

mine, but they do not aim at people such as us. They do not aim at people in their forties, fifties, and sixties to get them to join to replace those 480,000 people who have passed away; they aim at people the age of our parents who are sitting in the well.

In fact, they don't aim at only 16- and 17-year-olds, they are aiming at 12-, 13-, 14-, and 15-year-olds.

Joining me at CVS today were two young women, Shanisha Collins and Melissa Renton. They both smoke and are both working to quit smoking. Both are doing very well as they quit smoking. They both started smoking, they told us, as teenagers, and CVS is working with them in their smoking-cessation campaign.

We were also joined by Michael Roizen of the Cleveland Clinic who has done remarkable work in preventive care in a preventive medical practice, if you will, at the Cleveland Clinic. He is a heart doctor who also has done so well in various kinds of care to help people quit smoking, to help people lose weight, and to help people prevent diabetes—all of the preventive care he has worked on.

We were also joined by two nurse practitioners, Lauren and Molly, who as part of the CVS clinic have helped people do to better manage their health.

The point is CVS has made this decision. It isn't earth-shaking. Half of the cigarettes bought today are from gas stations, and that is not going to change much. Cigarettes are going to be available. It is a legal product. In fact, people should have the right to buy cigarettes if they choose to. But the point is tobacco companies shouldn't be able to target young people the way they do.

We have seen major progress. Fifty years ago the Surgeon General issued his groundbreaking report on the health effects of tobacco use. Look at the progress we have made. Some 42 percent of adults smoked cigarettes in 1965. Today 18 percent of adults smoke cigarettes. It has been a huge public health victory, and it has been a huge public health victory in small steps and large steps.

First, the report was very important. We remember as kids—the Presiding Officer is old enough to remember this, as I am—we could smoke anywhere in our society. State governments then began to prohibit smoking in public buildings and then began to prohibit smoking in other publicly owned buildings—government buildings. Then people couldn't smoke in public places in many States around the country.

We remember people used to smoke on airplanes. Then over time smoking was restricted to, I remember, aisles 18 to 35 or something—so you could smoke if you were in one of those aisles but not in a seat in front of that or behind that—whatever it was. Now smoking is banned on all flights. We have seen major progress made.

CVS is one step in that. We have sent a group of us led by Senator HARKIN—

Senator BLUMENTHAL has been involved, and a number of others—asking the other drugstore chains—Walgreens and Right Aid—to do the same, to quit selling cigarettes there.

So we have seen progress, but it is still a major public health problem. In one of the places it is particularly a problem. I said at the beginning of my remarks that 480,000 people in America die from tobacco-related illnesses every year—heart diseases, cancer, a whole host of illnesses that are connected to smoking or chewing tobacco. So they aim at children, for sure, with their targeted campaigns, but they also go overseas. The tobacco companies are trying to undermine public health laws, particularly in poor countries around the world.

If someone is a public health official in India, they have to worry about cholera, malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, child diarrhea. They have to worry about all the things that kill people prematurely in that country. When the tobacco companies come in—whether they are American companies, British companies or companies from any other country—they don't have much defense against that. That is why I know the Presiding Officer from Indiana has been a real leader in opposing bad trade policy for our country.

But one of the elements of a bad trade policy is giving U.S. tobacco companies too much power to go into far too many of these countries to cajole, threaten, and even undermine public health laws.

In fact, we have seen in more than one country—thought to be a poor country, without too many people, and that does not have many public resources, and where people are very poor—we have seen tobacco companies threaten those countries that are about to enact a health care law, and that country backs off because they don't have the dollars or the resources to fight the tobacco companies' efforts in court.

We have a lot of work to do.

I wanted to share what happened today in Lakewood, OH, with my colleagues, how important it is, and what a huge public health victory. Again, I want to emphasize how successful these efforts to curb the use of tobacco are—the greatest preventable killer in the country—and how successful we have been. More than 40 percent of people smoked in 1965 and today fewer than 20 percent. That is because of a partnership among government, local officials, public health officials, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association. So many of these organizations have stepped up in a way that has mattered—the American Lung Association and others—to protect the public interest and especially to protect children.

I applaud the efforts of that company and the efforts of so many of my colleagues who have been working on this issue.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATING PAT MULROY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedicated service of my friend Pat Mulroy who is retiring from her position as general manager of the Las Vegas Valley Water District and the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

In Nevada, as well as much of the Southwest, water is an important and scarce resource; and since 1989, Pat has been an unparalleled leader for Nevada and the Nation in managing our precious water supplies. I applaud her tremendous abilities and vast understanding of our region's water demands, which helped her lead our State through unprecedented strains on our water resources.

During her time at the water district and the water authority, Pat worked tirelessly to invent solutions to solve Nevada's complex water problems and has been instrumental in finding a balance between regional growth and water conservation. In a 6-year span, from 2002 to 2008, the population in the Las Vegas area increased by more than 400,000 people. Yet Pat's innovative conservation techniques have helped reduce Southern Nevada's water usage by a third.

Over the years, I have watched Pat rise to challenge after challenge. Early on, she initiated negotiations with water purveyors in Arizona, then Utah, California, and Mexico. Pat has proven herself as a powerful and effective voice for Nevada when negotiating Colorado River system agreements, and her strong leadership helped her build unmatched partnerships with the States that share the Lower Colorado River Basin. Through Pat's persistence and proactive response to climate change and western water issues, she has truly helped shape Southern Nevada and the region into what it is today.

Pat has received many acknowledgements and awards for her hard work, including the National Jewish Medical and Research Center's Humanitarian Award, the University and Community College System of Nevada Board of Regents' Distinguished Nevadan Award, and the Public Education Foundation's Education Hero Award.

Many know Pat as an expert on water issues, but I also know her as loving wife to her husband Robert, a devoted mother, and an active leader in her community. I think so highly of Pat and believe she has done such important work for our State and our country. She will surely be missed, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

REMEMBERING CAPTAIN JOHN JAMES MCGINTY III

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to report some sad news to my colleagues. John James McGinty III—raised in my hometown of Louisville, KY—succumbed to bone cancer on Friday, January 17, after 73 years of life. Although his wife Elaine passed in 1991, he is survived by his sons Michael and John IV. Mr. McGinty was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who received the Medal of Honor for his exemplary record of valor in the Vietnam War. Our country owes him, as we do all of our veterans, an unimaginable debt of gratitude for his service.

John J. McGinty III was born to John and Eve McGinty on January 21, 1940, in Boston, MA. The family soon moved to Louisville, where John completed grammar school and began high school. The call to serve his country, however, rang more loudly and clearly than the school bell. After a year and a half, he dropped out and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves in February 1957.

John enlisted in the regular Marine Corps the following year. He served as a drill instructor and a brig officer until 1966, when he volunteered for duty in Vietnam. In June of that year he took part in Operation Hastings, during which his service to his country would extend above and beyond the typical call of duty. Three days into the operation, McGinty's company, reduced to a strength of 100 men, was ordered to withdraw. On July 18, Sergeant McGinty's platoon was providing rear security for the withdrawal when they were attacked by what was estimated to be 1,000 North Vietnamese soldiers.

Amidst the chaos of the attack, two squads from his platoon were cut off and nearly surrounded. Sergeant McGinty rushed through the jungle under a hail of gunfire to find his men in dire straits—20 were wounded and their medical corpsman had been killed. Showing little regard for his own shrapnel wounds to his leg, back, and left eye, Sergeant McGinty re-loaded the wounded men's weapons and, according to his Medal of Honor citation, “directed their fire upon the enemy.” When the attackers inched closer and closer to his men, Sergeant McGinty drew his .45-caliber pistol and killed five enemy soldiers at point-blank range. Then, with enemies at all sides and still taking heavy gunfire, he accurately called in naval airstrikes to within 50 yards of his position.

His actions that day were consistent with the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps, and at a White House ceremony on March 12, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson bestowed upon then-Second Lieutenant McGinty the Medal of Honor.

Although he retired from the Marine Corps as a captain in 1976, Mr. McGinty continued to work to better the lives of America's service men and women. He worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs in various capacities, and along with fellow veterans, made several trips to Iraq and Afghanistan to visit with American troops. He would, however, stop wearing his Medal of Honor after becoming a born-again Christian in the early 1980s. His son Michael McGinty explains, “He didn't have a problem with the honor.” Rather, it was the medal's depiction of the Roman goddess Minerva that ran contrary to his deeply held belief that the reason he was still alive is the one true God.

Captain McGinty was modest about his own heroic actions. His son Michael has said, “My father used to say that he did what any Marine sergeant would have done in that situation.” There can be no doubt, with his record of valor, however, that CAPT John James McGinty III is indeed a hero, and America has lost a hero with his passing. John's service to his country, both as a U.S. Marine and as a private citizen, is deserving of the highest praise and respect of this body. Thus, I ask my U.S. Senate colleagues to join me in honoring and mourning this fallen soldier with roots in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. All Kentuckians, and all Americans, should be honored that he fought to protect us, and grateful for his service and sacrifice.

2014 OLYMPIANS

Mr HELLER. Mr. President, today it is with great pride I congratulate all of the 2014 Winter Olympians, especially Tim Jitloff, David Wise, and Chas Guldemond, the three Nevada proudly call their own.

A Reno native, Tim Jitloff grew up on skis and has been claiming international titles since 2005. Tim's unwavering dedication to his sport has developed him into a two-time Olympic athlete, qualifying for the Men's U.S. Ski Team for the first time when he was just 19 years old. In Sochi, he will compete in Alpine skiing's super combined giant and common slalom. Tim's successes extend not only to a first place finish at the 2013 U.S. Championship, but off the snow where he is a determined advocate in the fight against breast cancer, as his mother is a survivor. Tim's passion for service is marked by the respect he has earned on the big snow as well as his earnestness and resounding hard work.

David Wise's Olympic status begins in the Reno snow where he began skiing as a 3-year-old. He turned professional at an early age after securing

his first U.S. national title when he was 15. His wins include The Dew Tour, The Grand Prix, and repeat Winter X Game titles. David continued his achievements in 2013 when he qualified for his first Olympics in this year's debut sport of ski halfpipe. David's dedication to his passion, family, and faith personifies a true talent, unmatched and inspiring for all of Nevada.

Chas “Chuck G” Guldemond has been a driving force in snowboarding since moving to Lake Tahoe in 2005. Working a series of odd jobs to pay his own way for the sport for years is just one of the testaments of character Chas contributes to the 2014 U.S. Olympic team. Chas has had seven healthy seasons of competition and won almost every major event in snowboarding since his early days of participating in the sport. In Sochi, he competes as one of the biggest names in slopestyle. The dedication and sacrifices Chas has made in pursuit of his dream are commendable.

Steadfast in their training, each one of these athletes reminds us that even the seemingly unfathomable is possible. Our American pride grows stronger as these Nevadans compete in Sochi. It is an honor to watch them and the entire team compete in the name of a United States victory in these 22nd Winter Olympics. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these and all of the remarkable athletes on their accomplishments thus far. We wish them a safe and gold-winning trip to Russia.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GERARD GRIMALDI

• Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me today in honoring the work of Gerard Grimaldi. Gerard has a long history of public service in Kansas City, stretching back to his time serving as an aide to Senator Tom Eagleton and later as an aide to Congressman Alan Wheat. More recently, since 2001, Gerard has ably served as vice president of health policy and government relations for Truman Medical Centers. Everyone who knows Gerard respects him, and everyone who gets to work with him considers themselves lucky.

A few years ago, I asked Gerard to serve as my nominee on a volunteer community advisory panel for the Bannister Complex in Kansas City, MO. This opportunity required a significant time commitment from Gerard—time he would normally spend with his beautiful wife and four lovely children—to serve on a panel which offered Gerard no personal or professional benefit. Not only that, but this panel was created to help facilitate constructive community dialogue around some sensitive issues in a very heated environment. But, true to his background as a public servant, Gerard didn't hesitate when I asked him to volunteer.