

was incorporated as a nonprofit, with the name Cedars Development Foundation. As a newly minted nonprofit, the organization pivoted to focus on both the education and housing of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This led to the opening of Cedars' first community-based home in 1968, pioneering a model for which the organization would become known. By 1984, Cedars began its Community Living Skills day program, expanding the organization's programming into skills development and community building for individuals who weren't housed by the program. Over the next seven years, Cedars would continue to innovate, adding a Community Challenges program, opening eight additional community-based homes, and initiating a successful capital campaign to renovate the original site. By 1995, the organization was officially re-named Cedars of Marin.

Today, Cedars of Marin has provided services to over 2,500 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through the organization's innovative community-based housing program, Cedars now houses approximately 100 individuals across its main campus and ten group homes, building a safe and productive environment for them to reach their highest levels of independence. The organization's skills-focused day programs serve over 190 individuals each weekday, creating a larger community of support for the intellectually and developmentally disabled, while also helping their families.

Madam Speaker, Cedars of Marin has continued to be an innovative leader in the areas of residential, educational, and community building programs for the intellectually and developmentally disabled. Through the unwavering dedication of its leadership and staff, the organization has never lost sight of its original purpose to provide opportunities to help these individuals live as independently as possible, while leading happy and productive lives. Therefore, please join me in congratulating Cedars of Marin for a century of inspiring work, and in wishing them many more years of success.

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QUINNLAN THORNTON

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**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Quinnlan Thornton for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Quinnlan Thornton is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Quinnlan Thornton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Quinnlan Thornton for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF TALLADEGA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL AHSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the Talladega High School boys basketball team for winning the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Class 4A basketball state championship.

The Tigers defeated West Limestone 60–48 in the championship game on March 1st at Birmingham's Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama. The Tigers brought home the program's first ever state title.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Talladega High School, the coaches, the players and all the Tiger fans on this exciting achievement. Go Tigers.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE McLANE MIDDLETON LAW FIRM

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**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the McLane Middleton law firm in celebration of their 100th anniversary.

Founded in 1919, the firm has 106 attorneys admitted to practice in 17 states and the District of Columbia and is the largest law firm in the state of New Hampshire with 226 colleagues, and has five locations across New Hampshire and Northern New England. The firm is marking its anniversary with a year-long celebration, which will include monthly community donations in quantities of 100, such as 100 blankets to transitional housing shelters, and a centennial celebration with colleagues and alumni on April 4th.

McLane Middleton is a pillar of the broader community in New Hampshire, committed to pro-bono work and community service. Its contributions to the state are reflected in its distinguished network of alumni—including Members of Congress, State Supreme Court Justices, and NH Attorneys General. I am grateful for all McLane Middleton has done to support our state and nation.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I want to thank McLane Middleton for all they have done, and will continue to do, for the Second District and the State of New Hampshire.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT PARADY

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**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Robert

Parady, who has served as the town moderator of Bourne for eighteen years.

Mr. Parady has devoted his life to improving the quality of life in the Town of Bourne. He has held numerous posts in town and has always remained dedicated to participating in local government and making our community a better place to live. His first job was working as a lifeguard for the town, and he later held his first elected position on the town's Planning Board.

After graduating from Bourne High School, Mr. Parady received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He then attended Suffolk Law School and was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar Association.

Back in Bourne, Mr. Parady served as a Selectman for nearly two decades, starting in 1977. During his time in office, he always strived to solve problems that would have practical and positive impacts on his community. One project he and the Board of Selectmen were particularly keen on fixing was improving Main Street. Step by step they tackled the issue, first removing a sign blocking the view of the bridge. They then worked to secure the land to build Buzzards Bay park and were given a grant to build Taylor's Point Marina. Beyond Main Street, Mr. Parady worked diligently to complete numerous public works projects, such as expanding the police station and renovating the Town Hall.

In 2001, Mr. Parady was elected to serve as town moderator, to run the town meetings he attended starting in high school. He is remembered by his colleagues as a dedicated public servant who unrelentingly worked to improve the town he loved. After serving for over four decades in numerous capacities, Mr. Parady's legacy will continue to have a positive impact in Bourne.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Robert Parady and his commitment to improving the lives of all who live in the town of Bourne. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his hard work and dedication as he celebrates his retirement.

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XOCHITL VARGAS

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**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Xochitl Vargas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Xochitl Vargas is a student at Three Creeks K–8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Xochitl Vargas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Xochitl Vargas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to recovery from being sick, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on Roll Call No. 126; “nay” on Roll Call No. 127; “yea” on Roll Call No. 128; “yea” on Roll Call No. 129; “nay” on Roll Call No. 130; “nay” on Roll Call No. 131; “yea” on Roll Call No. 132; “yea” on Roll Call No. 133; “nay” on Roll Call No. 134; “nay” on Roll Call No. 135; and “yea” on Roll Call No. 136.

## HONORING BARRY BIERMANN

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Barry Biermann for his years of dedicated service as a member of the Cal Fire community and as the Napa County Fire Chief.

Mr. Biermann is a Napa County, California native. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from California State University, Chico and has served Napa County as a CalFire employee since 1986. He began his tenure with CalFire as a seasonal firefighter. In 2007 he became a Battalion Chief and in 2014 was promoted to be the County Fire Chief for Napa County. Additionally, Mr. Biermann is a Hazmat specialist and is a fifteen-year member of the CalFire Incident Management Team. Some of his responsibilities have included managing the Oroville Spillway Emergency, the Valley Fire, and the Atlas Fire/Napa Complex Fires of 2017.

Mr. Biermann is known for remaining calm during emergencies and has a disposition that puts others at ease during difficult situations. He is an important member of and asset to our community. He is also a loving husband to his wife and dedicated father to their two sons.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Biermann is the committed community member we should all strive to be. He has dedicated his career to helping our community and diving head first into dangerous situations to protect others. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Barry Biermann here today.

## IN RECOGNITION OF MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY SUPPORT FOUNDATION

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation for its commendable service to its community and country during the recent government shutdown.

Started in 2014, the Cape Cod Military Support Foundation now provides programs and

services that support the thousands of service members and their families at Joint Base Cape Cod. In 2017, founder Don Cox and his team saw a larger need to expand across the Commonwealth to support active duty military, coast guard, national guard, veterans, and their families, creating the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation.

The recent government shutdown brought the loss of paychecks for members of the United States Coast Guard. The Massachusetts Military Support Foundation took immediate action, opening an empowerment center on the Cape to provide food, groceries, and baby supplies to members of our Coast Guard and their families. Soon they had opened a center in Boston and others across the Commonwealth to ensure no family was without food. The Massachusetts Military Support Foundation worked tirelessly to manage food deliveries from Maine to Rhode Island and went above and beyond for our community in a time of need.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation for its dedication to serving our community and members of the United States Coast Guard. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the foundation for its incredible work and wishing it all the best as it continues to support our service members and their families.

## ELLYSIA VEGA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ellygia Vega for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ellygia Vega is a student at Jefferson Jr/Sr. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ellygia Vega is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ellygia Vega for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## IN RECOGNITION OF ITC(SW) MICHAEL S. HAMMER

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the active duty retirement of ITC(SW) Michael S. Hammer, a brave and honorable man who dedicated his life to the U.S. Navy.

ITC(SW) Michael S. Hammer enlisted in the Navy in 1994 and shipped out the day after

graduating high school. His first overseas deployment was with the Commander Submarine Group Seven in Yokosuka, Japan. There he supported telecommunications to deployed and shore based units. ITC(SW) Hammer then went back to school but soon returned to Japan on his assignment to the Commander Seventh Fleet which embarked on the USS *Blue Ridge*. ITC(SW) Hammer then served a shore duty assignment with the Naval Security Group Activity, as a computer network analyst and an assistant Command Master-at-Arms in Fort Meade.

His third tour took ITC(SW) Hammer back stateside to the Naval Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic, where he served as both the Joint Forces Tactical Operations and Communications Officer and Operations Administrative Leading Chief. He next was deployed back out to sea on the USS *Mahan* as the leading Chief for the Radio Division as well as the Command Information Assurance Manager. ITC(SW) Hammer spent his following shore duty at the Navy Yard, serving as the Field Support Activity. Finally, ITC(SW) Hammer was deployed on his last tour on the USS *Truxtun* with the USS *George H.W. Bush* Carrier Strike Group to the Middle East and Mediterranean. While there, he performed the duties of Radio Leading Chief and the command's Information Systems Security Manager.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the incredible accomplishments of ITC(SW) Michael S. Hammer. Words alone cannot express our gratitude for his service. May God bless ITC(SW) Michael S. Hammer and the U.S. Navy.

## HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF KLUGER, KAPLAN, SILVERMAN, KATZEN &amp; LEVINE, P.L.

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 1, 2019*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the law firm of Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L. on celebrating their 10th anniversary.

Kluger Kaplan was founded in 2009 by attorneys Alan J. Kluger and Abby Kaplan. Since opening, they have expanded their offices from Miami and Boca Raton, Florida to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The firm focuses on a range of disciplines and industries, including business and corporate litigation, real estate litigation, securities and financial fraud, corporate governance, bankruptcy litigation and debtor and creditor's rights, appeals in state and federal courts, professional liability, intellectual property law, entertainment sports law, fashion law, class actions, and complex matrimonial litigation.

Kluger Kaplan has always taken great pride in the work that they do on behalf of their clients and has rightly earned national recognition for that work.

As a firm, they have made giving back to their community a top priority. Organizations they are working with include: The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), America's Second Harvest, Boy Scouts of America, Chapman Partnership for Homeless,