

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING OFFICER ROBERT CARROLL ON BEING NAMED OAK LAWN'S TOP COP OF 2019

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Robert Carroll of the Oak Lawn Police Department for being named the Village's Top Cop of 2019. The Oak Lawn Lion's Club bestows this award on a distinguished member of the force after being nominated by his or her peers and selected by a committee of police department leaders.

Officer Carroll has served the Oak Lawn community as an exemplary first responder. While performing his duties, Officer Carroll has put his life on the line to make numerous felony arrests and to keep the Village of Oak Lawn safe. Officer Carroll has received several letters from citizens recognizing him for his compassion and professionalism in the line of duty. Officer Carroll is an exceptional member of the Oak Lawn Police Department and his record stands as a shining example for others seeking to serve Oak Lawn and our larger Chicagoland community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Oak Lawn Police Officer Robert Carroll. I congratulate him on his accomplishments and thank him for his service.

TRIBUTE TO SYDNEY STROTHER SMITH III

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I pay tribute to Sydney Strother Smith III of Abingdon, Virginia, a faithful servant of his God and country.

Strother was born on August 1, 1941, to Strother and Betsy Smith. His father was one of the Army's last commissioned cavalry officers, and during young Strother's baptism at Fort Knox on December 7, 1941, news from Pearl Harbor interrupted the service. As his father fought in World War II as a tank commander, Strother lived in Richmond with his mother and grandfather. They remained there after his father returned from the war.

Hoping to follow in his father's footsteps by joining the military, Strother enrolled at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington. A fall from cliffs broke his back, however, and ended hopes of a military career. Among his roommates at VMI, he was the only one not to die in Vietnam, convincing him that God had a different purpose for his life.

Strother is known as a dedicated and effective organizer of the Republican Party in Virginia. He was the founding president of the Young Republicans Club at the University of

Richmond and served as vice president of the statewide Young Republicans Federation, where he helped expand the number of clubs statewide and met his future wife Barbara. He managed his father's successful campaign for the Virginia House of Delegates as a Republican at a time when Virginia was still largely controlled by the Democratic Party and went on to manage other campaigns for the House of Delegates, United States Senate, and House of Representatives. After moving to Washington County to practice law, he became an active member of the county party and instilled it with new blood. He served as chairman of the county party from 1974 to 1980 and, along with Professor Ray Hancock, organized the College Republicans at Emory and Henry College, my alma mater.

Strother also achieved distinction in his legal career. He became one of the youngest attorneys to argue in front of the United States Supreme Court and would return several times, as well as appear before the Virginia Supreme Court. He was drawn toward cases in which he championed the underdog. One example unfolded over 25 years as he represented an elderly Kentucky mountain man, John Johnson, and eventually Mr. Johnson's heirs against the industrial giant Bethlehem Minerals. Mr. Johnson claimed rights over the coal on his property, and Strother argued his case up to the Kentucky Supreme Court, then to the U.S. Supreme Court, and back to Kentucky. When the case was finally resolved, Mr. Johnson's heirs and co-litigants were awarded \$37 million in damages, and willful trespassing became part of mineral rights law. Strother relished such cases and often engaged in them on a pro bono basis, about which his wife sometimes noted that his family had bills to pay, too.

Strother was an active member of the Anglican Church. He was a chancellor, canon lawyer, and a priest ordained in 1987, and he helped to found and rector six parishes. He also belonged to numerous civic organizations. He was an Eagle Scout as a boy and a scout leader as an adult, a member of the Sons of the Revolution, and a reenactor with the Mountain Men of Revolutionary War fame. An amateur pilot, a published poet, a joke collector and storyteller, he is a man of seemingly endless talents but one: punctuality. His nickname, the "Late Great Strother Smith," reflects his habit of being late to just about everything, including his wedding. The one exception: voting, which he would always be in line for by 6 am.

Strother's family includes his wife of 53 years, Barbara Ann Smith; daughters Ambler Dumler and her husband John, Sydney Smith and her husband Tim Gilhool, and Beth and her husband Andy Stockner; brother, Richard Smith and his wife Sarah of Alexandria, VA; sister Rev. Caroline Parkinson of Nashville, TN; and grandchildren Josef, Marshall, and Aidan Dumler, Jimmy and Molly Gilhool, and Virginia, Josie, and Cora Stockner.

TRIBUTE TO BLAKE EDWARD BUTLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a public servant and American patriot, Blake Butler, who passed away suddenly on May 3, 2019 at his home in Yerevan, Armenia. Today I ask that the U.S. House of Representatives join me to honor and remember the life of Blake Edward Butler.

Blake Butler joined the U.S. Department of State in 2009 as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer. In 2018, he began his tour as the Human Resources and Financial Management Officer at U.S. Embassy Yerevan. From 2015 to 2018 he served as the Assistant General Services Officer at U.S. Embassy Buenos Aires where he led the team that provided logistical support to 14 different U.S. government agencies and close to 400 employees. Blake's other assignments included General Services Officer at U.S. Embassy Baghdad; Environmental, Science, Technology and Health Officer at U.S. Embassy Paris; and Vice Consul at U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, he worked as a civil service employee for the Department of State as a budget analyst and in the office responsible for the President's foreign travel. He was the recipient of multiple Department Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards. In addition to his service with the Department of State, Blake valiantly served in the U.S. Army's Reserve from 2001 to 2011 and was deployed overseas on multiple occasions.

Blake was the loving husband of Sara Hurst Butler, who previously worked in my office, and the proud father of Everett Ian Butler. Blake received his BA from Baylor University and his MBA and Master's in Health Administration from Texas Woman's University.

As we look at the incredibly rich history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Blake, who chose a life of public service. I am grateful for Blake's service to our country and my thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences goes out Blake's wife, son, parents and brother. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words I offer only begin to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation. I hope they know that the goodness Blake brought to this world will always be remembered.

ROYAL ROTH

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friend, Royal Roth, on his well-deserved retirement after a long and

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

happy career. On June 30, 2019, Royal will finish out seventeen rewarding years at the United Parcel Service (UPS), where he currently works as a Vice President in the UPS Global Public Affairs group.

Royal is a welcome and familiar face to many of us. He found his way to Washington via the campaign trail, while working for the late First Lady Barbara Bush during the 1992 election. After the election, he landed at the National Republican Senatorial Committee before moving onto then-Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole's staff.

After several productive years on Capitol Hill, Royal moved on to The American Trucking Associations before joining UPS in 2002. Royal has worked tirelessly on behalf of American workers, taxpayers, and businesses over the past decades. He retires at the height of his career, with an impeccable reputation and much hard-earned good will behind him.

While Royal will be missed in Washington, he and Patrick will enjoy spending more time shuttling between New Orleans and Fairhope. As an avid University of Alabama football fan, I know we'll always be able to find him watching his beloved Crimson Tide play in Tuscaloosa (and sometime soon, lose to LSU). It is with many thanks for his friendship and years of service that Jennifer and I congratulate Royal and wish him well as we send him off on this new chapter of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, due to the death of my father, I was unable to attend the following votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 185; YEA on Roll Call No. 186; YEA on Roll Call No. 187; YEA on Roll Call No. 188; NAY on Roll Call No. 189; NAY on Roll Call No. 190; YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; NAY on Roll Call No. 193; NAY on Roll Call No. 194; YEA on Roll Call No. 195; NAY on Roll Call No. 196; NAY on Roll Call No. 197; NAY on Roll Call No. 198; NAY on Roll Call No. 199; YEA on Roll Call No. 200; YEA on Roll Call No. 201; and NAY on Roll Call No. 202.

IN RECOGNITION OF FLOWER MOUND HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL SONYA LAIL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the outstanding career of Ms. Sonya Lail. This spring, she is retiring from her position as principal of Flower Mound High School, where she has served in multiple leadership positions for the past 17 years.

Ms. Lail grew up in El Paso, Texas, where she was inspired by one of her teachers to become an educator. She went on to pursue her Bachelors of Science degree in education from the University of Texas at El Paso, and

achieved master's degrees from Texas Tech University and Sul Ross State University.

In 2002, Ms. Lail joined Flower Mound High School as an assistant principal, a position in which she served for five years, and served as an associate principal for another four years. She has led FMHS as its principal for the last eight years. From day one, Ms. Lail has been a dedicated leader and educator, working to help each student meet his or her full potential.

After nearly two decades of service to Flower Mound High School, Ms. Lail will be sorely missed by the entire Jaguar community. I am grateful for her total of thirty-three years in education and public service, and I wish Ms. Lail every continued success in her well-earned retirement.

IN MEMORY OF JOSUE FLORES

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, today we remember the life of Josue Flores. At the young age of eleven years old, Josue was murdered while he walked home from school in Houston's Northside. Three years have passed since that day and every day that passes our community still feels sadness and mourns his loss. As family, friends and neighbors gather tonight at Holy Name Catholic Church to remember our little angel, we also remember what we are all striving for. We want safety. We want security. We want justice.

All of us have a role to play in making our community safer. The concerned parents and neighbors of Safe Walk Home go above and beyond. Together, they form a powerful force of protection for our school children. When I served in the Texas Senate, we worked hard to secure funding for organizations that help provide safe passage for children going to and from school in high crime or violent areas. Now, here in Congress, I continue to believe that we must do more to make the trip to and from school safe for every child in Houston, in Texas, and across the United States. Josue continues to touch our lives and watch over our work. Let us rededicate ourselves to keeping our children safe from harm.

HONORING OFFICERS DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, this week is National Police Week, a week the American people join hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers across the country to honor all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to keep our communities safe.

Words alone can never fully express our gratitude for the sacrifices that police officers and their families make to protect the rest of us. And too often, it takes a tragedy to realize just what is at stake, and what we owe to those who are willing to take that risk.

It's why I do all that I can as a Member of Congress to help give police officers the resources they need to do their job effectively and safely. For example, this week, we passed important legislation to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program. This important program helps protect the men and women who serve in law enforcement by giving states and localities the resources they need to ensure that all police officers have the proper equipment to keep them safe and help prevent line-of-duty deaths.

Every day and night, in cities and towns across America, the men and women who wear the uniform risk their lives to protect us as we go to school, to work, and spend time with our families.

And so, as we commemorate National Police Week, let's take a moment to thank those officers for their bravery, selfless dedication and tireless efforts to keep our communities safe.

To those who serve us, who wear the uniform, and the badge, and the gun, thank them for their service. I also thank them for their dedication and the sacrifices they and their families make to keep the rest of us safe. God bless them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on May 16, 2019, in order to deliver the Commencement Address at the Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 210; NAY on Roll Call No. 211; NAY on Roll Call No. 212; YEA on Roll Call No. 213; and NAY on Roll Call No. 214.

HONORING PATTY AND IAN CARLIS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of my friends Patty and Ian Carlis, who have been selected as the honorees of Congregation Keneseth Israel's annual Gala.

Patty and Ian Carlis have been active and engaged members of their community, helping to leave a lasting impact for the people of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, and beyond. Moved by the historic atrocities of the Holocaust and the need for greater awareness, Patty used the performing arts to educate her community's young people. Through shows like "The Library" and other works, Patty played an instrumental role in inspiring the annual Youth and Prejudice Conference, paving the way for a more sophisticated and meaningful understanding of the Holocaust for middle and high-school students.

Ian Carlis served as a dentist at Bethlehem Smiles, going on to become the President of the dental staff of Lehigh Valley Hospital,