who made history by leading hundreds of slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. Although her courageous actions before and during the Civil War are well known to many Americans, Tubman's dedication to bettering the lives of former slaves after the war has been largely unrecognized in American History. In 1857, Tubman moved from Canada to Auburn, NY, where her close friend and U.S. Senator, William Seward, bravely broke the law by selling her a modest, two-story brick house. After the Civil War ended in 1865, Harriet Tubman returned to Auburn where she continued her humanitarian efforts by aiding aged African Americans and eventually opening a group home in 1908. Before her death 5 years later, the house provided refuge for 12 to 15 people. Harriet Tubman was also an active suffragist during the later years of her life. Her close proximity to Seneca Falls kept the city of Auburn a focal point in the women's rights movement. Harriet Tubman died in 1913 and is buried in the Fort Hill Cemetery overlooking the city of Auburn.

Whether it is the American Revolution, the War of 1812, or the women's rights movement, Upstate New York has been home to many of our Nation's most historic figures. Harriet Tubman's legacy is an important part of Upstate New York's history. The Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park Act will establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park to preserve many significant sites relating to her life in Auburn, such as the Tubman Home, the Tubman Home for the Aged, the Thompson Memorial AME Zion Church, and her gravesite in the Fort Hill Cemetery.

I am committed to preserving Upstate New York's historic treasures so that future generations can learn the lessons of the past by visiting the homes of the people who changed American history. Preserving Tubman's home, gravesite, and other buildings where she lived her life are essential to protecting her legacy. Harriet Tubman's impressive life story is an example of how one should fight against injustice and work to alleviate the suffering of those around them. Her courageous spirit and compassion towards others still makes her a role model nearly 100 years after her death. I am proud that Harriet Tubman made Upstate New York her home, and I will continue to support the preservation of New York's numerous historic sites.

REMEMBERING LORRAINE PERONA ROONEY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise to remember a dear friend and committed public servant, Lorraine Perona Rooney, who passed away early this morning. I am deeply saddened by Lorraine's death and will keep her friends and family in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Lorraine, who served the U.S. Senate for over 27 years, was one of a small group of staff members I assembled to assist me when I first took office as a U.S. Senator from the State of Connecticut on January 3, 1989. I was tremendously fortunate to have a person of Lorraine's extensive knowledge and years of Senate staff experience to set up my office. She did a wonderful job and kept my office running smoothly for more than 15 years—as office manager and financial director—and did so with style and grace. Many staff members and interns passed through my office during her tenure, and all benefitted from Lorraine's caring guidance, common sense, and expertise. Those who worked with her recall her willingness to go the extra mile to help her coworkers. One member of my staff remembers that Lorraine worked to secure her a parking space closer to the office so that she wouldn't have very far to walk to get to her car after dark.

After graduating from American University with a degree in international relations, Lorraine subsequently worked at Dartmouth College in charge of foreign study programs. Through a contact there, she learned of an opening in the office of Senator John Durkin, Democrat from New Hampshire, and thus began her Senate career in March 1977. Following her work in Senator Durkin's office, Lorraine built her career in the Senate setting up offices for newly elected Members, including Senator CARL LEVIN, Democrat from Michigan, in 1979, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG, Democrat from New Jersey, in 1982, and, of course, myself in 1989. Throughout her time with the Senate, Lorraine demonstrated an expertise in creating attractive, functional and comfortable work spaces, not an easy task given our limited space and resources then.

During Lorraine's last few years at my office, she was faced with many serious health problems. Despite her suffering and hardship, she continued to do her utmost in service to me and the citizens of Connecticut. The courage she demonstrated as she faced these personal challenges served as an inspiration for me and my staff.

Those of us who were lucky enough to know Lorraine could not help but be touched by her kindness and warmth. She formed many lasting friendships in the Senate community; she often spoke of the Senate as ''home.'' She was widely respected and beloved among her Senate colleagues for her character, judgment, and professionalism. It is no wonder that after her retirement she continued to stay in touch with so many with whom she had worked.

Lorraine was a dedicated public servant who enriched this institution. I extend my deepest condolences to Lorraine's husband Bernie Rooney and daughter Shannon for their irreplaceable loss.

Mr. President, we honor Lorraine Perona's memory and we cherish her decency and her friendship.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY VOLUNTEER SERVICES UNIT

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, one of America's greatest strengths is its spirit of volunteerism, particularly within the law enforcement community. I take this opportunity to honor and recognize members of the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff's Volunteer Services Unit. These brave men and women have repeatedly demonstrated their dedication to their community during a time when budget cuts are paralyzing our State and local law enforcement forces.

Since its founding in 1850, the Contra Costa County Volunteer Services Unit has grown to coordinate the activities of several Sheriff's Volunteer Groups, including an Air Squadron, Amateur Radio Communications, Cadet Explore Post 2406, Chaplains Program, Deputy Sheriff Reservers, Dive Team, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, RACES, Sheriff's All Volunteer Extended Services, SAVES, Program, and Search and Rescue Unit.

The Contra Costa Sheriff's Volunteer Services Unit has the largest volunteer search and rescue team of any county north of San Bernardino. With over 700 volunteers, the unit contributes the same amount of service hours as approximately 50 full-time, paid positions. This unit has also assisted in several missing persons cases both within Contra Costa County and beyond, including the heartbreaking search earlier this year for 8-year-old Sandra Cantu of Tracy.

The hard work and dedication of those involved with the Sheriff's Volunteer Services Unit not only helps save lives throughout Contra Costa County, but also saves the county the equivalent of $5 million in salaries and benefits at a time when funding for such programs has been reduced.

The dedicated men and women of the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff's Volunteer Services Unit are the embodiment of community service and involvement. For over 150 years, these volunteers have, often without question for their own safety or comfort, taken heroic actions throughout the County and beyond while assisting with a variety of programs.

I commend the men and women of the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff's Volunteer Services Unit for their inspiring dedication to their community.•

COMMENDING LUCERNE INN

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, summer is finally upon us, and as people travel to Maine to discover and explore the pristine beauty of our State's outdoors,

I rise to recognize a historic Maine lodging establishment that has hosted these travelers and adventurers for nearly two centuries. Located conveniently between Bangor and Bar Harbor in the small town of Dedham, the Lucerne Inn boasts fine dining and accommodations and a picturesque golf course complemented by a stunning view of beautiful Phillips Lake.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places since June of 1982, the inn is a legendary business with an impressive history. Indeed, Dedham's first family, the Phillips, built a family home called the Lake House in the early 1800s. John Phillips had been granted the land for his service in the American Revolution. Soon thereafter, in 1814, the building became a halfway house, operating as a stagecoach stop between Bangor and Ellsworth, with guests partaking in food, spirits, and lodging. Indeed, today's Lucerne Inn is still housed in the original building built by the Phillips family. Later, during the 1920s, the inn and the 5,000 acres around it were designed to be one of America's first planned communities. As such, the Maine Legislature created the village of Lucerne in 1927 to bring people to this beautiful region, but the economic troubles of the 1930s forced the idea to be scrapped.

Given its prime location—less than an hour from the beautiful waters of Bar Harbor and the hiking trails of Acadia National Park—the Lucerne Inn offers visitors a true Maine getaway. A recipient of the 2009 Bride's Choice Award, the inn offers professional service for a variety of occasions from weddings to business meetings and banquets, and provides a variety of travel packages to accommodate all budgets.

Owners Steve and Rhonda Jones purchased the inn in August 2005. Steve had operated a convenience store and catering business in the Farmington area for 23 years, while Rhonda worked at the University of Maine at Farmington. Depending on the season, the inn employs between 40 and 65 people. The inn has 26 rooms, plus an additional 5 guest rooms in a newer building. The banquet and conference center, built in 1999, has become tremendously popular, hosting approximately 100 weddings each year.

The Lucerne Inn also makes dining out an event with a four-course meal in an elegant room with a scenic view from every window. Chef Douglas Winslow serves quality cuisine that encompasses brunch, a full dinner menu, and a seafood buffet, as well as a traditional broiled Maine lobster dinner, adding to the authentic Maine experience. The inn also hosts special wine dinners each month to showcase a diverse array of the world's greatest wines. In fact, just last Thursday evening, the inn hosted an Argentine-themed wine dinner, with a full five-course meal complemented by special wine from Argentina.

The inn maintains a historical ambiance by furnishing every room with antiques. Most accommodations at the inn boast a view of the lake and a gas burning fireplace. That said, fine dining and accommodations are only a fraction of the Lucerne Inn experience. The inn also boasts a 9-hole golf course conceived by famed course designer Donald Ross, as well as a large outdoor swimming pool and picturesque outdoor patios.

At the Lucerne Inn, visitors and Mainers alike are afforded the chance to escape their daily routines and relax by enjoying the serenity of Maine's natural beauty. Whether for pleasure or business, the Lucerne Inn offers an authentic taste of Maine, something that is truly irreplaceable. I congratulate Steve and Rhonda Jones and all of the employees at the Lucerne Inn for exquisitely maintaining this gem of our State, and I offer my best wishes for their continued success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:15 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 402. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the ''William C. Tallent Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic''.

H.R. 1037. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a five-year pilot project to test the feasibility and advisability of expanding the scope of certain qualifying work-study activities under title 38, United States Code.

The message also announced that, pursuant to section 4 of the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act, Public Law 111–25, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission: Mr. ELTON GALLEGLY of California.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 402. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the ''William C. Tallent Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clini''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1037. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a five-year pilot project to test the feasibility and advisability of expanding the scope of certain qualifying work-study activities under title 38, United States Code; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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–2333. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Ronald F. Sams, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2334. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Contract Reporting'' ((RIN0750–AF77) (DFARS Case 2007–D006)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 10, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2335. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Protection of Human Subjects in Research Projects'' ((RIN0750–AF96) (DFARS Case 2007–D008)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 10, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2336. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Government Property'' ((RIN0750–AF92) (DFARS Case 2007–D020)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 10, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2337. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Clarification of Central Contractor Registration and Procurement Instrument Identification Data Requirements'' ((RIN0750–AG05) (DFARS Case 2008–D010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 10, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2338. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Peer Reviews of Contracts'' ((RIN0750–AG28) (DFARS Case 2008–D035)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 10, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2339. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Privacy Act Implementation'' (RIN2590–AA07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July