

to Michael D. Eisner, CEO of Disney. All of Percy Hill's actions speak volumes of his commitment and impact on the children of Andover, NH. It is an honor to represent him in the Senate.●

HONORING MARILYN HERZ AS SOUTH DAKOTA'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2001

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to honor Marilyn Herz, a sixth grade language arts teacher from Rapid City, who has recently been named South Dakota's Teacher of the Year for 2001.

Marilyn currently teaches at West Middle School in Rapid City and has taught various grade levels in the Rapid City Area School District since 1983. She has devoted an impressive 22 years of her life to teaching elementary school.

Marilyn's greatest service to our community lies in her devotion as an educator to her students. She deserves the greatest praise both from the families of these young individuals, and from all those whose lives she will touch. Her efforts are an invaluable investment in South Dakota's future and we are all truly blessed to have her in the classroom.

In a true testimony of Marilyn's devotion and love for teaching, she commented that her greatest contribution to education is simply that she has given, and will continue to give, all the caring, commitment, and compassion that she has within her to guide students to succeed academically, emotionally, and socially.

Marilyn also makes extra efforts to see that her classes are learning to their potential and preparing themselves for the demands of the 21st century. A true veteran in the field of education, Marilyn's efforts to increase the credibility of teaching as a profession is designed to entice and encourage a new generation of students into following her in this most honorable profession.

Marilyn will now proceed to the national competition for Teacher of the Year. I express my appreciation for the Rapid City Public School Foundation for sponsoring the Teacher of the Year program in the Rapid City School District. As well, I congratulate all of the South Dakota teachers nominated this year.

I commend Marilyn for her outstanding service to the youth of our community. Congratulations and thank you, Marilyn, for your commitment to excellence and dedicated service to your students, your community, and to South Dakota.●

AMBASSADOR DAVID HERMELIN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to the memory of an outstanding leader, a philanthropist who knew no limits, and a distinguished public servant whose integrity and decency made him a role-model to

all who knew him. A few weeks ago, we in the State of Michigan mourned the passing of Ambassador David Hermelin. I suppose it is a little presumptuous to suggest that only the State of Michigan beams with pride in our association with Ambassador Hermelin, for the organizations that he led, the political leaders he counseled, and the communities to which he dedicated his life, literally span the globe.

Against that backdrop, I will submit for the RECORD excerpts of eulogies—as they were reported in the Detroit Jewish News—by Rabbi Irwin Groner of Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Michigan, Brian Hermelin, Jon Gundersen, deputy chief of the American Embassy in Norway, and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Daniel Glickman.

But before I submit these eulogies, I would just like to take a moment to reflect on the first time I really had a chance to get to know Ambassador Hermelin and the impact he had on me. It was shortly after President Clinton had nominated him to serve as our nation's top diplomatic representative in Norway. As protocol dictates, David contacted his U.S. Senators to seek our support. And while David Hermelin and I did not always see eye-to-eye on the domestic political issues of the day, we agreed to meet to discuss his confirmation process.

While I had heard many things about David before that meeting—about all the charitable causes he had led, about his close relationships with top government leaders in the United States and Israel, about his successful business career—I never could have expected to be drawn to the orbit of David's warmth, energy, kindness and wisdom, in the way that I was.

From the moment we met that afternoon in my office, we forged a friendship, that developed further during our interactions through his Senate confirmation process, when I was proud to testify on his behalf and urge my Republican colleagues on the Foreign Relations Committee to waste no time in ushering this fine man's nomination through the Senate.

And our friendship even deepened further over time. For even though he and I came from opposite sides of the political aisle, I found myself seeking his advice and counsel from time to time.

Sometimes it was his thought provoking perspective on developments in this Middle East, or the insights he had gained the being an active participant in U.S. foreign policy as Ambassador to Norway. Other times it was his advocacy for both the Detroit and American Jewish communities, or his tireless philanthropic efforts in Michigan. Whatever the topic, no matter when we met, it was impossible to not benefit in some way from David Hermelin's wisdom, or his contagious energy and passion for life.

I feel blessed that I knew David Hermelin for the short time that I did. I cannot begin to even imagine the scope and depth of impact he had on

the people closest to him. So my heartfelt sympathies and condolences go out to his dedicated and compassionate wife, Doreen, and his devoted, caring, and decent children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, many of whom I have had the pleasure of getting to know as well.

In closing, Mr. President, I would like to refer to the description of James Madison, another great American, by one of his biographers, in which Madison was summed up this way: "When you called on him, he was always home."

Well, I think that's how David Hermelin could be described as well by everyone he touched. No matter who it was that called on his help and on his leadership—the Jewish community, numerous charitable causes, the State of Michigan, the United States Government, the people of Israel, the State of Norway and most importantly, his family—whenever you called on David Hermelin, he always took your call, and he was always ready to lend a hand.

I am better for having known David Hermelin. He was not only an outstanding leader and generous giver in every way possible, but he was also the kind of individual everyone would want as a neighbor. He will be deeply missed.

I ask that the above mentioned excerpts be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

Excerpts from the Detroit Jewish News

DAVID B. HERMELIN, SAYING GOODBYE
A BELOVED LEADER GETS AN EMOTIONAL
FAREWELL AT SHAAREY ZEDEK

David Hermelin was remembered by more than 2,500 people whose lives he touched at his Nov. 24 funeral. It was held in Southfield at Congregation Shaarey Zedek—the synagogue he had served as president. Afterwards, some 150 cars formed a procession for the interment at Clover Hill Park Cemetery in Birmingham.

Mr. Hermelin, of Bingham Farms, died of brain cancer Nov. 22, 2000 at age 63.

Delivering the eulogy was his friend of 41 years, Shaarey Zedek Rabbi Irwin Groner. Also speaking were Jon Gundersen, deputy chief of the American Embassy in Oslo, Norway, where Mr. Hermelin served as ambassador; U.S. Agriculture Secretary Daniel Glickman; and Mr. Hermelin's son, Brian.

Speaking first, Gundersen said he has just conveyed to Mr. Hermelin's wife, Doreen, messages from the royal family of Norway, from the U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, from the Norwegian ambassador and consul general, from the prime minister of Norway and from the foreign minister.

"I've just arrived from Norway, and it seems the entire nation sends to David and Doreen their greatest condolences," Gundersen said.

"David and Doreen represented the very best of America and what we stand for. Faith, honesty, openness, tolerance, love. David, your embassy family and indeed an entire nation will miss you. You will be in our hearts forever."

Glickman, like President Bill Clinton, has known the Hermelins for many years. He shared a letter the president sent to Mrs. Hermelin, which read, in part:

"David loved life. And he made sure that everyone around him shared that love. I will always cherish his friendship and support

and remember with gratitude his exceptional service as our ambassador to Norway.

"He left the world a better place than he found it. And no one could ask for a finer legacy.

"Hillary and I are keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers."

Brian Hermelin then gave an emotional, personal tribute to his father.

"The thing about us that made us feel the most special was that he was our dad," Brian said. "Just being able to be with him at the intimate family settings allowed the full bright glow of one of God's brightest lights to shine on us and provided a comfort and security which is irreplaceable."

Brian added, "He just knew how much fun it was to be alive. And he was sure if you were with him, you would know how much fun life could be, too."

"We took such pride in his accomplishments with him," Brian said. "We were all equally amazed at how far and how much he accomplished because we know how he saw himself, just a regular kid from Pasadena [Avenue in Detroit]. He made it all seem so within our reach—the accomplishments, the friends, the admiration, the fun. Just go out there with that positive, can-do attitude and you can have all that, too."

Rabbi Groner mourned his friend, whose influence was felt from the sanctuary of the synagogue to the far reaches of the world stage.

"When a true leader goes, can he be replaced?" the rabbi asked. "Woe is the army that has lost its captain.

"We will miss him. He will miss his hearty welcome, he warm laugh, his quick wit, his words of encouragement, his shared exuberance.

"When David came into a room, his luminous presence was immediately felt," Rabbi Groner added. "He was so vital, so filled with energy, so magnetic that he seemed indestructible.

"Once you came to know David, your life changed. You laughed more, you felt more, you cared more, you gave more.

"To have known David was to have warmed your hands at the central fire of life.

"For David Hermelin, service, benevolence, mitzvot was the very essence of his life," said the rabbi.

"David gave us a great and blessed gift. He taught us how to dream a glorious dream."

Mr. Hermelin is survived by his wife, Doreen; son and daughter-in-law Brian and Jennifer Hermelin; daughters and sons-in-law Marcie and Rob Orley, Karen Hermelin Borman and Mark Borman, Julie Hermelin Frank and Mitchell Frank, Francine Hermelin Levite and Adam Levite; and grandchildren Matthew, Alex, Jason and Olivia Orley, Max and Isabel Hermelin, Asa Levite and Madeline Borman.

Also surviving are sisters and brother-in-law Henrietta Hermelin Weinberg, Lois Shiffman and Terran and Roger Leemis; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Eugene and Suzanne Curtis, Reggie and Dr. Robert Fisher and Mitchell Curtis; and mother-in-law Anna Curtis.●

CAROL BROWNER TRIBUTE

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Carol Browner, the longest-serving Administrator in the history of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and one of the people with whom I have been most honored to work. I can think of no finer role model for young women, or young men, considering a career in government today than Carol Browner.

Since she came to the EPA seven years ago, she has set a gold standard for public service and for protection of the public's health. A dedicated advocate for the environment, she has never neglected her responsibility to protect and preserve the water, land and air that our children's children will inherit from us.

Carol Browner has been a tireless advocate for the environment and made significant contributions in every area that the EPA touches. As just one example, Administrator Browner set up a children's office at the EPA for the first time, signaling her commitment to strengthening the ties between the environment and children's health. Under Administrator Browner's control, the EPA began to take children into account when developing air and water safety standards, such as the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Food Quality Protection Act was the first law that made health of children, rather than adult males, the benchmark for evaluating safety. These two acts are monuments to Carol Browner's dedication to the environment and to children.

To better protect our nation's surface waters, Administrator Browner was a principal architect of the Clinton Administration's Clean Water Action Plan. One component of this program was to increase the public's knowledge about the potential health threats from swimming in contaminated waters at our nation's beaches. Under her leadership, EPA established a publicly-accessible Internet site containing information about water quality and beach closings across the nation. Administrator Browner and I worked closely together to strengthen the water quality standards for our nation's coastal recreation waters, and to assist states in setting up beach monitoring and notification programs. Our efforts were successful through the enactment of Public Law 106-284, also known as the "Beach Bill."

Through the Clean Water Action Plan, Administrator Browner demonstrated her ability to take on the tough fights and to do what was right for the environment. Under her leadership, EPA adopted policies to reduce polluted runoff from factory farms and from aging urban wastewater systems, and helped obtain the funding to implement these controls.

As a proponent of corporate responsibility and the citizen's "right to know," an area of particular interest to me, Administrator Browner, the law and EPA's implementation of it, effected a 50 percent drop in the rate of industrial emissions, without creating any new regulatory mandates. As another example, Administrator Browner fought to limit the industrial pollution generated by coal fire plants in Midwestern states that contributed to air pollution in New Jersey. Under Administrator Browner and President Clinton, the EPA has both vigorously enforced environmental laws and reached

out to industry to find creative new incentives and environmental results. This is the kind of leadership that Democrats and Republicans can both rally around.

Perhaps most importantly to my home state, during Administrator Browner's nearly eight-year tenure, the Superfund Program has completed three times the number of waste site cleanups than in its previous twelve years. She helped keep Superfund strong, and held fast to the belief that justice and the environment are best served when polluters pay to clean up the messes they create, even while she strove to improve the program and accelerate clean-ups. I was honored to share the stage with Administrator Browner recently at Pepe Field in Boonton, New Jersey, which was Superfund's 750th clean-up. What was once a malodorous eyesore is now a thriving community park. Pepe Field is but one of many Superfund success stories under Administrator Browner's leadership.

With her oversight of the Brownfields program, Carol Browner has demonstrated the vital ties between a healthy environment and a healthy economy. Revitalizing these sites created more than 8,300 construction jobs. And once the work was done, another 22,000 jobs were either created or retained. Much of this economic revitalization happened in communities in need, where per capita incomes averaged just over \$10,000 a year, versus a national average of almost \$14,500. This program brings both environmental and economic justice to these neighborhoods. Communities once on the verge of despair are back on the road to revitalization, thanks to Carol Browner.

Carol Browner is one of the best friends this nation's environment has ever had. As I prepare to leave the Senate, I will remember her for many things, but most of all for her optimism, her commitment, and her integrity. I thank her for her work and salute her accomplishments.●

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABILENE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to note a very important event for the city of Abilene, Texas. On December 2 of this year, the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra celebrated its 50th anniversary. This is one of Abilene's oldest performing arts organizations. This great symphony orchestra enriches the cultural life of this city in a unique way. It has drawn top quality musicians to this wonderful city. Abilene is now a city where talented musicians can also teach and perform. When the Philharmonic started in 1950, concerts were held in the old Abilene High School with audiences of less than 100 people. Now, the Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra performs in the Abilene