HONORING THE LIFE OF LENORA PRATHER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life and legacy of Mrs. Lenora Prather, a native of West Point, Mississippi and a pioneer in the field of law and justice in our state. Mrs. Prather dedicated her life to public service and cemented herself in our state's history, while continuing to have an impact on young minds.

Lenora Prather was born and educated in West Point, Mississippi, where she graduated from the Mississippi State College for Women before continuing her education at the University of Mississippi School of Law, earning her juris doctor in 1955. She practiced law with her father and later met fellow attorney Bob Prather. The two were married and began to practice law together until her appointment as Municipal Judge in West Point. Together they had three daughters. Among her many academic contributions, she taught in the Communication Department at Mississippi State University. In 1982, Prather was appointed as Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court. She attributed her success in her career to her parent's example. She served as a source of inspiration to countless individuals. and among her friends and family.

Mrs. Leñora Prather was a shining example of commitment to values, community, and justice. She had a lasting impact on this state, and her example will continue to inspire young minds. I commend her lifelong efforts in making Mississippi great.

RECOGNIZING STAFF AT CENTRAL ARKANSAS VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize the staff at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System that volunteered to help their sister facility in Louisiana: Erin Pitchford, Diana Tran, Latoya Johnson, Tonya Filbert, Teri Kennedy, Vickie Mabry, Ellen Shollmier, Linda Tate, Joe Wood, Nicholas Asman, and Michelle Freck.

In April, three teams of Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetics traveled to New Orleans to support the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Healthcare System.

These 11 front-line heroes provided support to their sister VA facility during the initial surge of COVID–19 in Louisiana. The staff provided direct patient care in critical areas of the facility, including medical and surgical units.

The purpose of this united effort was to ensure the well-being of our veterans who have served our country.

We thank the nurses who are deployed, all those who stepped in to fill their shoes back home, and CAVHS for their compassion, clinical expertise, and their commitment to serving our veterans.

the University of Akron. Jennie had a passion for emergency medical services and worked for many years in the emergency departments of Trumbull Memorial Hospital and Warren General Hospital. She created the paramedic training program in Trumbull County and trained countless EMTs throughout Northeastern Ohio. A lifelong member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Jennie loved her nephews, her dogs, vacations in the sun and the friends of her Red Hat Society and card clubs with whom she shared adventures and laughs.

She will be sadly missed by her brother, John and his wife, Chrissie of Columbus; and her three nephews, Johnny, Dante and Marco; as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

My heartfelt condolences go out to Jennie's family, and all whose lives she so dearly touched. I thank Jennie for her tireless work taking care of the people in the Mahoning Valley.

CITIZEN SOLDIER HEROES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, members of the South Carolina National Guard are heroes. During this challenging time, it is inspiring that South Carolina National Guard Service Members choose to serve the citizens of South Carolina. The National Guard continues to answer the call and assist communities affected by the Wuhan Virus. Here are six heroes in South Carolina.

Doctor (Col.) Phillip Latham is the state Air Surgeon for the South Carolina Air National Guard, serves as the South Carolina Air National Guard medical lead and COVID–19 medical response coordinator. His efforts and accomplishments positively impact South Carolina communities daily.

Colonel Latham liaises with the South Carolina Hospital Association. He assists statewide medical surge planning and weekly regional response coordination meetings. Additionally. Colonel Latham has coordinated a patient transportation response plan, enhanced resource acquirement allocation, and regional planning for Tier 1 and Tier 2 alternate care sites, as well as improve emergency ambulance response protocols. He also worked through the South Carolina Hospital Association and South Carolina Manufacturers Empowerment program for the creation of centralized ordering and distribution of protective personal equipment. Engineering support statewide alternate care site surveys, identified and planned for possible infrastructure expansion to meet needs in excess of current regional hospital capacity. Lastly, he coordinated phase 2 testing and contact tracing plans in concert with the South Carolina Hospital Association, South Carolina Emergency Management Division. Department of Health and Environmental Control and National Guard leadership for a roll out of both diagnostic and immunity testing across the state.

Doctor (Lt. Col.) Vanessa Wideman, is the 169th Medical Group, Flight Surgeon. Lieutenant Colonel Wideman advised South Carolina National Guard leadership on COVID-19 mitigation efforts, mapped out McEntire Joint National Guard Base's strategy and response for COVID-19, and advised 169th Fighter Wing leadership on Health Protection Condition (HPCON) levels. She continues to coordinate with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to improve individualized member response to COVID-19 for potentially affected members.

Doctor (Lt. Col.) Fred Smith, is the 157th Fighter Squadron, Flight Surgeon. Lieutenant Colonel Smith's testing efforts helped map out hospital network efforts across South Carolina. He also observed and provided oversight for the South Carolina National Guard—civilian partnership, in food distribution, and receiving, at Harvest Hope food bank.

Lieutenant Colonel Paul Laymon is the 169th Security Forces Squadron Commander. Lieutenant Colonel Lavmon has coordinated. organized, planned, staffed, and co-lead the development of the COVID-19 Joint Task Force-Security (C-JTFS). He also developed new Operating Instructions for safe and secure entry onto McEntire Joint National Guard Base and authored the National Guard's Adversary Threat Assessment to include concerns over weaponization of the Novel Virus COVID-19. Lastly, he coordinated with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the South Carolina Joint Operations Center for the safe-secure delivery and redistribution of the CDC National Stockpile Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Lieutenant Colonel Allen B. Stewart serves as the South Carolina National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Logistics Director. In this capacity, he's coordinated South Carolina National Guard support at Oliver Gospel mission, set up Blue Tent training between the Department of Health and Environmental Control and 59th Troop Command, and worked with the South Carolina National Guard to set up the Georgia Air National Guard's sanitizing "Train the Trainer" classes for the South Carolina National Guard. Furthermore, his efforts helped improve planning efforts and protective measures with the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Lieutenant Colonel Stewart also helped set up South Carolina's food distribution in Horry County and facilitated the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicle's plan to use South Carolina National Guard armories across the state to enable social distancing between the public and DMV staff.

Second Lieutenant Trey Murphy is the Logistics Readiness Officer for the 169th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Second Lieutenant Murphy coordinated and hosted the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Receipt, Store, and Stage (RSS) refresher training course, which showed how to manage distribution of Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) material. His efforts enabled his squadron to store over two-hundred pallets of personal protective equipment on more than fifty tactical convoys, serving all forty-six counties in South Carolina. He also coordinated the joint effort for the staging of US Army personnel and equipment in advance of civilian bus driver training conducted on McEntire Joint National Guard Base.

I am grateful to have worked with my colleagues in the 116th Congress to provide needed funding for vital personal protective equipment, material, and support for our Service Members and their families.