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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. LAWRENCE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 26, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BRENDA L. LAWRENCE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

RECOGNIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE FRANK GUARINI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great generosity and service of Frank Guarini, a former Member of this institution.

He was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey, and has served his State and country through many numerous roles: as a naval officer, a state senator, a representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations,

and a Member of this House of Representatives for seven terms.

During his years on the House Committee on Ways and Means, Frank Guarini was a committed advocate for education.

Since retiring from Congress, he has remained a dedicated champion of education and public service, donating millions of dollars to support local universities and organizations.

He has provided funding to establish numerous institutes, including the Guarini Institute for Government and Leadership at St. Peter's University, a nonpartisan forum that drives conversation about public policy and New Jersey's key issues.

He has donated to the New Jersey City University to support performing arts and scholarships designed for interdisciplinary urban studies, planning, and development.

Most recently, Frank Guarini has announced a \$10 million gift to St. Peter's University School of Business to expand and update the school's established new initiatives.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Frank Guarini for his generosity, his public service, his longstanding commitment to bolster education, and his support for his hometown of Jersey City. I thank Frank Guarini.

THE OPIOID CRISIS AND THE AICDAC GRANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an ongoing epidemic that is plaguing most communities across the Nation. I am talking about the opioid crisis.

Far too many people have fallen victim to opioid abuse, and the statistics

in Pennsylvania are frightening. In the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is reported that 5,388 people died from drug overdose in 2017, many of them from opioid abuse.

Addiction does not discriminate. It does not see race, gender, or socioeconomic status. There is not a community in our Nation that hasn't been impacted by opioid addiction in some way.

Before my time in Congress, I spent 28 years as a therapist and rehabilitation services manager. I have seen firsthand how addiction impacts families and our communities.

September is Recovery Month, and it is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of substance abuse disorders.

To celebrate those who are helping combat the opioid crisis and those who are on the road to recovery, Clarion County recently celebrated Recovery Month by honoring first responders who have made an impact on the community.

Together, John Greenway, Farrah Murray, and Bridget Murray have saved 38 lives by delivering naloxone, the medication that counters the effects of opioid overdose.

At the award ceremony, Clarion resident Dustin Parsons told his story about his struggle with addiction, noting the help he received from the AICDAC, the Armstrong Indiana Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Dustin said: "During the last few years of my addiction, I was in a position where I could meet the AICDAC. They helped me get a lot of resources. I want to give back to the community. I try to convince other people that there is a way out of this."

The AICDAC works to prevent addiction and treat those who have fallen victim to opioid abuse, and they are the recent recipient of a \$1 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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