

those ups and downs. I also thank God that it is not my place to judge her if she felt that she was doing her best. Jesus said, "Judge not, and you will not be judged, condemn not, and you will not be condemned, forgive, and you will be forgiven." (Luke 6:37) Because one's behavior toward others often ends up being paid back in kind—and sometimes even to a greater degree—Jesus continued to urge His disciples to be tolerant. In particular, Jesus prohibits condemning others and commends forgiveness.

I remember Amber as that little girl who would run and jump on my lap in happiness and run to me when she was afraid. There were the play-in-the-dirt clothes and pretty girl dresses; dance lessons, softball games, and taekwondo; pierced ears, nose, lip, etc; curly hair, braided hair, and straight hair; tennis shoes and high heels; Disney movies and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*; school and church; and so on and so on and so on. Pick any of them or add your own. Some of them I didn't like at the time but I'm going to miss every single one. I have a lot of memories and no one can take them away. Amber has been immortalized in my heart and those memories will remain. I'm sure all of you have fond memories of Amber that you will hold on to.

Amber believed in God and I believe that Jesus has welcomed her into Heaven where she will spend eternity. Amber no longer has to deal with the pain associated with mortality. I have faith that I will see her again and that she will be there to welcome me into eternity. I will miss her dearly but I can now think of her as an angel that is looking over me and she will look out for me when I need help. I love you Amber and I always will.

TRENTON MUNN—IONIA, MICHIGAN

Trenton Munn, died August 21, 2016, from an accidental heroin overdose. He was 31 years old.

Trenton suffered from drug addiction since his late teen years. He fast became addicted to Oxycontin, and when that became hard to come by, he turned to heroin. It was a cheaper, easier to find alternative.

When his son, Harley was born in May 2012, Trenton tried to quit cold turkey. He wanted to get clean for his son. Trenton also suffered from anxiety and depression. During the past four years Trenton tried repeatedly to get off heroin.

This past March his family discovered that Trenton had advanced to shooting up heroin. Even though he had said he would not stick a needle in his veins.

After many failed attempts in treatment, with everyone telling us we had to do tough love, we decided to remove Trenton from our home. It broke his family's hearts having to put their child out on the streets.

Trenton was then taken in by a friend. The friend promised he didn't condone heroin and there'd be none of it in his home.

Throughout this past summer, Trenton would come to his family's home for his parental visits with his son. Since his son's mother had gotten in trouble with the law, Trenton was given full custody of Harley. Trenton also had just began a new job, was looking healthier and had gained some weight. His family thought he was kicking his addiction. Things were looking up.

Due to Trenton not having a car, his parents were driving him to and from work. The last day they saw their son was Saturday, August 20, 2016. They picked him up from work at 4:00 p.m., as usual. Nothing really seemed out of the ordinary, other than Trenton not asking what his mother was making for supper. He normally would come have dinner with his family.

When his parents arrived at the friend's house where Trenton was living, he told

them he'd see them in the morning and that he loved them. He didn't text or call them that evening.

The dreaded call came at 4:21 a.m. from the friend Trenton was living with. The friend began with: "I think you need to come out here!" Trenton's mother asked him what was wrong and he replied, "I think Trent's overdosing!" His mother hung up the phone immediately, jumped out of bed screaming. They got into their car and drove as fast as they could.

They arrived at the friend's home in a matter of minutes. The police and the ambulance were already there. They were met by an officer on the porch of the house. It was too late. Trenton was dead.

The authorities believe Trenton received what they call a "hot load": heroin laced with fentanyl.

That same weekend, over 75 overdoses were reported in Ohio. The heroin was laced with elephant tranquilizers.

"This has been the worse pain we ever felt," writes Trenton's mother. "Nothing or no one can ever bring our son back. Our grandson is going to grow up without his father."

#### JEFFERSON CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for being honored by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce as the Non-Profit of the Year.

To be honored as the Non-Profit of the Year by the Arvada Chamber, a non-profit must show how they support Arvada through their programs, services and involvement. These non-profits are known for their ingenuity and innovation to overcome challenges as well as their active and effective work with the local business community.

The Jefferson Center for Mental Health is one of these non-profits. As a community mental health center that looks to inspire hope and improve the lives of the members of their community, their incredible work and innovative approach has helped to serve those in our community who often have nowhere else to turn. In addition to receiving this recognition, Jefferson Center for Mental Health has also been named a Top Workplace for four straight years by the Denver Post.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

#### RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and its 2017 theme—The Crisis in Black Education. This year's theme reflects on the crucial role of education in the

past, present, and future of the African American community. As Americans, we come together to commend the many educators, writers, and mentors who have worked so diligently to improve educational opportunities for African American students throughout the country, but we must acknowledge that there is still much more progress to be made.

Throughout American history, the unfortunate reality is that there have been racial barriers to equal education. The crisis in black education began during the era of slavery when it was against the law for slaves to learn how to read and write. Before the Civil War, free blacks in northern cities had to walk long distances to attend the one school regulated solely for African American students, while this limitation did not exist for white children. By 1910, segregation was established throughout the south. African American schools were of lower quality and received less government funding per student than in white schools. During the Civil Rights Movement, significant steps toward positive change were made, including the Supreme Court case of *Brown vs. Board of Education*, which outlawed segregated school facilities for black and white students at the state level. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 ended state and local laws requiring segregation.

Today, many African American youth remain exposed to public school systems where resources are limited, overcrowding occurs, and a glaring racial achievement gap is evident, especially in urban areas. As Americans, we must continue to work together to resolve the crisis in black education as it is, without a doubt, one of the most critical issues facing our communities.

This month and always, it is important that we honor and celebrate America's greatest advocates for equal rights and civil liberties. Along with this month's theme, we honor those who have fought for equal educational opportunities for African Americans, including Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, Cornell West, Maxine Smith, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Joe Lewis Clark, Fannie Jackson Coppin, and Alexander Crummell, among many others. As we pay tribute to these heroes of American history, let us remember their profound perseverance, sacrifice, and struggle in the fight for freedom and equality, and the remarkable impact their contributions have had in shaping our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who fought, and continue to fight, for civil rights and justice. We honor the African American educators, scholars, and supporters of educational equality, who have played such a critical role in changing the landscape of American society for the better. As we reflect on the state of black education, let us never forget the struggle of our predecessors while remembering that there is still much work to be done.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF WIN AND POLLY BELANGER

#### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Win and Polly Belanger

of Willsboro, New York, for their consistent and enduring dedication to community service.

After retiring from the United States Air Force in 1988, Win Belanger moved to Willsboro, New York, with his wife Polly, where they have worked for the betterment of their community by lending both their ears and their voice.

By urging individuals in Essex County to become more involved in their government and enter into public service, the Belangers have helped to encourage authentic and sincere representation. Additionally, Win has shown a steadfast commitment to the wellbeing of his peers through his work on the Willsboro Central School budget committee, the town zoning board and as a founding member and officer of the Willsboro Community Housing Assistance Task Force.

On behalf of Essex County, I would like to thank Win and Polly for their service, their patriotism and their friendship, while also wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

**MEGAN VILLANUEVA SELECTED  
TO REPRESENT TEXAS AT CONGRESS  
OF FUTURE MEDICAL  
LEADERS**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Megan Villanueva of Katy, TX, for being chosen to represent Texas as a Delegate at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future of Medical Leaders is an honors program for high school students who plan to become physicians or go into medical research fields. Students must be nominated by their teachers, have a minimum 3.5 GPA, proven desire to enter the medical field, and inspire and motivate their peers. Multi-talented Megan has also received awards and has been acknowledged for her artistic skills. In junior high school, she also won the gold medal at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program competition.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Megan Villanueva for being selected to represent Texas at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders. We wish her luck and look forward to seeing her future success in the medical field.

**RECOGNIZING DIANA FOOD'S INVESTMENT  
IN BANKS COUNTY,  
GEORGIA**

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2017*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the exciting economic investment Diana Food, a global provider of natural ingredients to the food and beverage industries, has made in Banks County, Georgia. Georgia has previously been recognized

as one of the best states for business, and Diana Food's decision to establish a facility in Northeast Georgia is a testament to the strong workforce and economic promise that Georgia provides.

Diana Food provides innovative, sustainable ingredients for the food industry, and the company's new \$50 million facility will provide more than 80 new jobs to the heart of the Ninth District of Georgia, invigorating the local economy and showcasing Georgia as a premier state in which to do business. I grew up and raised a family just a county line over from Banks County, and can attest to the vigor of the local economy; Diana Food made the right choice. This decision is a win for Banks County, for the state of Georgia, and, most importantly, for the people who call our corner of the Peach State home.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Banks County on its economic drive and Diana Food on their decision to expand operations to Georgia. I am looking forward to seeing the positive community impact this investment will have on Banks County, Northeast Georgia, and the future of Georgia business.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2017*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and I missed the following roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

YEA on Roll Call 36  
NAY on Roll Call 37  
NAY on Roll Call 38  
NAY on Roll Call 39  
NAY on Roll Call 40  
NAY on Roll Call 41  
NAY on Roll Call 42  
NAY on Roll Call 43  
NAY on Roll Call 44  
YEA on Roll Call 45  
NAY on Roll Call 46  
NAY on Roll Call 47  
NAY on Roll Call 48  
NAY on Roll Call 49  
NAY on Roll Call 50  
YEA on Roll Call 51  
NAY on Roll Call 52  
NAY on Roll Call 53  
YEA on Roll Call 54  
YEA on Roll Call 55  
YEA on Roll Call 56  
NAY on Roll Call 57  
YEA on Roll Call 58  
YEA on Roll Call 59

**AWARDING THE CONGRESSIONAL  
GOLD MEDAL TO HUMANITARIAN  
AND SPORTING LEGEND MUHAMMAD ALI**

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2017*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as we begin Black History Month, I am proud to reintroduce legislation to award the Congressional

Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali in recognition of his contributions to our nation. I believe it is long past time to recognize an American civil rights activist and sporting legend with Congress' highest honor. Unfortunately, Congress failed to act before The Champ's death last summer, at the age 74, so I ask my colleagues to join me now in honoring an American hero. Over the course of his illustrious career, Muhammad Ali produced some of our nation's most lasting sports memories. From winning a Gold Medal at the 1960 Summer Olympics, to lighting the Olympic torch at the 1996 Summer Olympics, his influence as an athlete and a humanitarian spanned over fifty years.

Despite having been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the 1980s, Ali devoted his life to charitable organizations. Ali, and his wife Lonnie, were founding directors of the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center and Movement Disorders Clinic in Phoenix, AZ and helped raise over \$50 million for Parkinson's research. In addition to helping families cope with illness, Ali led efforts to provide meals for the hungry and helped countless organizations such as the Make-A-Wish-Foundation and the Special Olympics.

Muhammad Ali's humanitarian efforts went beyond his charitable activities in the United States. In 1990 Muhammad Ali traveled to the Middle East to seek the release of American and British hostages that were being held as human shields in the first Gulf War. After his intervention, 15 hostages were freed. Thanks to his devotion to diplomatic causes and racial harmony, Ali was the recipient of many accolades, including being chosen as a "U.N. Messenger of Peace" in 1998 and receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005 from President Bush.

Through his unyielding dedication to his sport and to struggling populations around the world, Muhammad Ali still serves an example of service and self-sacrifice for generations of Americans. The Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting commemoration of his life and work, for which he is deservedly known as "the Greatest."

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing one of our nation's most lasting and influential figures by signing on to this important legislation.

**RECOGNIZING FAMILIES IMPACTED  
BY THE NATIONAL  
OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 1, 2017*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the Record the personal stories of families from across the country that have been impacted by the opioid and heroin epidemic. In the U.S. we lose 129 lives per day to opioid and heroin overdose. In my home state of New Hampshire I have learned so many heartbreaking stories of great people and families who have suffered from the effects of substance use disorder.

Earlier this year, my colleagues and I were joined by many of these courageous families who came to Washington to share their stories