Tribute to the Palo Alto Medical Foundation

Hon. Anna G. Eshoo
of California

In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Palo Alto Medical Foundation on the occasion of the dedication of its superb new facilities, located on 8 acres on El Camino Real in Palo Alto, CA. The new facility will unite health care, research and community education in a beautiful, new, $120 million, state of the art building.

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation’s new facility will bring together over 250 physicians and hundreds of support personnel to care for 130,000 patients who will make more than 750,000 visits to the Clinic this year alone in a modern facility suited to the importance of this work.

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation’s state of the art new facility helps the Foundation live up to its tradition of being a place ahead of its time. Begun in the early 1920’s when Dr. Tom Williams opened a medical practice in Palo Alto and recruited Dr. Russell Van Arsdale Lee to join him, the Clinic became a permanent partnership soon after Drs. Fritz Roth, Esther Clark, Blake Wilbur and Milton Saier joined them. Three physicians joined the group during the depression years: Drs. H.L. Niebel, Harold Sox and Robert Dunn. Together with Drs. Lee, Roth, Clark, Wilbur and Saier they became known as the founding partners.

After World War II a surge of growth on the Peninsula caused a surge in growth at the Palo Alto Clinic. Twelve new physicians joined the clinic in 1946 and by the 1960’s there were 40 partners. In 1961 the Clinic’s Russell V. Lee Building in downtown Palo Alto was completed. The Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation was founded in 1950 and soon became an internationally known institution. It is now the Research Institute of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation.

In 1980 the Palo Alto Medical Foundation was formed, combining the Health Care Division, Research Institute and Education Division under one nonprofit, umbrella organization. In 1992, PAMF officials recognized the need for joining a larger health care system and selected Sacramento-based Sutter Health as its partner.

From its beginning, the Palo Alto clinic was known for innovation in treatment methods, in technology and in meeting new health care challenges. This tradition continues today as the PAMF pursues its mission of providing and integrating quality health care, health education and biomedical research to improve the health status of our region.

Mr. Speaker, the Palo Alto Medical Foundation is an extraordinary community resource, one built on a vision of excellent health care, education and research. I salute the Palo Alto Medical Foundation’s Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Robert Jampolis, the founders and all those involved with the Palo Alto Medical Foundation for working to create this extraordinary new community asset. I join with them in celebrating the opening of this great new facility and wish them continued success in the pursuit of providing extraordinary health care to the greater Palo Alto Community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this outstanding institution, all it has achieved and all it continues to do to provide first rate health care to our community, thereby strengthening our country.

Recognizing Virginia “Ginny” Gano

Hon. David L. Hobson
of Ohio

In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to take this opportunity to recognize a very special woman from Ohio’s Seventh Congressional District, Ms. Virginia “Ginny” Gano.

On September 8, we marked the 30th anniversary of Ginny’s service to the people of the Seventh District. She first came to work on Capitol Hill in 1969 for former Representative Clarence J. “Bud” Brown. She worked for my friend Bud Brown for a number of years until his retirement. Ginny continued to work for the Seventh District for Brown’s successor, now Senator Mike DeWine, for 8 years. Ginny has been a loyal member of my staff since I became a member in 1991.

Ginny has served the office and my constituents ably and well. She’s the first person constituents see when they enter my office and always has a smile on her face. Ginny has warmed the hearts of many on Capitol Hill, from Members of Congress to delivery persons to lost souls wandering the halls in need of directions. She never forgets birthdays or anniversaries, and can find the phone number of almost anyone in the world when only given a first name.

Mr. Speaker, Ginny Gano exemplifies the definition of loyalty and service. Her endurance to service to the Seventh District of Ohio is unparalleled and may never be matched. I am honored to recognize her 30 years and countless efforts on behalf of the Seventh Congressional District and the Members who have represented the area.

Recognizing Ryan W. Clark

Hon. Elton Gallegly
of California

In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, September 14, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ryan W. Clark, a young man who has already proven his courage, his selflessness and his dedication to others, and who will be rightfully honored with the Medal of Valor by the Los Angeles Police Department on Wednesday for placing his life on the line to rescue a fellow officer. In October, he will be honored by President Clinton with the “Top Cop” Award.

At 26, Ryan has already experienced more than may people twice his years. He enlisted in the Army in 1991 after graduating from St. Bonaventure High School in Ventura, California, and was assigned to the famed 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After his first enlistment ended, he joined the Los Angeles Police Department. It wasn’t his first taste of law enforcement, however; he volunteered as a Ventura County Sheriff’s Department Explorer Scout from age 15 to 17.

In May of 1997, Ryan braved a barrage of bullets in a darkened warehouse while attempting to save a fellow officer.

It is every officer’s nightmare to have to respond to a call of an officer down, as Ryan and several other LAPD officers did on that fateful day. As they entered the darkened building, they came under fire from a barricaded gunman. Despite the extreme danger, Ryan and other officers laid down a barrage of fire of their own as they tried to advance to their fallen comrade. Ryan’s partner was hit by gunfire, and during the officers’ forced retreat, Ryan further jeopardized his own safety by dragging his partner from harm’s way. Then Ryan and other officers made a second assault. The gunman was killed. Unfortunately, the officer they were trying to save also died.

Ryan has since left the Los Angeles Police Department and has returned to the Army, where he has completed training as a medical specialist. He will return to the 82nd Airborne next month. Ryan’s wife, Laura, thinks jumping out of airplanes is only a bit more safe than his law enforcement career. The couple have one daughter.

Mr. Speaker, Ryan epitomizes the kind of person we hold high when we point to our police officers and military personnel. To risk one’s own life to save another’s is the greatest act of heroism. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Ryan for the honors he will receive and in thanking him for his dedication to preserving life and upholding the ideals of the United States.

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