

hands dirty, and was always one of the first to volunteer and lend a helping hand.

Brett could make anyone laugh and never struggled to make a friend. It cannot be overstated how much he loved being a father to Bryson and Kooper. He worked hard to instill good values, great habits, and to teach them how to be good men. He led his family with a strong faith and an overwhelming amount of love. Brett was truly the salt of the earth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering the life of Brett and praying for his wife, Kalli, his boys, and all of his family and friends. He was loved beyond measure and will be deeply missed.

#### HONORING SCHOOL EMPLOYEES WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL EDUCATION AWARD

### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding school employees in Florida's 16th Congressional District.

School employees work tirelessly because they understand that their efforts are not just about fulfilling a job description, but about shaping the future.

They deserve recognition because they are the architects of knowledge, the mentors of tomorrow's leaders, and the unsung heroes who work behind the scenes to ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Twelve years ago, I established the Congressional Education Awards program with the aim of providing special acknowledgment to administrators, educators, and support staff within Florida's 16th Congressional District for their outstanding achievements in both teaching and inspiring students.

I include in the RECORD the names of the school employees who were nominated and selected to receive Florida's 16th District's 2026 Congressional Education Award for their accomplishments:

Barbara Harvey K-8 at North River Ranch: Lisa Peterson;

Braden River High School: Toni Garrett; Braden River Middle School: Jane Beach, Christopher Brown, Andre Bryant, Kiera Gallon, Erin Lamaitis, Michele McClellan, and Kathleen Stewart-Aranda;

Buffalo Creek Middle School: Ken Huston, Michael Kawalya, Mandy Kersey, and Courtney O'Leary;

Daughtrey Elementary School: Albana Balatoni, Evelyn Collado, and Ashley Roberts;

Dorothy C York Innovation Academy: Jerry Turner and Kimberly Wheeler;

Dr. Mona Jain Middle School: David Moore;

Electa Lee Middle School: Elizabeth Ballate, Larry Benton, Melissa Causey, Joannie Cruz, Rebecca Farrell, Jacob Grimes, Luisa Jimenez, Ann McDonald, Tammila Smith, Sheree Thomas, and Rodney Thompson;

Gene Witt Elementary School: Jennifer Alcantara, Charity Applegate, Brenda Arnold, Debra Barnard, Karen Barrett, Keary Bartless, Rina Becker, Brian Beverly, Cheryl Rice, Lisa Blakemore, Jennie Boone, Lisa Boyer, Beth Brack, Josiah Brooks, Megan Brown, Tom Brugos, Cheryl Bulfin, Catherine Burke, Amanda Cannon, Angela Can-

non, Darren Carnes, Lauren Collins, Dawn Contes, Bill Culbreath, Olivia Danko, Cynthia Deras, Michelle Figueroa, Maddie Flinkman, Cindy Fosbenner, Tracylyn Frisch, Sharon Gagne, Susan Gallagher, Genda Garner, Amie Golden, Mary Green, Danielle Guida, Sarah Hammond, Erica Harris, Jenna Holden, Amy Holland, Amanda Houston, Kim Roberson Hoy, Ana Ibarra, Colleen Inners, Beverly Jackson, Susan Johnson, Peggy Linder, Amy Lindsey, Eileen McCourt, Lauren McDaniel, TayLor McLaughlin, Kristen Nunn, April Pellegrino, Liana Perez, Debra Pope, Ali Pumphrey, Aniris Rivera, Jill Rubin, Laura Schuneman, Karrin Scully, Tracy Seller, Mabelle Sharp, Danielle Shaw, Michelle Shilling, NicoLe Smith, Natasha Smith, Joanne Sollazzo, Cami Tabor, Brooke Tovar, Palak Trivedi, Stacey Vedder, Kelly Walker, Dave Walker, Susan Wheeler, Susan Whiddon, Lisa Wilkes, Katie Wilson, Nancy Wittner, and Allison Wykes;

Haile Middle School: Amie Poole and Anthony Vasile;  
Hillsborough County Schools: Johan Von Ancken;

Johnson K-8 School: Karen Gardiner;  
Lakewood Ranch High School: Joseph Tommy Cuervo, Rennie Fink, Kristen Martin, Yesika Salcido, Meghan Sugalski, Donna Thomas, Bryan Thomas, and Julie Young;  
Lennard High School: Denise Savino;

Lincoln Middle School: Lisandra Tayloe;  
Manatee High School: Aaron Bokelman and Jennifer Reynolds;

McNeal Elementary School: Andrea Berninger, Jorge Cabrera Espinosa, Michelle Dubendorf, Martha Ferra, Kathryn Flesche, Sarah Ford, Jeanine Germer, Amy Jendro, Vyacheslav Kolomyichenko, Dr. Shawn Mandel, Lillian Matyzinski, Donna McCrane, Emma Mileham, Alex Padgett, Tina Peters, Adrienne Robotham, Beatrix Schaeffar, and Catherine Sykes;

Miller Elementary School: Cynthia Bigelow, Debbie Brady, Sandra Hoffman, Amy Morris, Jennifer Pettas, Katelyn Potter, and Michelle Westendorf;

Mills Elementary School: Trisha Roth;  
Morgan High School: Rebecca Dougherty, Adria Reyes, Ebony Robinson and Brittney Wilhelm;

Mulrennan Middle School: Jennifer Stout-Ihland;

Myakka City Elementary School: Angelica Guerra-Guerra, Leslie Jones, Debbie Veldkamp, and Karen Washington;

Newsome High School: Brittany Avery, Katie Best, John Feely, Carin Galimore, Aaron Haygood, Erich Herrmann, Jessica Lincoln, Lisa Maiello, April McGinley, Sardin Mercado, Vernessa Neu, Nancy Ohme, Nikki Pennington, Amanda Ryan, Carolyn Sims, Kimberly Tyll, and Richard Unis;

Palm View K-8 School: Cindy Hutchinson and Brenda Van Horn;

Palmetto Elementary School: Kelly Howard;

Palmetto High School: Kathleen Brown;  
Parrish Community High School: Amanda Hedman;

Manatee County Schools: Erin Chapman and Sheri Goodwin;

Reddick Elementary School: Analiese Cook, Kimberly Cooke, and Julie Holubetz;

Riverview High School: Brian Adams, Taquanda Carlton, Ashley Clark, Ann Cruz, Lisa Feroben, Wancarlle Garnier, Carol Huftalen, Jeremy Murrell, Suzie Ratliff, Jessica Rodrigues, Pamela Smith, Rachal Stewart, and Danielle Weigand;

Rogers Garden-Bullock Elementary School: Christine Averitt, Rebecca Britto, Amy Cosens, Cassie D'Addeo, Michael Escorcía, Derek Hernandez, Julia Huffman, Albina Lopez, Barbara Marinaro, and Jamie Rozek-Potter;

Samoset Elementary School: Rosaih Alvarez, Nicole Candelora Baker, Jennifer Bue, Hailey Cosby, Susan Crowley, Nuris Fanning, Katie Fleck, Yalimary Gonzalez, Rachel Griggs, Michelle Halbman, Sabra HatLey, Dottie Hodges, Teairra Horne, Rebecca Humphrey, Deelah Jackson, Rosa Johnson, Krista Keats, Keala Keiper, Yumi Kondo, Jamie Lavigne, Blue Lovell, Tawanda Means, Pattie Mike, Lorraine Miller, Ariana Morales, Lakiieff Nickens, Peggy O'Connor, Stephanie O'Kelly, Andrea Padron, Andrea Perez, Tricia Pez, Tess Priest, Bonnie Raad, Donna Stoddart, Randy Taylor, Brittany Thigpen, Judith Vierra, Maddy Walter, Kelly Smith Williams, and Lisa Wood;

School District: of Manatee Transportation: Titinysha Holmes, Charlene Love, Carlos Lux Montano, and Blanca Riojas;

Sea Breeze Elementary School: Jeff Bailey;  
South County Career Acceleration Academy: Julia Boyett, Josephine Byers, Thomas Chapman, Emily Johnson-Lerch, and Jennifer Woods;

Southeast High School: Rochelle Banach;  
St. Stephen's Episcopal School: Tyler Cotton;

State College of Florida Collegiate School: Julia Hathaway, Gulnaz Kalimullina, Ashley MacMunn, and Thomas Shanafelt;

Sugg Middle School: Erin Craig and Dr. Terrance Marshall;

Sumner High School: Catherine Leon Gonzalez, Leah Henson, Autumn Hernandez, Juan Hernandez, Mike Layfield, Amanda Morehouse, Amber Pirotta, Jason Talley, and Christine Wasylkiw;

Tara Elementary School: Linda Haluska;  
Williams Elementary School: Kathy Bixler, Ashley Garner and Karen Haacke;

Willis Elementary School: Kelley Carpenter, Hanna Cuervo, Jennifer Hubley, Kristin Keclik, and Karl Sidnam.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, I congratulate each of these outstanding educators and offer my sincere appreciation for their service and dedication.

#### HONORING MELE K. KĀNEALI'I AS A 2026 TRUMAN SCHOLAR

### HON. JOHN W. MANNION

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Mr. MANNION. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Hamilton College student Mele K. Kāneali'i, who was selected as a 2026 Truman Scholar, one of the Nation's highest honors for students committed to fostering public service and leadership.

Established by Congress in 1975 as the living memorial to President Harry S. Truman, the Truman Scholarship recognizes students who demonstrate outstanding leadership potential, academic excellence, and deep commitment to careers in public service. Mele was chosen from a highly competitive national pool and is among 55 American undergraduates selected this year to receive this prestigious honor. This is only the fourth Truman scholar in Hamilton College's history.

It comes as no surprise that Mele has earned this distinction given her passion for, and commitment to, advancing meaningful policy to address the housing crisis. Specifically, Mele has dedicated significant time and energy toward researching Hawaii's housing challenges and working to advance policy solutions to reduce housing disparities in her community.

I commend Mele K. Kānealiʻi for this remarkable accomplishment and for exemplifying the leadership and public service values at the core of the Truman Scholarship, and I extend my sincere congratulations on this outstanding recognition.

CONGRATULATING CcCHASE  
FAAMAUSILI

**HON. RICK W. ALLEN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, CcChase Faamausili, upon his acceptance to the United States Naval Academy.

As a future midshipman, he will be joining the ranks of the world's most elite naval force, guided by the motto: "Semper Fortis."

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our Nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

And throughout our history, American servicemembers have demonstrated tremendous courage and strength, beating back tyranny to the ends of the Earth.

I was glad to sponsor CcChase's nomination, and I am confident that his talents will distinguish him among his peers during his time at the Academy and thereafter.

I congratulate CcChase and I know that he will make this Nation proud.

HONORING RABBI AVIVA FELLMAN  
OF CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor Rabbi Aviva Fellman, an extraordinary spiritual leader and a beloved member of our Worcester community, as she completes her 12th year leading Congregation Beth Israel.

Rabbi Fellman arrived at Congregation Beth Israel in 2014, bringing with her a passion for teaching, and a profound commitment to building a Jewish community rooted in faith, learning, inclusion, scholarship, and justice.

During her time as Rabbi, she has led countless members of her congregation through some of the most meaningful moments in their lives. She has helped so many young people grow not only in their faith, but in their understanding of what it means to live a life of purpose, responsibility, and moral courage.

Under Rabbi Fellman's rabbinic leadership, Congregation Beth Israel has continued to be a place where people are welcomed, valued, and seen. She has worked tirelessly to break down barriers, expand inclusion, and ensure that religious spaces reflect the dignity and humanity of all God's children.

But Rabbi Fellman's leadership extends far beyond the walls of Congregation Beth Israel. She is an important part of Worcester's vibrant civic and interfaith community. She mentors students through the Hillels at local schools.

She regularly teaches adult courses through the community WISE program. She serves on the executive board of Worcester Interfaith. And she has been active in local efforts to end homelessness, confront racism, and address inequality in our community.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Fellman is an inspirational community leader, but I am also proud to call her a dear friend and mentor. On many occasions, I have turned to her for advice and guidance on difficult moral questions, and I have always been grateful for her thoughtfulness, her honesty, her integrity, and her steady sense of what is right. She does not simply teach her faith. She lives it. And all of us are better off because of her wisdom, humility, and a deep concern for social justice.

Rabbi Fellman is an incredible community leader and a person of deep faith and deep conviction. She remains intellectually curious, devoted to her faith, and committed every day to growing as a rabbi, a teacher, and a servant leader.

I congratulate Rabbi Fellman on her Bat Mitzvah year of service to Congregation Beth Israel. I look forward to all that she will continue to do for her congregation, for the Worcester community, and for all those who are fortunate enough to learn from her example.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am proud to celebrate Rabbi Aviva Fellman's inspiring achievements, and I pray for her continued success at Congregation Beth Israel.

HONORING CAPTAIN BRIAN  
TANAKA

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Brian Tanaka on the occasion of his departure from North Carolina Piedmont Region NROTC Program as Commanding Officer and retiring from the Navy after serving for 30 years as a Submarine Officer. I commend him for his extraordinary leadership, steadfast devotion, and distinguished service to our Nation.

Captain Tanaka has dedicated 30 years of service to the United States Navy. His sea duty assignments have included Navigation/Operations Officer onboard USS Jefferson City, Executive Officer on USS West Virginia and Commanding Officer of USS Minnesota. While at sea, he completed deployments to the U.S. European and Indo-Pacific Command areas of responsibility, two strategic deterrent patrols and multiple depot level maintenance periods. His more recent ashore assignments include Deputy Director, Navy Liaison to the United States House of Representatives, in the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs, Deputy Commander, Task Force 69 at the Headquarters, United States Sixth Fleet, Commanding Officer, Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific and Commanding Officer, Training Support Department Hawaii, and Commanding Officer of the North Carolina Piedmont Region NROTC Program.

Captain Tanaka's leadership has left a lasting impact on those privileged to serve along-

side him. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a deep commitment to mission accomplishment while never losing sight of the importance of mentorship, teamwork, and care for the people under his leadership. His contributions have immensely strengthened operational readiness, advanced organizational success, and positively influenced countless colleagues and service members. As he transitions from this command, we also recognize the support and sacrifices made by his family, whose encouragement and unwavering commitment have undoubtedly contributed to his success. Public service is never undertaken alone, and their support deserves our sincere gratitude.

Captain Tanaka is an incredible Navy officer and has done a phenomenal job serving our Nation. I will always treasure the times we had while traveling together during his time at Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 1st District of Virginia and the United States Congress, I extend my heartfelt congratulations and deepest appreciation to Captain Brian Tanaka for his exemplary service and leadership. I wish him continued success in the next chapter of his life and thank him for his enduring contributions to our Nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
MARTIN M. "MARTY" LOONEY ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DELAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2026*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Honorable Martin M. "Marty" Looney on the occasion of his retirement. As the Connecticut state legislative session closed earlier this month, so too did the legislative career of a remarkable public servant and someone I am honored to call my friend, Senate President Pro Tempore Martin M. Looney. Over the course of his forty-six years in Connecticut's General Assembly, six terms in the House and seventeen terms in the Senate, he has left his mark on our state government, our communities, and the people of Connecticut.

For nearly fifty years, Marty has been a close friend, a confidant, and co-conspirator—and it all started in 1975, when we began our journey together in government and local politics. I happened to knock on his mother's door in Fair Haven, along with Frank Logue who was running for Mayor of New Haven. She told us that it was her son, Martin, that we should talk to. She brought Marty out and we asked him if he was interested in helping to get Frank elected. Marty said yes, he would help—and Connecticut has never been the same. Five years later, I had the privilege of helping to elect Marty to the General Assembly. I have celebrated this decision every day since.

My parents both served in elected office, and I learned from them that government should work for people. I took that vision with me when I ran for Congress, and Marty Looney embodied it every day of his forty-six years in the state legislature. Throughout his tenure as the longest-serving Senate President Pro Tempore and Senate Majority Leader