

whose wife, Addie Grant Brown, born in 1881, to Needham Grant, 1845, of mixed ancestry, symbolizes remarkable self-determination during the post-Reconstruction era.

The records for Greene County confirm that members of the Brown family legally held property in the area now known as Browntown. This deed serves as tangible evidence of landownership by a mixed, heritage family during an era when such claims were not only rare but often met with resistance. Unlike chartered townships, Browntown emerged as a self-defined community operating outside formal governance but deeply rooted in traditions of kinship, survival, and cultural unity. The legal documentation, when paired with oral histories passed down through generations, affirms that Browntown was not a place imagined but a living, land-based community that sustained itself through shared heritage, mutual protection, and pride in place.

THE ACT OF PRESERVATION

The Browntown Annual Community Picnic is a living act of preservation. For over 300 years, people and families of Tuscarora, African, and European descent have lived in this community in Greene County. The people return to honor their lineages, which shaped a rural community that continues to unite in celebration of a shared heritage, family ties, and collective memory. Preserving traditional foods, stories, and customs that contribute to the culture of Greene County and the State of North Carolina, the Annual Community Picnic is a living tradition that stands as both a homecoming and a cultural archive. This gathering is more than a reunion; it is an act of generational memory, where traditional foods, stories, and customs are passed down under the shade of longleaf pines. Generations in Browntown have thrived by blending traditions, celebrating lived experiences, and fostering a sense of belonging that transcends historical significance.

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thank you to the many groups and people whose contributions helped capture history and now are living history to Browntown. Dr. Arwin Smallwood—for his writing, research insight, and peer review guidance, enriching this work with scholarly depth and cultural integrity. Mr. Earl Ijmes—for his historical consultation, community storytelling, and grounding wisdom that shaped our understanding of the past. The 2025 Browntown Picnic Planning Committee: Mona Warren, Sharon Bright, Shaniqua Jones, and David Brown—for their tireless coordination, vision, and commitment to honoring tradition and bringing our people together. Penny Wade, Lucy Suggs, Arlena Brown, Helen Scott, and Reginald Sutton—for their historical fact-checking and family research, your voices carry the weight and beauty of generations. Billy Dale, Ruffus Grant, Dorris Speight—for nourishing the community with love and generosity, and who made the 2025 picnic day itself possible through food, fellowship, and celebration. Steven Dale—for sharing his gift of music and creating the joyful rhythm that tied the day together with pictures. The Greene County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Bennie Heath, Commissioners Jerry Jones, Ray Johnson, Robert (Bobby) Taylor, Jr., Derek Burruss, and former Commissioner James Shackelford—for officially recognizing Browntown and passing the community resolution. Their leadership and support help ensure the story is appreciated. Kathy Mooring, Deputy Clerk to the Board—for her administrative coordination and professionalism. Ignacia Joyner—At the heart of this initiative, formally launched the Browntown Legacy effort to safeguard the

cultural and historical identity of this tri-cultural community. Her leadership galvanized community collaboration, garnering recognition at both the county and federal levels as a contributing preservation Author and Community Historian.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COMMISSIONER IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District honors the life and legacy of Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman, a tireless champion for the people of Detroit and Wayne County. From the Detroit Board of Education to the Michigan Legislature, the NAACP, and the Wayne County Commission, Irma dedicated over six decades to public service and uplifting her community. She was a fierce advocate for children, seniors, and working families, always centering justice, equity, and compassion in her work.

Commissioner Clark-Coleman was the first in her family to graduate college, blazing trails for Black women in leadership. Whether serving holiday meals to our community, helping others, or advancing housing justice, she did so with unmatched grace and conviction.

Her legacy will live on in every life she touched. My deepest condolences go out to her family, including her husband, Rev. Ron D. Coleman. Sr., her two children, her grandchildren, and her loved ones. We mourn her passing, celebrate her 88 years of life, and remember her deep commitment to public service. May her memory continue to guide us toward a more just and loving future.

HONORING COLONEL CHAD W. CALDWELL

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Colonel Chad W. Caldwell after a distinguished career with the United States Army of Engineers and over 25 years of service to our Nation.

Colonel Caldwell most recently served as Commander of the Sacramento District, South Pacific Division. A graduate of West Point, he holds advanced degrees in structural and civil engineering and has served in key command and academic roles both stateside and overseas.

Throughout his career, Colonel Caldwell exemplified integrity, discipline, and excellence. He began his service in 1999, first assigned to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and went on to hold a variety of leadership positions, including company commander in Iraq and Afghanistan, and as the first commander of the 5th Brigade Engineer Battalion at Fort Carson. His leadership helped strengthen our national defense and bolster critical infrastructure in California and beyond. His influence will be felt for years to come through the projects he led and the soldiers he mentored.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Chad W. Caldwell for his years of faithful service and in wishing him and his family all the best in this new chapter of life.

HONORING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month, and celebrate the culture, contributions, and history of Caribbean Americans in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and across our Nation.

National Caribbean American Heritage Month, first recognized in 2005, was established after years of global efforts to spotlight Caribbean Americans' vibrant culture and contributions to our country. Caribbean Community Services, a nonprofit organization based in Detroit, Michigan, has done an outstanding job of uplifting Caribbean history. Through their engaging events, they celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the Caribbean and its significant impact on our southeastern Michigan communities. I am incredibly proud of the important work Caribbean Social Services undertakes to foster diverse and welcoming communities. I especially want to highlight their leadership in ensuring these contributions are recognized and valued as we celebrate Caribbean American Heritage Month.

Please join me in recognizing National Caribbean American Heritage Month and the contributions of Caribbean Americans across our Nation and the 12th Congressional District.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF DELTA AIR LINES

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, it is my special privilege to recognize and honor Delta Air Lines as they celebrate their centennial anniversary.

Delta Air Lines was founded on March 2, 1925, as Huff Daland Dusters, the world's first aerial crop-dusting company in Georgia. Huff Daland's fleet of 18 planes became one of the largest privately owned fleets in the crop-dusting business.

In 1928, Huff Daland Dusters was renamed Delta Air Service to reflect the Mississippi Delta region it served, and by the following year, the airline's first passenger flight took off from Dallas, Texas. By 1945, the company accrued more than 300 million passenger miles and formally became Delta Air Lines.

From its humble beginnings, Delta has evolved into one of the world's leading airlines, transforming the way we travel. Today, Delta has over 4,000 daily flights to more than 280 destinations. Delta currently employs a team of 100,000 people, including over 4,750 Michigan-based employees.

Since establishing Detroit Metropolitan Airport as one of its major hubs, Delta has transformed Michigan into a gateway to the world.

From connecting local businesses to global markets to reuniting families across time zones, Delta has played a crucial role in shaping Michigan's modern identity.

Through innovation, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to safety and service, Delta has continuously redefined the air travel experience.

As we look to the skies, we celebrate Delta Air Lines for becoming the first U.S. airline to reach this milestone, and we wish them the best of luck as they continue to soar to new heights.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTH-
DAY OF REGINA ROSE EDWARDS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize Mother Regina Rose Edwards on her 90th birthday. We honor her life of dedication to service, mentorship, and spiritual leadership in Michigan's 12th Congressional District.

Mother Edwards served her community in the Michigan Southwest First Ecclesiastical

Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ through three successive administrations as Jurisdictional Supervisor of Women for the Michigan Southwest First. In her role, she has exemplified strength, leadership and a spirit of generosity. Through her position, she has transformed lives across generations, building bridges between tradition and progress to serve a legacy grounded in love, justice, and faith.

The 12th Congressional District honors Mother Edwards for her commitment to faith and service in celebration of her 90th birthday. I thank her for her lifetime of wisdom, guidance and her remarkable influence on our community and district.