

mid-1980s to early 21st century in the South-western part of Nigeria.

Though born quietly, Ooni Ogunwusi's excellence and outstanding acumen recently announced itself for the world to behold, as he was crowned the 51st Ooni of Ife on the 7th of December 2015.

Before his emergence as the Ooni, being an astute entrepreneur, driven by turning "impossibilities to possibilities", Ooni Ogunwusi's Power of Imagination has set him aside, revolutionizing the approach to creativity and innovation, making a mark in his immediate society and beyond.

He holds HND Accountancy from The Polytechnic in Ibadan, Nigeria.

Professionally, he is a Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN); the Institute of Directors (IOD) Nigeria and the Global Real Estate Institute (GRI).

Indeed, his achievements in less than six (6) months of ascending the throne as Ooni of Ife are impressive.

This bridge builder and advocate of peace had travelled to many parts of Nigeria, preaching unity and peace among traditional rulers and promoting youth empowerment to reduce crime rate and unemployment in the society.

He engaged about 200,000 youth for empowerment through Agriculture to complement government efforts to further reduce crime rate and unemployment in Nigeria.

He has acquired 30 square miles of land in Ile-Ife for agricultural investments in cocoa, oil palm and rubber plantation which has a great potential for the diversification of Nigeria's economy.

His Majesty commenced construction work at the multi-billion naira Ife Grand Resort, spanning over 1000 acres of land in Ile-Ife, South-West Nigeria.

Over 3,000 youth are employed at the project site of the Resort.

His Majesty donated of 100 Transformers (250KVA) to various communities to improve power/electricity supply in Ife Land.

He empowered over 20,000 widows who are war victims and engaged them for palace and community sanitation with weekly benefits for their upkeep.

He has reached out to over 50 countries through their Ambassadors and country representatives in Nigeria, advocating global peace and promoting unity with a core focus on Africans and the entire black race.

He was appointed Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, by the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Prior to his ascension to the throne, he was involved in Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) locally and abroad for over 13 years.

He facilitated strong trade relationship through the Association for International Business (AIB) with presence in over 200 member countries across the globe which he set up in Nigeria.

One of the key achievements of this body is the trade facilitation between the United Arab Emirates (Jebel Ali free Trade Zone development) and the Federal Government of Nigeria through Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC).

He developed over 2,500 housing units with various consortia of developers over the last 8 years in Nigeria.

He was also a co-organizer for Ondo State Economic Planning and Implementation Committee.

He led the Government delegation team to Canada in 2002 for strategic alliances and partnership with Ondo State Government on solid mineral potentials of the State (Bitumen, Dimension Stones, Granite, etc.) which led to the formation of Amalgamated Mining and Exploration Company Limited—wholly owned by Ondo State Government.

He was involved in the facilitation and development of Sparkwest Steel Galvanizing Plant (the only Steel Galvanizing Plant in Nigeria), National Iron Ore Mining Company Limited and Jakura Mines resuscitation projects, which has eventually become the major limestone feed stock to Obajana Cement Plant in Kogi State, Nigeria.

He facilitated the biggest Lead and Aluminum recycling plant in Nigeria by National Steel Company of India, Ota Nigeria.

He facilitated the Rice Farmers Association of Nigeria to discourage Nigerians reliance on importation of rice in 2004.

He was the initiator of Essential Homes, a real estate product launched in January 2014, formed to deliver affordable upscale homes to the middle and low income earners.

The 1st phase of the product (The Southpointe Estate, Lafiaji Road, Lekki, Lagos State) started in February 2014, and has been successfully delivered within 1 year.

He developed the beautiful North Pointe Estate Phase I, II, III and Midland Court, on Chevron Drive, Lekki, and Jacob Mews Estate, Yaba, Lakeview Park I and II Estates, Lekki, the ongoing Golden Leaf Estate Lafiaji, Lekki and Grand Lake Estate Ajah, Lagos.

As part of his commitment to provide good infrastructure in terms of access to roads and electricity for the Lafiaji community, he led the opening up and reconstruction of a 6.5 km road, with a 1.1 km green extension along the Lafiaji/Orchid Hotel road without Government intervention.

He established the multi-billion Naira Inagbe Grand Resorts and Leisure, Lagos, Nigeria.

The Resort is first of its kind in the whole of West Africa, bounded by the Lagoon and Atlantic Ocean.

He was also the Director of Imperial Homes Mortgage Bank Limited, (formerly GTHomes), a leading National Mortgage Bank and former subsidiary of one of the biggest banks in Africa, GTBank.

He was Director of FinaTrust Microfinance Bank Limited, one of Nigeria's foremost Microfinance Banks focusing on SMEs and micro credit facilities.

He is the Founder and Managing Director of Gran Imperio Group, the holding company of Real Estate and Construction, Manufacturing, Facilities Management, Leisure and Tourism companies in Nigeria.

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of presenting to you an outstanding contributor to Nigeria's prosperity, peace and youth employment.

A man considered the custodian of beautiful and rich Yoruba culture and tradition.

He is an international business icon, a man of substance, humility, peace, public service, means and substance.

He is a great achiever and administrator par excellence, he is the reincarnation of Oduduwa and father of the Yoruba Nation.

Please join me in honoring his Imperial Majesty Ooni Adeyeye Enitan Babatunde Ogunwusi, Ojaja II, The Ooni of Ile Ife."

IN HONOR OF BRIAR WOODS BOYS' LACROSSE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the boys' lacrosse team from Briar Woods in my District who recently won the 2016 5A Virginia State Championship. They practiced long hours as a team, and this extraordinary achievement shows how far dedication, hard work, and commitment to teamwork can take a group as they played against some of the best competition in the nation.

Briar Woods boys' lacrosse team has made Virginia's 10th Congressional District proud and they have represented us well. Winning a state championship attests to their impressive athletic ability, unselfish mentality, and determination to succeed. I commend them for their tireless dedication to both their school and their teammates, without neither of which this could have been possible. It takes a delicate combination of superior skill and many hours of practice to win a state title. The Briar Woods boys' lacrosse team has certainly earned this honor and the lessons learned over the years will valuably serve them as they continue on in their lives.

Briar Woods was just minutes away from its first boys' lacrosse state championship, but Atlee scored two goals in quick succession in the waning minutes to push the game to overtime. Undaunted, Briar Woods took advantage early on in overtime to score the winning goal and claim the school's first boys' lacrosse state title.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Briar Woods boys' lacrosse for their achievement and representing Virginia's 10th Congressional District with such distinction. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING COL DANIEL
"LARRY" RUBINI'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th Birthday of COL Daniel "Larry" Rubini.

The 70th birthday of COL Daniel (Larry) Rubini, (U.S. Army Ret.) is also a tribute to many years of public and military service, and allegiance to the community of veterans.

COL Rubini was active in military and veterans affairs in Bucks County, chairing the Veterans' Advisory Committee, which was launched in 2011 to oversee the needs of veterans in the Eighth Congressional District.

It is acknowledged that his leadership and dedication played a role in one important congressional objective in this district, that is, a focus on increasing veterans' access to medical care, education, job training, and employment.

COL Rubini's legal and military background has been an asset to the effectiveness of the Veterans Advisory Committee.

He has served as a United States Administrative Law Judge in the Social Security Administration Office of Hearings and Appeals