

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF NANCY L. MORITZ TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 575.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Nancy L. Moritz, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Nancy L. Moritz, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Dianne Feinstein, John D. Rockefeller IV, Debbie Stabenow, Barbara Mikulski, Carl Levin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tom Harkin, Amy Klobuchar, Barbara Boxer, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher A. Coons, Richard J. Durbin.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH A.P. HERSMAN

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to commend the departing Chairman of the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board, Deborah A.P. Hersman, as she prepares to launch a new career as president and CEO of the century-old National Safety Council.

A 12-year veteran staffer of Capitol Hill, Debbie is no stranger to many Senators on both sides of the aisle. After graduating with a degree in political science from Virginia Tech and receiving a master's in conflict resolution from George Mason University, she worked as a staffer for my former colleague, Congressman Bob Wise, where she rose from intern to staff director and then to senior legislative aide. He used to say, "She has a backbone. Don't ever think that you are ever going to push her over." I can see why.

Debbie came to the Senate in 1999 to work for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation under the leadership of Senator Jay Rockefeller. Her efforts during that time contributed to the passage of some of the benchmark legislation underpinning the transportation safety framework she vigorously upheld as NTSB Chairman, such as the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002, Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century, and Amtrak Reform and Accountability Act.

Debbie's outstanding leadership at the NTSB has helped make traveling safer for all Americans. She was the NTSB member on scene for the terrible Metro train collision in 2009 in this city where nine people lost their lives and dozens were injured. I was glad to see that she and the agency took charge of the investigation, and I admire her commitment to ensuring such a horrific incident will not occur again.

Debbie oversaw the timely completion of several high-profile accident investigations during her tenure as Chairman, including the deadly 2011 crash at the Reno National Championship Air Races. During the third lap of a six-lap race, 11 people lost their lives and many suffered injuries when a show plane plummeted into the spectator stands. As many of you know, these are enormously popular events. I have attended them many times. Our late colleague Senator Ted Stevens was a big fan. My own grandchildren attended those races the very week of the crash.

I commend Debbie and her team for the work they did in the aftermath of the tragedy, and to issue timely and effective recommendations to help save lives and prevent injuries in the future. Her efficient work prior to the first anniversary of the crash enabled the annual air show tradition—so important to northern Nevada for nearly 50 years—to continue even more safely than before. The recommendations provided by the NTSB will ensure that

tens of thousands of spectators can safely enjoy these races.

Debbie is acknowledged as a visionary, passionate, and bipartisan safety leader who advocates for safety across all modes of transportation. At the NTSB, she has been on scene for more than 20 major transportation incidents; chaired scores of NTSB hearings, forums, and events; and regularly testifies before Congress. She was first appointed as an NTSB board member by President George W. Bush in 2004. In 2009, President Obama reappointed her to a second 5-year term and appointed her to a 2-year term as Chairman, making her, at age 39, the youngest person ever to fill that position. President Obama reappointed her as Chairman in 2011, and in August 2013, he nominated her for a third term as Chairman and for a third term as a Board member, all with unanimous Senate confirmation.

Among her many initiatives, Debbie has focused attention and actions on distracted driving, child passenger safety, and helping accident victims and their families. Her leadership has created a more transparent and accountable organization by significantly increasing the quantity and quality of NTSB information available on the agency's Web site, holding more public meetings to highlight safety issues, and embracing social media to communicate with the broadest possible audience of the traveling public.

Debbie always emphasizes the NTSB's role as "the conscience and the compass of the transportation industry." The Nation has benefitted from nearly a decade of her stewardship in the agency's leadership. While we are saying goodbye to this passionate standard bearer of public safety in the Federal realm, I am very pleased that we are not losing her energy on these issues altogether. Her move to lead the National Safety Council will open up new doors to her, that organization, and to safety initiatives benefitting the entire country. It is yet another step forward in an illustrious career of heartfelt public service dedicated to protecting the well-being of all Americans.

WRIGLEY FIELD'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I wish to recognize the 100th birthday of an American icon: Wrigley Field. As the second oldest Major League ball park and oldest in the National League, Wrigley Field has hosted millions of fans and easily earned its nickname, The Friendly Confines.

On April 23rd, 1914, it opened its doors not to the Chicago Cubs, and it wasn't even called Wrigley Field. It was called Weeghman Park, and the Chicago Chifeds of the short-lived Federal League played there. The Chicago Cubs moved into their home in 1916.

From the ivy-covered outfield walls, to its hand-turned score board, to the bleachers and the marquee, you always know you are at Wrigley Field. It was

the last baseball stadium to have lights installed in 1988. It was the first stadium to have an organ playing music, and that music remains to this day, the first to build permanent concession stands, the first to have live broadcast of games. While there is some dispute whether Wrigley was the first place to allow fans to keep the balls hit into the stands, it certainly is where the custom began of throwing back the opponent's homerun balls.

Wrigley hasn't always been home to the Cubs exclusively. The Decatur Staleys moved to play football there in 1921. You know them today as the Chicago Bears, and from 1921 to 1970, Wrigley was their home too. And the reason they are called the Bears is because the Cubs were already playing there. Wrigley has hosted soccer matches, concerts, and even a National Hockey League game. The first All-American Girls Professional Baseball League's first All Star Game during the 1943 midseason was played at Wrigley Field. They brought in temporary lights for that game.

The Wrigley experience means people come to have fun at the game and be involved in the game. It was as true in 1920 as it is today. Generations of kids have come to Wrigley to watch their first ballgame in the same seat their parents and grandparents watched theirs. For Cubs fans, the ball park is a community as much as a place where baseball is played. Wrigley Field is surrounded by small businesses that depend on the community. Fans go every day by foot, by bicycle, by train, or by car into the neighborhood known as Wrigleyville to see the Chicago Cubs play at their treasure of a stadium.

And they have seen legends. On June 26, 1920, a 17-year-old high school player hit a game-winning grand slam completely out of the park when his New York School of Commerce team played Chicago's Lane Tech High School. That was Lou Gehrig. Babe Ruth's called shot? It was at Wrigley Field in 1932 in the World Series. It is still debated. My boyhood hero, St. Louis Cardinal Stan Musial, recorded his 3000th hit in Wrigley. In fact, it has been said that the visiting clubhouse has had more Hall of Famers in one room than any other facility that exists in sports.

It is not just those visiting Wrigley that made the memories but those we claim as our own. Harry Caray was an announcer for decades, but it was at Wrigley Field where he became a legend with his dark-framed glasses, joviality, and his singing "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" with the crowd. It is a tradition still carried today. Ernie Banks' boundless energy and joy for the game, "Let's play two!" Ron Santo, Billy Williams, Fergie Jenkins, Ryne Sandberg, Hack Wilson, Andre Dawson, Kerry Wood, and so many others are beloved for their time playing for the Cubs in The Friendly Confines.

"There is always next year," a phrase too often uttered by Cubs fans, could just as easily be a promise that

our field, Wrigley Field, is as much a part of the future as it is our past.

Madam President, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of one of America's greatest landmarks, Wrigley Field. Holy cow, what a ride it has been for such a wonderful place at 1060 W. Addison in Chicago, IL.

REMEMBERING THE COLUMBINE TRAGEDY

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, fifteen years ago, Colorado communities were shaken by a horrific act of violence at Columbine High School where 12 students and a teacher tragically lost their lives and many others were injured. In the wake of this violence, Coloradans came together to be there for their friends and neighbors and stood united as one community.

The strength of this community is embodied no more clearly than by Columbine High School principal Frank DeAngelis. Principal DeAngelis is retiring at the end of the school year, capping 34 years of dedication to education, community service, resilience, and leadership.

Principal DeAngelis has spent the past 18 years leading the school, fulfilling the promise he made after the attack that he would remain as principal until all the students in Columbine feeder schools at the time had graduated.

It is this enduring spirit and the strength of so many in the community that have allowed us to heal and reflect. On this somber anniversary, let's remember the victims, honor the resilience of the survivors, and collaborate to find ways to reduce these types of senseless tragedies.

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, April 20 marked the 15th anniversary of the tragic shooting at Columbine High School. I come to the floor to honor the memories of the 12 young, innocent students, and beloved teacher we lost, and to recognize the bravery that so many educators and first responders showed on that horrific day.

On the day of the anniversary, Coloradans gathered at Clement Park in Littleton to remember the victims and recommit to preventing these acts of senseless violence from ever happening again. Coni Sanders, the daughter of Coach Dave Sanders who was killed that day, spoke at the gathering. If I could just share a few of her words, I think they ring very true.

She said,

Fifteen years ago, Columbine was a massacre. Columbine was a tragedy. Columbine was synonymous with death. Today, we recognize that Columbine is a community and that even the most violent of hate could not shake us.

Coni's words express the pain we have all been left with in the wake of too many similar tragedies in Colorado and across the country. But her words also remind us of the enduring strength of our communities and the need to do

more to combat gun violence in the United States.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS VISIT

Mr. BEGICH. Madam President, this month, 46 veterans from the Last Frontier and Golden Heart Chapters of the Honor Flight Network are traveling from Alaska to Washington, DC, to visit their memorials. I know you will join me in welcoming these heroes to our Nation's capital and recognizing their service to our Nation.

I would like to record the individual names of those who traveled from Alaska to be here today. World War II Veterans of the Alaska Territorial Guard: Mr. Wesley Aiken, Mr. Gust Bartman, Mr. Sigurd L. Edwards, Mr. Daniel E. Henry, Sr., Mr. Daniel K. Karmun, Mr. David U. Leavitt, Sr., Mr. Henry H. Neligan, and Mr. Vincent Tocktoo, Sr. World War II Veterans: Mr. William R. Alter, Army; Mr. Bruce E. Arndt, Army; Ms. Nancy Baker, Army Air Corp; Mr. Robert H. Breakfield, Navy; Mr. William E. Bush, Marines; Mr. Norman H.V. Elliott, Army; Mr. David K. Fison, Navy; Mr. Frank E. Flavin, Army; Mr. Kirtley E. Franse, Air Force & Army; Mr. Malven R. Gaither, Navy; Mr. Eldon L. Gallear, Merchant Marines; Mr. George G. Gilbertson, Navy; Mr. Warren G. Hackney, Merchant Marines; Mr. Arthur Hammer, Air Force, Mr. Robert P. Harrison, Army; Mr. Donald M. Hoover, Navy; Mr. Robert L. Johnston, Navy; Mr. Willard J. Jorgensen, Army; Mr. Robert W. Kittleson, Navy & Air Force; Mr. Gordon E. Kler, Navy; Mr. Thomas Lewis, Navy; Mr. Gerald J. Lind, Air Force & Army; Ms. Bette-Rae Mattoon, Navy WAVE; Mr. Roby S. Mchone, Army; Mr. Leon N. Merkes, Army; Mr. George R. Painter, Merchant Marines; Ms. Charlotte K. Schwid, Army; Mr. Joseph E. Stanger, Air Force; Ms. Francis A. Swaim, Army; Mr. George C. Swift, Coast Guard; Mr. James H. Weaver, Army; and Mr. Edward C. Willis, Merchant Marines. Korean War Veterans: Mr. William Blocolsky, Navy; Ms. Lorane J. Mobley, Navy; and Mr. Richard C. Sullivan, Marines. Vietnam War Veterans: Mr. Roger W. Brooks, Army; Mr. Alan L. Coble, Army; and Mr. Clifford E. Mobley, Army.

These veterans from Alaska join over 118,000 other veterans from across the land who, since 2005, have traveled to our Nation's capital to visit and reflect at memorials built here in their honor. This Honor Flight was made possible by generous public donations and contributions from those who wish to honor these heroes.

We owe so much to our active duty military and veterans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and protect our freedoms. Without their courage, commitment and sacrifice, we would not enjoy the liberties we cherish today.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I extend my sincerest gratitude. I also extend my thanks to the staff, volunteers