

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM COLE**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 136.

RECOGNIZING ALVERTA HARVEY NICHOLS HARGIS FOR HER SERVICE DURING WWII AND FOR BEING AWARDED THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

**HON. MARK ALFORD**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American, Alverta Harvey Nichols Hargis, whose legacy represents the very best of our Nation.

In 1943, during World War II, Alverta answered the call to serve. Not on the battlefield, but on the home front, as one of the trail-blazing Rosie the Riveters. At a bomber plant in Detroit, she played a vital role in strengthening our military and securing victory for freedom around the world.

These women didn't ask for recognition. They stepped up because their country needed them. They redefined what was possible, breaking barriers and proving that courage, grit, and patriotism know no bounds.

Today, through the Congressional Gold Medal, we offer a grateful Nation's thanks, though no honor can fully capture the magnitude of their contributions.

May Alverta's family always take pride in her remarkable life and service. Her story is one of quiet strength and enduring impact, and it will continue to inspire generations to come. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Alverta Harvey Nichols Hargis and all those who helped defend freedom from right here at home.

RECOGNIZING THE MINISTRY OF BISHOP THOMAS L. BROWN, SR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heart both grateful and heavy to honor Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.—a faithful pastor, distinguished scholar, tireless leader, and a dear, longtime friend—as he retires as Presiding Prelate of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. An event to celebrate his remarkable stewardship and ministry sponsored by the Sixth Episcopal District, West Georgia Region, will be held on Saturday, April 25,

2026, at the Page-Doleman Complex in Columbus, Georgia.

Born June 21, 1951, in Oakland, Mississippi, Bishop Brown's life has been shaped by faith, learning, and service. Valedictorian of Walker High School, a graduate of the University of Mississippi, and a scholar who earned both the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Theology degrees with honors from the Interdenominational Theological Center in cooperation with Emory and Columbia, he has modeled the union of intellect and piety. As a member of Theta Phi honor society and as an esteemed teacher and lecturer at institutions including Candler, Columbia, and Princeton, Bishop Brown has formed minds even as he formed hearts.

His ministry began at Ole Miss and matured across pastorates in Mississippi and Georgia, Rice Chapel, Murray Memorial, St. James, Butler Street, College Park, and as organizing pastor of Good News Community Church. From 1990 to 2006, he served with distinction as the sixth President and Dean of the Phillips School of Theology at ITC, where he oversaw the formation of more than ninety-five graduates and founded the Annual C.M.E. Pastors' Conference, an enduring gift to clergy development.

Elected the 54th Bishop of the C.M.E. Church in 2006, he shepherded the Fourth Episcopal District and, since 2018, the Sixth Episcopal District, while chairing the Department of Christian Education. His episcopal ministry deepened clergy formation, strengthened congregational life, and extended the church's witness in justice and mercy. A sought-after preacher, professor, and conference delegate—both national and international—Bishop Brown has represented the C.M.E. Church with dignity, wisdom, and prophetic compassion. He has been a founding member of the Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta and a steadfast advocate for the homeless and the condemned, living out Scripture's call to care for "the least of these" (Matthew 25:40).

Beyond titles and honors, Thomas Brown has been my friend. He has counseled me in difficult hours, rejoiced in triumphs, and exemplified what faithful friendship looks like: honest, humble, and true. I think of Paul's words when I remember him: "I thank my God every time I remember you" (Philippians 1:3). Those words capture the gratitude of countless lives he has touched—students, parishioners, colleagues, and communities.

Bishop Brown's wife, Dr. Louise Baker-Brown; children, Charisa and Thomas, Jr.; and the people of the Sixth Episcopal District should all know that their husband, father, pastor, and shepherd has run a remarkable race. I thank them for being with him every step of the way. His life marked by scholarship, pastoral tenderness, courageous civic engagement, and sacrificial service leaves a legacy that will continue to bear fruit for generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than

765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in giving thanks for Bishop Thomas L. Brown, Sr.; in celebrating his faithful ministry; and in wishing him a restful and joy-filled retirement. For a life poured out in service, we echo the heavenly commendation: "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). May God bless him richly in the days ahead.

RECOGNIZING JUDD POPE

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional student from my district, Judd Pope. As a senior at Piedmont High School in Piedmont, Alabama, Judd has made school history as the first student at his school to earn a perfect score on the ACT.

In February of 2025, Judd achieved the perfect ACT super score of 36, an accomplishment that reflects not only academic excellence, but a true commitment to learning.

Judd will graduate from Piedmont High School in May of 2026 and plans to attend Auburn University, where I have no doubt, he will continue to excel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating Judd's achievement. He represents the very best of Alabama, and we are proud to see him carry that spirit forward.

HONORING THE CHICAGO CUBS ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Chicago Cubs' 150th anniversary and their enduring contributions to the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago. Since joining the National League as a charter member in 1876 under the leadership of William and Albert Spalding, the Cubs have remained an influential team in Major League Baseball.

From their historic home at Wrigley Field to baseball legends such as Ernie Banks, Ryne Sandberg, and many more, the Cubs have thrilled generations of fans. Their achievements include 17 National League pennants and 3 World Series titles, highlighted by the unforgettable 2016 World Series championship. Beyond the field, the Cubs have supported more than \$62 million in donations through Cubs Charities since 2009. These donations promote youth sports and well-being, and improve lives and communities across all 77 neighborhoods of the City of Chicago and throughout the State of Illinois. As we celebrate this milestone, we honor not only a

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

baseball team but a club that has united communities, inspired pride, and enriched our national pastime. The Chicago Cubs remain a timeless symbol of resilience, tradition, and hope.

The recognition of the Chicago Cubs' 150th anniversary underscores the franchise's enduring place as one of the most historic and beloved institutions in American sports and affirms the team's unique role in shaping the identity and spirit of the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Their legacy extends far beyond the baseball diamond through the countless memories shared by millions of fans around the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all my colleagues in congratulating the Chicago Cubs on their 150th anniversary.

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COMMEMORATING THE 111TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 111th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. As a Jewish American, I feel a profound responsibility to speak out against genocide and oppression wherever they occur. We must never forget the atrocities committed more than a century ago, that resulted in the death of 1.5 million men, women, and children at the hands of the Ottoman government.

As history continues to be under threat of being rewritten, it is more important than ever to speak clearly and truthfully and to call this crime by its rightful name—genocide. We owe it to the victims, their descendants, and to future generations to honor their memory and ensure that this history is neither erased nor forgotten.

Today, I stand in solidarity with Armenian Americans in Illinois and across the Nation as we honor the memory of those who were lost. We must continue to educate the world about the first genocide of the 20th century.

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RECOGNIZING MR. JIM MOREHEAD

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2026 Tulare Kiwanis Farmer of the Year, Mr. Jim Morehead. A lifelong resident of the Central Valley and respected local leader, Jim has dedicated decades of service to his community, leaving a lasting impact on generations to come.

After Jim's family moved from Texas to Pixley, California, following World War II, they established a multi-generational farming operation that continues today. Jim went on to earn a bachelor's degree in agricultural business from Fresno State University and used his education to reinvest in his family's farm.

Over the years, he cultivated a wide variety of crops alongside his father, including cotton, corn, wheat, and alfalfa, before transitioning to almond production with his son in the late 1990s.

Beyond his work in the field, Jim has been a steadfast advocate for California. He has served in numerous leadership roles with organizations such as the Central Valley Almond Association, Pixley Tri City Growers Cotton Cooperative, California Cotton Alliance, and Pixley Irrigation District, helping advance policies and practices that support farmers across the region.

Jim's commitment to service extends well beyond the agricultural sector. He served 20 years on the Pixley Unified School District Board, fostering student achievement and community growth. For the past 25 years, he has been an active member of the Pixley Foundation, supporting vital resources like the local food pantry and library. In addition, Jim has been a faithful leader at the Pixley United Brethren Church, where he has served on the board for 45 years.

Jim exemplifies the values of hard work, service, and leadership that define the Central Valley. His contributions to Pixley, Tulare County, and the greater agricultural community will be felt for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Jim Morehead as the 2026 Tulare Kiwanis Farmer of the Year and in thanking him for his outstanding service to the Central Valley.

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RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF LISA PEREZ JACKSON

**HON. TROY A. CARTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2026*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible woman, Mrs. Lisa Perez Jackson, a distinguished native of my hometown and the district I serve. Her career includes an incredible path, spanning nearly four decades in state and federal government, public policy, and the private sector. While Mrs. Jackson was born in Philadelphia, she was raised in Pontchartrain Park by her adopted parents, Benjamin and Marie Perez. In 1979, she graduated as valedictorian from St. Mary's Dominican High School and would later graduate summa cum laude from Tulane University in 1983 with a degree in chemical engineering. As a National Merit Scholar, Ms. Jackson went on to earn a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University in 1986. Shortly thereafter, Jackson would begin her distinguished career in government, first as an engineer with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, D.C. before subsequent promotions as deputy director and acting director of enforcement of the Agency's regional office in New York City.

After 16 years with the EPA, Jackson joined the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in March 2002 as assistant commissioner of compliance and enforcement

and would later serve as assistant commissioner for land use management. She was appointed to lead DEP in 2006 by then Governor Jon Corzine and would later serve as the Governor's Chief of Staff.

On January 23, 2009, Jackson was confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as President Barack Obama's Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. During her tenure as EPA Administrator, Jackson oversaw the development of stricter fuel efficiency standards and EPA's response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and setting National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In 2013, Jackson became Apple, Inc.'s Vice President of Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives. During her tenure at Apple, Jackson led the company's transformation into a global leader in corporate environmental responsibility, achieving 100 percent renewable energy for Apple's worldwide operations in 2018 and implementing an industry-leading supplier clean energy program that added over 5 gigawatts of new clean energy globally. Jackson oversaw Apple's commitment to become carbon neutral across its entire business and supply chain by 2030, a commitment that Apple is still on track to meet to this day.

Beyond environmental leadership, Jackson launched Apple's Racial Equity and Justice Initiative (REJI) in June 2020 following nationwide protests against racial injustice. Under her leadership, the program more than doubled its initial \$100 million commitment to surpass \$200 million in investments over three years, focusing on three core pillars: education, economic empowerment, and criminal justice reform. These investments include the creation of the Propel Center—a \$25 million global innovation and learning hub serving the entire HBCU community with curriculum in AI, machine learning, social justice, and entrepreneurship. Jackson also expanded the HBCU C<sup>2</sup> initiative to 45 community coding centers and regional hubs on HBCU campuses, reaching more than 160,000 learners, and committed over \$50 million to HBCUs and Hispanic-Serving Institutions for STEM opportunities. These investments also include but are not limited to the funding of venture capital firms, Community Development Financial Institutions, and Minority Depository Institutions supporting Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Indigenous entrepreneurs.

Jackson was also responsible for Apple's worldwide government affairs function, product accessibility work, and education policy programs, reporting directly to CEO Tim Cook. She was recognized by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World. Throughout her career, Jackson earned the respect of engineers, environmentalists and peers alike for her deep understanding of the legislative process and her commitment to accuracy and fairness, viewing politics not simply as a beat, but as a public trust, connecting government actions to the people they affect. As she retires, she leaves behind a legacy of integrity, insight, and service to the country. Today, I salute her on an incredible life of service.