

1962, and 1964; the U.S. Open in 1960 and the British Open in 1961 and 1962. He twice represented the United States in the Ryder Cup Match, including serving as captain of the victorious American team in 1963.

In 1997, he successfully battled prostate cancer and is a champion of programs supporting cancer research and early detection. In addition to the numerous charities he supports, Mr. Palmer led a fundraising drive creating the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando and the Latrobe Area Hospital Charitable Foundation.

Mr. Palmer has led by example in kindness, good sportsmanship, and generosity. Today, along with my colleagues, I ask Congress to award Mr. Palmer a gold medal in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence and good sportsmanship in golf.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JOHANNA JUSTIN-JINICH

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, Johanna Justin-Jinich, a resident of Timnath, CO, was senselessly murdered in Middletown, CT. Johanna was a member of the Class of 2010 at Wesleyan University—my alma mater. Faculty and students alike describe a vibrant, intelligent, creative, and compassionate young woman. A young woman whose short life was full of exuberance and study—and public service. Johanna's friends note that her warmth, passion, and dedication to those she loved that defined her life to the very end. And these qualities are what they will miss the most.

Johanna's family and her friends have suffered an unspeakable loss and will no doubt continue to grieve for the loss of someone so compassionate, so dedicated, and so giving. Wesleyan University and the town of Timnath have witnessed the passing of one too young and with so much potential to serve the public good. She was particularly committed to helping women gain access to proper health care and resources, regardless of their means. Johanna's concern for public health can be traced back to her family. Her maternal grandmother, a Holocaust survivor, was a doctor, as are both of her parents.

As Wesleyan's president, Michael Roth, said "We return to the rhythms of our campus lives with the memory of our loss still very fresh. We turn again, and we remember. May Johanna's memory be a blessing to us all."•

COMMENDING CUSTOM CORDAGE, LLC

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I recognize the contributions of a tremendously innovative small business

from my home State of Maine—Custom Cordage, LLC—that has taken on the mission of helping lobstermen dispose of their old, unusable rope by transforming it into charming gifts.

When Maine lobstermen went to set their traps this spring, they first had to replace the rope they used to connect one lobster trap to another as the result of a new regulation banning the use of traditional floating rope. It requires lobster pots to be linked with sink-rope, the goal being to reduce the risk of entangling whales. Regrettably, Maine's lobstermen face a financial burden as the new sink-rope can cost twice as much as float-rope and is far more expensive to maintain. Additionally, the new regulation threatened to result in hundreds of thousands of pounds of unusable rope clogging local landfills.

Aware of this mounting problem for Maine's lobstermen, David Bird, owner of Custom Cordage, a Waldoboro company that manufactures a variety of rope, cord, and similar products, decided last summer to begin making doormats out of retired float-rope. This colorful float-rope is uniquely weathered by seasons of use and exposure to salt water, producing a distinctive and lasting gift. Previously, the repurchased float-rope was melted and reformed as cheap plastic pots for plants. Now, the float-rope is beginning to grace the front doors of houses across the country in the form of high-quality, handwoven doormats.

Mr. Bird's creative and novel idea has caught the Nation's attention quickly. His company produces roughly 40 mats each day, and customers from across the Nation purchase over a thousand mats per month! An exceptional product, these vivid doormats were recently acknowledged as the "Best New Product" at this year's New England Products Trade Show in Portland.

Maine's lobster industry, comprised of more than 7,000 owner-operated small businesses, is a pillar of Maine's fishing industry and of our State's economy. Thanks to the forward-looking actions of Mr. Bird, lobstermen can more effectively offset the cost of upgrading to sink-rope, and the old float-rope can be kept out of local landfills. My sincerest thanks to Mr. Bird and everyone at Custom Cordage for their devotion to building forward-thinking small businesses that help our environment, our lobstermen, and our local economy. I wish them all success with this and future endeavors.•

COMMENDING MAINE FLOAT-ROPE COMPANY

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I recognize the contributions of a tremendously innovative small business from my home State of Maine—the Maine Float-Rope Company—that has taken on the mission of helping lobstermen dispose of their old, unusable rope by transforming it into charming gifts.

When Maine lobstermen went to set their traps this spring, they first had to replace the rope they used to connect one lobster trap to another as the result of a new regulation banning the use of traditional floating rope. It requires lobster pots to be linked with sink-rope, the goal being to reduce the risk of entangling whales. Regrettably, Maine's lobstermen face a financial burden as the new sink-rope can cost twice as much as float-rope and is far more expensive to maintain. Additionally, the new regulation threatened to result in hundreds of thousands of pounds of unusable rope clogging local landfills.

Seeking to keep the old rope out of landfills, Penny Johnston, a sales and marketing specialist, established the Waldoboro-based Maine Float-Rope Company in April of this year. Her goal was to ramp up sale of the resourceful doormats that a local company, Custom Cordage, began creating last summer out of retired float-rope. Specifically, her company sells the attractive and durable Down East Doormats that are constructed using the colorful float-rope that is uniquely weathered by seasons of use and exposure to salt water. Previously, the repurchased float-rope was melted and reformed as cheap plastic pots for plants. Now, the float-rope is beginning to grace the front doors of houses across the country in the form of high-quality, handwoven doormats. In fact, since Ms. Johnston's involvement, sales have skyrocketed, with Maine Float-Rope selling over a thousand mats per month!

In addition, Maine Float-Rope donates a percentage of its profits to organizations that support the vitality of lobstermen, the protection of North Atlantic right whales, and a host of groups that advocate for environmentally sound practices. An exceptional product, the vivid Down East Doormat was recently acknowledged as the "Best New Product" at this year's New England Products Trade Show in Portland.

Ms. Johnston, who calls herself a "green entrepreneur," has a successful record of starting businesses based on creative uses of old and recycled material. Prior to founding the Maine Float-Rope Company, Ms. Johnston started The Maine Barn Furniture Company, which took wood from old, dilapidated barns and used it to make handsome tables. She also started Historic Hardscapes, a unique business that reclaims and reuses old hand-cut granite from abandoned farmlands and quarries across the State. Down East Doormats are one more example of how Ms. Johnston finds innovative ways to turn what others would simply discard into high-quality products.

Maine's lobster industry, comprised of more than 7,000 owner-operated small businesses, is a pillar of Maine's fishing industry and of our State's economy. Thanks to the actions of Ms. Johnston, lobstermen can more effectively offset the cost of upgrading to

sink-rope, and the old float-rope can be kept out of local landfills. My sincerest thanks to Ms. Johnston and everyone at the Maine Float-Rope Company for their devotion to building forward-thinking small businesses that help our environment, our lobstermen, and our local economy. I wish them all success with this and future “green entrepreneurial” endeavors.●

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 11:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1129. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans.

H.R. 3114. An act to authorize the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to use funds made available under the Trademark Act of 1946 for patent operations in order to avoid furloughs and reductions-in-force, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 135. Concurrent resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to place a marker in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center which acknowledges the role that slave labor played in the construction of the United States Capitol, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1129. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans; to the Committee on Indian 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-2241. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, status reports relative to Iraq for the period of April 15, 2009, through June 15, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2242. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to recruitment incentives; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2243. A communication from the Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's purchases from foreign entities in Fiscal Year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2244. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Bank Enterprise Award Program: Interim Rule with Request for Comment” (RIN1505-AA91) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 26, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2245. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Prior Approval for Enterprise Products; Interim Final Rule” (RIN2590-AA17) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 26, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2246. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Assessment of Fees” (RIN1557-AD06) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 26, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2247. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Risk-Based Capital Guidelines—Money Market Mutual Funds” (RIN1557-AD15) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 26, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2248. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of an Executive order waiving the application of subsections (a) and (b) of section 402 of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2249. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Emergency Steel Loan Guarantee Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2250. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of an Executive order waiving the application of subsections (a) and (b) of section 402 of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2251. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report on the continued compliance of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation,

Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan with the 1974 Trade Act's freedom of emigration provisions, as required under the Jackson-Vanik Amendment; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2252. A communication from the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2008 Management Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2253. A communication from the Vice President and Controller, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2008 Management Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2254. A communication from the President, Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2008 Management Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2255. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2008 Management Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2256. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13348 relative to the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2257. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2009-0082—2009-0087); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2258. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2259. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Employee Contribution Elections and Contribution Allocations” (5 CFR Part 1600) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2260. A communication from the Program Manager, Information Sharing Environment, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “Annual Report to the Congress on the Information Sharing Environment”; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-2261. A communication from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to designating new High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas in thirteen counties in eight states; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2262. A communication from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2009 annual report on the Technology Transfer Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2263. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary and Acting Director, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “July 2009 Revision of Patent Cooperation Treaty Procedures”