

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.

The Naval Air Development Center's legacy has shaped the past and future of naval aviation and inspired generations of engineers, scientists, and innovators to pursue excellence in aerospace research and development.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before this esteemed chamber proud and humbled to celebrate the invaluable contributions of the NADC and commend their decades of dedication, expertise, leadership, ingenuity and innovation. Because of their commitment to fostering exploration, research, and development in aerospace technology, our Nation continues to be a leader on the global stage of aviation technology.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF THE NEW WINNERS CHURCH BUILDING IN DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Winners Church of Dumfries, Virginia and extend my congratulations to them on the completion of their new church building. This expansion will enable them to continue their mission of service to the community.

Winners Church has served the people of Virginia's Seventh Congressional District for more than 13 years. Under the direction of Senior Pastor Henry Godwin, Winners Church has enriched the lives of Dumfries residents by fostering a sense of community and providing invaluable support to their congregants. This new building serves as a symbol of the continued dedication to service that Winners Church nurtures in their community and will continue to grow through their love and faith.

The mission of Winners Church is to be a place where overcomers are raised, hope is restored, purpose is realized, and potential is maximized. Since the church's founding in December of 2010, they have continuously provided for their community through annual events such as the turkey giveaway, back to school giveaway, tissue drive, and quarterly visits to shelters and assisted living homes throughout Dumfries. I applaud Pastor Godwin and the entire Winners Church family for their tireless work to develop a welcoming environment for the people of Dumfries and beyond, and for the support they have provided to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Winners Church on the opening of their new house of worship. This remarkable achievement is a testament to their unwavering dedication and their deep commitment to serving the people of Dumfries, Virginia.

CONGRESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and

women who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage, and dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

Fourteen years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

This year, I will present Congressional law enforcement awards to the following winners chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community:

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award: Lieutenant Nicholas Pruitt, Deputy Michael Ates, Deputy Althavia Brown, Deputy James Forkin, Deputy Christopher Houghton, and Detective Dwight Roberts of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

Dedication and Professionalism Award: Officer Andrew Adkins of the Holmes Beach Police Department, Officer Kevin Williams of the Bradenton Police Department, Trooper Taylor Ledford of the Florida Highway Patrol, Corporal Benjamin Schlabach of the Palmetto Police Department, Detective Matthew Hostetler, Detective Steven Luke, and Detective Carmine Luper of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

Gary Tibbetts Career Service Award: Major Todd Shear of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Captain (retired) William Knight and Detective Jeff Beckley of the Bradenton Police Department, and Special Agent (retired) Stephen Lieberman of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Preservation of Life Award: Sergeant Russell Ackerman of the Bradenton Police Department, Officer Specialist Kelsey Dalton of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Lieutenant Richard Rietz, Sergeant Randy Lamb, Sergeant Laszlo Nagy, Detective Eric Davis, Deputy Jake Essek, Deputy Joshua Groover, Deputy Brian Hart, Deputy Stanley Hartley, Deputy Brandon Howard, Deputy Lauren Jalowiec, Deputy Alexis Lyon, Deputy Robert Macchio, Deputy Paul McCartney, Deputy Humberto Noronha, Deputy Gregory Palso, Deputy Deborah Perry, Deputy Carrie Renninger, Deputy Patti Savageau, Deputy Hurly Smith, and Deputy Arturo Velasquez of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

Unit Citation Award: Bradenton Police Department Narcotics Unit: Detective Eleazar Garcia and Detective Brandon Kells; Florida Highway Patrol Troop C Criminal Interdiction Unit: Sergeant Joshua Malloy, Trooper Jeremy Fields, Trooper Wesley Kelly, Trooper Deryck Lewis, Trooper Chris Nottingham, Trooper Sergio Pearce, Trooper Eric Schaub, K-9 Flip, K-9 Titan, and K-9 Lobo; Manatee County Sheriff's Office Fraud/Auto/Pawn Unit: Sergeant Jason Farrier, Detective Anthony Begley, Detective Joshua Breitwieser, Detective Gary Cummings III, Detective Samuel Ebeling, Detective Rachael Fossaceca, Detective Daniel Reyna, Detective Antonio Starnes, and Detective Randall Walker.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALDO PINESCHI, JR.

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Aldo Pineschi, Jr., who recently passed away in Roseville, California. His loss is felt throughout Northern California, and very personally to myself. My deepest condolences to his wife Lesli, their children, and to his extended family and many friends. Aldo was a quiet leader with tremendous influence, and also had a most caring spirit. There was little in Placer County that didn't have his wise advice and fingerprints on it. Aldo was a humble man who loved his community and did everything in his power to make it better. Never wanting to be in the limelight, he indeed was a light and help to dozens of charities, as well as encouraging all levels of government to come together to solve issues. Putting aside differences and finding areas of agreement was one of his specialties.

I value and will cherish the friendship that I shared with Aldo and will look back fondly at the times, over dinners, local events, we shared. No matter how far he had to travel, Aldo would be there giving me a smile from the back of a crowded town hall or business round table.

God Bless Aldo. I thank him for all he has done and the kindness that accompanied him every step on this earth. He will be missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INCREASED TRANSPARENCY IN 501(C)(4) ORGANIZATIONS ACT OF 2024

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Increased Transparency in 501(c)(4) Organizations Act of 2024. This bill would require the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to make publicly available the forms organizations that self-declare under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) file with the IRS. Americans have the right to know which organizations are operating under this section of the IRC.

To be eligible for tax-exempt status under 501(c)(4), organizations, often referred to as "social welfare organizations," must be "devoted exclusively to charitable, educational, or recreational purposes." They can apply for 501(c)(4) status, or they can self-declare. Previously, organizations seeking to self-declare were not required to notify the IRS of their existence. In 2015, however, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (PATH Act), which required an organization seeking to self-declare to file a notice with the IRS, was enacted into law. The PATH Act did not, however, make the filed notices, Form 8976, subject to public disclosure.

The IRS has opined that Form 8976 cannot be made available under the Freedom of Information Act or other disclosure laws. This opinion creates a discrepancy between those organizations for which the IRS must make publicly available information—all Section