

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING MONTANA'S
LUPPOLD/BUCKINGHAM RANCH
FOR 150 YEARS OF FAMILY OWN-
ERSHIP

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, Montana's family-owned ranches are synonymous with the strength of our economy and the vitality of our communities.

That is why I'm so pleased to hear that the Montana Historical Society is honoring the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch in Meagher County for 150 years of family ownership.

Moving to Montana after his service in the Civil War, William Luppold established a small 160-acre ranch in 1866. By the time of his death in 1916, William had transformed the plot into a highly profitable cattle ranch of nearly 2,000 acres.

William Luppold's success is a testament to the natural abundance of our great state and the perseverance of his family. Successive generations have built upon William's vision by diversifying the ranch's business and leasing land to their neighbors.

The ranch passed to William's favorite niece, Emilia McStravick, and her daughter Gertrude, who retained ownership of the property for nearly 50 years before passing it on to Gertrude's nephew Frederick Buckingham in 1985.

Frederick would continue to carry on the family legacy for nearly three decades until his passing in 2018. Today, Frederick's niece Megan Shroyer and her husband Rodger own and operate the ranch on behalf of four generations that came before them.

Although the Luppolds and Buckinghams have seen tremendous success, the family acknowledges that maintaining such a sprawling property hasn't always been easy. Like many hard-working Montanans, their fortitude and dedication have paid dividends over the past two and half centuries, making the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch an enduring sign of Montana's prosperity.

I am proud that the Montana Historical Society sees fit to bestow this honor on the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch, and it is my pleasure to acknowledge the entire family in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, BISHOP
PRESTON LEONARD, IN HONOR
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense gratitude for Bishop Pres-

ton D.H. Leonard, who inspires us all through his lifetime of public service deeply rooted in his faith. For more than 60 years, he has served as pastor at Christ Gospel Church of St. Petersburg. Bishop Leonard is the only living pastor in the church's history and has the longest tenure of any pastor in the St. Petersburg area. He serves as the Presiding Bishop of Christ Kingdom International Fellowship and the International Bishop of the Christ Gospel Churches of Jamaica Apostolic, Haiti, and Ghana, Africa.

Bishop Leonard was born in the town of Lloyd, located in North Florida to Titus and Vannie (Walker) and he is the sixth of seven children. His commitment to his faith started early—at age 10 he became a member of the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Monticello, Florida.

Bishop Leonard was baptized in 1954 and ordained later that year. Also in 1954, Bishop Leonard married the love of his life, the former Virginia Mosley. Together they share their seven children, 16 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Bishop Leonard and his family moved to St. Petersburg in 1957 and since then, he has been fiercely committed to his service to both God and our community across Tampa Bay through a broad range of experiences. For more than 40 years, he hosted a radio ministry broadcasted by The New 1590 WRXB, a longtime voice in the St. Petersburg African American community. He is a past president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) and previously served on the Bi-Racial Advisory Committee of the Pinellas County School Board, the State Screening for Regulatory Committee, Ombudsmen Committee of the State Nursing Home, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, and the Area Agency of Aging. In 1997, he was recognized as Minister of the Year. Today, Bishop Leonard serves as a charter member of the St. Petersburg Community Alliance as well as on the Board of Directors of the IMA Human Services and the St. Petersburg Interfaith Alliance.

Bishop Leonard received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from International University. Before this he attended Florida A&M University, Jack Hyles Pastoral School, and Clyde Narramore Counseling School. He was also a member of the U.S. Navy CORPS in Bainbridge, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am honored to recognize Bishop Preston D.H. Leonard for his lifelong dedication to service above self as well as his contribution to Tampa Bay's own African American history. Through his commitment to and celebration of his faith and his service to the community, Bishop Leonard is a representation of the best that Florida has to offer and his living legacy serves as an example to all.

RECOGNIZING JOHN CHATBURN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Chatburn. John is retiring after nearly 30 years of public service in Idaho, but his love of our great state didn't start there. He grew up on a family ranch in Albion and was well known on the local rodeo circuit as a young man. He started his political career in 1995 as the Energy and Natural Resource Policy Advisor for Governor Phil Batt. John wore many hats, including Deputy Administrator for the Idaho Department of Agriculture.

A large part of his career was spent working for Governor C.L. 'Butch' Otter. He served as his Administrator for the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Some of his responsibilities in this capacity included being a member of the U.S. Department of Energy/State Energy Advisory Board, chairman of the Western Interstate Energy Board and co-chairman on the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation. There were many other energy related boards and commissions that he served on and represented Idaho's interests.

He also worked for Governor Brad Little as Administrator of the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources and was appointed by him to serve on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

I have known John for a very long time, but I had the opportunity to work closely with him on the Gateway West Project. John represented the state's interests in the plan to create a much-needed power transmission line that spanned a vast section of the state. In the end, we were successful in creating a diverse collaboration between stakeholders that included the World Center for Birds of Prey, Idaho Power Company, the Bureau of Land Management and the citizens of Idaho—something we can all be proud of.

I am not sure what John is going to do next, but it better include pampering his incredible wife Linda who's put up with him for over 40 years. I thank Mr. Chatburn for his service.

HONORING BETTY SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Betty Smith.

Betty Hughes Smith, was born June 6, 1953, in Drew, MS. She is the youngest, of her siblings. Betty graduated from Drew High School, May 25, 1971. Her class was the first class to integrate the all white segregated high school. This was the one of the happiest moments of her life.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

After graduation, Betty started working for Sunflower Humphrey Counties Progress, Inc., at the Drew Head Start Center. She retired after 25 years. During that time, she received her Associate Degree from Coahoma Community College. Although she attended both Mississippi Valley State University and Delta State University, she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood from Lemoyne Owen College, in Memphis, TN.

Betty has worked for Southern Echo and Genesis Hospice, as a Community Outreach Coordinator and Educator. She volunteered for the Drew School District for many years.

Betty was a Sunday School Teacher for Noah Memorial Baptist Church for over 20 years until the church closed. Then, she became a member of Holly Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she is currently a Sunday School Teacher and the Chairperson for the Mother and Mission of the Church. In her lifetime, she has served on various boards throughout Sunflower County:

- Sunflower Humphrey Counties Progress Board of Directors;
- Tallahatchie Housing;
- Sunflower County Democratic Executive Committee;
- Community Health Advisory Research Program;
- We2Gether Creating Change;
- Vice President of Drew United for Progress;
- Drew Collaborative;
- Civil Rights Committee;
- Sunflower County Economic Development Board; and
- Drew Food Pantry.

She has received many certificates, awards, and plaques for her efforts in community service. She has been a tremendous asset to her church and community. Her motivation seems to be prompted by a need to help others, and that is what serving God is all about.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Betty Smith for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, DR.
DAVINA JONES, IN HONOR OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great educator and leader in the Tampa Bay community, Dr. Davina Arleen Jones.

Dr. Jones is one of six children, born and raised in the Tampa Bay area. Her mother worked for the county library as a book processor and her father was a city bus operator while also serving as a full-time pastor. Dr. Jones' parents instilled in her and her siblings the importance of commitment, leadership, and the spiritual faith—values she holds close to this day. At the early age of 13, a young Davina Jones gave her first public speech at a Church of God in Christ (COGIC) youth convention.

When she was a young student, Dr. Jones was enrolled in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) in Hillsborough County Public Schools

due to the many challenges in her life, but the challenges would only reveal her drive for education and excellence. Through hard work and perseverance, Dr. Jones went on to graduate from Bethune-Cookman University with a bachelor's degree in speech communication. She later went on to receive her master's degree in interpersonal communications and her doctorate in communication studies from Bowling Green State University. These significant accomplishments led Dr. Jones to author "From ESE to PHD: Discovering your hidden potential." She is also the author of "Choices: What singles ought to know and what married people wished they had learned."

Dr. Jones served as a frontline partner as Florida and our Nation prepared to receive and embrace the historic Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune statue in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol in 2022. Dr. Bethune's statue replaced the statue of a Confederate general that stood since the Jim Crow era and Dr. Jones advocated for Dr. Bethune as a far superior representative of the values and diversity of the Sunshine State. Dr. Jones continues to lift her community as a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a former president of the Mary McLeod Bethune National Alumni Association Hillsborough Chapter, a former president of the Bethune Cookman National Association Hillsborough Chapter, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Dr. Jones also actively collaborates with the African American Task Force for Hillsborough County Public Schools leadership.

Dr. Jones also continues to provide faith-based community leadership throughout the City of Tampa. She is the Assistant Spiritual Leader of Today's Church Tampa Bay and former lead pastor and teacher of the Greater Love Spiritual Center. In 2015, Dr. Jones moved on her desire to educate and inspire passion to our younger generation when she founded GREAT Camp, a comprehensive program for teens and preteens that offers guidance and development in a variety of topics and skills such as civics development, health & wellness, and financial literacy. Considering all her education, hard work and accomplishments, Dr. Jones stated that her greatest achievement in life was becoming aware of the power of love, the love for oneself and the love for others through God.

Throughout the years, Dr. Jones has instructed public speech communication courses across the State of Florida. Using her expertise and experience, she has provided higher education level instruction to aspiring journalists, marketers and educators within our communities. Dr. Jones served as an assistant professor teaching speech communication at her alma mater Bethune-Cookman in 2001; she became a professor at Florida State College at Jacksonville and she is currently provost and special assistant to the president for equity, diversity and inclusion at Pasco-Hernando State College in Wesley Chapel. She continues her work among Pasco-Hernando State College leadership ensuring that all students receive the education they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, this Black History Month, I am proud to recognize the courage, leadership, and spirit of excellence of Dr. Davina Arleen Jones and her many examples of service she provides our communities.

HONORING THE FAIRFIELD FALCONS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight and celebrate a very special group of Hoosiers.

Recently the Fairfield Falcons Girls Basketball Team out of Goshen, Indiana captured the 3A state title for the very first time in school history.

The Falcons' 49–42 win over Corydon Central in Indianapolis on Saturday was exhilarating, and extra special as it marked Fairfield's first state trophy in any sport.

We've all heard the maxim "defense wins championships" and for the Falcons it turned out to be true.

All season long the Falcons defense was downright stingy, allowing the fewest points per game out of any team in Indiana.

But it wasn't only because of their defense that the Falcons are celebrating.

In particular, Head Coach Brodie Garber credits the 4 senior girls he is graduating for consistently providing the leadership and mentorship needed for his team to take home the title.

Congrats to Coach Garber and all the Falcons—both players and staff—on bringing home the hardware. Their names are listed below:

Varsity Team Members:

Brea Garber, Morgan Gawthrop, Kaylee Dillon, Delana Geiger, Jayslynn Hall, Savannah Cronin, Zoie Miller, Haddee Herbert, Eva Herbert, Bailey Willard, Natalie Whitaker, Macy Worthman.

Coaches:

Head Coach Brodie Garber, Amy Garber, Troy Sands, Lindsay Kauffman.

Managers:

Ava Bontrager, Kealee Dillon.

I thank them for making Hoosiers in Goshen and beyond so incredibly proud.

God Bless them and God Bless America.

COMMENDING MONTANA PHOTO-JOURNALIST LARRY MAYER FOR UNCOVERING THE CHINESE SPY BALLOON

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, when a Chinese balloon invaded Montana's airspace, the Biden Administration intended to keep the American people in the dark.

But what President Biden didn't count on was the diligent work of Billings Gazette photographer Larry Mayer.

Larry pointed his lens skyward when federal regulators shut down Billings Logan International Airport and captured one of the first public images of a strange object floating in American skies.

Larry may not have known it at the time, but by following his instincts, he uncovered a national security risk from Communist China that