

Watch report concluded that, “indeed the violence used by the Soviet Army on the night of January 19–20 constitutes an exercise in collective punishment. The punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union.”

Azerbaijani citizens, however, refused to succumb to Soviet aggression. Instead, the invasion inflamed Azerbaijani nationalism. In the days after the invasion, thousands of Azerbaijanis surrounded Communist Party headquarters demanding the resignation of the republic’s leadership, the Baku City Council demanded that Soviet troops be withdrawn and the Soviet legislature in Azerbaijan threatened to call a referendum on secession unless Soviet troops were withdrawn within 48 hours.

Soviet troops were eventually withdrawn and January 20th became known as “the Day of the Nationwide Sorrow.” It would not be for nearly two years, however, before Azerbaijan gained political control from the Soviet Union. In October 1991, Azerbaijan’s parliament—the National Assembly—declared its independence.

Today, Azerbaijan has developed into a thriving country with double digit growth, in large part due to a freely elected president and parliament, free market reforms led by the energy sector, and, most importantly, no foreign troops on its soil. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tragic events of Black January that precipitated the independent Republic of Azerbaijan and the fall of the USSR.

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. NEVA BELL

### HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful Hoosier, Mrs. Neva Bell. Today Neva Bell of Indianapolis, a true daughter of the State of Indiana attains the century mark of 100 years of age.

Born in Monroe, Indiana in 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. E.F. Fricke, Neva attended Purdue University where she met her future husband Simeon Bell of Portland, the son of a Jay County, Indiana pioneer family. Neva and Simeon Bell both graduated from Purdue, married, and raised three children in Indiana. Neva now has 6 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Over the years, Neva and Simeon Bell spent countless volunteer hours helping many Indiana institutions like the Indiana State Museum, the Eiteljorg Museum, the 500 Festival, and the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Neva and Simeon also maintained and improved the Bell family pioneer farm in Jay County, Indiana which is still in the family to this day.

Neva lost her husband in 2005, but that hasn’t stopped her from supporting her loved Indiana organizations. Over a lifetime Neva Bell has epitomized the strong, independent citizen that makes Indiana great.

Let us join together today and wish Neva Bell a very Happy Birthday and a joyful and healthy year.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY OF DWAYNE AND CAROL CHESNUT

### HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the sixtieth wedding anniversary of Dwayne and Carol Chesnut, two dear friends, respected community leaders, generous philanthropists, and loyal Democrats. They have three children, Kay, Michelle, and Mark, and two grandchildren, Darrel and Danielle Jobe.

Carol and Dwayne met as teenagers in high school when, coming out of class, he held the door open for her. Carol responded, “It is good to know that there are still gentlemen and scholars left.” Dwayne was smitten and holds the door for Carol still today.

When Carol and Dwayne were courting in Texas in the early fifties, their favorite song was “Too Young” by Nat King Cole. Its words were prophetic: “This love will last though years may go.” The joy they find in each other spills over into the numerous lives, including my own, which they have touched over the 60 years they have been together.

Congratulations. Here’s to many more good times and sweet memories to come.

#### HONORING DR. WILLIAM B. BYNUM, JR.

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 28, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. William B. Bynum, Jr., a 25-year higher education professional, who was unanimously selected to be the 7th President of Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning Board on October 8, 2013 and he began his presidency at “The Valley” on November 6, 2013.

A native of Rocky Mount, NC, Dr. Bynum earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Davidson College while on a student-athlete scholarship. While at Davidson, he also minored in Education and passed the National Teachers Exam. He was subsequently licensed and certified to teach Social Studies and Math in North Carolina and Georgia. Dr. Bynum went on to earn his masters and Ph.D. in Sociology from Duke University while serving as a Duke Endowment Fellow. Dr. Bynum was also a member of the inaugural class of the NAFEO-Kellogg Leadership Fellows Program, a yearlong program specifically designed to train the next generation of presidents/chancellors for minority serving institutions, which was led by then NAFEO president—Dr. Frederick Humphries; NAFEO chairman—Dr. Joe Johnson, and executive director—Dr. Arthur Thomas. As part of the program, Dr. Bynum “shadowed” Dr. Harold Martin, then chancellor of Winston-Salem State University and now chancellor of NC A&T State University.

As the 7th President, Dr. Bynum’s vision for the University is to uplift 6 powerful words that are already deeply rooted in “The Valley” culture. The vision is: ONE GOAL. ONE TEAM.

ONE VALLEY. The ONE GOAL is Student Success (increased enrollment, retention and graduation; holistic student development and career advancement); The ONE TEAM is University and Community Stakeholders Working Together; And the ONE VALLEY is students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends actively demonstrating School Pride and Spirituality that is second to none!

Prior to his appointment at MVSU, Dr. Bynum served as the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services at Morehouse College (2009–2013), where he was mentored by Morehouse’s 10th president, Dr. Robert Michael Franklin. While serving at Morehouse, Dr. Bynum significantly enhanced student-administration relations, improved the efficiency and effectiveness of student services, started, envisioned and led the initiative which established the Parents Council and implemented the nationally acclaimed Morehouse “Appropriate Attire Policy.”

Prior to Morehouse, Dr. Bynum served as the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (2000–2009) at The Lincoln University (PA). During his nine years of service, he was successful in nearly doubling Lincoln’s enrollment and recruited the 4 largest new student classes (900+) in the University’s 150-year history. Dr. Bynum also led the Board-approved Student Enhancement Initiative, which entailed elevating Lincoln from NCAA Division III to NCAA Division II athletics, reactivated Lincoln’s membership in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) conference, returned football to the campus after a 40-year absence and started the University’s first marching band program: “The Orange Crush.” At Lincoln, Dr. Bynum was mentored by Dr. Ivory Nelson, the University’s 12th president, who garnered over \$200 million in capital construction to transform the campus physical plant.

Prior to LU, Dr. Bynum served as the Associate Vice President and Dean of Students at Clark Atlanta University (1993–2000), and he was the number 2 person in the division that recruited the 4 largest classes (1500+) in the then 125-year history of CAU. While at CAU, Dr. Bynum was mentored by and developed strong strategic planning and assessment skills from Dr. Doris Walker Weathers. During his CAU days, Dr. Bynum was nicknamed “Bye-Bye Bynum” for his no-nonsense approach to judicial affairs and enhancing the campus culture and environment.

In addition to his enrollment management and student affairs work, Dr. Bynum has lectured and/or taught as well. He served as the Covington Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Davidson and at Morehouse, he was an adjunct professor in the Leadership Studies program and Sociology department. Dr. Bynum’s other professional experience includes research and teaching positions at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), Duke University and Durham and Edgecombe Community Colleges. He started his educational career as a teacher, football and wrestling coach in the Rocky Mount (NC) City School System (1984–87) and the Dekalb County (GA) School System (1987–88). Dr. Bynum has represented his institutions in numerous external programs and at professional conferences, while serving as a presenter or moderator. He has authored refereed articles in professional journals and presented papers with academic and social themes. Trained as