

Kathleen and Moira will receive \$1,000, a silver medallion and a trip in May to Washington, D.C., where they will join other honorees for four days of national events.

According to Kathleen, she wanted to make a difference in her community and spend time helping others. As a result, she launched an environmental group called Earth Service Corps. Today, the group has nearly 70 members who help build and maintain hiking trails, initiate and conduct recycling programs, and plant trees throughout the state. Kathleen not only was the founder, but she also plans group meetings, serves as a liaison with community groups, and handles all administrative work for the Corps.

Moira volunteers as an aide to a swimming instructor with the local chapter of the American Red Cross. She helps younger kids overcome their fears of water and then teaches them to swim. She completed a special training session and volunteered for one month over the course of two summers. Her love for teaching and her passion to help others overcome individual fears is a great attribute I admire dearly.

I also would like to salute four other young people who were named Distinguished Finalists by The Prudential Spirit of Community Award and received the bronze medallion for their outstanding volunteer service. They are: Christopher Vachon, 14, Pinkerton Academy in Derry, created several multimedia presentations to promote driving safety among teenagers; Christopher Pappajohn, 16, Keene High School, raised \$40,000 with a group of friends to build a skate park in his town; Joseph Allison, 13, Hudson Memorial Middle School, volunteers in his community for a variety of nearby organizations; and Justine Barrett, 14, West Running Brook Middle School in Derry, helped collect money for the needy through a Holiday Fund at her school.

These extraordinary young people continue to keep alive the virtue of community service and inspire others to do the same. Their personal initiatives, dedicated service and hard work have impacted the lives of many. In a time when Americans seem to be less involved in their communities, these young Americans continue to defend and keep the community flame shining brightly. Mr. President, I want to congratulate these individuals for their outstanding work and I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Senate.●

#### JAMES FARMER AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, while this Congress was in recess, the President of the United States awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our country's highest civilian honor, to James Farmer. The Medal was given to Mr.

Farmer on January 15, 1998, the birthday of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., in a symbolic gesture that reminded us again of the value of freedom, and the debt we owe those who sacrificed greatly for racial equality in America.

Mr. President, James Farmer was one of the six major civil rights leaders of the civil rights era, joining A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, John Lewis and Martin Luther King, Jr. He helped establish, and later lead, the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). He was the father of the famous Freedom Rides through the South. He organized and inspired. He placed himself in great personal danger again and again. Today, he teaches civil rights history to some very lucky students at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Last year, I was pleased to join Congressman JOHN LEWIS and others in asking that the President award the Medal of Freedom to James Farmer. Last month, Lynda and I were privileged to be at the White House when President Clinton officially presented the Medal to Mr. Farmer.

Before the White House ceremony, Congressman LEWIS and I prepared a tribute to James Farmer, which I ask be printed in the RECORD following my remarks today. In this tribute, we thank James Farmer for a lifetime of fighting for racial equality in America. We challenge our nation to continue to learn from this great American hero—to continue to reach for a truly color-blind society—to finally lay down the burden of race.●

#### HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes to explain why I voted against cloture on S. 1601, the Human Cloning Prohibition Act introduced by Senators BOND, FRIST, LOTT, and GREGG.

First of all, I want to state unequivocally that I am against the cloning of a human being. Cloning of a human child raises serious moral and ethical questions about society's perception of human life. The National Bioethics Advisory Commission, after a thorough review of the ethical and legal issues involved, has recommended that Congress enact legislation to prohibit the use of cloning to create a child, and I agree that Congress needs to act on this issue.

We should not, however, rush to enact legislation that could do serious harm to other critical medical research. The legislation before the Senate today is only eight days old. The Senate Labor Committee and Senate Judiciary Committee, which have jurisdiction over this bill, have not had the opportunity to hold hearings on this specific legislation or the other bills that have recently been introduced, much less consider amendments to the language.

In the meantime, the Food and Drug Administration has already determined that it has authority and jurisdiction over human cloning and has stated that it would act to prohibit any attempt to clone a human being. In addition, professional organizations representing more than 64,000 scientists have voluntarily imposed upon themselves a five-year moratorium on human cloning.

Most importantly, as we take action to ban the cloning of humans, I want to be sure that we do not also ban valuable medical research that could lead to cures or treatments for the millions of Americans suffering from cancer, heart disease, diabetes, organ failure, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, severe skin burns, and many other diseases that perhaps we haven't even identified yet. Scientists do not yet understand exactly how somatic cell nuclear transfer, the technique used in cloning Dolly the sheep in Scotland last spring, worked.

But medical researchers believe that this technology can be used to generate stem cells to treat disease. For instance, imagine being able in the not-so-distant future to repair the damage to the cardiac muscle caused by a heart attack. Using stem cell technology, we may be able to replace damaged cardiac cells with healthy cells that would then differentiate into cardiac muscle. I do not know whether this will ultimately prove to work, but I believe we should continue to pursue this type of research if it could help to save the lives of millions of Americans each year.

The Nation's scientific community has expressed deep concern that the legislation before us, as currently drafted, could halt stem cell research and other related research that would not lead to the cloning of human beings. Everyone I have talked to agrees that this is a complicated and difficult issue. We need to proceed, but we need to do so in the careful, considered way that has earned the Senate the reputation of the "world's greatest deliberative body."

Mr. President, I ask that a New York Times editorial on this subject be printed in the RECORD.

The editorial follows:

[From the New York Times, Feb. 10, 1998]

#### A SLAPDASH PROPOSAL ON CLONING

The shock caused by the physicist Richard Seed's grandiose intention to clone human beings may be about to cause more damage than anything Dr. Seed could do in the laboratory. Senate Republicans are now rushing to enact a bill that would outlaw cloning a human embryo and, in the process, ban a valuable technique that could potentially cure a wide range of diseases. No wonder a slew of scientific associations and high-tech industry groups are urging more carefully constructed legislation. The sensitive scientific and moral issues involved here require careful handling, not grandstanding by politicians more interested in pandering than in reaching a reasoned solution.