

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 from 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

the ACC Board of Trustees before becoming Chairman.

Many go through life wondering if they've made difference; Dr. Vic doesn't have that problem. I'm glad civic-minded leaders like him are working hard to improve their communities. He's led Leander to new heights and positioned his beloved city to continue into a bright future. I salute his work, congratulate him on his achievements, and wish him nothing but the best for the years ahead.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2018 SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2018*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018 Sister Cities International Annual Conference. For 2018, the conference will take place in my hometown of Aurora, Colorado, from the 2nd to the 4th of August. This is both Aurora's and Colorado's first time hosting this important international conference. I look forward to participating in it as a guest and as a speaker.

First established in 1984, the Sister Cities International Annual Conference joins together numerous government officials, national leaders, business leaders, and diplomats for dialogue on many important global issues. The focus of this year's conference is Cities Leading the Way. It will showcase how, "in an era of unrest, cities across the globe are leading efforts to create smarter, healthier, more inclusive, and more innovative communities."

I am proud to attend this prestigious event and look forward to observing how its participants will offer ideas on how to resolve important global issues and promote cross-cultural dialogue at the highest level. Colorado is a world leader in a variety of fields, including agriculture, energy, medical research, natural resources, and tourism. There are numerous tours and guest speakers Colorado will provide to inform and assist the participants as they develop ideas and solutions. I am confident that all will look back upon the conclusion of the conference and recognize that Aurora was a wonderful place to meet.

The Conference made the decision to award the 2018 event to Aurora thanks to the efforts of many, but I want to note particularly the leadership of my late friend and Aurora's biggest booster, Mayor Stephen Hogan. I know it would have meant a great deal to Mayor Hogan to have participated in and to have opened this conference. I am confident that Aurora's new Mayor, Bob LeGare, will ensure that it will be a great success. Finally, I wish to recognize the work of Sister Cities International led by Board Chair, Tim Quigley, and Aurora Sister Cities International led by Board Chair, Dr. Christopher Ward.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

#### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2018*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to 13 extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are:

Callie Lucia from Texas Christian University; Kelly Clifford from New York University; Matthew Marion from the University of Colorado; Farah Mechref from Texas Tech University; Chaniqua Nelson from Howard University; Zohair Alam from the University of Houston; Sabri Siraj from Arizona State University; Naomi Stelivan from Fisk University; Andy Hong from Brown University; Mariam Boguifo from Texas Tech University; Rishal Jagtap from Langley High School; Ritwik Jagtap from Langley High School; and Fangxin 'Amy' Yu from The Madeira School.

Mr. Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in

America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 26, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### JULY 31

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet

To hold hearings to examine the internet and digital communications, focusing on the impact of global internet governance.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on decreasing administrative spending.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine immigration enforcement and family reunification efforts.

SH-216

##### AUGUST 1

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2242, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, S. 2773, to improve the management of driftnet fishing, S. 2861, to prosecute, as a Federal crime, the assault or intimidation of a passenger train crew member to the same extent as such actions against aircraft crew members are prosecuted, S. 3119, to allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species, S. 3143, to provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States, S. 3265, to require the Secretary of Commerce to undertake certain activities to support