

with ASPIRA of New York to sue the NYC Board of Education (1974). They were successful, and the resulting consent decree is considered a major landmark in the establishment of bilingual education in the United States.

Dr. Pantoja helped establish some of the most influential stateside organizations of the time including the National Puerto Rican Forum (1957), ASPIRA (1961), Universidad Boricua, the precursor of Boricua College (1970), and the Graduate School for Community Development (1978) in San Diego. In addition, she established Producir (1984) and Provienda (1985) in Puerto Rico. The Graduate School for Community Development incorporated her more comprehensive and well formulated understanding of community development and the need to include economic development, art and culture in the development of community. Utilizing these experiences, she then, with her partner, Dr. Wilhelmina Pery, worked with local residents to develop an organization that had a strong economic component to foster local businesses among the women and the farmers. This organization was formed in a rural mountain town in Canovanas, Puerto Rico. Provienda, a second corporation emanating from Producir, further focused these ideas on low-income housing in Puerto Rico.

Since its formation over 62 years ago, ASPIRA has grown from a small nonprofit agency in New York City to a national association with statewide Associate organizations in Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South, North Carolina, and the ASPIRA Association Office in Washington, D.C. as well as in Puerto Rico.

ASPIRA continues to build on Dr. Pantoja's legacy of leadership development and movement building providing extensive cradle-to-career resources for Latina/o youth in communities across the United States. In 1996, she was recognized with the Nation's highest civilian honor by President Clinton when she became the first Puerto Rican woman to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Dr. Antonia Pantoja died of cancer in New York City on May 24, 2002. She was survived by her longtime partner, Dr. Wilhelmina Pery. May we celebrate the countless lives she touched and the myriad ways she helped improve New York.

RECOGNIZING THE VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Virginia Wesleyan University Women's Soccer Team on their incredible season.

This year, the team finished fourth in the NCAA Division 3 National Tournament. This was the Marlins' second trip to the Final Four in school history and the first trip since 2006. With an overall record of 18 wins, three losses, and four ties, the Virginia Wesleyan Women's Soccer Team was the only unranked team to make the tournament this season.

Featuring three All-Region players, two NCAA All-Tournament players, and one Third Team All American player, the Marlins earned their spot in the Final Four with a combination of impressive talent and unrelenting hard work. The Marlins left it all out on the field and should be proud of their accomplishment. As a female athlete myself, I congratulate them on their amazing season and wish them all the best moving forward.

Again, congratulations to all the Virginia Wesleyan University Women's Soccer Team players, coaches, and fans on a historic and impressive season. Go Marlins.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AMEND THE FRANK LOBIONDO COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018 TO DIRECT THE COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DATA RELATED TO WATER QUALITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to direct the Commandant of the Coast Guard to make available to state regulators information pertaining to ballast water management systems with a "Type Approval Certificate" issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. I would like to thank the California State Lands Commission for their meaningful contributions and collaboration on this shared priority.

Routine access to this information is critical to California's Marine Invasive Species Program, administered by the California State Lands Commission. It would also enable California and other states to assess the performance of U.S. Coast Guard-approved ballast water management systems. The nonproprietary information yielded from this assessment will inform policy recommendations to reduce the risk of the introduction or proliferation of invasive or nuisance species in state waters.

Federal law requires vessels to use a U.S. Coast Guard-approved ballast water management system to meet ballast water discharge standards. The U.S. Coast Guard collects important data on the efficacy of ballast water management systems to meet federal discharge standards as part of their type approval process. These data represent the most current and thorough data on the performance of these ballast water management technologies.

In 2018, Congress passed the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA), requiring the U.S. EPA to create uniform national performance standards for discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel, including ballast water. Once implemented, VIDA regulations preempt States' authority to enact more stringent standards for ballast water and other vessel discharges. However, states are authorized under that same 2018 federal law to inspect vessels and enforce the federal ballast water management requirements. States were also given explicit authority to petition the U.S. EPA and U.S. Coast Guard to adopt stricter standards if available data supports doing so.

VIDA also authorizes states to sample ballast water from arriving vessels to obtain information relevant to any future petition.

However, the California State Lands Commission and similar state regulators cannot perform this work—carrying out their legal responsibilities for state waterways—without ready access from the U.S. Coast Guard to information and datasets on the water quality characteristics and biological organism concentrations from post-treatment water discharged from ballasts water management systems. To date, the State of California has been denied access to this critical public information from the U.S. Coast Guard despite filing a formal request and subsequent appeal under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

This legislation would fix this problem and require the U.S. Coast Guard to provide ballast water management system data, including information about the biological efficacy of approved systems, to states upon request. Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of the House to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF PATRICK EIDING

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Congressman BRENDAN BOYLE of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District and Congressman DWIGHT EVANS of Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District, rise today to celebrate the retirement of Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO President, Patrick Eiding.

Over the course 21 years, Patrick Eiding has served the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO to the best of his ability. First elected in January 2002, Patrick served a total of 5 full terms as the organization's President of the Council.

Prior to his tenure leading the Philadelphia AFL-CIO, Patrick Eiding served for over 25 years as the Business Manager and Financial Secretary of the Insulators and Asbestos Workers Local 14 where he oversaw both Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Southern New Jersey.

Throughout his career, Patrick Eiding successfully moved up through the leadership structure within the organization. Beyond his service to the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO, Eiding serves as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Philadelphia Building Trades Council; a member of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO; and sits on the General Board of the National AFL-CIO where he represents the Central Labor Councils located in the northeast region of the United States.

He has been a strong advocate for the interest and concerns of working-class families while serving as a member of the union, board, and commissions for several organizations. Some of which include the Philadelphia Area Labor Management Committee, the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and several more.

Today, Patrick Eiding continues to serve as the newly appointed member of the Philadelphia Works Incorporated and actively participates as a commissioner on the city planning commission of Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join Congressman BOYLE, Congressman EVANS, and me, in honoring and commending Patrick Eiding of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO, as we celebrate his retirement and dedication to serving the organization and their many working families throughout his career.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS SCHROEDER

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Nicholas Schroeder, a firefighter with Garden City, Michigan Fire Department on his promotion to Lieutenant.

Nicholas Schroeder has served the Garden City Fire Department since November of 2013. He decided to pursue a career in public service after graduating from Gabriel Richard Riverview High School in 2010. He attended Schoolcraft College for emergency medical technician (EMT) and paramedic training, as well as the fire academy. He worked in the private sector after completion of his training, and at the age of 21, he joined the Garden City Fire Department as a firefighter-paramedic.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Nicholas has served on multiple committees and taken numerous trainings, most notably the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, Fire Investigation 1 & 2 with the Michigan State Police, and firefighter safety and survival. After a competitive testing process, completing pump operations training, and working in the capacity of acting engineer, Garden City and the 12th Congressional District are proud to congratulate Nicholas on his exceptional training and experiences to take on this new role. Not only has Nicolas been dedicated to public service for our district, he also enjoys spending time with his family, including wife Chelsey and twin daughters.

Please join me in recognizing Nicholas Schroeder for his outstanding service to the people of Garden City in Michigan's 12th District Strong as we congratulate him on his new role.

CELEBRATING THE APPOINTMENT OF FRANK WHITE III TO CEO OF THE KANSAS CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride that I rise today to recognize and celebrate the appointment of Frank White III as the new Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) CEO, via a unanimous vote by the KCATA Board of Commissioners. An experienced leader, innovative thinker, and dedicated professional, it is clear why Frank has been given such profound responsibility.

Frank's journey with KCATA began in 2016 as a Senior Marketing Manager, where his dedication to the Agency and the community it

serves was recognized by many. He rose through the ranks to achieve positions such as Chief Marketing Officer, a role in which he earned three first place American Public Transportation Association AdWheel Awards; Director of Strategic Planning and Development; and vice president of RideKC Development Corporation. Frank continued to grow within the industry and in 2019 he graduated from the Eno Transportation Senior Executive Program, a prestigious transportation leadership development program.

Frank stands out as a trailblazer in the community and opens a new door as the first African American CEO in the storied history of KCATA. His work is crucial to the local economy and essential to the everyday lives of thousands in the Missouri-Kansas bi-state area. He continues to prepare us for the future, working to make the public transportation system more efficient and effective for current and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Frank White III in his new position of CEO of the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority. Having known Frank for many years, his recent accomplishments come as no surprise to me. Frank holds himself to a standard of excellence that is contagious to those around him—one of the many qualities that make him a great leader. The future of KCATA and the livelihoods of thousands in the bi-state area are in good hands.

REMEMBERING LEE LARKEY

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Lee Larkey, of Avon, Minnesota, who passed away on December 15, 2022.

Lee was born in Great Falls, Montana on July 15, 1939. Though he was born in Montana, Lee was a faithful and devoted Minnesotan who dedicated his life to the service of others. After graduating from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota in 1961, Lee joined the United States Air Force. During his time in the service, he rose to the rank of Captain and was honorably discharged in November of 1972.

Following his time in the Air Force, Lee began work as a Revenue Agent for the Internal Revenue Service. After his retirement, he continued to help friends and family prepare tax returns and negotiate resolutions to difficult tax cases.

Lee spent countless hours championing the pro-life movement through his involvement with Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life. At the Minnesota State Capitol and at the U.S. Capitol, Lee advocated on behalf of the unborn and fought for the rights of the most vulnerable in our society. He was also an active member of the Republican Party at the state and local levels. Members of our office will remember Lee as an engaged constituent and a passionate advocate for limited government and fiscal responsibility.

Outside of politics, Lee enjoyed spending time in his garden with his wife, where they grew a variety of herbs and vegetables together. He was also an active beekeeper, rais-

ing bees and selling their honey through his business, Honey Hut.

Lee dedicated his life to the service of his country, his family, friends, and community. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. On behalf of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District, we offer our sincerest condolences to Bernadette and the rest of the Larkey family, and pray that Lee's memory will comfort their family during this difficult time.

HONORING THE ASHLAND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2023 MEMBER AWARD WINNERS

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce in Ashland, Ohio, will hold its annual awards banquet this Thursday, March 9. I am honored to commend to the House this year's recipients, who were selected based on business performance, customer service, community involvement, and promotion of Ashland County:

Small Business of the Year: The South Street Grille, Sean and Carly Little, owners.

Manufacturing/Industrial Business of the Year: Cowen Truck Line, Tim Cowen, President.

Professional Services Business of the Year: Directions Credit Union, Jill Comer, Branch Manager.

Health and Medical Services Organization of the Year: Brethren Care Village, Mindy Scurlock, Chief Executive Officer.

Non-Profit and Social Services Organization of the Year: Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Jerry Strausbaugh, Executive Director.

Hospitality and Recreation Services Business of the Year: The Salvation Army Kroc Center—Ashland, Billy and Annalise Francis, Officers.

In addition, these four area young professionals have been selected as winners of the 4 Under 40 Award for their leadership potential and commitment to long-term career excellence:

Brianna Noel, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones.

Angela Ringler, President, Advantage Marketing.

Brittaney Reep, Chief Financial Officer, Ashland County Community Foundation.

Stephen Knowlton, Integrator and Director of Innovation, Spire.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am pleased to join in the accolades for all of these distinguished professionals and thank them for their dedication to Ashland.

HONORING THE 100 YEAR HISTORY OF CURWOOD CASTLE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a full century since the construction of a legendary landmark on the banks of