

March 22, 2016. I was therefore unable to cast my vote on roll call vote numbers 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, and 135.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted NAY on roll call votes 131 and 132.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted YEA on roll call votes 130, 133, 134, and 135.

HONORING LEARNINGSRING SCHOOL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as a father and a former school teacher I can safely say there is nothing more beautiful, or more fulfilling, than watching a child learn and grow. Schools that cultivate that growth, and allow their students to reach above and beyond their potential are an incredible asset to any community, and for 15 years the LearningSpring School in New York City has done exactly that.

The story of LearningSpring, or LSS as it is commonly known, is as special and unique as the population it serves. In the fall of 2000, a group of parents were faced with finding appropriate placements for their children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Disappointed with the options presented to them, these parents decided to create their own school, one that would address all of their children's academic, social, emotional, and therapeutic needs. Their school would also be designed to incorporate the families of the children as an important partner in the education of their child. The parents determined they needed to start a foundation, not just a school, to achieve all they had set out to achieve, and in the fall of 2001, the LearningSpring Foundation opened its first program, the LearningSpring Elementary School.

Fifteen years later, LearningSpring has flourished into one of the top schools in the city. The LSS model celebrates the fact that the children in the program are bright, in need of an educational environment that isn't exclusively focused on academic performance. This holistic approach to education is one of the reasons LSS has been a tremendous success, helping hundreds of graduates with ASD prepare to live wonderful, happy, and independent lives.

I have personally seen all of the wonderful work LSS does, and I have always been incredibly impressed with their approach to education. This year, LSS is celebrating their 15th Anniversary at their LearningSpring Blossoms celebration, honoring their 2002 Seedling Trustees. I want to congratulate those honorees and the entire LearningSpring community on the occasion.

HONORING MR. PAUL F. WOXLAND

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul F. Woxland, and to recognize

the nearly twenty-five years of service that he has given to our region as well as to the federal government in his work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mr. Woxland began his service with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 1991, where he assumed a position as Director of the Minneapolis Multifamily Asset Management Division and Satellite Office Coordinator. In this role, Mr. Woxland was tasked with the ultimate responsibility for physical, managerial, and financial condition of every HUD property within the region.

Mr. Woxland has also been instrumental in the development and improvement of housing in Minnesota and in our neighboring state of Wisconsin. In this capacity, he has overseen thousands of housing developments, working diligently to provide all families with access to one of our most basic yet most needed resources, a safe space to call home. To that end, Mr. Woxland has had a direct hand in over one thousand affordable housing projects in Minnesota, and over eight hundred projects in Wisconsin. This staggering number of developments has had an immeasurable impact upon the health of the region, and in partnership has provided permanent housing to over fifteen thousand households.

Mr. Woxland's work with the Interagency Stabilization Group has shown the true level of his commitment to providing housing for very low income residents. Mr. Woxland, through this collaborative organization, has succeeded in not only preserving but stabilizing affordable housing in Minneapolis for thousands of low-income residents. Some notable developments this partnership has preserved are Ebenezer Tower, Cecil Newman Plaza, and Riverside Plaza, a local landmark that is honored in the National Register of Historic Places.

To his colleagues and staff, he is regarded as the leader of one of the most effective and efficient HUD offices in the nation. Mr. Woxland leaves a legacy at HUD of tireless commitment and of service to our most underprivileged. For that he deserves our gratitude. He also leaves a legacy of touching countless lives and fostering inclusive communities throughout the region.

TRIBUTE TO DOLORES DIAZ-CARREY—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Dolores Diaz-Carrey, of Pasadena, California.

Born in Los Angeles, Dolores attended Sacred Heart Elementary School and Sacred Heart High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish Literature from Holy Names University and her Master's Degree in Education from the University of Southern California. In addition, Dolores obtained a Counseling Credential from the University of

California, Los Angeles and an Administrative Credential from California State University, Los Angeles.

A consummate educator, Ms. Diaz-Carrey's long career in education began as a teacher at the elementary and junior high school levels in Northern California, after which she moved to Mexico City to teach. In 1969, Dolores joined the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) where she worked for 35 years. In LAUSD's Division of Adult and Career Education, she worked in many capacities, including as an ESL (English as a Second Language) instructor, teacher advisor, counselor, assistant principal, and principal. From 1973 to 1975, Ms. Diaz-Carrey was Executive Producer of the first bilingual ESL television series for adults, "POCHTLAN", for which she was awarded an Emmy from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. From 1987 to 1998, she was Principal of Garfield Community Adult School and while there, founded a family literacy program for adults and their children. In 1998, Dolores became Director of the Adult Instructional Services Unit where she was responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of all the curricula for adults, including ESL, high school diploma, basic education, parenting, and nursing programs—during this time, she was also Program Director of the Community Based English Tutoring program.

Dolores is a longtime member of the East Los Angeles Rotary Club, where she serves as the Rotarian advisor for a youth club, and is the incoming club president. In 2011, she received the Rotarian Foundation District Service Award. Dolores is a member and past President of the San Rafael Library Associates, a support group for the San Rafael Library in Pasadena, and is a generous supporter of the arts, including the Los Angeles Music and Art School, and the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles.

A forty-year resident of Pasadena, Dolores enjoys traveling, daily walks with her dog, Dodger, long-distance cycling, and attending Los Angeles Philharmonic concerts and events at the Hollywood Bowl.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Dolores Diaz-Carrey, for her extraordinary service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO KELSEY DEVORE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kelsey Devore of Chariton, Iowa, as one of Iowa's 2016 Heroes of the Heartland, sponsored by the American Red Cross of Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving greater Iowa honors individuals for their acts of great bravery, dedication and service to the community. The winners are nominated by their peers, highlighting Iowa's most compassionate and caring individuals. These extraordinary people commit actions which demonstrate the potential heroism and kindness which is in all of us. Heroes of the Heartland reflect the values and vision of the American Red Cross, leaving a positive impact on central Iowa.

On January 16, 2015, 12-year-old Kelsey ran outside to find her mother lying with a gunshot wound. Without hesitation, Kelsey called 9-1-1 and was able to give the dispatcher accurate time-saving information while remaining calm and comforting. Kelsey became the solid rock of her family while assisting through the long hospital stay, the recovery period and difficult days. She is a hero in everyone's eyes.

Mr. Speaker, Kelsey is an Iowan who has made central Iowa citizens very proud. She has dedicated her life to doing what is right and not seeking much attention. But it is with great honor that I recognize her today. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring Kelsey for her courage. I thank her for her service and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SAMUEL M. YOUNG,
JR., PH.D.

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent and renowned neuroscientist, Dr. Samuel M. Young, Jr. of Jupiter, Florida.

Growing up in Caldwell, New Jersey, Sam "Stump" Young's strength on the High School football field led him to Princeton University, where he discovered a passion for scientific research that would last a lifetime. Sam chose to major in molecular biology at Princeton, an unlikely choice for the Princeton Tigers' star defensive tackle and one who challenged the assumptions of his professors and fellow students.

As a postgraduate, Dr. Young studied at some of the leading laboratories in Germany and the United States before joining the Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience in Jupiter in 2010, where he currently serves as Research Group Leader in Molecular Mechanisms of Synaptic Function. At Max Planck, Dr. Young and his team use innovative techniques to create models of how synapses function, and their path-breaking research helps shed light on the causes of brain disease.

On Sunday, April 3rd, I was honored to have Dr. Young deliver the keynote address at a ceremony I hosted to recognize 65 local students and recipients of this year's Congressional Award, the United States Congress' award for young Americans who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in four areas: volunteer public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition/exploration.

These young men and women exemplify the best values of hard work, determination, passion, and leadership, and I thank Dr. Young for sharing his story with them. I know that by following his example and pursuing their own passions—no matter what—they too will achieve incredible successes in life.

CELEBRATING CESAR CHAVEZ
DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest appreciation for the life, legacy, and actions of the late Cesar Estrada Chavez.

The changes that Cesar Chavez fought for throughout his life have dramatically changed the way that farm workers are treated in our country.

Cesar Chavez was one of the nation's greatest civil rights activists and the tireless champion of migrant farm workers fighting for humane working conditions.

As a young man Cesar Chavez worked in the fields where he saw firsthand the dangerous conditions which farm workers were forced to endure. In 1952 he became an organizer for the Community Service Organization (CSO), a Latino civil rights group, and eventually became the national director of the organization.

In 1965, Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association with Dolores Huerta which evolved into the United Farm Workers union.

The National Farm Workers Association was successful in securing fair wages and safe working conditions for farm workers.

The UFW also led a worldwide grape boycott that helped ensure farm workers had a voice in contract negotiations.

Cesar Chavez is also known for his fasts which he used as a nonviolent method of promoting his beliefs.

In 1972, Chavez fasted in response to Arizona's passage of legislation that prohibited boycotts and strikes by farm workers during the harvest season.

Cesar Chavez achieved unprecedented gains for farmworkers.

His influence also exceeded to empowering the people to strive for their own rights.

Numerous other social movements utilized his tactics in their own work.

On April 23, 1993 Cesar Chavez died, bringing great sadness to the farm workers community that he spent his life fighting for.

With his death also came a great sense of pride for all the progress that Cesar Chavez brought as a direct result of his unwavering commitment to farm workers' rights.

I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Cesar Estrada Chavez's life and legacy.

America is a better place because of Cesar Chavez.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL FERDINAND
CLARENCE "FRED" BIDGOOD

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my constituent, Colonel Ferdinand Clarence "Fred" Bidgood, a retired United States Army officer, a patriot, and a true leader.

After his birth in 1938 in Fort Benning, Georgia, Fred went on to live in London, England, where he graduated from Central High School in 1955. He matriculated into the United States Military Academy's Class of 1960 where he received a Bachelor of Science degree. Fred later earned a Master's degree in civil engineering from Texas A&M, and graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College.

Following his graduation from the United States Military Academy, Fred was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Army and served around the world in command and staff positions in both Artillery and Engineer units. Throughout his career, he served as Associate Executive Director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America in Washington, DC and Chief of Staff for the National Victory Celebration, where his duties included welcoming home troops from the Gulf War. He also served as Director on the Board of Governors of the World United Services Organization and Chairman of their Human Resources Committee, and he was a member of the Board of Advisers of National Handicapped Sports.

Fred lived much of his life in South Run Forest community in Springfield, Virginia. On Veterans Day, Flag Day, and Memorial Day, Fred enjoyed distributing flags across his entire community to share his patriotic spirit with his neighbors in honor of our country and all those who have served it bravely with him. Fred will be remembered dearly across the South Run Forest community by all those he touched on a daily basis. He was well known by many of his neighbors for having a witty sense of humor. One of Fred's neighbors, Norman Bayne, once told me about a time when he was mowing his lawn and wearing shorts, Fred came out and shouted, "If I had legs like that I would wear pants." Fred always had a way to brighten the day of those around him.

Fred's final assignment in the military was as an Executive Assistant to the Administrator of the Veterans Administration. He passed away a decorated veteran, having earned four awards of the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, two awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal. He was preceded in death by his daughter Kerri. He is survived by his wife Marilyn of 55 years, two sons Mark and Matthew, and four grandchildren, Damon, Haley, Aidan, and Brianna. I am honored to commemorate Fred today for his life of leadership, service, and selfless contributions to our great nation. We are fortunate to have citizens like Fred who are willing to put their life at risk to serve the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO MEREDITH
WILHARBER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Meredith Wilharber of Urbandale, Iowa as one of Iowa's 2016 Heroes of the Heartland, sponsored by the American Red Cross of Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving greater Iowa honors individuals for their acts