

building, listening to the beautiful music from the choir and organist.

To celebrate its centennial anniversary, Reno Catholics reenacted this special ceremony last month. They joined in procession once again and marched together to the Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral, where a celebratory mass was held. As they marched, they rejoiced in 100 years of memories at their place of worship.

Today, Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral prominently stands in the heart of downtown Reno and will forever remain in the hearts of Catholics who have worshiped here in the last 100 years. I am pleased to honor Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral today. I know that it will continue to serve Nevadans as an outstanding religious institution for another 100 years.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH ANN "BETSY" RIEKE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ms. Betsy Rieke, a woman who has served my State and the West for nearly three decades. Like many of us in this body, Ms. Rieke is an attorney. Her specialty has been water issues, and, as many of my colleagues know well, being a water lawyer in the West is not a job for the faint of heart.

Ms. Rieke's experience in water law began in Arizona, where she served as Chief Legal Counsel and Director for the Department of Water Resources under former Gov. Bruce Babbitt. Ms. Rieke then served as an Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science in the Clinton administration. During her tenure, she helped negotiate the 1994 CALFED Bay-Delta Accord in California. This landmark agreement brought together numerous Federal, State, and local agencies and environmental enthusiasts to resolve a looming environmental and economic crisis. Honored several times for her important role in securing this accord, she did so in her trademark fashion—by bringing people together, leading difficult discussions, and helping parties find solutions to meet the community's diverse interests and goals.

In 1998, Ms. Rieke brought her expertise to Northern Nevada where she serves as the area manager for the Lahontan Area Office of the Bureau of Reclamation. In such an arid place, she's been responsible for irrigation, wetland restoration, wildlife protection, and maintaining drinking water for one of the fastest growing regions in the country. Like she did in Arizona and California, Ms. Rieke showed great leadership as she brought many Federal, State, municipal, tribal, public and private interests together to reach the historic Truckee River Operating Agreement to be signed next month—an issue close to me and important to many Nevadans.

I also appreciate her work with others to preserve and restore Nevada's

desert terminal lakes, their wildlife, and habitats. She has fostered relationships and cobbled together agreements that have improved Pyramid Lake, and she has advised me on ways to restore Walker Lake. While many people have been working very hard, for many years, to restore Nevada's unique natural resources, Ms. Rieke's determination, focus, and tireless efforts provided leadership for these efforts.

I extend my most sincere gratitude to Betsy. Nevadans are certainly fortunate to have had such a talented, skilled, and committed individual working on their behalf.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to mark the anniversary of a great tradition, one that ties my home State of Illinois with the nation of Greece. The Special Olympics, which brings people with intellectual disabilities together for athletic competition, began 40 years ago this month.

In fact, the first Special Olympics were held on Soldier Field in Chicago. It all started when a young woman named Anne McGlone had an idea. She was a physical education instructor at West Pullman park on the southeast side. The Chicago Park district came to her to ask if she had any ideas to help kids with special needs.

Anne McGlone ran with it. She asked the Kennedy Foundation for a one-time donation of \$25,000 to put on the first Special Olympics. On July 20, 1968, about 1,000 athletes from 26 American States, and Canada, got together and ran, swam and played hockey.

Anne McGlone, now Anne Burke, went on to law school. She is now on the supreme court of the State of Illinois. But she kept working on the Special Olympics along the way.

With the continued support of Eunice and Sargent Shriver and the Kennedy foundation, the Special Olympics grew. Today, the Special Olympics is a huge international movement that has brought together millions of people with intellectual disabilities in 175 countries around the world. I congratulate the Special Olympics for 40 years of empowering people with intellectual disabilities.

Last summer, the Special Olympics summer games were held in Shanghai, China. Next time around, in 2011, they will be held in Athens, Greece. It is fitting for Greece, with its proud Olympic tradition, to host the Special Olympics, and I wish the Greek Government every success as it prepares to host the games.

Closer to home, the next Special Olympics winter games will be held in 2009 in Boise, ID. And even closer to home, just as Chicago hopes to host the next Olympic games in 2016, I hope that one day the Special Olympics will come back to Chicago, where it started 40 years ago.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK VAN BUER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a selfless public servant from my great State of Illinois, Mayor Frank Van Buer, of DeKalb, who passed away July 23, 2008, after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mayor Van Buer was born in Savannah, IL, on the banks of the Mississippi River. While in high school, Frank worked as a union laborer and truck driver. He joined the U.S. Air Force and spent 4 years in Germany and Libya. When he returned to the United States in 1957, Van Buer moved to DeKalb to attend Northern Illinois University, NIU. He earned a B.S. in social science in 1960 and completed a master's degree in economics in 1964. In 1968, Mayor Van Buer earned a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois. He was tenured on the faculty of the Department of Economics at NIU in 1970, and taught there until 1995.

While on the NIU faculty, Mayor Van Buer gave generously of his skills in administration and budgeting. He directed NIU's Office of Budget and Planning, responsible for the administration of annual operating budgets in excess of \$100 million. And he traveled around the world, working in developing nations in Africa and Asia to provide technical assistance in planning and budgeting.

Mayor Van Buer was a man of integrity who strongly believed in open government. Mayor Van Buer was first elected by his community to the DeKalb County Board in 2002, and he was re-elected in 2004. He was elected mayor of DeKalb in 2005. During his tenure as mayor, he made it a priority to revitalize DeKalb's urban core.

In addition to his service at NIU and with the city of DeKalb, Mayor Van Buer was active in leadership with the Ben Gordon Mental Health Center and the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

My thoughts and prayers are with the mayor's family and friends, especially his wife of over 50 years, Mary Beth, their three children, and five grandchildren.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained during rollcall vote No. 187, a motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to the consideration of S. 3186, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance bill. Had I been present I would have voted "nay" and I ask that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that.

NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to commend Dr. Ephraim Zuroff and the Simon Wiesenthal Center for their efforts to track down the last Nazi war criminals from World War II.