

two stores run by Dr. Bigelow himself, a truck line railroad eventually spurred sustainable and quick growth for Pleasant Valley, which officially became Plain City in 1871.

Moreover, from its foundation, Plain City has played an important role in American history, originally planted within the Virginia Military District to support veterans of the Revolutionary War. Today, there are over 500 veterans living and working in Plain City, all of whom have made tremendous sacrifices to preserve our freedoms.

For the past 200 years, the overwhelming characteristic of the people of Plain City is the compassion they hold for one another and their determination to do what is right and just. In the 19th century, residents worked diligently in support of the Underground Railroad. Today, the people of Plain City strive to create a "family-oriented community that works cooperatively to promote outstanding quality of life, securing a sustainable environment for future generations while preserving [their] unique heritage and character."

Today, Plain City remains a beautiful place to work, live, and raise a family. I am grateful for the leadership of the Village Council Members, Jody Carney, Kerri Ferguson, Sherry Heineman, Darren Lee, Shannon Pine, and John Rucker, Mayor Darrin Lane and all of the neighbors and friends who have maintained Plain City's beauty and history.

I am honored to represent this county, where community, integrity, and freedom are celebrated not just in recognition of the 200th anniversary of its founding, but each and every day.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 644, CON- DEMNATION OF SLAVE AUC- TIONS IN LIBYA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 644, to condemn the slave auctions of migrants and refugees in Libya. The legislation, which calls for multilateral action and support, takes an important first step towards ending deplorable human rights grievances in the country.

In an era where most of us consider slavery to be a shame of the past, the photos, videos, and reports that have emerged out of Libya in the past year have rocked us to the very core of our humanity.

What is happening in Libya is an unspeakable atrocity.

Recent U.N. reports out of Libya detail sexual violence against the most vulnerable migrant populations—women and children—as well as the unlivable conditions in the detention centers where refugees are being held.

People—human beings—are being bought, sold, and traded like chattel, on auction blocks, for their labor.

This is nothing short of a humanitarian crisis.

As a leader on the international stage, and as fellow human beings, our nation has a responsibility to speak out against such flagrant disregard for human life and freedom.

I would like to thank my colleague, KAREN BASS for offering H.R. 644 to condemn the

slave auctions of migrants and refugees in Libya, and for calling the world to action.

I strongly encourage my colleagues in Congress to act, with a sense of urgency, to end these egregious human rights violations.

IN MEMORY, REMEMBRANCE, AND CELEBRATION OF BEVERLY AL- STON

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dear friend and civil rights champion, Ms. Beverly Alston.

Ms. Alston will long be remembered for her legacy as a civil rights warrior, social justice champion, and for being a loving mother. She was an icon in Harlem; renowned for her tireless fight against racial discrimination. Ms. Alston worked with Reverend Al Sharpton in the early days of the National Action Network.

She saw it grow from a local grassroots organization to a nationally and internationally recognized civil rights organization.

Reverend Sharpton took time this past weekend to recognize Ms. Alston on his PoliticsNation program speaking to her character and her contributions to the fight for equality that began in the Harlem Community.

It was her lifelong mission to better our Harlem and Northern Manhattan community for this generation and those that follow. Ms. Alston was a dedicated public servant having served in many different positions that reflected her interests and aptitudes.

She was Superintendent of the New York State Office of General Services; past President of the Jackie Robinson Park Conservatory and worked in Intergovernmental Relations for the New York State Insurance Department.

In both the New York City Council and New York State Executive Chamber, Ms. Alston was always able to make a positive impact on the lives of New Yorkers in the City and throughout the State.

Her legacy to Harlem will forever be remembered. May she Rest in Peace and may God comfort her friends, family, and all who knew and loved her dearly. She will be missed.

GERALD "JERRY" K. WELLER

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, Oregon has been on the cutting edge of advancing LGBTQ rights, or "gay rights" as they were known over 40 years ago. On Sunday, July 8, we lost one of the early pioneers in Oregon and nationally—Gerald K. Weller.

Jerry encouraged others to follow his example as an articulate leader, open about his sexual orientation and the critical nature of the civil rights movement he helped found. As a gay man, he provided many with their first experience of knowing an out and proud gay person.

Jerry was the executive director of Portland Town Council, a pioneering LGBTQ advocacy

organization in Oregon, and went on to leadership on the national level in Washington, D.C. for what would become the Human Rights Campaign Fund. He led a major health clinic in Chicago in the midst of the AIDS epidemic. With his return to Oregon, he worked for several state agencies as a committed advocate for gay rights.

Early in my career, I valued Jerry's leadership, advice, support, and advocacy. He truly made his mark as one of the unsung heroes of the LGBTQ civil rights movement as he improved the lives of countless Oregonians and advanced understanding for many more.

I salute his impact on Oregon and the nation and mourn his loss.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM RICHARD CRAMER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to William Richard Cramer, who passed away in California on Wednesday, June 20, 2018. Richard was an innovator in the feed and egg industries, and an active member of our community. He will be deeply missed.

Richard was born in Anaheim on July 25, 1931 to parents Olin and Ruth. He graduated from Anaheim Union High School in 1949 and received his B.A. from Claremont McKenna College in 1953. During college he served two years in the California Air National Guard and met Carole Furman, whom he married in 1952. They were married 45 years until Carole died in 1997. Richard married Mary Eisen and they have been together for 20 years. After graduating college, Richard joined the family egg production business. Over time this business grew to include Star Milling Co. in Perris, California, that was owned through a partnership between Richard and the Eisen family of Norco Ranch.

Richard was acknowledged as a leader in the animal feed and egg production industries and was awarded "Farmer of the Year—Poultry" by the California Department of Food and Agriculture in 1959. There were many other agricultural and business enterprises that Richard had ownership in, including Goose Creek Golf Club in Jurupa Valley, Orchard Egg Farms in Anaheim and Manchester Feeds in Arizona. Richard also served as a Trustee of Claremont McKenna College from 1987 to 2006. He was a leader in many civic and community organizations, past and present, as Member of the Board of Governors of the Bowers Museum, a founding donor to the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, and a 35-year member of the Lincoln Club of Orange County.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to my good friend Mary Cramer, the extended Cramer family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Richard. Although Richard may be gone, the many significant contributions he made to his family and our community will have a lasting impact.

EULOGY FOR MARY ELLEN SHEA

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege and honor of working with Mary Ellen Shea over the years. She was an extraordinary woman, loved by all at the Connecticut State Capitol. I include in the RECORD this obituary, written by her daughter, Mary Frances Shea.

My mom loved my dad. And he loved her. But before that she was born in 1932 in Hartford, to a single young mother. It was a bit unconventional for the times . . . but with the help of her grandfather she found, in her school and friends, something she was good at. She used her ample personality, unique style and insightful vision to draw people to her and with these gifts and she gave her life some structure.

She loved the friends she would gather throughout her high school and college years. She was drawn to people with fun, outgoing and stable lives.

She was nothing if not practical, easy to entertain and driven to make something happen. It was in this atmosphere that she met my dad, Bob. She was even-handed and spirited. He was a planner and a "don't sweat the small stuff" guy. He really made her laugh . . . always. Even this week in the hospital. He was always going for the laugh with her and he got it . . . often. Her laugh and "Oh Bob" was a constant in their home and our lives.

First they were a good team.

And then team leaders.

There are 5 of us. The starting 5.

Tom is smart like her. She was captured by Tommy. As a little boy he charmed her, he made her think. She was always listening for that thing he was going to say that was smarter and funnier and really sly. He is clever enough to savagely mimic her and get away with it while she laughed and laughed. She lit up when Tommy came into the room. None of the rest of us had that. He was the first and that was something.

When I was 6 she took me out to the back yard where we had a huge lilac bush. She cut a big bunch of them and I can smell the sumptuous smell right now. You can too. She wrapped them in wet paper towels and put a string around them. She gave them to me to bring to my teacher for the last day. Many of you know my mom spent years as a teacher.

She told me to say "thank you for teaching me".

I love that memory because it comes with an aroma. It is the aroma of love and gratitude. What a lesson.

Tim is her middle child. He is so much like her in that he takes care to make sure that everything is running smoothly, that everyone is okay, that the trains are running on time. He is a planner and, he, too is practical. He is the perfect combination of my dad and my mom. The middle. She counted on him. She felt great pride in his success as a family man. She loved his wife, Laura. She was awestruck and amazed by his charity and his kindness. She told me that, so I am telling all of you.

My sister was the great joy in my mom's life. She had the home team family. As we all struggled with the distance, Mary Liz shared her kids and family life joyously. They spent time in each other's lives, holidays and average days. My sis and my mother had a short hand, like there was always an inside joke. They were close in a way that

supersedes deep conversation, it was more about silliness, respect and ever a sense of fun that would find them at the garage sale or the UConn Women's game or just sitting down at dinner. My mom sincerely loves all of her children and grandchildren but it is unmistakable that Liz, David and their kids had more of my mom's fingerprint on them. It's true.

My mother had 5 and her last is John. John got away with everything and never had to do anything but look at her, to make her smile. She gave John a pass, loved absolutely everything he did and said, especially when he married Lisa. The rest of us would make note of the fact that John had different parents. He got the mom who was relaxed and chill, the one who let things slide just a little more. And John knew how to capitalize on his good fortune. The rest of us had parents, he had bud's. She loved her baby. Yes I said it. That's what he was to her.

If we all did anything perfectly, in my mom's eyes, it was to bring our children to Black Point Beach for the summer. It was there that their 8 grandchildren were drawn, like magnets to 31 Seabreeze where they would eat horribly sweet cereal—and watch Bananas in Pajamas videos—and be read to by Grandma. If you ask them, this was a unique and special bliss that they will forever share with only each other. That's how you make memories and families. She knew the special recipe. She has 8 grandchildren, all here, together with her new great granddaughter who is currently stealing the show. She loved her grandkids . . . each one uniquely and now from afar.

A few other things to note about my mom

As I mentioned, my mom was a teacher but in the mid-70's she got an opportunity to take a small job at the State Capital in the House Clerk's Office with a couple of her high school chums. She loved the characters and the drama of the daily policy making. She was good at it. She eventually worked for the then, Speaker of the House. He's here today Tom Ritter. She loved you, Tom. And she loved Shelley, too! If you knew her then, you knew how much she loved it there. Those Capital days . . . they were a very, very special time in her life.

In her 50's she found out about her birth father, discovered he had had 6 kids, who when she met, embraced her. That was fun for her.

My mom chose her friends carefully. As you all know, you who are lucky enough to have known her as a best friend (Ann, Sally, Maureen and MaryBeth) and others out there,

She was a great listener and in that way, she gave good, practical advice. Here's the formula. Listen, for a very long time. Consider carefully, and then, quietly, say something practical. There it is.

I can almost do it all myself, now. Try it for yourself.

If you were her friend, or her acquaintance her neighbor, congratulations. She was so lovely. You won.

My mom had a fulfilling and wonderful life.

Such a long and winding road of a life.

It's best to share twists and turns with somebody . . . and share she did. She often said that she was so lucky to have found and married my dad. She always said it. Remember how much I stressed fun and stability? Well, that is Bob Shea. I can attest that this is a great combination of strengths when conjuring a father, but as a husband it was the winning formula, for sure.

I'm going to sum up their marriage and it's going to sound simple but it is not, at all. Bob and Mary Ellen were nice to each other. They talked about everything. They were, without reservation, about family . . . and friends . . .

My mom loved my dad and he loved her.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SANGAMON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor a remarkable organization, the Sangamon County Farm Bureau. The Sangamon County Farm Bureau in Central Illinois is an integral organization that promotes agricultural prosperity. After many years of success and service, the Sangamon County Farm Bureau is celebrating their 100th anniversary.

Sangamon County Farm Bureau was chartered on December 20, 1918 to unite farmers in the area and advocate for central Illinois agriculture collectively. Today, the group has almost 10,000 members supporting the agrarian community and economy throughout the county.

Not only does Sangamon County Farm Bureau provide a voice for farmers and promote the development of agriculture, but they also educate and empower future leaders in agriculture. Sangamon County Farm Bureau's Young Leaders program develops leadership skills for youth with agriculture interests. Additionally, Sangamon County Farm Bureau coordinates the USDA's Agriculture in the Classroom Program to teach students the important role agriculture plays in the state of Illinois.

Illinois has become a major economic force within the agricultural sector because of farm bureaus like Sangamon County that come together and enhance opportunities for local farmers, their families, and the community as a whole. I extend my sincere congratulations to Sangamon County Farm Bureau for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Illinois. I hope the organization continues to grow and prosper for the next one hundred years.

RECOGNIZING DALE ELDRIDGE KAYE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dale Eldridge Kaye of Livermore, California on her retirement. Dale has lived in the Tri-Valley for 17 years and has worked tirelessly to develop our community.

Prior to moving to California, Dale was involved in the Florida state government. She utilized her keen marketing skills to develop media strategies, execute presidential advance work, and to help bring the Super Bowl to Jacksonville in 2005. As Head of the Jacksonville Public Relations Department, Dale's exceptional marketing work for the Jacksonville Jazz Festival was nationally recognized by PBS. She continued to cultivate her love of the arts after moving to California as Vice President of the film company Gold'N Hen Productions in Los Angeles before moving to the Tri-Valley.