

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO HOMETOWN HERO RONALD CRONIN

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a 15-year Dallas Police Department veteran, Officer Ronald Cronin.

Officer Cronin was recently presented with a Life-Saving Award from the Sons of the American Revolution for his courageous actions that stopped an active shooter at Dallas Love Field Airport in July.

Thinking of others before himself, Officer Cronin took swift action and put his life on the line to ensure the hundreds of Love Field travelers around him lived another day.

Just as the shooter pulled her firearm, Officer Cronin was on the scene, giving her loud verbal commands to drop the weapon.

Disregarding the verbal commands, she began firing her weapon at Officer Cronin and innocent bystanders. He quickly returned fire, hit the shooter, and held his position until fellow officers arrived to take the shooter into custody.

If it weren't for Officer Cronin's selfless acts of courage, this disturbing incident could have ended in tragedy. On behalf of the entire Dallas-Fort Worth community, I thank Officer Cronin for his actions that day and his 15 years of service with the Dallas Police Department.

RECOGNIZING RUTH ELLIS CLAIRMOUNT CENTER

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize the outstanding work of the Ruth Ellis Center, based in Highland Park, Michigan, as they celebrate the grand opening of its Ruth Ellis Clairmount Center in Detroit. This expansion will allow Ruth Ellis Center to expand housing, access to healthcare, and community space for our most vulnerable LGBTQI+ youth in our district.

Founded in 1999, Ruth Ellis Center has established a national reputation for quality and innovation in providing trauma-informed services for lesbian, gay, bi-attractional, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ+) youth, and young adults, with an emphasis on young people of color, experiencing homelessness, involved in the child welfare system, and/or experiencing barriers to health and wellbeing for residents in Detroit. Its mission has remained true and continues to uplift and serve our communities. Ruth Ellis Center has implemented safe and supportive environments around young people to build their vision for a positive future. The Clairmount Center ex-

pands on that vision by providing an integrated health clinic at the housing center, while including access to a library, technical center, and much more. The Ruth Ellis Center goes above and beyond in its mission to ensuring access to holistic care and support services to one of the most underserved communities. I am proud to have secured direct investment for this critical work and project and I look forward to the continued partnership in serving our underserved.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Ruth Ellis Center's numerous contributions on behalf of the people of southeast Michigan and the 13th District Strong as we congratulate them on the grand opening of the Clairmount Center.

HONORING STEVE KERR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Kerr in recognition of his contributions to gun violence prevention.

Mr. Kerr was born in Lebanon in 1965. His father Malcolm served as President of the American University of Beirut but was shot and killed by a militia known as Islamic Jihad in 1984. At only 18 years old, this event had a profound effect on Mr. Kerr and inspired his activism.

For over 30 years, Mr. Kerr has led an historic career in professional basketball, both as a player and a coach. In 1986, while attending the University of Arizona, Mr. Kerr competed in the FIBA World Championship and was drafted by the Phoenix Suns in 1988. Over the next 15 years, he played on seven teams and won five NBA titles. Mr. Kerr retired as a player in 2003 but returned to the NBA in 2014 as head coach of the Golden State Warriors. Since then, he has led the team to six NBA Finals and four championships—the most successful run in franchise history.

As someone well aware of the impact gun violence can have on families, Mr. Kerr has been especially involved in gun violence prevention. In the wake of mass shootings, including those in Parkland, Boulder, and Atlanta, Mr. Kerr used his platform as a leading figure in American sports to call for congressional action. During an NBA press conference in May 2022, Mr. Kerr once again spoke out to address the shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. He referred to gun violence as “a public health issue” in desperate need of both recognition and treatment. He has supported charities and organizations focused on passing legislation to reduce gun violence such as the Giffords Law Center, Brady, and Sandy Hook Promise. Mr. Kerr has been an important part of Rock the Ride, a benefit bike ride and walk to help end gun violence. He has also dedicated much of

his time to the East Bay chapter of Live Free, a national racial justice network that has worked to reduce gun violence in Oakland.

Mr. Kerr is a proud father of three children, Nick, Maddy and Matthew, and a devoted husband to his wife, Margot.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Kerr for his unwavering dedication to the fight against gun violence. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING TREVOR BRUNELL

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last week, I had the pleasure of attending a ceremony and reception for Wounded Warrior Week in Mays Landing, South Jersey. At the event, Staff Sergeant Trevor Brunell, a United States Army Ranger, was honored for his service to our nation.

Trevor was born in Pennsylvania in 1993 and was raised in Maryland, where he graduated top of his high school class. After attending community college for a few months, he enlisted in the United States Army with a contract for training to become an Army Ranger. Following the basic ranger training, Trevor attended airborne school and then the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program. In the spring of 2014, once he had completed all the required trainings, he was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia.

Trevor was deployed in the winter of 2014 to bravely serve our great nation in Afghanistan. In 2016, he sustained injuries in Afghanistan and underwent 33 surgeries, had a prosthetic leg installed below the knee, and spent 6 months bedridden. Miraculously, Trevor regained his strength and returned to Afghanistan in the winter of 2017. During his final deployment, he reinjured parts of his knee and underwent 10 more surgeries. In August of 2022, Trevor was medically discharged from the Army due to these injuries.

SSG Trevor Brunell is a brave and resilient patriot, and I want to thank him for his heroic service to our great nation. God Bless SSG Trevor Brunell, and God Bless our America.

HONORING YADIRA SANCHEZ FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Yadira Sanchez is currently serving as the executive director of Poder Latinx and is a co-founder of the organization, which focuses on civic and social justice and is dedicated to building a sustained progressive voting bloc of Latinxs in

• 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.

key states while strengthening the political power of the Latinx community. As the daughter of immigrant parents, Yadira grew up in a mixed-status home and learned about the inner workings of her community's upward battle. Her passion to advocate for families like hers led her to champion the work she is doing today in Florida and beyond, being a fierce advocate for economic, environmental, and immigrant justice.

Poder Latinx launched its efforts in 2019 in Orlando, Florida, and today has operations in four states. Since 2019, Poder Latinx has knocked on doors across Central Florida for voter registration and mobilization efforts, hosted community events and information sessions on economic, environmental, and immigrant justice, and tailored a culturally and language accessible message to inform and mobilize Central Florida's Latinx community. Most recently, the organization opened a second office in Central Florida located in Kissimmee to expand accessibility to the Latinx community. Yadira's steadfast commitment to Central Florida is present through all of the programs Poder Latinx executes.

Yadira earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and her master's degree from the George Washington University. She previously served as the development director for Mi Familia Vota, where she helped raise over \$20 million and expanded strategic partnerships with major organizations to increase year-round civic participation efforts within the Latinx community. She was also proud to support the Fast for Families campaign for immigration reform during her time in the immigration department at the SEIU.

TRIBUTE TO MARK KELLAM

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of a constituent of mine, Mark Kellam, who passed away on September 27, 2022. Mark was one of my district's pre-eminent newsmen—a veteran chronicler and good government watchdog, but most importantly, a neighbor, mentor and friend who fiercely loved his community and was deeply kind.

Mark was born in New Castle, Indiana, to the late Josephine and James Kellam, and from the very beginning appeared destined for a career in storytelling. At Tri Junior Senior High School, he excelled in just about every expression of the narrative form: as a theater kid, a prizewinning speech competitor, and editor of the yearbook. While his talents and passions varied widely, his callings ultimately coalesced around a bachelor's degree in journalism, which he obtained from Indiana University in 1984.

After more than a decade of reporting for his hometown paper and throughout the Midwest, Mark's yearning for adventure drew him westward to Chino, California. It was in California that Mark met the love of his life, Jeffrey Waack, and in 2004 Mark moved to West Hollywood to be with him. This cultural capital in my district was the setting for their many beautiful years together, including spending

time in landmark establishments like Micky's, the Revolver Video Bar, and Basix. The latter is where Mark proposed to Jeff, and as soon as same-sex marriage became legal in California in 2008, they were wed at Kings Road Park.

As a new Angeleno, Mark quickly rose through the ranks of esteemed local publications like the Los Angeles Daily News and the Los Angeles Times Community News, where he was the city editor for the Glendale News-Press and Burbank Leader leading a team of reporters and editors, and mentoring many young staff who came through its doors. Most recently, he took the helm locally for the Outlook News Group. It was during these times that I got to know and talk with Mark often, and came to appreciate the intense kindness and heart he applied to his craft. Journalism—especially local journalism—is a hard business, but Mark made it seem effortless despite the hours he spent behind the scenes bringing countless stories to life.

Though his journalism career was legendary, so too were his pursuits of those many talents and passions acquired in his youth. Mark was a renowned karaoke singer, a longtime member of the L.A. Wranglers country dance group, and a wonderful playwright whose work was produced in New York, Dayton, and Indianapolis. He loved cats, the ocean, and traveling with Jeff and their friends.

Mark's legacy will live on through his masterful stories, as well as those of the many young reporters he mentored over the years. And it will live on through all those whose lives he touched with his unwavering warmth, humor, and heart.

Madam Speaker, I ask all Members to join me in offering my sincerest condolences to Mark's husband, Jeff, and his loving family, friends, and readers across my district, and in remembering Mark Kellam for his service to West Hollywood, Glendale, Burbank, Los Angeles, and beyond.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF UT HEALTH SAN ANTONIO'S GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of UT Health San Antonio's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS). For decades, GSBS has led our nation in educating future biomedical professionals. Please join me in recognizing its extraordinary achievements.

Since October 21, 1972, GSBS has produced more than 4,000 graduates who are working worldwide in academia, the sciences, and other key industries. The school offers 21 academic programs and serves students from across the nation, with a particular focus on students from underrepresented backgrounds and economically-disadvantaged groups. GSBS programs are designed to provide a foundation of knowledge and scientific inquiry in the pursuit of educating students in contemporary areas of the biomedical sciences.

GSBS faculty work on cutting-edge research in areas such as cancer, heart disease, and

neurogenerative disorders. GSBS is one of only 11 institutions with National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded Doctor of Dental Surgery/Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Medicine/Doctor of Philosophy combined degrees.

Madam Speaker, UT Health San Antonio's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) is a pillar of our extraordinary community. GSBS will continue to remain at the forefront of scientific exploration. I congratulate GSBS on their 50th anniversary year. I look forward to seeing the many great things GSBS and its students will accomplish in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT BARRY DUNN

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor President Barry Dunn of South Dakota State University for winning the Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education. This award is a testament to the progress President Dunn has made during his tenure to improve academic access and success in Indian Country through the Wokini Initiative and the New Beginnings Initiative. Education is an undisputed path to better career prospects and is vital to those in Indian Country facing staggering unemployment rates.

Investing in recruitment, retention, and graduation of Tribal students is a critical step to helping them participate in the American economy and the American Dream. I am proud that I, along with my colleagues, have been able to successfully secure Federal funding for the New Beginnings Initiative during my time in Congress.

Madam Speaker, the Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education is one of the most competitive and prestigious awards in education. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating President Barry Dunn for this remarkable achievement.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF AMIGOS BLOCK WATCH

HON. RUBEN GALLEGOS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2022

Mr. GALLEGOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amigos Block Watch, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary this month.

Amigos Block Watch was formed by a group of community members in Phoenix who work together to minimize crime in their neighborhoods. For 25 years, Amigos Block Watch has hosted community meetings where individuals can voice their concerns or questions, helping provide resources from community action officers and keeping the Phoenix City Council informed. Amigos Block Watch also hosts events that bring the community together, building a more inclusive city. They are also active in using their social media to promote educational and work opportunities for residents, while continuing to encourage those in