

and I want to thank the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, The United Jewish Council, the UJA Federation of New York, and other social service organizations providing care across our own country.

I applaud the Claims Conference for its tireless advocacy on behalf of Holocaust survivors worldwide in order to provide them with a small measure of justice and the funding necessary for them to live with dignity, comfort, and security.

IN RECOGNITION OF RANDY
TAYLOR

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Randy Taylor who is retiring after more than thirty years of dedicated public service with the Lewisville Fire Department. Beginning his career in 1985, Mr. Taylor has served within the Lewisville Fire Department in multiple capacities. He is recognized as a dedicated firefighter and as a knowledgeable mentor to those who have been privileged to work with him. Captain Taylor has been an integral part of the Lewisville Fire Department, and leaves a lasting legacy of excellence and leadership.

Mr. Taylor began his career as a volunteer firefighter and was eventually hired full time by the department. After serving 8 years, he was promoted to driver and engineer. His commitment to the department never wavered and after twenty years he earned the rank of captain. He has served at 5 of the 7 LFD stations and he retires as head of station four. He has been a positive influence on the firefighters he has worked with over the years and his service to the city of Lewisville will not soon be forgotten.

I am honored to represent Captain Taylor and the city of Lewisville in the U.S. House of Representatives. I salute Captain Taylor for his exemplary career and extend him my best wishes upon his retirement and future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YMCA OF
CAPE COD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize YMCA Cape Cod on the joyous occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

For generations, over ten thousand neighborhoods and local communities around the country have been enriched by the presence and services provided by the YMCA. The Y, as the YMCA is affectionately known, is a center from which community life has radiated for over 160 years. It serves not only as a health and fitness club but also as a place where neighbors gather and young people find valuable mentors. This exceptional organization is recognized both nationally and internationally for its commitment to its mission of youth development, healthy living and social responsi-

bility, while strengthening communities, and promoting lifelong wellness.

The celebration of YMCA Cape Cod's landmark 50th anniversary gives us reason to reflect on the far-reaching influence this center has had on the Cape Cod community. Since its incorporation in 1966 following a meeting of community members in Hyannis, YMCA Cape Cod has continued to grow and thrive, and the organization now proudly operates numerous successful facilities across Cape Cod. A highlight of YMCA Cape Cod is Camp Lyndon—a day camp that provides boating lessons, arts and crafts, family nights and countless other exciting summer activities for young people around Cape Cod to enjoy in an environment that encourages a spirit of adventure and cultivates core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Another standout program is the Teen Achievers Program, a mentorship program that encourages teens to pursue higher education opportunities. Additionally, it provides a range of essential services—from excellent childcare centers to organized youth sports year-round.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating YMCA Cape Cod, its enthusiastic staff and dedicated volunteers on the celebration of 50 years of service to the Cape Cod Community. I look forward to seeing all that this outstanding organization is going to accomplish in the next 50 years.

STAFFORD HIGH SCHOOL MOURNS
THE LOSS OF COACH MICHAEL
MESA

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Stafford High School head baseball coach Michael Mesa.

At only 25 years old, Michael Mesa died unexpectedly on May 13, 2016. His death was unexpected and the cause is still unknown. Mesa was a Stafford High School 2008 graduate who in his senior year was an all-district catcher. Michael Mesa was a respected teacher and coach, and will be sorely missed. He is survived by his fiancée and a two year old son.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we offer our condolences to the friends and family of Michael Mesa and the Stafford High School community. His leadership and dedication will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
ROGER L. MCCREERY

HON. CHRIS STEWART

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Roger L. McCreery, a close friend of mine, who has faithfully served the United States Army and the Tooele Army Depot for three years, and will now be relinquishing command. It is my honor to recognize the many sacrifices and years of service

Colonel McCreery has given to our great nation. I have had the opportunity to work with Colonel McCreery on a variety of issues and I have appreciated his openness and willingness to partner together to help the people of Utah.

I offer my sincerest thanks for all those who serve at the Tooele Army Depot, and especially those who have had the privilege to serve with Colonel McCreery. I understand the sacrifices our service men and women make on behalf of our nation. I am humbled by the work Colonel McCreery and these individuals do every day to protect not only my freedom but our nation's freedom as well.

Defending honor, duty, and country is the greatest accomplishment one can achieve in the U.S. Army. Colonel McCreery's courage and dedication has helped make our armed forces the most respected in the world.

COMMEMORATING ECUMENICAL
PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW FOR
CONVENING THE GREAT AND
HOLY COUNCIL OF ORTHODOX
CHURCHES

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Orthodox Christian Churches, which make up the second largest Christian Church in the world, who will be gathering in a Holy and Great Council June 19–26. This is an extraordinary, historic moment in time for Orthodox Christianity. For nearly 300 million Christians, many of whom live in the United States, this Council is of extraordinary historic significance. The adoption of the Nicene Creed in the year 325, a prayer that is recited in virtually every Christian Church in the world, remains the most well-known result of such a Council.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is convening this Great and Holy Council of Orthodox Churches around the world. The Ecumenical Patriarch is the 269th direct successor of the "first-called" Apostle Andrew who established his Holy See in that region. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is a renowned person and is no stranger to America where he has been recognized many times for his noteworthy accomplishments. Many will recall that he brought about the world's first statement by Muslim and Christian leaders denouncing the 9/11 attacks as an "anti-religious" act.

Among other recognitions of great consequence, the U.S. Congress awarded the Ecumenical Patriarch the Congressional Gold Medal in 1997. We welcome this gathering and congratulate our three million Orthodox Christians in America and the 300 million around the world.

TRIBUTE TO KYLEE MUYSKENS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kylee