

Taylor as the recipients of the Community Foundation for Monterey County's 2022 Distinguished Trustee Award. Bruce and Linda Taylor's philanthropy and leadership on the Central Coast is admirable and demonstrates an unwavering passion for the well-being of our local community.

As long-time residents of Salinas, Bruce and Linda are well-known for their generosity, both personally and through Taylor Fresh Foods, or Taylor Farms, and support of many non-profits that work to uplift our community. Bruce and Linda Taylor continue to support community development, including educational institutions like California State University, Monterey Bay, Hartnell College, Palma High School, Notre Dame High School, and Rancho Cielo. Additionally, the Taylors support the Boys and Girls Clubs of Monterey County, First Tee—Monterey County, Youth Orchestra Salinas, and Digital Nest. Because of their contributions, Monterey County youth have access to programs and facilities that play a vital role in their development.

Bruce and Linda Taylor, along with Taylor Farms, have impacted the lives of countless community members and their families. Through the Taylor Farms Scholarship Program, over 216 four-year scholarships—estimated at \$3.1 million—have been awarded to the children of Taylor Farms employees who plan to attend a four-year university. The Taylors' emphasis on supporting both their employees and their children is a testament to the generosity and compassion of Bruce and Linda Taylor and Taylor Farms. Efforts like these have made lasting contributions to Monterey County's social and economic climate. Additionally, since moving Taylor Farms' headquarters to Old Town Salinas, business activity in Old Town has increased, contributing to a thriving Salinas City Center.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Bruce and Linda Taylor as the recipients of the Community Foundation for Monterey County's 2022 Distinguished Trustee Award. I extend my sincere appreciation to Bruce and Linda Taylor for their philanthropy and for fostering a culture of innovation and compassion.

RECOGNIZING THE EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH ON CELEBRATING THEIR 100TH YEAR OF SERVING THE NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Ebenezer Baptist Church as they celebrate their 100th year of serving the New Orleans Community. On September 22, 1922, a meeting was called by Rev. Marshall Lewis, Sr. where the first officers were elected, prayer was offered, and the Church was organized. They began services in a rented space before shortly moving to its iconic and enduring home, 2415 South Claiborne Avenue.

Under Founder and 1st Pastor Reverend Marshall Lewis, Sr.'s leadership, the congregation grew, and the church thrived. They were incorporated in 1928, completely paid off by 1935, and Reverend Marshall Lewis, Sr.

successfully pastored this congregation from 1922 until his death in 1940. After his passing, and one year of mourning, the congregation chose his son Reverend Marshall Lewis, Jr. as the new pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Rev. Marshall Lewis, Jr. pastored the congregation until his untimely death in March of 1946. From April 1946 to January of 1947, Reverend Alexander BeBell served as the operating pastor; and from January 1947 to October 1947, he served as full Pastor.

On October 31, 1947, Reverend Lawrence E. Landrum, Jr. was elected the new Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, ushering in a new era, pioneering, and starting many traditions within the Church. Growing up in the church, Reverend Landrum, Jr. was strongly involved in the community and eventually became a popular musician, singer, and preacher in New Orleans. In 1948, Pastor Landrum led a renovation of their church sanctuary that was completed in 1950. By the next year, Pastor Landrum began a live radio broadcast, combining two of their service choirs to form one of the city's first Mass Choirs titled the "Radio Choir". In 1952, Pastor Landrum ordained the First Woman Preacher in the Baptist Church, Rev. Viola Allen Miller; and throughout his Ministry he ordained hundreds more. In 1958, Pastor Landrum began to expand the church's community outreach, demolishing the adjacent property to build an educational building. This was completed in 1960 and to this day, houses 6 classrooms, a kitchen, dining area, office, and restrooms. Over the years, Rev. Landrum continued to grow the congregation from 167 members when he first took over, reaching 1,700 members at their peak.

In the following years, Rev. Landrum's grandson, Minister Jermaine Landrum began working with and improving different ministries within the church, and by 1995, was appointed to Co-Pastor of the Church. Rev. Jermaine Landrum grew attendance and outreach ministries through both radio and television.

In 2005 Hurricane Katrina tested the very fiber of the church. Following this disaster, the church had to undergo many changes to continue its operations ultimately resulting in Rev. Lawrence Landrum deciding to retire after 59 years of dedicated pastoring.

In its modern era, Rev. Jermaine Landrum continue to strive for growth and rebuilding within this church community. This was accomplished through new forms of outreach, purchasing additional properties, a greater media presence, and many more opportunities. Ebenezer Baptist Church continues to weather through storms and pandemics, as their congregation survived all catastrophic events during 2020 through 2021. And now, the Church is still prospering, standing 100 years strong, and looking forward to better days ahead.

Their history shows adaptability and the higher level of determination required to weather through setbacks and storms. Through faith and dedication, remaining as a solid pillar to the New Orleans Community, we honor their resilience as they continue to stand strong and continue serving.

LAS VEGAS ACES WNBA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the Las Vegas Aces on winning the Women's National Basketball Association Championship this past Sunday.

On September 18, 2022, the Las Vegas Aces defeated the Connecticut Sun, 78–71, in Game 4 of the WNBA Finals. The Aces won the championship three games to one and secured the first major professional sports championship in the history of the city of Las Vegas.

Even before the playoffs, the Aces had an incredible season, led by rookie head coach Becky Hammon, who became the first former WNBA player and rookie head coach to win the WNBA Championship.

Every member of the team, including Kiersten Bell, Sydney Colson, Chelsea Gray, Dearica Hamby, Theresa Plaisance, Kelsey Plum, Iliana Rupert, Aisha Sheppard, Kiah Stokes, Riquna Williams, A'ja Wilson, and Jackie Young, were critical to the success of the Aces this year.

Since coming to Las Vegas in 2018, the Aces have played well, but unfortunately, up until now they were unable to win it all.

In 2020, during the COVID shortened season and without key players due to injury, the team still made the WNBA Finals but were ultimately turned back.

In 2021, the team seemed set for greatness, but, unfortunately, fell short in heartbreaking fashion in game five of the Western Conference Finals.

In the lead up to the 2022 season, the team lost key players to free agency and former coach Bill Laimbeer retired, but the organization shifted its focus and approach and took the league by storm.

Fueled by prolific three-point shooting, the Aces dominated the regular season, and ended with a league best record of 26–10, securing Commissioner's Cup as well.

Heading into the playoffs, the team was primed for success, having overcome so much adversity over the last few seasons.

Guided by forward A'ja Wilson, who won this year's regular season Most Valuable Player, Defensive Player of the Year, and first-team All-WNBA honors, fellow All-WNBA honors guard Kelsey Plum and WNBA Most Improved Player Jackie Young, the Las Vegas Aces dominated the playoffs.

In the finals, Chelsea Gray delivered a tremendous performance, averaging 18 points per game in the series and winning WNBA Finals Most Valuable Player. In the championship-clinching game Riquna Williams scored a crucial 17 points, with her incredible three-point shooting, to lift the Aces to victory.

Following this victory, Aces players Chelsea Gray, Kelsey Plum, Jackie Young, and A'ja Wilson, who competed and won gold medals for the United States at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, joined an exclusive club of players who have won both Olympic gold and the WNBA Championship.

So, in closing I want to again congratulate owner Mark Davis who, through continued investment and support, has put women's basketball on the map in Las Vegas; Coach

Becky Hammon; all the amazing players, directed by the fabulous A'ja Wilson; and the entire Las Vegas Aces organization led by its president, Nikki Fargas, and general manager, Natalie Williams. Congratulations on this tremendous achievement.

The City of Las Vegas and all of Southern Nevada are extremely proud of the Aces. They certainly raised the stakes and hit the jackpot.

RELEASE OF AMERICAN ANDY
HUYNH

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize and celebrate the free-

dom of Andy Tai Ngoc Huynh, who resides in Alabama's Fourth Congressional District, which I am honored to represent.

I was informed yesterday that Andy Huynh, along with Alex Drueke, another Alabamian who had gone missing, have been freed from their captivity in eastern Ukraine and are safe at the U.S. Embassy in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh undergoing a medical evaluation.

In June, I was alerted that Andy and Alex—both former U.S. service members—had gone missing after volunteering to fight alongside the Ukrainian Army following the unprovoked Russian invasion.

Since hearing of Andy's disappearance, my office has worked to gather any information possible to share with Andy's loved ones and stayed in contact with the U.S. Department of State in the hopes of bringing Andy back home.

I know that Andy's fiancée, Joy Black, and soon to be mother-in-law, Darla Black, have been ever faithful in their prayers and efforts to seek Andy's release, never losing hope. Today their faith has been rewarded and Andy is safe. Furthermore, the same can be also said about Alex's family, as they have been ever diligent in working toward his release.

I thank all of my colleagues and fellow citizens for their prayers for Andy's safety. When Andy Huynh and Alex Drueke return to Alabama, I look forward to meeting them and their families in person. We are thankful to God for their safe release.