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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 27, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

RECOGNIZING CLAY HENRY ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of one of Arkansas' most-admired sports journalists, Clay Henry.

Clay has retired after decades of covering Arkansas Razorback athletics, notably the publisher of *Hawgs Illustrated*, the weekly publication dedicated to the coverage of our beloved Hogs.

It was natural for Clay, given that he was the son of another sports legend in Arkansas journalism, Orville Henry. I am quite confident his introduction to Razorback sports was while he was still in diapers. Then later as a stat man for the *Arkansas Gazette* at the age of 14. He was produced by the best, tutored by the best, and like those before him, became the best.

Stops along the way at publications like the *Log Cabin Democrat* in Conway and the *Tulsa World* helped prepare him for a gig in 1992 with a new Arkansas magazine called *Hawgs Illustrated*. Leaving the *Tulsa World* for an upstart might have been a tough decision for a lot of people, but with Clay, it just seemed a natural fit. After all, Clay was a Hog, not a Sooner.

Clay partnered to buy the publication with George Billingsley before eventually selling to Stephens Media, then later to the Hussman Company, WEHCO Media, which became the sole owner. In every step, the common denominator that found its way into the mailboxes of Hog fans everywhere was Clay Henry. Lots of contributing writers, amazing photographers, great salesmen, but only one Clay Henry. He served 27 years as publisher.

Now, it is off to the Norfork River where the trout now have a full-time enemy—that is, when Jean Ann, his bride of 43 years doesn't have him doing honey-dos, or assuming the Razorbacks don't come calling.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Clay for a journalism career of enormous success and professionalism. The Hog Nation is forever grateful.

CANOO

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, more than a half century ago, Americans walked on the Moon for the first time. Now, a new lunar mission is upon us in 2024, and the Third District of Arkansas will support this next step in space exploration.

NASA has chosen Canoo, a high-tech mobility company with announced

headquarters and facilities in northwest Arkansas, to produce a transportation fleet for astronauts, part of the Artemis program. That is right, as the crew prepares for their historic launch, they will be moved by state-of-the-art vehicles manufactured in Bentonville, Arkansas.

A demonstration of ingenuity and the Natural State's focus on harnessing emerging technology and novel ideas, great things can be achieved when the public and private sectors work together.

I am so proud that the future of space discovery is being supported by the Third District and our incredible workforce. The pioneering spirit of Arkansas and America will be on display as fully suited astronauts ride to their liftoff location.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Canoo for the role they are playing in such an incredible moment in American history. From Arkansas to the Moon—and eventually on to Mars—their work is driving innovation forward.

CANCELING SUBSCRIPTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PORTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, trying to cancel a subscription can take you in as many circles as looking for summertime parking at Newport Beach. I have experienced it myself.

For too long, dishonest companies have gotten away with trapping Americans into subscriptions by intentionally making it easy to start and nearly impossible to stop. As a long-time consumer advocate, I am pleased that the Federal Trade Commission is now holding corporations accountable for this abusive practice.

The FTC has made it clear that businesses should make it as straightforward for customers to unsubscribe

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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as it was to sign up. If they don't and they lock consumers in with abusive practices, they will face penalties. Policing unfair and deceptive business practices makes our capitalist economy stronger, safer, and more competitive. That is the FTC's job, and I am glad they are a cop on the consumer protection beat.

I am committed to saving Orange County families time and money. If a company won't let you cancel a subscription, you can report this fraud on the FTC's website or contact my office for help.

SECURE DAVID LIN'S RELEASE

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of David Lin who, has been imprisoned in China since 2006 on charges of contract fraud.

Although the Chinese Government has reduced David's sentence, the fact remains that David has been separated from his family for nearly 16 years and may die in prison. He has already missed his children's graduations, his daughter's wedding, and the birth of his grandchild.

At age 67, his health is declining, and he may never have the opportunity to hold his grandchildren or see his family again. Recently, his daughter was diagnosed with breast cancer. This is urgent.

Americans wrongfully detained overseas should be allowed to come home to their loved ones, and I urge President Biden to continue doing everything in his power to secure David's release.

SOUTHWEST CARPENTERS VISIT

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, Orange County infrastructure is getting an upgrade because of Federal funds.

Last week, I had the opportunity to wear an orange safety vest and a hard hat and join the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters Local 714 at one of their job sites. I saw firsthand how they are working to improve our freeways and keep families safe. Their commitment to quality work was an inspiration.

This project will improve 16 miles of the 405 in Orange County. It will revamp road conditions and upgrade bridges with safer sidewalks and bike lanes. It was paid for, in part, through Federal funds.

I was proud to support the bipartisan infrastructure law, which makes additional investments to create millions of jobs and strengthen our economy. This law will make necessary infrastructure projects possible, and I will continue supporting Federal legislation that brings resources back home to Orange County.

INFLATION—FOOD AND WATER SHORTAGES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, we are dealing with an awful lot of grave

issues. Indeed, they become crises when they aren't managed correctly in this country.

So we are hearing a lot about inflation and feeling the effects, especially regular people, middle-income people, lower-middle-income people, low-income people are being harmed by the policies put forth the last year and a quarter.

We hear a lot about how Americans are paying more:

Vehicles. You can't hardly find a new vehicle, and the price of used vehicles has skyrocketed.

Gas at the pump. Do I need to talk about that anymore?

Lodging.

Airline fares to even get us to our jobs here in Washington, D.C., but for regular people on vacation and doing their business as well.

What isn't being talked about enough? The cost of food and the availability of food.

Inflation is hitting it hard, too.

Cost of inputs.

In my home State, lack of water. Lack of water in California.

Why does that matter to the rest of the country? Well, I will tell you. Farms and ranches produce about \$50 billion in output in California, but there needs to be water for the crops.

Environmental laws are forcing the release of water down the rivers and out to the oceans for coho salmon, delta smelt, et cetera.

Our agriculture sector in California is the most important in the United States. There are a lot of other very important sectors as well.

We lead the Nation in over 77 different crops, including many fruit and vegetable specialty crops. Our top commodities are milk, almonds, grapes, cattle and calves, strawberries, pistachios, lettuce, walnuts, floriculture, tomatoes, rice, broilers, carrots, hay, broccoli, tangerines, oranges, and lemons, to name a few.

Our State is the only producer—which means 99 percent or more—of almonds, artichokes, celery, figs, garlic, honeydew, nectarines, olives, peaches, sweet rice, and walnuts.

For almonds, California grows all the domestic production, and 77 percent of global production comes from California.

So it is kind of important that the water flows through our State. That is one of the important inputs that we are short on.

I talked about the energy costs. On my own farm, we are fortunate enough to have a fairly decent water allocation where I live in my part of the State, but I have neighbors to the west and south of me receiving, in some cases, zero percent allocations. Zero.

Take rice production, for example. It is going to be down probably by about half. As a rice grower that gravely concerns me, but as a food producer, and all of you as food consumers, you need to be greatly concerned. These policies can be avoided. We still have a point

that we can save this springtime and get crops planted with water that is available presently.

Instead, we are watching world events here. Ukraine, their farmers are dodging bombs right now trying to get crops planted. Russia has actually been somewhat of an important exporter, not so much to this country but we import some things from them: fertilizer, some of our energy.

We need to be putting a stop to that and become self-sufficient like we can. We should have energy independence. We had that up until a year ago.

So we are going to keep shorting ourselves on crops growing because of environmental laws, taking the water away, shifting it to a fish that doesn't even exist in the delta anymore in northern California, the smelt. Trillions of gallons of water going out into the ocean and fields being idled; permanent crops being destroyed; trees and vines just dying because there is no water for them.

We are going to feel that. We are already feeling it in the stores. When you can go to a major supermarket and see a whole freezer section has nothing in it, in the United States of America, that blows my mind. We can grow plenty here, and we always have until these times. Environmental laws are trumping what people need. Bad energy policy is driving the cost of everything.

Some of the fertilizer I have to put on my crops has over doubled in price. That all has to be made up somewhere. Either the farmer eats it and goes out of business, or it has to be made up on a store shelf. Somewhere along the chain it has to be made up for.

We can produce the energy that produces fertilizer that fuels the tractors, the trucks, the combines, everything it takes to bring a crop in, we can produce it here. We are capable of it. Yet, we are being paralyzed by policies at the Federal level and at my home State level as well.

One of the ideas in the legislature on top of everything, on top of this \$6 gas we have in California, is to add more gas tax on top of that by our State legislature.

That is not your problem, the rest of the country. I mean, sometimes we are a comic show at what we do out there, and we get laughed at by the rest of the country, but we won't fix it here. It needs to be fixed there.

Don't do what we do, okay, rest of the country?

We need to set policy here where we can in Congress at the Federal level that brings us energy independence and helps put food back on the table instead of taking the water away and raising the costs of everything so much that we can't farm this country anymore.