

vital, and I am honored to stand with our close friend and ally.

HONORING BRANCH COUNTY SHERIFF POSSE DEPUTY MICHAEL WINTER

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Branch County, Michigan, Sheriff Posse Deputy Michael Winter, who lost his life in the line of duty. He is survived by his wife, Connie, and two daughters, Cheyenne and Sierra.

Deputy Winter was known as a committed family man with a sense of humor and a big smile. He loved being around horses and loved the posse.

From his time in the United States Navy to the Branch County Sheriff's Posse, Deputy Winter was the type of person who put his community and country before himself. He is a hero in every sense of the word.

This week, during National Police Week, his name was carved into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C. It is a lasting tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect us.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, we honor Deputy Winter's memory and his service to Branch County and our country. He will not be forgotten.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SHOULD APPOINT AN INDEPENDENT PROSECUTOR

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, last night we learned that President Trump may have tried to interfere with an ongoing investigation, asking the FBI Director to end an investigation into his former National Security Adviser's ties to Russia.

The Justice Department today should appoint an independent prosecutor to aggressively pursue the truth. There are a lot of informational dots. They either connect or they don't.

There is no dispute that Russia interfered with the United States' Presidential election. The question is: Did Russia interfere with the Presidential election in coordination with the Trump campaign?

It is deeply troubling that the Attorney General recused himself—a self-declared conflict—from the Russian investigation and then played a role in firing the man leading it.

The American people rightfully suspect the decision to fire the FBI Director is part of a coverup. Appoint a special prosecutor to pursue the truth.

Despots all over the world like Putin want to discredit American democracy to keep their own people from wanting it. We as Americans, Republicans and

Democrats all, cannot allow this to happen, ever.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of law enforcement not only in my district, but around the Nation.

This week is National Police Week, and it marks an important time for our country. These men and women are an elite group worthy of our praise and recognition. They are true American patriots whose acts of courage must be honored and acknowledged.

Too many heroes lost their lives in the line of duty last year. Multiple of them were in my home State of Texas, as well as in my district.

Every single day, Federal, State, and local police officers around the country put their lives on the line to protect their fellow Americans. Mr. Speaker, I came up here to speak on behalf of all Americans and express our appreciation for our law enforcement. These are the men and women who dedicate their lives to keeping the peace and carrying out justice.

Congress has worked and will continue to work hard to guarantee that these brave men and women are provided with the tools needed to do their jobs and maintain public safety. We will also remain persistent to ensure those who harm law enforcement officers are brought to justice.

I applaud those in law enforcement who have voluntarily put their lives on the line for all of us.

In God we trust.

IT IS TIME TO PUT COUNTRY BEFORE PARTY

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it seems like, with this White House, there is a new crisis every single day.

On Monday, it was reported that the President revealed classified information in the Oval Office to Russians, compromising our national security, compromising our ability to gather intelligence on ISIS, compromising our ability to keep America safe.

Now we learn that the President tried to interfere with an ongoing investigation, asking the head of the FBI to lay off his National Security Adviser, Mr. Flynn, to leave it alone, to let it go.

This is an abuse of power, there is no two ways about it, and Democrats and Republicans have to stand up and do our constitutional duty to protect this democracy. Partisanship has to be set aside. We have to do our job. We have to serve the American people, and we have to protect this precious democracy and do our constitutional duty.

Democrats and Republicans both have to stand together on this.

We need an independent commission to investigate this problem, and we need to do it now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President of the United States.

HONORING KIRKERSVILLE POLICE CHIEF STEVEN DISARIO

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

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, this week is Police Week, a time we honor all our officers, especially those who have fallen in the line of duty keeping us safe. So today I rise in honor and remember Kirkersville, Ohio, Police Chief Steven DiSario.

Chief DiSario, a father of six with a baby on the way, was killed in the line of duty on May 12, 2017. He died at the hands of a gunman who also killed two employees at a local nursing home, Marlina Medrano and Cindy Krantz.

This is a tragedy that truly tests the strength of a community, the strength of neighbors, and the strength of our law enforcement community.

To Chief DiSario's family: I can't imagine the grief and the anguish you must be feeling. We are heartbroken for your loss. Please know that your husband, your father, your son, was an American hero. His memory will never be forgotten, and it is there that I pray you find hope. Today and every day, may God bless you and all our police officers and their families.

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AMERICA'S DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call urgent attention to America's drinking water infrastructure. Every day, more than 700 water mains break in cities, towns, and villages across our great country. Every day, 7 billion gallons of clean drinking water are lost due to leaks and breaks in our water infrastructure. That is treated water and our tax dollars down the drain.

With as many as 10 million lead service lines in use today and dozens of new unregulated contaminants, the threat to public health goes far beyond Flint, Michigan, and Hoosick Falls, New York. Our Federal Government has a duty to protect the people of this country. We must act decisively to address this growing challenge.

We maintain roads and bridges and ports and railways and so much more, but our investment in our water systems has not kept up, and now these systems are failing. Many State and local governments can't keep up. They

need our help. This job needs to get done now, this year, in this budget.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you to join me in supporting H.R. 1071, the AQUA Act. Let's respond to these great Nation's drinking water challenges with strength, compassion, and passion.

IVY FRANCES SHOEMAKER AKA NUMBER 12

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, she was born at evening time as a full Moon rose over Texas. Ivy Frances Shoemaker joined the world weighing 7 pounds and was 20 inches long. Her birth was on May 9 in Dallas.

The miracle of birth is God's blessing to the rest of us. It is a blessing to Ivy's parents, Kellee and Anthony, and her sisters, Olivia and Rosalyn.

Ivy, of course, is a beautiful, smart-looking baby. She has the privilege to be born to wonderful parents who will raise her to grow in wisdom and stature in the Lord.

My wife, Carol, and I are the proud grandparents of Ivy, whom I will call from time to time, number 12.

Mr. Speaker, you see, I refer to my other grandchildren by their birth numbers as well. There are 11 of them.

My hope for Ivy is that she sees the importance of being good to others; that she makes the world a better place; that she is faithful to the Lord; that she appreciates her heritage; and that, of course, she always lives in Texas.

And that is just the way it is.

THE OPIOID CRISIS

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is in the middle of a public health crisis. Drug overdoses are now killing more Americans each year than car accidents. And 336 Rhode Islanders died last year as a result of a drug overdose. That is up from 290 in 2015 and 238 deaths in 2014.

Nationwide, overdose deaths involving prescription and illicit opioids have quadrupled since 1999. This is a crisis that threatens Americans of all different backgrounds—young and old, Black and White, urban and rural. It is a crisis, plain and simple.

All of us who serve the government have a responsibility to stop it. That is why I was so alarmed earlier this month when I learned that President Trump is considering slashing funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy by 95 percent. Slashing funding for the lead Federal agency in this fight would have a devastating impact on families in Rhode Island and all across our country.

Let's work together. Let's work across the aisle, Democrats and Repub-

licans, to defeat this short-sighted proposal and, instead, advance real, comprehensive solutions to this public health epidemic.

THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the mutual relationship between the United States and Taiwan—enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 and reinforced by the Six Assurances of 1982—has endured, due to our shared beliefs in democratic government, freedom of expression, the rule of law, and a market economy.

It is my hope that this relationship will continue to deepen and strengthen in all areas. I hope the Trump administration will move expeditiously with a military sales package that will help to guarantee Taiwan's security and freedom for the future.

The people of Taiwan have great friends in the people of the United States. I know many of my colleagues will join me in expressing our shared desire to work together with our friends on the old and new challenges that Taiwan faces.

Mr. Speaker, I wish President Tsai and the people of Taiwan all the best on their first anniversary of her administration.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

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

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is National Police Week, and I rise to honor law enforcement officials who protect our communities. I also pay tribute to the thousands of men and women who have died in the line of duty. There are few jobs more important or more perilous than that of a police officer.

Since I took office in January, there have been at least four incidents in or near my central Florida district where a police officer was shot. In one of those cases, an officer, Orlando Police Lieutenant Debra Clayton, lost her life.

Because they run towards danger, police officers face unimaginable challenges. Last June, an armed attacker entered the Pulse nightclub in Orlando and opened fire, killing 49 people. Showing no regard for their own safety, Orlando officers charged into the club, eventually bringing that long, dark night to an end.

Mr. Speaker, despite the risks, they put on their uniforms every day. So to all the brave officers around this country, I say: Thank you.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Police Week, a time to honor and thank law enforcement officers for all they do in service to our communities.

As a former State and Federal prosecutor, I have worked with law enforcement officers at every level: local, State, and Federal. I watched as they tirelessly worked to carry out justice and keep our communities safe.

As a Member of Congress, I have the privilege of representing a district that is both rural and urban. I have seen the different challenges that our officers have faced. They have done it in a tremendous way, both at the local police level and at the sheriff level. The work and effort put in by the officers in each community never ceases to amaze me. It is a big reason why our district has continued to thrive with vibrant and safe communities.

This work does not come without its risks. Far too many officers pay the ultimate price. Last year in South Jacksonville, Illinois, in my district, one of its own was killed in the line of duty. Losses like this are devastating for both the families and our communities. We must never forget their sacrifices and we must continue to work to keep our officers protected.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the work the House is doing this week to do just that. I thank every law enforcement officer for their commitment and dedication towards keeping America safe.

OUR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today we are talking about infrastructure. I want to focus on one aspect of infrastructure that touches the lives of all Americans, especially in my home State of California, and that is water.

I know firsthand the urgent challenges facing our water infrastructure. The crippling recent drought and subsequent record rainfall has prompted more discussion on a need for a smart water management strategy to improve drinking water, water reuse, and recycled water systems for communities across the United States.

We must take meaningful steps to increase our water conservation, reduce unnecessary energy use, and cut costs for Americans. Let's commit to investing in technology and science-based solutions that will address the weaknesses in our water drinking systems from threats like climate change, crumbling pipes, and water source contamination.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to focus on legislation that will put Americans back to work building the systems we need to support the future of this great country.