

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING ARIANA TONER

#### HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young woman from Rochester, New York, whose dedication to academic excellence, leadership, and service has earned her admission to the United States Air Force Academy: Ariana Toner.

Throughout her academic career, Ariana has distinguished herself as a driven, intellectually curious, and highly accomplished student. Known by her teachers and peers as a role model, she approaches every challenge with determination, creativity, and a commitment to excellence. Whether tackling complex academic pursuits or working collaboratively toward a shared goal, Ariana consistently demonstrates the qualities of a thoughtful leader and dedicated teammate.

Ariana's mentors describe her as goal-oriented, resilient, and tireless in her pursuit of success. She possesses a natural ability to problem-solve, adapt to new challenges, and remain focused in the face of uncertainty. These qualities, coupled with her strong work ethic and desire for continuous growth, have allowed her to excel both inside and outside the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that Ariana Toner will continue to thrive as she embarks on this next chapter at the United States Air Force Academy. On behalf of the Rochester community, I congratulate her on this remarkable achievement and extend my very best wishes for continued success in the years ahead.

### RECOGNIZING PRINCIPAL KEESHA JACKSON-MUIR ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

#### HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Keesha Jackson-Muir on her upcoming retirement after 29 years of dedicated service as a Fairfax County Public Schools Educator. Principal Keesha Jackson-Muir has dedicated nearly three decades of her career to Fairfax County Public Schools, serving students, families, and educators with distinction and unwavering commitment to educational excellence.

Ms. Jackson-Muir began her career with Fairfax County Public Schools 29 years ago and became Principal of Braddock Elementary School in 2014. Over the course of her tenure, she guided the school through periods of growth and change while maintaining a steadfast focus on student achievement, creating a strong foundation for academic success and lifelong learning.

Under her leadership, Braddock Elementary implemented numerous initiatives designed to enhance educational opportunities and strengthen support for students and their families. Her ability to identify community needs and develop meaningful solutions helped ensure that the school remained responsive, innovative, and focused on the success of every child.

Throughout her career, Ms. Jackson-Muir distinguished herself as a collaborative leader who fostered strong partnerships among teachers, staff, parents, and community stakeholders. By cultivating a culture of trust, engagement, and shared purpose, she brought people together around a common goal of helping students thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

In recognition of her exceptional service and leadership, Ms. Jackson-Muir was named Fairfax County Public Schools Principal of the Year in 2018. This honor reflected the respect she earned from colleagues across the district and her reputation as an educator whose dedication and professionalism consistently elevated those around her.

Beyond her accomplishments as an administrator, Ms. Jackson-Muir leaves a lasting legacy through the countless students whose lives she influenced and the educators she mentored throughout her career. Her compassion, integrity, and commitment to public service have made an enduring impact on the Braddock Elementary community and Fairfax County as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, Principal Keesha Jackson-Muir's retirement marks the culmination of an extraordinary career devoted to public education and service. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Principal Jackson-Muir for her twenty-nine years of dedicated service to Fairfax County Public Schools and in wishing her a joyful, fulfilling, and well-earned retirement.

### HONORING JOURI NICHOLE THORNTON

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jouri Nichole Thornton, an outstanding student leader and scholar from Jackson, Mississippi, whose academic excellence, leadership, and service exemplify the very best of our Nation's young leaders.

Ms. Thornton is a graduating senior at Mississippi Valley State University, where she is pursuing a degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. Throughout her academic career, she has distinguished herself as a dedicated scholar and an influential leader on campus.

She currently serves as President of the Student Government Association, where she has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to

advocating for her fellow students and strengthening campus engagement. In addition, she serves as President of the National Society of Leadership and Success and President of Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business, further highlighting her dedication to academic achievement and leadership development.

In Spring 2026, Ms. Thornton was initiated into the Psi Gamma Chapter of Beta Sorority, Incorporated, continuing a proud tradition of service and scholarship. She has also served as a Thurgood Marshall College Fund Yard Ambassador, representing her institution while promoting educational opportunity and excellence.

Her academic accomplishments are equally impressive. Ms. Thornton was named Outstanding Scholar for the Business Administration Department for the 2023 to 2024 academic year, a testament to her hard work, discipline, and pursuit of excellence. Beyond the classroom, she contributes to the cultural life of the university as an active member of the university choir.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jouri Nichole Thornton's achievements as they reflect a deep commitment to leadership, scholarship, and service. Her future is exceedingly bright, and there is no doubt she will continue to make meaningful contributions to her community and our Nation.

### RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOTTESMAN RTW ACADEMY

#### HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Gottesman RTW Academy, and to honor the long-standing service of the Head of School, Dr. Moshe Vaknin. For six decades, the Academy has provided the Jewish community of Morris and Sussex Counties with a strong foundation in both general and Judaic Studies, pairing academic rigor with core Jewish values.

Founded in 1967, the Academy offers education from infant care through eighth grade and is accredited by the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools. Its commitment to individualized learning, critical thinking, and community leadership has made it a central institution within New Jersey's Jewish educational landscape.

For twenty years, Dr. Vaknin, the Academy's Head of School, has advanced this mission through steadfast dedication to students, families, and the broader community. After immigrating from Israel in 1990, Dr. Vaknin built a career grounded in service, faith, and education. His leadership has strengthened the Academy's focus on cultivating the academic, social, and emotional growth of every student.

• 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.

Today, we honor both the Academy's enduring impact and Dr. Vaknin's exceptional contributions. May Gottesman RTW Academy continue to uphold its tradition of excellence and service for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF JOHN W. PETERSON

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of John W. Peterson, a dedicated conservation leader whose lifelong commitment to protecting our Nation's soil and water resources left a lasting impact on Virginia and communities across the country.

John Peterson served with distinction as a professional with the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, now known as the Natural Resources Conservation Service. He later continued his service as a locally elected director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District in Fairfax County, where he worked to advance conservation efforts and support responsible stewardship of our natural resources.

Throughout his career, John played an important role in shaping conservation policy and strengthening partnerships among local, state, and federal conservation organizations. He served as Virginia's representative to the National Association of Conservation Districts Board of Directors and contributed to numerous national initiatives related to conservation policy, water resources, and farm legislation.

John also helped support efforts that led to the enactment of the Small Watershed Rehabilitation Act of 2000, legislation that provided critical support for the rehabilitation of aging flood control dams maintained by conservation districts throughout the nation.

Beyond his policy and leadership work, John contributed to the professional advancement of the conservation field. He helped pioneer the certification program for Professionals in Erosion and Sediment Control and remained actively engaged with organizations committed to strengthening conservation practice and education.

In recognition of his leadership and service, John received numerous honors, including the Wilkinson Award from the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and induction into the National Association of Conservation Districts Southeast Region Conservation Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, John Peterson's dedication to conservation, public service, and the protection of our natural resources leaves a meaningful and lasting legacy for future generations. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and recognizing the many contributions he made to conservation efforts in Virginia and across the United States.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL KUSCH

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young man from Rochester, New York, whose leadership, dedication, and commitment to service have earned him admission to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Michael Kusch.

Throughout his time at Pittsford Mendon High School, Michael distinguished himself through academic excellence, athletic achievement, and a steadfast commitment to leadership. Balancing a rigorous course load with the responsibilities of serving as captain of the varsity swim team, he developed the discipline, perseverance, and teamwork necessary to excel in every endeavor. Whether in the classroom, in competition, or within his community, Michael consistently demonstrated resilience and a willingness to place the needs of others before his own.

Michael's desire to serve our Nation has been shaped by meaningful experiences both inside and outside of school. Through his participation in Monroe County's Teen Police Academy and his volunteer work with Teens for Veterans, he gained a deeper appreciation for public service, civic responsibility, and the sacrifices made by those who protect our freedoms. These experiences strengthened his commitment to leadership and inspired him to pursue a future dedicated to safeguarding the security and prosperity of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that Michael Kusch will continue to make the Rochester community proud as he embarks on this next chapter of his life. I congratulate him on this remarkable achievement and extend my very best wishes for continued success at the United States Merchant Marine Academy and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE VILLAGE OF OXFORD

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Village of Oxford on its 150th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to the generations of people who have helped make Oxford the remarkable place it is today.

For 150 years, Oxford has been a place where neighbors look out for one another, families put down roots, and local businesses help drive the community forward. Its motto, "Small Done Right," perfectly captures the pride, hard work, and strong sense of community that has defined Oxford for a century and a half and will continue to shape its future for years to come.

From supporting local businesses and a vibrant downtown to investing in families and community institutions, Oxford has continued to grow while preserving the character that makes it special. As we celebrate this anniversary, we honor the history of the village and the people who have shaped it, while also looking forward to the bright future ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Village of Oxford on its 150th anniversary and wishing its residents many more years of success. Oxford's story is a reminder that strong towns are shaped by generations of hardworking people who care deeply about the place they call home.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF  
APOPKA, FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Apopka.

For the past century, the Rotary Club of Apopka has served as a cornerstone of service and leadership in Northwest Orange County. Through the dedication of its members, the Club has promoted personal growth, fostered professional relationships, supported local and international service projects, and invested in future generations through scholarships and youth programs. Throughout its history, the Club has exemplified Rotary's Four-Way Test and its guiding principle "Service Above Self."

On June 25, 2026, the centennial celebration will begin with the Rotary Club of Apopka Officer Installation Banquet. During the event, my friend and longtime public servant, Bryan Nelson, will be specially recognized for his eight years of service as Mayor of Apopka, from 2018 to 2026.

The Rotary Club of Apopka's 100-year commitment to serving others has strengthened the community and enriched countless lives. As the Club celebrates this remarkable milestone, it is my pleasure to honor its legacy of service, leadership, and civic engagement and to congratulate its members on a century of meaningful contributions to Apopka and our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF ALFIERO RANIERO  
GIAMBERARDINO

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2026*

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Alfiero Raniero Giamberardino, whose dedication to his craft, his family, and his community left a lasting impact on all who knew him.

Born in L'Aquila, Italy, Mr. Giamberardino carried with him a strong work ethic and deep appreciation for family throughout his life. After coming to the United States, he built a distinguished career through the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades in New York City, where he developed a reputation for skill, professionalism, and pride in his work.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Giamberardino contributed to projects across New York City, including some of its most recognizable landmarks. His craftsmanship and leadership earned him the respect of colleagues throughout the trade and eventually