

among members of their congregation and community for over 143 years.

Since its beginnings in early spring of 1870, the church has had a number of spiritually led pastors who, through the years, have helped the congregation grow in number and in spiritual knowledge. Among the ministers who have led the congregation were Reverend James Williams, Reverend A.H. Davis, Reverend H.W. Scott, Reverend S.S. Butler, Reverend W.P. Whitfield, Reverend Curtis L. West, and Reverend McKinley K. Nelson.

In March 1965, the congregation elected Reverend Bobby Burks as their leader. Under Reverend Nelson, the church underwent significant changes, ultimately leading to impressive growth in many different areas. During Pastor Burks' leadership, the church saw a considerable growth in membership, implementation of prayer meetings and bible class, youth ministry, sick and shut-in ministry, fellowship breakfast, Praise Team group, and an annual church trip and picnic. In addition to implanting a number of new activities for the membership, Pastor Burks was also instrumental in establishing numerous ministries.

With such growth in activities and membership, the church deemed it necessary to expand to accommodate the increase members. Many physical improvements to the church were made from 2003 through 2007. Completion of a handicap accessible sidewalk and rails, new bathrooms added near the front entrance of the church, addition of a public address and security system, construction of the Family Life Center, and the furnishing of the church's finance room with a copier, computer, fax, and binding machine all took place as a result of a 249+ increase in membership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in its commitment to remain grounded in the true traditions of the Baptist doctrine within the Edwards community.

RECOGNIZING MS. ANTOINETTE
TUFF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, today we pause to recognize a virtuous woman of God whose actions, thinking, and spirit blessed the lives of the children, parents, teachers, and support staff of not only the Ronald E. McNair Discovery Learning Academy, but the hearts of citizens across America; and

Whereas, Ms. Antoinette Tuff on August 20, 2013 gave of herself to calm and defuse an incredibly dangerous situation that could have devastated our community and our Nation; and

Whereas, Ms. Antoinette Tuff talked down an armed and troubled intruder who was focused on harming elementary school children, their teachers, support staff, and police officers on the scene; and

Whereas, Ms. Tuff stood as a citizen diplomat, cool and calm, communicating with the would be assailant, as she advocated for life, not only for the intruder and herself, but for every life in the school building on that day; and

Whereas, this wise woman of God shared her stories, her struggles, her trials and her triumphs, to breathe in words of encouragement and comfort, transforming a spirit of destruction into a spirit of redemption, allowing herself to be an instrument of God ensuring that all would live to see another day; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Antoinette Tuff for her bravery, her selflessness, leadership, and service not only to those students, teachers, support staff, police officers, and administrators at Ronald E. McNair Discovery Learning Academy in DeKalb County, Georgia, but also for her heart and spirit that have touched our Nation and the World; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 25, 2013 as Ms. Antoinette Tuff Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of August, 2013.

RECOGNIZING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF DELANEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a special occasion for Delaney Street Baptist Church in Orlando, Florida. Delaney Street Baptist Church will celebrate their 85th anniversary this upcoming Sunday, September 15, 2013.

The First Baptist Church of Orlando began a Mission in 1923, which later would develop into Delaney Street Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Reverend T.E. Waldrup, thirty-six Charter members laid the foundations for what would become Delaney Street Baptist Church. On September 14, 1928, Delaney Street Baptist Church was officially founded.

This is a special moment in the history of Delaney Street Baptist Church, and they deserve to be commended for their 85 years of service to their community. I would like to thank them for their many years of faithful ministry to our community and their dedication to Christian leadership.

On behalf of the people of Central Florida, it is my pleasure to recognize and congratulate Delaney Street Baptist Church on this momentous occasion. May God continue to bless their church and ministry throughout future generations.

ON RECOGNITION OF THE TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors or TAPS assists families of our Armed Forces who have lost their military loved one. TAPS is a resource that provides 24/7 tragedy

assistance based on a framework of peer-to-peer emotional support. Their programs fill the crucial need of connecting survivors with survivors to provide comfort, compassion, healing and hope in time of need.

For nearly 20 years, TAPS has provided essential support to more than 40,000 military family members and those assisting them. TAPS successfully builds on the experience of survivors by connecting them as peer-mentors to other grieving family members in similar circumstances.

However, connecting survivors is just the beginning. TAPS continues its outreach and support through grief seminars, camps for kids and physical events. The TAPS network in not a one-time liaison but a continuing support framework that provides continuous compassion and assistance to families as they grieve.

Ms. Bonnie Carroll founded TAPS in 1994 after she tragically lost her husband in 1992, Brig. Gen. Tom Carroll, in a military plane crash. Sensing an unfilled need, Ms. Carroll established TAPS to ensure surviving military family members have the necessary resources to cope with their loss. Since then, Ms. Carroll has dedicated her life to supporting our surviving military families. Ms. Carroll and all of the TAPS volunteers are deserving of our highest thanks and honor.

HONORING BROWNSVILLE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brownsville Missionary Baptist Church for exemplifying the importance of resolute faith, persistence, and ultimately perseverance in the face of many historical adversities, consequently serving as a model for others within the Baptist community.

The beginning of the initial foundation was formed under the guidance of Reverend Nelson in 1862, thus sparking the beginning of Brownsville Beaufort Colored Church. Brownsville Beaufort Colored Church began its initial foundation at the intersection of Highway 22 and Bolton-Brownsville Road, north of the site it now stands. Preaching services were held at Beulah Memorial Baptist Church (now named Brownsville Beulah Baptist Church). Reverend Nelson conducted services for both congregations (black and white), when Brownsville's shared the church. Service was conducted in the morning for Beulah's congregation and the evening for Brownsville's.

A "brush harbor" was erected on the land purchased during the period of growth and separation. The land the present church is on, is recorded to have been bought on March 18, 1862. The members worshipped and held service faithfully under the brush harbor structure, thus, history continued to be made and the initial foundation set forth. Because limitations of space and format necessitated the need for even more land, additional land was purchased in April 1890.

Since the earlier days of the church beginnings, many events have occurred in the life of the church and its members. The church has been rebuilt, expanded several times, and