

IN RECOGNITION OF DR.
SRINIVASA YEGNASUBRAMANIAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Srinivasa Yegnasubramanian (Dr. Mani). The title of Dharmatma was recently bestowed upon Dr. Mani by His Holiness Shankarachari. As the first United States citizen and only the third person to be awarded this title, Dr. Mani's prestigious honor is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Dr. Mani serves as Chairman of the Hindu American Temple and Cultural Center in Morganville, New Jersey and Chairman of Sringeri Vidya Bharati Foundation, USA (SVBF) in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. As the leader of these organizations, Dr. Mani oversees the many activities and outreach efforts provided to the communities and ensure that the centers provide outstanding spiritual and community service. Additionally, under Dr. Mani's leadership, SVBF has seen significant accomplishments and growth, including the establishment of the first goshala to be associated with a Hindu Temple in the United States and the construction of a monastery and temple in Toronto, Canada.

Over the years, Dr. Mani has been recognized by various organizations in both the United States and India for his humanitarian efforts. In addition to his most recent title of Dharmatma, Dr. Mani has also been honored with the titles of Dharma Chintamani (the crown-Pearl of Righteous Thoughts) and Dharma Rakshamani (the crown-pearl of protector of Dharma), among many other honors.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Dr. Srinivasa Yegnasubramanian's honor of being conferred as Dharmatma. He continues to provide outstanding leadership, service and dedication to the Hindu faith and the community.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED
SERVICE OF ALICE GEISHECKER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the contributions of

Mrs. Alice Geishecker to the United States House of Representatives and this great Nation upon the occasion of her retirement. Alice is a true American patriot with over 38 combined years of supporting Military members and families.

Since September 2001, Ms. Geishecker served as a Congressional Liaison Representative with the United States Air Force House Liaison Office. In this capacity, she was responsible for maintaining a continuous Air Force presence in the United States House of Representatives. Her primary role was to facilitate personal contacts between Air Force leaders, Members of Congress, key personnel and professional House staff. She monitored the ever-changing political environment on Capitol Hill to advise the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Alice was the primary focal point for administrative functions within the office to include all logistical support for events, Congressional member travel departures and arrivals, and movements of Senior Air Force Leadership within the Capitol complex. This endeared her to many Members of Congress and their offices.

Prior to joining the Air Force Liaison Office in the House of Representatives, Alice worked as a contract employee in 1978 with University of Maryland at Camp Pieri, Wiesbaden, Germany and took her oath to federal service on July 5, 1989 working Family Support Services at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Alice also worked with North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) liaison officers at the Army Command and General Staff College, Directorate of Combat Development, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and various divisions within the acquisition community and with the Director of Manpower in the Pentagon.

Alice had a varied and full civil servant career, but also served as a dedicated Army spouse to her husband Alan, a retired Lieutenant Colonel; loving mother to her three children, Cassie, Angelina, and Julie; and grandmother of eight. Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, it is an honor to recognize the career and service of Mrs. Alice Geishecker. My wife Vicki and I congratulate Alice and wish her and her family all the best.

HONORING BETHEL AFRICAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal. Bethel AME has served as a catalyst for the African American growth in Warren County and the State of Mississippi.

Founded in 1864 by Pastor Page Tyler, a missionary from Indiana, Bethel was the first African Methodist Episcopal church in Mississippi. It is known as The Mother Congregation of African Methodism in the state. Although other black churches have earlier histories, they were organized as Methodist Episcopal and later united under the A.M.E. religion. Bethel, however, was the first congregation organized by the A.M.E. connection in Mississippi and the second in the southern United States.

Bethel has a rich legacy as her members served as pioneers in progressing African-American culture greatly forward in the State of Mississippi. The first African-American Masonic Lodge in Mississippi was organized at Bethel in 1875 by the first Pastor of Bethel, Reverend Dr. T.W. Stringer, a freeman from Canada. Adding to her history, in 1890, Campbell College, the first African-American College in Mississippi was established and operated from an adjoining building to Bethel. The college moved to Jackson, MS in 1897 and was absorbed by Jackson State University.

In 1992 Bethel was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in the United States and the City of Vicksburg captures Bethel's historic significance with inclusion of a 19th Century Bethel and Congregation on its Riverfront Murals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bethel African Methodist Episcopal for its rich heritage and dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.