

included training junior officers and serving with the Capitol Police Alert Team. In connection with his promotion to Lieutenant, Mr. Farri has been assigned to the Capitol Police Command Center. In this position, he provides guidance to officers in the field and serves as a liaison between the offices of the Chief of the Capitol Police and the Sergeants at Arms of the House and the Senate.

In 1946, during a lecture at the University of Chicago, Senator J. William Fulbright stated, "The legislator is an indispensable guardian of our freedom." I believe all Senators will agree that the U.S. Capitol Police are indispensable guardians of all who serve in and work for the United States Congress. Mr. Farri's 19 years of service have been an important part of that protection. I sincerely congratulate Lieutenant Vincent Farri on his promotion and assignment, and further extend my congratulations and warm wishes to Christina, his wife of 15 years, his two sons, Richard, age 11, and Paul, age 7, as well as to all of Vincent's family, including his dear mother, Mrs. Dorothy Farri.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS CATHEDRAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno.

Construction on Saint Thomas Aquinas began in 1906, after Reno's sole Catholic church was destroyed by fire. Father Thomas Tubman led the effort to build a new church for Reno Catholics. He planned to construct a larger, more centrally located church, explaining that "The time has come for making the structures in Reno attractive as well as useful. The Cathedral will be one of the finest buildings in the State."

On June 21, 1908, Saint Thomas Aquinas opened its doors to parishioners with a remarkable dedication ceremony. Over 3,000 people waited outside the new church long before the ceremony was set to begin. At 10:30, dozens of priests and bishops, 120 Knights of Columbus, 2 bands and hundreds of parishioners were led by the chief of police and 16 patrolmen in a march from the convent of the Sisters of Mary to Saint Thomas Aquinas Church. Upon arriving, the Knights of Columbus encircled the new church as Bishop Grace blessed the buildings exterior. A high mass was then celebrated with the church filled to capacity. About one hundred worshipers were unable to enter, and instead waited outside the 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 Savanna, IL, on the banks of the Mississippi River. While in high school, Frank worked as a union laborer and