

The league was established to promote fast-pitch softball for girls in the Manassas-Prince William County area.

The members of the team are: Stephanie Gaynard, Katie Lee, Laura Hundemer, Courtney Bures, Kesha Robinson, Julianne Sudduth, Kristin Windle, Lydia Sumner, Kelli Rotter, Alyssa Kemmerer, Alexis Hochstrasser, Brittany Alexander-Smith, Jasmine Davenport, Katie Speaks, and Ashley Demaret. They are coached by Mike Windle, Mike Bures, and Donald Alsberry; and their scorekeeper is Tony Gaynard.

Through their hard work, the Manassas Express members have been ambassadors of sportsmanship for Manassas, Prince William, and all of Virginia. On behalf of the citizens of the 10th District, we say to them, congratulations.

HONORING PHILADELPHIA DIVA
PATTI LABELLE AND BROADWAY
STAR DOUGLAS SILLS

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding entertainers who are being recognized for their talents and their dedication to charitable causes.

On Thursday evening, September 24, Ms. LaBelle will receive the "1998 Distinguished Arts Award" by Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Ridge as part of the Governor's Awards for the Arts.

Broadway superstar, Douglas Sills, currently the Tony Award nominated star of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the Minskoff Theatre on Broadway is being honored by the Leukemia Society of America with the "Shining Star Award" in recognition of his commitment to charitable causes as well as his enormous talent. Among his theatre credits are the Los Angeles production of Tim Rice's *Chess*, the national touring company of *Into the Woods*, by Stephen Sondheim, the First National Tour of *The Secret Garden* and regional programs throughout the Nation. On television he has had roles on "Coach," "Empty Nest," "Models Inc.," "Party of Five," "Sisters," "Sliders," and "Women of the House." His film credits include *Funny About Love*, *The Swan Princess II*, *Escape from Castle Mountain*.

Mr. Sills holds degrees in theatre from the University of Michigan and the American Conservatory Theatre. He is a two-time Dramalogue Award winner and a charter member of the Antaeus Project at the Mark Taper Forum and Produced Dinah Was in Los Angeles. His role of Percy in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* has brought him numerous honors including the 1998 Theatre Award for Best Actor and the Drama League Award for Outstanding Artists. He was also nominated for the 1998 Best Actor Tony Award and as Best Actor for the Outer Critics Circle Award, FANY Award and the Theatre World Award.

Patti LaBelle is a musical sensation, dazzling audiences for an incredible 37 years. Born in Philadelphia, Ms. LaBelle has been singing all her life, first as a child in the Beulah Baptist Church gospel choir and then, as a teenager, in the legendary girl group Patti LaBelle and the Bluebells. In 1961, the Blue-

bells hit the charts with its first single, "I Sold My Heart To The Junkman" which went gold. The group recorded a number of songs which made the top 40 and played the best R&B venues in the Nation including the Apollo Theatre in Harlem, the Uptown in Philadelphia and the Regal in Chicago.

In 1970, a dynamic change in image, sound, costume, management and message gave birth to the renamed trio—Labelle. The group's sound blended soul, funk, rhythm and blues, gospel, pop and high-intensity rock-and-roll, while their futuristic costumes and theatrical staging made an unforgettable impact. Labelle's gold album, *Night Birds*, yielded the number-one single of 1975, "Lady Marmalade."

On October 6, 1974, Labelle made history as the first black vocal group to appear at the Metropolitan Opera House where thousands of audience members included Bette Midler and Jackie Onassis.

Patti LaBelle made her solo debut in 1977 when she played to overflow audiences in New York, Chicago, Washington, DC, and a dozen other cities. Since then, Patti LaBelle has gone from triumph to triumph and strength to strength. Her one-woman Broadway shows have shattered box office records, she has starred in her own prime-time television special and weekly TV series, "Out All Night." She starred in the national tour and Broadway revivals of the gospel musical *Your Arms Too Short To Box With God* and the role of a nightclub singer in the motion picture, *A Soldier's Story*, which was created especially for her.

Over the past 21 years, Patti LaBelle has recorded more than 50 albums and established herself as a major solo recording artist with classics like "You Are My Friend," and "If Only You Knew." She has garnered 10 Grammy Award nominations and the 1992 Grammy Award for Best R&B Vocal Performance; seven NAACP Image Awards (including the coveted "Entertainer of the Year Award"), three Emmy Award nominations, two American Music Awards and a Cable Ace Award. In 1996, Boston's Berklee College of Music presented Ms. LaBelle with an honorary doctorate. Her autobiography, *Don't Block The Blessings*, was a national best seller and earned the NAACP Image Award for outstanding literary work. A cookbook, *LaBelle Cuisine: Recipes to Sing About* should be released soon.

Ms. LaBelle is also well known as a humanitarian. She serves as spokeswoman for the National Medical Association, the Minority AIDS Council's "Live Long Sugar" campaign, the National Cancer Institute and the American Diabetes Association. The National Cancer Institute will receive \$90 million in additional research funding and \$10 million a year over the next five years for education and outreach programs if The Laurie Beechman Memorial Act, which I was proud to author, becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, these two extraordinary artists are a clear example of the spirit of the entertainment community when it comes to helping those in need. Patti LaBelle has a long record of working for a variety of causes and has been an outstanding member of the Greater Philadelphia community for many years. Douglas Sills is a young man with a bright future ahead of him. An excellent singer, Douglas has also shown a keen acting skill which will

allow him to do both singing and non-singing roles. Two years ago, the "Shining Star Award" was given to a constituent of mine, Laurie Beechman.

Another reason I am so proud to stand here and tell you about these brilliant performers is that they are both scheduled to perform in a tribute concert—*Let The Memory Live Again! A Musical Celebration For Laurie Beechman*—on November 30 at the historic Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia to raise money for GILDA'S CLUB®. These two outstanding entertainers are just a couple of the many talented artists who will join together to raise funds to battle ovarian cancer, the disease which took the life of Laurie Beechman in March after a nine-year struggle against the disease.

I am amazed that all these wonderful performers are willing to give what little time off they have to help others. But, it seems to be a Broadway tradition to reach out like this because Laurie Beechman performed at many events of this kind. In fact, just two years ago, she and Sam Harris performed at *Rainbow and Stars* to raise money for the battle against AIDS. Now, Sam will be co-hosting the tribute to Laurie, a woman he called his "musical soulmate," along with Ms. LaBelle.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be associated with Patti LaBelle and Douglas Sills who represent the heart and soul of the entertainment industry which has dedicated itself to the battle against these afflictions and have reached out a hand to those in need. As a result of the Laurie Beechman Tribute Concert, GILDA'S CLUB® will be able to reach out to more people with cancer and their families.

November 30 will be a night of stars at the Walnut Street Theatre and none will shine brighter than Douglas Sills and Patti LaBelle. But, I'm sure they would be the first to tell you that the real stars that night will be Laurie Beechman and the long struggle against ovarian cancer she wages even after her death.

I insert these comments in the RECORD so all may know of the accomplishments of these two fine performers in the hopes it will awaken a similar dedication to humanity in each of us.

PROMOTION OF A DRUG-FREE
AMERICA

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to promote the Drug-Free America Blue Ribbon Campaign. As part of a resolution detailing how our children are at risk, the U.S. House of Representatives has declared September 13-19, 1998, as Blue Ribbon Week. This selected week, shortly after most children return to school, allows Americans to join together in waging a strong campaign to win the War on Drugs by the year 2002. We must protect our children from drugs and we must support our law enforcement community in the fight to keep our streets safe.

The efforts to reduce the incidence of substance abuse, including abuse of alcohol and illicit, drugs is a major public policy issue in the United States. An estimated 52 million Americans experience a mental health or substance abuse problem every year, with less

than half obtaining treatment. According to the state health department, 343,000 residents of North Carolina are in need of comprehensive substance abuse treatment. Over the last 30 years, Congress has initiated a variety of federal efforts supporting the prevention and treatment of, and research relating to, substance abuse and mental illness.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for supporting mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services throughout the country by providing technical assistance, categorical grants, and block grants to the states. This vital agency was created in 1992 and provides funds to states for alcohol and drug prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs and activities.

Providing sufficient funds to states for drug prevention is vital to winning the war on drugs. Without adequate funding, states will not be able to provide the necessary treatment and assistance to those in need. The Administration has requested a proposed funding level of \$17.1 billion next year in National Drug Control Funding, a 6.8% increase over the estimated \$15.9 billion provided in Fiscal Year 1998. In addition to increased funding, the Administration has also proposed a National Drug strategy. The drug initiatives in the new strategy build on five goals: (1) Motivate youth to reject illegal drugs & substance abuse; (2) reduce drug-related crime and violence; (3) reduce health, welfare, and crime costs resulting from illegal drug use; (4) shield the U.S. frontiers from the drug threat; and (5) break foreign and domestic drug supply sources. Congress must do its part and support the Administration's efforts.

Protecting our children from drugs and supporting safe streets and communities are top priorities for me. I strongly believe we must not retreat in our battle to save people from the scourge of alcohol and drugs that destroys so many precious lives. As the former two-term Superintendent of North Carolina's public schools, I know firsthand the importance of strong anti-drug abuse programs. I supported and worked on the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program during my tenure as Superintendent, and I oppose the effort of some Republican Members to terminate Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

As the Representative of the Second District of North Carolina, I am committed to continuing to work to protect our nation from the dangers of drug abuse. I am also strongly committed to assisting the state and grassroots organizations in my district who know first hand how to combat the devastation of drug use. I believe that it is vitally important to keep an open line of communication with hospitals, treatment programs, and other grassroots organizations to gain valuable input into how we can move forward together in this fight to erase drugs from our streets.

Since taking office, I have been honored to visit many groups and organizations in the Second Congressional District who are diligently working to rid their communities of drugs. In order for us to claim victory in this effort, we must break the cycle of drugs and crime and help state and local governments implement drug testing and treatment for drug abusers. In December of last year, I met with the Sanford Chamber of Commerce Drug Ac-

tion Committee located in Sanford, North Carolina. This group, comprised of concerned citizens, meets on a regular basis to coordinate programs and provide information to combat the substance abuse problems in Lee County. The group's goals include involvement of local students to increase community awareness and communications with area legislators to keep us informed of breakdowns in the judicial system and sentencing for offenders.

Earlier this year, I met with staff and toured the Triangle Residential Options of Substance Abusers (TROSA), located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina. TROSA is a two year residential self-help initiative serving drug and alcohol abusers. For some, TROSA serves as an alternative to incarceration. The only program of its type in the Triangle, TROSA serves men and women at no cost to the individual. Residents reside in a highly structured environment for two years. The initiative emphasizes vocational training, education, and interpersonal communication skills. There are three major rules governing all TROSA residents: there is to be no use of drugs or alcohol; no threats of violence; and no acts of violence. TROSA is known throughout North Carolina for its success rate and works closely with North Carolina universities to provide valuable educational and self-help programs for its residents.

In July of this year, I joined the Johnston County Drug Action Coalition (JCDAC) in the National Drug Control Policy Town Meeting Anti-Drug Campaign with the President and the Director of the Office of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) General Barry McCaffrey. JCDAC, which is located in Smithfield, North Carolina and is run by Dr. Judith Coats Kolcum, joined the Johnston Community College family, law enforcement officials, drug groups and students in this national discussion on drugs. JCDAC's mission includes a comprehensive, long range educational approach addressing not only problems but offering solutions. Its belief that the use of illegal drugs, the abuse and/or misuse of alcohol affects every citizen of their County and the state. The ugly results of addictions are seen through the loss of health, lost of income, increase in crime, broken homes and quality of life in general. As a solution, JCDAC offers that the cycle of addiction and drug abuse can be broken, by providing effective prevention policies to assure that addiction treatment is available and accessible to all who need it.

Also participating in the Town Meeting was the Day By Day Treatment Center. The Day By Day Center is located in a peaceful rural area of Johnston County, just outside of the town of Selma, North Carolina. Day By Day is a grassroots organization that has been instrumental in delivering treatment services to those individuals struggling with substance abuse issues. The Center is a modern facility which offers an intensive concentrated program of drug and alcohol addiction recovery education, based on the traditional Twelve Step Programs of Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous. At this time, I ask unanimous consent to enter into the record a statement prepared by Ed Ward, Executive Director of the Day By Day Treatment Center of Johnston County, Inc.

Many believe that legalization is the answer to efforts to control drug use. I strongly dis-

agree with this observation, and based on recent polls 70% of Americans also disagree with drug legalization. According to the ONDCP Director General McCaffrey, lacking the present combined social disapproval, illegality, and law enforcement efforts against illicit drugs, the number of chronic addicts would skyrocket from an estimated 4 million or less addicts today to 15 to 20 million. I strongly agree with General McCaffrey, and believe that drug legalization would increase drug use in the public schools, create higher numbers of drug addicts and overdoses, and more drug-related crimes.

The House is expected to vote this week on legislation to promote an agenda of zero tolerance of drugs. These bills which I strongly support, take necessary steps to win the War on Drugs. They are as follows:

H.J. Res 117, Opposing Medicinal Marijuana. The measure expresses the opposition of Congress to legalizing marijuana for medical use.

H.R. 4006, Lethal Drug Abuse Prevention Act. The measure revokes the right to prescribe drugs for doctors who have dispensed drugs for the purpose of assisting a suicide.

H.R. 4300, Western Hemisphere Drug Elimination Act. The bill is expected to strengthen international efforts to combat the trafficking of illegal drugs into the United States.

H.R. 4550, the Drug Demand Reduction Act. The measure would authorize funds for a national anti-drug media campaign; creates programs to promote drug-free workplaces, prisons and schools, and to reduce drug use by teenage drivers; provides market incentives for drug companies to develop anti-addiction medications; and consolidates certain Federal anti-drug programs.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to close by saying that we have a tough battle ahead in order to reach our goal of total eradication of drugs by the year 2002. We must work with school groups, civic organizations, and anti-drug coalitions to increase public awareness about America's drug crisis and establish a consistent "no-use" drug message. I pledge to do my part in supporting legislation that will further our goals, and protect our nation from the perils of drugs. I urge my colleagues to join this effort and show the world that we are committed to work together on a bipartisan basis to wipe out drug use in America.

A great number of reliable statistical studies* show and prove that addiction disease (alcohol and drug dependency) is our nation's number one health problem. Approximately 18 million Americans are addicted to alcohol. Almost 13 million Americans over 12 years old have used illegal drugs within the last month and another 11 million abuse tranquilizers and other psychotropic medications. Addiction disease costs every citizen of our nation about \$1,000 a year for unnecessary health care, added law-enforcement, automobile wrecks, crime, and lost productivity. The tragedy that the disease inflicts upon the emotions and psychological well-being of families is immeasurable.

Public policy toward addressing addiction disease is aimed too heavily at cutting supply rather than toward prevention, education and treatment. Addiction disease continues to be

*Note that some statistical references were obtained from: Treatment Addiction/Advancing the Common Good a Join Together publication.

viewed with stigma, its victims seen as morally weak, often criminal or bad rather than sick people suffering from a chronic biopsychosocial illness.

In my own district, I'm brought face to face with the reality of untreated addiction disease and the difficulty of persons getting appropriate treatment. I recently conversed with representatives from Day By Day Treatment Center located in Selma, North Carolina who informed me that the treatment facility faces tremendous economic pressure due to cutbacks in Medicaid funding, managed care denials of appropriate services, ongoing stigma, and other adversities. This occurs when there is great need and existent studies pointing to the reality that treatment works.

Without appropriate treatment, victims of addiction disease are cost shifted to the criminal justice system or more expensive medical care to address other diseases such as cirrhosis of the liver which are secondary to untreated addiction disease.

It costs about \$6000 to treat a victim of addiction disease as an inpatient at Day By Day Treatment Center or about \$2500 for an outpatient program when appropriate. The tragedy is that our health care system cost shifts to the criminal justice system where the cost is up to \$37,000 annually to keep one person in prison who wouldn't be there in the first place had addiction disease been addressed initially.

As a nation we must:

Treat addiction disease on an equal basis with treatment of other diseases.

Provide for a more well educated citizenry in addiction disease from layman to professional.

Provide for more research aimed at better treatment and more appropriate outcome studies.

Today, so many of our society's ills can be traced directly to addiction disease. Let us not only be acutely aware of the tremendous amount of work that needs to be done in addressing addiction disease, but also of the enormous opportunity and possibility to enhance all of our lives if we will make the effort.

INTRODUCTION OF BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO ENSURE WASHINGTON STATE USES ITS SHARE OF THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR COVERAGE OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the entire Washington State Delegation today introduced legislation that would allow our state to participate in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The legislation we crafted represents the culmination of more than a year's worth of effort to ensure Congressional action on this issue.

I ask that you exercise your leadership of the Congressional majority to expedite the passage of this measure in a non-controversial manner.

To illustrate the vigor of our Delegation's commitment to advancing this issue, I have at-

tached for your information the text of the following letter which the entire Washington Delegation today sent to The Honorable Donna Shalala, Representative TOM BLILEY, and Senator WILLIAM ROTH:

We are writing to share with you legislation we introduced today that addresses an issue of critical importance to Washington State and its ability to participate in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Washington State has a strong record of ensuring that its low-income kids have access to affordable health care. In 1994, Washington raised its child Medicaid eligibility threshold to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). The SCHIP program was developed with this objective in mind by expanding Medicaid funding to states that extend eligibility to provide quality health care to additional children.

During the negotiations of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act (BBA), Congress and the Administration recognized that certain states were already undertaking Medicaid expansions up to or above 200 percent of FPL, and that they should be allowed to use the new SCHIP funds. Unfortunately, this provision was limited to those states that enacted expansions on or after March 31, 1997 and disallowed Washington from accessing the \$230 million in SCHIP funds it had been allocated through 2002. As a result, Washington State cannot use its SCHIP allotment to cover the 90,000 children currently eligible, but not covered for health care at or below 200 percent of FPL. Exacerbating this inequity is the fact that many states have begun accessing their SCHIP allotments to cover kids at poverty levels far below Washington's current or past eligibility levels. Correcting this technicality is the top priority for our delegation as we near the end of the 105th Congress and we plan to push for legislative action in the next few weeks to pass this non-controversial measure.

This bipartisan, bicameral initiative represents a thoughtful, carefully-crafted response to the unintended consequences of SCHIP and brings much-needed assistance to children currently at-risk. Rather than simply changing the effective date included in the BBA, our initiative includes strong maintenance of effort language as well as incentives for our state to find those 90,000 uninsured kids because we feel strongly that they receive the health coverage for which they are eligible.

We respectfully request that you join our efforts to move it through the legislative process. We look forward to working with you during the remaining days of this Congress to ensure that Washington's SCHIP funds are used to increase the health of our children, not wasted due to an unintended technical oversight.

Thank you for your cooperation in this effort and please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,

Slade Gorton, U.S. Senator; Jim McDermott, Member of Congress; George Nethercutt, Member of Congress; Patty Murray, U.S. Senator; Jack Metcalf, Member of Congress; Norm Dicks, Member of Congress; Rick White, Member of Congress; Linda Smith, Member of Congress; Adam Smith, Member of Congress; Jennifer Dunn, Member of Congress; Doc Hastings, Member of Congress.

REAR ADMIRAL MIKE SULLIVAN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Rear Admiral Mike Sullivan, United States Navy, as he retires on October 1, 1998, upon completion of over 31 years of honorable and faithful service to our Nation.

Rear Admiral Sullivan, a Supply Corps Officer, has performed in a consistently outstanding manner under the most challenging of circumstances. As the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) he was responsible for advising the Navy's Acquisition Executive on business and programmatic matters concerning Navy and Marine Corps major weapon systems programs. He also provided policy and oversight for the Naval procurement system which encompasses over 900 activities contracting for more than \$40 billion in weapon systems, supplies and services annually.

Mike, no stranger to anyone in uniform, can reflect on several successful operational tours in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He came to his current position after being the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Acquisition and Business Management. His wide range of experience also included, among others', tours at Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Air Systems Command, the Government Operations Committee of the House of Representatives, and Competition Advocate General of the Navy. And Central Missourians too, know him well: for four consecutive years he traveled to their neighborhood—my congressional district—to counsel and assist small businesses about the requirements of the federal contracts.

A graduate of the University of Kansas, he completed his MBA degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and Carnegie Mellon University's Program for Executives. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (three awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards). Married to the former Pam Ross of Leavenworth, Kansas, the Sullivan's have one son, Brian.

The Department of the Navy, Congress, and the American people have been defended and well served by this dedicated naval officer for over 31 years. Rear Admiral Mike Sullivan will long be remembered for his leadership, service and dedication. I am proud to call him my friend. Let me wish him, his wife Pam, and their son Brian our very best as they begin a new chapter in their life together.

A SALUTE TO DR. BILLY TAYLOR, ONE OF THE GREATEST MUSICIANS OF JAZZ

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Billy Taylor—one of the greatest pianists ever, who has touched the lives of many