

theater adds an assortment of student productions, concerts and films. During the off season, the Ritz holds a summer program for youth performers, providing scholarships to students in the Haddon Township community. To mark their 30th anniversary, the Ritz Theater Company will expand on its youth programs and scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, The Ritz Theater Company is a unique establishment that connects the beauty of the arts to the beauty of working together to accomplish greatness. I look forward to seeing what the next thirty years bring for The Ritz Theater Company, Haddon Township and New Jersey.

REMEMBERING CESAR CHAVEZ,
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, LABOR
LEADER, AND CHAMPION OF
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of one of the greatest Americans produced by our beloved country, Cesar Estrada Chavez who died on April 23, 1993 at the age of 66.

Cesar Chavez was a civil rights activist, labor leader, and champion of social and economic justice.

Throughout his life Cesar Chavez fought for justice for the poor, the young, the vulnerable, and those living on the margins and in the shadows of the richest and most powerful nation on earth.

Because of Cesar Chavez, migrant farmworkers and their families now enjoy more humane living and working conditions.

Cesar Chavez knew firsthand how hard the life of migrant farm workers was because he lived it himself, beginning with his work in the fields of the Central Valley at the age of ten to help support his family.

In 1945, Chavez served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy as he fought in the latter part of World War II.

Cesar Chavez began his consequential career as a field organizer for the Community Service Organization in 1952 and steadily rose through the ranks until he became CSO National Director.

In 1965, Cesar 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.

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

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.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had the honor of being the Grand Marshal for the 16th annual Cesar Chavez Day Parade in Houston.

The parade serves as a great opportunity not only to remember a great man, but to re-

mind us of our responsibilities to each other and to fight for equal justice for all persons.

Mr. Speaker, in addressing the Commonwealth Club in 1984, Cesar Chavez said:

Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore.

Mr. Speaker, Cesar Chavez was an agent of change.

He educated his people and instilled in them a sense of pride.

He taught them to be unafraid to fight for justice and human dignity.

Cesar Chavez made a difference, and he made our country better.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Cesar Estrada Chavez.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK
FORD, MAYOR EMERITUS AND
PRESIDENT OF CITY COUNCIL,
FORMER STATE REPRESENTA-
TIVE AND MINORITY LEADER OF
THE OHIO HOUSE OF REP-
RESENTATIVES

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jack Ford, who passed from our community on Saturday, March 21st.

Jack Ford was one of a kind. He gave his life, decade after decade, to our entire community. We hold an abiding gratitude for his lifetime of dedicated and honorable service to us. I particularly appreciated his genius and wry sense of humor. He never missed a beat. Our entire region has benefited from his generous and focused life on behalf of others.

Born in Springfield, Ohio to Edna and Stanton Ford, Jack Ford graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in social work. Already on a path to public service, he began his career with the Ohio Youth Commission. He came to Toledo in 1974 to earn his law degree from the University of Toledo. He then became director of the Lucas County Mental Health Board and consolidated county agencies into Substance Abuse Services Inc—known as SASI—which he directed.

Jack began his service in elected life in 1987, when he successfully ran for Toledo City Council, eventually serving as Council President in 1993. Beginning in 1994, Jack served in the State legislature until he reached his term limit. Always, he understood the interconnections of our City to the world beyond it. His knowledge was hard-earned and unique.

Jack Ford also made history. As an educator, health professional, and political activist, Mayor Ford became the very first African American Mayor elected in Toledo, in 2001. With his election as Mayor, he elevated our community to a more inclusive and progressive place. He made us proud. He was all business, and always demonstrated a hands-on, can-do attitude. He was a master of the City budget and directed his Administration to make long neglected improvements.

Following his tenure as Mayor, Jack was elected to the Board of Toledo Public Schools

and, most recently, returned to Toledo City Council to continue his service to our community. All the while, Jack imparted his knowledge to young people, encouraging and teaching at the university level. Even when not feeling well, he carried forward his duties in a soldierly and persevering manner, earning respect from all who knew him.

Jack always had a twinkle in his eye and a knack for presenting the unvarnished truth to all whose paths he crossed. He had a very kind heart and generously shared his beloved family and adopted family like Reverend John McKissick and his lovely wife Mrs. Pearl "Mother" McKissick. What beautiful memories I hold of these self-giving, intelligent, productive citizens. Jack brought everyone together for a greater good to which he pledged his worthy efforts. He reserved a special place in his life for students and youth he mentored. He took particular pleasure in the classroom. Teaching at the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University allowed him to inspire many leaders for the next generation.

It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest sympathy to the Ford family: his wife Cynthia, his children, and his friends and associates. May the angels carry Jack Ford to a place of peace and rest. He has been truly a good, faithful, and honorable servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 23; Tuesday, March 24; Wednesday, March 25; and Thursday, March 26, 2015, I was out on medical leave while recovering from surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on rollcall vote No. 130 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 360), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 131 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 162), "no" on rollcall vote No. 132 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 163), "no" on rollcall vote No. 133 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 163), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 134 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 216, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 135 (on approving the journal), "no" on rollcall vote No. 136 (on agreeing to the Ellison Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 137 (on agreeing to the Butterfield Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 138 (on agreeing to the Stutzman Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 139 (on agreeing to the Van Hollen Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 140 (on agreeing to the first Tom Price Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 141 (on agreeing to the second Tom Price Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 142 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Con. Res. 27, as amended), "no" on rollcall vote No. 143 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 173), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 144 (on passage of H.R. 2).