

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSWOMAN STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life of my good friend and co-chair of the Capital Fraternal Caucus, Stephanie Tubbs Jones. Stephanie and I shared a passion to help ensure a secure future for fraternities and sororities on campuses all across the country. Together, we worked to form and mature the Capital Fraternal Caucus to be an organization to celebrate Greek Life both as an undergraduate and throughout post-collegiate years.

Stephanie dedicated her life to ensuring that every young person had the opportunity for a college education. As a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Stephanie understood first-hand the life-long friendships that fraternities and sororities foster in young people during their undergraduate years. It was these friendships which fostered mutual respect and collaboration of ideas. I am so honored to have shared this friendship with Stephanie and to have enjoyed our bonds of Greek Life as co-chairs of the Capital Fraternal Caucus.

As the first African-American Chairman of the Capital Fraternal Caucus, Stephanie used her position to champion the Greek cause and quickly became a favorite member of interns working on Capital Hill who are affiliated with Greek organizations. While always lending a helping hand to students in Washington, Stephanie never forgot about the hundreds of thousands of students on every college campus. Through her dedicated work, she helped to pass the College Housing and Infrastructure Act. This leadership was recognized by the North-American Interfraternity Conference who presented her with the NIC's Silver Medal. This is one of the Conference's highest honors which recognizes significant leadership for causes that advance the highest ideals of fraternalism.

In honor of her dedication and enthusiastic work, the North-American Interfraternity Conference is naming a summer program for young people in Washington DC after her. The "Stephanie Tubbs Jones Memorial Legislative Fellowship" will afford outstanding student leaders from fraternity and sorority chapters throughout the country to work with legislative leaders on Capitol Hill to help preserve the rich undergraduate traditions represented by the communities on campuses across the Na-

tion. I look forward to meeting the next generation of leaders which Stephanie's legacy will bring to Washington.

A wonderful example of the type of person our public school system produces, Stephanie went on to attend Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Following her graduation from college she began her career in public service by earning a degree in Social Work. This passion for helping others led her to pursue a law degree from Case Western Reserve School of Law in 1974. Ultimately, Stephanie was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998 and served the 11th Congressional District of Ohio until her untimely and unfortunate death in August of this year.

During her time as a Congresswoman, Stephanie never lost her zeal for public service nor her passion to help young people. She constantly sought to improve public schools and ensure that every American student had the best possible education. Stephanie was a well-respected member of this Congress and her presence will surely be missed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BETHANY JENEA PUPELLO SMITH

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Bethany Jenea Pupello Smith, by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I pay tribute to the life and memory of Bethany Jenea Pupello Smith who passed away on Saturday, September 20, 2008.

Bethany was raised in Boulder City, Nevada and was a bright and compassionate young girl. She was a senior at Boulder City High School and was a gifted student and athlete. At Boulder City High School, Bethany excelled and had a 3.5 GPA and was in line to receive an Advanced Diploma and Millennium Scholarship. Bethany was also a gifted writer, whose dream was to become a journalist and whose other interests included business, advertising and marketing.

Bethany also had a number of extra-curricular activities. She participated in Girl Scouts as well as figure skating and gymnastics. Bethany was active in the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) as well as the Future Business Leaders of America

(FBLA). She was also a founding member of the Young Women's Republican Club of Boulder City and a proud American.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Bethany Jenea Pupello Smith. Her exemplary academic record and commitment to her community and country are inspiring. My thoughts and prayers are with her and her family, but I commend them on raising an impressive young woman who chose to dedicate herself to making our community a better place.

THOMASVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to recognize and commend the Thomasville Fire Department as it prepares for its 100th anniversary, which is to be celebrated on October 4, 2008. This celebration will honor every firefighter, current and retired, who has served at the department.

Among those being honored include the oldest retiree, Ronald Rayman Meyers, who worked from August 5, 1967, to December 31, 2005, and the youngest firefighter, Bradley Crafford, who joined in May of 2008. The October 4 celebration will be a commencement to Fire Prevention Week from October 5–11, 2008.

Established after a damaging fire in 1890 that wiped out nearly every business on East Main Street, the first department was officially organized in 1908, naming C.C. Hooks as the first Fire Chief. The first permanent station was established in 1922 on East Guilford Street.

Today there are a total of four stations (Pilot, Hasty, Thomasville, and Fairgrove), two engine companies, two ladder companies, and one squad unit, and a workforce of 61 employees who remain committed to protecting and educating the people throughout the community.

It is quite an achievement to render 100 years of service in any endeavor, and for the Thomasville Fire Department to do it while protecting and serving its community is all the more impressive. Again, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District, we are proud to recognize this great accomplishment.