

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 Barelais 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 Jazairy.

The Algerian people and government are also to be commended for their great hospi-

talities 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.

May 15, 2001

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.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA J. SMITH

HON. STEVE C. LaTOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special constituent, Barbara J. Smith, on the occasion of her receipt of the Ohio Women's Bar Association's Justice Alice Robie Resnick Award of Distinction. This award is the OWBA's highest award for professional excellence and is bestowed annually on a deserving attorney who exhibits leadership in the areas of advancing the status and interests of women and in improving the legal profession in the state of Ohio. It gives me great pleasure to wish Ms. Smith my warmest congratulations on this truly special occasion.

Barbara Smith is currently a shareholder of McDonald, Hopkins, Burke & Haber Co., L.P.A. in Cleveland. She attended Old Dominion College (B.A., 1968); Pepperdine University (M.B.A. 1974, magna cum laude); and Case Western Reserve University (J.D. 1977, magna cum laude).

She is a former President of the OWB (1994-1995) and is one of its original members. The OWBA was initially formed in 1991 and is the only statewide bar association within Ohio solely dedicated toward advancing the interests of women attorneys while encouraging networking and the creation of a statewide mentor program for women attorneys. The 2001-2002 membership year celebrates the OWBA's 10th Anniversary.

Barb has also served as President of the Cleveland Bar Association. At the time she served, she was only the third female president in its 125-year history.

At the same time, Ms. Smith has been active in the community on issues affecting women and minorities, including Ohio Attorney's Assault on Domestic Violence, a Charter Fellow and member of the Cleveland Bar Foundation Board of Trustees and a member of The Federated Church—Multi-racial, Multi-cultural Task Force.

Ms. Smith has been recognized for excellence in her legal work including Who's Who in American Law, Who's Who in America and The Best Lawyers in America for Health Law.

On May 21, 2001, OWBA President Helen Mac Murray will be presenting Ms. Smith with the Ohio Women's Bar Association's Justice Alice Robie Resnick Award of Distinction at its Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

It gives me great pleasure to rise today, Mr. Speaker, and join the OWBA in congratulating Barbara Smith and wishing her continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF DUTY DRAWBACK LEGISLATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to change the drawback and other trade laws in order to make

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their interpretation, administration and implementation less cumbersome for the U.S. Customs Service. More importantly, the provisions of this legislation will ease the regulatory and administrative burdens imposed by the current regulatory structure on U.S. companies by making them more competitive in the global marketplace when competing against foreign exports of similar or like products.

Since this issue is very technical Mr. Speaker, let me briefly describe what duty drawback is and how this legislation will help. Specifically, duty drawback is the refund of 99% of the duty paid to Customs on an imported product when the imported product, or a product that is substantially similar or commercially interchangeable with the imported product, is later exported from the U.S.

For example, a manufacturer of widgets may import a widget into the West Coast of the U.S., paying a duty of US \$10. The same company then produces the same type or quality of widget in Texas and exports it to Mexico. The company may claim a refund of US \$9 of the duty paid on the West Coast import as it is substantially similar to or commercially interchangeable with the exported widget.

Therefore, drawback levels the playing field and allows U.S. companies to remain competitive in the international market when competing against foreign companies for export sales and in export markets.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I look forward to working with my colleagues to see it enacted into law.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BLACK FARMERS FAIRNESS ACT OF 2001

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Black Farmers Fairness Act. This legislation will bring to closure a series of injustices our government has committed to a large number of black farmers throughout the country. For many years, this group of dedicated farmers experienced various acts of discrimination by the United States Department of Agriculture.

In 1997, three brave farmers entered into a lawsuit with USDA to correct injustices they had experienced. Two months later they were joined by 11 additional farmers. As more and more black farmers learned of and joined this lawsuit, the suit was changed to a class action suit. For months, government attorneys blocked settlement of their complaint due to a "statute of limitation" argument.

In 1998, the House extended the "statute of limitations" for the black farmer lawsuit—allowing justice to run its full course. Without this provision, many of these farmers would have not been legally permitted to receive consideration for the civil rights complaints. Before this provision, government attorneys argued that they could not settle complaints beyond the two-year period of each complaint.

Finally, it appeared that justice would prevail. On April 14, 1999, a court ruled in a class