

Utah and the possibilities that abound there. At the end of the month, Bob will go from being my employee to being my constituent.

I wish him well as he is taking on the new challenge of retirement, one for which his wife may not be fully prepared. I know Bob to be successful at any project he takes on. I know he will drive his wife nuts if he stays home very much. But he won't. He is one of these guys who really works hard and makes every second of his life count. He is one of my dearest friends, and I love him.

#### DONNA DAY

Mr. HATCH. I also want to say a word about Donna Day.

Donna has been on my staff for 15 years. She has been a loyal and efficient staffer, working diligently on data entry. I don't quite know how we will fill the hole left in our correspondence management unit when she retires at the end of the month.

If the personnel office at any organization were to write down the attributes of the perfect employee, the list would describe Donna Day. She has worked tirelessly over these 15 years on my behalf. She is never late, rarely absent, and always pleasant. It seems that Donna never has a bad day. We have always been able to count on her day after day, year after year, to do an important job consistently well. And, I don't believe I have ever heard her complain about anything—not even the deluge of letters, cards, faxes, and e-mails we received during some very high profile debates.

Frankly, it is hard to imagine walking into our mailroom in January and not seeing her there sorting mail or working at the computer.

I have been blessed during my Senate tenure to have had excellent staff, not just in my policy and senior staff positions, but in the support roles as well. Donna has been such a staffer, and I will miss her.

I want to thank her for her many contributions to my office, congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement, and wish her all the best as she moves on to the next chapter in her life.

I want her to know how much I appreciate her and her colleague Joyce and how much I love and appreciate Bob Lockwood. These people have proven that government workers work above and beyond, that they really make a difference in all of our lives, and that they are part of the reason why many in this country have a quality of life they would not otherwise have.

I am so grateful to these three people and for the service they have given to our country, to the Senate, to my constituents. It has been such a privilege to work with them. I say "with them." They never worked for me. They worked for all of us. They worked with me. I don't think I would be nearly as effective had it not been for the work

that these three wonderful people have done. I pay personal tribute to them.

#### VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, but still this Republican Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until we act, Democrats in the Senate will read the names of some of those who have lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is in session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight. Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago today.

December 7, 1999: Jose Corral, 72, Miami-Dade County, FL; George Dean, 17, Philadelphia, PA; Kowandius Hammett, 22, Miami-Dade County, FL; John Jeter, 24, Philadelphia, PA; Andre Derrell Jones, 23, Baltimore, MD; Tommy Martin, 38, Oakland, CA; Casey B. Morgan, 42, Seattle, WA; Karen K. Morgan, 43, Seattle, WA; Thomas B. Morgan, 45, Seattle, WA; Adon L. Shelby, 32, Chicago, IL; Emeric Tahane, 22, Washington, DC; Heiu Minh Trihn, 22, New Orleans, LA; and Unidentified Male, 23, Nashville, TN.

We cannot sit back and allow such senseless gun violence to continue. The deaths of these people are a reminder to all of us that we need to enact sensible gun legislation now.

#### THE RECORD ON EXECUTIONS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise with regret to mark another milestone in the history of our system of justice. This morning's papers report that yesterday the state of Texas carried out its 39th execution, the most of any state since 1862, when the military hanged 39 Native Americans in one day in Minnesota. This evening, Texas is scheduled to surpass that record with its 40th execution. This is a regrettable record.

This year, as of yesterday, states in America have executed 82 people. We have reached a sad state of affairs when this Country executes nearly 100 people every year. In 1998, only China and the Congo executed more people a year than did the United States.

And we have reached an inequitable state of affairs when nearly half of the executions this year—39 out of the 82 to date—were carried out in just one state. The state with the next most executions this year, Oklahoma, has had 11 executions. Southern states have carried out nearly 9 out of 10 executions that have taken place this year.

Across the street, the building that holds the Supreme Court of the United States has emblazoned across its pediment the words "Equal Justice Under

Law." In a Nation that prides itself in that equal justice, how can we abide a system where nearly half of the executions are carried out in just one state?

Finally, I rise to mark another milestone. On Tuesday of next week, the Federal Government is scheduled to re-enter the grim business of execution. For nearly 40 years, no one has been executed in the name of the people of the United States. That is set to change next Tuesday.

In light of the demonstrated evidence of regional and racial disparity in the application of this most final punishment, I call on the President to stay that execution. I call on the President to impose a moratorium on Federal executions and establish a blue ribbon commission to examine the fairness of the system of capital punishment in America.

In September, the Department of Justice released a report on the federal death penalty system. That report found that whether the federal system sends people to death row appears to be related to the federal district in which they are prosecuted or the color of their skin.

After the Justice Department released the report, White House spokesman Jake Siewert confirmed the President's view that "these numbers are troubling" and that more information must be gathered to determine "more about how the system works and what's behind those numbers," including "why minorities in some geographic districts are disproportionately represented."

We do not yet know why our federal system produces racially and geographically lopsided results. We need a systematic review.

Many are joining in asking the President for a moratorium on executions. Their ranks include, among so many others, Lloyd Cutler, the esteemed former adviser to Presidents Carter and Clinton; Julian Bond, Chairman of the NAACP; and the Reverend Joseph Lowrey, chair of the Black Leadership Forum and President emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Yes, justice demands that crimes be punished. But if we demand justice, we must administer justice fairly.

Before we reach the milestone of re-instituting Federal executions, let us pause to evaluate the fairness of our Nation's machinery of death.

Mr. President, let this be a milestone that we choose not to reach, next week. God willing, let this be a milestone that we choose not to reach, if ever, for some time to come.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### AMBASSADOR DAVID HERMELIN

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to David B. Hermelin, former U.S. Ambassador to Norway, who passed away on November 22.

After a distinguished business and philanthropic career in his native Michigan, Mr. Hermelin was nominated as envoy to Norway by President Clinton in 1997 and confirmed by the Senate that same year.

Members of this Chamber know that, as might be expected with any large group, over the years the performance of our ambassadors, both career diplomats and political appointees, have varied widely. By any standard, David Hermelin's tenure was spectacularly successful.

In the short space of two years, Ambassador Hermelin managed a remarkable feat: strengthening the already close ties between our ally Norway and the United States. His diplomatic and personal charm led to unprecedented reciprocal visits within three weeks of each other last year—the Norwegian Prime Minister's to Washington, and President Clinton's to Oslo, the first ever visit of an incumbent President to Norway, in this case in pursuit of a Middle Eastern peace settlement.

But Ambassador Hermelin's accomplishments were not limited to such highly publicized events. Through behind-the-scenes daily efforts, he was directly instrumental in the success of Lockheed Martin's bid, as part of a consortium, to sell the Norwegian Navy five new frigates equipped with the Aegis missile system, a sale worth more than one billion dollars.

Ambassador Hermelin was recognized for his many contributions by being awarded the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit, the highest honor the country bestows upon non-Norwegians.

Even after Ambassador Hermelin was diagnosed with a terminal illness, he vigorously played a major role to help others through an international initiative to provide prostheses to victims of civil conflict, such as in Sierra Leone.

On his visit to Oslo in November 1999, President Clinton, in speaking of Ambassador Hermelin, reflected on this kind of behavior: "I don't know anyone who has such a remarkable combination of energy and commitment to the common good."

After diagnosis of his terminal illness, he and a group of friends donated ten million dollars to establish a brain tumor center at Henry Ford Hospital in Michigan.

Ambassador Hermelin felt deeply connected to Israel and to Jewish causes, raising millions of dollars for local Detroit and overseas needs.

After the Ambassador's death, the U.S. State Department's Norway desk officer offered this heartfelt testimony: "David Hermelin was the kind of man who made a friend out of everybody he met, and the people who worked for him at the embassy regarded him with an affection that is unmatched by the feelings I've seen for any other ambassador at any time to any country."

Ambassador Hermelin is survived by his wife, five children, and eight grandchildren. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, particularly by his colleagues in the U.S. Government.●

#### RECOGNITION OF DR. DWIGHT CRIST NORTINGTON

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dwight Crist Northington on the occasion of his 9th Pastoral Anniversary at Calvary Baptist Church in Red Bank, New Jersey. Dr. Northington is an extremely gifted individual, and it is an honor to recognize this special moment in his life.

Dr. Northington has served the citizens of New Jersey since 1986, when he was named Pastor of First Baptist Church of South Orange. Since that time, he has also served as president of Westside Ministerial Alliance and currently serves as the Moderator of the Seacoast Missionary Baptist Association. While having done a great deal for the community of Red Bank, Dr. Northington has also served as an instructor at Brookdale Community College and as a member of the Borough of Red Bank Board of Education.

The needs of our Nation can only be met through the industrious efforts of each individual. The work of Dr. Northington and others like him is vital to the continued prosperity of our communities and meeting the needs of people who live within them.

The citizens of Red Bank are fortunate to have a talented and dedicated individual such as Dr. Northington in their community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSH HEUPEL

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Josh Heupel, a native of Aberdeen, South Dakota. All of South Dakota, and especially Aberdeen, is extremely proud of Josh, one of four finalists for the Heisman Trophy. The Heisman Trophy is presented annually to the nation's top collegiate football player.

Josh is the starting quarterback of the number one ranked and undefeated Oklahoma Sooners, 12-0. Josh has passed for 3,392 yards and 20 touchdowns this year which makes him one of the Heisman favorites. Josh has led the Oklahoma Sooners through a very difficult schedule, which included two wins against top ten ranked Kansas State and overcame an early 14 point deficit against the then number one ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers. Josh is preparing for the National Championship game on January 3, 2001 against the Florida State Seminoles. No matter what the outcome is, I know the entire state is very proud of Josh and grateful he has conducted himself in a way that shines greatly on South Dakota.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ken and Cindy Heupel, Josh's parents, on Josh's success. As the father of three children who have participated in extra-curricular activities, I can imagine how proud Ken and Cindy must feel today. Ken is currently the Head Football Coach at Northern State Univer-

sity in Aberdeen and Cindy is the principal at Aberdeen Central High School.

Again, my congratulations to Josh Heupel and his family on behalf of the entire state of South Dakota.●

#### TRIBUTE TO VINCENT CANBY

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, in late October, as many Senators will know, Vincent Canby, "whose lively wit and sophisticated tastes illuminated film and theater reviews in the New York Times for more than 35 years" died at age 76. Thinking of an appropriate manner in which the United States Congress might honor his most honored memory, there came to mind an observation he made in a review of a film based on E.M. Foster's novel "Howard's End."

It's time for legislation decreeing that no one be allowed to make a screen adaptation of any quality whatsoever if Ismail Merchant, James Ivory and Ruth Praver Jhabvala are available, and if they elect to do the job. Trespassers should be prosecuted, possibly condemned, sentenced to watch "Adam Bede" on "Masterpiece Theatre" for five to seven years.

The legislative drafting service had no difficulty producing legislative language. I had in mind a joint resolution, which is, of course, a statute. However, in view of our oath "to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States," I felt in need of a legal opinion as to whether there might be constitutional impediments to such a measure. I think for example of the "taking clause" of the fourth amendment recently much discussed in learned papers associated with the University of Chicago School of Law. And so I set out to obtain advisory opinions. Alas, I had tarried too long. November 7 had passed. The Presidential election was in dispute. All of the constitutional lawyers in Washington had decamped for Florida.

And now, in the closing hours of the 106th Congress, they are still there.

This leaves me with no choice but to withhold the measure for now. Happily I am informed that next April we will witness the premier of The Wandering Company's adaptation of Henry James' "The Golden Bowl." What a splendid way to begin the new millennium. (For that is what the year 2001 will be, and our trio are naught if not scrupulous as to details.) Surely a Senator in the 107th Congress will wish to pursue this matter. The glory of three continents is yet to be proclaimed in law.

I regret the inconvenience this may cause viewers of "Adam Bede," and I surely would not wish to denigrate "Masterpiece Theatre," but Vincent Canby was a just and moderate man. And, as is proclaimed on the wall above the bench of the Chenango County Courthouse in James Ivory's ancestral home of Norwich, New York "Fiat Justica Ruat Coelum".—Let justice be done though the heavens fall.●