

PASSING OF LORETTA JONES

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the life and memory of a pioneer in the field of health policy, my long-time friend, colleague and fellow organizer, Dr. Loretta Jones, who passed away on November 22.

She was a founding member of the Community Coalition for substance abuse Prevention and Treatment. In fact, she was the first staff person hired and developed the Coalition's Prevention Network. That network brought together social service providers from South LA to address substance abuse in the community.

Loretta had a towering passion for justice and a caregiver's attention to detail. She founded Healthy African American Families (HAAF) in the wake of the 1992 Los Angeles uprising to engage universities, think tanks, and community members together to seek solutions to longstanding health problems, including the scourge of pre-term births in the African American community. For this work she received two honorary doctorates and, last year, she received the UCLA Medal, the university's highest honor, for her career of working to address inequalities in health and health outcomes.

She is best known for co-developing methods that give underserved communities a greater role in planning and implementing academic research. Community-Partnered Participatory Research (CPPR) calls for transparency, accountability and equal power-sharing between academics and communities. In 2007, with UCLA professor Kenneth Wells, she published the CCPR model in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

In doing so, she demonstrated another tenet of CPPR—that community members co-author research publications alongside academics. Loretta had that rare ability to serve as a bridge between the worlds of policy and research, and the everyday lives of the people she cared about most. She mentored hundreds of physicians, nurses, public health practitioners, social scientists and community members to do the same. Those people went on to become tenured faculty members at medical schools, state officials and senior advisers in Congress and the White House.

A native of Massachusetts, she earned a BA in psychology in 1963 and Master's degree in criminal justice in 1972, both from Northeastern University in Boston. She had been community faculty member at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science since 2010. A former foster youth herself, she fostered 20 children in addition to raising her daughter. She made a real difference in the world during her 77 years.

Loretta always insisted that "Everyone deserves the right to live, everyone deserves good health care, and we are all responsible for making it happen." I mourn her passing with all of those who loved her. I am grateful for her compassion, her dedication, and the work to which she dedicated her life: to empower families to lead truly healthy lives.

TRIBUTE TO MS. SOMHITA CHATTERJEE AND RECOGNIZING THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme, (UCWIP). Our great nation has benefited from the cross-cultural exchange and dedication to public service that a group of remarkable Australian college students have demonstrated during their time on Capitol Hill.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme champions the positive growth of Australian undergraduate students through leadership and development on key political issues and in crucial policy areas. For two decades, UCWIP has matched some of the most outstanding young leaders with offices in the United States Congress. I am honored, once again, to be a host this year. Though each program participant is unique, I am proud to say that the reaction to working with them is universally positive. Our interns are known for being extremely bright, and their meaningful contributions regularly exceed our expectations. This has been especially true for our UCWIP intern, Somhita Chatterjee. Somhita came to us from the University of Melbourne, as an honor student pursuing Politics, International Studies, Media and Communications. Over the past month, I have watched Somhita work as an incredible leader, making assessments that are logical and well-thought out. She is dedicated and not afraid to champion issues that are important to her. She has also taught us so much about her home country and the many values we have in common. I have absolutely no doubt that Somhita's dynamic personality and skillset will help her to be the best that she can be in all her future endeavors. Somhita's generosity in serving Hoosiers, hard work, and positive presence have all been an incredible asset to our office, and we look forward to seeing her future success.

Moreover, the program would not be where it is without a dedicated leader with a strong vision, and an unwavering spirit, making it all possible. I would like to thank Eric Federer for his continued leadership as the director and founder of the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. Under Eric's supervision, we see individual U.S.-Australia relationships are thriving, forging new friendships that are a testament to our shared prosperity. Today's political climate calls for a global vision, and I am thankful that Eric continuously works to promote the exchange of views and ideas among leaders of the future. It has been an honor to have Somhita in our office, and I thank her for her hard work and commitment to public service. I wish her the best wherever her next journey may take her.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL CYNTHIA TINKHAM, FIRST FEMALE OKLAHOMA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD GENERAL OFFICER

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Brigadier General Cynthia Tinkham, the first female Oklahoma Army National Guard General Officer.

This is a tremendous accomplishment, but those who know her know that this is a long overdue honor.

Brigadier General Tinkham joined the Oklahoma Army National Guard in 1989, a time when female service was severely limited. She has seen the scope of female service change drastically over her 30 years of service. For most of her time in the Oklahoma Army National Guard, she has been either the first female or the only female in her position.

But she is not one to shy away from a challenge. Brigadier General Tinkham uses her platform to encourage more women to be trailblazers in their industries and especially in the army.

I congratulate Brigadier General Tinkham on her promotion and look forward to seeing how she influences the future of the Oklahoma Army National Guard and the future of women who serve.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST CHAD FULLER

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service and sacrifice of Army Specialist Chad Fuller.

Specialist Fuller was born April 8, 1979 in the City of Potsdam, New York. In high school, Chad was a star athlete and an avid outdoorsman. He had a love for animals and was a dedicated volunteer at the Potsdam Humane Society where he frequently walked and fed the animals in the shelter's care.

After graduating high school in 1998, Chad enlisted in the Army. On August 31, 2003, Specialist Fuller was on patrol in Afghanistan when his unit engaged Taliban guerillas near the Pakistan border. He was one of six snipers who came under fire during the early hours of "Operation Mountain Viper". Tragically, Specialist Chad Fuller died from the injuries he sustained during the attack.

On Sunday, February 17, The Potsdam Humane Society will be breaking ground on a new building that will allow them to improve and expand their mission. That building will be dedicated in honor of Army Specialist Chad Fuller. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to join the Potsdam Humane Society in honoring Specialist Chad Fuller's life of service to his community and this nation.