

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HARLEM'S BELOVED JAMES E. BOOKER, SR. FONDLY KNOWN AS THE DEAN OF BLACK JOURNALISTS & FORMER SPECIAL ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride, admiration and sadness as I pay tribute to my dear friend and life-long buddy, Brother James E. Booker, Sr., as we celebrate the passing of one of Harlem's greatest National Correspondents and Political/Community News Columnists at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Harlem.

As I speak with profound honor and respect for my friend Jimmy, I ascend to celebrate a life well-lived and to also remember the many journalistic professional accomplishments of this remarkable man. Always dressed in his signature bowtie look, Jimmy Booker penned his name in history. He was the classic newspaperman, a writer with a remarkable flare for accuracy, integrity and style. Jimmy's columns, "The Uptown Lowdown" and "Top Drawer Stuff," were informative, edgy and insightful capturing unfolding stories about Harlem, Black New York. City Hall, Albany and our Nation's Capital.

James E. Booker, Sr., was born in Riverhead, New York to Fletcher and Elizabeth Booker on July 16th, 1926. He was reared, attended school, and worked on his father's farm in Riverhead, New York. In 1948, Booker graduated from Howard University in Washington, DC, with a Bachelor's in Arts in Journalism, and then moved to New York City to begin a career in Journalism working as a reporter for the Amsterdam News in Harlem. In 1950, he served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He later returned to his job as a Journalist with the New York Amsterdam News.

Jimmy referred to his 16 years at the Amsterdam News, where he eventually became Executive Editor, the most exciting of his journalistic career. He traveled the country, interfacing with such notables as the Rev., Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, National Urban League Director, and Whitney M. Young, all of whom he developed a first name relationship with.

On December 22nd, 1956, he married the former Jeanne Carol Williams, in New York, and moved to the newly erected Lenox Terrace, where he lived for the remainder of his life. In 1964, the couple had a son, James E. Booker Jr. (Reverend James E. Booker, Jr.). In 1966, Jimmy took his family to Washington, DC, to work as Special Advisor to President Lyndon Baines Johnson. In 1968, Jimmy returned home to Harlem, and opened up his own public relations business, "James E. Booker Associates" on 527 Madison Avenue in New York City.

Jimmy leaves behind a great written legacy of stories, history, adventure, and legendary achievements that will continue to uplift all of our African American families to the highest levels of advancements. Jimmy story includes some of the most important historic episodes of the 20th century. When Fidel Castro arrived

in Harlem in 1960, Jimmy Booker was there, interviewing the young Cuban for one hour at the famed Theresa Hotel. Figures like Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. and National Urban League founder, Whitney M. Young.

Even the notorious Bumpy Johnson who ruled the streets of Harlem did not escape the pen. Jimmy knew first hand how dangerous a man he was. "He put a gun to my head and told me he didn't like what I had been writing," Booker once told a group of friends one night at the Theresa Hotel where he frequented, amusing listeners with many incredible tales.

He covered us many times, Percy Sutton, Basil Paterson and David Dinkins, the infamous Gang of Four with those same remarkable attributes that made us so revered in his famous national and local weekly columns. He served the cause of justice by covering the biggest stories of the Civil Rights Movement, giving the world insight on groups like the NAACP and the Black Panthers Party.

For years his column in the Amsterdam News was chocked full of tidbits and gossip about Harlem, the kind of "who shot John" stuff that never failed to keep readers' attention. Later, during his tenure at the New York Beacon, he maintained his tireless contact with every facet of the community's activities, roving from board meetings, to funerals, to rallies, to wherever the action was. Booker's Columns were published weekly in many independent and syndicated news and community publications including: "The Afro Times," "The Daily Challenge," "Big Red," and "The Twilight."

Jimmy was also a very close advisor to many politicians, activist and community organizations, past and present, including Lloyd E. Dickens, "The Fox" J. Raymond Jones, Fred E. Samuels, Professor Preston Wilcox, Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Edward Fordham, Inez E. Dickens, Keith L.T. Wright, C. Virginia Fields, Hazel N. Dukes, Dr. Annie B. Martin and the NAACP to name just a few.

Jimmy was also fond of Harlem's Nightlife where he covered many luminaries, entertainers and personalities like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Charles Honi Coles, Leroy Myers, Gregory Hines, Pop Brown, George Benson, Nat Davis, Irene Reid, Jimmy "Preacher" Robins, Gloria Lynne, Savion Glover and the Prince of Harlem, Lonnie Youngblood, at the Theresa Hotel and later at Harlem's famous Showman's Jazz Café. Mr. Booker held court on a regular basis with his longtime friends Al Howard, Mona Lopez, Diamond Lil Pierce, Tanya Alfonso, Ida Fernandez, and members of "The Showman's Elites" and "The Disciples."

He will long be remembered for his extraordinary commitment, humor, liveliness, energy, wisdom, discipline, principle and clear purpose which won the admiration of all who were privileged to come to know and work with him during his distinguished career. Jimmy E. Booker, Sr. was called home on Friday morning, February 5th, and his home going services took place on February 9th, at Harlem's historic Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which was a major stop on the Underground Railroad.

Madam Speaker, I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe and experience his example as a personal inspiration. Though Jimmy is no longer with us, we will continue to keep his memory alive in our

hearts and minds, and continue to honor his legacy with our advocacy for the issues he cared about the most. We are all blessed to have known, Jimmy E. Booker, Jr., a titan of a man who witnessed history with a pen that gave us all life.

HONORING HUGH GOODWIN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. Goodwin will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Hugh Wesley Goodwin, Sr. was born on May 6, 1921 to James and Anna Goodwin. He was the youngest of seven children. The family settled in Steelton, Pennsylvania where his father worked both as a steel worker and a Baptist minister. Mr. Goodwin served in the military during World War II. Upon his discharge he graduated from Harvard Law School and moved to California to practice law.

Mr. Goodwin was the first African American lawyer and judge in Fresno County. He opened his law practice in Fresno during the early 1950's. In 1957 Mr. Goodwin married Frances Jones. Together they raised four children; Hugh, Paul, Anna and Tom.

Over the next fifty years, Mr. Goodwin continuously advocated for disadvantaged people and challenged the racial boundaries at the time. Through his perseverance and advocacy, he earned a wide range of respect from his peers, as well as members of the community. Mr. Goodwin was very active in the community. He was a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission Legal Council and volunteered at the Fresno Rescue Mission. Mr. Goodwin served as President of the Fresno Black Caucus and President of the West Fresno Little League. After the little league games, Mr. Goodwin would take the scores and highlights to The Fresno Bee to be published in the paper the next day. He was a devout Christian; he attended Second Baptist Church and served many years as a deacon and a Sunday school teacher.

In 1976, Mr. Goodwin was appointed to the municipal court bench in Fresno County. While serving on the bench, he gained national attention when he sentenced convicted defendants to church rather than serving jail time or paying fines. Throughout the controversy, he remained committed to his beliefs. Mr. Goodwin returned to private practice in 1978 and remained practicing until 1996. Mr. Goodwin passed away in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL
FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL
TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERV-
ICE PILOTS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

As Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel and Co-Chair of the Women's Caucus Task Force on Women in the Military and Veterans, I am privileged to honor these women who, almost 70 years ago, became pioneers for women's equality in the Armed Forces.

And now, on March 10, 2010, we will honor their legacy as the first female aviators in American military history with the award of the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots are referred to as the WASPs.

Unlike many acronyms used in the military, this is an apt name.

Like wasps, their work demanded a unique combination of feistiness and strength, underlined by loyalty to their fellow WASPs and their country.

I am astounded by their tenacity and their bravery.

And yet, despite that dedication, these women have encountered difficulties in being recognized for their service.

This ceremony will be an illustrative example of our indebtedness to their service, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking the WASPs.

This group of unsung heroines demonstrates the courage of servicewomen in the past, the integrity with which women serve today, and the enthusiasm of the young women who dream of serving this great nation in the future.

I am therefore honored to ask for authorization for the use of Emancipation Hall for the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

TRIBUTE TO DIANE BERRY CAVES

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, our nation lost an extraordinary public servant on January 12, 2010, when a catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti. Diane Berry Caves died tragically in Port-Au-Prince helping others in the impoverished country through her work at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her life and her dedication to public service are an example and high standard for us all.

This remarkable young woman accomplished more in her 31 years than many people contribute in a lifetime. A devoted wife, daughter and sister, Diane dedicated her life to helping those less fortunate. Her profes-

sionalism and commitment to improving the world around her was recognized twice with outstanding service awards. In 2008, Diane was awarded the Public Administration Achievement Award from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, one of the country's best policy schools. Last year, Diane was chosen from 6,000 other Federal workers and honored as the Atlanta Federal Executive Board Employee of the Year.

Diane grew up in the heart of my congressional district and graduated from Oak Ridge High School, where teachers remember her as an outstanding student and her classmates described her as adventurous. In addition to her work at the CDC and graduate studies at Georgia State University, Diane furthered her thirst for knowledge through book clubs and even found time to hike both the Andes Mountains and European Alps. There is no doubt, Diane's work ethic and zest for life left a lasting impression and inspired those around her.

The void she leaves in public health, outreach and volunteerism will be felt far beyond the CDC in Atlanta and her hometown of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. May Diane's family be comforted by her memory and may her extraordinary legacy serve as an example to others.

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT
EXCHANGE EXPANSION AND
JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Exchange Expansion and Job Creation Act of 2010," legislation combating the housing and unemployment crises.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit is the nation's largest and most successful affordable rental housing production program. It has financed more than two million homes since 1987 and about 120,000 annually in recent years. This program provides tax credits to developers who agree to build or rehabilitate affordable housing. It includes both "9 percent" credits, which state housing finance agencies can allocate in amounts up to a state-level ceiling, and "4 percent" credits, which are available to all developers who receive allocations of tax-exempt bonds to build rental housing.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009 contained a provision that enabled the temporary exchange of unusable low-income housing credits. This exchange has enabled more than 600 affordable housing developments to proceed around the country, providing affordable homes to more than 30,000 low-income families and creating more than 35,000 jobs. The ARRA provision allowed investors to exchange low-income housing credits for grants at 85 percent of the value of the credits at virtually no cost to the federal government. Unfortunately, this provision only applied to 9 percent housing credits.

My legislation would expand this temporary credit exchange opportunity to include 4 percent credits. In 2007, prior to the financial markets crisis, states partnered with private

developers using 4 percent housing credits to create nearly 70,000 rental homes affordable to low-income working Americans and 85,000 housing-related jobs. In 2008 and 2009, the number of affordable homes and jobs produced by the 4 percent credit program fell by nearly 50 percent as capital available for investment disappeared.

I am introducing this bill because our country cannot afford to let this valuable 4 percent tax credit program fall into disuse due to the economy's downturn at a time when our country is in desperate need of more jobs and more affordable places for low-income families to live. Providing a safe and stable home gives families the critical foundation to find employment, get an education, and play an active role in their communities. Passage of this bill will allow cost effective investments leading to both more jobs and more housing for low-income working Americans and benefit our communities for years to come.

I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN M.
HITCHCOCK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John M. Hitchcock, who will be retiring as Executive Director of Hillside Home for Children in March 2010.

John M. Hitchcock was born in New York, NY on April 23, 1940. He received his BA in Math and Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1963 and his MA in Social Work from Wayne State University in 1965. John and his wife, Ida, have been married for over 40 years and reside in Pasadena. The Hitchcocks have two sons, David and Bob, and one granddaughter, Kate.

In 1971, John joined Hillside Home for Children as Assistant Director and then became Executive Director and President of Hillside Education Center in 1981. Since then, John has been responsible for the overall operation of Hillside, which encompasses the management of the 17-acre campus, the operation of three local group homes, and planning, directing and coordinating Hillside's activities.

Under Mr. Hitchcock's leadership, Hillside has become an exemplary residential treatment program for children. The Hillside Education Center continues to be an invaluable resource for the community, and the scope of programs and services provided by Hillside has expanded to serve not only abused, abandoned and neglected children but also children and families in crisis living in Los Angeles County. John helped provide residential care, community-based support, special education and transitional assistance to emancipating foster youth, and in 2006, opened a large apartment complex, which serves as a transitional living facility for 20 emancipated foster youth.

Mr. Hitchcock has served on many boards and commissions including Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, Camp Wrightwood, Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Gooden Center, and the Association of Community Human