

## CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**HON. CHARLIE CRIST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of college football in the United States. For fans, college football is a coming together to honor athleticism, hard work, and your favorite team. For players, it's an irreplaceable opportunity to hone work ethic, gain leadership skills, become part of a close-knit team, and play for your school. As a former college quarterback, I'm thankful for the opportunities playing this amazing sport provided, and as a Floridian I'm thrilled when Florida's teams win. From storied institutions to rising stars, Florida's collegiate football programs are unmatched, as is their fans love for the game. Madam Speaker, may college football continue to thrive for another 150 years.

**HONORING JEFFREY KINNEER LAUBSCHER****HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey Kinneer Laubscher. Jeffrey is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeffrey has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeffrey has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeffrey has led his troop as the Senior Patrol Leader, become a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and holds the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jeffrey has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jeffrey built and installed privacy screens for the portable restrooms for the NKCA Baseball Association at the A.J. Wilson Sports Complex in Kansas City, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Jeffrey Kinneer Laubscher for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS****HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave Americans who served our country during the Viet-

nam Era. The courage, patriotism, and heroism that our servicemembers displayed when faced with the danger of serving in the Vietnam War speaks to the character and strength of these individuals and our nation.

I am honored to be a part of the Vietnam War Commemorative Committee. The brave men and women who served our nation during the Vietnam War set aside their ambitions, left their families, and risked their lives for our country. This project is a token of our gratitude for their selfless service and steadfast, unwavering devotion to our nation and the American people. The legacy of all those who served during the conflict remains an inspiration to our nation. To the families of our servicemembers who stood by faithfully as your loved ones departed to defend our freedoms overseas, I offer my sincere gratitude for your shared commitment to duty and service.

I will continue to work each day to serve all those who have served us so valiantly. Our veterans have made incredible sacrifices in honor of our nation. It is a debt we can never repay, and one we can never forget. It is essential that we provide all our veterans with the care and support they so richly deserve.

As the Representative for New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I will continue to work on behalf of our courageous Vietnam veterans, servicemembers, and military families who have given so much for our country. May we honor and celebrate all our soldiers, and may God bless the United States of America. As of November 1st, 2019, I was honored to present Vietnam Commemorative Pins to the following constituents:

Michael H. Eastman, Richard C. Dellerba, Richard Kimball Smith, David Paquette, William Allan Stashluk, Paul B. Dullea, Ronald Stephen Clark, William Warren Walker, Robert E. Thebodo, Robert Arnold Edstrom.

James William Dryer, George A. Travers, Charles Machado, Carl Daniel Fredrickson, Jr., Ronald J. Cote, Michael L. Gray, David Lawrence Nelson, Jr., Robert Francis Stanley, Rodney A. Stanley, William Joseph Brodeur.

David Eugene Norton, Raymond Paul Boudreau, Guy A. Tremblay, William F. Chapman, Charles Michael Sirosky, Steven F. Cady, Eric Frederick Parthum, Lowell Bohnert, James E. Neister, John Vincent Madden.

Louis Maurice Belanger, Joseph Vincent Cannava, Norman Wayne Blake, Andrew J. LaCourse, John Francis DiBernardo, John Johansen, Thomas R. Sawyer, Lawrence Wayne Barchard, Harold Francis Shea, Jr., Richard L. Lavoie.

Alfred Anthony Monterio, Joseph Frank Cannata, Donald J. Burns, George R. Hall, Roger John Hubert, Phillip J. Miller, Richard Stewart Tatem, Lloyd H. Hamilton, Clyde Francis Bubar, Walter Gerald Cibulski, Jr.

Michael Joseph Golden, William Thomas McClellan III, Edmund J. Gleason, Louis R. Hagan, Ronald Paul Morrissey, Joseph K. Ireland, Gerald Joseph Bushway, Henry Stephen Masciocchi, Robert A. Duncan, Sr., Kathleen McLeod Duncan.

Thomas W.R. Thibault, Sr., James Edward Miles, Arthur John Demeis, Bruce Edward Richardson, Francis Joseph Cuddy, Jr., Susan Ann Cuddy, Robert William Perry, Sr., Wilfred Clinton Gonyo, Margaret Lee Clarke, Edward E. Rochford.

## DIGNITY IN AGING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4334, the "Dignity in Aging Act of 2019."

H.R. 4334 reauthorizes the Older Americans Act (OAA), which authorizes funds to state and local programs to ensure aging seniors have access to food, transportation, and other basic services they need to live independently and with dignity.

The number of Americans over age 65 is expected to reach 70 million by 2030, representing a 71 percent increase from today's 41 million older adults.

Elder and long-term care is rapidly becoming one of the most daunting healthcare challenges of our day.

By 2050, the global population of people older than 60 is expected to jump to two billion.

In the United States, the number of Americans over the age of 65 is expected to double from roughly 50 million today to nearly 100 million by 2060.

While the United States is currently ranked among the top countries in the world for the elderly, there are significant variations across the country in access to healthcare and quality of life.

On average, the older adult population spends \$18,424 annually per person, with more than one-third of those expenditures occurring after the age of 85.

The Medicaid program accounted for more than 40 percent of overall U.S. nursing home costs in 2012, and 65 percent of these costs in graying states like Pennsylvania.

Together with Medicare, these programs comprise more than 31 percent of all U.S. health expenditures.

An aging America will experience increasingly severe and complex health conditions.

Almost half of the U.S. population is expected to have at least one chronic disease by 2020.

The number of aging individuals with three or more chronic conditions has also increased significantly within the last ten years, and this is expected to grow to 40 percent among the 65 and over population by 2030.

By 2050, the number of Americans needing long-term services and supports (LTSS) will more than double to 27 million.

Our approach to caring for the aging is fiscally unsustainable for taxpayers and consumers alike.

Absent changes to a fragmented system of care delivery which rewards high-cost rather than high-quality care, the burden of healthcare spending for the aging population will soon become unsustainable for taxpayer-funded programs like Medicare and Medicaid, as well as individual consumers paying out-of-pocket.

Between 2015 and 2025, annual Medicare spending is projected to double to \$1.2 trillion dollars.

The median annual out-of-pocket costs for Americans age 65 will rise to \$6,200, nearly double what it was in 2010.

Unless policymakers act now, aging Americans and their loved ones will soon experience unsustainably high costs for healthcare

coverage as well as significant declines in the access to and quality of care.

As Medicare and the Older Americans Act reach their fiftieth anniversaries continue to improve aging America's access to affordable, high-quality care, it will be necessary to identify, evaluate, and scaleup policy interventions that work.

Today's health care workforce is inadequate to meet the needs of older Americans, many of whom have multiple chronic physical and mental health conditions and cognitive impairments.

10 percent of Harris Counties population is 65 years and older.

It is critical for the United States Congress to stand with aging seniors who need access to food, transportation, and other basic services.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4334 to help older ensure that aging seniors are provided with essential services they need to live independently.

REVEREND SUAREZ

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Israel Suarez for his over 40 years of community service to Southwest Florida. Reverend Suarez is the founder and CEO of Nations Association Charities. Reverend Suarez and Nations Association have given four decades helping disadvantaged residents and youth in Southwest Florida by providing food for struggling families, scholarships assistance for college-bound youths, job counseling and placement help, and drug prevention programs, all impacting thousands of lives over the years.

In 2019, Reverend Suarez's focus has been to serve primarily at-risk youth through mentoring, drug and suicide prevention, academic assistance, leadership development, community service, and financial literacy. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush awarded Reverend Suarez with a Points of Light Award and in 1994 the News-Press named Reverend Suarez and his wife Ruth, the 'People of the Year'.

Every year, Reverend Suarez and Nations Association Charities provide an annual Thanksgiving meal distribution event, Christmas Celebration, and a "Back to Basics Health Fair" that provides free medical screenings to hundreds of families in our community.

I thank Reverend Suarez for his years of service to our community.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COL. ANTHONY POLASHEK

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, on November 2, Colonel Anthony G. Polashek is retiring from the 934th Airlift Wing at the Min-

neapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station in Minnesota after serving in the Air Force for 32 years. As Commander, he led the 1,500-member wing and supported our Armed Forces for resupply missions in forward areas and aeromedical and refugee evacuations. His command and leadership was critical in the defense of our country.

Col. Polashek graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa before commissioning into the Air Force as a graduate of Officer Training School in Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Col. Polashek served and was deployed to support operations including Operation Desert Shield/Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom. As a command pilot, he logged more than 5,800 flight hours including over 500 combat hours. He has received several prestigious awards for his service, including the Meritorious Service Medal and Aerial Achievement Medal.

Today, I urge lawmakers to join me in thanking Col. Polashek for his 32 years of service in the United States Air Force and wish him well in future endeavors.

HONORING COLTEN MICHAEL PICKERAL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Colten Michael Pickeral. Colten is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 87, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Colten has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Colten has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Colten has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Colten inspected and restrung three swimming lane lines at the Cameron Aquatic Center in Cameron, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Colten Michael Pickeral for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRIST CATHEDRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Christ Cathedral Baptist Church, a house of worship located in Detroit, Michigan, on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary.

The members of Christ Cathedral Baptist Church first came together to worship in 1994. The congregation grew so quickly in its first year that they were forced to find a new wor-

ship space before settling at its current address on Hartford Street. No matter what location, the congregation was home wherever they could gather together for worship. It is evident in their mutual support for one another and commitment to serving the community's most vulnerable that the flock at Christ Cathedral Baptist Church is a family. For more than twenty years, the church has given back to the community by hosting meal services for those in need and ministering to people struggling with substance abuse. In short, the flock at Christ Cathedral has drawn strength from each other as they have come together to worship and celebrate, and they have used their strength in service to others.

Please join me in recognizing Christ Cathedral Baptist Church on this milestone as we wish them many more years of service to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE  
HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS

SPEECH OF

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to Congressman John Conyers. He was one of the 13 founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). He served for 53 years in the U.S. House of Representatives—making him one of the longest-serving House members in U.S. history and the first African American to hold the title of dean.

Congressman John Conyers, Jr., was born in Detroit, Michigan, on May 16, 1929, the eldest of four sons of John and Lucille (Simpson) Conyers. Congressman Conyers attended Detroit public schools and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1947. After graduating from high school, Mr. Conyers served in the National Guard from (1948 to 1950) and then joined the U.S. Army for four years.

Congressman Conyers later attended officer candidate school and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. During his time in the Army, he served in Korea for a year. He was honorably discharged in 1954 and served three more years in the Army Reserves.

He was inspired by his friend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to run for office and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1964. His first hire was civil rights hero Rosa Parks. She served as an aide to Mr. Conyers for 22 years from 1964 until she retired in 1988. During his time in Congress, Representative Conyers chaired the Government Oversight and Reform Committee (formerly the Government Operations Committee) and was the first African American to serve on the House Judiciary Committee and to become its chair.

As a human rights and civil rights champion, Mr. Conyers opposed the death penalty and fought for police brutality oversight. He was a lead co-sponsor of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Mr. Conyers also assisted in passing the Help America Vote Act (2002), the Violence Against Women Act (1994), the Motor Voter Bill (1993), the Jazz Preservation Act (1987), and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Act (1983).

His legislative record extends to introducing the Medicare For All Act, legislation to establish a government-sponsored, single-payer