

Force, Col. Ellis worked on the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC), represented the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS) and helped advocate for veterans issues at the state level with the Governor and the Virginia General Assembly. His advocacy and support through the JLC was vital to several areas of state veteran's services, especially benefit services, the Virginia Veteran and Family Support program, state veteran's cemeteries, and the Virginia War Memorial.

Col. Ellis is survived by his wife Sally; daughter Tracy; stepsons Stephen, Jeff, and Shawn; nine grandchildren; and sister Louise. I extend my deepest condolences to his family members and anyone who had the privilege of knowing this fine gentleman. Col. Ellis was a very loved man whose service both to his community and our nation, will be dearly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I implore you and my colleagues to join me as we honor the memory of Colonel David Alton Ellis.

IN HONOR OF WENDELL LAWRENCE'S SERVICE TO KENTUCKY

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wendell Lawrence upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD) on August 1, 2018, after 35 years of service and more than 20 years as Executive Director. LTADD provides economic and workforce development services for Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, Larue, Meade, Nelson, and Washington Counties in Kentucky's Second District.

Wendell began his lifetime of service in the U.S. Army and retired as a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve after serving for 23 years. He has worked for LTADD since 1983, where he has proven himself an invaluable member of our local community and advocate for the region. Under his leadership, LTADD has grown and has helped countless Kentuckians find jobs. Wendell has worked with Fort Knox, other community stakeholders, and the government to direct resources to the Lincoln Trail area, and our community is better off for his service.

I want to thank Wendell for his years of service to our community. He will be missed, but I wish him and his family the best in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE ON THE OPENING OF ITS NEW SPORTS COMPLEX

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the St. Lawrence Centre Shopping and Entertainment Mall on the grand opening of its new Sports Complex.

The St. Lawrence Centre is a mall in Massena, New York, that has experienced im-

pressive business growth since it was built in 1990. To continue serving the residents of St. Lawrence County, the St. Lawrence Centre is opening a brand new Sports Complex attached to the mall. The Complex features a 1,300 person-capacity field turf that can host activities year-round ranging from professional sports to children's birthday parties. The opening of this complex, along with the addition of new stores to the mall, will bring together members of the community and help stimulate the local economy.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate the St. Lawrence Centre on the grand opening of its new Sports Complex. Efforts to expand the mall exemplify successful business growth in Northern New York, and I look forward to seeing the St. Lawrence Centre continue to flourish.

THE AMERICAN LEGION 100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2018

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote against the 39th short term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program that did not provide any reform whatsoever.

I've been working to improve the flood insurance program for over 20 years. The current program is ever deeper in debt, does not provide the right incentives to move people out of harm's way, and misses an opportunity for at least a small set of incremental improvements to save money and make America's families and businesses safer.

I know this extension will pass but I want to register in the strongest possible terms my insistence that we get on with the business of having a sustainable safe flood insurance program that is so important to so many Americans. The time to start this is now and this short-term extension fails that test.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on roll call no. 368, YEA; on roll call no. 369, YEA; on roll call no. 370, YEA; on roll call no. 371, YEA; and on roll call no. 372, YEA.

HONORING MAGISTRATE JUDGE JAMES E. SEIBERT

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my long time friend, Judge James E. Seibert as he transitions into retirement after

33 years of service to the people of West Virginia.

Judge Seibert graduated from West Virginia University's College of Law in 1969.

Upon graduation, he joined the Law Firm of Seibert and Kasserman in Wheeling, West Virginia.

In 1985, Judge Seibert entered public service as a Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of West Virginia.

But as much as he is recognized for his service on the bench, he is known for his contributions to the community, having served as: Chairman of the Ohio County Bar Association, President of the Wheeling-Ohio County Planning Commission, Chairman of Saint Vincent's Home, The Mental Hygiene Commissioner, President of the Wheeling Auto Club, and served on the Board for the Oglebay Park Children's Association.

I thank, Judge Seibert for his 33 years of service and wish him, his wife Jenny, his three adult children, and three grandkids all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on July 23, 2018 I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on No. 366 and 367.

On July 24, 2018 I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on No. 368, 369, 370, 371, and 372.

CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY WORK AND LEGACY OF VICTOR VILLARREAL

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the extraordinary work and legacy of Victor Villarreal, Ph.D. This Lone Star State native has led a life of continual service to Central Texas. His leadership, vision, and commitment to hard work has made the growing city of Leander, TX a great place to live and work.

Dr. Vic served the City of Leander as a councilmember from 2005–2009, which included a term as Mayor Pro-Tem. Knowing that Leander deserves a first-class higher-education institution, his tenure was focused on bringing an Austin Community College (ACC) campus to his beloved community.

Dr. Vic unselfishly gave countless hours over the span of a decade toward making an ACC campus in Leander a reality. Those who worked alongside him describe the time, planning, and effort he put in to bringing a college campus to Leander as a true labor of love. Dr. Vic's leadership led to the establishment of ACC's San Gabriel campus; classes will begin in Fall 2018. His commitment to higher education in Leander didn't end there as Dr. Vic served as a member and a Vice Chairman of