

and the Contra Costa County Library system to receive \$2.8 million in grant funding. In order to protect Miwok artifacts, the library was built on a floating foundation. On March 4, 1995, the Clayton Community Library celebrated its grand opening.

Close to the center of downtown, the library serves as a meeting place for organizations and individuals of all ages. The library holds numerous events and activities throughout the year including literacy tutoring, craft programs, all abilities play groups, and family story time. Having represented Clayton since 1994 and as an active library supporter, I am proud of the partnership between the county, cities, workforce, and volunteers.

Please join me in honoring Clayton Community Library's 25th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATT BURNETT, MONSIGNOR WILLIAM FARREL DIVISION OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Matt Burnett who will be named the Man of the Year by the Monsignor William Farrell Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Matt will be honored at their annual gathering on Saturday, March 7, 2020.

Matt is the son of Francis P. Burnett and Zita Lavelle Burnett. He is a member of Saint Rose Parish where he volunteers his time with the Altar and Rose Society. For the past several years, Matt has bravely battled Huntington's chorea, a rare, debilitating condition that affects the nerve cells in the brain causing a deterioration of motor skills, cognitive abilities, and speech. His grandfather and mother also suffered from this inherited disease. Despite his diagnosis, he has worked tirelessly to remain positive and active in his local community.

Enthusiastic about volunteer firefighting, Matt was often found at the fire headquarters on Main Street in Carbondale. In addition to responding to calls, he spent long hours at the scene of a fire cleaning and packing gear to be prepared for the next call. He was always willing to lend a hand to any volunteer company that needed additional assistance.

In 2006, prior to the onset of his illness, Matt and two fellow firefighters were honored for bravely entering a burning building to quell a fire which quickly turned into a heroic rescue mission. Their vision clouded with smoke, the three men advanced across the room, but the floor felt hot and spongy, threatening to give away at any moment. In their efforts to retreat, one of the firefighters fell to the basement as the floor between him and the exit collapsed. Alerted by their endangered partner tugging on the fire hose, Matt and his other partner went back into the building to pull him to safety.

Matt does not let his illness stop him from pursuing his passions, including volunteer firefighting. When a fire broke out earlier this year, Matt, undeterred by his physical limitations, responded in full gear, doing everything he could to assist his fellow volunteers.

It is an honor to join with the Monsignor William Farrell Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians to recognize Matt Burnett as Man of the Year. Throughout his life, he has embodied the virtues of friendship, unity, and Christian charity and has been selflessly dedicated to others through the volunteer fire service. I wish him all the best on this St. Patrick's Day.

RECOGNIZING AYDEN POLICE
CHIEF BARRY STANLEY

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to longtime law enforcement officer Barry Stanley, who retired this past Friday as Chief of Police in Ayden, North Carolina. Chief Stanley attended Pitt Community College for his law enforcement training, graduating in 1993. He has served several Eastern North Carolina communities during his career including Grifton, Bethel and Ayden. His service actually began in his youth with the explorer's post at the Lenoir County Sheriff's Department.

Chief Stanley has long been passionate about helping those who are victims of crime, especially the elderly. He feels helping those who cannot speak for themselves is the most important part of his job. Chief Stanley is a great leader who leads with fairness and integrity, earning the trust of his team. He has the respect of the men and women under his command, but they also consider him a friend. He will definitely be remembered as a chief who made a difference.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the legacy of this brave and patriotic man who has served Eastern North Carolina for 27 years. May we always keep our dedicated police officers and service members treasured in our hearts and constantly in our prayers for their service to God and country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BISHOP

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, on February 7, 2020, I was unable to vote because I was with constituents from my district to participate in an official event with the President of the United States in North Carolina. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 52, YEA on Roll Call No. 53, and NAY on Roll Call No. 54.

CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS
AND RESPONSE SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 6074, Coronavirus Preparedness

and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, and commend my fellow members of the Appropriations Committee, particularly the Gentlewoman from New York (Chairwoman LOWEY) and the Gentlewoman from Texas (Ranking Member GRANGER) for their leadership.

The robust, \$8.3 billion package includes vital funding for research, local health departments, supplies, preparedness, affordable vaccines, and support for small businesses.

I was particularly proud to support including \$500 million to cover telehealth services for Medicare patients.

This provision will reduce the number of non-urgent cases who have to go to emergency rooms and doctors' offices, a win for seniors, health care workers, and the general public.

The resounding, bipartisan vote for the emergency funding shows that the People's House is taking this outbreak seriously.

We are committed to fully exercising Congress' Constitutional Power of the Purse in support of the fight against this disease.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 86.

HONORING ALAN WALTS FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED, 44-YEAR LONG CAREER IN THE FIELD OF BROADCASTING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Ms. STEFANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Alan Walts for his distinguished, 44-year long career in the field of broadcasting on the occasion of his retirement.

Alan Walts began his broadcasting career in Watertown in 1976 and has hosted Watertown's Morning News on AM radio station, 790 WTNY, for the past ten years. Glen Curry, General Manager at Stevens Media Group, said "Alan would arrive at the station at 4 a.m. every morning, rain or shine, through his entire decade-long tenure as the host." He has also been a consistent volunteer for many organizations including the Salvation Army. As host of the morning news show, Alan made himself a pillar of the Watertown community and his departure marks the end of an era.

Alan Walts demonstrates the hard working, community minded nature that the North Country is known for. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Alan for his contribution to the community and wish him well on this next chapter in his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote due to extenuating circumstances. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 79; YEA on Roll Call No. 80; YEA on Roll Call No. 81; YEA on Roll Call No. 82; YEA on Roll Call No. 83; YEA on Roll Call No. 84; YEA on Roll Call No. 85; and YEA on Roll Call No. 86.

 RECOGNIZING SERGIO PECORI FOR RECEIVING THE 2020 OUTSTANDING PROJECTS AND LEADERS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Sergio “Satch” Pecori, P.E., chairman and CEO of Hanson Professional Services Inc. in Springfield, IL for receiving the 2020 Outstanding Projects and Leaders Lifetime Achievement Award from The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). This prestigious award recognizes Satch’s outstanding lifetime accomplishments, leadership skills, and long-term commitment to business and his community.

Mr. Pecori’s accomplishments and positive impact on the community have been widely recognized over the years. He was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from UIUC’s College of Civil Engineering in 1999. He was a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2007 and was given the President’s Award for Outstanding Leadership and Dedication by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, he has received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service and the Boy Scouts of America Abraham Lincoln Council’s Trailblazer Award.

Mr. Pecori, was also a recipient of the 2019 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Presented annually, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our Nation’s immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The Medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from diverse ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage and culture.

Mr. Pecori has risen to top of his profession through hard work and dedication. He is an example for all of us to emulate. Satch and his team have engineered numerous projects that have transformed communities and helped local economies thrive. He also leads by example and strives to improve the lives of those around him. Congratulations to Satch, the honor is well deserved.

RECOGNIZING A SPACECOAST SYMBOL OF KINDNESS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend kindergarten students in my Congressional district who have made it a priority and to remind us that kindness “is always possible.”

Nearly a year ago, transition kindergarten teacher Ms. Barbara Wilcox inspired her class at Tropical Elementary on Merritt Island in Brevard County, Florida, to join an initiative they called “Together Kind.” She shared, “I do a lot of service learning with them, talking about how to be kind to people.”

Children often “get it” when adults are slow to respond. That certainly played out strongly in Ms. Wilcox’s class. The children wanted to make a difference. They recognized the meaning behind common symbols like the peace sign, the happy face and the heart, for love. And, in their wisdom, they perceived the value of having a symbol to remind the world of the importance of just being kind to one another.

The class designed four candidates for a Symbol of Kindness and took their vision to the world. They shared their symbols on Facebook, through email, and a website they created called togetherkind.com. About 1,000 people from 25 states (and England and Ireland) voted and decided the winner.

The children use social media only through parents and their teacher. But, they learned the power of communication and how to engage people in a meaningful and valuable way. They sold \$1 magnets with the winning Symbol. “Every day we looked to see how many people had signed the petition, and we highlighted, on a map, all the states people are from,” said Ms. Wilcox, who’s been teaching for 22 years. So, showing a little kindness can teach geography and bringing people together.

Those are some of the things that kindness is about:

Reaching out beyond ourselves and showing respect and care for others. Their symbol builds on the heart as the symbol of love. The heart is enclosed in a circle of arrows and that reminds me that kindness is more than just a noun. Kindness is an “action” word. Kindness happens by doing.

I’m so proud that a class of young people in my district could remind us, “Kindness is always possible” in what they did and in the Symbol of Kindness they have given to the rest of us as a reminder.

I have introduced a resolution to recognize their work as the Spacecoast Symbol of Kindness. Hopefully, their symbol can be carried by our astronauts on some future mission into space to spread their message beyond even our planet. If the nation needs kindness today, we can surely look forward to taking kindness with us to the moon, Mars, and beyond.

Once again, I commend Ms. Wilcox and her class. They remind us that kindness is doing something for another person without expecting anything in return other than the possibility that others will pass on kindness to others. I thank the kindergarteners at Tropical Elementary, for this reminder.

CONGRATULATING JEANNETTA POLITIS ON RECEIPT OF THE FNB COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to recognize Jeannetta Politis of First National Bank of Pennsylvania on receiving the FNB Community Spirit Award.

Each year, the First National Bank of Pennsylvania presents the FNB Community Spirit Award to an employee who provides excellent service to customers and contributes positively to their community through charitable endeavors. FNB selects two recipients from each region and donates \$4,000 to a charity of their choice.

Ms. Politis serves as one of FNB’s Business Banking Relationship Managers and is also a dedicated community member with a commitment to volunteerism. She has focused her efforts on helping the next generation, serving as a board member for organizations such as the Harrisburg Young Professionals, Leadership Harrisburg, and The Joshua Group, a non-profit organization focused on the mentoring and guidance of at-risk youth living in the Allison Hill neighborhood of Harrisburg. Additionally, Ms. Politis volunteers with the Harrisburg Rotary Club and Hospice of Central Pennsylvania, caring for those who are most in need among us.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania’s Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jeannetta Politis on this great honor and thank her for her dedication to the betterment of our communities.

ABORTION RIGHTS

HON. ROSA L. DELAUR

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, we are at a critical juncture for abortion rights in America.

Abortion is health care and a fundamental right. But, across the street from the Capitol, the Supreme Court appears ready to overturn precedent to go after reproductive justice. June Medical Services v. Russo is the first abortion case to be heard by anti-abortion Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh. They could pave the way for states to ban abortion for 25 million people in the United States.

So, we are standing up. Because we will not be standing by.

Regardless of where they live or how much money they make, individuals deserve the right to control their own bodies and future, and to get the healthcare that they want and need. When women can make decisions about their own reproductive healthcare, including whether and when to have children, they have autonomy over their lives, and their economic security.

So, reproductive justice is about economic justice. That is what is under threat.