

So this is what is happening. I am very much concerned that we are going to stumble and pass up an opportunity that might still be there. We have an opportunity to actually go back and use that for some of our joint training.

So later this week I am going to go back and relive the history on the 4-year battle of Vieques. Hopefully, this might be an opportunity for us to save American lives and to have integrated training, which we still don't have today and which we had back in that time.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT HAWKES GRAY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to an extraordinary Vermonter, Robert Hawkes Gray. Bob, as he is known to family and friends, grew up in Putney where his parents worked at the Putney School. His father, Edward, was in charge of buildings and grounds, and his mother, Mabel, ran the kitchen. Ed's ability to fix anything and Mabel's cooking and way of keeping order are remembered vividly and fondly to this day by thousands of Putney graduates.

Bob attended Putney where he learned to ski cross-country thanks to Olympian skier John Caldwell, the father of cross-country skiing in America who taught at the school. Bob went on to run the outdoor work program at Putney and coached cross-country skiing and running. He became an Olympian himself, competing in the 1968 and 1972 winter games, and was inducted into Vermont's Ski and Snowboard Museum Hall of Fame.

After skiing, Bob's lifetime passion has been farming. He and his wife, Kim, own and manage Four Corners Farm, one of the most successful vegetable and dairy farms in Vermont. Located on a beautiful hillside that levels off along the Connecticut River in South Newbury, the sprawling acreage of the farm is a model of order and astonishing productivity. Just about anything that will grow in Vermont, either in fields or in greenhouses heated by wood stoves, can be found there in abundance.

Everyone knows that farm work is hard by any standard. It means rising before sunrise and long hours of strenuous physical labor that continues into the night. Anyone who visits Four Corners Farm can't help but wonder how they do it all. It is a testament to the benefits of regular physical exercise, as Bob, now 76, looks closer to 60 and has the strength of someone half his age. It

wasn't all due to farming though. It is said that, when Jack Dempsey was the world heavyweight champion, Ed Gray's biceps measured the same diameter. Of course, Ed was an accomplished gardener himself.

I could go on about Bob's talents as a farmer. A teacher by instinct, anyone who visits the farm may find themselves treated to a lesson in pruning tomato plants, planting and mulching strawberry seedlings, or the peculiar habits of honey bees. Kim, a former alpine ski racer herself, is also a gifted farmer whose stamp on the business can be seen everywhere. Neither could have made Four Corners Farm what it is today without the other.

Bob never stopped skiing for fun, but he didn't take up racing again until the 1990s. This past winter he showed that, if you love something enough and give it everything you have got, just about anything is possible.

At the World Masters cross-country ski races in Vuokatti, Finland, and at the National Masters at Royal Gorge, CA, Bob won a gold medal, two silvers, and a bronze. Some might think that, by the time you get to be 76, you are probably skiing pretty slowly and there isn't that much competition in your age group anyway. Let's just say that at the Masters no one skis slowly—no one skis anything remotely like slowly. These are the best skiers in the world, and to the rest of us mere mortals, there isn't that much difference between them and today's Olympians.

A March 31, 2016, article in the Valley News, entitled "Septuagenarian Gray Skiing His Way to Wins" tells the story. I congratulate Bob Gray. He exemplifies the very best of Vermont for his inspiring work ethic, his ski racing accomplishments, and the example he has set for future generations of Vermont skiers and farmers. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Valley News, Mar. 31, 2016]

#### SEPTUAGENARIAN GRAY SKIING HIS WAY TO WINS

(By Jared Pendak, Valley News Staff Writer)

NEWBURY, VT.—Bob Gray returned to cross country skiing several years ago, primarily as a way to keep his heart pumping. As it turned out, he's more than capable of breaking the hearts of opponents.

Gray, 76, recently swept a pair of races at the National Masters Championships in Soda Springs, Calif., winning the Masters 5B (ages 75–79) 10K classic race on March 19 in 33 minutes, 58.6 seconds, more than nine minutes faster than runner up Hans Muehleger, of Idaho, and good for 20th overall in a field of 53.

The next day, Gray placed fifth overall while winning his 70–79 age group in the season-ending U.S. Marathon National Championship, finishing the 14K bronze race in 48:12.1—again more than nine minutes ahead of Muehleger.

A two-time Olympian who competed on the U.S. Nordic Ski Team from 1960–74, Gray had also swept both events in the 2015 National Masters Championships, held closer to home at the Craftsbury (Vt.) Nordic Center.

"There isn't much competition for my age group in that event," said Gray, who co-owns the Four Corners produce and dairy farm in Newbury, Vt. "I'd like to think part of it is that I'm in pretty good shape."

Gray's competition was stiffer last month at the Masters World Cup in Vuokatti, Finland, where he left with two silver medals and a bronze. On Feb. 6, he bettered 75-year-old Frenchman Daniel Chopard by two seconds for second place in the 10K skate in 33:40, then beat Chopard by 35 seconds with a time of 47:34.1 in the 15K skate Feb. 12.

Norwegian Finn Magnar Hagen decidedly won both skate races, finishing the 10K a good 2:40 ahead of Gray and besting him in the 15K by nearly four minutes.

"There was just no catching Finn; he was just gone," said Gray. "On the other hand, me and Chopard had a great time going back and forth. We'd pass each other and say, 'All right, I'll see you up ahead on the hill.'"

Neither Hagen nor Chopard competed in the 5K classic on Feb. 8, a race in which the top four were separated by just 17 seconds. Russia's Gennady Ushakov won in 18:10.9, followed by Austrian Josef Schniagl, Gray (18:19.7) and Finland's Taplo Wallenkus (18:27.9).

"I think I had a chance to win that race, but my skis just weren't up to par with some of the skis these other guys had," Gray said. "I made one tactical error, started kicking too lightly and it got me off-track. I was still able to make up most of the places I lost and close the gap. It was a close race, a fun race."

Gray, a Vermont Ski & Snowboard Museum Hall of Fame inductee whose wife, Kim, is a former U.S. Alpine skier, competed in the 1968 and '72 Olympic Games. His best finish was 12th place in the 4x10K relay in the '68 Games in Grenoble, France, complementing three combined top-50s in individual events at Grenoble and the '72 Games in Sapporo, Japan.

The Putney, Vt., native also skied four seasons in the FIS Cup (now known as the FIS World Cup), winning national titles in the 15K and 50K and earning the top U.S. ranking in 1973.

The Grays opened the Green Mountain Touring Center in Randolph in 1977 while running their first farm in Hartland Four Corners, inspiring the moniker they kept even after moving operations to their plot in Newbury.

Bob Gray later had about a 12-year hiatus from the sport while devoted to raising the couple's three children and farming, not strapping on skis again until the early 1990s.

He competed off and on in various national and international competitions, capturing bronze at an event in Quebec City in 2001 and two silvers and a bronze five years later in British Columbia. He began refocusing on training and competing in earnest several years ago, motivated equally by the desire to keep his heart rate up as much as keeping his competitive juices going.

"When you get older, if you don't keep moving, you get sick and die," Gray said plainly. "So much of your health is about staying active and exercising. I get some of that on the farm, but I'm much more of a manager type now than I used to be. So (returning to skiing) is a way to keep my heart beating."

Like any snow sports athlete based in the area, Gray faced challenges finding suitable surfaces to train on this winter. He ventured to Craftsbury Nordic Center at times to practice on their manmade trails, but most often settled for dry-land exercises.

"I'd go up (North Haverhill's) Black Mountain, Mount Moosilauke, sometimes Mount Ascutney, always with ski poles to help practice balance," Gray said. "I'd go uphill on

paved roads on rollerblades—I like rollerblades better than roller skis. I can go from here up Snake Road to West Newbury, which is about three miles, so that's perfect. The only problem with that is that I'm too tired to skate home after that so I have to have someone come get me."

Gray, who was trained in his youth by former Dartmouth skier and Olympian John Caldwell, would like to see more kids today on Nordic skis. He's given lessons in recent years at Strafford Nordic Center and elsewhere.

"It's a great sport, a great way to get kids off of the couch or away from the computer," Gray said. "Plus, you can do it until you're my age."

**TRIBUTE TO MAURICE GEIGER**

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Maurice Geiger, known by family and friends as Maury, an extraordinary individual who, although a longtime resident of Conway, NH, with his wife, Nancy, is deserving of the title of honorary Vermonter.

Maury Geiger's lengthy career began in the U.S. Navy back in the 1950s, from where he went on to Georgetown Law School and jobs at the Bureau of Prisons and the Department of Justice. He later served as a county prosecutor in New Hampshire, founded the Rural Justice Center in Montpelier, VT, where I first got to know him, became a national expert in court administration, and has provided advice and guidance to help reform dysfunctional justice systems in foreign countries for more than two decades.

In no country has Maury devoted more passion, time, and energy than Haiti, where justice has long been more of a fantasy than a reality for the majority of the Haitian people.

Since the 1990s, Maury has traveled to Haiti scores of times, often paying out of his own pocket. His purpose was simple: to help improve access to justice for thousands of people caught up in a byzantine system in which it is common to be detained in squalid, grossly overcrowded, sweltering prisons rampant with life-threatening diseases, for months and years, without ever seeing a lawyer or judge or being formally charged with any crime.

Over the years, often against great odds, Maury has worked to train numerous Haitian prosecutors, judges, and other judicial officials and to institute recordkeeping systems to improve case management and reduce the chance that inmates are forgotten or their case files are lost.

Maury is not only among a handful of the most experienced experts in the field of court administration; he is a person of exemplary integrity. He has never had the slightest interest in profiting himself, as his modest lifestyle demonstrates, but rather to do whatever he could to provide help and dignity to those who are the least able to help themselves. He has done so, year after year, with uncommon compassion and commitment, never losing his wry sense of humor, in a country where the political will for justice reform at the

highest levels of government has often been weak or lacking altogether.

Maury is in Haiti again this week, and I want him to know that the example he has set of selflessness, of caring, commitment to human rights and equal access to justice, and of an unwavering belief in the basic dignity of all people regardless of their station in life, is one that every law student, every lawyer, every prosecutor, every judge, and every prison warden should strive to emulate.

**HONORING POLICE OFFICER  
SUSAN FARRELL**

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Des Moines police officer Susan Farrell had a lifelong dream of a career in law enforcement. At the young age of 30, she was living out her dream and on course for a bright career.

But on March 26, just five months after joining the Des Moines Police Department, Officer Farrell lost her life in the line of duty along with fellow officer Carlos Puente-Morales when their vehicle was struck by another that was driving the wrong direction on Interstate 80 near Waukee. I wish to take a moment to celebrate Officer Farrell's life and service.

Early on, growing up in the Des Moines area, Officer Farrell knew she wanted a career in public service. She studied criminal justice at Hamilton College and returned to her home town after graduating to begin living her dream. She worked as a detention officer in Polk County Jail for several years and was promoted to deputy just a year ago. She joined the Des Moines Police Department last fall and was excited to expand her education there.

Along the way, Officer Farrell quickly earned the respect of her colleagues. She was someone they could always count on to help resolve situations. She also received awards of commendation and lifesaving for her work on the response team. One colleague summed up her abilities like this: "There wasn't a situation where I wouldn't want Susan with me."

Officer Farrell will be greatly missed by her family and friends, as well as the Des Moines community that she worked to protect.

I express my deepest sympathies to Officer Farrell's family, friends, and colleagues and my sincere gratitude for her service to our State and for her work to keep our communities safe.

**HONORING POLICE OFFICER  
CARLOS PUENTE-MORALES**

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Des Moines Police Officer Carlos Puente-Morales's life was marked by a commitment to serving others and frequent expressions of love—love for his family and love for those he worked with.

On March 26, Officer Puente-Morales lost his life in the line of duty along with fellow officer Susan Farrell when their vehicle was struck by another

that was driving the wrong direction on Interstate 80 near Waukee. I wish to take a moment to celebrate the life and service of Officer Puente-Morales.

Officer Puente-Morales served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan in the Iowa Army National Guard, where he attained the rank of staff sergeant. He served his community as a deputy sheriff for Franklin County and as an Ottumwa police officer before coming to Des Moines to be closer to family. He joined the Des Moines police force just last year.

Des Moines Police Chief Dana Wingert has referred to Officer Puente-Morales as a loyal servant. I believe this to be a very fitting description. He was loyal to his family, to his community, to his country, and he did it with a heart full of love. He was just 34 years old when he left us, but his service and the example he set for all of us will endure for many years to come.

Officer Puente-Morales will be missed by his family and the community that he served.

Officer Puente-Morales's mother wisely said, "We shouldn't wait for a tragedy to recognize our heroes." She is exactly right. On behalf of Iowans and all Americans, I express my gratitude for Officer Puente-Morales's service to community and country. My deepest sympathy is with his family in this difficult time. I thank all those who walk in Officer Puente-Morales's \*COM007\*footsteps to protect and serve.

**CONGRATULATING LEONARD  
MINSKY**

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, at its 214th commencement on May 14, 2016, the University of Maine at Orono will award an honorary doctorate degree to Leonard Minsky of Bangor. Today I wish to congratulate my dear friend for this recognition and to join people throughout Maine in thanking him for his uncommon generosity, vision, and dedication that have made our university's flagship campus a center for the arts and humanities.

A member of the class of 1950, Leonard received an outstanding education at UMaine and has never stopped giving back. His passion for the arts and commitment to the highest expressions of human ideals are evident throughout the beautiful Orono campus. Minsky Recital Hall in the school of performing arts is a marvelous place for students, faculty, and world-class visiting artists to perform. In recent years, I have had the pleasure of hearing the University Singers, which included my niece, perform there.

The Minsky Gallery in the Maine Center for the Arts celebrates the visual arts around the world. The Minsky Culture Lab at the Hudson Museum offers interactive, hands-on experiences for Maine schoolchildren and UMaine students. With Leonard's support, the UMaine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor features the best in modern and