

bank, Jayden has continued to rise to the occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the service and commitment of Mr. Jayden Daniel, who has earned the highest honor that the U.S. Congress bestows upon American youth. His extraordinary achievements are not only worthy of the Congressional Award Gold Medal but also of our respect and gratitude.

God Bless Jayden in his future endeavors. I thank him for everything he does and for allowing me to represent him in Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING MANUEL "MANNY" MORENO

#### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Manuel "Manny" Moreno, president of PJMB Commercial, Inc., for his recently confirmed position as 2024–2025 Chair of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International.

As president of PJMB Commercial, Inc. Manny oversees a 25-building portfolio of more than 560,000 square feet in the San Francisco Bay Area. He has been an active member on the BOMA California Board of Directors for almost a decade and is a past president of the BOMA Pacific Southwest Region.

Manny served a two-year term as president of BOMA/Oakland-East Bay from 2014 through 2015 and he remains involved in the local association's Nominating Committee. In 2018, Moreno served as vice chair of BOMA International's BOMAPAC Council and participated in the Daniel W. Chancey Leadership Academy.

At the BOMA International level, he also has also been involved in a variety of initiatives, including the Standard Methods of Floor Measurement Committee, the Office Building Standard Revision Task Force and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.

Manny also serves on the Board of Managers for the Commercial Real Estate Certification Institute (CRECI), an independent certification body created by BOMA International and BOMI.

A dedicated community member, Manny serves as a Director on the Mountain House Community Services District Board of Directors. Giving back to his community, with a focus on its future, is a passion of his and he looks forward to his continued community involvement and service.

Manny is a husband to Ruby Moreno and a father to Lauren Moreno and Dominic Moreno.

Manny is focused, driven, and passionate about the commercial real estate industry, BOMA, and his community. Making a difference and having a positive impact on these areas are his guiding principles. I congratulate Manny on his new position as Chair of BOMA International and wish the best to him and the BOMA community.

#### RECOGNIZING JAVIER M. PEREZ, JR. ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION

#### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with gratitude to recognize a great Missourian, Javier M. Perez, Jr., for his accomplishments with the Amalgamated Transit Union as he heads towards retirement. An experienced leader, dedicated professional, and advocate, Javier serves as a prime example of a true public servant and most importantly, a kind human being.

Javier began his illustrious career when he began driving a bus for the Kansas City Area Transit Authority in 1974. He became a member of Local 1287 and served as steward, Executive Board member, Vice President and was elected President in 1987. Furthermore, Javier earned a bachelor's degree in labor studies at Antioch University through the George Meany Center, now known as the National Labor College. He also attended and completed the Trade Union Program at Harvard University in 2009.

As a dedicated advocate, Javier has continuously been involved in advancing the rights of Latinos. He has been an active community service volunteer heading voter registration drives and assisting with summer Mural projects as a member of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA). Javier also served as a liaison for Cesar Chavez on two occasions during Chavez's trips to Kansas City in 2002.

Javier continues to be a force for positive change within Kansas City. Javier was appointed by Missouri Governor Bob Holden to serve on the Kansas City Missouri Police Board as a commissioner and later was elected President of the Board. Javier was elected an International Vice President in September 1995 and has worked with many locals large and small. On August 29, 2013, Javier was unanimously elected to be the International Executive Vice President of the Amalgamated Transit Union, becoming the first Latino to reach this milestone.

Beyond his extraordinary career achievements, Javier's tight-knit family continues to serve as an important pillar of his life. Javier spent over 40 exciting years with his lovely wife Lee Ann Perez until she passed into Glory in 2020. He continues to reside in Kansas City, Missouri, where he has three grown children and three grandchildren. Mr. Perez announced his retirement from the Amalgamated Transit Union, holding the second highest office in the international union.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in congratulating Javier M. Perez, Jr. as he retires from his successful and impactful career representing Amalgamated Transit Union Members on the local, state, and national levels. Mr. Perez will continue to impact communities across Missouri and in his beloved Kansas City. On behalf of my colleagues and a grateful Nation, we thank him for his dedication and commitment to transportation improvements across the country.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

#### HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of Dakota County, Minnesota. Dakota County was established as one of Minnesota Territory's original nine counties in 1849, and has played an important role in the history of Minnesota since the beginning. Even as the function and responsibilities of county government have changed over the past 175 years, Dakota County has remained one of the most important and influential counties in the state of Minnesota. It's now the third-largest county in the state and the largest in the Second Congressional District.

Indigenous people have been living in the land that is now known as Dakota County for many thousands of years. The lands of Dakota County were important for tribes to make use of the waterways for sustenance, transportation, and interaction with other tribes across the nation. The Bdote (confluence) of the two major rivers Misi zipi (Mississippi) and Mni sota (Minnesota) are also an important cultural location as the original birthplace of the Dakota people. By the time European settlers began making their way into Minnesota from the north and east, the Dakota and Ojibwe were the two main tribes, with the Kaposia band of Mdewakanton Dakota residing in this area, as well as Wahpekute and Sisseton groups nearby.

In 1851, Dakota leaders ceded millions of acres of land in Minnesota Territory to the U.S. government. This led to a marked increase in settlement in Dakota County. Dakota County was officially organized in 1853. The county seat was initially located at Kaposia (present-day South St. Paul) and then at Mendota before moving to Hastings in 1857, where it remains today.

Over the 175 years of its existence Dakota County has taken on many roles including providing public safety, keeping records, creating, maintaining, and repairing a system of county roads, assessing taxes, conducting elections, providing health care services addressing both the physical and mental health needs of its residents, operating a countywide library system and many popular county parks. Dakota County is regularly recognized on a national level for the high quality of its programs and services.

I have been proud to partner with Dakota County on many important initiatives including the creation of the Veterans Memorial Greenway, and significant improvements to Interstate 35, as well as securing investments for the Dakota County Sheriff's Office with body worn cameras and their electronic crimes unit.

It is my honor and privilege to represent Dakota County. I congratulate the Dakota County government on the celebration of their 175th anniversary, and recognize them for their many contributions to local residents, the state of Minnesota, and the Nation as a whole.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF PAUL COTTON

## HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Paul Cotton.

Paul Cotton departed this earth at the age of 69, surrounded by his loved ones at Methodist Le Bonheur Hospital in Germantown, TN. Born on August 21, 1954, in Marks, MS, to the late Prince and Hazel Lee Cotton, Paul was one of twelve children raised in Jonestown, MS.

Paul embraced his faith in Christ early in life, which guided him throughout his journey. He graduated from Coahoma Agricultural High School and pursued a carpentry trade at Coahoma Junior College in the 1970s.

On February 24, 1974, Paul married the love of his life, Madgeline Cotton. Their union was blessed with six children: Gwendolyn, Shuwanda, Angela, Myrtis, Paul Jr., and Jerel. Paul also had a daughter named LaKeesha. At his passing, he was the proud grandfather of 14 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

In 1979, Paul joined the United States Army Reserve, later extending his service with a contract until July 30, 1985. He earned honorary medals for his M-16 and hand grenade expertise and was honorably discharged after approximately five years of dedicated service.

Paul's vocation was in construction, where he built buildings, homes, highways, and roads across the United States for fifty years until his retirement. He was affectionately known as the "Jack of all Trades." Paul worked for Ingalls Shipyard in the late 1980s in Pascagoula, MS, and later for Mississippi Limestone. He also worked as an independent contractor and repaired cars in his spare time.

As the patriarch of his family, Paul was deeply loved by his wife, siblings, children, and grandchildren. His humble and kind-spirited nature made him one of a kind. To his children, he was a King, embodying work ethic, love, and values. Paul's memory will be cherished forever in the hearts of his loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Paul Cotton.

HONORING AMBASSADOR GILAD  
ERDAN

## HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the extraordinary career of Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Gilad Erdan. Ambassador Erdan began his career in public service as an advisor, first to Ariel Sharon and then to Benjamin Netanyahu. In 2003, Ambassador Erdan was elected to the Knesset as a member of Likud. During his fourteen years as a Member of the Knesset, Ambassador Erdan served in a variety of ministerial positions. He was first ap-

pointed as the Minister for Environmental Protection following the 2009 elections. In this role, he worked to clean rivers, increase recycling, and protect Israel's coastline. In 2013, Ambassador Erdan was appointed the Minister of Communications and Minister of Home Front Defense. Subsequently, in 2014, he served as the Minister of Interior. Following the 2015 elections, Prime Minister Netanyahu appointed him Minister of Public Security. In this position, he combated terrorism, reformed cannabis law, and worked to protect children from online predators.

In 2020, Prime Minister Netanyahu announced that Erdan would serve concurrently as Ambassador to the United Nations and the United States—a distinction not bestowed upon an ambassador since the 1950s. In 2022, he was elected the Vice President of the 77th General Assembly, a major honor for any diplomat. While serving as Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador Erdan has fearlessly advocated for Israel's interests in front of the assembly. In his role as Ambassador, I have had the pleasure of working with him and witnessing his commitment to Israel first-hand. I wish him the best in his next role and am confident that he will continue to be a strong advocate for the people of Israel.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF  
THE CLE ELUM DAM FISH PAS-  
SAGE FACILITIES AND FISH RE-  
INTRODUCTION PROJECT

## HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the opening of the Cle Elum Dam Fish Passage Facilities and Fish Reintroduction Project, a program to restore ecological connectivity and natural production of anadromous fish like sockeye salmon, spring Chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and coho salmon.

After years of studies, planning, and construction, the Cle Elum Fish Passage Project is finally ready to begin the important work of conserving our salmon species in the region. This impressive feat is accomplished through a multitude of projects, including a spill over dam, a fish collection facility, underground passage tunnels for juveniles, and multiple fish passage ramps.

I look forward to seeing what this program has in store, and I commend the Bureau of Reclamation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and Garco Construction Inc. for their commitment to the conservation and protection of our wildlife and natural resources in Central Washington.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL AIR DE-  
VELOPMENT CENTER IN WAR-  
MINSTER, PENNSYLVANIA

## HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today it is my great honor to rise in recognition of the

countless invaluable contributions of the Naval Air Development Center (NADC) in Warminster, Pennsylvania, to the aerospace heritage of my community and our entire country.

For six decades, the NADC has been the cornerstone of United States Naval aviation research. Before the era of Silicon Valley and Research Triangle Park, NADC was the premier aviation research center and cradle of aerospace innovation.

Originally acquired from the Brewster Aircraft Corporation by the United States Government during World War II, the NADC transitioned to United States Navy management in 1947 and quickly became synonymous with innovation, pioneering advancements in pilotless aircraft, modern aircraft design, propulsion systems, electronics, surveillance technologies, acoustics processing, communications, navigation (including Global Positioning System (GPS)), and weaponry. Its mission was clear: to be a global leader in naval aviation research and development, and it accomplished this mission successfully.

The NADC housed over thirty laboratories, each focusing on various critical aspects of naval aviation. These hubs of innovation drew visionary engineers, scientists, technicians, and support staff from across the nation to take part in this groundbreaking research that pushed the boundaries of aerospace technology. Their collective efforts yielded numerous breakthroughs crucial to securing our national defense and advancing global aerospace capabilities.

Among their countless achievements, one of the most significant was the establishment of the Aviation Medical Acceleration Laboratory (AMAL). Central to this laboratory was the world's most powerful human centrifuge. Famously known as the "Johnsville Centrifuge", this facility played a critical role in advancing the understanding of high-performance jet aircraft's effects on pilots, significantly contributing to the training and safety protocols of pilots in groundbreaking programs like the North American X-15, Mercury, Gemini, Apollo Spacecrafts, and Space Shuttle missions.

In addition, the Anti-Submarine Warfare Laboratory was instrumental in developing cutting-edge technologies vital to the Navy's Cold War efforts. Innovations like the Lockheed P-3 Orion and S-3 Viking aircraft, Light Airborne Multi-Purpose System (LAMPS) helicopters, and advanced sonobuoys significantly enhanced their capability to detect and counter Soviet submarine threats.

Furthermore, the NADC served as the lead laboratory for several iconic aircraft, including the Grumman F-14 Tomcat, McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet tactical fighters, the Presidential Helicopter fleet, and the Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) communications platforms. Its influence extended beyond aircraft to encompass the entire spectrum of navigation systems used by Navy aircraft, submarines, and surface vessels.

The NADC crew systems office was also responsible for pioneering advancements in aviation life support, life sciences, and crew station technologies. From the Navy Common Ejection Seat (NACES) to flight helmets and flame-retardant NOMEX flight suits, the innovations and initiatives born out of this office underscore the profound impact the NADC has had in enhancing pilot safety and mission effectiveness.