125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRADDOCK, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On June 25 to 28, the residents of Braddock will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Settlers first came to the area in 1883 and founded Braddock shortly thereafter, making it the oldest existing town in Emmons County. Located in south-central North Dakota, Braddock was established as the first railroad town in the county. Frederick Underwood, president of the Soo Railroad, named the town in honor of his good friend, County Auditor Edward Braddock.

Today, Braddock remains a close-knit community. Though small, Braddock is known across the State for the popular Johnny Holm concerts it hosts every year, as well as for the excellent hunting grounds in the area. The citizens of Braddock are very involved in their community and have many active organizations, including Saint Katherine's Altar Society, the Lions Club, the Senior Citizens Organization, and the South Central Threshers Association.

The people of Braddock have planned a lively celebration in honor of the town's 125th anniversary. Activities include a beard-judging contest, duck race, tractor trek, fashion show, outdoor concerts, and a parade.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Braddock, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Braddock and all other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Braddock that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Braddock has a proud past and a bright future.•

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAPOLEON, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On June 11 to 14, the residents of Napoleon gathered to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Founded in 1884, Geo H. Cook from Steele, ND, first surveyed and platted the Napoleon town site. The city was named after the president of the Napoleon Townsite Company, Napoleon Goodsill. This company constructed the first building in Napoleon. It soon became the county seat, a title the city still holds today despite numerous challenges over the years. In 1914, Napoleon became incorporated as a village and later was recognized as a city in 1947.

Located in south central North Dakota, Napoleon's beautiful parks and recreation provide its residents with great enjoyment. Napoleon Country Club is a picturesque nine-hole golf course located just 1 mile outside of the city. The Napoleon City Park has 12 campsites along with basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts. Beaver Lake State Park is also nearby which provides fantastic hunting, fishing, and boating.

Today, Napoleon is a rural agricultural community that is excited to celebrate its quasquicentennial. Currently, Napoleon is building an elevator which will provide improved service to a unit train for grain hauling, and wind farm projects are beginning in the city.

To celebrate its 125th anniversary, Napoleon held a number of exciting events. The Opening Ceremony included music, city hall dignitaries, and a fly over. The festivities continued all weekend with entertainment such as a softball tournament, 4–H and Future Farmers of America livestock show, craft vendor show, 3 on 3 basketball tournament and a magician, followed by street dances at night. The events concluded on Sunday with a demolition derby.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Napoleon, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Napoleon and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great tradition of the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Napoleon that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why the community of Napoleon is deserving of our recognition.

Napoleon has a proud past and a bright future.•

COMMENDING ERMA MARY PALIANI

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, Washington is a city of big names and big personalities, many of whom are used to the recognition and praise that comes with a high-profile career in public service. But, as we all know, hundreds of thousands of unsung public servants work behind the scenes every day to secure the future of America and improve the lives of its citizens. Today, I want to pay tribute to one of those public servants, who is as deserving of the public's gratitude and recognition as any officeholder with a household name: Erma Mary Paliani.

On July 3, Ms. Paliani, who currently works for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, Office of Investigations, will retire after serving her country for over 67 years. Ms. Paliani, or ''Ms. Erma'' as she is affectionately referred to by her coworkers at ICE, is the longest serving employee in the Department of Homeland Security and the eighth longest serving employee in the Federal Government. Her dedication to public service is truly an inspiration and should serve as an example to us all.

Born in Ambridge, PA, in 1917, Ms. Paliani entered public service as a student at Ambridge Senior High School, serving as a youth worker for the National Youth Administration of the War Department in 1936. In 1940, she officially began her Federal career working for the War Department's Museum Project. In March 1947, Ms. Paliani joined the Immigration and Naturalization Service, INS, Philadelphia office. And 2 years later, she was transferred to the INS headquarters in Washington DC, where she has spent the last 60 years working to make our Nation's immigration system work more efficiently.

At the INS, Ms. Paliani quickly gained a reputation for her friendly demeanor, gentle smile, and steadfast commitment to government service. She is now retiring from her job as secretary to the deputy assistant director for the Critical Infrastructure and Fraud Division. Her long and productive tenure has been honored by many top government officials, including Attorney General Janet Reno, INS Commissioner Doris Meissner, Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff, and President Bill Clinton, who, in a note written to Ms. Paliani on the occasion of her 80th birthday, wrote that her devotion to her work ''. . . serves as an example of caring and leadership to which we can all aspire.'' I couldn't agree more.

I extend to Ms. Paliani my sincerest thanks for her years of service and her dedication to this country that we love, and I wish her all the best on a well deserved retirement. I know that her friends and coworkers at ICE will miss her greatly, but I am confident that she will continue to serve as a model of hard work and commitment for all public servants to emulate.

Thank you, Ms. Erma Mary Paliani. The country is a better place because of you. We are all grateful for your selfless dedication to your government and your Nation.•

COMMENDING ALLAGASH BREWING COMPANY

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, in today's uncertain and difficult economic climate, countless small businesses are seeking new tools and resources to stay afloat. That is why we passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—to get our economy on the right track, and to help those business owners in need of a lifeline to outlast this recession. I rise today to recognize a small brewer from my home State of Maine that is making use of a critical provision that was included in the bill.

Allagash Brewing Company is a small brewery based in Maine's largest city, Portland. Founded in 1995 by owner Rob Tod, Allagash's mission was to fill a missing niche in American craft brewing movement—Belgian style