

CARTER, ESTES, PFLUGER & BICE HONORED WITH 2024 ROOSEVELT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

WASHINGTON, DC — With Congress paralyzed by partisanship and common ground getting harder and harder to reach, The Ripon Society and Franklin Center for Global Policy Exchange honored four leaders in Congress for their efforts to put policy above politics and work across the aisle to find solutions to some of the most pressing challenges Americans face.

The leaders were U.S. Representatives Buddy Carter (GA-1), Ron Estes (KS-4), August Pfluger (TX-11), and Stephanie Bice (OK-5) Krishnamoorthi (D/IL-8), and Adrian Smith (R/NE-3). The four were presented with the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Award, an honor that is given annually in the spirit of America's 26th President and is intended to recognize leaders who embody some of the same qualities and characteristics that Theodore Roosevelt displayed throughout his life and career.

Like previous awards celebrations, which featured a visit to a presidential library, monument, or museum, this year's celebration was held this past Monday and Tuesday in Key West, Florida at the Truman Little White House, where President Truman spent so much of his time.

"In all, Harry Truman traveled to Key West 11 times during his presidency, staying a total of 175 days between 1946 and 1952," stated Jim Conzelman, the President & CEO of The Ripon Society and Franklin Center, in remarks to kick-off the event. "Historian David McCullough wrote about Key West and the Truman Little White House in his Pulitzer-Prize winning biography of the Missouri-born President. McCullough wrote:

'The place appealed to him as nowhere else. He loved the warm sea and balmy tropical nights, as perhaps only an inland North American can. His quarters were in what had been the commandant's residence at the Key West naval base, a modest-sized white frame house in West Indian style, simply but comfortably furnished. Hibiscus and bougainvillea bloomed in the garden. The cares, the pressures, the formality of the presidency, all began to subside almost the moment he arrived.

'He put on bright patterned sports shirts – 'Harry Truman shirts,' as they became known – and set off on his early morning walks

through the picturesque old town of Key West, stopping sometimes for a cup of coffee at a local lunch counter. The White House pouch arrived daily; members of the Cabinet, congressional leaders, and the Joint Chiefs flew in and out for meetings, and some days he was on the phone far more than he liked.

'But he enjoyed a daily swim, head up to keep his glasses dry, while one or two Navy boats stood guard. He loafed in the sun with members of the staff, joked, swapped stories, read, listened to classical music on the phonograph, took an afternoon nap, played poker on the porch nearly every evening, slept soundly, and started off each new day, before his walk, with a shot of bourbon.'

"It was a different time, to say the least," Conzelman continued. "It was a different era. You'll get a better sense of that era – and the Truman presidency – when we visit the Little White House tomorrow.

"As for tonight, we wanted to focus on one thing that has not changed in the 70-plus years since Harry Truman served as President – and that is the importance of bold leadership, and the need for great men and women to serve in government. It is in that spirit that we present the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Awards."

According to Conzelman, the award was established with one premise in mind – namely, that there is a lot of good, thoughtful work being done on Capitol Hill and in Washington that people do not regularly hear about. To that end, the Roosevelt Leadership Award honors those leaders:

- Who have a sense of duty and service driven by a love of country.
- Who possess a desire to do what is in the best interests of the American people – regardless of party, and regardless of who gets the credit; and,

- Who embody the qualities that Theodore Roosevelt spoke of when he said: "The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at best know the triumph of high achievement; and who, at worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.



“The four leaders we are honoring embody these qualities and more,” Conzelman stated. “Between them, they have devoted over 70 years of their lives to serving the American people. Individually, they have made their mark in many important ways.”

Conzelman noted that this is the ninth year the Roosevelt Leadership Awards have been presented. Last year’s awards dinner was held in Rapid City, South Dakota, and featured a visit to Mount Rushmore. The year before, the awards celebration was held in Austin and featured visits to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum and the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station. In 2021, the dinner was held in Charlottesville and included visits to Thomas Jefferson’s home at Monticello, and the home where James and Dolly Madison lived at Montpelier. The 2019 awards celebration was held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, while the 2018 awards were presented at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda.

The 2017 celebration was held in New York and included visits to Theodore Roosevelt’s historic home at Sagamore Hill and Franklin Roosevelt’s estate and museum in Hyde Park. In 2016, the awards celebration was held at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas, while the inaugural Roosevelt Awards in

2015 were held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, and included a visit to Rancho del Cielo, President Reagan’s historic ranch atop the Santa Ynez Mountain range northwest of Santa Barbara.

The Ripon Society is a public policy organization that was founded in 1962 and takes its name from the town where the Republican Party was born in 1854 – Ripon, Wisconsin. One of the main goals of The Ripon Society is to promote the ideas and principles that have made America great and contributed to the GOP’s success. These ideas include keeping our nation secure, keeping taxes low and having a federal government that is smaller, smarter and more accountable to the people.

The Franklin Center for Global Policy Exchange is a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to enhancing global understanding of important international issues. The Franklin Center brings together Members of the U.S. Congress and their international parliamentary counterparts as well as experts from the Diplomatic

corps, foreign officials, senior private sector representatives, scholars, and other public policy experts. Through regular conferences and events where leading international opinion leaders share ideas, the Franklin Center promotes enlightened, balanced, and unbiased international policy discussion on major international issues.



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Truman’s desk in the Little White House. A sign at the front reads, “The Buck Stops Here.”



The poker table on the porch in the Truman Little White House. The President would sit in the corner



The dining room table, around which Truman met with Dwight Eisenhower, George Marshall and others.



The closet in the master bedroom filled with the President’s preferred dress at the Little White House.



2024 ROOSEVELT LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES



BUDDY CARTER

Buddy was first elected to represent Georgia's First Congressional District in 2014.

As a member of the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee, Buddy showcases his expertise as a former mayor and member of the Georgia state legislature.

He's been an extremely effective legislator over his five terms in the House. In fact, he was the primary sponsor of over a dozen bills which have been enacted, including laws to help veterans, thwart COVID-19 scams, and his proposal to modernize our nation's passport services just became law as part of the FY24 NDAA.

But Buddy's worldview is especially shaped by his experience as a pharmacist and owning Carter's Pharmacy for 32 years.

This background has led to legislative wins including a law to ban pharmacist gag orders, thereby ensuring drug savings reach consumers. And it's partly why Buddy was rated the most bipartisan Republican in the Georgia delegation according to the Lugar Center.

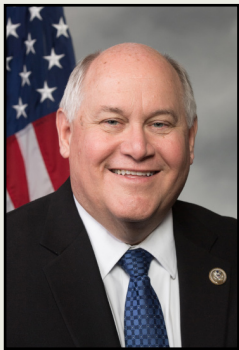
It has also made Buddy an important leader in addressing the opioid crisis. His advocacy in Congress spurred the FDA to make available over-the-counter naloxone, the opioid overdose reversal agent.

Legislation he sponsored resulted in the Biden Administration issuing guidance for public schools to stock naloxone. And he's now pushing for every office building on Capitol Hill to have the lifesaving drug on hand.

Buddy's also not afraid to take a stand on tough issues. After Ahmaud Arbery was murdered in his District in 2020, he got out front by convening local African American pastors to discuss what happened, applauding the peaceful protests, and calling for positive social change. His actions set the standard for how conservatives can respond and lead during these tragic and troubling times.

Buddy is one of the GOP's leaders in fighting climate change with innovation, which is an issue especially important to his coastal district. He does so as chairman of the Environment, Manufacturing and Critical Materials Subcommittee, and as vice chair of the Conservative Climate Caucus and co-chair of the Roosevelt Conservation Caucus.

In recognition for his continuing work for the people of Georgia's First, and all Americans, it is our honor to present the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Award to the Honorable Buddy Carter.



RON ESTES

Ron was first elected to Congress in an April 2017 special election to represent Kansas's Fourth Congressional District.

On Capitol Hill, Ron represents Wichita and the south central region of the Sunflower State by being a champion of the aviation industry, and advocate for free trade and pro-growth tax provisions. Since January 2019, Ron has done this as a member of the aforementioned Ways and Means Committee.

A Fifth generation Kansan, Ron's experience on his family farm helped inspire his leadership in trade and he helped enact USMCA.

He's authored provisions which became law to improve retirement savings and he introduced a bill to improve how widows and widowers receive Social Security survivors' benefits.

Ron introduced and championed bipartisan legislation on Research and Development tax credits. His work is paying off since, as we all know, provisions from his bill overwhelmingly passed the House in

the major tax bill last month.

Ron brings a Midwest sensibility and a commonsense conservative approach to the international stage as one of the main Republican leaders pushing back against other countries imposing digital service taxes and the plan for a global corporate minimum tax.

In fact, Ron's become a regular visitor to Paris and has been seen recently at the OECD pushing back against their Pillar 2 tax scheme, and at the Paris Airshow touting Kansas's aviation industry as co-chair of the House Aerospace Caucus.

His efforts with that caucus resulted in two proposals of the last FAA reauthorization becoming law, and the enactment of the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, Ron uses the knowledge he gained as a county and state treasurer to bring a sense of fiscal discipline to his work on the Budget Committee and Joint Economic Committee.

Finally, there's been a lot of talk in the media about a noteworthy couple out of Kansas City. But those in politics know that Kansas's true power couple consists of Ron and his wife, Susan, who serves as the House Majority Whip in the Kansas legislature.

In recognition of his continuing work for Kansas's Fourth Congressional District and for advocating for America's interests at home and abroad, we are honored to present the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Award to the Honorable Ron Estes.

2024 ROOSEVELT LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES



AUGUST PFLUGER

Although only in his second term in Congress, Congressman Pfluger has served our nation his entire career. A graduate of the Air Force Academy, he served almost two decades as a fighter pilot for the Air Force where he flew the F-22 Raptor on combat missions. This work continues today as a colonel in the Air Force reserves.

After serving as an advisor on President Trump's National Security Council, the Congressman was first elected to represent Texas's Eleventh Congressional District in November 2020. On Capitol Hill he established himself as a leader in military affairs, homeland security, and energy issues.

As chairman of the House Energy Action Team, Representative Pfluger has fought the anti-fossil fuel agenda of the Biden Administration. He champions the responsible development of oil in the Permian Basin, which is in his district.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Representative Pfluger helped secure much-needed permitting reform in the Debt Ceiling negotiations. His bill to overturn anti-oil and gas regulations from the current administration passed the House, as did H.R. 1, which contained two of his provisions.

He's proven himself to be an effective legislator and has authored multiple provisions which became law in recent defense authorizations. This includes his DHS Illicit Cross-Border Tunnel Defense Act which gave U.S. Customs and Border Patrol the tools to seal the over 200 tunnels across the U.S.-Mexico border used by cartels and human traffickers.

As chairman of the Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement and Intelligence Subcommittee of the Homeland Security Committee he is working to ensure our nation's officials have the resources necessary to thwart threats to our nation, and to secure our southern border amid this historic crisis.

A seventh generation Texan, Representative Pfluger has gone above and beyond in other ways, including working with the State Department to secure the release of his constituent who was wrongfully held in a Russian prison for nearly three years.

Beyond his impressive work and record, I need to give him a shoutout for the talent he brought to the Republican side in the Congressional Baseball Game. His powerful bat and solid pitching arm have helped lead the GOP to a three-game win streak, including in 2022 when he was named our team's MVP.

In recognition of his efforts on Capitol Hill for his constituents and our country, we are honored to present the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Award to the Honorable August Pfluger.



STEPHANIE BICE

Although only in her second term representing Oklahoma's Fourth Congressional District, Representative Bice has established a reputation in D.C. as a workhorse striving to find bipartisan solutions to problems that affect every day Americans.

After flipping a Democrat-held seat in 2020, Congresswoman Bice was elected the president of the freshman class. In the 118th Congress she continues to lead her cohort as the Sophomore Class Representative to the Elected Leadership Committee.

On Capitol Hill, the congresswoman has influenced our nation's military and our national security. She's authored over three dozen provisions which became law in the last three defense authorizations, including her bipartisan Disrupt Fentanyl Trafficking Act, which empowers the Defense Department to confront the national threat posed by cartel trafficking at our southern border.

Representative Bice is undertaking important, bipartisan work in Congress to secure further gender equality in the military and the civilian workforce. She's pushed to expand parental leave for servicemembers and for more support for new mothers in the military. And as co-chair of the House Paid Family Leave Working Group, she is exploring ways to bring our country in line with every other developed country around the globe by establishing a national paid parental leave policy.

As co-chair of the Natural Gas Caucus she is pushing back on the anti-fossil fuel policies of the Biden Administration. She's advocated for advances in new energy development. And she's raised the alarm about China's monopolization of critical minerals and their attempts to acquire American farmland.

Representative Bice also champions the interests of the people she represents in central Oklahoma by working to improve the National Weather Service's ability to accurately predict and communicate weather events like the dangerous tornados which devastate the Plains.

A valuable member of the Republican Conference, Representative Bice has also shown a willingness to stand up for what's right in spite of partisan pressure. This includes voting to support reauthorization of the Violence Against Women's Act, in support of forming a bipartisan January 6th commission, and in favor of a bill condemning violence against Asian Americans.

In recognition of her accomplishments and ongoing work in Congress, it is our great honor to present the 2024 Roosevelt Leadership Award to the Honorable Stephanie Bice.