/middleeast/aqsa-mosque-jerusalem.html>

#### **Israeli-Palestinian Strife Widens as Frantic Calls for Calm Go Unheeded**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/14/world/middleeast/gaza.html>

#### **Several children killed as Israel pounds Gaza refugee camp**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/14/israels-bombardment-of-gaza-continues-live>

#### **Israel Bombs Civilian Home in Gaza, Killing 8, Including 6 Children**

<https://news.antiwar.com/2021/05/14/israel-bombs-civilian-home-in-gaza-killing-8-including-6-children/>

Early Saturday morning, Israeli airstrikes targeted a residential building in the al-Shati refugee camp. According to the latest reports, the bombing **killed at least eight people; two women and six children.**

The airstrike wounded at least 20 other people, and the death toll could rise as rescue teams are searching the rubble of the three-story house, **where several families lived.**

A local resident said the Israelis dropped three bombs on the house without warning, giving the residents no chance to leave. "I saw the bodies of four people, including children, being rushed to the hospital," said Said Alghoul, **according to *The Associated Press*.** "I could not endure and ran back to my home."

Saturday marks the sixth day of airstrikes in Gaza. The Israelis **rejected a ceasefire proposal** from Hamas on Wednesday night and seem to have no interest in de-escalating. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu **said on Friday that the campaign "is not over yet."**

**As of early Saturday in Gaza,** 137 Palestinians, including 36 children, have been killed, and 920 have been wounded since Israel started bombing the besieged enclave on Monday. The UN said at least 10,000 Palestinians have been forced to flee their homes due to the onslaught.

### **Israeli-Palestinian Strife Widens as Frantic Calls for Calm Go Unheeded**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/14/world/middleeast/gaza.html>

Violence between Israelis and Palestinians expanded in new directions on Friday, with deadly clashes convulsing the occupied West Bank and anti-Israeli protests erupting along Israel's borders with two Arab neighbors.

By Friday evening, Israel faced furious demonstrations in at least 60 places across the West Bank and new protests just across the borders with Jordan and Lebanon, all atop the vigilante violence between Arabs and Jews within Israel, and the continuing battle with Gaza militants.

The Israeli military claimed to have significantly weakened Hamas in its latest offensive by killing dozens of high-ranking commanders and damaging the militant group's network of tunnels under Gaza. It was unclear if such losses prompted a Hamas spokesman, Fawzi Barhoum, to tell Al Jazeera on Friday night that the group would consider negotiating a "calming" in the fighting if Israel complied with unspecified demands about "lifting its hand" from Gaza and the sites of clashes in Jerusalem.

Israeli media quoted anonymous Israeli security officials saying they would be open to cease-fire talks.

As Gazans waited to hear what might come next, their misery was deepening: [Power was down to five hours a day](#) in some places, and water came out of the pipes only once every few days. Efforts to contain what had been a worsening coronavirus infection crisis in Gaza all but collapsed.

Mob violence that killed and wounded dozens of people across Israel over the past few days — apartments and synagogues burned, stones thrown, Jewish vigilantes clashing with Arab rioters — has profoundly shaken the country. And it has resurfaced painful questions about whether years of victories for the Israeli far-right have crippled any chance of peaceful — if, as some Arabs would argue, not necessarily equal — coexistence.

About 800 people have been arrested across Israel over the past week, about 80 percent of them Arabs.

A Jewish woman told Kan Radio, the Israeli public broadcaster, that a group of Arab Israelis had hurled a homemade bomb at her, two friends and her baby in the mixed city of Lod, midway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, though they missed.

A “war room” of Jewish volunteers, some armed, formed in Lod a day after fiery street clashes broke out there, further destabilizing one of the few remaining places in Israel where Arabs and Jews share not only neighborhoods but buildings. On Friday night, clashes broke out in Lod between Arabs and Israeli police at a mosque.

In cities and villages across the West Bank, an accumulation of perceived injustices by Israel in recent weeks — the possible expulsion of families from the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, airstrikes on Gaza and police raids on the Aqsa Mosque compound in Jerusalem, the third-holiest site in Islam — led to an avalanche of protest on Friday.

At least 11 Palestinians in the West Bank died in clashes with Israeli security forces and more than 200 were injured, the Palestinian Health Ministry said, mostly from live rounds, including around 20 in serious condition. Witnesses said rubber bullets, tear gas and sound grenades were also used.

“Death to Arabs,” they shouted in Arabic and Hebrew, Mr. Amira and other Ni’lin residents said, as they threw stones at villagers’ cars. “We don’t want you living next to us.”

When the Palestinians moved to confront the settlers, they said, seven Israeli soldiers staffing the checkpoint at the entrance to the village started spraying tear-gas and shooting live ammunition. They were later joined by backup, the residents said, and clashes continued Friday night.

Before the current crisis, Gazans already lived in what one United Nations human rights official called a “toxic slum” — a jagged strip of land blockaded indefinitely by Israel and Egypt, where roughly two million residents endured daily power outages of up to 16 hours and had running water only every other day.

Now, they are down to about five hours of electricity per day and half their usual water supply, according to an Israeli security official. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of briefing rules, said the shortages were partly because Israel had closed the border crossing through which most of Gaza’s fuel arrives, but also because Hamas rockets had damaged power lines. That claim could not be independently confirmed.

The official said the power lines to two Gaza sewage treatment plants were damaged or down, and the U.N.’s humanitarian aid coordination agency said a water desalination plant was not operational, cutting 250,000 residents off from water. About 150,000 people in Gaza City had limited access to water because the power cuts were affecting the piped supply, the agency added.

The lack of power was starting to affect hospitals, which were already at full capacity because of the pandemic, according to Gisha, a Gaza-focused advocacy group.