

annual Friendsgiving Dinner. However, they also host several other fundraisers and events throughout the year in their effort to support this important cause. While the organization is thrilled with this year's fundraising initiatives and grant program, they hope that next year they will be able to help even more children in Northern Virginia. The organization's leadership in ensuring that every student of Loudoun County is properly fed and taken care of is truly exemplary, and I appreciate their ambition in support of our most needy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others in thanking Backpack Buddies Foundation of Loudoun for their continuous efforts to aid our students who are in need. I am extremely grateful for the impact this organization has had on Virginia's 10th District and the entire Commonwealth of Virginia, and I look forward to speaking of its continued success in the future.

HONORING MELVIN MATTHEWS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Reverend Melvin Matthews.

Reverend Melvin Matthews was formally installed on May 22, 2016 at Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church, making him the first new pastor since 1951 when his uncle, Reverend David Matthews, accepted the leadership role.

The elder David Matthews, a well-known spiritual and civic leader in Indianola, served the historic church for 65 years prior to his death on April 15, 2015, at 95.

The younger Matthews said, "I pray that God will use me to continue the great legacy of excellence started by Pastor Matthews 65 years ago."

Matthews grew up in Indianola and in Bell Grove Church, graduated from Gentry High School and Mississippi Valley State University before enlisting and becoming a pilot in the U.S. Air Force. After retiring from the service, he settled in Warner Robbins, GA, where he served as assistant pastor of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, and youth minister, associate minister, education minister and economic development minister at the Fellowship Bible Baptist Church.

Since his return to Indianola in 2009, Mr. Matthews has served as assistant to the pastor, David Matthews, teaching the church's Thursday night Bible study.

Matthews has received his Bachelor of Theology degree and is scheduled to graduate from Abundant Blessings Theological Seminary on June 11 with his master's degree in theology.

Matthews's church, Bell Grove was organized as a "brush arbor" in 1868 in a location described as: "Just across the railroad, on the corner, facing Indian Bayou across the street from the site of the old Mississippi Power and Light office." Down through the years, the church has experienced numerous strides and setbacks, including: being burned down twice, three other locations prior to the present spot on B.B. King Road, and the drowning of its first pastor on record, Rev. James Wright who was made pastor in 1878.

Since then, several moves included: comprising location on donated land "on the hill" on Adair Street and from there to its location on Chandler Street, where the church experienced major improvements under the leadership of Rev. E.G. Mason and elder Matthews.

Reverend David Matthews led the congregation from the corner of Hannah and Chandler to their present location on B.B. King Road in March 2006, where he continued to lead and inspire until his death. The younger Matthews stated, "With God's help, Bell Grove will be a Bible believing, Bible teaching and Bible preaching church with a great commitment to the 'Great Commandment and Great Commission,' knowing that God will use this to build a 'Great Church.'"

During the 13-month interim since Rev. David Matthews' passing, the Rev. E.T. Goodman of Greenwood, a retired former pastor of Mt. Beulah Baptist Church in Indianola, conducted the morning worship services and Bible study.

Reverend Melvin Matthews is the son of Missouri Gray Matthews and the late Rev. John Matthews and is married to the former Cynthia Williams Matthews of Goulds, FL.

He often reminds people never say what you won't do because God has a way of changing your plans. He always said there were three things he would never do: preach, teach and return to Mississippi. God fixed it so he had to do all three.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Melvin Matthews for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

ALEXANDER FERNANDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexander Fernandez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Alexander Fernandez is a student at Arvada K-8 School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alexander Fernandez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Alexander Fernandez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

AIKEN CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TREY GOWDY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. GOWDY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation in honor of Aiken Chapel

Missionary Baptist Church, for their 100th Anniversary:

Whereas, Aiken Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was formed in 1915 by a group of fourteen men and women who purchased land from Mrs. Ida Aiken to build a church; and

Whereas, the church was named for Mrs. Aiken and became Aiken Chapel Church, pastored by the late Reverend R. L. Goodwin, a founding member; and

Whereas, Aiken Chapel Missionary Baptist Church continues to be a leading church in Taylors, South Carolina, and under the leadership of Dr. W. O. Harrison Sr., pastor for more than thirty years, the congregation continues to be active and enthusiastic members of our community; and

Whereas, Aiken Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year and this anniversary celebration will draw members from the Upstate community to participate in this momentous milestone in the history of their church; Now therefore, be it

Resolved that I, TREY GOWDY, do congratulate the members of Aiken Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in recognition of their 100th Anniversary and thank them for their unwavering commitment, dedication, and contributions to Greenville County and to the Fourth Congressional District of South Carolina.

HONORING BLUEINK TECHNOLOGIES

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dynamic and promising New Mexico company, BlueInk Technologies.

Just over two years ago, Faze Sharif and Zach Lovelady founded BlueInk with the aim to modernize the authenticity of eSignatures. Before computers, documents had to be signed in blue ink to signify authenticity. However, things are not so simple anymore. Sharif and Lovelady understood that the way we execute documents needed to evolve to keep up with the fast-paced business world in which fraud, misunderstanding, and mistakes cost businesses and consumers billions each year. BlueInk's innovative software ensures that documents are reviewed and executed in a fully customizable and transparent manner.

BlueInk's document review system can be configured to give signatories either a quick overview or detailed step-by-step review of a document's terms in any language and on any device. This guarantees that documents are reviewed according to a signatory's preferences in a manner most convenient to that individual. Additionally, BlueInk provides powerful fraud prevention and security measures that create a detailed audit trail of every event throughout the review and signing and uses cutting edge technologies to verify a signer's identity. These technologies include GPS and IP based geo-location, photo identification, SMS text codes and driver's license scans—all of which are memorialized after execution in a stand-alone document called the BlueInk Certificate of Evidence. The Certificate of Evidence creates almost irrefutable proof of execution to prevent contract disputes before they

begin. This technology has helped a wide range of industries including real estate, multi-family housing; professional services; automotive; business-to-business; human resources, local, state and federal entities; and financial or lending institutions.

BlueInk is currently being used by companies and consumers across the United States and this fast growing, innovative company has offices in New Mexico and Arizona. On May 3, 2017, their technology was approved by the U.S. Patent Office. I applaud the ingenuity, tenacity and forward thinking of the founders and their staff members, and I look forward to seeing how this next generation eSignature software will change the face of business.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALL-
EN MISSISSIPPI MARINE U.S.
MARINE LANCE CORPORAL
(LCPL) MARC LUCAS TUCKER

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to rise today in memory of U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal (LCpl) Marc Lucas Tucker who was killed on June 8, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. LCpl Tucker died in a non-hostile vehicle accident on Alternate Supply Route Uranium, Iraq.

LCpl Tucker, a Pontotoc native and 1999 South Pontotoc High School graduate, was assigned to the 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan, attached to 2nd Force Service Support Group (FSSG), II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward).

LCpl Tucker's mother, Donna Bagwell, says her son wanted to be a Marine from the time he was a little boy. He wanted to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather who also served in the Marine Corps.

In 2003, LCpl Tucker enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. His service included training in Okinawa and South Korea in the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

In 2005, LCpl Tucker volunteered to go to Iraq to protect our nation in Operation Iraqi Freedom. His death was hard on the family, but Mrs. Bagwell says her son wanted to serve our nation.

"He loved America," Mrs. Bagwell said. "He loved the Marine Corps and everything about it."

LCpl Tucker's awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and Sea Service Ribbon.

LCpl Tucker is survived by his parents; Kelly Tucker and Donna Bagwell and siblings; Christy Irby, Pam Bolen, and Terry Bagwell.

LCpl Tucker lived to serve our country and died while protecting it. His devotion to protecting our freedoms will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
SHTULMAN FOR HIS WORK AS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREAT-
ER ANN ARBOR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Shtulman for his work with the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor. As the Federation's Executive Director for the past nine years, Mr. Shtulman has helped the organization grow and develop to meet the needs of the Ann Arbor community.

Founded in 1987, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor serves as a forum to initiate and coordinate activities that foster Jewish communal life while promoting social justice. The organization hosts a variety of events throughout the community, including public forums discussing local and national events, as well as dinners and community gathering events. Additionally, the Federation administers the Jewish Community Foundation, a fund that provides assistance to local groups that further the organization's mission. Since 2008, Mr. Shtulman has served as the organization's Executive Director and has played a crucial role in the Federation's success during his tenure.

Throughout his time as Executive Director, Mr. Shtulman has provided important guidance for the staff and members of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor. Under his leadership, the size of the Jewish Community Foundation has grown substantially, allowing the organization to fund Hillel programs in the community in addition to family services and supports. As a result, the Federation was able to allocate over \$1.5 million to local, state and national organizations in the year 2015. Mr. Shtulman has also championed youth exchange initiatives as well as Hillel programs at the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. His principled leadership and passion for helping the Jewish community have helped it grow stronger, and he will be missed as he retires as Executive Director next month.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring David Shtulman for his outstanding work as Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor. Mr. Shtulman has provided important aid to the Jewish community through his leadership and efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIVITY OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
CHURCH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Media, Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 150th Anniversary on September 8, 2018.

In 1868, Father Henry Wright became the first pastor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

Mary Church. As Media grew, the parish school opened its doors in 1912 and soon served many families.

In the last 25 years, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church has continued to grow and adopted the motto: The Helping Hands of Christ. The growth and development of the church's many ministries are a testament to this motto. Its many services include the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which provides shelter to the poor of Media, feeding the poor at the St. Francis Soup Kitchen monthly, collecting clothes for St. John's hospice, making rosaries for those imprisoned, knitting baby caps for premature births, and traveling on mission trips to St. Croix to aid a sister parish.

While the number of parishioners has grown immensely in the last one hundred and fifty years, the church's facilities and staff have kept pace. Most recently, the parish center has been refurbished and they have also added a youth Minister to their staff to develop ongoing spiritual endeavors for the children of the parish.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful to the work of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, its parishioners, and Father Ed Bell, and I hope the church will continue to grow and thrive.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes due to family matters. Had I been present for Roll Call vote number 271, Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 348, Providing for consideration of H.R. 953, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea. Had I been present for Roll Call vote number 272, H. Res. 348, The Rule providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 953—Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea. Had I been present for Roll Call vote number 273, H.R. 2288, The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017, I would have voted Yea.

CONGRATULATING TALIAFERRO COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Taliaferro County Family Connection, a nonprofit organization that advocates for children and families in northeast Georgia. Under the leadership of Executive Director Jackie Butts, Taliaferro Family Connection, in collaboration with its community partners, has achieved remarkable results.

For example, they developed and implemented a plan to tackle teen pregnancy, which had previously been on the rise. Now the rate is 42 percent lower. When they strategized to reduce truancy, within three years, the number of students absent from school more than ten days declined by 23 percent. And as a result