

of Hill, NH, and Richard “Ricky” Mazur of Franklin, NH, as the May 2019 Granite Staters of the Month for their dedication to helping their classmates whose financial and/or family circumstances render them unable to afford basic necessities like clothing and toiletries.

When the Franklin High School FIRST robotics team sat down to discuss how they could give back to their community, Elizabeth and Richard had an idea: They could revamp the makeshift thrift shop at their school. Now, students at Franklin High School who are in need of anything from clothing, to toothbrushes, to cereal, can get all these items anonymously and for free at the new and improved “Karma Korner.”

Elizabeth and Richard were inspired to act after they noticed that some of their classmates were walking the halls in the same clothing that they wore the day before and learned that some classmates were eating their only meal of the day in the school cafeteria.

With the support of their FIRST Robotics teammates, the two students moved an already existing makeshift thrift shop to a wheelchair-accessible room with better lighting and brightly colored walls. They added food to the inventory of items available for students and started a program that allows students to bring home a backpack stuffed with pantry items so that they do not go hungry over the weekend.

Ensuring anonymity and, as a result, reducing stigma was important to Elizabeth and Richard. If a student wants to check out an item, all they need to do is record what they are taking on a clipboard, so that the students working the pantry know what needs to be replenished.

Many businesses in the surrounding communities have also lent their support in the form of gift cards or donated items. By collaborating with local businesses and charities, Karma Korner recently received washers and dryers for student use, which were bought and installed at no expense to the school.

In establishing Karma Korner, Elizabeth and Richard have recognized and elevated the dignity of their friends, peers, and classmates, and they have reminded us of our shared humanity and shared promise. I join the rest of the Franklin High School community in thanking Richard and Elizabeth for their efforts to help make their school a more supportive and welcoming place and congratulate them for being honored as May 2019’s Granite Staters of the Month.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM MEDD

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the efforts of Dr. William Medd and his work with Western Maine Health and Stephen’s Memorial Hospital. His dedicated work with MaineHealth, the largest health sys-

tem in Maine, has improved the lives and health of many residents of western Maine.

Although Bill is originally from Long Island, he has proudly called Maine home for almost five decades. He studied and specialized in Internal Medicine at Wesleyan University and then at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. Following his medical residencies and 2 years of service in the Air Force, Bill and his family relocated to western Maine in the early 1970’s.

Throughout his career, Bill has dedicated himself to improving the quality of healthcare in Maine, specifically in the rural area he has worked and lived. His efforts to achieve this goal have taken many forms, from serving as a trustee at Western Maine Health Care Corporation and MaineHealth to his 45 years as an internist in the Oxford Hills region. Perhaps one of the most symbolic aspects of Bill’s hard work is the growth of the local hospital in Norway, ME. At first a small facility when Bill arrived, it is now a fully equipped, modern hospital known as Stephen’s Memorial and provides quality healthcare to the rural region.

In early 2016, an expansion of Western Maine Health, was named the William L. Medd, MD, Health Center. This new facility integrated new models for delivering primary care and relocated other Western Maine Health units. For the last 3 years, Bill has had the unique opportunity to work out of the facility that bears his name.

On March 30 of this year, Bill was presented the Legacy Award at the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce annual dinner. Not only does this award embody Bill’s commitment to healthcare in Maine, but speaks to other contributions he has made to his community, from fundraising for local scholarships to supporting youth programs in the region. His work in these fields outside the medical profession demonstrate Bill’s commitment to more broadly improve his community.

I would like to thank Dr. Medd for his decade’s long work in the State of Maine. Thanks to his determination and drive to make a difference, the future of healthcare in western Maine is bright. Dr. Medd’s passion for his patients, community, and State sets an example for the medical professionals who will follow him.

Congratulations, Dr. Medd, on a successful career and happy retirement. I look forward to seeing your continued contributions to your community.●

#### 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF PITTSFIELD, MAINE

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the town of Pittsfield, ME, which is celebrating its 200th anniversary this year. Throughout its long history, Pittsfield has continually displayed a rich heritage of hard work, entrepreneurship, innovation, community, and family spirit. Situated along the Sebasticook River in Somerset

County, Pittsfield is home to roughly 4,200 residents who help make it a thriving Maine town.

Incorporated as Warsaw in 1819, the town became Pittsfield in 1824, named after one its prominent citizens, William Pitts. Early on, most of the town’s occupants were farmers, growing so much corn and wheat that they used the grains to pay their taxes. Like many Maine towns, Pittsfield began to develop a strong mill industry that flourished along the Sebasticook River. This assortment of textile, saw, and grist mills created hundreds of new jobs and Pittsfield saw its population nearly double in just 40 years. Closures and relocation of many of the town’s mills lead to some decline, but the citizens of Pittsfield helped reinvent the town, and today, Pittsfield is as vibrant as ever.

Maine Central Institute, an independent high school, opened in 1866 and continues to serve many of the town’s residents and foreign students from such countries as South Korea, Spain, Guatemala, and many more. The school’s Manson Essay contest continues to bring members of the community together every year to hear presentations by students on their university level research papers. Along with its high-level academics, MCI’s impressive athletic program has produced a number of professional athletes, many of whom have gone on to play professional basketball.

A hallmark of Pittsfield’s economy, Cianbro was founded by Carl Cianchette in 1946. Cianchette and his brothers would go on to grow this company into the largest construction company in Maine, providing thousands of jobs throughout the State. Now nationally recognized and 100 percent employee owned, with locations stretching into the mid-Atlantic region, Cianbro is still headquartered in Pittsfield.

It is an honor and a privilege to congratulate Pittsfield on this historic occasion. For 200 years the town and its residents have repeatedly demonstrated the hard work and community spirit found throughout Maine. I hope the residents of Pittsfield take the opportunity during this yearlong celebration to reflect on their rich history and strive to make the next 200 years as prosperous as the last. Happy 200th birthday, Pittsfield, and congratulations to all who have made this a vibrant Maine community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO T. MICHAEL PUTNAM

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Honorable T. Michael Putnam, who is formally stepping down from his 32-year term as a U.S. magistrate judge, effective on June 7, 2019. Judge Putnam served the Northern District of Alabama as a magistrate and chief magistrate judge during his many years of service to the court. He is the longest serving magistrate judge in the history of the

Northern District of Alabama, and I certainly commend him for this accomplishment. At the time of his appointment, Judge Putnam was the youngest magistrate judge in the country at age 32.

Instrumental in the expansion of the role of magistrate judges, Judge Putnam worked to highlight their value in the judicial process. He acted as the chair and vice chair of the Northern District's Criminal Justice Act Administrative Committee, playing a significant role in ensuring the highest quality of representation of indigent criminal defendants in the Northern District under the Criminal Justice Act.

Judge Putnam is widely known for his volunteer work at the Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, AL. He has taught a pretrial practice and procedure class since 2006 and directed many trial advocacy and moot court programs. The Cumberland School of Law named Judge Putnam the 2019 recipient of the Friend of the Law School Award in recognition of his time and dedication to the betterment of students at Cumberland. The Young Lawyers Section of the Birmingham Bar Association also selected him for the Judge Drayton Nobles James Award in 2016, where they honored his spirit of volunteerism.

As an advocate for the Northern District, Judge Putnam played an active role in using technology to improve efficiency. He has been a judicial resource for the Office of the Clerk while implementing procedural changes to the electronic filing system. Judge Putnam led the Court in establishing the eVoucher system, making it easier for attorneys and courts to process vouchers for appointed counsel in criminal cases.

Judge Putnam received his bachelor of arts from the University of Alabama and his juris doctorate from the University of Alabama School of Law. He graduated in the top 5 percent of his class and was a Hugo L. Black Scholar.

Judge Putnam's contributions to Alabama's judicial system are truly remarkable and will have an impact for generations to come. I am proud to take this time to recognize and thank him for his service to the people of our great State and his unwavering commitment to the rule of law. I join Judge Putnam's friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him the best of luck as he transitions into a new chapter of his life.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1200. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of cer-

tain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1812. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to certain individuals.

H.R. 1947. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2045. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2326. An act to amend the Social Security Act, to amend the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012, and to direct the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Labor, and Homeland Security, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, to take certain actions to improve transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who separate, retire, or are discharged from the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2333. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2340. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to Congress notice of any suicide or attempted suicide of a veteran in a Department of Veterans Affairs facility, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2359. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs advancing of whole health transformation.

H.R. 2372. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1338. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluensulfone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL 9992-69-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1339. A communication from the Program and Management Analyst, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Conservation Provisions" (RIN0578-AA69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2019; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1340. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Energy Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources; Appropriations; and Armed Services.

EC-1341. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hydroelectric Licensing Regulations Under the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018" ((RIN1902-AF59) (Docket No. RM19-6-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1342. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Georgia; Permit Exemption for Fire Fighting" (FRL No. 9993-89-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1343. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Georgia; Miscellaneous Revisions" (FRL No. 9994-14-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1344. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Redesignation of the Illinois Portion of the St. Louis, MO-IL Area to attainment of the 1997 Annual Standard for Fine Particulate Matter" (FRL No. 9994-11-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1345. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Indiana; Volatile Organic Liquid Storage Tank Rules" (FRL No. 9994-10-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1346. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Jefferson County Process Operations" (FRL No. 9993-90-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1347. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Nonattainment New Source Review Program Revisions; Infrastructure Provisions for National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9993-84-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1348. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; NC; Permitting Revisions" (FRL No. 9993-97-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Revisions to