

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 scale up 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 commending 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

healthcare option to control costs. Additionally, Representative Conyers also championed the issue of reparations by introducing a bill to establish a commission to study the effect of slavery and race relations in America, which he fought for consideration every year.

His fight for justice also extended to international issues, as well. Mr. Conyers was an early leader in the anti-Vietnam War movement, in addition to the anti-Iraq War movement. He was also a vocal opponent of South Africa's apartheid policies. Congressman Conyers joined Congressman Ron Dellums and other CBC Members in confronting President Nixon about imposing sanctions against South Africa. When it became clear he would not act, Congressman Conyers joined Congressman Dellums in introducing legislation to that end and was even arrested at a protest in front of the South African embassy.

He impacted so many people in his district and throughout the country. America is a better country today because of the legislative and advocacy work of Representative John Conyers, Jr.

CONGRATULATING THE BREESE
MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL BOYS'
GOLF TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the Breese Mater Dei High School boys' golf team, which recently brought home the Illinois Class 1A state championship.

It was a very closely contested tournament October 19 to 20 at Prairie Vista Golf Course in Bloomington. At the end of the first round, the Mater Dei Knights found themselves trailing Carmi-White County's 320 score at the top of the leaderboard by a single stroke, with Belleville Althoff Catholic one shot behind them in third place.

In the second—and final—round, Mater Dei and Althoff both shot 322, while Carmi-White County carded a 347 total to fall out of contention. The Knights' 643 gave them a one-stroke victory over their rivals from Althoff and the school's second state golf title. Long-time Coach Dennis Trame also led Mater Dei to the Class A championship in 1993.

My hearty congratulations go to Coach Trame and team members Carter Goebel, Grant Goebel, Nathan Rivera, Ian Berndsen, Blake Kloeckner, and Tanner Gerdes, as well as to Athletic Director Ron Schadeegg and Principal Dennis Litteken.

Madam Speaker, these student-athletes have represented themselves, their school, and their community in the best tradition of high school athletics. I wish them all continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 23, 2019 dur-

ing roll call no. 579, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 650, Providing for consideration of H.R. 4617, the Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 580, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 650, Providing for consideration of H.R. 4617, the Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 581, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4617, Lesko of Arizona Part B Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 582, On Motion to Recommend with Instructions, H.R. 4617, SHIELD Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 583, On Passage, H.R. 4617, SHIELD Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 584, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 777, Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act of 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes last week (10/21 to 10/23) due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 568; YEA on Roll Call No. 569; YEA on Roll Call No. 570; NAY on Roll Call No. 571; NAY on Roll Call No. 572; YEA on Roll Call No. 573; NAY on Roll Call No. 574; YEA on Roll Call No. 575; YEA on Roll Call No. 576; NAY on Roll Call No. 577; YEA on Roll Call No. 578; NAY on Roll Call No. 579; NAY on Roll Call No. 580; YEA on Roll Call No. 581; YEA on Roll Call No. 582; NAY on Roll Call No. 583; and YEA on Roll Call No. 584.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF
MINOCK-WHITLOCK PARK

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Minock-Whitlock Park as the residents of Detroit celebrate its opening.

The residents of Detroit's Warrendale neighborhood have worked tirelessly to open a community park. We owe special thanks to the Matney family for their leadership in this project. The goal of creating a community gathering space that can be enjoyed by all community members has been realized. Minock-Whitlock Park will be an asset to the neighborhood and the community at-large, emphasizing the importance of coming together as a community.

Please join me in tribute to the Detroit residents who made this park possible in honor of the grand opening of Minock-Whitlock Park.

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE
COORDINATION ACT

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. 1306, the "Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act."

H.R. 1306 amends the Disaster Recovery Reform Act to help federal agencies streamline and consolidate information collection and Preliminary Damage Assessments following disasters.

H.R. 1306 also establishes a federal working group to identify areas of overlap in performing the assessments used to administer disaster assistance for individuals, households, states, tribes, and territories.

It is critical for the United States Congress to stand with the women and men who have been affected by disasters across the United States.

In 2017, Hurricane Harvey dumped a record 275 trillion pounds of rain on the Houston area.

An estimated 13 million people were affected, nearly 135,000 homes damaged or destroyed in the historic flooding, and up to a million cars were wrecked.

This year, Tropical Storm Imelda has dumped 10 inches of rain in Houston, and at least 40 inches of rain in other parts of southeast Texas, making it one of the wettest storms in history.

These natural disasters represent the importance of H.R. 1306 to properly mitigate disaster relief services and provide appropriate assistance to impacted communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1306 to help federal agencies streamline information collection and damage assessments following disasters.

HUNTERDON HELPLINE'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM MALINOWSKI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hunterdon Helpline's 50th Anniversary, a valuable and important organization serving Hunterdon County, Somerset County and beyond.

Hunterdon Helpline offers a wide array of services, including Literacy Services for adult learners, Workconnectivity to connect employees to employers, senior and disability programs for socialization and well-being, the Community Translation Center to assist those whose first language is other than English, 24-Hour Homeless Response in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties; compassionate listening; suicide prevention; and First Assist, a comprehensive information and referral service offered 24-7, 365 days of the year.

Special commendations are extended to a host of volunteers who continue to give generously of their time, energy and resources to Hunterdon Helpline through their invaluable efforts as members of the Board of Trustees,