

introduce youth from across our world to Mother Nature's power and the beauty and value of our environment.

Nature tourism is not only healthy, it gives an over \$40 million economic boost to our region just during May. Northern Ohio welcomes guests from around the world as we celebrate the gifts that we have been given to shepherd to generations to come. Congratulations to all who responsibly steward our region forward and our precious corner of Mother Earth.

AO DAI DAY

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ao Dai Day this Sunday, May 15. I am proud to represent nearly 200,000 Vietnamese Americans in my district in California.

My district is a home to Little Saigon which has the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam. Many of these men and women fled communism in Vietnam in search of freedom here in America. They have worked hard to build their American Dream.

The Ao Dai, which I am wearing today, is a traditional dress that represents the adaptability and strength of the Vietnamese people. It is a symbol of beauty and pride in Vietnam's unique and wonderful culture.

Last year, the State of California officially approved a resolution to recognize May 15 as Ao Dai Day. I join them in celebrating this special day and the many Vietnamese families in my district who are proud to call our great country home.

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrated National Teacher Appreciation Week earlier this month, I rise to recognize the hard work of teachers across northwest Indiana. From the time our children take their first steps into a classroom, teachers empower them with knowledge and support and serve as inspiring role models.

As a parent, I am grateful for their devotion to their students, for offering stability in an uncertain time, and for their determination to ensure that students can thrive in a safe and productive environment.

I personally thank all the teachers who helped shape me into the person I am today.

I thank Mr. Janich, may he rest in peace, for being an inspiration; Mr. Woodward, my government teacher, Mrs. Bliss; and Mrs. Marciniak. All of these teachers inspired me to be a better person.

I also thank my sister, Francis Majchrowicz, who is a teacher molding

young minds and making sure that students are taken care of.

Good educators create engaged citizens, and I appreciate the lessons and work ethic they helped to instill in me every day.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking all of the impactful teachers in northwest Indiana and throughout our Nation as we continue to recognize National Teacher Appreciation Week.

WORSENING CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we break for the weekend, I remind the other Members of this body that when we come back, there is no greater crisis this country faces than the crisis at the border.

I leave Members with just a few numbers that we want to turn around quickly: first of all, the number of people coming here who are not appropriately vetted who are sometimes referred to as illegal aliens; two Marches ago there were 11,000; one March ago 63,000; and the most recent March Border Patrol puts at 150,000.

Think of that: in 2 years from 11,000, 63,000, 153,000 per month. And the Cabinet Secretary in charge of this says that he inherited a mess. He inherited great laws including the Migrant Protection Protocol, and now we have a true mess.

The second number: 110 deaths in the past year in this country from fentanyl, a horrific drug, almost all of which comes across the southern border. By comparison, 57,000 Americans died in the Vietnam war. Twice as many people die every year in this country from illegal drug overdoses as died in 12 years in the Vietnam war.

I sincerely hope this body will deal with the southern border and make it a priority when we come back.

ABORTION ACCESS

(Ms. ROSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, this week 51 Senators voted to allow the Supreme Court to strip women of their fundamental right to abortion healthcare. If Roe v. Wade is overturned, abortion access will be left in the hands of State legislatures dead set on turning the clock backward 50 years.

We have already seen what Republicans are capable of when it comes to women's personal liberties, and now I fear women in my home State of North Carolina could face a similar fate. All that stands between us, and an egregious abortion ban is Governor Roy Cooper and enough of his allies in the legislature.

Despite this threat, I am still hopeful because I believe that the women of North Carolina will make their voices

heard. We are ready to fight for our freedom and liberty. Women deserve to have their decisions protected and respected.

HONORING BILL JONES OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my very dear friend, Bill Jones, of Paducah, Kentucky, upon his retirement from U.S. Bank. Over his 37 years with U.S. Bank, Bill took on numerous leadership posts with the company and thrived in each role.

His time in the financial business totaled 45 years and spanned significant changes in industry operations. As a leader, he was frequently forced to adjust to modern trends to ensure customer needs were met. And time and time again he has passed that leadership test with flying colors.

In addition to his work in the banking industry, he has also served his community in the Commonwealth of Kentucky on numerous boards, including Kentucky Educational Television, Mercy Health Hospital, and other commissions geared toward economic development.

As someone who has spent a lot of time in the banking industry myself, I know that the industry is better off thanks to Bill's contributions and leadership.

Bill Jones is a west Kentucky legend. On behalf of all the residents of the First Congressional District of Kentucky, I wish Bill Jones a very happy retirement.

□ 1315

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JONES) laid before the House the following communication from the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 9, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, following consultation with the Office of Attending Physician, I write to provide you further notification that the public health emergency due to the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 remains in effect.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. WALKER,
Sergeant at Arms.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the extension, pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 8,

and effective May 15, 2022, of the “covered period” designated on January 4, 2021.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS
TO COMMISSION ON INTER-
NATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment, pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1988 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following individuals on the part of the House to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective May 14, 2022, and ending May 14, 2024:

Mr. Nury Turkel, Alexandria, Virginia

Mr. Frank R. Wolf, Vienna, Virginia, to succeed Ms. Anurima Bhargava, Chicago, Illinois

Dr. David G. Curry, Corona Del Mar, California, to succeed Dr. James W. Carr, Searcy, Arkansas

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 12, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 1687(b)(1)(A–B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2022 (Pub. L. 117–81), I am pleased to appoint the following member to the Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States:

Mr. Matthew Kroenig, McLean, Virginia
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 12, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. §2702 I am pleased to reappoint the following member to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Günter Waibel, Oakland, California.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.

WE LIVE IN INTERESTING TIMES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of Jan-

uary 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, this is truly an interesting time, which takes me back to the alleged Chinese curse that may you live in interesting times. Well, we are living in interesting times.

Growing up hearing the term “pot calling the kettle black,” it is a colloquialism. Another term, and I brought this up years ago here on the House floor, about gaslighting, we certainly seem to be experiencing some of that these days and have for some time.

But to have the Secretary of Homeland Security, who seems to be an intelligent person, come and testify under oath with a straight face that the border is secure and not be satisfied with that but refer to the Trump administration as having dismantled the immigration system, the ability to secure the border, when exactly the opposite is what was occurring and exactly the opposite of what is occurring now.

It is not secured. All you have to do is go look. I mean, it is incredible, but it is said so often, including by people on the committee of oversight for Border Patrol, the Judiciary Committee.

Having spent so much time down on the border, I like to be there late at night when there is an awful lot of movement normally across the border illegally, but I experienced under the most closed administration, the least forthcoming administration since I have been in Congress since January 2005. In fact, they zoomed up Border Patrol cars to prevent me from getting to the border to see how bad it was.

I was able to go around one night and get back to the border through the local park down south of McAllen, but that was no thanks to the Border Patrol that, in the past, most of them knew that I was their friend and asserted on their behalves because they were not being treated fairly and properly, especially during the Obama administration.

But it is important for any Member of Congress to be able to get to the border unimpeded. Now Secretary Mayorkas says he looked into it and couldn’t find anyone who had ever directed that a Member of Congress, me in particular, was not to be allowed to get to the border.

So, I look forward to using his testimony under oath and seeing who now will try to prevent me from getting to the border.

They will let you go as long as you give them time to set up a dog-and-pony show and have time to restrict the area that they are going to allow you to see, but that is not the way you do oversight.

When I was a judge, I would just show up at a prison, a jail, a halfway house, different places. If I was going to send somebody to a place, I wanted to be able to see how they were being treated without warning.

I still think that is a good idea. Of course, we know the Washington, D.C., jail out east of town where so many January 6 defendants were being held, they wouldn’t let us in, not to visit, not for any reason. It really has been astounding.

MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE and I were finally allowed to get in there, and we hope to do that again soon because we are hearing more stories of abuse.

I got a letter in response from the U.S. marshal whom I asked to go do a health and safety visit regarding Ryan Nichols. As I understand the letter, they called over and got information from people who had deceived some of us before, and the U.S. marshal seemed quite satisfied with that without bothering to see for himself.

It is rather unfortunate because the U.S. marshal did an inspection last September or October, I believe it was October, and found that hundreds of the inmates were not being properly treated and needed to be transferred out. So, hopefully, the U.S. marshal will get back to doing the job of the U.S. marshal.

The law, the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court for a couple of centuries, has made clear you are not allowed to punish people in pretrial confinement.

Just as the FISA court has shown no pride and no protection of their court and authority, they have demonstrated that they don’t mind being lied to by lawyers. They don’t mind having fraud upon the court because it is a secret star chamber.

I had hoped that when FISA judges found out they had been manipulated and lied to that they would have enough integrity that they would be upset about being lied to. But, apparently, because of the lack of contempt, the lack of show cause hearings as to why contempt was not appropriate, the lack of prosecution by the Department of Justice going after people within the justice system, I have come to the conclusion—I hoped we could save the FISA court, but apparently, it does not appear that that is going to be possible.

Our Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has not had enough concern about lies being perpetuated, fraud being perpetuated on the FISA court, that he, as far as we know, has not done anything about that because certainly no one is punished, not even for perpetuating lies in order to spy on the campaign and even the Presidency after the person they were spying on and trying to prevent from winning the election won the election.

It is a very disturbing time for those of us who have spent much of our adult lives in the State and Federal justice system trying to see that justice was done. It is a very disturbing time.

Going back to the term “gaslighting,” we are told that we are crazy. We are making stuff up. I know with regard to the 2020 election, people continued to repeat the untruth that