

TRIBUTE TO ATTORNEY
CONSTANCE SLAUGHTER-HARVEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Attorney Constance Slaughter-Harvey. Attorney Harvey is a persistent trail blazer in a world of challenges. For 31 years, she has dedicated her life to legal and public service.

Attorney Harvey, a native of Scott County, received her undergraduate degree in Political Science and Economics from Tougaloo College in 1967. In 1970, she became the first African American female to receive a law degree from the University of Mississippi.

Upon graduation she was staff attorney for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, executive director of Southern Legal Rights and director of East Mississippi Legal Services.

Among her other outstanding achievements, attorney Slaughter-Harvey is the first African American female to serve as Student Government President at Tougaloo College (1967); to be appointed to serve as judge in Mississippi (1976); to be the president (first female) of the National Association of State Elections Directors (1991); Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Human Development (1980–1984); and to serve as Assistant Secretary of State for Elections, Public Lands and General Counsel for the State of Mississippi (1984–1995).

Attorney Slaughter-Harvey is the first African American female to receive the 2001 Outstanding Woman Lawyer Award given by the Mississippi Women Lawyers' Association.

Among her honors is the Constance Slaughter Harvey Endowed Chair in Political Science/Pre-Law at Tougaloo College. The University of Mississippi named the Black Law Student Association in her honor in 1998. She was 1 of 8 founders (the only female) of the National Black Law Student Association in 1969 at Rutgers in New Jersey.

In 1970, she successfully argued *Morrow v. Crisler*, which led to the desegregation of the Mississippi Highway Patrol. She filed a 3.8 million dollar lawsuit in 1970, *Myrtle Green Burton v. John Bell Williams*, against the state of Mississippi and other defendants for wrongful deaths of Jackson State student, Phillip Gibbs and Jim Hill student, James Earl Green.

Presently she is engaged in private practice in Scott County. She is president of Elections, Inc., the Scott County Bar Association, the Magnolia Bar Association and the W.L. and Olivia Slaughter Memorial Foundation. The W.L. and Olivia Slaughter Memorial Foundation is a tribute to the legacy of her parents who lived in Forest and the legacy includes a foundation, library, residential subdivision and office building complex where her law office is located. She has been an adjunct professor at Tougaloo College for 31 years.

Mr. Speaker, Attorney Harvey is proudly recognized by the state of Mississippi and the United States of America as a visionary for all people. On behalf of the people of the 2nd Congressional district, I salute her.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW J. LENZER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Matthew J. Lenzer of Wellington, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Matthew's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen class of 2005. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Matthew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Merchant Marines. While attending Keystone High School in Lagrange, Matthew has attained a grade point average of 3.91, which places him fifth in his class of one hundred twenty-seven students. Matthew is a member of the National Honors Society. Buckeye Boy's State and has attended that National Young Leaders Conference. Also, he has been awarded an All A's Citizenship Award and the Bausch and Lomb Science Award.

Outside the classroom, Matthew has been active in the performing arts. He is a member of the marching band and pep band and is very active in his church.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay special tribute to Matthew J. Lenzer. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am confident that Matthew will do very well during his career at the Merchant Marine Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

FRANK BAUMAN: HONORED
COMMUNITY SERVANT

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Frank A. Bauman, a native Portlander, whose 80th birthday will be celebrated on June 10, 2001. Mr. Bauman has dedicated his life to making enormous contributions to our city, the state of Oregon, and the international community. It is my personal privilege to bring my colleagues' attention the outstanding accomplishments of this great Oregonian.

Mr. Bauman was admitted into the Oregon Bar in 1950 after graduating from our shared alma mater, Yale Law School, and practiced law in Portland for many years. During that

period, he devoted substantial time to many worthwhile civic endeavors, where he held significant leadership positions, including:

First Chairman, Oregon State Bar Committee on World Peace through Law; President, United Nations Association (Portland Chapter and the Oregon Association, (two times); President, World Affairs Council of Oregon (two times); Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations (two times); Chairman, Scholarship Committee of the University Club of Portland; Board of Directors, English Speaking Union; Master, Oregon-Ashlar Masonic Lodge, Member of the Chess for Success, which has established chess programs in 30 Portland public schools and has been hailed by The Oregonian as the most significant extracurricular activity in the public school system.

Mr. Bauman's dedicated and effective leadership was recognized in 1971 when he was appointed by the United Nations Secretary General to serve as Resident Representative for the United Nations Children Fund, United Nations High Commission for Refugees, United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Information Office in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji. Mr. Bauman executed these responsibilities very capably, while serving as the Chief Administrator of United Nations activities in Australia and conducting outreach relations with National and Regional Committees to deal with long-term development for Third World Countries.

Mr. Bauman's commitment to society was further recognized in 1998 when he was awarded the E.B. MacNaughton Civil Liberties Award for his legal work in Mississippi in the 1960's on behalf of African Americans.

It is my honor today, on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, to commend to my esteemed Members of Congress, the 80th birthday and extraordinary achievements of Frank A. Bauman.

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, they say salsa is now our country's #1 condiment, beating out even the ketchup bottle. A New Mexico company known nationally for their salsa—and their green chile, and their tamales—is celebrating its 50th year of business this month.

Bueno Foods takes pride in sharing a part of New Mexico's culture through the wonderful food they produce and market nationally. Please join me in congratulating Bueno Foods and the Baca Family on fifty successful years and thank them for their contributions to our community.

In the beginning, for the Baca brothers, the company was a way to provide jobs for themselves and members of their community. After serving in WWII several of the brothers had difficulty finding jobs in Albuquerque. Their father Refugio had worked for the Santa Fe Railroad all his life but had always dreamed of owning his own business. He encouraged his sons to start their own business.

The Ace Food Store, a neighborhood “mom and pop” grocery store, was born. They later

saw a need to take their business in another direction. They expanded the store into carry-out, which featured traditional recipes by Filomena, the Baca brothers' mother. Also at this time freezers were becoming popular. The Baca brothers recalled the yearly family tradition popular throughout New Mexico for roasting fresh green chile over an open flame and freezing it for the winter months. They decided to take this home process into a commercial one and make this very special family tradition the focus of their restaurant and retail product lines. Food processing became their niche.

Under the leadership of Jacqueline Baca, President (the daughter of founder Joe Baca), Bueno Foods' sales have grown six-fold and the number of employees has tripled. She started in the business at the age of 16 making tamales. Jacqueline is joined by her siblings in the family business. Gene Baca is Senior Vice President, Catherine Baca, MD, is Vice President of Research and Development, Ana Baca is Communications Manager and Marijo Baca pioneered the distribution of Bueno's products in the Colorado market. Together, they make the company's slogan "From Our Family to Yours" a reality.

The Baca Family is committed to our community. From its start with 5 employees to more than 240, located in the Barelas Industrial Park, Bueno is one of the largest employers in this "Pocket of Poverty." Bueno contributes between 3 and 6 percent of after-tax profits to organizations that help people meet basic needs including housing, food and education. Among the many honors earned by Bueno Foods, in April 2000, they received the first annual New Mexico Ethics in Business Award recognizing the integrity, ethical conduct and the highest standards of civic and social responsibility that is part of daily operations within the company.

Please join me and other New Mexican's in honoring the Baca Family and Bueno Foods.

ALGERIA TRIP REPORT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on February 24–26, 2001, accompanied by former Ambassador David Laux, I traveled to Algeria to meet with key officials and attend celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Sahrawi Republic in the Sahrawi refugee camps in Tindouf, Algeria. The meetings and discussions with the President, Prime Minister and Cabinet Members in Algeria reflected officials who hold great concern for their nation and the development of their economy and society, as well as concern for North Africa and the whole of Africa.

Creative solutions were presented for problems facing the government as they seek to modernize the financial, security, and democracy aspects of Algeria. There were clear indications that the Algerian government desires to stabilize their economy to attract foreign, particularly U.S. investment (current U.S. investment is \$3.5 billion, projected to grow to \$6 billion in the next two years due to increased energy investment), and to cooperate in security/terrorism issues with the U.S. Government. A two and a half hour meeting with

President Bouteflicka revealed a statesman with great insight, leadership abilities and vision for his nation and the continent, exemplified in the President's key role in helping bring peace in the Ethiopia/Eritrea conflict and his leadership in the OAU in pursuing economic development in all of Africa. The impressive character and qualities of the President also are reflected in his Cabinet and the current Ambassador of Algeria serving in Washington, D.C. His Excellency Idriss Jazairi.

The Algerian people and government are also to be commended for their great hospitality towards the Sahrawi refugees. Many of the Sahrawi people fled their homeland of Western Sahara over 25 years ago due to the conflict over Western Sahara. The Algerian people have graciously allowed the Sahrawis to live in refugee camps in Tindouf and have been supportive of humanitarian aid to assist the refugees arriving from all over the world. Under the leadership of President Bouteflicka, Algeria has continued to extend hospitality to the refugees and not presented obstacles to the Sahrawis governing themselves in the Sahrawi Democratic Republic.

Upon my return to the United States, I shared my impressions about Algeria with a number of individuals, including Secretary of State Colin Powell. I suggested to Secretary Powell the idea of holding an Africa Summit with key African leaders, such as President Bouteflicka of Algeria, for President Bush to listen and learn from those leaders as he shapes his policies on Africa and for the African leaders to garner international support for their vision to help eliminate poverty, elevate standards of living, and bring hope to the people of Africa through a variety of measures.

In light of the various visions and solutions discussed in the meetings, there are several long term and short term practical actions the people of Pennsylvania and the U.S. government can take to support democratic, economic, and security developments in Algeria. My hope is to assist in building a strong relationship between the people of Algeria and United States and our governments through the following projects:

Encourage President Bush to hold an Africa Summit with the leaders of the OAU in which the President can learn about Africa and African leaders can share ways in which the international community can support their vision to help the people of Africa.

Assist the Algerian Minister of Agriculture on his visit to the U.S. by arranging meetings with leading agricultural companies and producers.

Interact with leading U.S. wheat producers regarding the potential opportunities for investment in Algeria.

Encourage the U.S. Department of State, Near East Division, about the need for increased counter-terrorism training and cooperation between Algeria and the United States.

Encourage the establishment of an Algerian-U.S. business council.

Assist in coordinating training seminars for Algerian Army regarding democracy and human rights.

Assist in coordinating police training seminars for Algerian police.

Assist in coordinating lecture, seminar series/academic exchanges at U.S. and Algerian universities.

Investigate water resource issues and possible expertise cooperation.

People to people exchanges and humanitarian projects, including medical equipment, police/forensics equipment, English textbooks, etc.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BETTY WARD FLETCHER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Dr. Betty Ward Fletcher. Dr. Fletcher is a trail blazer, a persistent advocate, a remarkable woman and outstanding leader. She has proven time and time again that one person can make a difference.

Dr. Fletcher, a native of Rankin County, received her undergraduate degree in Sociology from Tougaloo College. She received her master and doctoral in Social Work from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

From 1975 through 2000, Dr. Fletcher dedicated her life to providing information and ideas on behaviors of societies to Jackson State University. She was the founding director of the Student Intervention and Information Program of Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drug Studies Center. She has worked in various scholarly positions such as Associate Director of Graduate Program in Alcohol/Drug Studies, Instructor, Associate Professor, Acting Director, Acting Graduate Dean and Vice President for Research and Development of Sociology Department. In addition, she excelled her instructional focus on research and evaluation of sociology by serving as an adjunct Professor at the University of Southern Mississippi, School of Social Work.

Dr. Fletcher's research focus has been the study of social and behavioral correlation of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. She has generated over \$17.5 million in externally funded initiatives, while simultaneously fulfilling her administrative duties.

In 1999, Dr. Fletcher was Jackson State's first-ever Vice President for Research and Development. During her leadership, the University garnered a \$2 million donation and a \$12.9 million research award. This award was to serve as the coordination center for the Jackson Heart Study, the largest study of cardiovascular disease ever undertaken in the nation.

In 1999, Dr. Fletcher was named Interim President of Jackson State University by unanimous consent of the Board of Trustees, State Institutions of Higher Learning. She was then labeled a "charismatic, courageous and visionary leader" for her success in launching the School of Engineering and building a strong support base with the business community for the University.

In 2000, she was appointed as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) and had oversight for a \$438 million budget and 4,168 employees. Dr. Fletcher made a positive difference and a goal was to build cooperative working relationships with other state agencies.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Fletcher is proudly recognized by the state of Mississippi and the United States of America as a visionary for all people. On behalf of the people of the 2nd Congressional district, I salute her.