

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RICKY ALLEN PEEBLES

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Ricky Allen Peebles who passed away Tuesday, January 4 at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Born November 8, 1955 to Reverend Billy Allen Peebles and Earlene Edwards Peebles, Ricky grew up to earn his Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Ministry from Southern Assemblies of God in Waxahachie, Texas. He was a fan of Ole Miss Football and enjoyed traveling with family and friends. He served as the pastor of Canaan Assembly of God in Booneville and was also employed as the deputy jail administrator for the Prentiss County Sheriff's Department. He has served in a variety of churches and received many awards for his service to the sheriff's office.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 47 years, Sarah McNair Peebles; daughter, Erica and Rachel; brother, Mark; sisters, Martha and Mitze; and granddaughter Katie.

I am grateful for Ricky's life of service to the state of Mississippi and the kingdom of God. My deepest condolences are with his loved ones.

HONORING JOHN KILGORE, SR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of John H. Kilgore, Sr. of Gate City, Virginia, who passed away on January 29, 2022. John had a faithful and enduring presence in Southwest Virginia's public life.

John was born on April 20, 1938, in Nickelsville, Virginia, to Glen C. and Pasty Akers Kilgore. He served in the United States Navy and worked for 33 years at the Eastman Chemical Company. Over the course of his life, John served numerous community causes. He was the chairman of the Scott County Republican Party for more than 30 years, served several terms on the party's State Central Committee, and regularly attended county, district, and state conventions. He was on the Scott County Telephone Co-op Board beginning in 1986 and served as chairman for fifteen years. Virginia Governors George Allen and Jim Gilmore appointed him to the statewide Department of Housing and Community Development Board. John brought his talents as a singer to his family quartet and the Smith's Chapel United Methodist Church, where he also taught Sunday School. He belonged to the Copper Creek Ruritan since the 1970s.

I was able to attend his visitation. His funeral was attended by Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin, Attorney General Jason Miyares, Speaker of the House of Delegates Todd Gilbert, and many current and former members of the General Assembly, a sign of the high esteem in which John was held.

John took great pride in his family and was blessed to see his children and grandchildren embark on careers in public service. Terry Kilgore now serves as the Majority Leader of the Virginia House of Delegates, Jerry Kilgore served as Virginia's Attorney General and Secretary of Public Safety, John Kilgore Jr. serves as Executive Director of Scott County's Economic Development Authority, and Kyle Kilgore recently took office as Commonwealth's Attorney of Scott County.

The faith, kindness, and wisdom of John inspired his family. Fortunately, these qualities were shared generously with the rest of us, too. He leaves behind a great legacy as a family man, neighbor, and citizen.

John is survived by his wife Willie; sons Terry and wife Debbie, Jerry and wife Marty, and John Jr. and wife Rhonda; grandchildren Kandace Haigler, Kayla Dickenson, Klarke Kilgore, Kyle Kilgore, Kaden Kilgore, and Kelsey Kilgore; great grandchildren Holston Haigler and Hendrix Haigler; great grandchild on the way Nola Kilgore; sisters Joyce Hillman, Joann Penley and husband Sam, and Glenna Carter and husband Norman; and brother-in-law Otis K. Hill. I would like to offer my condolences to his loved ones on the loss of this fine Southwest Virginian.

HONORING DR. VINCENT M. MILLER, II AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Dr. Vincent M. Miller II currently serves as a Secondary Math Teacher at Winter Haven High School and was the first black male Math Teacher named as Polk County Teacher of The Year. Dr. Miller is a newly published author with one of the top-selling books on Amazon, "21st Century Education In The Lens Of Covid-19." As an accomplished, visionary leader in the academic sector with 10 years in the Polk County School system, he has had many roles in administration but found his love back in the classroom. Some of his most notable accomplishments in education include decreasing academic suspension rates by over 50 percent and establishing a variety of innovative academic programs to attract and retain students, energize academic offerings, and enhance career and professional development outcomes for students.

He holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Lynn University, a Masters of Busi-

ness Administration from Webster University, a Bachelor of Science, with a music minor in vocal performance from University of South Florida. Dr. Miller is known for his community work, through his nonprofit Filling The Lane. Filling The Lane's mission is to bridge the gaps between education, sports, 'arts,' and community for at-risk youth. He is also known for performing locally and internationally in such shows as Porgy & Bess and Broadway production KaTonga.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MIKE DOSS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. Mike Doss who recently passed away after serving the great state of Mississippi as a member of the Pontotoc Police Department. Since 1999 Mr. Doss has been a great servant to the Police Force and community spending most of his time in the narcotics division of the department.

Mr. Doss hails from Houston, Mississippi. He is predeceased by; Arthuer Lee his father, and survived by Eva Criddle Doss his mother, Elizabeth Ann Walters Doss his wife, Jonathan Doss his son, and Leann Nabors his sister. He also had a grandson Conner Doss.

I am so thankful for Mr. Doss' years of service to the great state of Mississippi. I send my deepest condolences to the extended Doss family.

HONORING PROSPECT HEIGHTS MAYOR NICHOLAS J. HELMER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share my deepest condolences with the family and friends of Prospect Heights Mayor Nicholas J. Helmer, who passed away on January 26. Nick was a wonderful person, a talented leader, and a great friend. My heart goes out to his wife of 57 years, Gail Ann, his children, Rebecca and Nicholas Jr., and all those who knew and loved him.

Nick spent ten years as the Mayor of Prospect Heights. He lovingly referred to his community as "Prosperous Heights" and worked hard each and every day to make that label ring true. Over the course of Mayor Helmer's tenure, I have had many opportunities to work closely with him. Nick was level-headed, intelligent, and committed to the people he represented. He truly exemplified the best of public service. Nick provided sound leadership and guidance as the City navigated challenges

• 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.

and continued to grow and flourish. Nick loved Prospect Heights. He was always eager to participate in the ribbon cuttings and festivals and grand openings. When a 2018 fire displaced hundreds of Prospect Heights residents, Nick was in the thick of it, ensuring that displaced families received the assistance they so desperately needed. I am proud to have worked alongside him.

In many ways, Nick Helmer's life is an example of the "American Dream" that so many of us strive to achieve. He was born in 1942 in the former Yugoslavia and moved to the United States at the age of ten. Nick married his high school sweetheart, Gail, and raised a family here. He was an Army veteran, spending time stationed in France where he worked as a newspaper reporter, a photographer, and a radio broadcaster.

Nick was recognized as a leader at whatever he dedicated his time to. He worked as a licensed real estate broker and a certified property manager and rose to prominence in both fields. Nick spent time as the Director of the Chicago Board of Realtors and spent two terms as President of the Institute of Real Estate Management's Chicago Chapter, winning "CPM of the Year" during his service. He served as both the President of Inland Residential Sales Corporation and the Chairman of Inland Bank. Nick spent time working as an Asset Manager for the Chicago Executive Airport and ended up serving fourteen years on the Airport's Board of Directors. Nick spent thirty-five years coaching basketball at St. Viator High School, where he also served on the Distinguished Alumni Committee. The pattern here is obvious: when Nick Helmer did something, he did it well.

Nick Helmer may have been soft spoken, but there was never any question whether he was a leader. We are all worse off with his passing. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank Mayor Helmer, for all his hard work on behalf of others. We will miss him.

RECOGNIZING JAIDEN, KEANU,
AND MILAAN SEELIGER AS MY
CONSTITUENTS OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the Seeliger brothers, Jaiden, Keanu, and Milaan, for their creative and inspiring nonprofit, Tech-Angels, where they collect gently used cell phones, iPads and tablets to give to elderly people in nursing homes so they can stay connected with their loved ones.

The coronavirus pandemic brought unprecedented changes to our lives, especially to older generations who are most susceptible to the virus. Inspired after their 97-year-old great-grandmother broke her leg and had to move to a nursing home in New York, the boys realized how fortunate they were to be able to see and speak with her on FaceTime on a regular basis.

Knowing others may not have the same opportunity, they decided to find a way for others in similar circumstances to see their friends and family with the help of technology, creating their non-profit, Tech-Angels. The three

brothers soon realized that although their great grandmother knew how to use her devices, many other seniors in nursing homes did not.

With Tech-Angels, participants not only receive a device to contact their loved ones, but also instructions on how to do it. The brothers also focused their efforts on the veteran community, feeling that veterans have done so much for our country and communities, that this access and service was the least they could do for them.

For their ingenuity, kindness, and big hearts, I'm proud to honor Jaiden, Keanu, and Milaan as my January Constituents of the Month. Having young people in the district so encouraged to help their neighbors and those in need are the perfect example of how California's 49th Congressional District is so incredibly special. I am grateful for their generosity and bright smiles that ensure our community grows stronger every day.

HONORING THE 50TH ORDINATION
ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER TER-
RENCE KERNER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Terrence "Terry" David Kerner on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. His significant contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Father Kerner was born on October 3, 1945 to La Verne and Imelda Kerner in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The middle child of the Kerner family, he has two siblings, older brother Torn and younger sister Diane. He knew from a young age that the church was his calling, and his family proudly supported his wishes. Father Kerner studied at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, St. John's Provincial Seminary in Plymouth Township, and at the University of Detroit. He was granted the John Farrell Award which allowed him to study Theology in Rome. He was ordained on February 4, 1972, at his home parish, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Ypsilanti. Since then, he has served at various churches in Michigan.

Father Kerner began his career in faith as associate pastor of Presentation in Detroit and then St. Raymond's in Detroit, and later St. Lawrence's in Utica. He became pastor of St. Christopher's in 1982 and moved to Monroe, Michigan to become pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in 1986. In Monroe, he served as vicar of the Monroe Vicariate and as administrator of St. Michael's. In 2003, he became pastor at Our Lady of Victory in Northville. Father Kerner has been pastor of St. Martha and St. Joseph in Dearborn—now St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church, since 2006. Father Kerner is a trusted leader in our state and has used his ministry to uplift and support others, no matter where his vocation has taken him. From providing the invocation in the Michigan House of Representatives to being an ever-present member of our community, all who know him know his kindness and generosity. He resides in Dearborn and is a proud uncle to three nephews, one niece, one great nephew and one great niece.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Father Terrence Kerner on this special day. He is a man of true faith who knows the importance of loving your neighbor as yourself. We are grateful for his work in Dearborn and throughout Southeastern Michigan and join with his friends, family, and congregation at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church in wishing him nothing but the best in the coming years.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
MARTHA ANN SEGARS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Martha Ann Segars who passed on January 19. I join her family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Born on September 16, 1931 to Due and Ruby Nabers Thompson in Red Bay, Alabama, she graduated from Red Bay High School in 1949 and enrolled at the University of Alabama. She proved to be a talented seamstress in her fashion design classes, though she was a dietetics major. In 1952, she married Kelly Segars, her high school sweetheart. In 1953 she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Institutional Management and accepted an internship at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Her husband was soon called to serve in the Korean War.

When her husband returned in 1955, she finished her internship and he worked as a pharmacist to prepare for Medical School. Their first son was born at Vanderbilt Hospital, and soon after Kelly was accepted into the University of Mississippi Medical School. Martha became a dietician at the VA medical center in Jackson. They soon settled in luka with their two sons and daughter. She continued to sew, work as a dietician, and manage the family farm.

Martha was dedicated to the Tishomingo County community and served in a variety of roles: she has served on the boards of the Yellow Creek Port Authority, Yellow Creek Watershed Authority, Tishomingo County Economic Development, Tishomingo County Tourism Council, and dozens more. She has also served as the President of the luka Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Arts and Historical Committee. She spearheaded the 'Trash and Treasures along the Tenn-Tom,' and served as a tour guide for the Eagle Watch Cruises and the Fall Foliage Cruises on Pickwick Lake.

Left to cherish her memory are her children Scott, Mark, and Leigh; grandchildren Tyler, Jackson, Thompson, Annie and James; nieces, nephews, and countless community members whose lives she impacted.

Martha Ann Segars was a selfless community leader and an outstanding Mississippian. My thoughts and condolences are with those who knew and loved her.