

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 Congres-

sional 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

with Members of Congress and push for action that will prevent overdoses and save lives. Since then, we passed both the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and the 21st Century Cures Act to provide much needed funding and critical policy changes to fight this epidemic.

The advocacy of these families truly is so important to leading change in Washington and I am proud to preserve their stories.

VICTOR BENJAMIN SURMA—BRIDGEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

Victor Benjamin Surma was born July 20, 1983. He died on January 26, 2014 from a heroin overdose. Victor was an excellent athlete. At the age of 15 he fractured his spine playing football. The orthopedic surgeon prescribed oxycodone. Prior to being prescribed a narcotic, Victor did not drink or use drugs. Victor was a fly fisherman, outdoorsman, excellent mogul skier. He was a good student and he had a bright future. Victor played football at a Division I college. His third year, he quit the team.

Victor struggled with substance abuse. His parents were unaware that prescription drugs would be highly addictive because of the history of drug and alcohol abuse in both of their families. Education and prevention, especially for families with genetic predisposition to abuse is essential knowledge, beginning at the earliest age for children.

Victor had a dual major in college in business and communications. He was a successful campaign model during and after college, and an orthopedic sales representative for Smith and Nephew. Victor was awarded “Rookie” of the year in sales nationwide. To maintain his ability to work, Victor would drive an hour after a 10 hour day of working in the hospital to find a doctor who would give him suboxone. The effort to obtain suboxone daily exhausted Victor physically and mentally. He could only work with the daily dose of suboxone, but could not function without having a doctor closer to his home. No one could.

Victor could not stop using prescription drugs. He fought like a soldier to stop the urges to use drugs. Victor also was uninformed in thinking he was weak and was shamed because of his drug habit.

Victor went to Caron Rehab, Gateway Rehab, Wonderland Rehab, two rehab facilities in Florida, Mountainside Rehab, and the last rehab was associated with Harvard Medical Center. Admittance to emergency room care when he voluntarily required life saving intervention was denied. His parents accompanied Victor to Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The blood test indicated so many drugs in Victor’s system that he qualified for admittance. However, there were not enough beds. They left not knowing what to do and Victor continued using.

Victor got two DUI’s and lost his license for two years within a week of being denied admittance to Mercy Hospital. He lost his lucrative job, all his accumulated money in bank accounts, his two cars, and became so desperate and ashamed he went into a downward spiral. Isolation from friends, family, and society was heart-wrenching.

Once his source of income was depleted, Victor started using heroin. At this point he qualified for methadone. His parents would drive Victor to the methadone clinic, and it was at the clinic where he made the acquaintance of a drug dealer. Victor was aware of the seriousness of drug dealing and would not participate. However, Victor had fallen so low that his parents paid a huge amount of money for him to go to a Harvard affiliated drug program.

Victor was clean for 6 months prior to his overdose. He humbled himself to work in re-

tail, walk to work, and his parents were his only social life. At the Harvard affiliated rehab, Victor obtained a sponsor and the doctor advised Victor’s parents to support his move to an apartment in New York City.

When Victor died, he was alone. The autopsy indicated a small amount of heroin and cocaine, but because he had not been using for 6 months it hit him like a freight train. The NYPD discovered his sponsor was a drug dealer from Long Island, NY. The phone records indicate the sponsor called Victor at 3 a.m. the morning of his overdose.

After his death, the community did not know what to say to his family. It was horrible for them not to have support even in light of Victor’s death. Addiction was perceived as a weakness, poor parenting, not as a disease.

Victor’s parents hope is to give support to other parents and families who are isolated and have a loved one suffering from substance abuse disorder. Insurance companies must step up and cover treatment. Treatment needs to be more than 28 days. If Victor’s parents had known that he may have had a chance to live with this disease with the help of extended rehab, they would have done anything possible to facilitate Victor’s recovery. His family looks at Victor’s death as a wasted, tragic loss of a loving, intelligent, compassionate, and vital person for this world.

Victor’s family misses him every second of every day. Losing a child to drug overdose is another stab in their hearts as support and compassion recognizing addiction as a disease is nil. Only through legislation, education and insurance participation can we as a society stop this fatal disease.

KELSEY SUZANNE VAUDREUIL—WELLINGTON, FLORIDA

Kelsey Suzanne was born August 25, 1991, in West Palm Beach, Florida, but lived most of her life in her hometown of Wellington. Growing up, Kelsey was a sweet, soft spoken child who made friends easily. She had two brothers, Korey and Austin, whom she loved with all of her heart. In Kelsey’s pre-teen years she loved the baton and was very involved with a discipleship group from church, which strengthened her faith and wisdom in God.

At age 16, Kelsey began working at a small town movie theatre in Wellington—sadly, that is where her opiate use began. From there on, Kelsey then graduated from smoking opiates to using heroin. For seven years, off and on, Kelsey was in and out of detox clinics, treatment centers, residential facilities, hospitals, and halfway houses. Kelsey’s mother was her biggest cheerleader; she loved, encouraged, and begged her to stop using and to try again. No matter how Kelsey felt her mother kept pushing her with God’s love and her own.

There was probably around seven or eight times her mother allowed Kelsey to live at home, but only if she promised she’d stay clean and not use. This privilege would end if she used drugs. Sadly, after a short stint at home, Kelsey started using again. Her mother unfortunately had to ask her to leave—how that killed her to have her child leave without knowing where or who she would go to but the boundaries had to be put in place.

Kelsey had lost her father in March of 2011, which broke both her and her brothers’ hearts. Kelsey’s mother believed this intensified her drug use. Even though Kelsey said she was okay, she always had that big beautiful smile of hers that covered so much pain. Kelsey also miscarried her son, Mason, at four months along. This was devastating for her; the shame and guilt she carried was overwhelming.

In 2012, Kelsey was almost a year sober and living in an all-girls halfway house. There

she built strong sober relationships and learned to manage her life and her addictions. She was working a full time job at a café, which she really enjoyed and the customers loved her. Her mother was so very proud and happy for her. Kelsey later left the halfway house and moved into an apartment with a friend, only to end three short months later after relapsing.

On December 17, 2014, at 6:10 a.m., Kelsey’s mother received a knock on my door from a policeman, who handed her a small piece of paper and told her to call the Lantana Police Department. She truly thought to herself, “Oh, Kelsey must have gotten into trouble.” The detective on the other end of the phone said, “Ma’am I’m sorry to tell you your daughter, Kelsey Suzanne Vaudreuil is deceased.” Kelsey passed away in a motel room—how that broke her mother’s heart. She’ll never know what truly happened that night, but the autopsy report said it was a multiple intoxication, accidental overdose. Kelsey’s little frame just couldn’t handle anymore poison but in God’s great Mercy, he took her home at 2:50 a.m. in that small motel room.

“Drug use has plagued my family for years,” writes Kelsey’s mother. “Kelsey’s passing has changed mine, my family’s, and friend’s lives forever. It’s a loss that I can never truly find the right words to express other than to say it’s a void in my heart that cannot be filled.”

“Addiction is a horrible disease and drugs don’t care anything about you. If you are in active drug use, please reach out! Don’t isolate yourself; there’s no shame. Remember, YOU ARE LOVED!”

JUSTIN WOLFE—PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Justin was intelligent, kind, thoughtful, loving, caring and loved life to the fullest. However, Justin’s story is similar to most who have an addiction, and that is he began drinking at 15 and eventually moved on to other substances, which was learned while he was in college. Justin in his younger years played soccer, ice hockey, street hockey, lacrosse and did karate. He attended Drexel and Syracuse Universities, respectively, but mid-year was dismissed from each due to aberrant behavior. Justin saw therapists as a result of his aberrant behavior and drinking since he was 15 years old. However, they thought it was his anxiety, OCD and behavior, not realizing he had a hidden addiction. His dream was to complete college and become a successful businessman. However, the punishments, reprimands and good parenting did not halt Justin’s behavior of what we later learned was a deep seated addiction.

In April of 2012, Justin approached his mother and admitted that he was addicted to Percocet and Oxycontin. She took him to their family physician and during the appointment, Justin asked the doctor not to tell me about his issues, claiming that the news would “kill me.” The physician told his mother to take Justin to a crisis center immediately for treatment, but Justin convinced her, without the doctor’s knowledge, to take him to a suboxone doctor that he had found instead.

Two months later his father was finally informed, against Justin’s wishes, about his addiction to Percocets. He demanded that Justin go to an inpatient rehab but he said as a 21 year old he could make his own decision; he didn’t want to go to an inpatient facility for fear of being exposed to more dangerous drugs, such as heroin and crack cocaine. Unbeknownst to us, he had been using heroin for quite some time at that point. Eventually, he agreed to participate in an outpatient treatment program for the summer and began weekly psychiatric visits.

While he was in the program Justin's father contacted the intake director to inquire about his progress. He was informed that they could not disclose any information under HIPAA regulations. The following September Justin attended Temple University as a sophomore and joined a wonderful fraternity AEPI. He continued to see a psychiatrist and things seemed to be going well, which made his passing on December 19th, 2012, all the more shocking to his family.

Justin's father explained Justin's history of substance abuse to the psychiatrist who tried to counsel him and monitor his prescriptions for depression, anxiety, and OCD. After Justin passed away his father learned that he hadn't disclosed his heroin addiction—except to say that he had tried it once.

Throughout Justin's time in college, he made friends who had also been in and out rehab, including one boy who was attending pharmacy school, a local judge's son who worked for a Governor, and an attorney's son. These examples demonstrate how addiction is indiscriminate—its devastation reaches all ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds. When his family found out that Justin had passed away from an overdose of heroin, the entire family was shocked. Only upon further investigation did his father learn that heroin is rampant in our communities—killing our children and destroying the lives of their families.

"We, as a society, need to advance education in schools at every grade level regarding the dangers of abusing opiates and the slim recovery rates of those who become addicted," writes Justin's father.

"It seems as though no one speaks about their family's struggle with addiction due to embarrassment or shame. However, within two months of my son's death, I spoke to well over 25 parents who came forward with stories similar to mine—several stints of rehab—only to lose their child to an overdose. Many families I have spoken to could no longer afford the high costs of treatment; their insurance would only cover a limited period of rehabilitation."

Justin was not violent and would never intentionally hurt a soul, but his addiction hurt and endangered the lives of those close to him, including his younger brother. I thank God that Justin never hurt anyone on the road. I have pictures of his apartment that demonstrate how he was living at college; there were cigarette burns on his bedding from all of the times he nodded out.

No one could save Justin—not his family, friends, nor Justin himself, but it is his father's hope that with much needed change, Justin's tragedy and his advocacy can help to save millions of young lives. Since Justin's passing, his father has spoken to close to a thousand parents and children regarding opiate and heroin abuse in order to bring awareness, education and prevention amongst our communities. If there is one pertinent fact that he can bring to the forefront, that is for every parent to have a Power of Attorney, a Medical Directive for their 18 year old so they are made aware of their symptoms, medical condition and are apprised of every step throughout their young adult's care.

BRADLEY MICHAEL ZULICK—BUTLER,  
PENNSYLVANIA

Bradley Michael Zulick was born August 21, 1986, in Butler, Pennsylvania. As a child, he always made his family laugh and brought joy and laughter to everyone lucky enough to know him. His friends and family describe him as funny, thoughtful, and a polite young man. He was loving, kind-hearted and was a spirit lifter, with a contagious personality and smile. Brad was also a fantastic athlete, a great friend, and everyone's best

friend. He was truly one of a kind. Brad loved everyone, and everyone loved him. His family meant the world to him. Brad also enjoyed spending time with his friends' children.

Throughout Brad's short life, one of his biggest interests was sports—whether he was participating or simply watching, he was always engaged. In high school, he excelled at football, basketball, and track, and also enjoyed playing golf. Even when he was older he still participated in small-sided football games, church basketball leagues, deck hockey, and baseball games. No one knew more about sports than Brad, which helped him to become an outstanding sports trivia player.

Every year Brad played in the Lyndora Turkey Bowl, a neighborhood football game held on Thanksgiving Day, where the younger guys played against the older generation. Brad enjoyed these games so much. He also was a passionate supporter of Pitt Panther football and regularly attended games with his dad, sister, cousins, and friends. Pitt games are precious memories of times spent with Brad.

Brad loved music; going to concerts with his close friends was what he looked forward to more than anything. In school, history was Brad's favorite subject. He studied history at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and went on to receive his associate's degree from Butler County Community College on May 19, 2009. We were all so proud of him for this accomplishment. It seemed Brad's life would be everything he dreamed it could be. We all were so hopeful that he would have a bright future.

However, around the time Brad graduated from college, he became addicted to prescription pills. "I knew there was a problem," writes his mother. "But because I was naive, I didn't know exactly what was wrong. Brad was becoming moody and depressed—the total opposite of the laid-back young man he always was in the past."

In January of 2014, Brad admitted his addiction to prescription pills and asked for help. It was believed he was using heroin at that time, but he didn't admit it. His mother's heart broke as she watched Brad sobbing because of the shame and guilt he felt from his addiction. He told her he was lost. His family tried so hard to help him. Brad went into treatment three times. He always believed he could overcome his struggles with addiction but his mother never truly understood how hard it really was for him.

The saddest day of her life was March 17, 2016—the day Brad lost his battle with addiction. He passed away from an overdose of heroin laced with Fentanyl. Brad's parents lost their baby, their only son that day. Their daughter, Kelly, lost her only sibling and best friend. They all are struggling with the grief of such a huge loss.

ETHAN CLEWELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ethan Clewell for being honored by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce with the Behind the Scenes Award.

The Behind the Scenes Award recipient is selected by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce staff to recognize an individual who has gone above and beyond to support the efforts of the Arvada Chamber.

Ethan Clewell is the epitome of an unsung hero. He works tirelessly behind-the-scenes to

help ensure the success of many community and chamber events. In addition, Ethan dedicates his time and has helped make significant contributions to Leadership Arvada and Arvada Young Professionals. The Arvada Chamber team can always count on Ethan to go above and beyond.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ethan Clewell for this well-deserved honor from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT ON  
902 CONSULTATIONS

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO  
SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. SABLÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the Report to the President on 902 Consultations and in so doing recognize the vitality of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America.

The Covenant is the fundamental agreement that brought the Marianas into this nation. It was approved by 79 percent of island voters in a 1975 plebiscite and by the U.S. Congress in U.S. Public Law 94-241 the following year. President Ronald Reagan brought the Covenant into full force and effect in 1986, pursuant to his Proclamation 5564.

The Covenant lays out in detail the nature and conditions of the relationship between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States. There is recognition embedded in this agreement, however, that matters may arise periodically affecting the relationship, and the Covenant provides a mechanism for their examination. Section 902 requires that the President of the United States and the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will appoint special representatives at least every ten years to meet and consider these matters and then make a report and recommendations regarding them.

In January of this year, special representatives of the President and the Commonwealth, having met pursuant to Section 902, issued their Report to the President. Today, I include in the RECORD a web address to that report, so that it will be available to all Members of Congress and to the public at large, and so that the work and recommendations of all involved in producing this document will be memorialized and widely accessible. The address is:

<http://sablan.house.gov/sites/sablan.house.gov/files/documents/902%20Final%20Report.pdf>

25 YEAR AND GOING STRONG:  
KSBJ AND TIM McDERMOTT

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since 1999, Houstonians wake up each Sunday and get ready for church. They get in their cars and tune into 89.3 KSBJ and start their mornings with Tim McDermott on his show "Enter His