

Mrs. Martinho was born on December 12, 1994 in Escondido, California. Her father, Jacob De Raadt, purchased a Dairy Farm in 1999 in Lemoore, California and moved the family to California's San Joaquin Valley. Growing up in an agriculturally-rich environment left a lasting impact on Eileen, creating a deep passion for dairy and agriculture issues. After graduating from Central Valley Christian High School in 2013, Eileen received a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Fresno Pacific University in 2017. While completing her degree, she was employed with Kings County Farm Bureau and Farm Academy Live, where she assisted in the implementation of events and taught agricultural issues to numerous students.

Eileen became a member of my Congressional Team in 2017, serving as our Fresno County Field Representative. She proved to be a strong asset across the Valley, creating meaningful connections with community leaders and representing my team with dedication and charisma. Local leaders consistently praised Eileen for her love for the Central Valley and advanced knowledge on agricultural issues. Eileen also managed the office intern program and served as a caseworker, helping numerous constituents with government-related issues. Her unique ability to communicate the values of our team combined with her strong work-ethic made Mrs. Martinho an invaluable member of my team and a true public servant to the people of California's Central Valley.

Outside of work, Eileen remains actively involved in a variety of community groups. She is a member of the Dairy Princess Committee, Kings Fair Foundation Board, California Women for Agriculture, and Kings County Dairy Women. Her consistent participation in community service groups reflects her genuine care for the community and desire to see it improved. While many speak about bettering their communities, Eileen takes the initiative and leads the way. She is a strong leader who will continue to advocate for her community for many years to come.

Mrs. Martinho recently married to the love of her life, Jonathon, earlier this year. She loves spending her free time with her husband and their friends, hosting dinners, and going on weekend trips. Her community is extremely important to her and she is known as a loyal and dependable friend. Eileen is also actively involved in her church, where she is known for her beautiful singing.

This January, Mrs. Martinho will be moving onto new ventures. Knowing Eileen, her passion and work-ethic, I have no doubt she will achieve many great things in her future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Eileen Grace Martinho for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her the very best in this next chapter of her life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been

present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 436.

HONORING AMINDA MARQUÉS GONZALEZ

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Aminda Marqués Gonzalez, vice president and executive editor of the Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald, and a highly respected member of Florida's media community.

On July 21, 2018, Marqués was recognized by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and inducted into the NAHJ's Hall of Fame for her accomplished career and efforts to promote diversity in the newsroom.

Born in New York City to Cuban immigrants, Marqués has dedicated her entire career to journalism in South Florida. Marqués graduated from the University of Florida in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in journalism and began her career at the Miami Herald, where she had previously interned. After covering a range of issues and rising from metro reporter to assistant city editor, she joined People magazine in 2002 as Miami bureau chief. In that capacity, she oversaw People's coverage of the southeastern United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Marqués returned to the Miami Herald in 2007 as an editor and was promoted to managing editor in 2010. Under her leadership, the Herald has earned national recognition for its outstanding reporting. The Herald won two Pulitzer Prizes in 2017, one for work of the editorial cartoonist Jim Morin and one for the paper's series on the Panama Papers. The Miami Herald also has been a finalist for the Pulitzer three times under Marqués' leadership, including for a 2012 investigation into the poor regulation of Florida's assisted-living facilities.

In addition to her post at the Miami Herald, Marqués is president of the Florida Society of News Editors and sits on the Pulitzer Prize Board. She also serves on the advisory councils for The Journalism and Women Symposium, and The Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication at Florida International University.

Marqués has the distinction of being the Miami Herald's first-ever Hispanic and second female executive editor. Her colleagues credit her for recruiting reporters and editors of diverse backgrounds and for challenging the overall lack of diversity in journalism.

I commend Aminda Marqués Gonzalez for her trailblazing work in journalism, and I congratulate her on receiving the National Association of Hispanic Journalists Hall of Fame honor.

RECOGNIZING JEFF BELL

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Jeff

Bell, who will be retiring after working for more than 30 years at the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Throughout his tenure at IDOT, Jeff has served in a number of roles and has remained a valuable asset for the citizens of Illinois due to his dedication, hard work, and attention to detail. Most recently, as Bureau Chief for Federal Affairs, Jeff has been an excellent liaison between IDOT and the Illinois Congressional Delegation, helping our offices better serve our State's transportation infrastructure needs when federal policy is developed out here in Washington, D.C.

I have had the privilege of working with Jeff as both a member of Congress and also while serving as an aide to Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS, and Jeff has never been anything but an invaluable resource on transportation infrastructure legislation and projects. Jeff has staunchly advocated for federal initiatives that improve Illinois' infrastructure, and has helped maximize the federal resources our state has received.

It is my honor to congratulate Jeff on his retirement and thank him for his friendship and service to the State of Illinois.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 NORTHERN VIRGINIA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2018 recipients of the Northern Virginia Leadership Awards presented by Leadership Fairfax, Inc. (LFI)

LFI is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to finding, training, and growing leaders in Northern Virginia whose mission is to educate, prepare, inspire, and connect leaders to serve and strengthen our community. Graduates from its programs become part of a fast-growing network of civic leaders. I've always said, "When you walk into a crowded room, it's easy to spot the graduates of Leadership Fairfax—they just stand out!"

Each year, LFI recognizes individuals or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and that have made extraordinary contributions to our community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2018 Northern Virginia Leadership Awards recipients:

The Regional Leadership Award is presented to Maggie Parker, VP, Comstock Companies, Inc. for her dedicated volunteer service and commitment to improve the quality of life of the area. She has served as Chair of Public Art Reston and has also brought her skills to other organizations in the region including Greater Reston Arts Center, ARTSFAIRFAX, Women's Center, Children's National Medical Center, and Cornerstones.

The Trustee Leadership Award is presented to Major Tyler Corey, Fairfax County Sheriffs Office. As the Division Commander for the Administrative Services Division, Major Corey not only mentors and trains new staff and collaborates with community partners on Sheriff's Office initiatives, but also finds time to commit to multiple volunteer projects, including Volunteer Fairfax and Meals on Wheels.