

Americans today and could lead to 3.6 million Americans losing a leg in the next 30 years, according to researchers at Johns Hopkins University.

It is a personal battle for me as an African American who suffers from diabetes. The disease is three times more likely to affect African Americans, and diabetes is one of the high-risk factors.

Fortunately, it is easy to prevent. That is why I started the Congressional PAD Caucus in the House with my colleague, GUS BILIRAKIS from Florida.

Amputation is one of the most physically and emotionally damaging injuries a person can experience, especially if it is unnecessary. We need to focus more attention and resources to a problem with a clear solution and save sufferers and families an unnecessary trauma.

HONORING WORLD CHAMPION EASTBANK ALL-STARS

(Mr. SCALISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastbank All-Stars from River Ridge, Louisiana, for winning the 73rd Little League World Series Championship.

It is exciting any time that the United States competes against the world and wins and does so in such a classy fashion that represents the great values of this Nation. It is even more special that these young men from my district were the first in the State of Louisiana's history to win the Little League World Series.

It was an exciting series for all of us. It captured the imagination of the people of Louisiana, especially to watch how these young men represented themselves and the rest of us in such a classy way as they competed against the nation of Curacao and ultimately delivered an 8-0 victory for the United States.

I, along with all of my colleagues from Louisiana, introduced H. Res. 547 to formally congratulate these young men. They look forward to going to the White House to meet the President. He has extended the invitation.

It is a great moment for Louisiana and a great moment for the United States, especially for River Ridge, Louisiana.

APPLAUDING U.S. COAST GUARD'S RESPONSE TO HURRICANE DORIAN

(Mr. CRIST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to applaud the heroic work of the United States Coast Guard in response to the historic Category 5 Hurricane Dorian.

The Coast Guard motto is "Always Ready," and they have shown that in the wake of this disaster. By strategically positioning personnel, aircraft, and cutters ahead of the storm, they

were able to respond quickly and save lives. In fact, in total, the Coast Guard first responders rescued over 200 people in Dorian's wake.

Back home in Pinellas County, Florida, I had the opportunity to visit the first responder crews from Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater after they returned home. We could not be prouder of their dedication as well as their service.

Again, I thank the brave folks of the United States Coast Guard for always being ready to keep America—and our neighbors—safe and secure.

CONGRATULATING WINSTON- SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY, THE NATION'S TOP PUBLIC HBCU FOR VALUE

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Winston-Salem State University, WSSU, in North Carolina's Fifth District on its recent ranking by Money magazine as the Nation's best public Historically Black University for value. The publication considered 26 different measures of value, including affordability, education quality, and graduates' record of landing well-paying jobs.

Many institutions do not make timely completion of college a priority, leading to increased debt for the six out of 10 students who take more than 6 years to graduate. WSSU is a bright spot in our Nation's university system, though, with the average student graduating in under 5 years and alumni earning an average \$46,200 annually within 3 years of graduation.

Chancellor Elwood Robinson, WSSU administrators, and faculty should be very proud to lead our Nation's Historically Black Universities and Colleges in value. I applaud the school's dedication to honoring the financial sacrifices made to pursue postsecondary education.

COMMEMORATING THE YEAR OF RETURN

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on a number of points—first of all, to acknowledge the killing and mass murder in El Paso, in Dayton, and in Odessa. I think it is calling upon this Congress not only to pray but to do, and I plan to do.

Let me also indicate that this is the Year of Return, 400 years that enslaved Africans came to the United States. Millions were enslaved and came. From 1789 to 1865, the institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned.

I am glad to have been part of a historic trip to Ghana with my colleague and the Speaker of the House to honor

the Year of Return and thank the Ghanaian leadership for its welcoming of those of us who came to honor that history, although tragic with the loss of life and the issue of wealth being created in this Nation.

Let me also remind our colleagues that we are glad that our neighbors in the Southeast survived, but I want to remind us of the devastation in the Bahamas. We must not let our neighbors suffer. We must rise up with funding. We must recognize that they are our neighbors. We must deal with immigration laws, and we must be receptive, Mr. Speaker, to helping them get back on their feet. I know this Congress and this House will work together when our fellow neighbors are suffering the way they are suffering.

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CONGRATULATING BEN WEAVER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ben Weaver, owner of SERVPRO, a damage restoration company in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, Cambria County, that specializes in fire, water, and mold remediation.

Ben is an Army National Guard veteran, who was recently named the Western Pennsylvania Veteran-Owned Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

I was pleased to be back in Ebensburg recently to present a commendation for this award. What started out as Ben in one truck as his mobile office, has become a growing company of 22 employees, a fleet of 20 trucks, and a 10,000-square-foot office building in Ebensburg, with a second office opening soon in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Ben was able to launch his business, thanks to the help of an SBA-backed 7(a) loan but attributes his success to being active in his community. Ben mentioned that the community is like a family. He said, "in the end, people really want to do business with people they know—their extended family."

Madam Speaker, I applaud Ben's dedication. He is certainly deserving of this award.

NAFTA 2.0/USMCA

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, the original NAFTA has been one of the most destructive economic forces to jobs in America. There hasn't been a single year of trade balance since its passage.

I fought NAFTA tooth and nail when it was considered back in the 1990s. And as the Representative for working class communities from Toledo to Cleveland, I have since joined every

one of my constituents in bearing witness to the devastating effects of what some call “free trade.”

On the campaign trail, President Trump repeatedly boasted he would scrap NAFTA and renegotiate a better deal. But his proposal lacks common-sense labor enforcement provisions, falls short of pressuring companies to reshore American jobs, and it provides massive carveouts for Big Pharma that will cause the price of prescription drugs to skyrocket even more.

I have always been an advocate for fair trade among free people, but NAFTA crashed the largest economy in the world—the United States—into that of a developing nation—Mexico—without any plan to deal with the human and economic consequences.

Madam Speaker, as currently written, the USMCA, NAFTA 2.0, continues this failed legacy of NAFTA 1.0, and remains a failure for the American worker. The USMCA is just NAFTA 2.0. It should be defeated.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S SECOND DISTRICT BUS TOUR

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from Washington and district offices.

I especially appreciate scheduler Stephanie Pendarvis for successfully coordinating her first bus tour in the tradition of Emily Saleeby.

Our trip consisted of over 20 stops across 5 counties in the district. It was humbling and inspiring to meet with constituents at small businesses, schools, chambers of commerce, and manufacturers.

Many of the stops I visited were rapidly growing, including Charter NEX Films of Columbia, a world leader in high-performance specialty films, who plan to add 100 more jobs, along with Swiss Krono of Barnwell, who plan to add 105 jobs. In addition, the Orangeburg County/City Industrial Park has begun construction to welcome new businesses and jobs.

I appreciate the Irmo Chamber of Commerce hosting a town hall on the tour. I am grateful to be accessible and accountable to constituents.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

EXPEDITED ENTRY AND TPS FOR BAHAMIANS

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support, strong support, for the people of the Bahamas in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. Residents of the

Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands are in a desperate situation.

This is a humanitarian crisis, the likes of which has never before faced the Bahamas. I am grateful for the efforts of the USAID and the U.S. Coast Guard, which have been instrumental in leading search-and-rescue efforts and providing emergency food assistance to Bahamians.

As the chair of the House Committee on Financial Services and co-chair of the Congressional Caribbean Caucus, I strongly support an expedited U.S. visa application process or a waiver process for Bahamians who are seeking to enter the U.S., and I am extremely supportive of the extension of the Temporary Protected Status designation for all Bahamians who cannot safely return to the Bahamas.

Displaced Bahamians must be treated with respect, and all applications for visas must be processed efficiently and in an emergency manner. The road to recovery for Bahamians will be long and difficult, but all Bahamians must be treated with respect.

Madam Speaker, the United States is standing with the Bahamas during this difficult time. We will do all that we can to aid in the recovery efforts in the coming weeks and months.

COMMEMORATING FRANCIS BELLAMY

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Francis Bellamy, one of the most influential individuals from Mount Morris, New York.

Francis Bellamy is the author of the Pledge of Allegiance. Yesterday marked the 127th anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in a magazine called The Youth Companion on September 8, 1892.

The pledge was initially written as part of a campaign to put American flags in every school in the country. In its original form, it read:

“I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

In 1923, the words “the flag of the United States of America” were added. And in 1954, Congress added the words, “under God” creating the 31-word pledge we say today.

Bellamy's words are recited millions of times every day and are engrained in our society as an expression of national pride and patriotism.

D.C. STATEHOOD

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 19, the Committee on Oversight and Reform will

hold a historic hearing on D.C. statehood. It will be the first hearing on H.R. 51 in 26 years.

This is not an informational hearing, Madam Speaker. This is a jurisdictional hearing in every meaning of that word.

The State will still be called Washington, D.C., but D.C. will stand for Douglass Commonwealth after the immortal Frederick Douglass, who championed equal rights for D.C. citizens.

D.C. residents pay the highest Federal taxes per capita in the United States. No wonder this bill has almost enough cosponsors to pass right now. It is not too late to cosponsor. Don't let H.R. 51 go to the House floor without you.

HONORING SEPTEMBER VETERAN OF THE MONTH ANDY KOEHL

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran, Colonel Andy Koehl, U.S. Army Retired.

Colonel Koehl enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard in 1936. During World War II, he spent 43 months in the South Pacific, during which he participated in five amphibious landings as an artillery officer, was wounded in action, and was awarded the Purple Heart.

In August 1945, he again risked his life as one of the first occupation troops to enter Hiroshima after the atomic bomb.

Following World War II, he continued his stellar career by serving multiple worldwide tours of duty, including service in Vietnam from 1961 to 1963 as part of the first advisors dispatched to that area.

And this past May, Colonel Koehl celebrated his 100th birthday. But in fact, it is we who celebrate him.

Our Nation owes him a debt of gratitude for all he has endured over 30 years of service to protect our freedoms and a faith that brought him through the darkest days of war.

Madam Speaker, I thank Colonel Koehl. I thank him for blessing us with his life of sacrifice.

CONGRATULATING CAPE MAY 4-H

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, Cape May County's 4-H Foundation and Fairgrounds recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. After many years of moving from place to place, the 4-H Fair opened on July 24, 1969, at its current fairgrounds in Cape May County in South Jersey.

Many of the traditions established back then are still carried on today, such as a chicken BBQ, pet parade, and talent show for the young people who participate in the 4-H program.