

confident that President Jack Haye and Dean Mark Mitchell will continue to lead Patrick Henry College with integrity and a steadfast commitment to faith and reason.

And I thank those alumni from my home state of Tennessee—Philip Bunn, Candace Curet, Jon De Troye, Noah Farley, Kayla Ferguson nee Griesemer, Jae Jared, Andrew Luchuk, Will McManus, Nathan Mingus, Shane Roberts, Justine Van Ness, and Timothy Wier.

Patrick Henry College has proven its worth over the past two decades, and I look forward to seeing this institution continue its work of forming young men and women of exemplary character and intellect for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF AYA'S
SWEETS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the culmination of hard work and dedication by Aya Islim and her family that has resulted in the grand opening of Aya's Sweets, a shop and bakery in the Dearborn Heights community in Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Small businesses are the life blood of our economy, contributing to local economies and fostering a sense of community. But, what truly makes the grand opening of Aya's Sweets shine is that it is the realization of a dream. Aya, at the age of sixteen, and with the support of her family, has committed so much of herself into seeing this business succeed.

Mostly self-taught, Aya began baking at the age of nine by watching cooking videos and shows. She has never shied away from a challenge. As she honed her skills, she earned a reputation for her beautiful and tasty creations, and has taken the step of opening her own bakery.

Please join me in recognizing and celebrating Aya and the Islim Family on the occasion of the grand opening of Aya's Sweets. We wish them many years of success in service to our neighbors in Michigan's #13th District Strong.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR DAVID
CARETTO ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT AS THE
MAYOR OF BIG BEAR LAKE

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor David Caretto, a constituent of my district and Mayor of my hometown of Big Bear Lake, California. Mayor Carreto served Big Bear Lake for eleven years, but he was a public servant long before that, serving Southern California for thirty-three years as General Manager and Secretary for the South Orange County Waste-water Authority, Assistant City Manager and City Clerk for the City of Irwindale, Assistant

City Manager and City Clerk for the City of Pico Rivera, City Manager and Assistant City Manager for the City of Signal Hill, and Planning Technician for the City of Lynwood. In addition to his own public service, David and his wife Cindy raised two talented children, both of whom proudly served their country in the Iraq War.

I was honored to serve alongside David on the Big Bear Lake City Council, and I can relate from firsthand experience how impactful his continuous dedication to our community has been. I wish him and Cindy all the best in his retirement as they enter the next phase of their life. Thankyou very much, Dave, for your service to the City of Big Bear Lake.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
MAJOR GENERAL PETER B.
ANDRYSIK JR.

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I am deeply honored to express my gratitude to Major General Peter B. Andrysiak Jr. for his years of dedicated service to the United States of America, the Army, and the great state of Alaska.

As the Commanding General of United States Army Alaska (USARAK.) and Deputy Commanding General of the Alaskan Command, at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, he is responsible for providing trained and ready forces to support worldwide unified land operations and operations in the United States Indo-Pacific Command Area of Operations and the Arctic Region and conduct military operations in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

Additionally, General Andrysiak has become a leader for the U.S. Army in the Arctic. In 1935, Brigadier General Billy Mitchell stated, "I believe that in the future, whoever holds Alaska will hold the world. I think it is the most important strategic place in the world." In the over 85 years since that statement, we have seen military leaders who understood it and many who ignored it. General Andrysiak is clearly the former. His Arctic leadership was not only critical to reshaping the Army's vision of the Arctic but was also crucial in the development of the Army's Arctic Strategy and the modernization of the Army's operations in Arctic environments.

Since pinning on his Second Lieutenant bars following his graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, General Andrysiak has exemplified what it means to be an American soldier. He is, however, more than the military tactical and operational expertise that he has demonstrated through his career. General Andrysiak has endeared himself to the soldiers and their families under his charge. For he has become a tireless advocate for their quality of life and wellbeing. From investments and improvements to facilities such as Child Development Centers, barracks, and gyms, to leadership engagement and mental health support, General Andrysiak understands that there is more to a soldier's readiness than squeezing a trigger and field maneuvers. There is mental, spiritual, physical, and family readiness that must be addressed as well.

On February 23, 2021, the Chief of Staff of the Army, General James McConville, announced that General Andrysiak will become the Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe-Africa. While I am saddened to see him leave Alaska, I am proud that he will continue serving as a sentinel for our Nation.

REMEMBERING JOHN D. LEONARD
SR.

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John D. Leonard Sr. of Girard, Ohio who passed away peacefully Monday, July 5, 2021 at the age of 80 surrounded by his loving family.

John was born Oct. 13, 1940, in Niles, a son to Joseph and Kathryn McMenamy Leonard. He was a 1958 graduate of Niles McKinley High School. He worked as a skilled tradesman for both the union and then Packard Electric, retiring in 2008. John was a parishioner of St. Rose Church and was a member of the Knights of Columbus in Girard.

John was a pillar to his family. He was a selfless provider always ensuring the prosperity of his children and grandchildren. Just as he sang along to Louise's piano performances, uplifting her tunes, John would always uplift those around him, supporting friends and family unconditionally. His infectious smile and enthusiastic dancing reminds us how to live life. John's fundamental values of love, dedication, and community will forever guide his loved one's path towards happiness. We have lost a truly wonderful person who will forever be missed.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his children, Karla (Philip) Smith of Virginia, John D. (Suzana) Leonard Jr. of Shaker Heights and Bob (Danielle) Leonard of Rocky River; brothers, Joseph (MaryAnn), Thomas (Lucy), Paul (Charlotte), William (Mary Ann), Richard (Sandy) and Robert; sisters, Kathleen, Margaret Mary (David); close friend and companion, Nancy Foster; and his grandchildren, Audrey and Emma Smith, Daniel and Stefan Leonard, Andrew and Anna Leonard, Alex Sapp, Adam (Janice) and Hannah Smith. Besides his parents, John was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Leonard, whom he married Aug. 18, 1962, and who passed away Feb. 2, 2015; and a brother, Jerry.

John was the uncle to my longtime District Director and childhood friend, Rick Leonard. John truly embodied the spirit of the Democratic Party through his lifetime of integrity and kindness and was all around a wonderful person to be around. My condolences go out to all whose lives he touched.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL
MIRRA ON HIS RETIREMENT AND
THANKING HIM FOR SERVING
HIS COMMUNITY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Michael Mirra

on a well-earned retirement and thank him for nearly two decades of service to the Tacoma Housing Authority.

The positive impact Michael has had on his community cannot be overstated. He has diligently served as Executive Director of Tacoma Housing Authority for the last 17 years, where in that time he helped countless people and substantially improved the Tacoma Housing Authority by growing the number of units and increasing the reach of their services. Prior to this role, Michael was a highly successful litigator who represented homeless families and poor neighborhoods in several high-profile legal cases.

Under Michael's leadership, the Tacoma Housing Authority completed a reconstruction project of 200 urban acres costing \$250 million in Tacoma's Salishan neighborhood. Not only was this the largest project in Tacoma's

history, but also the largest West of the Mississippi. The project increased the total number of units under the Tacoma Housing Authority by 29 percent.

Michael also spearheaded innovative ways to use federal housing dollars to further benefit families. With the Education Project, Michael was able to help the children of families working with the Tacoma Housing Authority succeed in public schools and pay for the college education of students experiencing homelessness. Michael was instrumental in finding new ways to use funds and enlisted local developers to incorporate low-income housing into market-rate developments.

He also established the Tacoma Housing Authority as a Moving to Work agency, becoming just one of 39 in the country. Moving to Work agencies are given the flexibility to test innovative, locally designed strategies to

use federal resources more efficiently and help residents find employment to become financially stable in the long-term. This work was absolutely critical in piloting a new approach to more effectively and efficiently using Federal housing resources to serve low income communities. Not only do they help these families become economically stable, but they also increase housing options for low-income families. In 2016, in recognition of his distinguished career, Michael was awarded the Margaret M. Sevy Lifetime Achievement Award by the Washington State Housing Finance Commission.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to honor Michael Mirra on an outstanding career in public service, thank him for serving his community so well, and congratulate him on retiring.